



CLOVER CHRONICLES

September 2022

Isabella County

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4-H Recognition Banquet

**Thursday, October 6 at 6:30 p.m.
Sacred Heart Parish Hall, Mt. Pleasant**

***All 4-H families** are invited to help us recognize accomplishments of 4-H youth and leaders. Dinner is provided by 4-H Council. We will be handing out Still Exhibit Auction checks to members after the program.*

Please RSVP to the Extension Office by Friday, September 30.

County Medal Nominees

If you were nominated for a county medal award and would like to be considered, please complete the application and return to the Extension Office by **Tuesday, September 13**. The application needs to be attached to your record sheets for the project area in which you are nominated. You should submit record sheets for all the years you have been in the project. **NEW - Please do not bring your binder with all your project areas. Remove the sheets for the project area for which you were nominated only.**

The Awards Committee will review the documents and select the county medal winners which will be announced and awarded at the Annual 4-H Recognition Banquet on Thursday, October 6 during National 4-H Week.

Attention Gold Volunteers

We are looking for a Gold volunteer to teach a 1 hour babysitting class, for 6 weeks, Kristi will train and provide curriculum. Also looking for a Gold volunteer to teach a craft workshop for youth. Contact Kristi if you are interested at schrei61@msu.edu or (989) 317-4079.

Administrative Leader Meeting

Tuesday, September 27 from 6 PM - 7 PM
Isabella County Building, Room 320

If you are unable to attend, there **must** be a representative from your club at this meeting. If a club representative isn't available to attend the mandatory Administrative leader meeting, you may NOT just come into the office and pick up club forms. You will need to make an appointment to meet with Kristi for information/training missed before you will be allowed to get your club materials.



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CLUB CORNER

Aim High - Our September meeting will be our annual after fair celebration dinner. It will also showcase members that made a rocket for fair. Everyone is encouraged to bring a project or two to share with the group and also talk about their experiences and goals for next year. The club calendar/plan will also be discussed at that time.

Pony Creek - In July we held our meeting at Halls Lake. We enjoyed grilled hot dogs and everyone brought a dish to pass. We went over fair preparation, food stand and still exhibit building times for the club.

Club Banners at Fairgrounds

THANKS to the clubs that accepted the "club challenge" made by Aim High to paint banners for the fairgrounds this year! They all look awesome and there were A LOT of very positive comments made about how colorful and fun they added. We did run out of time for this project with all the other pre-fair activities, so if your club made a banner and it didn't get up, we will make sure it is up before next year's fair. If you have the banner but didn't get it finished, please do so and we'll add it to the others to be hung next year as well. If other clubs are still interested in participating, please contact the Extension office. This is potentially an ongoing project and we'd like to hear from everyone.

We want to thank Percha Paint for donating the paint and Bill's Custom Fab designed, made, and donated all of the banner pole brackets! That was SO helpful! Ryan and Grizzly Gepford and Carter Filhart worked to wrangle the banners up just in time for fair week. It was a team effort for sure! We will share more information by the beginning of 2023 for the next phase of this project.

4-H Calendar Sponsorship Form

The Isabella County 4-H Council is making preparations for the 2023 4-H calendar. The calendar will be distributed to over 1,000 families in Isabella County. Calendar pages will feature 12 pieces of artwork and photography done by local 4-H members. Local and state 4-H events and community events will be put on the calendar making it a useful tool for Isabella County families.

Will you help sponsor this calendar with an advertisement?

_____ Half Banner (2 3/4" by 3 1/8") for \$100

_____ One Quarter Banner (business card size) for \$50

Contact the Extension office by October 1 if you are interested.

Tractor Supply Fall Paper Clover Promotion

This is a great community service opportunity!

Help is needed (youth and adults) to work the table at the store for the fall Tractor Supply Company Paper Clover Campaign that will run October 5-16. TSC is a HUGE supporter of 4-H! Clubs are encouraged to do a fundraiser at the store (need to notify Victoria at TSC first).

