



4-H Family News

January 2026



Welcome to the Month of January

Happy Holidays to all.

We hope everyone has a great Holiday Season.

This network contains upcoming events, clinic dates, volunteer opportunities, and so much more!!!!

BEEF TAGGING is January 17, 2026 9-11am

Looking for Mini Expo instructors

Please take the time to read the network it is our gift to you !!!

Thank you to all that continue to help and support us in "Making The Best Better".

A big thank you to Chelsea for all she did during her time at extension...it was an honor to be her co-worker.

Chelsea and Jean

4-H Staff

Contribute to the Network

**Information or Flyers are due by the
20th of Each Month!**

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.This month's content highlights

- **Entrepreneurship 12/29 2PM - Party Planning**
- **Beef Tagging January 17, 2026 9:00am-11:00 am** 
- **Drop-in with Jean**
- **4-H H&P Tack Sale**
- **Leader and Volunteer training (great for new leaders and volunteers)**
- **TQ Murder Mystery**
- **Leader reporting 12/31/2025 Cash and Bank balance, due 1/15/2026**
- **Cloverbud Expo Registration**
- **Fundraiser events**
- **2025-2026 4-H enrollment complete NOW**

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Monroe County 4-H January 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	29	30	31	1	2	3
	Entrepreneurship 2-4pm AC			Happy New Year		
Office Closed for Holiday						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	4-H Council AC; 7PM	Terra Quest AC; 6PM	Dog Board ELC; 6:30PM	MAFE Convention		Ottawa Lake Servers; AC 12-4PM
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Horse & Pony; AC 7PM					 Beef Tagging AC; 9AM
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	OFFICE CLOSED Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Drop-In w/Jean ELC; 5PM Hippology AC 6:30pm	JLA; ELC 7PM Whispering Spirits; AC 7PM	Entrepreneurship; AC 6:30PM		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Tack Sale; FM Expo 7AM	SAA; ELC 7PM		Teen Ambassadors; AC 7PM			TQ Murder Mystery; AC 6:30PM

FEBRUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 4-H Council; AC 7PM	3 Terra Quest; AC 6PM	4 Dog Board; ELC 6:30PM Raisinville Wranglers; AC 6:30PM	5 Faithful Friends; AC 12-4PM	6	7 Dundee District Craft Expo; AC 2:30PM Registration required
8	9 Horse & Pony; AC 7PM	10 Hippology; AC 6:30PM	11	12	13	14 Happy Valentines Day!
15 London Fancy Farmers; AC 3:30PM	16 Cat Board; AC 6:30PM	17 Drop-In w/Jean; ELC 5PM Entreprene- urship; AC 6PM	18 JLA; ELC 7PM Hippology; AC 6:30PM	19 Fair Advisory Board; 7PM Whispering Spirits; AC 7PM	20	21 Flag Wksp; 12PM TA Lock-In; AC 5PM
22 Communica- tions Day; AC 2PM Registration Required	23 SAA; ELC 7PM	24 YQCA Training; AC 7PM Registration Required	25 Teen Ambassad- ors; AC 7PM	26	27	28 Cloverbud Expo; AC 8:30am check-in Registration Required





Merry Christmas

and a Heartfelt Holiday Farewell!



Thank you Monroe County 4-H for three and a half years of fun; learning and growing together! I have been truly blessed to be a part of the amazing stewardship happening at the hands of the youth and volunteers of our community.

Monroe County 4-H raised me as a young person and as a professional. I will be continuing my journey with the Community Foundation of Monroe County working on Heart & Soul Community Conversations and Projects across the County!

I can't wait to see the great things that Monroe County 4-H has to come as a 4-H Parent and Community Partner!

Love, Chelsea Rae



Small Animal

Next Meeting January 26, 2026 @7:00pm ELC

Save the Dates:

4-H State Rabbit Show 1/24/25 MSU Pavillion

Poultry Workshop 3/10/2026 7pm AC

RCPP Workshop 3/26/2026 7pm AC

Spring RCPP Show 4/18/26 Ed. Building

Broiler Workshop 4/28/2026 7pm AC

Follow Us on Social Media

[Monroe County Small Animal Association](#)

[Monroe County 4-H Dog Program](#)

[Monroe County 4-H Cat Program](#)

See JLA page for YQCA Dates



SMALL ANIMAL ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD 25-26

President: Daisy Branham

Vice President: Journey Williams

Recording Secretary: Kathryn Dietrich

Corresponding Secretary: Angyl Bischoff

Youth Treasurer: Samantha Gibson

Historian: Mackenzie Sommers



Monroe County 4-H Cat Program



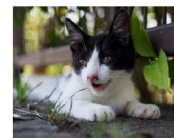
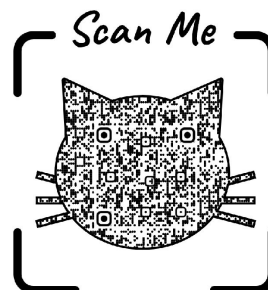
Meeting Location: 4-H Activity Center

Meeting Dates: 3rd Monday of the month
(except December, January, July and August)

Meeting Time: 6:30PM

**All 4-H members and Cloverbuds who own a cat
are welcome.**

For more information: Contact Kim Cramer at
cramergirls09@gmail.com or scan the QR Code.





Dog Superintendent Opening

Are you looking to become more involved in the 4-H program? Would you like to take on a leadership role as the Monroe County 4-H Dog Program Superintendent?

See below expectations of roles. This position will be filled in early 2026.

Please share this widely with your club families so parents are aware of this opportunity and/or consider this role for yourself.

