

4-H Family News

Montcalm County

November 2024



Hello 4-H Families and Volunteers,

We had quite a fun month, and I am looking forward to this upcoming year! We've got a lot of upcoming events planned.

If you missed the awards banquet and would like your member pins, please reach out to me to coordinate a pick-up time.

4-H Online has opened back up for reenrollments. Please submit your reenrollment by December 1st. This is for volunteers as well.

Sincerely, Sunni Haglund 4-H Program Coordinator

Montcalm County Committee Meeting times & locations

Fairboard Association | 1^{st} Monday of the month | 7:00 p.m. | Ash Building – Fairgrounds

4-H Dog Committee | 1st Thursday of the month | 6:30 p.m. | Ash Building – Fairgrounds & via zoom (https://msu.zoom.us/j/92086229811 passcode: 4Hdog)

4-H Horse Leaders | 2nd Tuesday of the month | 7:00 p.m. | Ash Building – Fairgrounds & via zoom (https://msu.zoom.us/j/96502762151 passcode: Horse)

4-H Council | 3rd Monday of the month | 6:30 p.m. | MSUE office & via zoom (https://msu.zoom.us/j/95340301576 passcode: Council)

4-H Community Connection Committee (CCC) | 3rd Monday of the month | 7:00 p.m. | via zoom (https://msu.zoom.us/j/95542684298 passcode: 4HCCC)

4-H Small Animal Committee | 4th Monday of the month | 6:00 p.m. | Ash Building - Fairgrounds

4-H Youth Livestock Committee | 4th Monday of the month | 6:30 p.m. | Ash Building - Fairgrounds

CONTACT US

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WEBSITE:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/montcalmcounty/

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COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Fairboard Date: 11/4/24

Dog Committee Date: 11/7/24

Veterans Day Luncheon Date: 11/9/24

Tree Trimming Class Date: 11/10/24

Horse Leaders
 Date: 11/12/24

Dog Practice Dates: 11/12/24

Advisory Council Date: 11/18/24

Community Connections
 Date: 11/18/24

Holiday Whobilation
 Date: 11/23/24

• Small Animal Date: 11/25/24

Youth Livestock
 Date: 11/25/24

MCFAAC (Livestock)
 Date: 11/25/24

Times and locations for each 4-H committee meeting can be found on the front page of this newsletter!

Don't forget to visit the Montcalm County Fairgrounds webpage

https://montcalmcountyfairgrounds.com/.



Other Services Offered:

MSUE Master Gardener Hotline:

1-888-678-3464

The hotline is open weekdays between 9-noon and 1 – 4 p.m.

Select option "1" to speak directly with a gardening expert.

Ask an Expert:

Ask Extension offers one-to-one answers from MSU Extension experts and **Extension Master** Gardener volunteers on topics such as lawns, gardening, agriculture, nutrition and physical activity, food safety, food preservation, natural resources. community development, youth programming and more!

Ask here:

https://www.canr.msu .edu/outreach/askan-expert



4-H Committee News

Join us in our 4-H committee meetings, while we plan/prepare or the upcoming year. You have a voice too we just need to hear it!

4-H Committees:

Dog Committee – 1st Thursday of every month at 6:30pm at the Ash Building

Horse Leaders – 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7pm at the Ash Building

Advisory Council – 3rd Monday of every month at 6:30pm via Zoom Community Connections – 3rd Monday of every month following Advisory Council via Zoom

Small Animal Committee – 4th Monday of every month at 6pm at the Ash Building

Youth Livestock Committee – 4th Monday of every month at 6:30pm at the Ash Building





4-H Committee News

The committee meetings are a great opportunity to have your voice be heard. Any 4-H member/family can attend and take part in the planning of the species-specific events throughout the year and at fair. It is encouraged and very important to attend, so that everyone has a voice. Typically, August through October is when most of the changes are voted on, but planning occurs throughout the year.

The Youth Livestock Committee is hosting various educational workshops during their 4th Monday meetings. There is a survey for ALL youth that are interested, to see what type of educational topics you would like to have covered, as well as which meetings work best for you to attend. The link to the survey is

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6KJD8X5. We'd love to hear from you!.

4-H Community Connections Committee is hosting a Holiday Bake-Off on November 23rd at the Montcalm County Fairgrounds (page 18-20). This event will be in conjunction with the 4-H Curious Clovers Holiday Whobilation (page 15-17). They will have a Christmas Market, Grinch Fun Run, and Pancake Breakfast. There will be pictures with Santa, lots of vendors, and loads of family fun.

They will also be collecting items for IM Kids that day. If you would like to donate, see the wish list to the right.



