Clare County 4-H

Family News







IMPORTANT DATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

4-H Day! Tubing at Snow Snake

Saturday, February 17th from 10 AM to 12 PM

Tickets are at a discounted rate! \$27 per participant. 60 spaces available - register today to reserve your spot. Must complete waiver for each participant and pay before 2/16.

USE THIS LINK TO SIGN UP

forms.office.com/r/2GsPAJEEHf

An Orchid 4-H Club Coming Soon! Join Us on a Blooming Adventure!

Get ready for a new and exciting opportunity! We're thrilled to announce the upcoming launch of the Orchid 4-H Club in May. If you have a passion for orchids or are simply curious about these exquisite plants, this is the club for you! Led by the experienced and dedicated orchid enthusiast, Mary Henman, who is on her journey to become an Orchid Judge, the Orchid 4-H Club promises a blooming adventure for youth, parents, and adult volunteers alike.

USE THIS LINK TO LEARN MORE

forms.office.com/r/UYwZKZwqVY

Clare County 4-H Council Needs New Youth Vice President

Are you ready to learn how to participate in professional meetings?

TALK TO MIRANDA - SEE CONTACT INFO

4-H Council Meeting Wednesday, January 31st

The council and committees are ran by volunteers.
All are welcome. We would love to see you there!
Join us at our next meeting on 1/31 at 6:00 PM
Pere Marquette District Library in Clare.

USE THIS LINK TO LEARN MORE

www.canr.msu.edu/clare/clare_county_4_h/4h-council

CONTACT US

Miranda Warmuskerken 4-H Program Coordinator

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EMAIL:

warmusk3@msu.edu

WEBSITE:

canr.msu.edu/clare/clare_county_4_h/

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Hilltop 4-H Club of Farwell Shine Bright with their Repurposed Holiday Craft

The 4-H Hilltop Club added a sprinkle of creativity and holiday cheer to their December meeting. This time, the focus was on recycling and repurposing as members joined forces to craft whimsical milk jug lighted snowmen.

The December meeting not only showcased the artistic talents of the 4-H Hilltop Club but also emphasized the importance of reusing materials and reducing waste. The project served as a reminder that with a little imagination. everyday items like milk jugs could be transformed into charming decorations.

Fun Times at Denim and Dust 4-H Club's Wreath-Making Party!



In the spirit of holiday cheer, members of the Denim and Dust 4-H Club gathered for a memorable December meeting filled with creativity, camaraderie, and a touch of friendly competition. This year, the focus was on crafting beautiful wreaths. Everyone brought their own festive and colorful decorations to personalize their wreaths.

There was even a little friendly competition to see determine the "best" wreath, which must have been tough to pick because they all look amazing!

Club member, Olivia F. had this to share, "The wreaths turned out great! We met, decorated, and had lunch together. Everyone had a great time!" It's true; the wreaths turned out amazing, and is looks like everyone had a blast making memories together. The best part of the day was not just the wreaths they made but the fun and friendship they shared at the Denim and Dust 4-H Club.





