



# CLOVER CHRONICLES

December 2024

Isabella County

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## Beef Weigh-In

Saturday, December 14  
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
Isabella County Fairgrounds



All beef project members must bring their market beef animals to the fairgrounds to be weighed and tagged. Each member may weigh-in two animals.

## Tractor Supply Fall Paper Clover Promotion November 29<sup>th</sup> – December 15<sup>th</sup>

### *This is a great community service opportunity!*

Help is needed (youth & adults) to work the table at the store for the fall Paper Clover Campaign that will run November 29 - December 15 at Tractor Supply Company (TSC). TSC is a great supporter of 4-H!

We are asking members, families, and clubs to help promote this event at our TSC store. Clubs are encouraged to do a fundraiser at the store (need to notify Victoria at TSC first). 4-H Council will sponsor a \$25 TSC gift card drawing for anyone that works a shift. Everyone that works will receive a ticket that will be collected and a winner will be drawn.



Funds support 4-H camp, scholarships & leadership activities.



Contact Liz ([antveli3@msu.edu](mailto:antveli3@msu.edu)) or Nonie ([grossn@msu.edu](mailto:grossn@msu.edu)) if you or your club are interested in participating in the promotion at the store.

## Fair Trophy Sponsors for 2025

There will be several trophies needing sponsors for the 2025 Fair, if you are interested please email the Extension Office with your name, address and phone number. Trophies range in price starting at \$20.



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## CLUB CORNER

**Aim High** - At our November meeting, everyone took time to make holiday cards for Commission on Aging's meal programs. We also welcomed several more new members to the club, learned about community service plans many families have coming up, and made plans for a couple projects for the January and February meetings, depending on weather. Liz, the new 4-H Program Coordinator shared information about her role and lots of opportunities available through the Extension office.

**Evergreen** - In November our club gathered for a meeting where they hosted feed specialists to provide ongoing education on animal nutrition. We also created placemats to share with the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans.

**Country Neighbors** - In November we worked on the float for the holly jolly Christmas parade coming up in Shepherd. We also welcomed our new 4-H Program Coordinator Liz, at our meeting.

### Congratulations to Joy Sroufe!

Joy Sroufe (Aim High 4-H Club) in 11th grade has been awarded a \$2,000 Michigan State University Pre-College Scholarship. Students in 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> grades for 2024-25 who attended an MSU summer pre-college program in the summer of 2024 were eligible to apply for this award. Joy participated in 4-H Exploration Days, one of four pre-college programs offered by MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development.

MSU pre-college programs are great for helping youth explore possible career interests. They are great fun, very educational, and help connect young people with university faculty and other resources. MSU pre-college programs also help youth envision their future so they can wisely choose their high school classes and prepare for college.

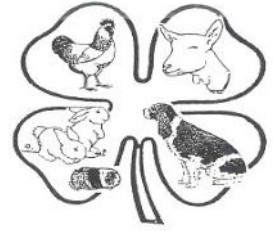
Selection for this scholarship is based on application and student essay. The scholarship is applied toward the student's first year at MSU as a degree-seeking student.

The pre-college programs annually offered by [MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development](#) are: [4-H Capitol Experience](#), [4-H Exploration Days](#), [4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp](#), [4-H Animal & Veterinary Science Camp](#) and [World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute](#).

For more information on these 4-H pre-college programs as well as other MSU pre-college programs visit Spartan Youth Programs at: <http://www.spartanyouth.msu.edu>. You'll find a multitude of programs that can help youth develop valuable skills, make new friends and taste college life.

