



SEPTEMBER 2026

4-H Family News

Jackson County Connections



**Beyond
Ready**

Celebrating Growth. Becoming Beyond Ready.

Dear 4-H Volunteers and Families,

Let's celebrate the accomplishments from the 2025-2026 4-H year! From youth attending 4-H Exploration Days, attending workshops, being on their club board, showcasing their projects, trying new experiences, mentoring a fellow 4-Her, making new friends, and so much more! Our 4-Hers continued to build life skills, confidence, and friendships that will last a lifetime.

Thank you to our volunteers and families for the time, encouragement and support you provide throughout the year. Your dedication makes these opportunities possible and helps our youth thrive.

Thank you for being part of the Jackson County 4-H family. Here's to another great year ahead!

Hayley & Jessica

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<https://www.canr.msu.edu/jackson/4-h/>



STAY CONNECTED

Jackson County 4-H Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/jacksoncounty4h>

Jackson Co. 4-H Small Animal Assoc. Facebook Page:

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

Jackson County 4-H Livestock Assoc. Facebook Page:

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

Jackson County Horse Council Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/232601997473213>

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COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September Meetings

Monday 8th

Office Closed for Labor Day

Monday 14th 6:30pm

Horse Council
MSU Extension Office

Wednesday 16th 6:30pm

Livestock Association
MSU Extension Office

Tuesday 22nd 6:30pm

Small Animal Association
MSU Extension Office

Monday 28th 6:30pm

4-H Council
MSU Extension Office

October Meetings

Saturday 17th

Welding Workshop
See Flyer for Details



Your participation matters! Please make every effort to attend our Large Group, Small Group, Horse, and Council meetings. Meetings are a great opportunity to stay informed, share ideas, learn, and help shape the future of our 4-H program.

Please come with positive attitudes, open minds, and constructive feedback. We want to create a safe, respectful, and welcoming environment where everyone feels comfortable sharing ideas—and where our 4-H youth have a voice and a say in their experience.

Together, we can continue to grow, learn, lead, and make 4-H a great place for everyone!



COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Time to Enroll



4-H enrollment OPENS September 3rd for the 2026-2027 4-H Program Year!

RETURNING TO 4-H? Please follow these steps:

- Families will need to log in to their 4-H Online account to re-enroll their child for the new year. This is for any returning 4-H Youth 8-19 yrs old & Cloverbuds 5-7 yrs old.
- **Re-enrollment deadline 12/1.**
- Enroll/Re-enroll here:
<https://v2.4honline.com/>

NEW TO 4-H? Please follow these steps:

- New Families will need to create an account in 4-H Online to enroll their child in 4-H.
- **New enrollment deadline is 1/15.**
- Please reach out to your club leader before enrolling. Don't know what club to join, email Jessica and she'll help you get started.
- Enroll/Re-enroll here:
<https://v2.4honline.com/>

Volunteers

- Gold & Silver level volunteers, don't forget you also need to complete your reenrollment through 4-H Online.
- Enroll/Reenroll here:
<https://v2.4honline.com/>

Don't leave this for the last minute! in order to participate at the Jackson county fair, workshops, camps, club activities, etc. you must be enrolled in 4-H

A SPOOKTACULAR 4-H WELDING WORKSHOP

OCT [17] 10AM-12PM



GET READY TO SPARK SOME HALLOWEEN FUN!
JOIN US FOR A SPOOKTACULAR 4-H WELDING
WORKSHOP WHERE WE'LL LEARN SOME BASIC
WELDING SKILLS AND CREATE OUR VERY OWN
METAL FRANKENSTEIN.

THIS WORKSHOP IS FOR JACKSON COUNTY 4-H
YOUTH ONLY.

\$45

Register & Pay:

<https://theworkshop.coursestorm.com/course/jackson-county-4-h-welding-workshop5>

Not in 4-H? Email Jessica Waldron for
information on to enroll in 4-H.





STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Starting the new 4-H year with a focus on being Beyond Ready



Beyond Ready

A new 4-H year is the perfect time for volunteers and youth to set the tone for growth, learning and readiness. Beginning the year with intentional activities helps young people build confidence, explore their interests, and understand how their 4-H experiences prepare them for life beyond the club.

Early goal setting, reflection and hands-on project work encourage youth to practice important skills such as communication, decision making and responsibility. Volunteers play a key role by helping youth make connections between what they do in 4-H and the skills they will need in future school, work and community settings.

By starting strong and reinforcing these ideas all year long, clubs can help ensure youth are truly Beyond Ready for whatever comes next.

#BeyondReady

September 9: Welcome Back MSU 4-H Alumni Reception

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing

If you are a current or former 4-H'er attending MSU this fall, stop by the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. for networking and free dinner! Plan to stay after for the first meeting of the fall semester for MSU Collegiate 4-H!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-welcome-week-4-h-alumni-reception

September 20: Saginaw 4-H Fall Festival

Schomaker Farms, Saginaw

Join the Saginaw 4-H Fall Festival for a fun-filled afternoon at Schomaker Farms! Bring your family and friends for an afternoon of fun, learning, and community. The public is welcome!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/saginaw-4-h-fall-festival

September 23: Adulting 101 – Are You Ready?

Online

Get ready for anything! This workshop will teach youth how to stay calm, make a plan and handle emergencies with confidence and safety.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-2026

October 2: Michigan 4-H Foundation Annual Membership Meeting

University Club of MSU, Lansing

4-H donors and staff with 4-H responsibilities are encouraged to attend and vote on all items at the meeting. Register by September 18.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-foundation-annual-membership-meeting

October 3: Michigan 4-H Legacy Awards Celebration

University Club of MSU, Lansing

Join us to celebrate and recognize Michigan's outstanding 4-H youth, alumni, volunteers, partners and staff. Register by September 18.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-legacy-celebration

October 4-10: National 4-H Week

For more than 100 years, 4-H has inspired families, shaped careers, and impacted communities.

Celebrate the impact of 4-H during National 4-H Week! Learn more and find ideas of how to celebrate in your community online.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/national-4-h-week>

October 5: Go Green for 4-H!

On Monday of National 4-H Week, Go GREEN and show your 4-H spirit! Wear a green hat, clothing, face paint— anything green goes. Let's paint the nation GREEN in support of 4-H!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/national-4-h-week





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Re-enroll for the 2026-2027 program year!

Welcome to September and the new 4-H program year! Beginning Thursday, September 3, you may login to your family's 4-H Online (mi.4honline.com/) account and enroll your 4-H members for the 2026-2027 program year. All returning families should utilize the same email address to access their account as they have in the past.

If you do not remember your login email, do not create a new account, simply contact your county staff member (www.canr.msu.edu/outreach/county/) for assistance. Thanks for being a part of the 4-H community!



How to Register with 4-H: Returning Family

1. Visit **mi.4honline.com**.
2. Log in to your account.*
3. Click "Enroll Now" for the returning member(s).
4. Update information.
5. Continue until you click the final SUBMIT button.
6. Add members if needed.

*If you need assistance accessing your account, contact your local 4-H staff; do not create a new account.

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National 4-H Week: October 4-10

For more than 115 years, 4-H has inspired families, shaped careers, and impacted communities. From October 4-10, we will celebrate the impact of 4-H during National 4-H Week. The theme of this year's National 4-H Week is "Beyond Ready." This theme celebrates how 4-H is building a ready generation in a world of change, equipping youth with skills for the future while meeting them where they are today.

Join with 4-H'ers around the country in activating on two important initiatives:

Monday, October 5: Go Green!

On Monday of National 4-H Week, Go GREEN and show your 4-H spirit! Wear a green hat, clothing, face paint— anything green goes. Let's paint the nation GREEN in support of 4-H! Share your 'Go Green' moment on social and tag National 4-H, Michigan 4-H program, and use: #4HBeyondReady #National4HWeek.