JANUARY

Tuesday, January 2

Deadline to Register the Conference

2024 Horse Judges and Volunteer Conference

Register

Saturday, January 6 - 9 AM

Volunteer Opportunity - Clare County Food

Clare Co. Transit Building - No Need to Pre-Register

Tuesday, January 9 - 6:30 PM

The 4-H Wild Spartans Online Series

Anishinaabe Perspectives in Natural Resources Management

ement <u>Register</u>

Kinship Caregiver Workshop

Wednesday, January 10 - 7 PM
Together We Can: Co-parenting

Register

Wednesday, January 17 - 6 PM

Adulting 101 Online Series

The Psychology of Spending and Saving

<u>Register</u>

Monday, January 22 - 7:30 PM

The Parent Talk System Webinar Series

Must plan on attending all six weeks

Register

Tuesday, January 23 - 12 PM & 7 PM

MI 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series

Saturday, January 27 - 7 AM

Teaching Science When You Know Diddly Squat Register 12 PM 7 PM

Saturday, January 27 - 7 Alvi

Wednesday, January 31 - 6 PM

State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Expo and Show

REGISTER BY JANUARY 19

4-H Council & 4-H PLANIT Squad Meetings

Register

Pere Marquette District Library - Clare, MI

4-H Council meet in LLA - 4-H PLANIT Squad meet in LLC

Learn more about 4-H PLANiT Squad on page 5

FEBRUARY

February 2 & 3

Horse Judging Workshop and Mini Contest 2024

REGISTER BY JANUARY 30

Register

Wednesday, February 7 - 12 PM & 7 PM

MI 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series

Engaging 4-H Youth in Animal SCIENCE Education

Register 12 PM 7 PM

Monday, February 12 - 5 PM

Adulting 101 Online Series

Fostering Healthy Relationships

<u>Register</u>



EXtension

FEBRUARY

Wednesday, February 14 - 7 PM

Kinship Caregiver Workshop

Reducing Challenging Behaviors in Toddlers

Register

Friday, February 16

Guiding Principles for Highly Successful Parenting

Virtual 11:30 AM - 1 PM

<u>Register</u>

Saturday, February 17

4-H Animal Science Career Quest 2024

REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 5

Register

Saturday, February 17 - 10 AM

4-H Day! Tubing at Snow Snake

REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 15

Register

Sunday, February 18 - 1 PM

Swine Day Workshop

Gratiot MSU Extension - Alma MI

<u>Register</u>

Friday, February 23 - 4 PM

Annual Winter Carnival

Mid Michigan College - Harrison, MI

Learn More

Saturday, February 24

4-H Day at the Breslin Center

FREE Tickets Available Now!

Reserve Tickets

Thursday, February 29

Deadline for 2024 Cash Composition Contest

WIN A \$100 GIFT CARD

<u>Learn More</u>

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW 4-H VOLUNTEERS THIS PAST YEAR!

Gold Volunteers

Ryan Watkins - Professional Photographer, Photography SPIN Club Leader

Emily Waddell - Cooking SPIN Club Co-Leader, 4-H Parent

Kristen Magnus - Co-Leader of Kountry Kidz 4-H Club

Rebecca Jehnzen - 4-H Alumni, Assisting Bouncing Bunnies & Galloping Goats 4-H Club

Sarah Hileman - Co-Leader of Show Me the Blue 4-H Club, 4-H Parent

Michelle Neff - Co-Leader of Show Me the Blue 4-H Club, MSU Extension Educator

Mary Henman - Orchid Specialist, Future Workshop and SPIN Club Leader

Silver Volunteers

Jennifer Dancer Nathan Lewis Caili Lewis Tabetha Roberts-Gust LeAnn Welch



Make a Difference in 4-H! Join the 4-H PLANIT Squad - January 31 - 6 PM



Are you a young go-getter, brimming with fresh ideas and a passion for making things happen? If you're ready to take the reins and shape the future of 4-H while having a blast, then the 4-H PLANIT Squad is calling your name!

What to Expect at the First Meeting

The first meeting will be very easy going. Miranda, the 4-H Program Coordinator will be present in the beginning to go over introductions. Parents are welcome to stay for this time as well so that everyone is on the same page and understand the expectations of this youth-led committee.

After introductions, it's up to youth to lead the meeting how ever they feel fit. Want to elect officers? Go for it! Want to keep it casual and no one has a title? Do that instead! Want to rename the committee to something else? You know what's best! We just want to offer this platform so every one of our 4-H'ers have the opportunity and freedom to lead their own way.

There Will Be Games and Cocoa!

We will provide a variety of games for you to play so you have the opportunity to have fun, socialize, and get to know your fellow youth committee members.

This group is open to ages 8 to 19. We highly encourage our teens 12+ to consider helping lead.

A Message to Our 4-H Parents

During the time the youth committee meets, the 4-H Council will meet in a separate room. We welcome you to join us and learn more about our council. This is a great opportunity to see who we are and what we are all about!

Any Questions?

Contact the 4-H Program Coordinator at warmusk3@msu.edu

Unlock Your Potential: Dive into Adventure at MSU's 4-H Exploration Days!

About 1,000 youth (ages 12-19) and chaperones from across Michigan attend annually.

This fun MSU pre-college program could be the highlight of your summer - it could even change your life!

4-H Exploration Days registration goes from mid-March through April with session assignments made on a first-come, first-served basis. As you select your session choices, be sure to watch for age restrictions! Age requirements for sessions are based on your age as of January 1.

4-H Exploration Days
June 19 - 21, 2024
canr.msu.edu/4 h exploration days

VIEW THE 4-H EXPLORATION DAYS BROCHURE HERE

Embark on a Journey of Discovery with 4-H Animal Science Career Quest

Hey animal lovers! Are you considering a future in animal science or veterinary medicine? The 4-H Animal Science Career Quest is your chance to learn all about the vast opportunities within these fields of work.

This program is a joint effort between Michigan 4-H, the MSU Department of Animal Science, and the MSU College of Veterinary Medicine and is open to youth aged 12-19 and a very limited number of 4-H Gold Volunteers.