Interested parties should contact Chelsea Butler at butle301@msu.edu. Feel free to ask questions about the role and request a copy of the premium catalog as well as the Dog Program By-Laws. Anyone expressing interest should be prepared to meet with the Monroe County 4-H Small Animal Review Committee.

Deadline to state interest 12/31/25 Projected interview and selection mid January.

Monroe County 4-H Dog Program Superintendent

Job Description-Responsibilities and Expectations

PURPOSE: To support the year-round Monroe County 4-H Youth Development of the Dog Program Area. To organize and supervise judging, exhibits, and activities in the 4-H Dog Program at the Monroe County Fair in conjunction with the Monroe County 4-H Small Animal Association, Monroe County 4-H Fair Advisory Board, Monroe County Fair Association, Fair Executive Board and Fair Manager to make the 4-H division a learning experience for all youth.

DESIRED EXPERIENCE, KNOWLEDGE, & SKILLS:

1. Be an approved gold 4-H volunteer through the Volunteer Selection Process
2. Abide by the MSU Extension Volunteer Code of Conduct
3. Have familiarity with the Monroe County 4-H Dog Program
4. Ability to work with adults and youth, and on a team
5. Demonstrate clear and effective communication
6. Ability to organize and supervise
7. Flexible and responsive to change for the good of the total program and those who participate

RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Use the Small Animal Association as the governing body for all changes in the 4-H fair division.
2. Plan and implement 6+ Dog Program meetings per program year
3. Be willing to help with clean-up and set-up of project area
4. Be available for check-in, judging and check-out of area
5. Be responsible for preparing copy and proofreading premium catalog



Dog Superintendent Opening

Responsibilities Cont.

1. Identify all assistant superintendents and judges that will work dog area
2. Help to identify youth (Junior Superintendents) to assist in dog area
3. Be willing to take full responsibility for the records generated from dog area
4. Be willing to answer questions which may arise
5. Keep open communication with the 4-H Staff
6. Attend all meetings, available to hear input from youth and leaders
7. Serve as an integral part of problem solving and communication
8. Provide input and recommendations for judges for all disciplines in dog area
9. Help to provide appropriate recognition for all volunteer staff that work in dog area
10. Serve as resource person for workshops and county-wide events throughout the year

ATTEND:

1. Attend all Dog Program Meetings-approximately 6-12 per year
2. Pre-Fair meeting. Go over additions, subtractions and changes in dog area.
3. Post-Fair meeting. Answer questions and concerns relating to dog area.
4. Annual meeting with Small Animal General Superintendent to discuss needs/wants concerning area on the fairgrounds.
5. Superintendent meeting.
6. Attend and supervise workshops and Fun Matches

Pre-Fair

1. Secure Judges for classes
2. Encourage participation to write letters to buyers to attend the auction.
3. Work with assistant superintendents to break classes, develop a show

Fair Week

1. Fair
 1. Superintendent needs to be present during check-in and events.
 2. Be available to answer questions from exhibitors, parents, leaders, and 4-H staff.
 3. Work with SAA General Superintendent and 4-H Program Coordinator to clarify any discrepancies in eligibility of animals or youth.
 4. Support appropriate animal welfare practices.
 5. Prior to show, get ribbons, trophies, and judging books from the 4-H Headquarters Office.
 6. During show, designate a committee member to perform each of the following duties:
 1. Ring Announcer, Check 4-H'ers in, Ring person to help exhibitors, Record placings (also be sure all "no shows" or changes are noted), Return notebook to the 4-H Office promptly following the show, Orient judge on day of show. Be sure judge gets refreshments. At conclusion of show, deliver payment to judges.

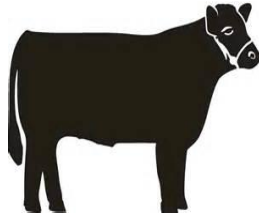
Post-Fair

1. Assist in the cleanup of all used areas



Junior Livestock Association News

Next JLA 1/21/2026 meeting 6pm Committee Meeting, 7pm monthly board mtg. ELC



Tagging:

Beef tagging January 17, 2026 9-11am Anderson Arena

*****ALL MARKET BEEF MUST BE TAGGED, to show at Monroe County Fair**

Sheep and Swine tagging 5/2/2026 8am-10am *all sheep and swine must be tagged to show at the Monroe county fair**

Clinics Sheep 3/5/2026 7pm Activity center
Swine 3/31/2026 7pm Activity Center
Beef 4/18/2026 Tom Blanchett Preview Show
Fitting and Showing 6/2/2026 6pm Fairgrounds

YQCA Instructor Lead trainings: 2/24, 3/11 & 4/23/2026
all start at 7pm in the Activity Center. Registration information will be in future Network

2025-2026 JLA Officers
President: Sophie Kreps
Vice President: Kayla Pittman
Secretary: Lindsey Roof
Treasure: Clara Iott



Dairy Board / Goat Board



Congratulations 2024 Dairy Board Officers

President: Isaac Haws

Vice President: Alex Haws

Secretary: Kylee Buchanan

Treasure: Mason Eagle

JLA rep./ Historian: Lauren Mathe

Thank you 2025 Monroe County 4-H Dairy Board Sponsors

Access & Alarm, Inc.
Agri Parts, LLC
Bass Roofing
Busen's Appliance, Inc.
Calder Dairy & Farm
Carleton Farm Supply
Charlie's Repair
Christian and Erin Stumpmier
Darling Farms, LLC
Dave and Kathy Haws
Dave and Yvonne VanBuskirk
Delker's Automotive
Dennis and Linda Jaskot
Dundee Lumber, Inc.
Family Farm & Home - Monroe
Finishers Unlimited
Fitch Family Farm
Girbach Ag LLC
Golden Harvest Seeds - Mark & Sarah Mathe
Greenstone Farm Credit Services
Haws Family Farm
Hayden's Automotive
Homrich, Inc.
Ida Veterinary Clinic
Jim and Mary Wickenheiser
John Calder
John and Sue Mathe

