



4-H Family News

January 2024

Lapeer County



Happy Holidays!



May the magic and wonder of the holiday season stay with you throughout the year.

CONTACT US

Sarah Griffin
graversa@msu.edu
Program Coordinator

Tina House
houset@msu.edu
Office Manager

1800 Imlay City Rd., Ste 1
Lapeer, MI 48446

PHONE & EMAIL:

(810) 667-0341

msue.lapeer@lapeer.msu.edu

WEBSITE:

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



Horse Judging Workshop February 2nd – 3rd, 2024

Interested in Judging Horses? Are you on a horse judging team and want practice before the State contest? Here is a great opportunity for you!

Consider attending the 2024 Horse Judging workshop and Practice Horse judging contest! This year youth and adults alike will start on Friday night hearing from carded judge and clinician Dr. Karen Waite, teaching Ranch Riding and Ranch Rail. Things pick back up Saturday morning with the chance to judge a halter class, as well as a Ranch riding and rail class. Concluding the performance classes, attendees will have time to present oral reasons and receive scores and feedback.

Register now at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/horse-judging-workshop-and-mini-contest-2024>

For any other information reach out to Carla McLachlan; Event Coordinator at carlam@msu.edu or David Lindsay; Extension Educator at lindsa75@msu.edu

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer, committed to achieving excellence through a diverse workforce and inclusive culture that encourages all people to reach their full potential. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials 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. Issued in furtherance of MSU Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Quentin Tyler, Director, MSU Extension, East Lansing, MI 48824. This information is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply endorsement by MSU Extension or bias against those not mentioned.



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Ambassador Applications Re-opened



Are you interested in being an ambassador for Lapeer County 4-H but missed the application deadline?

There are currently 4 vacancies for Senior and Junior 4-H Ambassadors and several available spots on Cloverbud Court in Lapeer County. Additional Applications will be accepted until January 2, 2024. Applications are available on the Lapeer County 4-H website or by emailing Sarah at graversa@msu.edu

4-H ambassadors represent and promote 4-H, as well as assist with county-wide or statewide 4-H activities. A 4-H Ambassador is a motivated individual who seeks to become a leader, mentor and teacher, inspiring positive change in their community. As an ambassador you will participate in community events and parades, meet with community partners, share your 4-H story with Commissioners and more.

Educational Trip Scholarships Available

Through the Lapeer County 4-H Awards Program, 4-H'ers are eligible for Educational Trip Scholarships. Interested youth must complete a County Awards Application found on the "County Awards Program" page on the website and participate in an interview. One youth per trip is selected to receive a scholarship, however any 4-H youth may still attend the trip at their own expense. **The application deadline for these trips has been extended until January 8th, 2024.** Applications are available on the Lapeer County 4-H website or by emailing Sarah at graversa@msu.edu.

4-H CAPITOL EXPERIENCE: (Lansing, MI): Typically, 4-day conference held in March, that helps prepare youth for active citizenship by focusing on civic engagement and public policy. Teen 4-H Members (grades 9-12) from around the state converge in Lansing, Michigan to experience state government in action and learn how they can influence policy issues. Participants interact with legislators, state agency staff, lobbyists, and other resource people to learn how policy is made. This trip generally costs \$300-\$500. Applicants will be applying for a full scholarship less \$50 deposit. \$50 deposit is required with application. Deposit check will be returned to applicants not receiving the award.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE: (Arlington, Virginia) This trip is only offered every other year. National 4-H Conference is the pinnacle experience in 4-H Civic Engagement, providing the opportunity for young people to connect, learn, engage, lead, and impact their communities, nation, and world. At the conference in April 2024, delegates (ages 15-19) will have the opportunity to participate in round table discussions, present to federal partner agencies, and engage with their U.S. Senators and Representatives. This trip costs approx. \$2,000. Applicants will be applying for a full scholarship less \$250 delegate costs. \$50 deposit is required and will be applied towards the \$250 delegate's cost. Deposit check will be returned to applicants not receiving the award. Applicants for this trip **must also apply** for the Conference scholarship available through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). That application deadline is **January 1**. Please email Sarah for the link to that scholarship application.

