



DECEMBER 2023

4-H Family News

Bay County



HAPPY HOLIDAYS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

I hope you all enjoyed your time with family and friends during the Thanksgiving Holiday.

***Did you know candy canes date back to 1670?! AND**

***1.76 Billion Candy Canes are made each year.**

December is a quiet month for Bay County. We want you all to enjoy this month and Holiday with family and friends. It's a time for cookie exchanges, ornament exchanges, lots of crafts, cookie making, or other family traditions you may celebrate and honor.

Please don't forget to register for the 4-H Celebration taking place on Saturday, December 30, 2023. Event will take place from 4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at the Canteen Building, located on the Bay County Fairgrounds. Here is the registration link: <https://forms.gle/ZPJVoK5tCMFBZgCb8>

Please continue reading to learn more about some fun and exciting things happening in 4-H.

Sincerely,

Holly Mueller

4-H Program Coordinator



***Check farther down in the newsletter for a coloring contest and some coloring pages for youth to color.**



CONTACT US

Holly Mueller

4-H Program Coordinator

515 Center Avenue

Suite G-102

Bay City, Michigan 48708

PHONE & EMAIL:

(989) 895 - 4026

julianho@msu.edu

WEBSITE:

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

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Join Bay County 4-H!



Join Bay County 4-H!

Enrollment for the 2023-2024 4-H year is OPEN! You do not need to own an animal or live on a farm to join 4-H!

Learn more about joining Bay 4-H at [Bay County 4-H - Bay County \(msu.edu\)](https://msu.edu)

Choose your OWN path to 4-H membership!

We have many 4-H experiences, programs, and clubs that focus on crafts, science, shooting sports, archery, outdoor education, sewing, baking, gardening, hiking, fishing, camping, and more!

PATHWAYS to join 4-H

4-H members can enroll in as many clubs and activities as they wish.

Join a 4-H Club

- 1) Look through the club directory.
- 2) Contact 4-H Program Coordinator to inquire about club-specific information.
- 3) Choose a primary club(s) to join. Youth can enroll in more than one 4-H Club.
- 4) Enroll in 4-H Online once you have spoken to the 4-H Program Coordinator.

Join as an Independent 4-H Member

Independent 4-H members participate in programs and events outside of a 4-H Club.

- 1) Enroll in [4-H Online](#).
- 2) Select the Bay County 4-H Club *(non-affiliate) as your primary club. Stay connected to select the 4-H experience you want to join. Sign up when available.

Join a 4-H Spin Club – Camp – Event

- 1) Enroll in [4-H Online](#).
- 2) Select the SPIN Club or Event you want to join. Events vary through the year.
- 3) Stay tuned for program details and meeting information from event organizers.



KEEP
CALM
AND
JOIN
4-H

Contact Holly at:
julianho@msu.edu or
call 989-895-4026 for
more
information on getting
involved with 4-H!



Bay County 4-H Livestock Association will resume meeting again on Thursday, January 18, 2024.

Bay County 4-H Livestock Association meets every month on the 3rd Thursday of that month (Except November and December) at 6:00 p.m.

During our meetings, we have discussed selling our Livestock equipment to the Bay County Fair Board. Fair board members have been present during our Bay County 4-H Livestock Association meetings (September and October) and have taken it to the Board. A proposed selling amount has been and will be, further discussed during our January Bay County 4-H Livestock Association Meeting; **Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.**

Please share with 4-H families that, the Bay County 4-H Livestock Association will be voting on this proposed amount at the January meeting; Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. There will be a detailed list of equipment discussed during this same meeting.

Also, during the January Livestock Meeting we will be voting on youth Officers and Adult Advisors.

In the past, Livestock meetings were run by the 4-H youth with some Adult Advisors to help guide them when needed. I would like to keep this tradition going. It is a great experience for the youth and give them great public speaking skills along with creating that youth-adult partnership.