John and Laura Wickenheiser
Jon and Nicole Jaskot
JVB Red Hot Jerseys
Kamprath Farms LLC
Kastel Show Cattle
Ken and Marilyn Knapke
Knapke Brothers Dairy
Kraig and Carole Straub
Lucky Farmers, Inc.
Masserant's Feed & Grain - Newport
Maybee Farmers, Inc.
Miller Hoof Trimming
Mitchell Langton
Monroe County Farm Bureau
Monroe Fencing Co.
Neher Perfect Lawn Care
Omni
Ray's Septic Tank Cleaning
Sandy Barton
Salenbien Trucking & Excavating
Schafer Dairy Farms
The Carner Agency - Farm Bureau Insurance
The Tire Depot - Dundee
Thompson Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
Tractor Supply Co. - Monroe
UIS Insurance & Investments
Wind in the Willows Floral Boutique

Next Dairy Meeting
February 19, 2026 6pm
at extension office
Youth elections will be
held/ please attend!



Caprine Council

2025-2026 Caprine Officers

President- Danielle Pienta

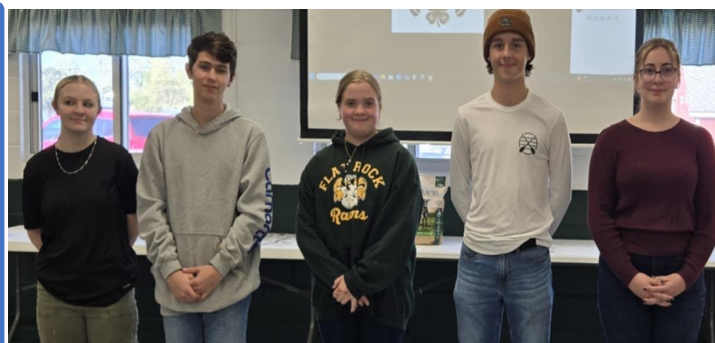
Vice President- Liam Bednarz

Treasurer- Emma Lane

Secretary- Stewart Funk

Historian- Ashlyn Weslow

JLA Goat Representatives- Stewart Funk
& Liam Bednarz



Next Caprine Meeting
1/20/2026 7pm ELC



Horse and Pony News

Save The Dates

- No Meeting in December
- 1/25/2026 Tack sale
- May 01, 2026 Horse paperwork due
- Leveling show - May 8-10
- Point Show 1 June 5-7
- Point Show 2 June 26-28
- All Mini Show- July 17-19
- Clinic/Meet and Greet- September 13th
- Banquet 2026 November 6th

2026 H&P Officers

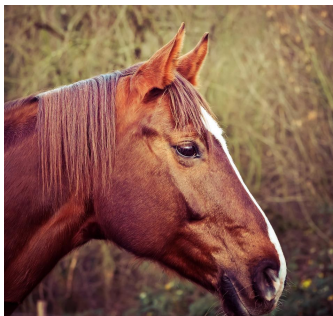
President- Nora Sheets

Vice President- Mackenzie Reed

Secretary- Mia Brinson

Treasure- Maleah Wylie

Webmaster/Historian- Laynie Timmons



Horse and Pony info

Main communication is through Facebook: Monroe County 4-H Horse and Pony Members Only

and

Monthly meetings 2nd Monday of the month 7:00 pm Activity Center (Except Aug & Dec)

H&P has mandatory meetings and volunteer hours make sure you are meeting the requirements

Hippology

Your Contact person: Hippology Team
coach: Elizabeth Kotus schedule pick up via email: ekotus@hotmail.com or text: 734-604-4951

Study dates at Activity Center

Jan 7th Wed. @ SMCC high school~6-8pm

Jan 20th Tues. @ AC 6:30-8PM

Feb 10th Tues. @ AC 6:30-8PM

Feb 18th Thurs. @ AC 6:30-8PM

practice contests: 1/30 Friday-Judging Seminar 2/1/26 Sunday Mock Horse Judging/Hippology MQHA connection weekend at MSU pavillion Lansing, MI



Monroe County Horse and Pony Tack Sale

**MONROE COUNTY HORSE & PONY
TACK
SALE**

**JANUARY 4 25TH, 2026
10AM - 2PM**

**@ FIRST MERCHANT EXPO CENTER
3775 CUSTER RD MONROE, MI 48161**

\$3 ADMISSION PER PERSON

- HEATED INDOOR FACILITY
- SILENT AUCTIONS
- NEW & USED TACK VENDORS
- CONCESSIONS

**ALL PROFITS BENEFIT MONROE
COUNTY HORSE & PONY PROGRAM**



Tack sale registration form

2026 MONROE COUNTY TACK SALE VENDOR FORM

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT

QUESTIONS? CALL OR TEXT KAITLIN @ 419-271-1442

RESERVATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED COMPLETED WITHOUT A FORM OF PAYMENT

10x10 Commercial Space (includes 2 free passes) \$50 each	# of Spaces: _____	\$50 x # of spaces = Total: \$ _____
10x10 Non-Commercial Space (includes 1 free pass) \$40 each	# of Spaces: _____	\$40 x # of spaces = Total: \$ _____

ALL SPACES INCLUDE 1 8FT TABLE EXTRA TABLES: _____ X \$5 EACH = \$ _____

EXTRA PASSES: _____ X \$3 EACH = \$ _____

CONTACT NAME: _____ BUSINESS NAME: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PAYMENT ONLY BY CASH OR CHECK
PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MCHP
MAIL COMPLETED FORM AND PAYMENT TO:
KAITLIN LANCE

