



JUNE 2024

# 4-H Family News

Calhoun County



## PC Update

Can you believe we are only a little more than 2 months away from this year's fair? This year is the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Calhoun County Fair.

This month is Exploration Days at MSU. This year we have 22 youth and 6 adult volunteers attending! We have youth registered in a huge variety of learning sessions, including archery, K-9 Dogs, writing and even Improv Acting.

This month's newsletter features some very important information regarding showing Dairy Cattle & Poultry. As avian flu continues to spread, it is important to be planning now for the likelihood that MDARD restrictions will continue into the fair. MSU Extension staff have put together a lot of resources for alternative ways to showcase these species.

If you have questions regarding the restrictions or the resources, please let me know.

## Interested in helping guide 4-H in Calhoun County?

Are you interested in having a greater voice in shaping 4-H in Calhoun County? Consider joining 4-H Council. Open to both adults and youth, 4-H Council helps provide program oversight, plan events and even provide insight to the Fair Board. You can find out more here:

[https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/michigan\\_4\\_h\\_advisory\\_council\\_responsibilities\\_best\\_practices\\_requirements](https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/michigan_4_h_advisory_council_responsibilities_best_practices_requirements)

This is a great way to gain valuable leadership skills! Join us at our next meeting – June 6 at 6 pm. This month we are meeting in Battle Creek at Fremont Garden, which is located on the corner of Fremont & Frelinghuysen in Battle Creek. (It's one block north of the YMCA). Join us as we participate in community service and give back to our community!

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# STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Register now for the Michigan 4-H State Dog Show!



The 2024 Michigan 4-H State Dog Show is now open for registration! This year's show will take place on August 10, at the Michigan State University Pavilion.

The show is open to enrolled Cloverbuds, and any Michigan 4-H'er age 8-19.

To register, visit: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/2024StateDogShow/>.

Questions? Please reach out to Kat at [Krollkat@msu.edu](mailto:Krollkat@msu.edu).

### June 17: 4-H Beginner's Sewing Camp

*Grand Rapids*

4-H Sewing Camp for beginners. American Sewing Guild Sewing Camp for school aged youth 11-15 years of age.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-beginner-s-sewing-camp](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-beginner-s-sewing-camp)

### June 22: Missaukee County Sheep Clinic

*Missaukee Agricultural Youth Show, Falmouth*

Learn from Jenna Pohl Davis, an experienced sheep showman at the state and national level. Jenna will break down show day preparations, teaching advanced showmanship with tips and tricks. and giving a customized feed and nutrition plan for your lamb.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/sheep-clinic](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/sheep-clinic)

### June 25: Kayaking Days

*Paddles & Pedals, Bellaire*

Youth participants learn water safety, paddle techniques, navigation, and receive an introduction to stewardship of inland waterways. This free event is open to youth in Antrim, Otsego, Grand Traverse, Leelanau and Charlevoix counties.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/2024-kayaking-days-presented-by-antrim-county-4-h](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/2024-kayaking-days-presented-by-antrim-county-4-h)

### June 27: Digger Day

*Michigan 4-H Children's Garden, East Lansing*

Come to the garden and explore the world of diggers. Front-end loaders, dump trucks and back hoes – all of these tools help with projects both big and small in our communities.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/digger-day](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/digger-day)

### June 27: Explore the Farm Through the Seasons Workshop Series: June Event

*Schomaker Farms, Saginaw*

Schomaker Farms and Saginaw 4-H are teaming up to offer a 12-month farm education learning series. Each month will offer a different learning topic and hands-on activity.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/explore-the-farm-through-the-seasons-workshop-seriesjune](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/explore-the-farm-through-the-seasons-workshop-seriesjune)

### June 29: 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl

*MSU Anthony Hall, East Lansing*

The 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl allows youth to put their dairy knowledge to the test! Please note the new date for 2024.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-dairy-quiz-bowl](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-dairy-quiz-bowl)





# STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

## Michigan 4-H and FFA State Livestock Judging Contest moves to a new date!

The Michigan 4-H and FFA State Livestock Judging Contest is returning this year at a new date! Participants can demonstrate their livestock evaluation and selection skills, as well as improve their communication and decision-making skills at this fun statewide contest. The day will include both individual and team competition with classes of beef cattle, Boer goats, sheep and swine.

