



FEBRUARY 2023

# 4-H Family News

Grand Traverse County 4-H



## Winter is Finally Here!

Although the winter weather may have had a slow start this year, now it is feeling like a true Northern Michigan winter! Alongside the colder weather, the 4-H season is starting to pick up. Keep an eye out for special 4-H events, new SPIN clubs starting, a new volunteer webinar series, and when animal project registrations will be due online. The NWMI 4-H Livestock Council will be holding the 4-H Education Expo at the Great Wolf Lodge on March 5<sup>th</sup> this year, which is an opportunity to learn from experts in their various fields from around the state and receive education credits in your 4-H projects. This month we will again be highlighting three current 4-H youth in our "4-H Member Spotlight Series": Mikayla Yanska, Brookelynn Rosa, and Ella Noonan, are highlighted on pages 4 and 6! As always, if you have a 4-H member you would like to nominate to be "spotlighted" in this newsletter, please reach out! Stay warm,

Sincerely,

*Emily Kotz*

Grand Traverse County 4-H Program Coordinator

## CONTACT US

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## County Announcements, Dates, and Events!

Great Lakes Children's Museum Pop Up Event | February 24th | 5-7pm | Great Lakes Children's Museum, Traverse City, MI

Great Wolf Lodge Education Expo | March 5th | Great Wolf Lodge, Traverse City, MI

Interlochen Public Library Family STEAM Day | March 4th | 10am-12pm | Interlochen Public Library, Interlochen MI

MI 4-H Skill-a-thon Qualifiers | March 4<sup>th</sup> and March 11<sup>th</sup> | Register online here: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/otsego/4-h/2023-Skillathon>Dairy Feeder, Goat, Jr. Beef, Lamb, and Poultry Registrations Due | March 6<sup>th</sup> | 6:30pm | Animal registrations submitted here: <http://www.northwestmichiganlivestockcouncil.org/>4-H Exploration Days Registration Opens | March 21<sup>st</sup> | Event and registration information available here: [https://www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_exploration\\_days/](https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days/)

There will be multiple virtual and in-person 4-H events happening around the county over the next two months! State-wide events are listed on the following two pages. Please contact Emily Kotz at [kotzemil@msu.edu](mailto:kotzemil@msu.edu) or 231-922-4825 with questions on 4-H events.



# STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## 4-H Day at the Breslin & 4-H Alumni Tip-Off Reception



Make plans for a fun day in East Lansing on February 12! Join with other members of the 4-H community for 4-H Day at the Breslin and cheer on the MSU Women's Basketball game as they take on Penn State.

Attendees will also enjoy 4-H games and activities around the concourse. Tickets are free to 4-H youth and their families as well as 4-H volunteers and their families. Learn more at [www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-breslin](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-breslin).

4-H alumni can also take part in a special pre-game event: the 4-H Alumni Tip-Off Reception. Enjoy networking and fun with other 4-H alumni before the game. Learn more at [www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-alumni-tip-off-reception](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-alumni-tip-off-reception).

### February 14: Wild Spartans Series – Black River Lake Sturgeon Facility, Management of a Threatened Species

Online

Meet Doug Larson, research assistant at the Black River Sturgeon Facility. Learn about his field work, and the education and career path he followed to get there.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-series-february-2023](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-series-february-2023)

### February 25: 4-H Leader Meet

MSU Campus, East Lansing

Enjoy a variety of fun and interactive sessions, informative presentations, and useful tips for meetings. Open to adult and teen leaders in Ionia, Montcalm, Gratiot, Clinton, Eaton and Ingham.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-leader-meet-2023](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-leader-meet-2023)

### February 28: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar – Building the Value of Your 4-H Club

Online

A webinar series that will provide Michigan 4-H volunteers with a variety of learning opportunities to help them grow as a volunteer and support Michigan 4-H'ers.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-building-the-value-of-your-4-h-club-7pm](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-building-the-value-of-your-4-h-club-7pm)

### March 3-5: Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference

Ralph A. MacMullan Center, Roscommon

This weekend workshop will focus on all things dairy cattle nutrition. MSU and MSU Extension faculty, industry partners, and MSU students will lead educational sessions. Open to MSU Extension Gold Volunteers and 4-H youth (ages 12-19). Register by Feb. 8.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/2023-michigan-4-h-dairy-conference](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/2023-michigan-4-h-dairy-conference)

### March 4: 2023 Michigan 4-H Livestock Workshop

MSU Campus, East Lansing

This one-day workshop is designed for 4-H teens ages 12-19 and adult volunteers in the beef, sheep, goat and swine project areas.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-livestock-workshop](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-livestock-workshop)

### March 4: 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Certification Workshop

Ralph A. MacMullan Center, Roscommon

Interested in leading shooting sports with a 4-H club? Become a certified instructor at this one-day, hybrid workshop! Register by Feb. 15.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-shooting-sports-instructor-certification-workshop-ram](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-shooting-sports-instructor-certification-workshop-ram)





# STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

## Register today for Michigan 4-H Capitol Experience!

At Michigan 4-H Capitol Experience, teens learn how to change the world for the better through engagement in Michigan's state government and public policy process. The 4-H Capitol Experience program, scheduled for March 12-14, in Lansing, has been described by past participants as "amazing", "life-changing", and "an opportunity unlike any other".