- To be eligible as an officer, a 4-H member must be at least 12 years of age and completed at least one year in the Bay County Livestock Project area. An adult treasurer will be nominated from the adult advisors to serve as assistant to the youth treasurer. Adult treasurer cannot be related to the youth treasurer.
- President- The duties of the president shall be to preside at all meetings, create agendas, appoint standing and ad hoc committees as needed and in general carry out the usual duties of president.
- Vice-president- to preside in the absence of the president and as the president shall direct.
- Secretary- to keep the minutes of all meetings, return them to the Extension office for distribution with the notices of the next meeting or as is appropriate, and record all correspondence to the association.
- Treasurer- shall work with the adult treasurer in understanding the financial accountability of the association. Report at monthly board meetings the current financial state of the association.
- Adult Treasurer - shall keep record of income and disbursements, make deposits and have check writing authorization, distribute a monthly financial report at 4-H Livestock Association meetings and prepare and distribute an annual financial report. The adult treasurer serves as a signatory on the account, with two additional board members to serve as signatories as appointed by the association. They will follow the procedures outlined in the Michigan 4-H Financial Guidelines.



Bay County 4-H Youth Members



On November 11th, the Bits n' Pieces 4-H club got together and made tie blankets to help people in the Bay County area. After lots of cutting and tying, the club made 45 tie blankets! All the fabrics donated or purchased by the members of the club were used. The club then delivered the blankets to the Good Samaritan Rescue in downtown Bay City. When delivering the blankets, the entire club participated in learning about the work done at the rescue as well as touring the chapel, the dining rooms, the clothing room, and much more.

The 45 tie blankets and other donated items will help the community out and we hope will bring happiness around the holiday season. Thank you to everyone for the donations of fabric and food. If you are looking for more information about what you can do to help the people in need in Bay County this holiday go to <https://rescuemidmichigan.org/>. Happy Holidays!

Article written by Shelby W.





Do you have that hard to shop for family member? Or a loved one who is a MSU Alumni or 4-H Alumni?

Look no further than the Michigan 4-H pop-up shop! The store offers Michigan 4-H branded apparel and gifts with a percentage of all proceeds donated back to Michigan 4-H.

https://shop4-h.org/collections/msu-extension-collection?rfsn=871792.16dd0&utm_source=refersion&utm_medium=affiliate&utm_campaign=871792.16dd0%C2%A0

Or follow QR Code:



Do you know an outstanding Michigan 4-H alum? We want to hear about them!

We're currently accepting nominations for the 4-H Emerald Clover Society - Michigan 4-H's Hall of Fame! The 4-H Emerald Clover Society honors Michigan 4-H alumni who have had significant Michigan 4-H involvement as a youth and who have made significant contributions to their local, state and national communities.

Nominate someone at <http://mi4hfdtn.org/4-h.../4-h-emerald-clover-society/>.



***Jingle Bells was the first song played in Space**





OTHER 4-H NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES

SAVE THE DATE!

You're ALL invited to attend the eighteenth annual celebration of MSU Extension and Michigan 4-H Youth Development at the Spartan Women's basketball game, Saturday, February 24, 2024.