Don't Delay! You've got until February 5th, or until all spots are filled.

The cost to attend is only \$35!

To get all the details and to register go to: https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-animal-science-career-quest-2024

Give Your Christmas Tree a Second Life with Hide N Hares 4-H Club!

The holiday season is all about giving, and what better way to extend the joy than by contributing to a cause that benefits our furry friends? The Hide N Hares 4-H Club is on a mission to collect live Christmas trees after the holiday festivities and give them a new purpose at the A.R.K. (Association to Rescue Kritters).

Instead of tossing your live Christmas tree to the curb, let's recycle it for a good cause! The A.R.K. uses these trees in their rehabilitation habitats for animals, creating a more natural and comfortable environment for the critters they care for.

Cindy Veldt-Dietsch, a co-leader of the Hide N Hares 4-H Club, is your go-to person for this heartwarming initiative. If you or someone you know has a live tree for the holidays and wants to contribute, connect with Cindy to drop off the tree in Farwell or arrange a convenient pickup.



This is a fantastic opportunity to make a positive impact on both the environment and the lives of animals in need. Let's spread the word and share this information with friends, family, and neighbors who might have a live tree to spare.

Contact Cindy Veldt-Dietsch at (989) 802-4377 to arrange your tree to be picked up or drop off in Farwell.

If you are curious about the great work that A.R.K. does, check out their website at: www.arkritters.org



Apply to Become a 4-H Ambassador at Anytime This Year!

As a Clare County 4-H Ambassador, you'll have the opportunity to be a shining example of the positive impact 4-H has on our community. This is your chance to shine and make a real difference!

We invite you to become a Clare County 4-H Ambassador! The application window is now open year-round, allowing you the flexibility to apply at your convenience.

Ambassador Positions

Junior (4-H age 8 to 12) Intermediate (4-H age 13 to 15) Senior (4-H age 16 - 19)

Apply for the Clare County 4-H Ambassador

Access the application here:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/clare/uploads/files/4-H%20Ambassador%20Application%20Packet.pdf



Grace T. (left) and Allison W. (right) leading with the 4-H Flag at the Clare Irish Festival 2023.

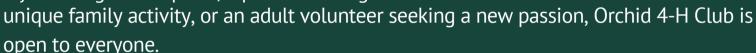


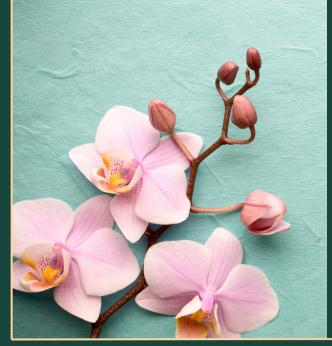
Linde D. (left) and Jane K. (right) leading pledges during the Clare County Fair 2023



LEARN ABOUT

Led by the experienced and dedicated orchid enthusiast, Mary Henman, who is on her journey to become an Orchid Judge, the Orchid 4-H Club promises a blooming adventure! Whether you're a youth eager to explore, a parent looking for a unique family activity, or an adult volunteer sook







WHAT TO EXPECT

Orchid Growing & Care: Learn the art and science of nurturing various orchid varieties.

Nature Exploration: Develop a keen eye and discover the beauty of native orchids in the great outdoors.

Judging Competitions: Dive into the world of orchid judging competitions.

Future Judges: Explore the pathway to becoming a future orchid judge.

Guest Speakers & Field Trips: Immerse yourself in the knowledge shared by guest speakers and enjoy field trips to orchid shows and exhibits.

HOW TO JOIN

Express your interest in joining this club when it launches in May. Add your name to the list today! Use the link below:

forms.office.com/r/UYwZKZwqVY

Let's grow, learn, and bloom together!



Deadline to Register for the 2024 Horse Judges and Volunteer Conference Register by January 2nd to avoid a late fee!



This annual event hosted by the Department of Animal Science and the MI 4-H Horse Judges Advisory Committee is open to all Judges, Horse Show Mangers, and adult Volunteers. The registration fee is \$80 and includes lunch on Saturday as well as program materials.

January 13 - 14, 2024 - MSU Pavilion, East Lansing, MI

Register by January 2, 2024, to avoid the late registration fee (additional \$20). Online payment and registration link: https://commerce.cashnet.com/MSU_3645

Volunteer with Clare County Food as a Club or Individual on January 6th



Are you or your club looking for ways to serve your community? Clare County Food Distribution is held on the first Saturday of Each Month!

Their next distribution is scheduled for January 6th at the Clare Co. Transit Building.

