



December 2024

4-H Family News

WAYNE COUNTY



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Wayne County Upcoming Events

4-H Game Nights

4-H Game Night is a hybrid place where youth from across Michigan can get together and play games. It will be offered virtually statewide, and in select locations across the state according to interest. It will be on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7pm.

To get the zoom link, register at: <https://forms.gle/gV5yaKdPxb3Yc4uA7>

4-H
Night
Every 4th
Tuesday at
7pm

AN EVENT FOR ALL TO
ENJOY. JUST CHILL
PEOPLE HANGING OUT

Register to attend:
<https://forms.gle/gV5yaKdPxb3Yc4uA7>



Wayne County Upcoming Events

2025 Spark and Share Summit for Volunteers and Teen Leaders

 Michigan 4-H

Spark and Share Summit

FRANKENMUTH, MI

BAVARIAN INN LODGE AND CONFERENCE CENTER
MARCH 8, 2025
9AM -5:30PM

 \$65 includes Lunch

- Animal Science
- Science of Gardening
- Paper Art
- Engaging Meetings
- Mindfulness
- Rocketry
- Marketing your Project
- Youth-Adult Partnerships
- Teaching Science
- Vermicomposting
- Spa Day

Register by February 8th: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/SELeaderMeet2025/>

Reignite your passion for 4-H at the 2025 Spark and Share Summit March 8th at the Bavarian Inn Lodge and Conference Center in Frankenmuth, MI!!

4-H Volunteers and teens can register for this 1-day conference where they can learn new projects and information that they can take back to teach and share in their local 4-H program at: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/SELeaderMeet2025/>.

Registration is \$65 and includes lunch and selection of up to 3 breakout sessions. A link to session descriptions is available through the registration page. The deadline for registration is February 8th.

Scholarships to attend may be available in some counties. Please contact your local 4-H office for information.



Announcements

DEADLINE REMINDER

Apply Now 2023-2024 Wayne County 4-H Recognition Event!

4-H'ERS AND VOLUNTEERS SAVE THE DATE for the [2023-2024 Wayne County 4-H Recognition Event](#) on January 25th, 2025, at the WCCCD Ted Scott Campus (9555 Haggerty Rd, Belleville, MI 48111). Wayne County 4-H has proven to be made up of passionate, hard-working individuals: from volunteers who help to shape youths' futures, to the 4-H'ers who help lead and shape their communities. MSU Extension Wayne County 4-H is continually grateful for and wowed by the 4-H family. It's time to celebrate the accomplishments of Wayne County 4-H and showcase the many achievements and talents held by our volunteers and 4-H'ers! Join us in 2025 for our annual Award and Recognition Ceremony, where we can celebrate the efforts of the Wayne County 4-H community.



Apply for Awards! Now is your chance to apply for County Level Awards! We have a variety of awards for youth, volunteers, and clubs. You can find all corresponding applications for the following awards below at (<https://www.canr.msu.edu/wayne/4-h/2023-2024-4-h-recognition-event>). All awards applications are due no later than December 15th, 2024, late submissions WILL NOT be considered.

Youth Awards: (note, age is based on your 4-H age as of January 1, 2024)

- [4-H Project Area Awards](#) (Youth ages 8-19)
- [4-H Member Community Service Award](#) (Youth ages 13-19)
- [4-H Member Leadership and Personal Growth Award](#) (youth ages 8-19)
 - [4-H Member Sportsmanship Award](#) (youth ages 12-19)
- [Wayne County 4-H High Achievement Award](#) (Youth ages 14-19)

Adult Awards

- [4-H Leader of the Year Award](#) (must be a 4-H club leader)
- [4-H Volunteer of the Year Award](#) (must be a Gold Wayne County 4-H Volunteer)
- [Friend of 4-H Award](#) (individual or organization who has greatly supported Wayne County 4-H)

Club Awards

- [4-H Club Outstanding Achievement Award](#)

*Correction please note that the minimum number of words required for the adult awards narrative is **"500 words"** and the applications say 1,000 words in error.

All 4-H members and Volunteers will automatically be recognized for their years of service/membership at the 2023-2024 4-H Recognition Event.



Announcements

Pre-College Scholarships



Eva G.

Congratulations!



Payton M.

Congratulations to two Wayne County 4-H teens that were AWARDED \$2,000 MSU PRE-COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS!

Eva G. and Payton M. have been awarded a \$2,000 Michigan State University Pre-College Scholarship. Students in 8th to 11th grades for 2024-25 who attended an MSU summer pre-college program in the summer of 2024 were eligible to apply for this award. Both Eva and Payton 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](#)
[World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute](#)

For more information on these 4-H pre-college programs as well as other MSU pre-college programs, please 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.



4-H'er Spotlight- Nyla B.

What are your recent/past 4-H achievements?

My first year of being a part of 4-H, I got first place in rabbit showmanship, which was something I was proud of. I wanted to try something new, so in my second year of 4-H, I showed my first goat. I ended up placing dead last with an extremely stubborn young goat. Even though that was a rough fair, I learned from that experience and worked even harder. Last summer, I got 3rd place in my goat showmanship because of determination and persistence.

How and when did you get involved with 4-H?

In 2021, when I was eight years old, I wanted to volunteer in animal shelters, but I was too young. But I still wanted to do something animal related. So, I was talking with my dad, and we discovered the 4-H program. After learning about the values and mission of 4-H, I decided to join and explore the program. I'm so happy that I did!

What drew you to being a part of the 4-H program?

My love for animals and animal care.

What have you gained from being a part of 4-H?

I've gained more confidence in myself when I try new things. I've gained additional knowledge about farm animals and animal care. I've gained communication skills when it comes to sharing what I think. I've gained experience with overcoming challenges and tough situations.

What advice would you give someone else in 4-H or thinking about joining 4-H?

If you are unsure about joining 4-H, you absolutely should. 4-H is an amazing experience that encourages you to step outside of your comfort zone and explore new opportunities. You'll meet new people and build friendships. At first, I was shy, but now because of 4-H, I try new things more often. I love the program and Fair every year!

What is your favorite memory of 4-H?

In my first year of doing 4-H, I was intrigued by the rabbits. The first rabbit I held I loved. At my first-ever rabbit showmanship, I received 1st place with her. Olive and I have been together ever since. That is my favorite memory.

What are your plans for the future?

My plans for the future include a focus on animal training, animal therapy, or animal rescuing.

Is there anything else you want to share about yourself, 4-H, or recent experiences that we may include?

I'm so glad there is a program for kids like me who love animals! Other than 4-H, I run varsity cross-country for my middle school. I play the viola in orchestra and take lyrical dance. During the spring, I play soccer with DCFC. I like being outside and spending time with my sister.





Volunteer Spotlight-Teena Chorpa

Where do you volunteer, and how did you get started?

I serve through my expertise in Science by delivering talks on health literacy and inspiring young students to pursue STEM fields. This year I am serving as a Science Olympiad coach for Roeper school.

What has been your favorite or most fulfilling part of volunteering with 4-H?

I enjoy answering a variety of questions from young scientists. It is fascinating to see their curiosity.

What volunteer projects do you most like to be a part of?

Teaching and mentoring is definitely my favorite.

Do you have any advice for other 4-H volunteers?

Think of volunteering as an adventure and enjoy it.

Is there anything else you want to share about yourself, 4-H, or recent experiences that we may include?

I am grateful to 4-H for the opportunity and my program advisor, Ms. Ashleigh Klein for being so supportive and approachable.





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!

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:

www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-monthly-wildlife-fisheries-webinar-series-december-2024-25

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.

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.