4240 CLEGG RD LAMBERTVILLE, MI 48144

PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING:

SET UP IS 1/24/2026 FROM 5PM TO 8PM AND 1/25/2026 FROM 7AM TO 10AM

SALE IS 1/25/2026 10AM TO 2PM

TEAR DOWN IS 1/25/2026 2PM TO 5PM

OFFICE USE ONLY

DATE RECEIVED: _____

NUMBER OF SPACES: _____

NUMBER OF PASSES: _____

OF TABLES: _____

PAYMENT TYPE: CASH CHECK (CHECK # _____)

TOTAL \$: _____

EMAIL CONFIRMATION: _____



State Horse Program



2026 EQUINE CONNECTION WEEKEND

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2026 THROUGH
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2026
AT THE FARM BUREAU PAVILION AT
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

- HORSE JUDGING
- HIPPOLOGY
- SHOWMANSHIP
- HORSEMANSHIP
- TRAIL

JOIN US FOR A WEEKEND OF FUN AND
LEARNING!

CLINIC SESSIONS WITH AQHA
PROFESSIONAL RYAN COTTINGIM AND
OTHERS!

****HORSES ONLY NEEDED FOR COTTINGIM
CLINICS, LIMITED TO 12 PARTICIPANTS****



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension



REGISTER NOW



[HTTPS://PCI.JOTFORM.COM/FORM/253146086083053](https://pci.jotform.com/form/253146086083053)



M36 COFFEE ROASTERS FUNDRAISER



ORGANIZATION

Monroe County 4-H Hippology Team

FUNDS FOR

General Expenses/Resources

DATES

Sale Ends 1/19/2026



SCAN TO SHOP



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

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HOW TO PURCHASE

- 1) Go to <https://m36coffee.roasters.com/pages/fundraisers> (or scan the QR code above) and enter the password: **horse**
- 2) Choose local pickup to collect from the concession stand the weekend of January 24/25, 2026 (Monroe County Fair Grounds).
- 3) Need coffee sooner? Choose shipping and we will send it directly to you. Standard shipping rates apply.



HOME ROAST

100% FT Organic. Rich, smooth, dark roast. Hints of caramel and brown sugar. Our favorite.

16 OZ



FTO COLOMBIAN

100% FT Organic. Medium roast, mild flavor, with sweet floral notes.

16 OZ



SUPER JACK'D

Ultra-high caffeine. A blend of Arabica and Robusta beans. Complex, unique, bold.

16 OZ



KITALE

This blend was made for those who appreciate an ultra-dark coffee that's rich and smoky without tasting burnt.

16 OZ



ERC HOUSE

The House Blend, with its chocolaty aroma, smooth character and robust body, is our most popular blend.

16 OZ



ERC HOUSE DECAF

100% Arabica beans are peak roasted to a dark Italian roast. You won't know it's decaf.

16 OZ



CHOCOLATE ALMOND

Premium chocolate almond flavored coffee beans, medium roast, full-bodied, 100% Arabica coffee.

16 OZ



HAZELNUT

It's medium roasted to deliver a rich, nutty and well-rounded taste that's not too sweet for a flavored coffee.

16 OZ

info@m36coffee.roasters.com | 734-449-8910 | www.m36coffee.roasters.com

10815 Plaza Drive | Whitmore Lake, MI 48189



MONROE COUNTY 4-H FINANCIAL LITERACY



2025

12/29
2-4PM

** SPECIAL WORKSHOP ** PARTY PLANNING WITHIN A BUDGET

4-H Activity Center Monroe County Fairgrounds Raisinville Entrance

Let's Plan A Party!

- Setting A Budget
- Event Planning
- Party Food Sampling

Bring a Friend! This event will be a fun way to introduce a friend to the 4-H Program and learn about financial literacy!

RSVP TODAY:



Monroe County 4-H Entrepreneurship Program &
First Merchants Bank Partnering to Help Our Community Prosper



First Merchants
Helping you prosper





Drop-In with Jean

3rd Tuesday of the month

5:00 pm at Extension Office

Please RSVP so supplies can be purchased

~~10/21/25 Machine Knitting~~

~~11/18/25 Beads/Jewelry~~

~~12/16/25 Creative Gift Wrapping~~

1/20/26 Perler Beads

2/17/26 Seed Art

3/17/26 In- A-Jar (mixes or cookies)

4/21/26 Large Animal Science

5/19/26 Small Animal Science

6/16/26 Wonders of Water

RSVP LINK: https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9EKbexaljfZ2gDQ

Select all sessions you would like to attend.