Thursday, October 8: Thankful Thursday

On Thursday of National 4-H Week, help us shine a light on all the mentors, educators and volunteers who are making positive impact on your people's lives in 4-H. Share who you're thankful for and celebrate how they are making a difference on Thursday, October 8! Share your 'Thankful' story on social, tag others in your 4-H community, tag National 4-H and use: #4HBeyondReady #National4HWeek.

Learn more about more ways you can celebrate during National 4-H Week at www.canr.msu.edu/events/national-4-h-week.

Wild Spartans returns!

Starting in October, the Wild Spartans Series is back! Join 4-H staff as they take a look into life working with fisheries and wildlife! Follow along to climb through bogs, peer into bear dens, mist net songbirds, snorkel for fish, or perhaps even tag deer. Meet natural resources professionals, learn about their field work, and the education and career path they've followed to get there. \

Monthly sessions will be held on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. EST. Each 30-minute session will feature 1-2 guest speakers. Youth will be encouraged to ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A with scientists. This free virtual series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19 years. Pre-registration required:

www.canr.msu.edu/environmental_outdoor_education/wild-spartans-series.



Join Us Online

WILD SPARTANS

MONTHLY WILDLIFE & FISHERIES WEBINAR SERIES
FOR FAMILIES INTERESTED IN EXPLORING
SCIENCE • RESEARCH • CAREERS • CONSERVATION

October-March, 2nd Tuesday of each month | 6:30 PM EST

Registration required:
www.canr.msu.edu/environmental_outdoor_education/wild-spartans-series

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COUNTY 4-H NEWS



Large Animal Auction Checks – Auction checks will be mailed to exhibitors starting in mid- September. As a reminder, checks are not sent until an Exhibitor's buyers have paid.

New This Year: Small Animal Auction Checks – Auction checks will be mailed to exhibitors starting in mid-September. If the exhibitor sold at both auctions the totals will be combined.



Thank You Cards

Now that the fair has wrapped up, it's time to take a few moments to say **thank you** to the amazing people who supported you—your buyers and add-ons!

Sending a handwritten thank you card is an important part of your 4-H project. It shows appreciation, teaches responsibility, and helps build lasting relationships with the people who invest in you and your hard work.

Please make sure to:

- Write and send your thank you cards as soon as possible
- Be specific—mention what they supported and what it meant to you
- Make it personal and sincere

A thoughtful thank you goes a long way! If you need help finding addresses or ideas for what to write, let us know—we're happy to help.

Jackson County 4-H Scholarship Opportunities

Gale Todd Volunteer of The Year Award

– Any current Jackson County 4-H members who has volunteered for their club, Youth Council, Small or Large Animal Association or Horse Council.

Key Club Award – Any current or former Jackson County 4-H members (High School Seniors or graduate attending college or trade school) that have demonstrated leadership in Jackson County.

Please visit the website for applications and their full requirements.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/jackson/4-h/>



MSUE COUNTY EVENTS

CANNING CLASS



REGISTER HERE FOR THE HOME CANNING TOMATOES WORKSHOP

<https://pears.io/events/msuext/10024/>

Optimizing Sheep Nutrition: A Virtual Management Series

Virtual webinar series: Thursday evenings from 7:00-9:00 pm - Oct. 8, Oct. 15, Oct. 22, Oct. 29, Nov. 5 and Nov. 12.

6 part management webinar series will focus on nutritional management of the flock. The instructors will bring a wealth of knowledge gained from years of research and practical experience working with producers on the nutritional management of sheep. This program will be of interest to both beginning and experienced producers and will discuss feeding systems and management approaches for both small flocks and large scale commercial farms. Participants will receive access to all seminar recordings, a ration balancing program and will be mailed a compendium of articles on the nutritional management of sheep in supply management.

Registration will close on Oct. 6, 2026. You can register at:

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/2026nutrition/>

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/2026nutrition/> COST: \$30 per household. Each participant will receive a spiral bound compendium on sheep nutritional management as a supplementary reference to reinforce course concepts as well as access to MSU Flock Feed– a ration balancing program. International postage will be an extra charge.