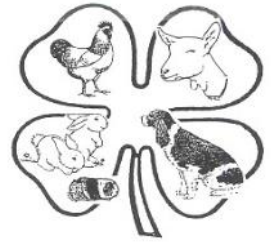


Isabella County 4-H Council will sponsor a \$25 TSC gift card drawing for anyone that works a shift. Everyone that works will receive a ticket for working that will be collected and a winner will be drawn. You will receive a ticket for the drawing **each time** you work a shift.

Plan your shift in advance and sign up at the Extension office if you or your club are interested in participating in the promotion at the store.

Small Animal News

- Thank you to all who helped before, during, and after fair week in the small animal barn. The various levels of assistance were truly appreciated by all of the superintendents. It takes a lot of hands to accomplish everything that needs to happen for our once-a-year event.
- The small animal auction was very successful! The appreciation banquet will be October 25; information letters will be sent near the end of September to all members and buyers with important details. We hope all small animal members will make it a priority to come thank our buyers in person. Items that were left at fair will be available at the banquet.



Seeking Adult & Teen 4-H Council Representatives

What is the Isabella County 4-H Council?

The 4-H Council is the main decision-making body for the county 4-H program. It is responsible for working with the paid staff to support county 4-H program planning, administration and policy making. The Council is charged with keeping track of “the big picture” for our county 4-H program. It assists with volunteer recruitment, 4-H awareness building, and it oversees things such as member and volunteer recognition and the county award program. Monthly meetings (the 4th Tuesday of the month) are held at the Isabella County Building in room 320, and are open to all 4-H leaders and interested people.

We have four adult board positions up for election: Kathie Collin, Kourtney Collin, & Robert Devantier have all graciously agreed to run again. We are accepting nominations “from the floor.” This is open to any Gold volunteer leader of the Isabella County 4-H program who has completed at least one year of volunteer service and is currently enrolled as a volunteer leader. Adult leaders will vote on adult 4-H Council members at the Recognition Banquet.

Please email your nominations to Kristi Schreiber, schrei61@msu.edu by September 30. If no nominations are received, we will accept the slate as presented.

Link to Teen Representative application: http://www.canr.msu.edu/isabella/isabella_county_4_h/newsletters-and-forms

FAIR BOARD NEWS

THANK YOU to the many, many volunteers at this year’s fair! We are here to put on the best fair possible for our Isabella County Youth and we believe the 2022 fair was very successful. We are now getting ready for the 2023 fair. Lots of planning and work ahead. See you next year at the fair, July 22 – 29, 2023!

Support for Fair Board's Educational Center Building Project

THANKS to SO many for supporting the spaghetti dinner, grandstand concessions, and other miscellaneous projects and events. We are hopeful many more people/families/organizations/businesses get involved with this project in order to be successful. Many people suggested some very good ideas that are in the works -- maybe you have something to offer? Please seriously consider what you may be able to do towards this very important building. You can message: isabellacoeducationalcenter@gmail.com

Here is a list of those we are currently aware of that made some sort of donation over the past three months. If you know of others, please share that with us so we can give proper recognition and thanks.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| *4-H Council | *Multiple 4-H Leaders/Volunteers |
| *Dominos | *Rent-A-Center |
| *Ed and Kara Lynch | *Ric's Food Center |
| *GFS | *Smith & Sons Meat Processing |
| *Graham's Organics | *Thrivant |
| *The Justice Family | *Walmart |
| *Meijer | |

We also had several anonymous donors that made very important contributions. Again, if you are aware of someone not on the list above, please email that to isabellacoeducationalcenter@gmail.com and we will update our information.

More information will be provided once additional events are planned and we hope you will support those you can. This is a very large project, but it is also very worthwhile and will benefit 4-H clubs, members, and the community at large.

Volunteer Annual Compliance

Beginning on July 1, MSU Extension will be changing the annual compliance process for all volunteers. Moving forward, a background check authorization will not be required beyond the initial authorization submitted at the time of application. Furthermore, background checks will be conducted during a volunteer's birth month. A courtesy email will be sent to the volunteer at least two weeks prior to the date of the background check. **If a volunteer plans to remain active, no action is required until their Volunteer Code of Conduct is due.** If the volunteer would like to resign or has already left the program, the volunteer can respond asking MSU Extension to change their activity status and not conduct the background check.

