

4-H Family News

Livingston County

SEPTEMBER 2023



Re-Enrollment Paperwork Due October 15th

As we enter the 2023-2024 Program year, we have several mandatory deadlines for our 4-H administrative leaders to meet. These are statewide deadlines that local 4-H staff do not have the ability to change. Failure to meet these deadlines will result in club disbanding which we do not want to happen!

To ensure you have this paperwork completed by October 15th, Kat has times available to meet with leaders to go over their paperwork. Leaders who need help MUST meet with Kat to review their paperwork prior to October 6th. The paperwork required includes the Annual Financial Summary Report, the Civil Rights Compliance, Club Information Sheet, and Club Pin Order Form (Optional). Please see page 3 of the newsletter for more information about the paperwork.

As always, if you have questions, please contact Kat or Jenny by email or phone.











UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS:

Animal Project Committee MeetingSeptember 5th at 7 pm at the MSU Extension Office

4-H Online Enrollment Starts for 2023-24 Program Year September 15th

4-H Council Meeting

September 19th at 7 pm at the MSU Extension Office

Last day for Leaders to Meet with Kat for Re-Enrollment Paperwork

October 6th

4-H Club Leader Re-Enrollment Paperwork Due October 15th

County Award Applications Due October 20th by 5 pm

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Enrollment for 4-H Online Starts on September 15th



Enrollment for the 2023-2024 program year begins on September 15th. If you have youth interested in joining your club, please let them know they can enroll on or after that date. Please remind current club members they MUST re-enroll every year to stay an active 4-H member. We recommend re-enrolling as soon as possible so you get all of our newsletters and communications.

County Awards Applications & Awards Night

County Awards are quickly approaching!

All applications can be found on our website https://www.canr.msu.edu/livingston/livingston_county_4_h/general-info under County Awards. We also have paper copies at the MSU Extension Office. Applications are due no later than 5pm on October 20th, 2023. This is your chance to be recognized for all of the hard work you do in your project areas throughout the year! In addition to your own awards, please consider nominating a leader or volunteer that has made your year in 4-H fantastic!

If you are not eligible or applying for awards this year, we hope you will still join us in recognizing all of the hard work that our 4-Hers and volunteers have put in over the last year. This year's awards will take place on November 17th at 7 pm at the 4-H Building at the Fowlerville Family Fairgrounds. More details to come next month!



Promote Livingston County 4-H During National 4-H Week: October 1-7th



National 4-H Week is October 1st – 7th and this year's theme is I ♥ 4-H. We encourage 4-H clubs and volunteers to help spread the word about the Livingston County 4-H program across the county. If you are interested in putting together a display at a local business or organization, let the 4-H office know! We would be happy to help supply some 4-H swag to display. Some examples of organizations to reach out to are libraries, community centers, schools, and local businesses like feed supply stores. We also still have 4-H signs if any clubs or families want to put one up in their yard or in their community.



4-H Club Leader Re-Enrollment Paperwork

On October 15th there is a statewide deadline for mandatory 4-H Club Re-Enrollment paperwork. This paperwork includes the following items:

- Annual Financial Summary Report This form is required of ALL clubs by MSU and the IRS, regardless of if the club holds inventory or finances
- <u>Civil Rights Compliance</u> This form is required of all clubs by MSU and the USDA and is an
 agreement to uphold MSU Extension's civil rights policy of being open to all.
- <u>Club information sheet</u> This form is required by 4-H staff and helps 4-H staff best serve your club, as well as ensuring your contact information and club directory listing are up to date.
- <u>Club pin order sheet</u> (Optional) Youth years of participation pins are available to any club that requests them. If 4-H staff do not have the pins required to fill your club "order", we will place an order and will have them available at the office asap!