NATIONAL 4-H CONGRESS: 4-H'er must be 14-18 years (4-H age) on Jan. 1 of this current 4-H year. National 4-H Congress is 4-H's national leadership development workshop beginning the day after Thanksgiving in a different city every year. This is a 5-day workshop where teens from around U.S. learn more about issues related to youth and develop skills to be citizen leaders. It includes town hall meetings, service projects, science and technology literacy and more. \$50 deposit is required with application.. Applicant receiving the award will be given that \$50 as spending money at the Congress, the trip is paid for in full. Deposit check will be returned to other applicants.



March 2024
Lansing, MI



April 19-24 Arlington, VA

For youth ages 15-19 who are currently enrolled in 4-H

SAVE THE DATE!



National 4-H Congress

November 2024

Scholarships for other 4-H Educational Experiences such as Exploration Days, Great Lakes Natural Resources Camp, Dairy Days, etc. are available throughout the year by contacting the office.



County 4-H News

Test Your Knowledge – Skill-a-thon Contests and Practices



A 4-H Animal Science Skill-a-thon is a contest that tests a 4-H member's knowledge and comprehension of animal science and livestock management practices.

Youth ages 8-19 can participate in the State-wide skill-a-thon that will take place in the beginning of March. We will also be hosting a skill-a-thon during Spring Achievement on March 2nd. The Livestock Committee is planning to offer a skill-a-thon at fair again this summer. 4-H Youth do not need to be a member in a livestock club to participate in the contests.

A Lapeer County Skill-a-thon Practice/Study group is forming to help prepare for the contests. Join the group to learn, study and play fun games to challenge your skills. Register by calling or emailing Sarah by January 10th to receive study materials.

Practices will be held:
 Jan 15 @ 4:30 - in person
 Jan 29 @ 7:00 - virtual
 Feb 5 @ 7:00 - virtual
 Feb 19 @ 4:30 - in person

Project Palooza – Save the Date

4-H members will be able to spend a "No School Day" on Friday, February 16th having fun, learning new skills, creating projects, and meeting new friends at Lapeer County 4-H's Project Palooza. Youth will be able to choose from a variety of sessions to attend and Projects that they create can be shown at Spring Achievement in March and/or the fair this summer.

More details and registration will be available in January.

Volunteers that are interested in teaching or helping at a session, please contact Sarah.

Spring Achievement – Save the Date

4-H Spring Achievement is a one-day event that provides an opportunity for all 4-H members to showcase their 4-H indoor projects that they have been working on throughout the year. Projects are judged through an interview, awarded ribbons and displayed for the day. Many youth use Spring Achievement as an opportunity to receive feedback from judges to make changes to their project before showing at fair.

This year's Spring Achievement will be held on March 2nd, 2024, at St. Paul Lutheran School in Lapeer. There will be some additional project areas added this year such as an Adult Project area for 4-H volunteers and parents and a livestock skill-a-thon. More information and an updated registration form will be available soon so watch your email and Facebook!

Only Enrolled Lapeer County 4-H members can show projects at Spring Achievement. Make sure to check that you have re-enrolled for the 2023-2024 4-H year.

If you know of someone that would be interested in Judging that day, please send their contact information to Sarah or Tina.





COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Fundraiser Auction



This year's Fundraiser Auctions are scheduled to take place Friday April 12th (Celebrity Autograph Items) and Saturday April 13th at the Lapeer Center Building. Profits from the auction help support the county 4-H program with camp, club activities, local and state educational workshops, conferences, leadership training, community service, college scholarships and more.

The success of the auction relies heavily on 4-H leaders, club members and volunteers assisting with collecting business donations. If you would like to help collect donations, please contact Sarah as soon as possible. Clubs that complete business visits to collect donations, earn a percentage of profits.