IM KIDS 3rd MEAL WISH LIST

- -Jelly/Jam
- -Individual Raisins
- Applesauce
- -Sandwich Bags
- -Snack Bags
- -Fruit Cups
- -Dried Fruit
- -Individual Snack Items
- -Fruit Snacks
- -# 8 (XL) Paper Lunch Bags
- -Nutri-Grain Bars
- -Sandwich Crackers
- -Cereal (Full Size)
- -100% Fruit Juice Boxes
- -Granola Bars



Shooting Sports:

4-H Precision Seekers –

Looking for youth that are interested in 4-H Shooting Sports to join our club for 2025.

Rifle Disciplines being offered: BB Gun, Air Rifle (Sporter and Precision), .22lr Rifle (Field and Target)

Age Requirements:

4-H Age As of Jan 1 of the participation year	BB Gun .177	Air Rifle .177	.22lr Rifle
9-11	Yes	Yes	No
12-19	Yes	Yes	Yes

If you are interested, you must log into 4-H Online and join 4-H Precision Seekers as your primary or secondary club. Meetings/practices will start in January 2025 for new youth. Everyone who signs up will be notified of meeting dates and times.

Questions/Info: Please call or email Scott Wallace if you have questions or need additional information. Phone 616-826-6310, email scott.wallace.mich@gmail.com

Note: Please, Do Not buy your youth any equipment prior to attending a meeting/practice or contacting Scott.



Montcalm County Fair Association

MCFA Info/Updates:

The Montcalm County Fair Association had their Annual Meeting on October 27th, where they voted to fill seven fairboard positions. At the November Fairboard meeting, voting for the executive committee took place. Our new fairboard members are as follows:

Todd Hetherington – President
Jason Nadeau – 1st Vice President
Brad Heft – 2nd Vice President
Tammi Jahnke – Current Secretary
Lisa Johnson – Current Treasurer
Joe Minkel – Director
Shawn Hyde – Director
Tammy Hancock – Director
Becka Merren – Director
Tom Aldridge – Director
Jamison German – Director
Sunni Haglund – Director
Melissa Williams – Director
Amanda Ives – Director
Jamie Goodrich – Director

Special Note!! – The Michigan Association of Fairs and Exhibitions (MAFE) convention will take place from 9-12 January, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, at the Amway Grand. The cost to attend for the weekend, is \$65/person. Anyone who is interested in going, please reach out to Sunni at https://mifairs.com/convention-information/. The website is





Montcalm County Fair Association

MCFA Info/Updates:

We also have various committees that are always looking for new faces and input. If you're interested in serving on one of the following committees, please reach out to Sunni at haglun10@msu.edu.

MCFA Committees:

Accessibility

Association Membership

Awards

Biosecurity

Budget and Audit

Buildings and Grounds

By-laws/Policies and Procedures

Camping

Fairbook

Grandstand Events

Judges

Kids Day/Special Needs Day

Livestock and Agriculture (MCFAAC)

Marketing

Parking/Security

Plat Book

Rentals

ShoWorks

Vendors/concessions/exhibits



STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Starting the 4-H season off right: Suggestions for the year's first meeting

Adapted from an article by Michelle Neff at www.canr.msu.edu/news/ starting_the_4_h_season_off_right_suggestions_for_the_years_first_meeting.

A new 4-H year has started and that means it is time to start thinking about the goals and plans for educational, inspirational and recreational activities for Michigan 4-H clubs! No matter what project youth are participating in, it is important to start the year off right!



MSU Extension has resources for volunteers to help lead and manage their 4-H club on the 4-H Club Development website, www.canr.msu.edu/4hclub/index. A good start to the 4-H year will allow youth members, club leaders and parents to be clear about expectations and plans for the group and be excited for what will take place. Some tips to get you started include:

- Get to know youth and adults and share about 4-H! Clubs transition from year to year. There may be members new to 4-H, youth trying new project areas, and members who have left or transitioned to different activities. Make sure everyone knows each other with a fun icebreaker activity.
- Prepare a list of activities for the year. The 4-H year goes fast and there is a lot to do in a short period of time. Preparing a list of club activities for meetings is important to ensure youth are learning the life and technical skills of their 4-H project.
- Create a calendar. Once you have your activities picked out, it's time to plan when and where it will all happen!

MSU Extension hosts successful second Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol

On October 9, MSU Extension hosted the second Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol to showcase the positive impact of the Michigan 4-H program and bring additional visibility to its effects. The event was held in the atrium of Heritage Hall – the Capitol Visitor's Center.

"We were so excited to bring this event back in 2024," said Deanna East, MSU Extension associate director who served as the event emcee. "Michigan 4-H is certainly worth celebrating every day of the year and we are grateful for the opportunity to highlight this impactful program to our state's leaders."

Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol was attended by legislators, stakeholders and members of the public. At the event, attendees visited information booths



Mich. 4-H youth with Rep. Miller (fourth from left).

hosted by Michigan 4-H youth and staff. A brief program featured East as well as: legislative host Representative Reggie Miller; MSU President Kevin Guskiewicz; Emma Young, policy analyst for Governor Whitmer and a Michigan 4-H alumna; Everett Howell, Michigan 4-H youth from Leelanau County; and Brianna Sierra, Michigan 4-H youth from Genesee County.

"The Michigan 4-H program serves an incredible number of youth each year but we hope to reach even more young people in the years ahead" continued East. "Elevating awareness of the program is one of our primary goals for Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol and we believe this event will help connect more youth with our program and all that Michigan 4-H has to offer."

The program was livestreamed on the Michigan 4-H Facebook and can be viewed at www.facebook.com/Michigan4H.



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Support 4-H with the TSC Paper Clover Campaign



To embrace the holiday spirit, the Tractor Supply Company (TSC) Paper Clover campaign has moved from it's traditional October dates to November and December this year! Now from Nov. 29 – Dec. 15, TSC customers across the nation will have the opportunity to support 4-H youth by purchasing a \$1 clover at checkouts when shopping both in stores or online at www.TractorSupply.com during the campaign dates.

Funds raised will support county, state and national 4-H programming. To learn more, visit www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/cms/4h.

New for 2024, you can also support 4-H by purchasing three special commemorative 4-H holiday ornaments, now in TSC stores! Proceeds from the sale of ornaments support 4-H.



November 6: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series - Ways Volunteers Can Spark Big Dreams and Future Careers

Online

November is National Career Development Month! Learn easy activities to help youth explore career pathways and develop skills to be ready for the workforce. Explore tools and resources that allow youth to reflect and prepare for the next steps in their career journey. This session will be offered twice for the convenience of volunteers.

12 – 1 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-ways-volunteers-can-spark-big-dreams-and-future-careers

7 – 8 p.m. session: <u>www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-ways-volunteers-can-spark-big-dreams-and-future-careers7pm</u>

November 12: Wild Spartan Series – Behind the Scenes in the Life of a Park Ranger Online

This month's 4-H Wild Spartans will fly into the refuges that many migrating birds depend on for migration. Join us at 6:30 p.m. to meet Andrea Martinson, park ranger for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge. Learn about her work, and the education and career path she followed to get there. Youth will be encouraged to ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A. This free virtual series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19 years. events.anr.msu.edu/wildspartans2024 25/

November 19: Adulting 101 - Cracking the Code to College Online

The Michigan 4-H Adulting 101 series helps young people prepare for college or life on their own. In this session, explore the admission and application process and get tips on writing your essay. www.canr.msu.edu/events/college

November 21: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series - Positive Youth Development 101; Building Strong Relationships Through Every Stage

Online
Understanding the development

Understanding the development of youth is crucial for building strong, positive relationships. In this webinar, we will explore the key stages of child and youth development and the common characteristics that young people share as they grow. Learn how to support and engage with youth effectively, recognizing that each young person develops at their own pace. Equip yourself with the knowledge and tools to foster meaningful connections with youth at every stage of their growth.

12 – 1 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-positive-youth-development-101-building-strong-relationships-through-every-stage7pm







What we do:

- Community Service Projects / Challenges
- Build / Expand Community Partnerships
- Bridge Gaps for Community Members
- Locate and Provide Needed Resources
- Join Together Surrounding Counties
- Host Events and Activities

Find us on Social Media

https://www.facebook.com/groups/656549581412123



The 4-H Curious Clovers club represented the Montcalm County 4-H at the Red Flannel Days Grand Parade and boy did they show up! They won the Grand Marshall's Choice Award for their creative interpretation of The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe. Great job representing kiddos!



MONTCALM COUNTY 4-H *

VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION



"HEROES NOT JUST IN HISTORY, BUT EVERY DAY"

DATE / TIME: November 9, 2024 11:00 am Join us for a fun filled family luncheon, honoring all who have served.

ADDRESS:

Ash Building / Fairgrounds 8784 Peck Rd.. Greenville

Does your family have a military member currently serving, a Veteran, or do you have a deceased family member that was a Veteran that you would like to honor? We have a very special "Thank You" luncheon planned in honor of Veterans Day, and we would love to show our appreciation to those that have served or are currently serving.