Help with 4-H Club Leader Re-Enrollment Paperwork & How to Turn it in

Need help completing these forms? Leaders can meet with Kat at the MSU Extension Office or on zoom on the following dates to go over the forms:

- August 28th-September 1st 10:30am-1pm or 4pm-5:30pm
- September 5th 1pm-4pm or 5pm-6:30pm (Before Animal Project Meeting)
- September 6th-8th 9:30am-1pm or 4pm-5:30pm
- September 11th-15th 9:30am-1pm or 4pm-5:30pm
- September 19th 2pm-6:30pm (Before 4-H Council Meeting)
- September 20th-22nd 9:30am-1pm or 4pm-5:30pm
- September 25th 9:30am-5:30pm
- October 2nd 9:30am-5:30pm
- October 3rd 1pm-6:30pm (Before Animal Project Meeting)
- October 4th-6th 9:30am-5:30pm

Club leaders may choose to turn in their paperwork in the following ways:

- Email must be scanned, clear, complete copies of all pages of paperwork. If you do not own a scanner, it is recommended that you use PDF scanner apps on your phone (example: camscanner) to ensure these are clear. Unclear photographs of the paperwork will not be accepted. Email to: Krollkat@msu.edu
- **USPS** Forms must be postmarked no later than 10/14. Forms should be sent to the MSU Extension office Kat VanDouser at 2300 E Grand River Ave #111, Howell MI 48819.
- Drop Off Forms can be brought in person to the MSU Extension office at 2300 E Grand River Ave #111, Howell MI 48819 M-F 9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm or by appointment. Meeting with 4-H staff is NOT required if all paperwork is complete.



Livingston County 4-H Conservation Quest Cancelled for September



We are disappointed to announce our next Livingston County 4-H Conservation Quest for September & October has been cancelled due to low enrollment. We are planning for more events in this series in the Spring of 2024. We also want to remind families that the Livingston Conservation District is open from dawn to dusk for families to visit on 9585 Roberts Rd, Gregory, MI. This 190 acre site has beautiful maintained paths and a catch and release pond in the front. Our Pollinator Planting is about a mile back on the main trail. Look for the big orange sign from Pheasants Forever!

Livingston County 4-H Horse Recognition Program

Our 4-H Horse Recognition Program deadline is quickly approaching! The Livingston County 4-H Horse Recognition Program is for every child enrolled in the Livingston County 4-H horse/pony project area. Members do not need to have a horse or have any prior knowledge of horses to join a club and participate in this program. Youth earn points towards their recognition awards through a variety of activities, which can be found on pages 3-4 here:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/livingston/uploads/files/Approved%20LC%20Horse%20Rules%203.8.22.pdf

The deadline to submit the tally sheet is September 30th at 11:59pm. Tally sheets can be submitted electronically via email to krollkat@msu.edu or carbenowske@yahoo.com, mailed to the 4-H office at 2300 E Grand River



Ave, #111. Howell, MI 48843, or delivered to the 4-H office in person prior to 4pm on September 30th. Tally sheets can be found here:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/livingston/uploads/files/Recogniton%20Program%20Tally%20Sheet.pdf

Rescheduled Date for Dog Training Clinic



The new date for our Dog Training Clinic has been chosen! Join us on September 8th at 6:30pm at the Fowlerville Family Fairgrounds!

Whether you are new to the 4-H dog program, have been training and showing your dog for years, or if you are just interested in learning more - you are invited! Pre-registration is required and is re-opened until Wednesday, September 6th at 5:00pm. Register here: https://bit.ly/4HDogClinic

Questions? Please reach out to Kat at Krollkat@msu.edu or 517-552-6903.



"My WHY" by 4-H Club Leader Jen Esch of Muddy Buddies 4-H Club



Here we are at the conclusion to the 2022-2023 4-H Year. WOW! What a year it's been. Seems like a good time to pause and reflect on my role as a new Administrative Leader of the newly chartered Muddy Buddies 4-H Club here in Livingston County. I knew getting into this that I was making a commitment. I didn't know exactly how much was involved or where exactly to begin. But I knew two things:

- 1) If I created a space for learning and development, the youth members in our club would GROW; and
- 2) The youth members who showed up at Fair with their animal and still projects would have developed character traits unique to the rest of the world that the world desperately needs.

And thankfully, I've had loads of help from seasoned 4-H Leaders like Teena Munsell, Molly Moulton, Judy Paulsen, not to mention 4-H Program Manager Kat VanDouser, and countless others. [Thank you, ladies, for always being there to answer my endless questions!]

