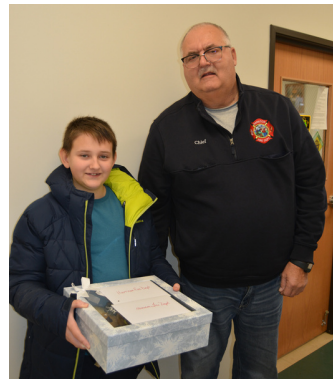


# Clare County 4-H

## Family News



## HILL TOP 4-H CLUB SHOWS APPRECIATION TO LOCAL FIRST RESPONDERS

Hill Top President Connor Heaven, along with Club Leader A.J. McInnis, spent a day in December saying Thank You to the many First Responders of Clare County with cookies baked by the members of the club. Each box was accompanied by a hand-made thank you card.

First stop was the Clare County Sheriff's department where Sergeant Steven Sentz accepted the box, admitting to Connor that he too had been a 4-H member and remembered his time fondly. Following was a stop at the Harrison Fire Department where the Chief happily accepted the box on behalf of his men. A short drive later, a box of goodies was delivered to the Farwell Fire department then on to Clare where one of the officers of the Clare Police department accepted boxes for themselves and the fire department as there was no one available. He did confess that they "might get them" if the police officers didn't get to them first.

This is the second community service project Hill Top performed in the 2022 year and they look forward to completing many more in 2023.

By A.J. McInnis  
February 21, 2023

## CONTACT US



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## 4-H Youth Leadership Council Bake Sale Success!

On Saturday, February 25th, the 4-H Youth Leadership Council held a fundraiser at Jay's Sporting Goods in Clare, MI. The council stated that this fundraiser went very well, raising over one thousand dollars! The 4-H Youth Leadership Council would like to extend their deepest gratitude to all

those who helped make their first fundraiser as new board members a success. This would not have been possible without the tremendous support from their community and to all of the local 4-H Club participants who donated their time and/or baked goods for their fundraiser. These young council members benefited in so many ways by organizing this fundraiser. The act of fundraising develops a sense of purpose and responsibility; shaping their leadership skills by learning to work together towards a goal. They plan to utilize these funds to offer fun and educational opportunities for their community; such as hosting activities throughout fair week and host other events throughout the year. Youth who are interested in joining the Youth Leadership Council are encouraged to attend meetings. Their next meeting will be held at Clare Methodist Church, March 8th at 6:30 PM.



## Bouncing Bunnies & Galloping Goats (BBGG) Made and Donated Items

These 4-H'ers made an huge impact last month with their amazing skills and contributions! Members of the 4-H Club, Bouncing Bunnies & Galloping, knitted 70 hats, made 4 no-sew blankets, and gathered

items such as: emergency blankets, shampoo, conditioner, body soap and individual laundry detergent. The club donated these items to those in need. The club is led by husband and wife duo, Scott and Ursula Jehnzen. The club plans to keep spreading their generosity and contributions throughout their community. Keep up the great work BBGG!





## 4-H Day at Snow Snake!

4-H'ers took to the slopes Saturday, February 4th, at Snow Snake in Harrison, MI. Families from Clare, Isabella, and Gladwin counties gathered on this snowy crisp morning for some winter fun.

Over 70 participants came out to the tubing party. Many had a blast sledding while others kept warm by the fire drinking hot cocoa.

The 4-H Council was happy to offer each Clare County 4-H members an extra discount from the original discount by Snow Snake. The council plans to keep this tradition going so that our 4-H families can look forward to some 4-H Day winter fun for the years to come!