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

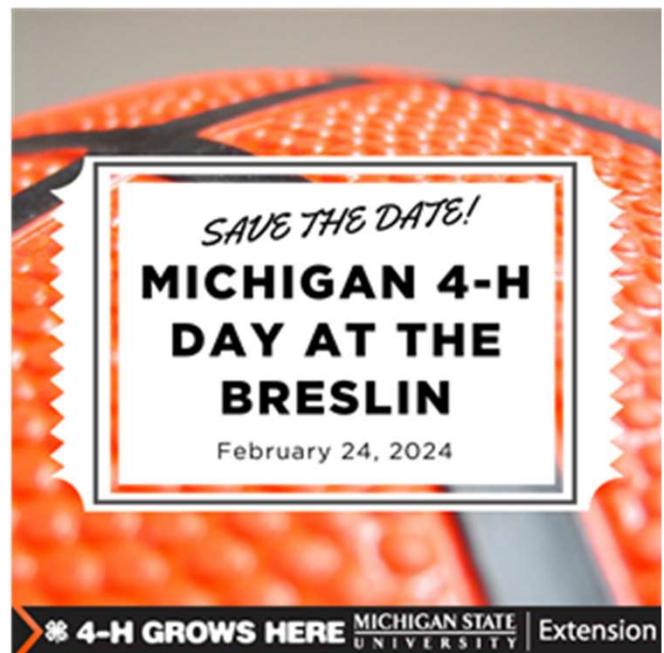
Date: **Saturday, February 24, 2024**

Time: Game time is 2:00 p.m.. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. As in year's past, there will be games and activities on the concourse of the Breslin in advance of the game. The Ishbia Gate (formerly SW Harrison Gate), will open for those who wish to take part in those activities.

Tickets: Ticket reservations will begin in the mid-December. Look for additional information at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-breslin>

*Bing Crosby's classic song "White Christmas" is not only the best-selling Christmas song, but the best-selling single of all time.

If you or someone you know would like to be spotlighted in our next 4-H newsletter, please email Holly Mueller at julianho@msu.edu





OTHER 4-H NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES

MSU Extension announces statewide public listening sessions

Through these sessions, the organization hopes to gather input from a diverse group of people to determine where MSU Extension is, what is working well and opportunities for improvement. This feedback will be used to help shape MSU Extension's priorities and service for years to come.

Each listening session will begin with a welcome from MSU Extension leadership and staff. Then, participants will be divided into two groups – external participants and partners will gather in one room, and MSU Extension faculty and staff will gather in another. In each of these rooms, participants will be invited to share their perspectives and insights through a series of facilitated activities. Questions will center on topics such as: emerging social, economic, and other trends that participants expect will impact them in the future; what participants know MSU Extension for; what participants believe MSU Extension does well, and what they think can be improved; and what participants envision a thriving MSU Extension would look like in the future. Common themes heard from participants will be identified and reflected to the entire group for each activity.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend – youth, parents, community and statewide partners, all MSU Extension-affiliated faculty and staff, and curious community members. Translation and interpretation services, as well as other accommodations, may be available upon request.

Dec. 13 - Frankenmuth - 4:30-7 p.m. - Saginaw Valley Research and Extension Center

Pre-registration is highly encouraged. Walk-in registrations may be limited due to facility capacity. Register now at events.anr.msu.edu/listeningseries. Questions? Contact Kathy Walicki at walicki@msu.edu or Marie Garcia at garci434@msu.edu.



The best way
to spread
CHRISTMAS
CHEER is
singing **LOUD**
for all to hear



***3 Billion cards are sent each year**





STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Shop the Michigan 4-H store this holiday season



Buy your favorite Michigan 4-H apparel, drinkware, and essentials at the SHOP 4-H Online Store!

Offered in collaboration with National 4-H Council through Shop 4-H, the Michigan 4-H store offers Michigan 4-H branded apparel and other gifts. Visit the store online and find the perfect item for your favorite 4-H'er, volunteer, alumni, professional or fan! The shop is open to the public and a percentage of all proceeds will be donated to Michigan 4-H.

To order Michigan 4-H specific items, visit <https://bit.ly/30pdNJw>. The store will remain open beyond the holiday season to continue offering Michigan 4-H branded gear to the Michigan 4-H community.

December 2: Oakland County Tack & Craft Sale

Springfield Oaks Activity Center, Davisburg

Come shop for one of a kind unique holiday gifts! Admission to the sale is \$1. All are welcomed to attend.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting10111-8-23

December 12: Wild Spartans – Casting for a Career in Coldwater Conservation

Online

Dive into the Great Lakes and rivers to explore their coldwater residents! Meet the Great Lakes Engagement Coordinator for Trout Unlimited, Jamie Vaughan. Learn about her field work and the education and career path she followed to get there.