The three-day event, open to high-school-aged youth, includes tours of the Michigan Capitol, interactions with state legislators, meetings with state agency staff, lobbyists and state-level experts and learning how policy is made. During the program, youth work in small teams to draft legislation on agriculture, civil rights, education, energy, environment and natural resources, health or law enforcement and corrections.

The cost to register in 2023 is \$365, which includes meals, material fees and lodging at the Radisson Hotel in downtown Lansing. Please contact your local 4-H program coordinator to inquire about local funding opportunities. Scholarships may also be available through your local Farm Bureau office.

Registration is open until February 13. To find out more, visit [https://www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_capitol\\_experience/](https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_capitol_experience/).



## World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute registrations due March 15!

As millions across the globe deal with food insecurity, the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute (WFP MIYI) offers young people an opportunity to be part of the solution. Held May 11 in East Lansing, or by participating from anywhere else using Zoom video/web conference technology, the event seeks to inspire and prepare the next generation of global leaders to end world hunger.

Attendees will have the opportunity to share their ideas related to global food security with experts and other Michigan youth while learning how university faculty and staff members, researchers and students are working to address world hunger.

To participate, youth should be in grades 7-12 and register by the March 15 deadline. As part of the registration process, youth are required to prepare a two- to five-page research paper about a developing country and one of 20 key factors that affect food security. At the event, youth present and discuss their papers with other attendees and research and industry experts. They also participate in interactive activities related to global food challenges and engage with area experts to discuss solutions to global hunger and poverty.

The top performing students at the WFP MIYI will be selected to attend the World Food Prize Global Youth Institute in Des Moines, Iowa, in October. For more information, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/wfpmiyi/>. Registrations and papers are due March 15.



# 4-H Member Spotlight

## WELCOME...

### Welcome new 4-H Grand Traverse County Volunteers

- *Shannon Baynton*, Project Volunteer: Junior Beef, Carousel Club
- *Brian Dreves*, Club Project Leader, Maple Ridge
- *Rachel Michels*, Assistant Club Leader, Happy Highlanders
- *Jennifer Yost*, Administrative Leader, Green Acres
- *Kenna Marar*, Club Project Leader, Classy K-9's
- *Keagen Shaffer*, Resource Leader, Classy K-9's, Windy Acres, Ready Aim, Shooting Sports Club
- *Sara Hienz*, Club Project Leader, Happy Highlanders
- *Chellsie Powers*, Club Leader, Caring Critters
- *Jessica Mack*, Club Project Leader, Pen Pals
- *Emily Hubbell*, Club Project Leader, Twin Lakes
- *Olivia Rice*, Assistant Project Leader, Twin Lakes



## 4-H Member Spotlight: Mikayla Yanska, Twin Lakes



others how it's fun and it's not all about winning. I feel like I've also learned to welcome people with open arms.

*3. How has your participation in 4-H helped you grow as a person in different ways throughout your involvement?*

Starting out in 4-H I was a very closed off person and I didn't think highly of myself, nor did I think that I would like it. But I ended up liking it, and the more people I met, and I looked up to, they motivated me to continue and to look on the brighter side of things, and it showed me more responsibility and more courage to be a leader.

*1. What do you like the most about 4-H and/or why have you continued to participate?*

The reason I continued 4-H is because of all the memories that I make each year with the friends that I have. I also love showing livestock but most of all having fun doing it. Also being the person people can look up to and to motivate others to try it.

*2. What do you think senior or older age 4-H participants can bring to the larger 4-H community?*

To be a leader, and to not be afraid to give input. Also, to be yourself and to show

*4. What is one thing you would tell someone about 4-H who didn't know anything about it?*

4-H is a fun experience with learning how to raise an animal and become closer with the 4-H group that you're in. To me, it also brings more opportunities and can build character.

*5. What do you plan to do following your time participating in 4-H?*

I'm going to attend NMC and receive my bachelor's degree and continue to learn about nursing and then soon do travel nursing.





# COUNTY 4-H NEWS

## New Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series Available Online

**MICHIGAN 4-H VOLUNTEER WEBINAR SERIES**

**February 28th**  
Building the Value of Your 4-H Club

**March 16th**  
Creating a Welcoming 4-H Club

**April 13th**  
Energizing Your 4-H Club Meetings

ALL TRAININGS OFFERED 12-1PM EST AND 7-8PM EST

REGISTER HERE:  
[www.canr.msu.edu/volunteering/mi-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series](http://www.canr.msu.edu/volunteering/mi-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series)

- **Building the Value of Your 4-H Club:** Keep your club alive and thriving. This session will focus on the key components of creating a club environment and how that leads to positive outcomes including: setting the stage for meetings, balancing fun/business/and learning, characteristics for success, and the importance of recognition.