It is recommended that volunteers review and complete the Volunteer Code of Conduct and Media/Medical Waiver annually to ensure emergency medical information is up-to-date. On occasion, MSU Extension will make updates to the Volunteer Code of Conduct. When this happens, volunteers will be notified and provided with a timeframe in which they must login to [Volunteer Central](#) and update their Volunteer Code of Conduct and Media/Medical Waiver.

2022 Fair Livestock Information

Congratulations to all Exhibitors at this year's Fair!! This was the largest Livestock Auction in the history of our fair. A **HUGE THANK YOU** to the 2022 BUYERS that came out to support the Livestock Youth. **THANK YOU** to the Superintendents and volunteers that helped during the fair set-up, shows and tear down. **THANK YOU** to the Sale Clerks, Jenny's Catering, Mt. Pleasant Rental, Isabella County Farm Bureau and to our Auctioneers at the sale. **THANK YOU** to the animal haulers for getting the animals delivered after the fair. **THANK YOU** to Matt Graham for hauling the saw dust in and to John Mogg Trucking for hauling after clean-up.

The Beef checks were mailed a few weeks ago and the Swine, Feeder and Sheep checks should be mailed the first part of September. If you have any questions about your check or need buyer information, give Deb a call at 989-400-1082. We look forward to the 2023 Fair, July 22 - 29, 2023!

****FYI****

Sale Averages

2022 ISABELLA COUNTY FAIR LIVESTOCK AUCTION AVERAGES

SWINE	\$8.06 with Champions	\$8.02 without Champions
BEEF	\$4.98 with Champions	\$4.82 without Champions
SHEEP	\$20.14 with Champions	\$18.31 without Champions
FEEDERS	\$6.34 with Champions	\$6.34 without Champions

2021 ISABELLA COUNTY FAIR LIVESTOCK AUCTION AVERAGES

SWINE	\$6.76 with Champions	\$6.68 without Champions
BEEF	\$4.37 with Champions	\$4.30 without Champions
SHEEP	\$9.44 with Champions	\$9.34 without Champions
FEEDERS	\$4.31 with Champions	\$4.31 without Champions



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Nominate an
extraordinary 4-H
alum today!**



**Nomination deadline:
Oct. 1, 2022**

Nominations are now open for the 4-H Emerald Clover Society – Michigan's 4-H hall of fame! Anyone may nominate an extraordinary Michigan 4-H alum for this recognition.

The 4-H Emerald Clover Society honors Michigan 4-H alumni who have had significant Michigan 4-H involvement as a youth and who have made significant contributions to their local, state and national communities.

Nominees must be living and must have been a Michigan 4-H member for three or more years.

For details and the online nomination form, visit <http://mi4hfdn.org/4-h-emerald-awards/4-h-emerald-clover-society/>

September 7 : Welcome Back MSU 4-H Alumni Reception

Justin S. Morrill Hall of Agriculture, MSU Campus, East Lansing , MI

Join MSU Extension for the fifth annual Welcome Back MSU 4-H Alumni Reception. If you are a current or former 4-H'er attending MSU this fall, stop by the grassy area north of the Justin S. Morrill Hall of Agriculture from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. for networking and free dinner! Members of the MSU Extension staff will be on site to interact with 4-H alums and free pizza and pop will be provided. Come to meet fellow 4-H'ers, network with staff and students and have fun.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-welcome-week-4-h-alumni-reception>

October 1-6 : National 4-H Dairy Conference

Madison, Wisconsin

World Dairy Expo is the place where the dairy industry meets. Much in the same vein, the National 4-H Dairy Conference is the place where leading dairy youth from across North America can come to interact with one another and build industry bridges that will last well into the future.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/national-4-h-dairy-conference>

October 5-16 : Fall TSC Paper Clover Promotion

Various Locations

Support 4-H youth from Oct. 5-16, 2022 by purchasing a paper clover both online or in Tractor Supply Co. (TSC) stores for just \$1!