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

MSU Extension Listening Session Series

Various locations

MSU Extension is holding a series of public listening sessions. Through these sessions, MSU Extension hopes to gather input on where the organization is, what they do well, and where there are opportunities for improvement. This feedback will be used to help shape MSU Extension's priorities and service for years to come. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend!

- **Dec. 11 - Marquette** - 4-6:30 p.m. - Northern Center, Northern Michigan University
- **Dec. 12 - Grayling** - 4-6:30 p.m. - Kirtland College Event Center
- **Dec. 13 - Frankenmuth** - 4:30-7 p.m. - Saginaw Valley Research and Extension Center
- **Dec. 14 - Muskegon** - 4-6:30 p.m. - Muskegon Community College
- **Dec. 18 - Kalamazoo** - 4-6:30 p.m. – Delta Hotels Kalamazoo Conference Center

Pre-registration is highly encouraged. Walk-in registrations may be limited due to facility capacity. Register now at events.anr.msu.edu/listeningseries.

Kettunen Center Inventory Closeout

Kettunen Center was the first 4-H volunteer and youth training center in the nation, owned and operated by the Michigan 4-H Foundation from 1961 to 2021. The center's remaining merchandise, such as sweatshirts, t-shirts, jackets, mugs and more, is now available for sale! We know the Kettunen Center meant so much to the 4-H community and this is an opportunity to purchase something by which to remember the center. Purchase yours today at <https://mi4hfdtn.org/shopkett/>.

KETTUNEN CENTER MERCHANDISE SALE

SHOP NOW



WINTER TO-DO LIST

www.prepinyourstep.com



1. ICE SKATE



2. GO TO A TACKY SWEATER PARTY

3. BAKE COOKIES WITH FRIENDS

4. PERFECT YOUR HOT CHOCOLATE



RECIPE

5. HAVE A CHRISTMAS MOVIE

MARATHON



6. SEND CHRISTMAS CARDS



7. FIND A SIGNATURE HOLIDAY SHADE

8. DRIVE AROUND AND LOOK AT



CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

9. MAKE THE PERFECT HOLIDAY

PLAYLIST

10. WRAP PRESENTS



11. COZY UP BY THE FIRE IN A NEW

PAIR OF PAJAMAS



12. DECORATE THE TREE



13. ENJOY TIME WITH YOUR FAMILY



Bay County 4-H Calendar of Events

December 2023

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 	26	27 MSU Extension CLOSED	28	29	30 4-H Celebration at Canteen
31						



STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

MSU Extension announces statewide public listening sessions

Adapted from: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/msu-extension-announces-statewide-public-listening-sessions-in-november-and-december>.

Whether it's supporting the dedicated professionals who drive the state's agriculture economy or empowering children to develop leadership skills, helping others is central to the mission of Michigan State University Extension, the community outreach arm of the university.

"Service is at the core of who we are," said Quentin Tyler, director of MSU Extension. "As we think strategically about our organization, we value input from those we serve most of all."

With that in mind, MSU Extension is holding a series of public listening sessions at various locations across the state as part of an ongoing strategic direction process. These sessions will begin in late November and continue through mid-December.

Through these sessions, the organization hopes to gather input from a diverse group of people to determine where MSU Extension is, what is working well and opportunities for improvement. This feedback will be used to help shape MSU Extension's priorities and service for years to come.