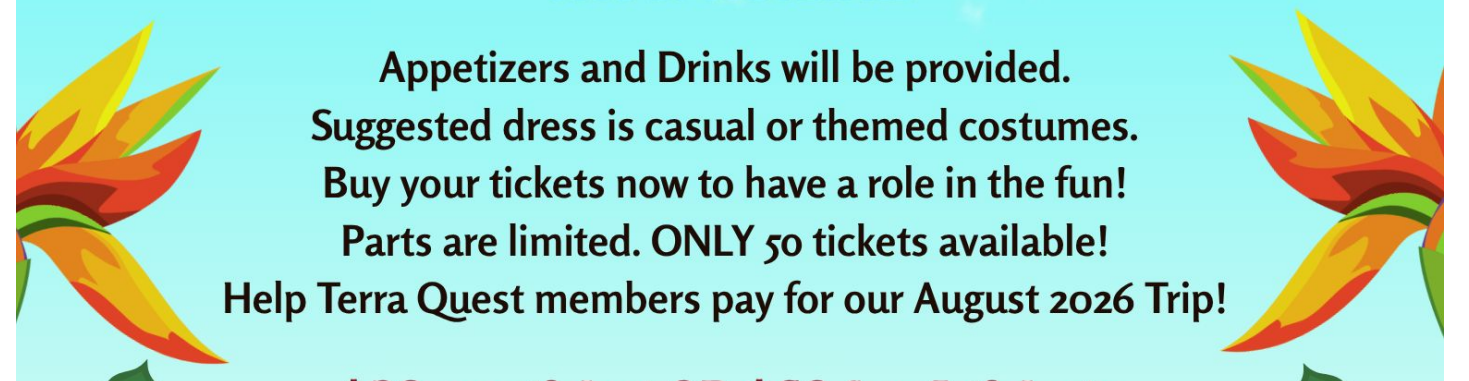




Terra Quest Presents Murder in Maui

Experience the Aloha Spirit at our Oceanside Palace for a night of surprises, revelations, and an element of peril

Saturday, January 31st 6:30-9:30 PM
4-H ACTIVITY CENTER
3775 S. CUSTER RD



Appetizers and Drinks will be provided.
Suggested dress is casual or themed costumes.
Buy your tickets now to have a role in the fun!

Parts are limited. ONLY 50 tickets available!
Help Terra Quest members pay for our August 2026 Trip!

\$20 per ticket OR \$60 for 4 tickets

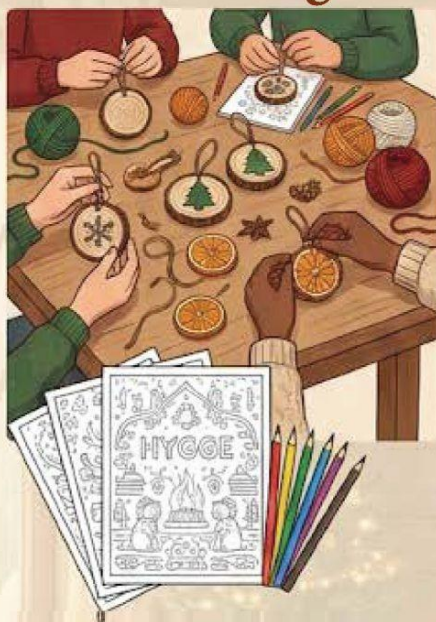
For Tickets or Questions Contact the Office

@ 734 - 240 - 3182





Hygge Themed Ornament Crafting Event Save the Date!



Join Dundee District Leaders for a 4H event of warmth, creativity and community! Activities include: Ornament Craft stations, Relaxing Coloring Pages to make and take for fair.

A Delicious Hot Cocoa Bar, and Tasty Snacks will be available.

Date: Saturday February 7th | Time: 10:30AM - 1:00PM | Location: 4H Activity Center

RSVP by: January 23rd, 2026 to guarantee supplies

At this link-- <https://forms.gle/rDLmXmPC945ofuEh7>
or Scan QR code
\$5 to be collected at the door cash or check made to Dundee District



Any Questions-Contact either host:

Heather Turnblom Text (734)755-8599 email: turnblomhm@gmail.com
or Elizabeth Kotus Text (734)604-4951 email: ekotus@hotmail.com





Communications Day

Sessions: Extemporaneous, Storytelling, Modeling,
Listening Skills

February 22, 2026 2:00pm – 4:00pm



4-H Activity Center

*Free to attend
All 4-H ages
Participant Prizes*

Register by Feb.
1st

Sponsored by Airport District 4-H





Link: [Cloverbud Expo registration](#)



Monroe County 4-H Clover bud Expo Registration

Registration Open: 12/19/2025- 2-16/2026

\$12 Registration: Advanced Payment can be made at the 4-H Office by cash/check or accepted at the door.
(Please make checks payable to Monroe County 4-H Council)

Cloverbuds Ages 5-7

Event Timing: Saturday February 28, 2026

Check In: 8:30am

Program Ends: 12pm

Parents are welcome and encouraged to stay but it is not required.

Event Address: 4-H Activity Center, Monroe County Fairgrounds

Contact us at (734)240-3188 or Email Genawjea@msu.edu

Classes are

Wreath making

Mixes in a Jar

Plant Science

Fishing Lures

Clover buds will rotate to each class



TERRA QUEST PRESENTS



Spring Tea

Come delight in an afternoon of fun with the whole family at our fourth annual Spring Tea! Enjoy different teas, finger foods, and activities for all ages! Come dressed in your Sunday best with your favorite fascinator! Prizes for the best fascinator! Space is limited, please RSVP by April 25th.

SATURDAY

**MAY
16
2026**

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Cost: \$25/Pair (1 Adult & 1 Child)

\$5 for each additional child after a pair

\$10 for each additional adult after a pair

OR

\$15/Adult Attending

4-H Activity Center

3775 N. Custer Rd, Monroe MI, 48161



For Tickets or Questions contact the Office

@ 734 - 240 - 3182



JOIN THE TERRA QUEST 4-H CLUB



Wisconsin Dells, 2025



Hocking Hills, 2022



Hershey, 2023

**THE ONLY TRAVEL CLUB
IN THE COUNTY**

**WE DO EDUCATIONAL TRIPS
WE'VE TRAVELED TO:**

Hershey, Pennsylvania
Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin
Hocking Hills, Ohio
Red River Gorge, Kentucky

**MUST BE 13 & OLDER TO JOIN
AND 14 & OLDER TO TRAVEL**

**MEMBERS WILL FUNDRAISE
FOR COST OF ALL TRIPS**

**TRIPS ARE THE SECOND
WEEK OF AUGUST
(AFTER FAIR)**



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

EXTENSION



Enrollment in 4-H online

- 4-H online link: <https://v2.4honline.com>

Monroe County 4-H 2025-2026

4-H online enrollment

Opened September 08, 2025

All re-enrollments should be complete

Please re-enroll NOW!!!