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/tractor-supply-co-paper-clover-campaign>

October 7 : Michigan 4-H Foundation Annual Membership Meeting

East Lansing, MI

Michigan 4-H Foundation members are invited to attend and vote on all items at the meeting. Members are individuals or organizations that donated \$25 or more to Michigan 4-H in the past year. Agenda items include: 2022 president's report, audited financial statement report, trustee elections, and recognition of major donors to Michigan 4-H within the past year.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-foundation-annual-membership-meeting>





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

2022 Michigan 4-H State Award winners announced



The Michigan 4-H State Awards Program recognized outstanding 4-H members during the opening session of 4-H Exploration Days on June 22. At the event, honorees had the opportunity to celebrate their accomplishments with their fellow 4-H Exploration Days participants.

A Michigan 4-H State Award is the highest honor bestowed on Michigan 4-H members and recognizes a level of excellence in learning, leadership and service. In total, 20 4-H members from 16 counties submitted applications to take part in this year's program.

"With tens of thousands of 4-H'ers across the state, the youth honored with 4-H State Awards are some of our most accomplished 4-H'ers," said Julie Chapin, 4-H state leader of Michigan 4-H and director of MSU Extension's children and youth programs. "Their commitment to bettering themselves

and their communities through service and extensive 4-H work make them true leaders in their clubs, counties and across our state."

Michigan 4-H State Awards were presented in 13 of the 19 available award categories that showcase the diverse array of 4-H knowledge, skills, and experience. Recipients of the 2022 awards are:

- **Beef Science:** Charlee Klink of Delta County (junior division)
- **Companion Animal Science:** Malachi Sims of Shiawassee County (senior division)
- **Dairy Science:** Sophia Nielsen of Ingham County (junior division)
- **Environmental Science:** Vishal Swamy of Oakland County (junior division)
- **Equine Science:** Jayleigh Williams of Lenawee County (junior division)
- **Food, Nutrition, Health Fitness:** Rebecca Thomas of Ionia County (senior division)
- **Gardening and Horticulture:** Brooke Richards of Macomb County (junior division)
- **Goat Science:** Caitlynn Pratt of Otsego County (junior division) and Audrey Martin of Midland County (senior division)
- **Leadership:** Alana Aulph of Monroe County (junior division)
- **Rabbit and Cavy Science:** Noah Hecht of Saginaw County (junior division) and Alexis Fisher of Monroe County (senior division)
- **Sheep Science:** Jadyn Herzog of Allegan County (junior division) and Jaycie Brown of Livingston County (senior division)
- **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM):** Brandon Fisher of Monroe County (junior division) and Blake Towne of Van Buren County (senior division)
- **Visual, Performing and Expressive Arts:** Corinna Aulph of Monroe County (junior division)

The Michigan 4-H State Awards Program is open to 4-H members who are 13-19 years old with three or more years of 4-H experience. To qualify for the award, 4-H'ers must submit a written application that showcases the learning experiences, knowledge and skills they've acquired through their participation in 4-H, as well as their contributions to their local 4-H programs, clubs and communities. Submissions are reviewed by the Michigan 4-H State Awards selection committee. This group of volunteers, staff members and industry experts determine which members are selected as award finalists. All applicants receive written feedback from selection committees.

Senior delegates (ages 16-19) and groups then complete an interview using video conference technology. Completing a video interview provides an opportunity for 4-H members to practice real-world skills that are trending in the workforce.

In addition to a plaque, each 4-H State Award winner in the senior division will also receive a \$200 cash award; junior winners receive \$50 cash awards. These awards are made possible by generous donations to the Michigan 4-H Foundation.

Are you ready to leave for college or be out on your own? Are you prepared to do adult tasks and have skills to be successful?

