



# CLOVER CHRONICLES

March 2024

Isabella County

**Inside this issue:**

<i>Club Corner</i>	2
<i>Small Animal News</i>	2
<i>Broiler Chick Orders</i>	2
<i>4-H Camp Clean-Up</i>	3
<i>Fair Board News</i>	3
<i>Scholarship Opportunities</i>	4
<i>Shooting Sports Kick-off Event</i>	5
<i>Statewide Calendar</i>	6
<i>Statewide News</i>	7
<i>Virtual Career Night</i>	8
<i>Creative Campaign Contest</i>	9
<i>Poultry &amp; Rabbit Show</i>	10
<i>4-H Calendar</i>	11

## Dairy Feeder Weigh-In

Saturday, March 16  
7:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
Isabella County Fairgrounds



Animals cannot weigh over 250 lbs. and must be:

- One of the following breeds: Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, or Jersey
- Castrated & Dehorned

Each member can either:

- Weigh in a maximum of two feeders or,
- Within immediate families of more than one exhibitor; each member may weigh in one feeder, and one "family alternate" can be weighed in for the family. Only one feeder per exhibitor can be brought to fair when a family alternate has been weighed in.

It's required that by Fair, every feeder must have a RFID tag (radio frequency identification) in their ear. If you have any questions, contact Superintendent Mike Lattimer at (989) 513-7839.

## 4-H Exploration Days

June 19-21 at Michigan State University

Exploration Days is an annual state youth conference that is open to all youth ages 12-19, by January 1. This event is meant to be a learning experience that will instill self-esteem, decision-making skills, independent thinking and leadership skills. Cost is \$220 which includes meals, lodging, and a t-shirt. 4-H Council will pay half the fee for Isabella County 4-H members. See page 7 for a list of sessions or visit:

[www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_exploration\\_days/index](http://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days/index)

## Fair Superintendents Needed

We are looking for fair superintendents in the following areas:

- *Creative Writing*
- *Crops*

Duties include:

- Help with the Still Exhibit Building set-up Thursday evening before entry day
- Work your area in on fair entry day – helping judges, setting up projects for display
- Help in the Still Exhibit Building when the projects are released – last Saturday evening of fair

Please contact Nonie ([grossn@msu.edu](mailto:grossn@msu.edu)) if you are interested in helping or know of anyone who would be.



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## CLUB CORNER

**Country Neighbors** - Our club met on February 18 and welcomed a new family into the club, and then we worked on signs for fair.

**Cowgirl Up** - During our club meeting this month we talked about what projects our members are interested in doing for the fair. We also finalized a plan for a club fundraiser as well as community service projects. We are really excited to volunteer at the Shepherd Maple Syrup Festival again this year!

**Evergreen** - We hosted our annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser in February, which was a great success! The funds raised will support fair donations for sawdust and project awards. A huge thank you to all who supported our initiative!

**Pony Creek** - At our February meeting we decided to do community service for our March meeting by donating canned food and non-perishables to God's helping hands. We're also going to have a design contest for new club shirts. March will be our annual Easter egg hunt.

## Broiler Chick Orders

Time to order your broiler chicks! Cost per bird will be \$3.93 if we order 25-49, \$3.01 if we order 50-74. Orders need to be placed at the Extension office by April 24.



## Attention Livestock Exhibitors

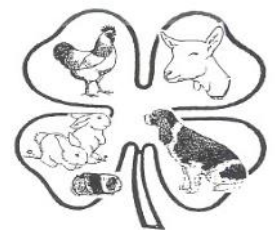
Reminder - your animals must have an RFID tag in at fair weigh-in or you will be at risk for being rejected.

## 4-H Calendars Now Available

4-H calendars are now available at the Extension office. Stop by and get one!