What transpired throughout the months from September when we formed through Fair in July was something beautiful to witness. Here are a few highlights:

- Trunk or Treat | Muddy Buddies teamed up with our two Mentor Clubs, Barnyard Bunch and Kounty Klover Kids (my club growing up, thank you Gordon and Teena!) to host a fun Trunk or Treat where we had a dozen-plus vehicles decorated passing out treats coupled with 4-H Trivia. Costumes and smiles were abundant, and we enriched the COMMUNITY we all pledge to support each time we start our meeting.
- 2) Christmas in the Ville | Next up was the annual holiday parade in Downtown Fowlerville where groups, businesses, and organizations showcased their lighted-float making talents to get everyone into the spirit of the season. Our club youth demonstrated excellent initiative and teamwork pulling together the float with virtually no adult help, making clear their commitment to their CLUB.
- **Swine Skill Development** | Between attending the Green & White Swine Show at MSU and a very-creative Swine Jeopardy produced by our very own Club President, Hana Harshbarger, the youth members had the opportunity to learn more about the animals each of them were about to show during Fair. The learnings were both educational and fun and made for some exciting competition.



"My WHY" by 4-H Club Leader Jen Esch of Muddy Buddies 4-H Club

- 4. 4-H Pledge Mastery | During each monthly meeting, the youth members kicked off with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by The 4-H Pledge. At the conclusion of each meeting, each member was invited to recite the pledge by memory and, if successful, would be awarded a dollar coin. By the June meeting, all 13 members (ages 5-19) proudly and loudly stood and recited the pledge complete with hand gestures. I'm not saying it brought a tear to my eye to witness such a site, but ... maybe ... *sniff*
- 5) Fair Preparation | Our entire club, parents and youth combined, showed up in really big ways to help out at Fair Clean Up the Tuesday before Fair and again at Club Booth and Animal Project Area Set Up that next Friday. We were recognized as one of the top best decorated clubs for their effort and received many compliments throughout the week for how well we showed up as a team and how sharp our signage looked throughout our spaces. The collaboration and unity made this 4-H Leader proud, knowing full well that these traits are setting everyone involved up to be better members of our COUNTRY and our WORLD.

In retrospect, not much of what I've shared here is unique to Muddy Buddies 4-H Club. These are the traits of all 4-H Clubs, Junior Agriculture Society groups, and FFA participants. The Youth Show brings together people with a shared mission to be better versions of ourselves through each combined experience. We learn, we grow, we give back, and we come out better for it all. We make the best BETTER.

I am so very proud to have served this club as its leader during our inaugural year, and I cannot wait to see these youth realize their potential for many years to come. SPECIAL thanks to the parents of our youth members who have been awesome supporters while we work through the forming and storming of the first year. **#oneteam**

To everyone involved, CONGRATULATIONS on another season well done. Fair has always held a special place in my heart. Getting the chance to come back together and see you all and work together to make the experience everything I've always known it to be – beginning with our next generation – OUR YOUTH – that's 100% **My WHY**.

Here's to a fantastic 2023-2024 4-H Year! Let's go!!!

Thank you, Jen, for this wonderfully written piece about your club and 4-H volunteer experience. We encourage any of our 4-H leaders or youth to submit pieces like this to Jenny Speyer, speyerie@msu.edu, for our new newsletter.



2023-2024 4-H Committee Meeting Schedule

One way for youth & volunteers to learn leadership and to have their voices heard is through our 4-H committees. Please encourage youth in your family or club to attend our committee meetings and consider running for elected positions when they are able. All of these meetings are held at the MSU Extension Office at 2300 E. Grand River Ave, Howell, MI unless otherwise noted.

4-H Council (Third Tuesdays at 7:00 pm)					
September 19, 2023	November 21, 2023	January 16, 2024	March 19, 2024		
May 21, 2024	June 18, 2024				

4-H Horse Committee (Second Tuesdays at 7:00 pm)					
October 10, 2023	November 14, 2023 General Meeting at the 4-H Building	February 13, 2024	March 12, 2024		
April 9, 2024 General Meeting at the 4-H Building (Tentative Date)	May 14, 2024	June 11, 2024			

4-H Animal Project Committee (First Tuesdays at 7:00 pm)					
September 5, 2023	October 3, 2023 General Meeting	February 6, 2024	March 5, 2024		
April 2, 2024 General Meeting at the 4-H Building (Tentative Date)	May 7, 2024				

4-H Grand Equestrians (Fourth Tuesdays at 7:00 pm)				
October 24, 2023	November 28, 2023	February 27, 2024		



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Share Your 4-H Story!



Across the state, Michigan 4-H has grown true leaders for today and tomorrow. From Marquette to Monroe, these young people are impacting their clubs, communities, country and world.