**February 28, 2023 12:00PM - 1:00PM**  
**February 28, 2023 7:00PM - 8:00PM**

- **Creating a Welcoming 4-H Club:** 4-H clubs are spaces where youth can feel like they belong and can be themselves, leading them down a path of increased thriving. To do this, creating a welcoming environment for all youth is important. This session will allow you to learn some new strategies as well as share methods that have worked for you.

**March 16, 2023 12:00PM - 1:00PM**  
**March 16, 2023 7:00PM - 8:00PM**

- **Energizing Your 4-H Club Meetings:** Do your 4-H meetings or group activities feel like all work and no play? Learn quick and engaging activities to make your next meeting both fun and functional. Have fun and learn ways to help everyone participate at their own comfort level.

**April 13, 2023 12:00PM - 1:00PM**  
**April 13, 2023 7:00PM - 8:00PM**

**MSU Extension and Michigan 4-H has an exciting opportunity in 2023 with its new Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series!**

Check out the first three topics below and learn more at: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/volunteering/mi-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series>

## 4-H MakerSpace Club

The 4-H MakerSpace Club is a place for invention, curiosity, inquiry, creation, experimental play & learning in science, math, engineering, technology & art!

Age-appropriate shop activities for ages 5 to 19.

4-H club members have an opportunity to explore their own interests, learn to use tools and materials, develop creative projects, and even make things to sell!

This 4-H club meets Saturdays from 10:00 am -3:00 pm at 4-H leader Paul Grayson's workshop located at 390 4 Mile Rd S Traverse City, MI 49686.

For more information, contact Paul Grayson at 231-883-4463 or [pgrayson@chartermi.net](mailto:pgrayson@chartermi.net)



4-H MakerSpace club members, Clayton and Troy Schmuckal, work on a project together.



# 4-H Member Spotlights

## 4-H Member Spotlight: Ella Noonan, Twin Lakes



1. *What 4-H project are you currently working on?*

I'm currently awaiting the arrival of my Jr. Beef to be born this spring. I also make crafts at our monthly 4-H meetings.

2. *What has been your favorite 4-H project?*

My favorite 4-H project has been raising my Jr. Beef, Sparky.

3. *What do you like the most about 4-H and/or why have you continued to participate?*

One of my favorite things about 4-H is fair week, I get to show my animal that I worked so hard with. I continue to participate because it makes me happy, and I enjoy all the crafts we make throughout the year at our meetings.

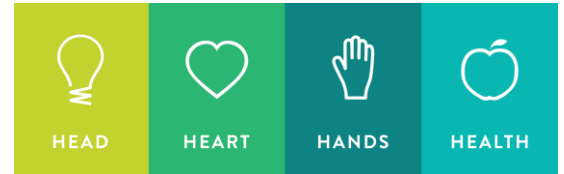
4. *What type of 4-H activities or projects are you excited to work on this year?*

I'm excited to work with my Jr Beef project, earn my babysitters certificate and continue to make crafts.

5. *What is one thing you would tell someone about 4-H who didn't know anything about it?*

I would tell them how much I've learned and how much fun I have!

## 4-H Member Spotlight: Brookelynn Rosa, Twin Lakes



1. *What do you like the most about 4-H and/or why have you continued to participate?*

It makes me feel like I am doing something positive for myself and my community. Learning responsibilities for taking care of animals and how to manage money are also some reasons why I continue to participate.

2. *What do you think senior or older age 4-H participants can bring to the larger 4-H community?*

The older kids can help the younger kids and help them learn new skills like how to step up their animal.

3. *How has your participation in 4-H helped you grow as a person in different ways throughout your involvement?*

I have met new people and made new friends. I have introduced my love for goats and lambs to others. It has helped me be more confident, even if your animal isn't cooperating with me, I still need to do my best and keep trying.

4. *What is one thing you would tell someone about 4-H who didn't know anything about it?*

It's a huge responsibility and if you are thinking about showing an animal you need to know how much work it is.

5. *What do you plan to do following your time participating in 4-H?*

I would love to be a goat or lamb breeder and continue to participate at the fair.





Picture provided by Molly Clark

4-H Group Snowshoe Hike, Saturday, February 4th at Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore  
4-Her's pictured: (L to R) Aldous Cole, Corah Mae Cole, Aubrey Clark, Tyler Clark Jr.  
Adults and 4-H Volunteers pictured: (L to R) Gretchen Sauvage, Jennifer Cole, and Molly Clark

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# 4-H Family News

## Grand Traverse County 4-H



Grand Traverse County MSU Extension 4-H Office  
Phone: 231-922-4825

Learn more at:  
[https://www.canr.msu.edu/grand\\_traverse/grand\\_traverse\\_county\\_4\\_h/](https://www.canr.msu.edu/grand_traverse/grand_traverse_county_4_h/)