Do not wait enroll as soon as 4-H online

Contact the 4-H office with any questions or assistance you may need

(734) 240-3188

***UPDATE Current 4-H online enrollment numbers

***Incompletes 70 Please log back in and complete!!!

Reminder Adults need to be active gold or silver before enrolling in 4-H online (See page 17)

To be reviewed: 7 Volunteers & 27 youth, If you submitted an enrollment and it is still in awaiting review contact Jean at the office the week of 1/5/2026.

454 Volunteers Approves 1,033 youth approved leaders please pull your rosters. Great Job, let's get the final enrollments in!!!





Volunteer/Leader Training



MAKING THE BEST BETTER SOUTHEAST MI 4-H VOLUNTEER SERIES

Learn with and from other 4-H volunteers
In person or virtual from January-March

RSVP HERE!

[HTTPS://BIT.LY/D12VOLUNTEER](https://bit.ly/d12volunteer)

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Our District 12 counties (Hillsdale, Jackson, Lenawee, Livingston, Monroe, and Washtenaw) are teaming up to host a 4-H Volunteer Learning series in person or virtual January – March. Each of the 5 sessions will focus on a different theme and many sessions will include seasoned volunteers who can share their tips, tricks, and perspective.

- Join the Conversation: Tips for Engagement from Seasoned 4-H Leaders: January 29th at 6:30 pm in Monroe Extension Office
- Cha-ching Making Cents of 4-H Finances: February 12th at 6:30 pm in Our Livingston County MSU Extension Office
- Join the Conversation: Engaging Parents & 4-H Alums in 4-H Experiences and Implementing Shared Leadership in 4-H Clubs: February 26th at 6:30 pm in Washtenaw
- Youth Engagement & Engaging Youth Voice: March 12th at 6:30 pm in Lenawee
- From Clash to Collaboration: Practicing the Art of Conflict Resolution: March 26th at 6:30 pm in Jackson

This series is for all volunteers, whether your brand new to 4-H or have been volunteering for decades. Learn alongside and with your fellow 4-H volunteers.

Register for one or more sessions here: <https://bit.ly/d12volunteer>



Volunteer/ leader Corner

Link to Volunteer Central become a 4-H volunteer

<https://msu.samaritan.com>



Leaders, please take the time to review updated Financial Manuals. These manuals will answer many of your club questions related to finance.

[Financial Manual for 4-H Volunteers - 4-H Volunteering & Mentoring \(msu.edu\)](#)

[Financial Manual for 4-H Treasurers - 4-H \(msu.edu\)](#)

Winter Volunteer Trainings

Volunteer Webinar Series, register for a webinar or view recordings from past topics on the [MSU Extension Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series page](#).

Did you miss a session of the volunteer training? Click the above link for all the recorded webinar trainings.

The below link will take you to the Beginning Farmer resource guide over 600 pages of information Check it out!

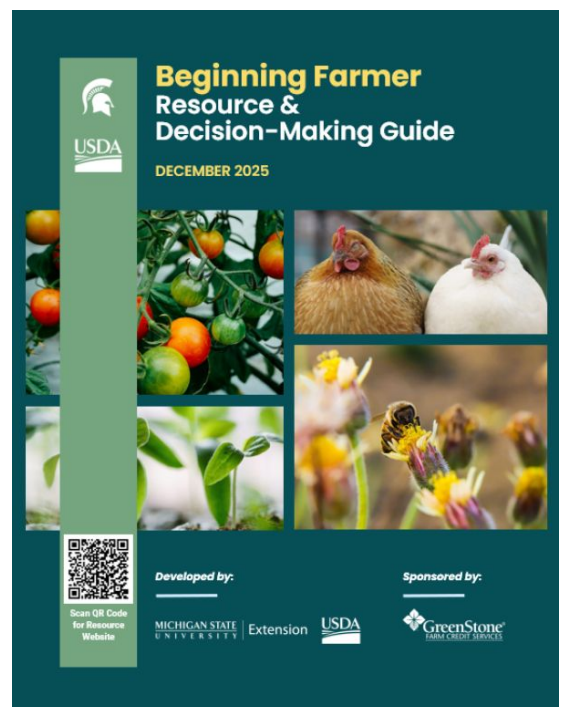
[Beginning Farmer Resource and Decision-Making Guide](#)

*****Call for Mini Expo instructors event SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2026**



If Interested please contact Jean at the office so we can add your class. You'll have a limit of 12 youth in your class.

In your volunteer interview was being a Mini Expo teacher talked about? Now's the time!





Leaders **Required** Financial Reporting

[Financial Manual for 4-H Volunteers: Leading the Way to Financial Accountability](#)

[Managing Money Wisely: Financial Manual for 4-H Treasurers](#)



Leaders, Please Submit Your 12/31/2025 Cash and Bank Balance/Statements
NO LATER THAN 1/15/26.

Please Email to genawjea@Msu.edu or drop off to the office!

Thank you in advance for your continued work on meeting the IRS reporting requirements.

Above links to the financial Manuals are great resources please review!



MICHIGAN 4-H LICENSE PLATE

Support Michigan 4-H and show your 4-H pride by purchasing a Michigan 4-H license plate! Michigan 4-H license plates cost \$35, with \$25 of the purchase fee benefiting Michigan 4-H. The \$10 renewal fee will also benefit Michigan 4-H.

Order your Michigan 4-H license plate today through the Michigan Secretary of State by visiting Michigan.gov/sos, mailing in a form or scheduling a visit to any Secretary of State office.