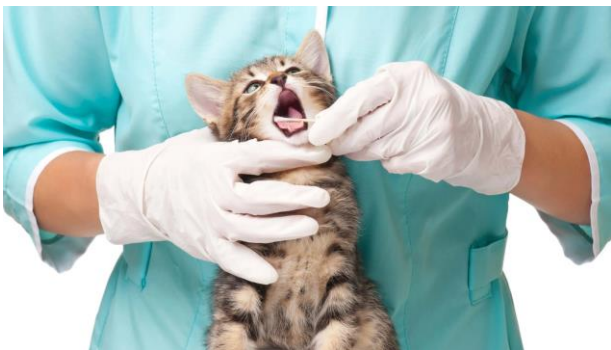
Clubs may also participate in auction efforts by donating a themed basket of items. Clubs will receive 50% of their basket's profit. Selected basket themes should be submitted to 4-H Staff to avoid duplication of baskets.

Clubs and Committees can also apply to serve lunch concessions as a club fundraiser. For an application, please email Sarah. Lunch Concession Applications are due January 15th.

Now Hiring

MSU Extension is hiring a second full-time 4-H Program Coordinator for Lapeer County! Come join our team and Help Youth Thrive! View full job description and apply through the MSU careers page. <https://careers.msu.edu/> Search for posting 916786 using the Job Search field.

Animal Science Career Quest



Are you interested in a career working with animals?

Join us for 4-H Animal Science Career Quest to learn more about career paths in animal science, as well as the MSU programs that can get you there! This program is a joint effort between Michigan 4-H, the MSU Department of Animal Science, and the MSU College of Veterinary Medicine, and its focus is introducing youth to the wide variety of career options available to them within these fields.

This event will be on February 17th on MSU's main campus in East Lansing. It is open to youth ages 12-19 and 4-H volunteers. Space is limited, so don't delay! Register now:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-animal-science-career-quest-2024>



County Calendar of Events

January

MSU Ext. Winter Break.....	12/22 – 1/02
Ambassador Applications Due.....	1/02
Thumb Area Camp Counselor Application Due.....	1/02
Thumb Area Camp Counselor Training.....	1/07
Conference Scholarship Applications Due.....	1/08
MSU Ext. Office Closed.....	1/15
Skillathon Practice (In-Person).....	4:30pm: 1/15
Ambassador Meeting.....	6:00pm: 1/15
Livestock Committee Meeting.....	6:00pm: 1/15
Council Meeting.....	7:00pm: 1/15
Horse Committee Meeting.....	6:30pm: 1/22
Skillathon Practice (Virtual).....	7:00pm: 1/29

February

Skillathon Practice (Virtual).....	7:00pm: 2/5
Auction Committee Meeting.....	5:30pm: 2/6
Project Palooza.....	10:00am: 2/16
Skillathon Practice (In-Person).....	4:30pm: 2/19
Ambassador Meeting.....	6:00pm: 2/19
Council Meeting.....	7:00pm: 2/19
Horse Committee Meeting.....	6:30pm: 2/26



STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS



2024 4-H Day at the Breslin Center

MSU Extension invites 4-H members, families, volunteers and staff members to join them Feb. 24 for Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin. This fun family event will be held at the Jack Breslin Student Events Center as the MSU women's basketball team takes on the Rutgers Scarlet Knights.

The 18th annual event celebrates the 4-H and MSU Extension community. Attendance is free for MSU Extension friends, Michigan 4-H members and their families, MSU Extension and 4-H volunteers, as well as MSU Extension professionals. Make ticket reservations at extension.msu.edu/4HDayatBreslin2024.

"Our 4-H programs reach every county in the state and 4-H Day at the Breslin is a fun way to bring that community together for a day of comradery and celebration," said Julie Chapin, director of MSU Extension children and youth programs. "We can't wait to join with the youth, families, volunteers and staff that make these programs possible."

4-H Day at the Breslin participants are encouraged to come early to partake in MSU Extension games and activities throughout the concourse. Doors will open at 12:30 p.m., with tip-off scheduled for 2 p.m. Participants are encouraged to show their pride and wear green and white 4-H or MSU Extension apparel. Michigan 4-H will be showcased during the halftime show as a group of 4-H youth will lead the crowd in reciting the 4-H pledge.