Each listening session will begin with a welcome from MSU Extension leadership and staff. Then, participants will be divided into two groups – external participants and partners will gather in one room, and MSU Extension faculty and staff will gather in another. In each of these rooms, participants will be invited to share their perspectives and insights through a series of facilitated activities. Questions will center on topics such as: emerging social, economic, and other trends that participants expect will impact them in the future; what participants know MSU Extension for; what participants believe MSU Extension does well, and what they think can be improved; and what participants envision a thriving MSU Extension would look like in the future. Common themes heard from participants will be identified and reflected to the entire group for each activity.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend – youth, parents, community and statewide partners, all MSU Extension-affiliated faculty and staff, and curious community members. Translation and interpretation services, as well as other accommodations, may be available upon request.

Listening Session Locations and Dates:

- **Nov. 28** - Detroit - 1-3:30 p.m. - MSU Detroit Center
- **Nov. 28** - Troy - 6-8:30 p.m. - Troy Continuing Education Building
- **Nov. 29** - East Lansing - For public attendees only, 9-11:30 a.m. - Hannah Community Center
- **Nov. 29** - East Lansing - For MSU Affiliated Staff only, 1-3:30 p.m. - MSU Campus, Conservatory
- **Dec. 11** - Marquette - 4-6:30 p.m. - Northern Center, Northern Michigan University
- **Dec. 12 - Grayling** - 4-6:30 p.m. - Kirtland College Event Center
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our DECEMBER Bucket List

 build a snowman  look at Christmas lights

 watch Christmas movies  **VISIT SANTA**

 volunteer at local soup kitchen

 decorate the tree  bake cookies

 write a letter to our armed forces overseas

 PAY FOR SOMEONE'S COFFEE  make hot cocoa

 host a party

 **TRY A NEW RECIPE**  go ice skating

 have a Christmas music dance party

 go Christmas caroling  donate a toy

 attend an ornament exchange

 go sledding  **SIT AROUND THE FIRE**

 MAKE A HOLIDAY CRAFT  wear an ugly sweater

 **BE MERRY & BRIGHT!** 

Kick Off The New Year
4-H CELEBRATION

DEC. 30TH - 4-9PM
Canteen Building

Pizza, Snacks, & Drinks.. Oh my!

Dancing, Karaoke, Crafts,

& more! You don't want to miss it!

You get a new year, you get a new start,
you get a new opportunity.

All Bay County 4-H Families are welcome!

Please rsvp by registering at

<https://forms.gle/PLba5FyY8t72yPuMA>

Hosted by Bay County 4-H Advisory.



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Your Chance to WIN a \$100 Gift Card!

Enter the 2024 Cash Competition Contest.

About the Contest:

In support of Financial Literacy Month (April), Michigan State University Extension and 4-H are coordinating the Cash Composition Contest. Youth residing in Michigan, age 9-19 as of (January 1, 2024) are encouraged to answer this year's essay question (see below) with an essay of 300 words or less. This year, we have 2 age brackets for the contest; 9-13 and 14-19. The top 3 scoring essays in each age bracket will win \$100 gift card.

Cash Composition Topic:

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?

Essays are scored on:

- Quality of Writing
- Organization and Information
- Grammar and Mechanics

Guidelines:

Participants must :

- Be between 9-19 years of age (as of Jan 1, 2024) living in the state of Michigan.
- Have knowledge of money management pillars of saving, spending, borrowing, and planning appropriate for age and grade level.



To Apply:

- Youth under 18 must have parent or guardian permission to apply and participate.
- The application form must be completed by a parent/guardian unless over 18.
- Youth must write an essay (300 words or less) on the assigned topic above.
- Essays must be submitted on the contest registration page.

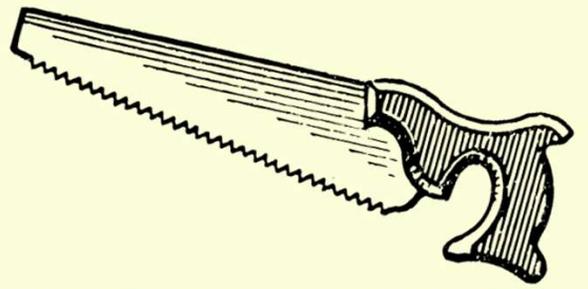
Timeline:

February 29, 2024:

Essay Submission due by 11:59 p.m.