Contest divisions include:

- 4-H Juniors - Ages 8-13 as of January 1
- 4-H Seniors - Ages 14-19 as of January 1
- FFA Junior High - Youth that recently completed seventh or eighth grade
- FFA High School – Youth that recently completed grades 9-12
- MLE - Ages 8-21 as of January 1 and not a member of 4-H or FFA
- Cloverbuds - Age 7 as of January 1, non-competitive

**4-H and  
FFA  
Livestock  
Judging  
State  
Contest**

**Wednesday,  
June 26**



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



Please note that the date of this contest is no longer in conjunction with Michigan Livestock Expo (MLE), however participation in the contest will still count as an educational experience for the Premier Stockman Award. Registration is due by June 10. Find registration information at [www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-and-ffa-state-livestock-judging-contest-2024](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-and-ffa-state-livestock-judging-contest-2024). Contestants and coaches are responsible for reading and adhering to the rules.

## 2024 Michigan 4-H Mark of Excellence Award winners

Every year, counties across Michigan offer 4-H youth, ages 11 and 12, the opportunity to participate in Michigan 4-H State Awards' 4-H Mark of Excellence essay contest. The essay theme is "Because of 4-H, I can..." and the youth referred to a variety of memorable experiences in their time as 4-H'ers.

As part of the contest, up to two 4-H youth essays from each county are selected to be recognized as award winners. In 2024, the following 14 4-H members from 12 counties were selected as the 2024 Mark of Excellence county winners.

- Heidi Barrington, St. Joseph County
- Jordan Davis, Berrien County
- Lauren Eichhorn, Menominee County
- Brooklyn Hetrick, Oakland County
- Ainsley Karvinen, Alger County
- Lorelai Kowalski, Oakland County
- Molly Lake, Gratiot County
- Alice Long, Washtenaw County
- Sophia Mason, Monroe County
- Ethan McLaughlin, Monroe County
- Natalie Milford Chippewa County
- Emma Rasch, Kent County
- Kylie Smith, Ionia County
- Sydney Specht, Saginaw County

Each recipient will receive a medal, and their winning essays will be added to the Mark of Excellence history book at the Michigan 4-H Foundation and State 4-H Office at MSU Extension. Congratulations to our winners!

To learn more about the Michigan 4-H State Awards, visit [www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_scholarships\\_and\\_recognition\\_program/4-h-awards-and-recognition-program/Youth-Recognition/index](http://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_scholarships_and_recognition_program/4-h-awards-and-recognition-program/Youth-Recognition/index).





# COUNTY 4-H NEWS

## Important Updates Regarding Dairy Cattle Exhibition



The exhibition of lactating dairy cattle & those in the last 2 months of their pregnancy is currently prohibited until July 30<sup>th</sup>.

MSU Extension has developed several resources as alternatives to showing, which can be found at the following links:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/alternatives-to-live-lactating-dairy-cow-activities-at-4-h-youth-dairy-related-shows-events>

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/virtual-learning-showcase-dairy-classes-and-tips>

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/dairy-scenario-contest>

## Important Updates Regarding Poultry Exhibition

Please visit the following links for information regarding poultry exhibition alternatives, in case avian flu cases continue to be found:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/broiler-market-bird-alternatives-to-live-bird-activities-at-4-h-youth-poultry-related-shows-events>

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/4-h-poultry-modified-showmanship-score-sheet-for-cancelled-shows>

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/virtual-learning-showcase-poultry-classes-and-tips>

## Calhoun County Natural Resources & Entomology Update



You still have time to learn more about nature! Department 75 of the Youth Section in the fair book has several updated classes and guidelines. Consider signing up to make a Conservation Poster or Recreation Poster. Spend some time with your camera or colored pencils and collect pictures or drawing of wildflowers. Enjoy learning about forestry and collect leaves for a project. We have had a lot of weather activity this spring, make a poster about the weather. There is a lot of new information at the Extension office for Entomology. The first year for this project is now a basic exhibit about bugs. Look through Department 75 on page 65 of the fair book and bring something new!



# WELCOME...

## Volunteer Training Corner

Did you know that MSU Extension 4-H has a Volunteer Training Webinar series that can help you with your volunteer journey?

Check out our latest webinar – [“Preparing 4-Hers for Fairs & Showcases”](#)

You can also access ALL of our volunteer webinars on demand at

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/volunteering/mi-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series>



## 4-H Vanity Plate Update

We are excited to share that the [proposed Michigan 4-H license plate legislation](#) passed the Michigan Senate Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on June 4. If passed, the legislation that will raise money and create more visibility for Michigan 4-H youth programs.

First introduced in September 2023, the bills will allow for the creation and sale of a Michigan 4-H plate through the Secretary of State's office. As part of the legislation, a portion of the plate's sale price would be distributed four times a year to the Michigan 4-H Foundation.

“We are very excited to see this legislation moving forward in the process and grateful to those who have supported it along the way,” said Quentin Tyler, director of Michigan State University Extension, which leads the 4-H program in Michigan. “We hope to see it continue to advance as it will provide valuable support for future generations to continue to grow with Michigan 4-H.”

The bills will now go before the full Michigan Senate.





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