## CALENDAR OF 4-H RELATED EVENTS

Monday, March 6th - 6:00 PM

**Livestock Nutritional Seminar**

Pere Marquette District Library - Clare, MI

Wednesday, March 8th - 6:30 PM

**4-H Youth Leadership Council Meeting**

Clare Methodist Church - Clare, MI

Friday, March 10th

**Deadline: 4-H Higher Education Scholarship**

Email to [warmusk3@msu.edu](mailto:warmusk3@msu.edu) or mail to MSU Extension - 225 W Main St. Harrison. MI

Saturday, March 18th - 10 AM - 1 PM

**Irish Festival Parade**

145 Wilcox Pkwy - Clare VFW - Clare, MI

- Line up begins at 10 AM
- Parade line up signs will be posted along Wilcox Pkwy, please follow these signs.
- Children under 16 must be accompanied by a parent or adult and are not allowed to operate machinery or livestock.
- All animal entries must provide a "pooper scooper" following directly behind the entry.
- Please do NOT toss candy from floats or vehicles! However, you may distribute candy while walking along the parade route.

Wednesday, March 22nd - 6:00 PM

**4-H Council Meeting**

Pere Marquette District Library - Clare, MI

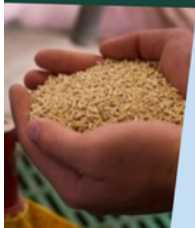
Friday, March 31st

**Deadline: Teen Camp Counselor Application**

Email to [warmusk3@msu.edu](mailto:warmusk3@msu.edu) or mail to MSU Extension - 225 W Main St. Harrison. MI

## LIVESTOCK NUTRITIONAL SEMINAR

Hosted by Country Neighbors 4-H Club



Featuring guest representative from ADM Feeds 

RSVP with Joanne Krell  
TEXT: (989)329-3703

## Don't Miss This! Livestock Nutritional Seminar

The Country Neighbors 4-H Club is hosting a Livestock Nutritional Seminar on Monday, March 6th at 6:00 PM.

The event will take place at the Pere Marquette District Library in Clare, MI. **Featuring** a representative from ADM Animal Nutrition, a leading producer of feeds and supplements, offering nutritional livestock solutions for beef, dairy, swine, sheep, goats and poultry.

**RSVP with Joanna Krell - Text: (989)329-3703**



## Clare County Fair Book Cover Contest

The Clare County Fair Board is looking for your help. So, sharpen your pencils, crayons, markers or colored pencils and get out your clean sheets of paper and submit your entry for the 2013 Fairbook Cover Contest. Entries for this contest will be accepted until **Thursday, April 6th, 2023**.

**Prizes will be awarded to the winner and the 3 runner ups!**

Entry and submission rules at [Fair Book Cover Contest Rules](#)



## 4-H Higher Education Scholarship

ATTENTION! High School Seniors of Clare County in 4-H are eligible to apply for a \$500 higher education scholarship that is offered through the Clare County 4-H Council. Winners are announced in April of 2023. Learn more about the requirements at [4-H Higher Education Scholarship Application](#)

## Local Opportunities for Funding Club Activities

Did you know that the Clare County 4-H Council offers funding to local 4-H Clubs and 4-H members? The [4-H Mini Grant](#) is available for clubs that want to explore new project areas and programs. For example, 4-H Club, BBGG, acquired these funds to host a countywide CPR / First Aid Training last December.

The [Make a Wish Scholarship](#) offers financial help to any 4-H participants who would like to attend events or activities such as 4-H camps, workshops, etc. You can view these and statewide scholarships at the [Clare County 4-H website](#) under [Grant and Scholarship Applications](#).





## 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY SPIN CLUB

Join professional photographer and Clare native, Ryan Watkins, for this in-depth course on photography!

**Open to ages 10 - 19.**

The lessons and structure of this course depends on you. Please take a moment to complete the form to share your interest and stay informed on further developments!

<https://forms.gle/NALYGQGVL5mKPrm6>



## 4-H COOKING SPIN CLUB

Take your culinary skills to the next level! The 4-H volunteers of Arthur Center Church of God are prepping a full course of fun recipes. **Open to ages 5 - 19.** This 6 week 4-H Special Interest Club will be available soon. We just need to hear from you! Please take a moment to complete the form to share your interest!