Learn more at extension.msu.edu/4-HPlate.



**CONTACT US:**

For more information and to register, go to:

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



For questions, please contact:

Christine Heverly

sisungch@msu.edu

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2026 Michigan 4-H Volunteer Winter/Spring Webinars

This webinar series will provide Michigan 4-H volunteers with a variety of learning opportunities to help them grow as a Michigan State University and Michigan 4-H volunteer.

All webinars take place at 12pm (noon) EST. Registration is required for each individual webinar- registration is free! Recordings will be posted on the website for later viewing.

Sessions include:

January 26, 2026: Beyond Ready Basics: Bringing the Vital Elements to Life in Your 4-H Club: Every great 4-H experience has a few powerful ingredients—and volunteers play the biggest role in making them happen. In this session, we'll explore the four Vital Elements that help youth thrive, discovering sparks, feeling a sense of belonging, building developmental relationships, and staying meaningfully engaged.

February 11, 2026: Building Belonging: Teambuilding Strategies for Stronger 4-H Experiences: Teambuilding isn't just an activity—it's a pathway to deeper belonging and higher engagement in 4-H. This webinar will show volunteers how simple team-building practices can help youth feel included, communicate effectively, work together, and grow their leadership skills.

March 25, 2026: From Sparks to Skills: Using AI Responsibly in 4-H: This webinar will help volunteers understand what AI is, how it impacts youth development, and how to use it responsibly within the 4-H program. We'll explore practical guidance from MSU Extension resources, discuss ethical considerations, and share tips for supporting youth as they navigate this evolving technology.

April 22, 2026: Let's Talk It Out: Handling Conflict with Ease: Conflict happens—even to the best volunteer groups. This laid-back session is all about learning how to handle tough conversations without the stress.

May 4, 2026: Supporting Youth Entrepreneurs: Your Role in 4-H Animal Projects: Learn how to support youth in making smart decisions that lead to financial and personal growth using activities from MSU Extension's curriculum *Youth Business Guide to Success*.



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4-H Thriving Model of Positive Youth Development



Relationships are the foundation of a successful 4-H program! These relationships include building friendships with other members and leaders, building great working relationships and trust between program leaders and members, and adult leaders working together to organize great opportunities for youth.

We hope you can find others in the 4-H program in which you can build positive friendships and/or mentorships. Join us for any events and meetings to get to know everyone in the program.

Youth thriving is the first step in building youth who are #BeyondReady! Contact your local 4-H staff for more information.

January 13: Wild Spartans

Online

This month's session is "Nature's Detectives: How Insects Help Solve Crimes Against People, Animals and the Environment through Forensic Entomology." Tiny creatures can tell BIG stories about the world around us: explore creepy-crawly clues and learn how science and nature work together to solve puzzles. Ask questions through a live Q&A. This free virtual series is for youth ages 12-19.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-wild-spartans-january

January 13: Avoiding Money Mishaps

Online

In today's digital world, young people are increasingly targeted by fraudsters, scammers and predatory lenders. This interactive webinar will empower youth with the knowledge and tools to protect themselves and their personal information.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/avoiding-money-mishaps-jan13

January 21: Adulting 101 – Fraud Fighters: How to Stay Scam-Free

Online

From fake jobs offers to phishing texts, scammers are everywhere. This workshop breaks down the latest tricks and shows you how to guard your info, your credit, and your peace of mind.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-2026>

January 24: 2026 State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show and Expo

Farm Bureau Pavilion, Lansing

4-H'ers exhibit rabbit and cavy projects and participate in educational knowledge contests: showmanship, skillathon, breed identification and rabbit hopping. **Register by January 14.**

www.canr.msu.edu/events/2026-state-4-h-rabbit-and-cavy-show-and-expo

January 26: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series: Beyond Ready Basics

Every great 4-H experience has a few powerful ingredients—and volunteers play the biggest role in making them happen. Explore the four vital elements that help youth thrive: discovering sparks, feeling a sense of belonging, building developmental relationships, and staying meaningfully engaged.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-beyond-ready-basics-bringing-the-vital-elements-to-life-in-your-4-h-club

February 7: 4-H Winterfest

Eagle Village Retreat Center, Hersey

4-H Winterfest is a hand-on learning camp for youth ages 8-12. Youth pick workshops and participate in team building activities. Come and have fun this winter! **Register by January 23.**

www.canr.msu.edu/events/2026-winterfest





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Capitol Experience

COMING SOON



MARCH 15-17TH, 2026



Cost \$365
Scholarships may be available through your local 4-H office!



Register for Michigan 4-H Capitol Experience!

At Michigan 4-H Capitol Experience, teens learn how to change the world for the better through engagement in Michigan's state government and public policy process. The program is scheduled for March 15-17, in Lansing.

The three-day event, open to high-school-aged youth, includes tours of the Michigan Capitol, interactions with state legislators, meetings with state agency staff, lobbyists and state-level experts and learning how policy is made. During the program, youth work in small teams to draft legislation on: agriculture; civil rights and youth advocacy; crime and law enforcement; education and teacher retention; environment and natural resources; health; and jobs, the economy and infrastructure.

The cost to attend is \$365, which includes lodging at the Okemos Conference Center. Please contact your local 4-H program coordinator to inquire about local funding opportunities. To learn more and/or find the link to register, visit www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_capitol_experience/.

Earn prizes with the Michigan 4-H Cash Composition Contest

Did you know youth are being targeted by scams too? That's this year's theme for the 2026 Michigan 4-H Cash Composition Contest! Michigan youth aged 9-19 are invited to participate through writing an essay on this year's question.