## Small Animal News

- Goats that will be entered in the small animal auction at the fair **MUST** have a scrapie tag **BEFORE** weigh-in. It is a State mandate, and if your auction goat does not have a scrapie tag, you will not be allowed to sell. **ALL** goats must have some identification -- either the scrapie tag or a tattoo for those not in the auction. Goat weigh-in (for wethers only) is May 5 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. in the small animal barn at the fairgrounds.
- If you do not already have your small animal purchase arranged, you should do so now. For example, there are only a couple of rabbit shows before the May 1 deadline and if you haven't placed an order or made contact with someone, it may be too late to get the breed you would like to have. If you wait until April 15 or later, it will be very difficult to have your animal(s) by May.
- Reminder, if you live outside of Isabella County and plan to sell in the small animal auction, you will need approval from the Small Animal Association. Please contact the Extension office for more details on getting approval. If you have already met with the Small Animal Association to sell in the auction and were approved, you do not have to do it again.



## Small Animal Members & Leaders

You are invited to attend a session designed to share basics, tips, and processes which we hope will be helpful while preparing your animals to exhibit in the small animal barn for fair week. We have things to share but we also want to hear your input and address your questions. All small animal species will be represented in an effort to be the most beneficial to anyone who wishes to join us.

**Monday, March 11, at 6:30 p.m.** - session will last 45 min - 1 hour, and we will potentially offer species-specific breakout sessions to be the most beneficial for attendees.

We plan to keep track of the information shared and will make it available a couple of weeks after the meeting for anyone who would like to read through the discussions. We hope you will join us!

Also, in May there will be educational opportunities offered for each small animal species in addition to the annual showmanship clinics that will be held in June and July. More details will be sent closer to date.

### 4-H Camp Clean-Up

Sunday, April 21 & Saturday, May 11  
10 AM - 2 PM

Please bring work gloves, rakes, tarps, leaf blowers, staple guns, hammers, extra people! Hotdogs, chips and drinks will be provided. RSVP to the Extension office by April 17.

**\*\*Reminder - this is an Honor Club requirement**

Join us by Zoom on March 4 to learn about the Japanese holiday called Hinamatsuri (Girls' Day). This program is free and open to anyone who would like to learn more about this treasured holiday. Our presenter will be Michiko Yoshimoto, the Japan Program Manager for the Soga Japan Center at Western Michigan University.



Register Today



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HINAMATSURI  
JAPANESE  
GIRLS' DAY  
CELEBRATION!

Monday, March 4, 2024  
6:30-7:30pm EST/  
5:30-6:30pm CST

## Fair Board News

**Camping Registration Reminder** - we must receive your registration with payment on or before March 20. Change site day is Friday, March 22 from 9 AM -10 AM at the Fair Office and NEW CAMPER SIGN UP is Saturday, March 23 at the Fair Office from 9 AM -10 AM. You may call to see what is available at 989-773-9070 or 989-400-1082, on March 22 or March 23.

Maple Leaf Amusements have gone out of business, but we have a new amusement company "Family Fun Tyme Amusements." You may check them out at [FamilyFunTymeAmusements.com](http://FamilyFunTymeAmusements.com). They will be offering a presale, more information to come next month.

Construction remodel will begin soon on the bathroom next to the Fair Office. We are so happy about this much needed remodel.

## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### Isabella County 4-H Scholarship

Isabella County offers two \$500 scholarships to 4-H members or former members each year. The scholarship recipient must be enrolled at an institution of higher learning and have been involved with 4-H in Isabella County. The scholarship is not limited to college freshmen.

To get an application, click here: [Isabella County 4-H Scholarship](#) or you may pick one up at the Extension office. Applications are due back to the office by April 20. The scholarship recipients will be notified by May 15.

### Kathryn Methner Fike Scholarship

For high school seniors and current college students. Thank you to the family of Kathryn Virginia Methner Fike for establishing a \$1000 scholarship in her name to benefit 4-H members in Isabella County.