<https://forms.gle/TpYkSU2BB5sLtPva9>



## 4-H SEWING SPIN CLUB



Learn to sew with 4-H! Volunteers at the Arthur Center Church of God are leading this 6 week 4-H SPIN Club and will be available soon!

**Open to ages 5 - 19**

Please take a moment to complete the form to share your interest!



<https://forms.gle/CXgH7qCUNfnkCfU17>

## CAMP CLOVER! JOIN THE TEAM



Clare County 4-H is partnering with Gladwin & Isabella County 4-H. It will be a fun filled overnight camp from June 20th - 22nd. Tuesday through Thursday morning is Summer Camp. Location is at Camp Neyati in Lake, MI.

**APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 31, 2023**

Apply Online or call Miranda, the 4-H Program Coordinator at (989)539-7805

### Teen Application

Must be 14 years or older.  
Help lead sessions.  
Be a role model for others.  
Attend at no cost.



<https://forms.gle/QfcefyACMvGnRAkz8>

### Adult Application

Chaperones, session leads, cooks, and a nurse will be needed. See application or call Miranda for details.



<https://forms.gle/habzclgtkQcWR6uc6>



## Michigan 4-H International Exchange Programs: Summer Inbound

While enjoying the snow and cold do you reflect on the moments of the summer sun and warmth? Have you considered the summer in Michigan as a great time to share with an international delegate? Here is a 5 minute video of Michigan 4-H commemorating the summer In-US program in Michigan 2022 to enjoy, warm your heart, and spark your consideration to host: [https://mediaspace.msu.edu/media/t/1\\_c9zo5rea](https://mediaspace.msu.edu/media/t/1_c9zo5rea)

Michigan 4-H will be having 12 Japanese youth and one Chaperone available in 2023 for interested families possibly opening their home and hearts by hosting! A host family needs to complete the States' 4-H International Exchange Programs online application, have a youth to match as a host brother/sister (be within 4 years of age), adults be Michigan 4-H adult Gold Volunteers, participate in an interview and home visit process. Applications to host can be found at [www.states4hexchange.org](http://www.states4hexchange.org)

Please feel free to contact Michigan 4-H International Exchange Programs Coordinator Jan Brinn [brinn@msu.edu](mailto:brinn@msu.edu) or Co-Coordinator John Wurm [wurmj@msu.edu](mailto:wurmj@msu.edu). This program is supported by the MSU Extension Children & Youth Institute Leadership, Civic and Cultural Engagement (LCCE) Team [4H.LCCE.team@msu.edu](mailto:4H.LCCE.team@msu.edu).

## 4-H Exploration Days Registration Opens March 21st, 2023!

Join Michigan 4-H for a pre-college summer program geared towards youth 12-19 years old. Exploration Days takes place June 21-23, 2023 on the campus of Michigan State University and allows youth to explore careers, meet new people, stay on a college campus, and learn new ideas. Registration opens March 21, 2023. More information can be found on [https://www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_exploration\\_days/](https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days/) and by contacting the county 4-H office. We look forward to you joining us and seeing what paths lead you to 4-H this summer!



## 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series

4-H staff are offering a volunteer webinar series. There will be 6 topics offered throughout the year, with each topic offered twice as a daytime and evening option. Everyone who attends at least four of the webinars in person will receive a certificate at the end of the series.

**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

Please visit:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/volunteering/mi-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series> for full details on the series and registration links.