Top entries receive a \$100 gift card, thanks to contest sponsor, Extra Credit Union. MSU Extension will host two webinars to help with fraud awareness and essay writing. Essays are due by March 1. For contest details and essay submission information, visit: www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-money-smarts/money-smart-kids-contest.

Extra Credit  UNION



2026 Michigan 4-H Cash Composition Contest

Write a brief 300 word essay addressing fraud and scams, and have the chance to earn a \$100 gift card!

Essays Due: March 1st, 2026
Winners Announced: April 1st, 2026

See website for contest details and requirements!



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

Apply for the Michigan 4-H State Awards!

Michigan 4-H true leaders ages 10 and older have an opportunity to be recognized for the great work they do in 4-H and develop their career skills by completing a state award application. A Michigan 4-H State Award is the highest honor bestowed on a Michigan 4-H member and provides an opportunity to receive recognition for their engagement in rich learning experiences that result in outstanding knowledge and life-skill development.

State award applications are divided into four categories: Mark of Excellence contest (10-11 years), junior state award (12-15 years), senior state award (16-19 years) and group awards (13-19 years). An Achievement Award was added last year for 18-19-year-olds. Each application and selection process varies, dependent on the applicant's age.

More information about the Michigan 4-H State Award process and Mark of Excellence Contest can be found online at bit.ly/stateaward. Applications are due April 1. For more information, contact your 4-H program coordinator or email Betty Jo Krosnicki at nashbett@msu.edu or Janice Zerbe at rajzerj@msu.edu.



STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Animal Science events



2026 Calendar of Statewide Animal Science Events

4-H Animal Science Staff

Autumn Converse
4-H Livestock and Veterinary
Science Educator
conver20@msu.edu

David Lindsay
4-H Equine Educator
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Kendra Van Order
4-H Dairy Educator
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Jermo Reese
4-H Animal Science Program
Instructor
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Jacob Stieg
4-H Poultry Point of Contact
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Kat VanDouser
4-H Dog Point of Contact
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Glenda Weiss
4-H Rabbit & Cavy Point of Contact
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January 24	4-H State Rabbit Show
Feb. 27- March 1	4-H Dairy Conference
March 7	4-H Spring Livestock Workshop
March 14	4-H Horse Communications Contest
March 21-22	Norma Agnew 4-H Hairy Horse Show
March 21	4-H Rabbit and Cavy Workshop
March 22	4-H Rabbit and Cavy Quiz Bowl
April 11	4-H & FFA Horse Judging State Contest
April 12	4-H Hippology State Contest
May 6	4-H & FFA Meats Judging State Contest
June 10-11	Michigan Youth Livestock Judging Camp
June 27	4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl
July 1	4-H & FFA Livestock Judging State Contest
July 6-7 & 8-9	4-H Animal and Veterinary Science Camp
July 13-16	4-H Youth Dairy Days
August 13-16	4-H State Horse Show
September 19	4-H State Dog Show



Scan me for more
information about these
programs!



2026 Schedule of Events

Jan. 25- 4-H Tack Sale & More	July 11-12- FCHA Horse Show
Jan. 31/Feb. 1- Oddities & Horror Fest	July 17-19- 4-H Horse Show
Feb. 7-8-Gun & Knife Show	July 31- Fireworks
March 8- The Vintage Market	Aug 2- Aug 8 -MONROE COUNTY FAIR
March 21- Ducks Unlimited Banquet	Aug. 22-23- Gun & Knife Show
March 28- Garage Sale & Flea Market	Aug. 22-23- FCHA Horse Show
April 4- Winter Storage Removal	Aug. 30 Auto Swap Meet
April 10- Soil Conservation Tree Sale	Sept. 11-12- Monroe Comic Con
April 12- Auto Swap Meet	Sept. 25-27- Monroe Kennel Club Dog Show
April 18- Tom Blanchette Memorial Beef Show	Oct. 3- Winter Storage begins
April 18- 4-H Spring Rabbit Show	Oct. 4 - Wicked Pickin'
April 19- FCHA Tack Sale	Oct. 10-11 - Gun & Knife Show
April 26- Monroe Bike Show	Oct. 10-11- FCHA Horse Show
May 1-Ag Awareness Day	Oct. 17-Garage Sale & Flea Market
May 1-3- Fair Food Drive-Thru	Oct. 24- Grand Day of Tournaments
May 8-10- 4-H Horse Show	Oct. 31/Nov. 1- Shishewana on the Road
May 10- Flower & Garden Show	Nov. 14- 4-H Spaghetti Dinner & Auction
May 17- Motorcycle Swap Meet	Nov. 20-22 - Michigan Tattoo Convention
May 23- Bedford Fire Explorer Training	Dec. 13- The Vintage Market
May 30-31- FCHA Horse Show	
June 5-7 -4-H Horse Show	
June 7- The Vintage Market	
June 13-14- Gun & Knife Show	
June 21- Monroe Hamfest	
June 26-28- 4-H Horse Show	
July 3-5- Ann Arbor Kennel Club Dog Show	





2026 Fair theme winner



Legacy 4-H Club submitted the winning 2026 fair theme of :

Stars, Stripes and Country Nights

In honor of USA's 250th birthday

Leader Banquet

Link: [2025 Leader Banquet photos](#)

2025 award winners

Meritorious Business: Jerome's Country Market

Meritorious Individual: Sherri Iacoangeli

Leader of the Year: Mayra Leitner

Distinguished Alumnus: Amanda "Mandy" Cadle



Congratulations to all our Leaders and Volunteers

Recap

Christmas in Ida



Recap

Breakfast with the Grinch



Caprine council Christmas Party



Drop In w/Jean





Pennies for Turkey's



Building the **FUTURE**



Monroe County 4-H Entrepreneurship Program &
First Merchants Bank Partnering to Help Our Community Prosper