## Small Animal News

- If you sold a rabbit/poultry/goat at the fair and did not attend the banquet, your check will be mailed to you this year. **Please cash your checks as soon as possible because they are only good for 90 days.**
- If you are not on a waiting list with a breeder for your 2025 Goat wethers or does, you should do that soon. You are able to sell a wether (castrated male) or a doe. You can contact Theresa Frederick to help with finding a breeder at (989) 621-6866.
- If you are a rabbit member, you will also want to start making some connections for your 2025 fair project.
- We are looking for teens to consider being fair superintendents. If you are interested, please review the requirements for these positions here: [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)



## Seeking Teen 4-H Council Representatives

### What is the Isabella County 4-H Council?

The 4-H Council is the main decision-making body for the county 4-H program. It is responsible for working with the paid staff to support county 4-H program planning, administration and policy making. The Council is charged with keeping track of “the big picture” for our county 4-H program. It assists with volunteer recruitment, 4-H awareness building, and it oversees things such as member and volunteer recognition and the county award program. Monthly meetings (the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month) are held at Lincoln Township Hall and are open to all 4-H leaders and interested people.

Link to Teen Representative application:

[http://www.canr.msu.edu/isabella/isabella\\_county\\_4\\_h/newsletters-and-forms](http://www.canr.msu.edu/isabella/isabella_county_4_h/newsletters-and-forms)

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**2025 MICHIGAN 4-H DAIRY CONFERENCE!**

WHERE: MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
WHEN: MARCH 1ST & 2ND

MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION COMING SOON!

*This two-day educational conference is open to any youth interested in dairy science and animal science in general.*

*More information, a schedule, and registration will be available soon.*



# 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.

### November 29 – December 15: Fall TSC Paper Clover Campaign

*Local Tractor Supply Co.*

Support 4-H by purchasing a \$1 paper clover at your local Tractor Supply Co. (TSC) store!

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/tractor-supply-co-paper-clover-campaign>

### December 3: Giving Tuesday

*Online*

Join the #GivingTuesday movement — a global day of giving and a chance to celebrate the opportunities that makes 4-H so extraordinary. 4-H'ers are leading the way in a world full of change and together, we can build a generation ready for anything. We have set a goal to raise \$5,000 to grow 4-H county endowments in a 24-hour period.

<https://mi4hfdtn.org/giving-tuesday/>

### December 10: Wild Spartans – Forestry Fire Crew

*Online*

Join 4-H staff to spark excitement in the world of wildland fire. Meet Jennifer Hansen and Courtney Kubitskey, who are on the forestry fire crew with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Learn about their work, and the education and career path they followed to get there. This free series is open to all youth ages 12-19 years. Pre-registration is required:

[https://events.anr.msu.edu/wildspartans2024\\_25/](https://events.anr.msu.edu/wildspartans2024_25/)

### December 17: Online Extension Extras - Helping Kids Manage Stress

*Online*

Children and youth experience stress; parents and caregivers have an opportunity to support them. This workshop will cover common causes, signs and symptoms of stress, as well as discuss strategies for supporting children, youth and parents experiencing stress.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/online-parenting-helping-kids-manage-stress-12-17-24>

### 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 and furnishings is now available for sale through the MSU Surplus Store! 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!





# STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

## Help youth build the Five C's: Competence, confidence, connection, character and compassion

*Adapted from an article by Christine Heverly, MSU Extension*

Michigan 4-H works to ensure that youth are engaged in a positive youth development program and utilizes the 4-H Thriving Model to help illustrate how it is meeting the needs of youth across Michigan. A key component of the 4-H Thriving Model is that youth form developmental relationships. Young people thrive best when their families, friends, schools, neighbors, businesses and other community members support them in a variety of ways.

Positive relationships with volunteers provide young people with chances to learn life skills such as goal setting, problem-solving and communicating. Volunteers can help young people move through the developmental stages and address difficulties along the way. One important way volunteers can help youth thrive is to help them build their Five C's. According to "Liberty: Thriving and civic engagement among America's youth" by Richard Lerner, the Five C's are competence, confidence, connection, character and compassion.

The Five C's aren't tangible things you can give to young people. They're skills and characteristics young people develop through their experiences and relationships. According to Zarrett and Lerner, young people who are able to display stronger evidence of having the Five C's are considered to be thriving and more likely to be developmentally on target than those who do not. Volunteers have the potential to assist young people in building the Five C's by creating relationships and situations that allow them to thrive.

MSU Extension recommends the following ideas to help Michigan 4-H volunteers working with youth to help build the Five C's.