*MANUAL TRIMMING TOOLS

*NO POWER TOOLS

*WORK GLOVES

PARENTS MUST STAY **WITH YOUTH.**



Sunday, November 10th



1:30pm





Montcalm County Fairgrounds Ash Building 8784 Peck Road, Greenville



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character or an ugly sweater for your run around Whoville. Remember it's not a race

but a place. Mr. and Mrs. Claus will be waiting to have breakfast with you after the the Grinch



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MONTCALM COUNTY 4-H

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS COMMITTEE PRESENTS:





YOUTH AGES 5-19 COMPETE TO WIN THE 6TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAKE-OFF

FAMILIES CAN WORK TOGETHER TO CREATE A GINGERBREAD HOUSE (FROM SCRATCH OR KIT)





AFTER JUDGING, BAKED GOODS ARE
AVAILABLE TO TAKE HOME WITH A
DONATION.

PROCEEDS FROM THIS EVENT, HELP THE 4-H CCC
PROVIDE FREE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE
COUNTY'S YOUTH.

MSU EXTENSION PROGRAMS AND MATERIAL ARE OPEN TO ALL WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, GENDER, GENDER IDENTITY, RELIGION, AGE, HEIGHT, WEIGHT, DISABILITY, POLITICAL BELIEFS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, MARITAL STATUS, FAMILY STATUS, OR VETERAN STATUS.



Montcalm County 6th Annual 4-H Bake-Off ALL YOUTH Ages 5 to 19 WELCOME! Special "Teams" Welcome TOO! Youth do not need to be a 4-H member or live in Montcalm County to enter. This year is a Special "Holiday Bake-Off" Event!

When & Where:

Saturday, November 23, 2024 at Noon at the Ash Building - Montcalm Co. Fairgrounds. Pre-Registration required. See information below.

Rules:

- Participant divisions:
 - a. Cloverbuds ages 5 to 7
 - Beginner ages 8 to 11
 - c. Intermediate ages 12 to 14
 - d. Advanced ages 15 to 19
 - e. Gingerbread House Family/Team consisting of 4 to 6 members, with no more than 2 adults plus youth ages 5 to 19, can enter on of the following categories:
 - From Scratch Must provide recipe for gingerbread. Must be put together with Royal Icing (include recipe also) and be 100% edible.
 - From Kit Must be put together with Royal Icing (include recipe and kit name/brand) and be 100% edible.
- Youth may enter both their age division with any type of "holiday baked good" & one of the two Gingerbread House divisions, but must make a separate product for each division. Deadline to Register through the Montcalm County MSUE is the 17th of November 2024 at: https://events.anr.msu.edu/4HCCCBakeOff/
- Check-in 11am to Noon. You must arrive & check-in by Noon to participate. Judging starts immediately thereafter.
 Winners will be announced immediately after completion of judging.
- A 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place will be chosen in each of the Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced and both Gingerbread Divisions. 1st prize in each of these groups will be \$25 and a rosette ribbon.
- All Cloverbuds will receive participation ribbons.
- All participants will be required to consent to their recipe being published in a Montcalm County Bake-Off Cookbook
 to be used as a fundraiser for the 4-H Community Connection Committee (4-CCC) & left-over baked goods be sold
 day of event for donation to help fund 4-H CCC events.
- All entries must be "baked", in compliance with the Michigan Cottage Foods Laws and the full recipe must accompany the entry. Recipe cards must include participant's name and age; and are available through Montcalm County MSUE. Photos of entry are encouraged on recipe cards.
- Entries will be judged on:
 - General Appearance
 - b. Texture
 - c. Taste
 - d. Participant's knowledge of recipe
 - e. Presentation by the participant.
- Participants are encouraged to dress-up in holiday attire, costume or wear 4-H attire and bring the proper serving utensils and gloves.
- In the event of a tie, all judges will work together to choose a winner.



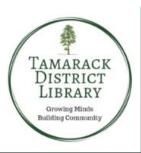
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LINK TO REGISTER:

https://events.anr.msu.edu/4HCCCBakeOff/



Upcoming Events



MONTCALM COUNTY 4-H & TAMARACK DISTRICT LIBRARY PRESENT:



Gifts Made from the Home & Heart

Join us for some hands on activities creating a delicious homemade jam and a sugar scrub - these can be used as gifts for your loved ones, and you can learn something along the way!





Who: Anyone!

When: December 19th 5:30-7:30pm Where: Tamarack District Library

Cost: FREE!

For more information and to register, please go to: https://events.anr.msu.edu/HomemadeGifts/



Upcoming Events

A FREE resource workshop for adults and teens, to give parents/caregivers/peers some tools to recognize and assist young people experiencing mental health challenges, grief, or trauma.

YMHFA Resource Workshop January 14, 2025 | 5:30pm Tamarack District Library 832 S Lincoln Ave, Lakeview, MI 48850





REGISTER HERE: https://events.anr.msu.edu/YouthMentalHealth

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