Join Us Online  
**WILD SPARTANS**  
 SCIENCE \* RESEARCH \* CAREERS \* CONSERVATION  
 UPLAND BIRD CONSERVATION

## Wild Spartans: Upland Bird Conservation

Join 4-H staff as we take a look into life working with fisheries and wildlife! March's 4-H Wild Spartans Series will take flight in the Midwest uplands to learn about game birds. Join us on Tuesday, March 14th, 2023 at 6:30pm EST for **"Upland Bird Conservation."** You will meet Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever Education and Outreach Manager, Marissa Jensen, learn about her field work, and the education and career path she followed to get there. This scientist will take us to the grasslands and prairies of the Midwest. 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. **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/wildspartans2023/>**



Register Today



## Hinamatsuri, or Japanese Girls' Day

Also known as the Doll's Festival - it is celebrated on March 3rd to hope for the health and happiness of young girls in Japan. Join Michigan 4-H and Japanese partners from Western Michigan University, University of Central Oklahoma, Delta State University, Mayville State University, Western Carolina University, West Liberty University, and Texas State Museum of Asian Cultures for a virtual online learning opportunity to

celebrate Hinamatsuri Japanese Girls' Day! **The event will be held Friday March 3, 2023, at 5:30-6:30PM CST 6:30-7:30PM EST.** Everyone is welcome and it is geared toward a young audience.

**Registration: <https://forms.gle/zkH768iMh2GezC3Y6>**

**A DAY IN THE LIFE**  
**4-H WEBINAR SERIES**

Explore agricultural careers  
 within Michigan State  
 University Extension

6:30pm Wednesdays  
 Bi-weekly from March 8th- May 17th

Animal Agriculture      Agribusiness      Farm Stress Management

For 4-H youth ages  
 12-19

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension  
 \* 4-H GROWS HERE

## Registration Open for A Day In The Life Web Series

This statewide series will focus on agricultural careers at MSU Extension. Are you animated by Animal Science? Have a knack for business? Join us for this free, 6-week virtual opportunity! Beginning March 8th and ending May 17th, this biweekly series will be a great, informational guide into agricultural careers! Our speakers will describe their typical workday, what internships and guidance led them to their roles, and what their favorite elements of their jobs are. (This series is limited to 4-H youth member ages 12-19).

\*If you are not a 4-H youth member, please register in 4-H Online for this statewide opportunity by selecting Ottawa County 4-H and enrolling in "SPIN Club-A Day In The Life 4-H Webinar Series" then register at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/4HCareers/>, for any further questions please contact Samantha Griffin at [griff807@msu.edu](mailto:griff807@msu.edu)

# 4-H Mark of Excellence



It's that time of year! So grab your pen! Spark your imagination and join us as we roll out the 4-H Mark of Excellence Contest. NEW, this year youth can submit either a video submission or a short journal reflection focusing on the theme "Because of 4-H I can!"

## What is the Mark of Excellence Contest:

The 4-H Mark of Excellence contest is an introductory opportunity for the Michigan 4-H State Awards program for youth ages 11 and 12.

## Eligibility for this contest is as follows:

- Be a current 4-H member between the ages of 11 and 12 as of January 1, 2023. Enrollment in previous years is not required.
- Individuals may only be selected for this award once.
- Each county can select up to two (2) winners to receive the Mark of Excellence Award each year.

## Submission Details:

- Contestants will need to create either a video or a journal reflection focusing around the theme of "Because of 4-H I can..."
- Entries should be legible, readable or easily viewable.
- Video submissions must be no more than 2 minutes in length. Videos should be in mp4 format or provide a YouTube Channel link.
- Journal reflections must be 500 words or less and can be hand-written or typed.
- Submission can be either video OR journal.
- Must include name and county.
- **Email submissions to Miranda at [warmusk3@msu.edu](mailto:warmusk3@msu.edu)**

## Selection:

- Individuals may only be selected for this award once.
- Two winners will be selected from Clare County.
- Winning entries will receive a certificate and medal, and receive recognition locally.
- County winners and materials are required to be submitted to the State 4-H Award Committee via the link below **no later than March 31, 2023.**





## 2023 Michigan 4-H State Awards

2023 4-H State Award applications are now open! Get recognized for all of your hard work and dedication within your project area & earn an Exploration Days scholarship. A 4-H State Award is the highest honor that can be given to a Michigan 4-H'er.