- Help youth learn new concepts for the projects or activities they are participating in.
- Know youth names and address them by their preferred names and pronouns.
- Have youth find their spark by trying something new.
- Help youth navigate obstacles that they encounter.
- Help youth work through the tough side of giving away a project (i.e., selling an animal, giving away a project they worked hard on).
- Help youth record progress, no matter how small; each completed task is a job well done (i.e., maintain a "Done It List").
- Identify values or ethical standards a youth lives by. Do this with them. Write a non-negotiables list showing beliefs the youth will not alter. This helps alleviate peer pressure break downs.
- Define confidence, competence, connection, character and compassion. Use one of these terms to define during a group meeting and discuss ways we show it. Align with the 4-H pledge and have youth brainstorm ways (or goals) to show these traits in the new 4-H year on paper. They can draw or write those ideas.
- Use simple ice breaker activities in pairs or small groups to help young people talk through or work on a common activity or topic. Have them share out loud to the larger group their shared connection or how they worked together to achieve a common goal (building competence and confidence, building connections).
- Focus on building relationship with the youth involved by really getting to know them (their hobbies, interests, events in school or family) and inquire about them with a genuine interest.
- Recognize specific positive behaviors or accomplishments in competence, confidence or character of youth in the club/group.
- Be compassionate in one's interactions with youth (and others) and serve as a role model in that behavior.





# 4-H Winterfest 2025

**DATE:**  
February 8—9, 2025

**LOCATION:**  
Eagle Village  
Hersey, MI

**COST:**  
\$115

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100067458275560>



**WHO SHOULD ATTEND:**

4-H youth 8—12 years old

**DESCRIPTION:**

Youth and adults who attend 4-H Winterfest will spend 2 days learning about exciting project areas while meeting youth from around the state. 4-H Winterfest offers participants and chaperones an opportunity to experience Eagle Ville in an overnight camp setting. Youth participate in hands on sessions.

**HOW TO REGISTER**

Registration information will be available in early January with registration taking place through 4-H Online. The committee highly encourages youth to be enrolled in 4-H Online prior to registration opening.

**CONTACT:**

Jacob Stieg: [stieg@msu.edu](mailto:stieg@msu.edu)

Holly Mueller: [julianho@msu.edu](mailto:julianho@msu.edu)

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# 2025 State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show and Expo

**\$4**  
Entry Fee



Breed, Market, Fur Class Entry Fee: \$4.00

Other Contests Entry Fee: \$2.00  
Photography, Educational Display, Breed Identification, Skillathon

**Showmanship pre-enter by  
January 17, 2025**

**Jan 25, 2025**  
Enter animals day  
of Show  
7:00 am-10:00am

**MSU Pavilion**  
for Agriculture and  
Livestock Education

**Perpetual trophy for all  
Best In Shows!**



State Rabbit  
and Cavy Show  
Web Page:

[shorturl.at/Ey5yF](https://shorturl.at/Ey5yF)



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**Registration is open at:**

[https://events.anr.msu.edu/2025 showmanship rabbit and cavy/](https://events.anr.msu.edu/2025_showmanship_rabbit_and_cavy/)

MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

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Website:

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



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



# SAVE THE DATES

**TSC Fall Paper Clover Campaign**  
November 29 - Dec 15

**Beef Weigh-In**  
December 14

**4-H Winterfest**  
February 8-9, 2025

**4-H Day with the Tigers**  
April 27, 2025

**4-H Exploration Days**  
June 18-20, 2025

**Isabella County Youth & Farm Fair**  
July 19 - 26, 2025

## Isabella County 4-H Calendar

Dec 3	Horse Leaders @ Maranatha Baptist Church, Mt. Pleasant	6:30 PM
14	Beef Weigh-In @ Fairgrounds	9 AM - 11 AM
24 - Jan 1	OFFICE CLOSED	

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*"Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the MSU Extension office at (989) 317-4079 at least 7 days prior to the scheduled event to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements. Requests received after this time will be met when possible."*

**Liz Antvelink, 4-H Program Coordinator**  
[antveli3@msu.edu](mailto:antveli3@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