Our friends at Clare County Food have shared their urgent need: The number of food-insecure families has more than doubled, from 200 to over 450 families each month. They need our help! Let's rally together to make a positive impact.

Volunteer Age Requirement: Ages 14 and older are welcome to volunteer.

Earn 4-H Honor Club Credits for any community service!

Did you know any act of community service counts towards earning 4-H Honor Club Credits? These credits can lead to a monetary reward for your 4-H Club! It's a win-win – help your community, earn club recognition and a monetary prize from our generous 4-H Council. Talk with your club leader to let them know to document your efforts! Learn more about the 4-H Honor System: https://www.canr.msu.edu/clare/clare_county_4_h/honor-clubs

Anishinaabe Perspectives in Natural Resources Management The 4-H Wild Spartan Online Series - January 9 - 6:30 PM



Join 4-H staff as we take a look into life working with fisheries and wildlife! This month's 4-H Wild Spartans Series will delve into how tribes use traditional knowledge and values (giikendaasowin) in natural resources management. Join us on Tuesday, January 9th, 2024 at 6:30pm EST for "Anishinaabe Perspectives in Natural Resources Management: Anishinaabe giikendaasowin and Western Science." You will 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. Youth will be encouraged to ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A. This free series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19 years. Monthly sessions will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm EST. Pre-registration is required: https://events.anr.msu.edu/wildspartans20232024/

Kinship Caregiver Workshop - Together We Can: Co-parenting - January 10 - 7 PM



Raising children is a team effort. The adults in a child's life need to consider their children's needs as they parent together. Build upon your knowledge and skills to promote healthy family and parenting relationships. This workshop is for all primary caregivers of children (married, divorced, single, step, grandparent, aunt, etc.)

Kinship Caregiver workshops are a free online series of workshops that provide guidance for caregivers of children as they navigate the joys, challenges and concerns of raising children.

Certificates for participation are provided upon completion of the class. https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/online-together-we-can-1-10-2024

Adulting 101 Series - The Psychology of Spending and Saving - January 17 - 6 PM



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.

The Michigan 4-H Adulting 101 series helps young people prepare for college or life on their own. Zoom in to the **FREE** webinar to learn real life skills to help you successfully transition to living independently. Pre-registration and a sign-up in Zoom is required to join.

Learn more at: https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/psychology

The Parent Talk System Webinar Series - Starts January 22 - 7:30 PM

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

Topics include:

- Eliminating unwanted behavior
- Setting limits
- Teaching about consequences
- Giving effective feedback
- Promoting independence
- Developing character

Certificates for participation are provided upon completion of the series. In order to receive a certificate, participants must actively participate in the webinar throughout all six sessions.

Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar - Teaching Science When You Don't Know Diddley-Squat - January 23 - 12 PM or 7 PM

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.

Register for the 12 PM Session:

<u>www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-teaching-science-when-you-don-t-know-diddley-squat</u>

Register for the 7 PM Session:

http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-teaching-science-when-you-don-t-know-diddley-squat7pm

State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Expo and Show - January 27 - 7 AM to 6 PM Register by January 19

Join us for the State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Expo and Show! Youth may choose to exhibit their rabbit and/or cavy as well as compete in other contests such as breed identification, photography, and educational display. Here by popular demand, Rabbit and Cavy Showmanship! Showmanship exhibitors are required to pre-register by January 19, 2024 at:

https://events.anr.msu.edu/showmanship state rabbit and cavy/.

Educational sessions will be scheduled throughout the day with the support of The Rabbit School. There will be a schedule posted in the showroom as well as on the <u>Facebook Page: MI State 4-H Rabbits</u>.



Horse Judging Workshop and Mini Contest 2024 - February 2 & 3 Register by January 30

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

Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar - Engaging 4-H Youth in Animal SCIENCE Education - February 7 - 12 PM or 7 PM

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 the Michigan 4-Hers. This session is Engaging 4-H Youth in Animal SCIENCE Education. Animal science projects are a 4-H favorite! Join us for information about the curriculum and resources available to volunteers to engage 4-H youth in their communities in animal science education. This webinar will also include announcements about statewide 4-H animal science offerings for 2024!

Register for the 12 PM Session:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-4-h-youth-in-animal-science-education

Register for the 7 PM Session:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-4-h-youth-in-animal-science-education7pm

Adulting 101 Series - Fostering Healthy Relationships - February 12 - 5 PM

Explore healthy relationship models that can enhance your future and current bonds. Tips on setting boundaries, managing conflict, navigating breakups, and practicing consent will be shared by a licensed professional counselor.