Learn more: <https://tinyurl.com/46afjtc8>.

Applications open to 4-H members ages 13 - 19

Application deadline is April 1st

Apply today at: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/StateAwards23>



## Save the Date! MI 4-H Livestock Judging Camp

Get ready for a livestock judging camp on **Saturday, June 3rd, 2023!** This event will be open to both 4-H, non-4-H youth, and coaches/volunteers. Registration information and more details will be available soon!

This is a one-day clinic about all things livestock judging. Youth and their coaches will gain experience judging beef, sheep, swine, and meat goats, as well as practice with oral reasons, data assessment, and more!

Learn more here: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/mi-4-h-livestock-judging-camp>



## Build Your Future Webinar for Adults Who Work With Youth

You can be a future builder! Help youth gain skills in career exploration, skill awareness, interviewing, resumes and professional growth. **Learn how to utilize the Build Your Future: Choices, Connections, Careers curriculum during this free webinar on March 2, 2023 at 2pm.** Any adult who works with youth is welcome. A curriculum set is available for active participation. For more information and to register at: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/build-your-future-mar-2>



## Rainbow Spartans

Join 4-H staff as we meet individuals and organizations in the LGBTQIA+ community.

Learn about the LGBTQIA+ community, support networks, and individuals and organizations.

Sessions last approximately 1 hour and will feature 1 guest speaker or organization. Following presentations, youth will be encouraged to ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A with the presenter. **Suggested audience age is 12-19 years.** Viewers may watch together with their family if comfortable doing so. **This series is open to non-4-H youth and is free of charge.**

Monthly Sessions will be held on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. ET through December.

**April 5, 2023:** Art, Identity, and You: Finding Yourself and the LGBTQ+ Community through Artistic Expression,

Register at:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-hwrh/rainbow-spartans>



## 4-H Teen Fun Night!

*The Northern Center & Fox Den Restaurant, Houghton Lake*

Come for a night of fun on Friday, March 10th! Teens from Roscommon and surrounding counties are invited for a night of video games, basketball, board games, cards, food, fun and making friends.

Learn more at:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-teen-fun-night-march-2023>



## Tollgate Farm Maple Fest

*Tollgate Farm, Novi*

Identify and tap a maple tree, tour the sugar shack, explore fun maple-themed activities, take a wagon ride, taste maple sap, syrup and sugar, and explore maple tools and technology. Enjoy pancakes, sausage, coffee, cocoa and real maple syrup in the historic 19th-century barn. Date: **March 11th & 10th**

Find out more here:

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-tollgate-farm-maplefest](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-tollgate-farm-maplefest)



## Adulging 101

### Paycheck & Taxes

Understanding why and how taxes and other items are deducted from a worker's paycheck is an important step toward gaining financial knowledge. Explore what taxes are and why we pay them. See how taxes affect your salary vs. your take home pay.

**Webinar on March 16, 2023.**

Register at:

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulging-3-16-23](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulging-3-16-23)



## 4-H Hippology Contest

*Anthony Hall, East Lansing*

The term "hippology" comes from the Greek "hippo," meaning horse, and "ology," meaning "the study of."

Participants will be able to demonstrate their experience and knowledge gained in horse judging, quiz bowl, speeches and practical horse management. Phases of the contest include a written exam, identification of items shown on slides, placing and/or identification of feedstuffs or feed tags, judging, identification stations, and team problems. There are opportunities for the top three senior hippology teams to go on to compete at the National 4-H level.

The 2023 4-H Hippology Contest will be held on March 18, 2023 in Anthony Hall at Michigan State University. Please see the contest rules and registration information below. **The registration deadline is March 3, 2023.**

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/mi-4-h-hippology-contest>



## Money Contests!!

Money, money, money! The Michigan State University Extension Career Exploration and Workforce Prep Team has exciting news to share! There will be 2 fun contests during National Financial Literacy Month this April.

