



February 2025

4-H Family News

WAYNE COUNTY



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Photo from our 4-H
Recognition Event





Wayne County Upcoming Events

4-H Cash Composition Contest

The 4-H Cash Composition Contest is back again this year! This year's contest is open to any youth residing in Michigan, ages 9-19. Write a short essay on credit for a chance to win a \$100 gift card, thanks to the generous sponsorship from Extra Credit Union. Three winners in each age bracket will win!

The deadline to register and submit your essay is February 28.

Read contest details at:

<https://bit.ly/cashcompositioncontest>

CASH COMPOSITION CONTEST

Answer the following prompt in 300 words or less for a chance to win a \$100 gift card!

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?

Open to ages 9-19
Essays due Feb 29, 2024

Extra Credit UNION MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension
4-H GROWS HERE

Crash Course: Credit Survival 101



Crash Course: Credit Survival 101

A webinar on credit basics for youth



January 15 at 6pm
OR
February 4 at
5:30pm

Don't Let Credit Confuse You! Want to unlock the secrets of managing your money like a pro? Join our 1-hour Crash Credit Course and learn how to master your credit before it masters you.

Who: Youth ages 9-19

When: February 4 at 5:30

Check it out here:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/crash-creditcourse>



Wayne County Upcoming Events

WAYNE COUNTY 4-H HORSE & PONY PROUDLY PRESENTS OUR 2025 TACK SALE

- **WHEN:** Saturday, March 1
- **TIME:** 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
- **WHERE:** Wayne County Fairground Dining Hall: 10871 Quirk Road, Belleville, MI 48111
- **Cost:** \$3 Door Charge, per person

\$35 reservation fee for tack booth

(includes admission for 2 people, 1 Table & 2 Chairs)

There will also be a concession stand and silent auction.

All proceeds go to Wayne County 4-H Horse and Pony.

For more Info: Please TEXT Melissa LaForest at 734-751-1022 or Email at heyli529@yahoo.com

Driven for the Future

Are you passionate about vehicles and ready to jump-start your career in the automotive industry? Enjoy technology, robotics, and hands-on problem solving? Join us for an engaging webinar designed to provide valuable insight into the skills and certifications you need to excel in today's fast-evolving automotive industry. Hear success stories from current automotive evaluation technician apprentices who are gaining hands-on experience through the FAME (Federation for Advanced Manufacturing Education) program to turn their passion into a thriving career in the skilled trades.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

Driven for the Future 2025
Webinar Series

- January 23- Gear Up for Success
- February 13- Ace the Interview
- March 20- Careers in Auto Performance
- April 10- Workplace Professionalism
- May 1- Engineering the Future

Live webinars take place at 6pm.
Watch all webinars to receive an incentive.

TOYOTA MOTOR NORTH AMERICA | Research & Development

Find out more about the series and register at:
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/driven-for-the-future/index>



Wayne County Upcoming Events

4-H Capitol Experience

Who: Youth in 9th grade through 12th grade. 4-H and non-4-H member's welcome! (Non-4-H members will be asked to sign up in 4-H Online)

What: a 3-day event where youth can meet with peers to talk about issues that are important to them, network with folks that work in a wide variety of roles related to public policy and see state government in action.

When/Where: Sunday, March 16 through Tuesday, March 18, in-person at the Okemos Conference Center and Michigan's State Capitol

Cost:

\$365 includes conference registration, lodging, and meals. Please contact local MSU Extension Staff if you are interested in applying for scholarships to help attend this event.

Register Now Until March 1 at: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/CapitolExperience2025/>

MARCH 16-18, 2025

4-H CAPITOL EXPERIENCE

COST \$365

OPEN TO HIGH SCHOOL AGE YOUTH EXPERIENCE STATE GOVERNMENT IN ACTION AND LEARN HOW TO INFLUENCE POLICY ISSUES. INTERACT WITH LEGISLATORS, STATE AGENCY STAFF, LOBBYISTS AND OTHER RESOURCE PEOPLE!

PLEASE REGISTER BY MARCH 1ST AT: [HTTPS://EVENTS.ANR.MSU.EDU/CAPITOLEXPERIENCE2025/](https://events.anr.msu.edu/CapitolExperience2025/)

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

4-H Game Night

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.

Every 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm.