April 1, 2024: Winners Announced

ATTENTION

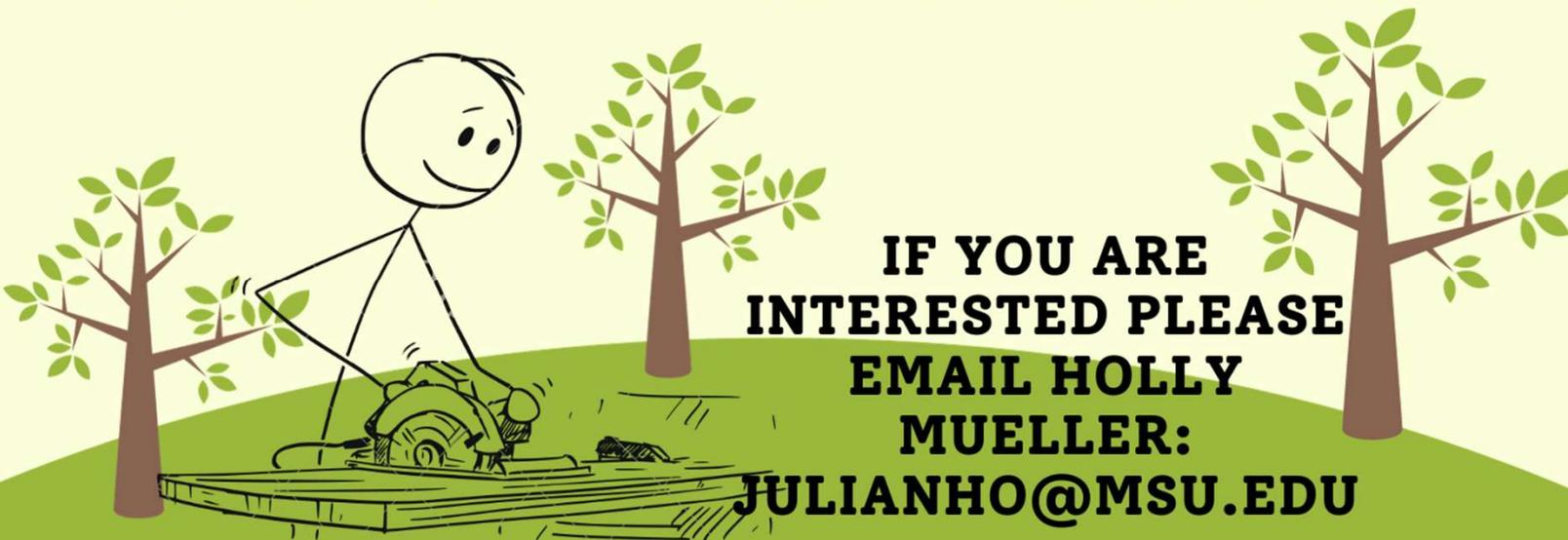


ATTENTION

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR
YOUTH WHO ARE
INTERESTED OR CURIOUS
ABOUT WOODWORKING**



**WE ARE CREATING A WOODWORKING
SPIN CLUB
YOU WILL BE VISITING A 4-H VOLUNTEERS
WOODSHOP TO CREATE BEGINNER
WOODWORKING PROJECTS
LOOK FOR UPCOMING DATES IN 2024**



**IF YOU ARE
INTERESTED PLEASE
EMAIL HOLLY
MUELLER:
JULIANHO@MSU.EDU**

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Holiday COLORING CONTEST

**THE CONTEST WILL RUN FROM
DECEMBER 1 - DECEMBER 22, 2023**

**Drop off your coloring to the
MSU Extension office:
515 Center Ave., Suite G - 102,
Bay City MI 48708
to receive your 4-H Swag**

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