To help share this impact with others, we're looking for youth and 4-H alums to share their own testimonials of how 4-H has influenced their personal growth and development.

Submissions will be posted on the Meet Michigan 4-H'ers section of the MSU Extension website and promoted digitally in newsletters and social media.

To learn more and download the guidelines, visit www.canr.msu.edu/4h/meetmichigan-4-h.

September 6: Welcome Back MSU 4-H Alumni Reception

Justin S. Morrill Hall of Agriculture, East Lansing

If you are a current or former 4-H'er attending MSU this fall, stop by outside the Justin S. Morrill Hall of Agriculture from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. for networking and free dinner!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-welcome-week-4-h-alumni-reception

September 16-17: 4-H Shooting Sports Workshop

Shiawassee Conservation Association, Owosso

Adult and teen 4-H volunteers can learn about 4-H shooting sports' mission policy, risk management and safety, discipline-specific equipment use and care, how to teach shooting fundamentals to youth, range set-up, and more.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-shooting-sports-workshop-owosso-1

September 18: Adulting 101 - How to Tell Principals & Politicians They are Full of Poop While Being Polite

Online

This session will provide some skills and practice on how to influence people in power to make change in your community and world.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting1019-18-23

September 21: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series - Spice up Your 4-H Experiences with 4-H Resources

Online

This session will explore a variety of resources that 4-H volunteers can use in meetings to support Michigan 4-H'ers.

12-1 p.m. session: <u>www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-spice-up-your-4-h-experiences-with-4-h-resources</u>

 $\textbf{7-8 p.m. session:} \ \underline{www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-spice-up-your-4-h-experiences-with-4-h-resources7pm} \\$

September 29: Michigan 4-H Foundation Annual Membership Meeting

Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, East Lansing

Agenda items include 2023 president's report, audited financial statement report, trustee elections, and recognition of major donors to Michigan 4-H within the past year.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-foundation-annual-membership-meeting

October 4: Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol

Heritage Hall, Lansing

Education and awareness event to elevate knowledge of Michigan 4-H and to share the impact of its programming across Michigan.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-day-at-the-capitol





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

National 4-H Week: October 1-7, 2023

Fore more than 100 years, 4-H has inspired families, shaped careers, and impacted communities. From October 1-7, we will celebrate the impact of 4-H during National 4-H Week. The theme of this year's National 4-H Week is "I Va-H." As you plan ahead for how you will mark National 4-H Week in your community, here are some ideas of you can celebrate 4-H and show all the ways you Va-H!

Wear Your 4-H Gear — Nothing says 4-H pride like a 4-H tee! Dress yourself (or the entire family – pets included!) in 4-H green and clover gear.

Shout-Out a 4-H'er — Recognize the hard work and dedication of 4-H'ers by shouting out one youth or an entire club on social media, in a local newspaper or other media.

Storefront Displays/Information Booths — In some communities, you can ask local businesses to display 4-H posters, flyers, showcase the work of 4-H'ers, or host a table to share information about your local 4-H program.



Become a 4-H Volunteer —If you are a 4-H alum, parent or recent 4-H 'graduate', you might be looking for ways to connect with 4-H. Consider giving your time to a local 4-H program by becoming a volunteer.

Share Your 4-H Story — Take to social media to share a 4-H memory, express how 4-H shaped who you are today, describe what 4-H means to you, post an old 4-H photo, or shout-out your 4-H club.

Have a 4-H Reunion — Gather your old 4-H friends and spend some time together reminiscing on your 4-H experience or recreate a 4-H project together!

Send a 4-H 'Thank You' — We all have a reason to thank our local 4-H staff, leaders and supporters. To show your appreciation, send a handwritten 'thank you' note to someone who has supported youth and made a difference.

Raise Awareness – On October 4, Michigan 4-H and MSU Extension will be hosting the first Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol. Join this exciting education and awareness event to help elevate knowledge of Michigan 4-H and share the impact of its programming across Michigan. Learn more at www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-day-at-the-capitol.

Give Back — Local programs are always looking for resources to continue growing 4-H for the future. Help programs thrive by making a donation at https://mi4hfdtn.org/countymatch/ that can help support your county 4-H program.

Adapted from: https://4-h.org/about/blog/10-ways-to-celebrate-national-4-h-week/.









MSU Extension Child and Family Development

MSU Extension has a wide range of free online classes for parents and caregivers of children of all ages and early childhood professionals.