ADULTING 101

FALL SERIES



MONDAYS, 6-7 PM EST

- **October 3:** Changing the World With Just 1 Vote
- **October 10:** Choose Your Future
- **October 17:** Make a Spending Plan Work For You
- **October 24:** Avoiding Money Mishaps

Register at: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adult101fall22>

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension



Raise a Leader Dog Puppy and Continue a 4-H Legacy

You have probably seen one, an adorable dog wearing a blue “Future Leader Dog” bandana and wondered how you can learn to train a dog to behave so well. There’s only one way to learn the Leader Dogs for the Blind (LDB) method—raise a puppy for the organization.

Did you know that the first LDB volunteer puppy raisers in 1958 were members of the Oakland County K-9 4-H Club? In fact, 4-H members have had a big impact at Leader Dog.



Long-time LDB Employee and Volunteer Puppy Raiser Pat Boyd, who personally raised 29 LDB puppies, learned about LDB as the leader of the 4-H club her five children belonged to decades ago. Three of her children raised 24 LDB puppies while also participating in other 4-H projects, “It would be easier to list what they didn’t do,” said Pat. Recently, one of Pat’s granddaughters continued the tradition by raising three LDB puppies while in high school.

“I liked the kids being involved with puppy raising,” said Pat, “it taught them responsibility in two ways. First, by caring for the dog for a year, and then the important responsibility of reaching out and helping people in need. While it is hard to give the dog back after a year, you are doing this for a person who really needs that dog to live their life to its fullest.”

Other LDB employees initially learned about LDB through 4-H. Bev Ferguson, manager of canine development, raised LDB puppies as part of her 4-H experience. Laura Fisher, puppy development coordinator, handled horses during 4-H, but now raises LDB puppies alongside her husband and three sons.

As a volunteer puppy raiser, you get to spend a year with a cute canine as you both learn the skills needed for the puppy to be ready for its formal guide dog training. With the help of an experienced LDB puppy counselor, you’ll learn the proper way to teach the common skills of sit, stay, settling calmly on a mat and walking nicely on a leash. But you’ll also learn unique skills needed by working Leader Dogs like ignoring distractions, moving confidently through busy environments and properly greeting people.

This opportunity is open to 4-H members and their families (applications must be filled out by someone 18 years or older). Whether you’ve been a “dog family” for years or have never had a dog, you’ll learn a lot during your year as Leader Dog puppy raisers.

Other benefits of this volunteer position include helping people who are blind become more independent and confident in their travel, meeting like-minded people and feeling good about giving back to your community.

To learn more, go to LeaderDog.org and choose the “Volunteer” tab to apply or register for an orientation session. You can also read about the unique opportunity of hosting a Leader Dog Mom in your home.

Contact Kristi for more information at schrei61@msu.edu or (989) 330-5131.



Laura Fisher’s family photo shows that having multiple pets does not exclude a family from raising a Future Leader Dog (yellow Labrador, far right).



Pat Boyd shows off Future Leader Dog Grant who was puppy #50 of the 53 Leader Dog puppies her family has raised over the past 35+ years.

Isabella County
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Fax: (989) 773-1622

Website:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/isabella/>



<https://www.facebook.com/IsabellaCounty4H/>

All 4-H Families are invited to join us for our annual 4-H Recognition Banquet on Thursday, October 6 at 6:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart Parish Hall, in Mt. Pleasant.

SAVE THE DATES

Administrative Leader's Meeting
September 27 at 6 PM

National 4-H Week
October 2 - 8

TSC Fall Paper Clover Campaign
October 5 - 16

4-H Recognition Banquet
October 6 at 6:30 p.m.
Sacred Heart Parish Hall

Small Animal Banquet
Tuesday, October 25 at 6:30 p.m.
Sacred Heart Parish Hall

Isabella County Youth & Farm Fair
July 22 - 29, 2023

Isabella County 4-H Calendar

September 5	Office Closed	
6	Horse Leaders @ MSUE	7 PM
15	Small Animal Association @ First Church of Christ	7 PM
27	Administrative Leader Meeting @ MSUE	6 PM
27	4-H Council @ MSUE	7 PM
October 2-8	National 4-H Week 2022	

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"Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the MSU Extension office at (989) 317-4079 at least 7 days prior to the scheduled event to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements. Requests received after this time will be met when possible."

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