Kathryn Virginia Methner Fike was born on the farm of her parents in northeast Wise Township, Isabella County on Nov 21, 1918. Except for a few winters in Florida, she spent all most 96 years within 5 miles of her birthplace. She married Lester Fike on March 29, 1936 and spent over 60 years on what became the Fike Centennial Homestead. In her childhood years, she was a member of a 4-H sewing club lead by her mother, Daisy Methner. After having children of her own, she became a leader, too. She served in this capacity for many years. Kathryn took great pride in the accomplishments of her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren in their 4-H activities.

4-H has been a top priority in Kathryn's family for 5 generations and so it is with pride that her family is honoring Kathryn's many years of dedication to 4-H education in Isabella County with this scholarship.

Application is available at: [https://www.canr.msu.edu/isabella/isabella\\_county\\_4\\_h/newsletters-and-forms](https://www.canr.msu.edu/isabella/isabella_county_4_h/newsletters-and-forms)

# 4-H Shooting Sports Spring Kickoff Event



Saturday, April 13 – 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.

The Michigan 4-H Shooting Sports program teaches members safety and shooting techniques for shotgun, rifle, air gun, muzzle loading and archery. They learn how to handle firearms responsibly for target practice and hunting and learn respect for the natural environment.

**Where: Isabella County Sportsmans Club**

( 2872 W. Millbrook Rd, Winn )

**Register: MSU Extension at (989) 317-4079**



## COME JOIN US FOR

Games



Teen Demonstrations in all Disciplines



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# STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## 4-H Youth in Action Awards Applications Open



Apply now for the 2025 4-H Youth in Action Awards! Each year, the program recognizes four confident young leaders with diverse backgrounds and unique perspectives in the pillar areas of agriculture, civic engagement, healthy living and STEM.

Winners will have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to share their stories along with unforgettable experiences, celebration on the national stage, recognition in the media and a \$5,000 college scholarship.

This opportunity is open to youth ages 15-19. The deadline to apply is April 1. Learn more and apply at <https://4-h.org/programs/4-h-youth-in-action-program/application/>.

### March 3-May 4: JOANN 4-H Campaign

*Stores across Michigan*

While visiting your local JOANN store, you can support 4-H by adding a donation or rounding up at checkout. The funds donated will support the 4-H program with 50% going back to local 4-H programming and 10% supporting Michigan 4-H.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/joann-s-clover-for-kids-campaign>

### March 12: 4-H Give Green Day

*Online*

Help us reach our goal of raising \$5,000 in a 24-hour period on Give Green Day to support learning experiences for Michigan 4-H youth.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4h-give-green-day>

### March 16: Michigan 4-H Hippology Contest

*East Lansing*

Youth aged 5-19 are eligible to demonstrate their comprehensive equine knowledge and skills in an engaging setting.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-hippology-contest-2024>

### March 18: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar - Group Management For 4-H Clubs and Groups

*Online*

Learn and share techniques to support a successful group setting and help spark youth engagement. 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:** <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-group-management-for-4-h-clubs-and-groups>

**7 p.m. session:** <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-group-management-for-4-h-clubs-and-groups7pm>

### March 19: Keeping Your Money Safe

*Online*

Join this session to gain insights on researching and evaluating financial institutions (banks and credit unions) to make the best choice for your financial future.

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

### April 28: Michigan 4-H Day with the Detroit Tigers

*Comerica Park, Detroit*

Watch the Detroit Tigers take on the Kansas City Royals with other 4-H'ers! Michigan 4-H will be the Group Charity of the Game; discounted tickets available with a portion benefiting 4-H.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-day-with-the-detroit-tigers>





## STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

### Registration is open for 4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resource Camp!

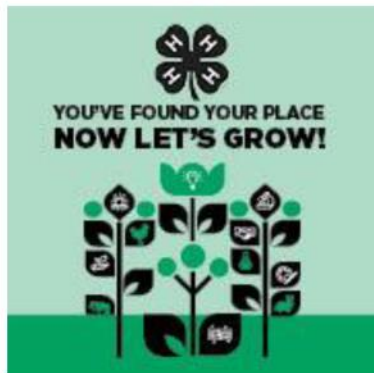
4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp is an annual three-time national award-winning camp that mixes summer fun and hands-on science education. The camp will be held July 28 - August 3 on the shores of Lake Esau at Camp Chickagami in Presque Isle. This pre-college program is for teens who will be age 13 to 15 during camp.