Learn more at:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/relationships-1



MSU Extension Pork Team Releases New Video Series for Small Swine Producers

Good news for pig farmers! The MSU Extension Pork team has just released a set of short videos to help small and medium-sized swine producers improve their herd health management. You can find these helpful videos at https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/management-over-medication-alternative-swine-farm-management-videos.

The videos cover practical tips and techniques for better swine farm management. If you want more details, there's also a related article at https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/management-over-medication-fall-and-winter-preparation-for-your-swine-farm. It focuses on getting your swine farm ready for fall and winter.

These videos aren't just for experienced farmers. They're great for 4-H leaders and young folks working on swine projects. The videos share management strategies that can be super helpful for youth involved in 4-H swine projects.

Whether you're a seasoned farmer or just starting out, these resources from the MSU Extension Pork team are worth checking out. They're all about making swine farming healthier and more sustainable. Dive into the videos and articles for some practical insights and tips to improve your pig farming game!

OPPORTUNITY AT THE NORTHERN DISTRICT FAIR - CADILLAC

The Northern District Fair is open to all Michigan Residents. For youth to participate they *must* be part of a recognized youth organization. This is currently a small fair so it is a great opportunity for new families who do not want a lot of competition. NDF allows market projects at 4-H age 6 and beef at age 9.

2024 Market Livestock Rules

Market Livestock Registration

SWINE DAY WORKSHOP - ALMA

Who Should Attend: Any youth ages 5 to 19 in any county may attend this workshop. Parents are also welcome to attend. Great for beginners and veteran showmen!

This event is an afternoon of swine presentations for youth looking to show pigs. The topics include:

Selecting your Show Pig Basic Pig Nutrition I Bought a Pig, Now What?!

February 18, 2024 - 1 PM to 4 PM

Registration Cost: \$10

Deadline: February 12, 2024

QUESTIONS?
CONTACT

Kami Paksi (989) 875-5234 REGISTER AT: bit.ly/3u23JoA

4-H HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP 2023-2024 HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS



The Clare County 4-H Council offers a \$500 scholarship to 3 seniors each year.

Don't hesitate! See what the requirements are before it's too late to apply.

To learn more about how you can be eligible go to: https://www.canr.msu.edu/clare/clare county 4 h/grant-and-scholarship-applications



Join us as the Spartan Women's Basketball Team takes on Rutger's Women's Basketball Team

Join us for the eighteenth annual celebration of MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development at the MSU Women's Basketball game. The Spartans will host the Rutgers Scarlet Knights on Saturday, February 24, 2024 at the Breslin Center on MSU's campus. Tip-off is 2 p.m. with gates opening to the public at 12:30 p.m.; come early to enjoy all the fun activities going on around the concourse.

Ticket Price: FREE for the Michigan 4-H community including MSU Extension and 4-H youth, volunteers, partners, stakeholders, staff, alumni and their families!

https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-breslin

Michigan 4-H Day with the Detroit Tigers - Purchase Tickets Today!

Join Michigan 4-H and Michigan State University Extension for a fun day at Comerica Park to watch the Detroit Tigers take on the Kansas City Royals on Sunday, April 28. Michigan 4-H will be honored as the Group Charity of the Game. To celebrate, 4-H youth, volunteers, staff, and their families will enjoy a discounted ticket to the game. A portion of every ticket sold on this link will be donated back to Michigan 4-H. Make sure to wear your favorite 4-H gear and support 4-H while enjoying a fun day with the 4-H community.

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.

Only tickets purchased through the 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. https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-day-with-the-detroit-tigers

Your Chance to Win a \$100 Gift Card! Enter the 2024 Cash Competition Contest



The Michigan State University Extension 4-H Cash Composition Contest is back again this year- with a new deadline and expanded ages for entries! This year's contest is open to any youth residing in Michigan, ages 9-19 years old as of Jan 1, 2024.

Get started now on writing a short essay on budgeting to have a chance to win a \$100 gift card thanks to the generous sponsorship from Extra Credit Union. Three winners in each age bracket (9-13, 14-19) will win! The deadline to register and submit your essay is February 29, 2024.

Contest details can be found here: canr.msu.edu/4-hmoney-smarts/money-smart-kids-contest

Budgeting Doesn't Have to be Scary! Use These Sources to Help You:

Spartan Dollars and Cents: Realistic Budget Simulator

canr.msu.edu/resources/spartan-dollars-and-cents-budget-simulation

Self-Guided Course on Budgeting

canr.msu.edu/courses/4-hbudgeting

Clover Cents - Short Videos on Finance

canr.msu.edu/youth_money_management/clover-cents