Visitors to Breslin Center events must comply with MSU's [clear bag policy](#). For more information on this event, contact your local MSU Extension office.

2024 4-H Day with the Detroit Tigers

Michigan 4-H Day with the Detroit Tigers is back! Join Michigan 4-H and MSU Extension for a fun day at Comerica Park as the Tigers take on the Kansas City Royals on Sunday, April 28!

Tickets are now available for the second Michigan 4-H Day with the Detroit Tigers. This event will be held on Sunday, April 28, at 1:40 p.m. when the Tigers take on the Royals. Michigan 4-H will be honored as the Group Charity of the Game and 4-H youth, volunteers, staff and their families will enjoy discounted tickets to the game. New this year, Michigan 4-H guests will receive:

- A dual-branded Michigan 4-H and Detroit Tigers item (details to be released shortly). The item will be redeemed on gameday in section 332.
- An exclusive pregame on-field opportunity. Timing and logistics of this opportunity will be released within a month of the game date.



A portion of each ticket sold is donated to Michigan 4-H. To order your tickets, visit <https://fevo-enterprise.com/Michigan4h24>.

Only tickets purchased through our Michigan 4-H link are eligible for these exclusive opportunities. This year, tickets will be available in a variety of locations throughout the stadium, with prices ranging from \$27 - \$59.



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Cash Composition Contest



Money, money, money!

The 2024 4-H Cash Composition Contest is now open! Youth residing in Michigan, ages 9-19 (as of Jan 1, 2024), have a chance to win a \$100 gift card thanks to the generous sponsorship by Extra Credit Union.

To enter, write a 300 word (or less) essay on budgeting and submit your essay by February 29, 2024.

“What is a budget? Discuss the different types of income and expenses that make up your budget. How does a budget help you manage money?”

Three youth from each age bracket will win!

Full contest details and registration link can be found at:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-money-smarts/money-smart-kids-contest>

January 9: 4-H Wild Spartans - Anishinaabe Perspectives in Natural Resources Management *Online*

This month's 4-H Wild Spartans Series will delve into how tribes use traditional knowledge and values (giikendaasowin) in natural resources management. Meet Brad Silet, biologist with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, learn about his field work, and the education and career path he followed to get there. This free series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-series-2023-2024-jan

January 17: Adulting 101 - Psychology of Spending and Saving *Online*

The 4-H Adulting 101 series helps young people prepare for college or life on their own through free online sessions. Join this session to reflect on your personal financial journey, your emotional connection to money, and gain budgeting resources to help you along the way.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/psychology

January 22: The Parent Talk System Webinar Series *Online*

The Parent Talk System is a FREE online course for parents of toddlers to teens to improve communication and provide strategies for raising confident, caring, responsible children.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/the-parent-talk-system-webinar-series-january-2024

January 23: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar - Teaching Science When You Don't Know Diddley-Squat *Online*

Explore ways 4-H volunteers can utilize a series of science lessons from MSU Extension that can be taught with no science background and household materials. This series will provide volunteers with a variety of learning opportunities to help them grow as a volunteer and support Michigan 4-H'ers. This session will be offered twice, once as a daytime option and once as an evening option.

- **12 p.m. session:** www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-teaching-science-when-you-don-t-know-diddley-squat
- **7 p.m. session:** www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-teaching-science-when-you-don-t-know-diddley-squat7pm

February 17: 4-H Animal Science Career Quest

MSU Campus, East Lansing

Interested in a career working with animals? Learn more about career paths in animal science and veterinary medicine, as well as the MSU programs that can get you there! This program is a joint effort of Michigan 4-H, the MSU Department of Animal Science, and the MSU College of Veterinary Medicine. It is open to youth ages 12-19 and 4-H volunteers. Registration closes Feb. 1.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-animal-science-career-quest-2024



Lapeer County 4-H
MSU Extension
1800 Imlay City Road. Ste. 1
Lapeer, MI 48446

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



4-H Family News

Lapeer County



Learn more about how you can grow with Lapeer County 4-H!

https://www.canr.msu.edu/lapeer/lapeer_county_4_h/

Facebook: @LapeerCounty4H