Campers will increase their science literacy and stewardship as they learn from natural resource experts in fields such as Great Lakes coastal and fisheries management, limnology, wildlife, forestry, geography, geology and environmental education. In addition to hands-on learning, attendees will also enjoy exciting natural resources recreation activities such as kayaking, snorkeling, sailing, fossil hunting, archery, photography and evenings around a campfire. First-time campers also go charter fishing and learn to fillet their catch.



Registration is now open! The registration fee is \$500 and includes six nights of lodging, all meals and snacks, a t-shirt and program and activity costs. Space is limited to 70 campers so register today. For more information and to register, visit

[https://www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_great\\_lakes\\_natural\\_resources\\_camp/](https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_great_lakes_natural_resources_camp/)



### 4-H Exploration Days registration coming soon!

4-H Exploration Days is Michigan 4-H's largest pre-college program and could be the highlight of your summer—maybe even change your life! This exciting event is open to any Michigan youth ages 12 –19 as of Jan. 1.

4-H Exploration Days, scheduled for June 19-21, is designed to help youth build the skills they need to successfully transition to college and to life as an adult. Michigan 4-H youth who participate have the opportunity to stay in MSU campus residence halls while attending classroom and field trip sessions.

With more than 100 session choices held on and off campus, there are topics for everyone including animal science, business and entrepreneurship, international language and culture, performing and visual arts, and science, engineering, and technology. As youth gain important life skills like decision making, problem solving and communication, they'll also have time for fun with free time activities such as skating, basketball and a dance.

Registration for 4-H Exploration Days will open March 25. The cost for the 2024 event is \$220. Check with your local 4-H program coordinator for additional information regarding county sign-ups and scholarships or visit [www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_exploration\\_days/](http://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days/)

### Open your home to a student with the 4-H International Exchange Program!

Making your summer plans? Consider hosting a Japanese youth this summer through the States' 4-H International Exchange Program! Michigan will be hosting 18 Japanese youth and two chaperones. These visitors will quickly become a part of your family for their 3 ½ week stay (the last full week of July to the middle of August) and gain a fun American experience through your exceptional hospitality. In addition, your children will build lifelong friendships and gain new perspectives on their own country, too!

Host families must complete the States' 4-H International Exchange Programs online application, have a youth to match a host brother/sister (within three years of age), be a Michigan 4-H Gold-level volunteer, participate in a family interview as well as a home visit process. For more information contact Jan Brinn at [brinn@msu.edu](mailto:brinn@msu.edu) or John Wurm at [wurmj@msu.edu](mailto:wurmj@msu.edu).

**Wyoming 4-H**  
**VIRTUAL CAREER NIGHT**

Featuring a special presentation by **THE PETERSON FARM BROTHERS**

**MARCH 19, 2024**  
**6PM MST**  
**VIA ZOOM**

**REGISTER NOW!**

*Learn about different career paths and how to get ready for the career you want!*

UNIVERSITY of WYOMING EXTENSION  
**AMBER ARMAJO**  
 307-347-3431  
 AMWALL@UWYO.EDU  
**WYOMING4H.ORG/VIRTUAL-CAREER-NIGHT**

**Have you ever thought about being a midwife, a wildlife refuge manager, a wildlife fire fighter, fly fishing guide, a wildlife biologist, an airplane mechanic, how about a film producer or going into sports medicine? Then this event is for YOU!**

Join us to explore a variety of career options and get your questions answered about what degree do you need, should you do an internship, what you need to do in high school to get ready for a career and much more! We will hear from the Peterson Farm Brothers as they entertain and remind why following our dreams the best decision ever! We will have door prizes and lots of fun to be had throughout the evening.