Extension Extra's Parenting Hour

These free online parenting workshops will provide guidance for parents of young children as they navigate the challenges, concerns, and joys of parenting. Participants may register for as few or as many workshops as they wish. The workshops are on Tuesday evenings from 8:00 to 9:30PM EST as follows:

Class dates:

- 9/5/23: Setting the Stage: Promoting Social-Emotional Health in Young Children
- 9/12/23: Importance of Outdoor Play
- 9/19/23:The Resilience Toolbox
- 9/26/23: NO CLASS

Registration: https://msu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_J46cnBPnQLWjDeTk2gs59g#/registration

For more information contact Courtney Aldrich at aldric82@msu.edu

Guiding Principles for Highly Successful Parenting

Are you wondering how to gain greater cooperation from your children? Struggling with chores or routines? Not sure how to handle discipline issues? Join us for this five week parenting education series for parents with children of all ages will explore developing routines, emotional control, rules and relationships, and being a calm, assertive parent. Certificates of attendance are available.

Class dates: Thursdays, August 24, August 31, September 7, September 14, September 21

Class times: 8:00pm-9:30pm EST

Registration: https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6XReroOy9fS0mKa

For more information, contact Courtney Aldrich, aldric82@msu.edu

Kinship Caregiver "Let's Talk: Family and School Communication"

Learning how to communicate effectively can help children thrive by providing consistency as well as relationships that are supportive. This workshop will help participants learn strategies to effectively communicate and explore ways to problem solve communication challenges.

Class date: September 13th Class times: 7:00-8:30pm EST

Registration: https://bit.ly/KinshipCareSummer23

For more information, contact Courtney Aldrich, aldric82@msu.edu

In-Person Workshop: Including All of Us

Including All of Us is an intensive training to provide an opportunity for child care professionals to learn about issues of diversity, equity and inclusion in early childhood. Including All of Us includes group content, where early childhood professionals can explore their own beliefs, worldviews and understanding of issues surrounding diversity. Participants learn about ways they can incorporate anti-bias education into their work with young children and create environments of equity for all children. Including All of Us provides an opportunity for teachers to practice self-reflection and develop an awareness that will have a positive impact on their teaching, child care skills, and family interactions.

This in-person, free program is six hours in length and can be taught in one six-hour session or two, three-hour sessions. The program is approved in the MiRegistry system and completion certificates are available.

To schedule a workshop at your location, contact Vivian Washington at washi138@msu.edu





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MSU Extension has a wide range of free online classes for parents and caregivers of children of all ages and early childhood professionals.

Early Childhood Professional Development Classes

These free online classes provide professional development training hours for early childhood professionals. Credit in the MiRegistry system is available.

Title: Purpose of Play Class Date: September 21st Class Time: 7:00PM to 8:30PM

Registration: https://msu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN jLVWzzM6Qlimr7VBOCrrPA

Title: What Children Need to Know to Start School

Class Date: September 22nd
Class Time: 1:00PM to 2:30PM

Registration: https://msu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7uUWdABOR266czLJYKyu7A

For more information contact Vivian Washington at washi138@msu.edu

Online Self-Paced Classes

These free online classes can be completed on your own at your own pace.

Positive Discipline

Helping young children learn self-control is important to their ability to be successful citizens now and in the future. Positive Discipline workshops help adults learn how their role in creating appropriate environments and experiences can strengthen that development. This class has a "parent and caregiver" track and a "professional" track. Certificates of attendance are available for all who take the class and professional development training hours are available for early childhood professionals. Credit in the MiRegistry system is available.

Registration: https://www.canr.msu.edu/courses/positive-discipline-online-course

For more information contact Courtney Aldrich at aldric82@msu.edu

Infant Safety

MSU Extension has partnered with the Livingston County Child Abuse Prevention Council to create a self-directed online infant safety course called "Sleeping, Crying, Driving." This three part course contains videos and interactive content on infant safe sleep, how to handle extended infant crying and guidelines for transporting your child safely. A certificate of completion is available for those who need proof of attendance.

Registration: https://www.canr.msu.edu/early_childhood_development/infant-safety/

MI Parenting Resource

This free, online program is meant to support caregivers across the state in strengthening their parent-child relationships and gaining new tools for enhancing positive child behaviors.

Registration: https://miparentingresource.org/

For more information contact Courtney Aldrich at aldric82@msu.edu