Youth can expand their knowledge and compete with other youth across Michigan to earn prizes in money management challenges. We also have 2 educational workshops, one for youth and one for staff/volunteers/parents interested in teaching youth about money.

### Cash Composition Contest (9-12 years old)

In honor of Financial Awareness Month, Michigan State University Extension 4-H is coordinating the Cash Composition Contest. Youth residing in Michigan, age 9-12 as of (January 1, 2023) are encouraged to answer this year's contest where they will write a short (300 words or less) essay about needs and wants. The 5 top scoring essays will each win a \$100 gift card thanks to the generous sponsorship by Extra Credit Union. Contest registration and essay submission must be complete by April 30th. For more details go to: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-money-smarts/money-smart-kids-contest>

### Show Your Money Smarts Contest (13-19 years old)

Learn how to use credit wisely in this year's fifth annual online contest. Compete with other youth ages 13-19 across the state of Michigan in this 30 question online challenge during the month of April and win prizes. High scoring youth will be entered into a prize drawing to win a \$25 gift card. Youth must register by April 13 and complete the contest by April 30th. Teachers, librarians and other youth development professionals also can win a \$25 gift card if a non-related youth you referred to the contest wins. Gift card prizes are provided by a generous sponsorship from the Michigan Credit Union Foundation as part of their goal to improve the financial well-being of Michigan families.

For contest details and related education go here:

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

### Youth Credit Craze

**April 4th at 5:30 PM**

This webinar will help youth learn the basics of credit, comparing credit and debit, understanding credit scores, knowing the different versions of credit, and, most importantly, tips to managing credit wisely.

This webinar will also help prepare youth for the Show Your Money Smarts Contest, available for registration until April 13, 2023 for youth 13-19. Register here

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/youthcreditcraze>

### Helping Youth Master Money

**April 6th at 12 PM**

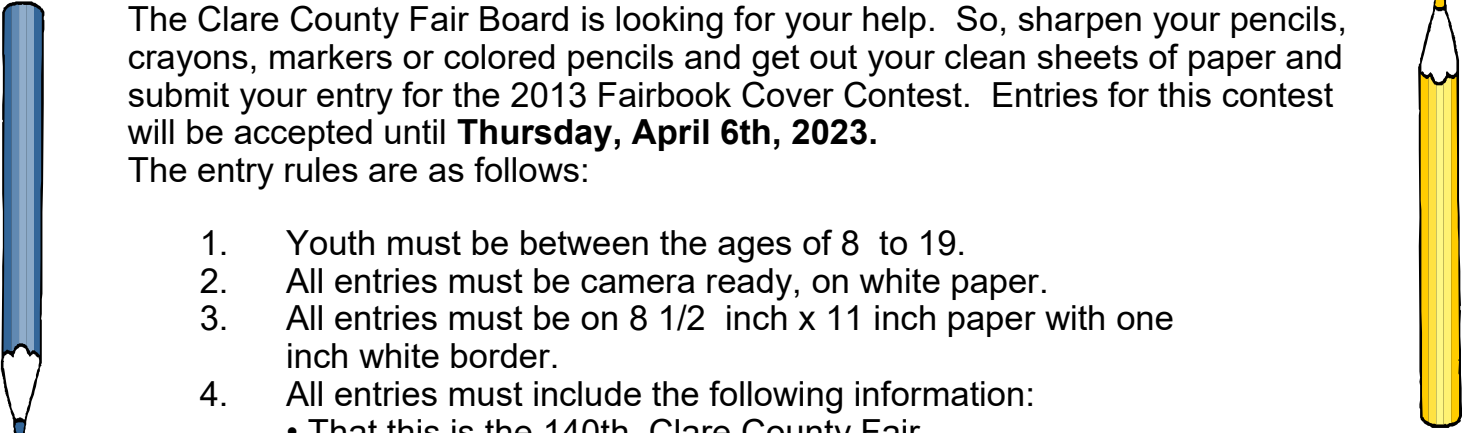
This webinar will help adults/ teachers and other youth professionals discover fun ways for youth to learn about budgeting, credit, saving and more. Michigan State University Extension 4-H will share easy to implement activities for all ages. Learn how to prepare your youth with money management skills through a variety of curriculum, contests, games, and resources. Register here:

<https://msu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYvcemtqzkvHtDipAcTDUL30jG0KkC7LW3p>



2023

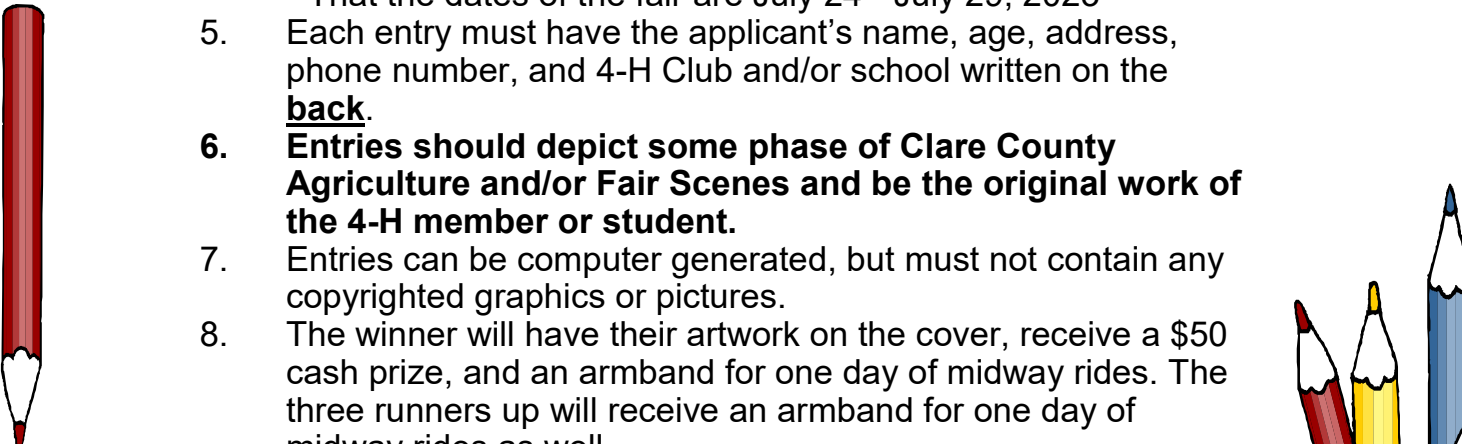
# FAIRBOOK COVER CONTEST



The Clare County Fair Board is looking for your help. So, sharpen your pencils, crayons, markers or colored pencils and get out your clean sheets of paper and submit your entry for the 2013 Fairbook Cover Contest. Entries for this contest will be accepted until **Thursday, April 6th, 2023.**

The entry rules are as follows:

1. Youth must be between the ages of 8 to 19.
2. All entries must be camera ready, on white paper.
3. All entries must be on 8 1/2 inch x 11 inch paper with one inch white border.
4. All entries must include the following information:
  - That this is the 140th Clare County Fair
  - That the dates of the fair are July 24 - July 29, 2023
5. Each entry must have the applicant's name, age, address, phone number, and 4-H Club and/or school written on the **back**.
6. **Entries should depict some phase of Clare County Agriculture and/or Fair Scenes and be the original work of the 4-H member or student.**
7. Entries can be computer generated, but must not contain any copyrighted graphics or pictures.
8. The winner will have their artwork on the cover, receive a \$50 cash prize, and an armband for one day of midway rides. The three runners up will receive an armband for one day of midway rides as well.



Entries can be delivered to the MSU Extension office at 225 W. Main Street, Harrison, MI 48625. For questions, please call (989) 539-7805.

The Clare County Fair Board is responsible for the judging of these entries.



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UNIVERSITY

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