For more information and to register for this free event go to:

<https://wyoming4h.org/virtual-career-night/>



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



# 4-H CREATIVE CAMPAIGN CONTEST



CREATE A SHORT VIDEO ON



## WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN 4-H!

WHY?

- BE YOUR OWN PRODUCER
- SHARE YOUR 4-H STORY
- LEARN VIDEOGRAPHY
- HAVE FUN
- WIN PRIZES



OPEN TO 4-H YOUTH 9 TO 19  
DEADLINE TO ENTER: APRIL 1, 2024  
CONTEST GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY MI 4-H FOUNDATION

Need more information: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-clovers-code/contest>



**MICHIGAN STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

| Extension

# Cluck, Hop & Wiggle Show

Presented by Missaukee County 4-H

**DATE & TIME:**  
 Saturday, May 18, 2024  
 Show starts at 10:00 a.m.


**LOCATION:**  
 Missaukee Agr'l Youth Show  
 171 E Prosper Rd  
 Falmouth, MI 49632

**COST:**  
 \$2.00 entry fee  
 \$3.00 per class  
 Pay at the door in cash or  
 check payable to Missaukee 4-H  
 Advisory Board.

**CONTACT:**  
 Susan Beerens  
 Missaukee MSU Extension office  
 beerenss@msu.edu  
 231-510-8701

**REGISTER:**  
 Scan QR code to register.  
 Registration ends May 5, 2024





**DESCRIPTION:**

This fun interactive show will include:

- Pullorum testing & Health Check 8 a.m.- 9:45a.m.
- Showing starts at 10:00 a.m.
- Rabbit and Poultry booths for making treats
- Rabbit agility available all day
- Concessions available
- Grand & Reserve Rosette and awards.  
Prizes for all Cloverbuds.
- Open to all youth

<b>Classes include:</b>		<b>Age Groups Are:</b>
Showmanship for:	Skill A Thon for:	17-19
* Chicken	* Poultry	14-16
* Duck	* Rabbit	11-13
* Turkey		8-10
* Rabbit		5-7 Cloverbuds
* Cavy		

These ages represent the age you were on January 1, 2024.

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Isabella County  
510 W. Pickard Street  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Phone: (989) 317-4079  
Fax: (989) 773-1622

Website:

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



<https://www.facebook.com/IsabellaCounty4H/>

### Get Text Reminders

To receive 4-H reminder text messages (via Remind App) with important dates and times of Isabella County 4-H events:

Text “@6c82ek6” to “81010”

# SAVE THE DATES

**Dairy Feeder Weigh-In**  
March 16

**Shooting Sports Kick-off Event**  
April 13

**4-H Camp Clean-Up**  
April 21

**Goat Weigh-In**  
May 5

**Swine Tagging**  
May 5

**Sheep Weigh-In**  
May 11

**4-H Camp Clean-Up**  
May 11

**4-H Exploration Days at MSU**  
June 19-21

**Isabella County Youth & Farm Fair**  
July 20 - 27

## Isabella County 4-H Calendar

March 5	Horse Leaders @ Maranatha Baptist Church, Mt. Pleasant	6:30 PM
16	Dairy Feeder Weigh-in @ Fairgrounds	7:30 AM - 11:30 AM
20	Small Animal Association @ First Church of Christ, Mt. Pleasant	7 PM
20	Shooting Sports Committee @ TBD	7 PM
26	4-H Council @ Lincoln Twp Hall	6:30 PM

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**Kristi Schreiber, 4-H Program Coordinator**  
[schrei61@msu.edu](mailto:schrei61@msu.edu)

Nonie Gross, Secretary  
Monica Jean, Field Crops Educator  
Eric Karbowski, District 6 Director  
Kara Lynch, Food Safety Educator  
Misty Oebel, Farm Stress Educator  
Sabrina McGee, SNAP-ED CNI