Register at:

<https://forms.gle/gV5yaKdPxb3Yc4uA7>

4-H

GAME Night

Every 4th Tuesday at 7pm

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

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



Other County Upcoming Events

2025 Spark and Share Summit for Volunteers and Teen Leaders



The poster features the Michigan 4-H logo at the top left. The main title 'Spark and Share Summit' is written in a large, white, serif font on a dark green banner. Below the banner, the location 'FRANKENMUTH, MI' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The event details are listed in a white, sans-serif font: 'BAVARIAN INN LODGE AND CONFERENCE CENTER', 'MARCH 8, 2025', and '9AM -5:30PM'. A green starburst graphic contains the text '\$65 includes Lunch'. A list of activities is provided in a white, sans-serif font, including Animal Science, Science of Gardening, Paper Art, Engaging Meetings, Mindfulness, Rocketry, Marketing your Project, Youth-Adult Partnerships, Teaching Science, Vermicomposting, and Spa Day. At the bottom, the registration information is given: 'Register by February 8th: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/SELeaderMeet2025/>'. Two circular inset images show people participating in the event: one shows three people in green shirts planting a tree, and the other shows a group of people sitting around a table in a meeting.

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 \$50 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.



Other County Upcoming Events

Write Your Way to Success

- 📣 **Calling all youth ages 11-19! You are invited!** 🎉
- 🌟 **Write Your Way to Success Workshop** 🌟
- 📖 Unlock the power of words and learn how to:
 - ✓ Secure scholarships
 - ✓ Win awards
 - ✓ Stand out in job applications

This **FREE**, in-person workshop will teach you effective strategies to showcase your strengths and discover exciting opportunities to test your skills!

When: Thursday, February 27, 6:30-7:30 PM
Where: Washtenaw County MSU Extension Office
 705 N. Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor

👤 Who can attend?

Youth ages 11-19 (No prior 4-H membership required, but participants must enroll in 4-H before attending. Enrolling is FREE!)

📌 **Register now:** <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/write-your-way-to-success>



Ace the Interview: Skill Building & Practice Workshop in Washtenaw County for Teens!

🌟 **Ace the Interview: Skill Building & Practice Workshop in Washtenaw County for Teens!** 🌟
Are you between the ages of 12-19 and ready to ace your next interview? Whether it's for a job, internship, or college, this workshop will give you the tools and confidence to shine!



✍️ What You'll Learn:

- Key strategies to answer common interview questions
- How to showcase your strengths and make a great first impression
- Hands-on practice with peer and instructor feedback

📍 **Where:** Washtenaw County MSU Extension Office
 705 N. Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI

📅 **When:** Sunday, March 23: 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

🔑 Sign up at: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/ace-the-interview-skill-building>

💠 You do NOT need to be a previous 4-H member to attend, but enrollment in 4-H is required (and it's FREE!).

Don't miss out on this opportunity to build your skills and confidence. Sign up now and take the first step toward interview success! 🙌



Announcements

You are invited to join the new SPIN Club at the Detroit Brightmoor location for the new youth education series.

Cost: This is a FREE program for youth

MSU Extension 4-H Wayne County x Detroit Partnership for Learning and Innovation (DPFLI) are teaming up to hold youth program sessions for youth ages 10-17.

This is a place where youth can attend sessions in-person apart from 2 dates being virtual to learn life skills to be successful in adulthood. Some of the topics include, business, coding, financial education, home economics and more.

February 20: 5:30 – 6:30pm

For Enrollment Click Below:

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/DPFLIYouthProgram/>
and/or

<https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>

Select: SPIN Club DPFLI Youth Program.

Once the enrollment has been completed you will receive a confirmation email.

Any questions regarding the programming, please contact LaToya at Cainjone@msu.edu or 313-494-4716.

More information: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/wayne/4-h/>

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

MSU Extension 4-H
Youth Program Age 10 - 17

WAYNE CO. 4-H X DPFLI

Monthly Skill Trainings for Youth

When: Last Thursday of the month
(Starts February 27th)

Open House Feb 20th to enroll 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Classes 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

- February 27th
Introduction to 4-H x DPFLI
- March 27th
College Success
- April 24th
College Success: Why Coding is for everyone?
- May 29th
Coding Basics 101
- June 26th
Home Economics
- July 31st
Community Service
- Financial Literacy

**Instructor: MSU 4-H Extension
LaToya Jones**

Email: Cainjone@msu.edu
Voicemail: 313-494-4716




**Registration link
Open House**

Hosted by: Wayne County 4-H

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion are important, interdependent components of everyday life in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR) and are critical to our pursuit of academic excellence.

To Become a Volunteer:
https://msu.samaritan.com/custom/502/volunteer_home



4-H'er Spotlight- Rory C.

What are your recent/past 4-H achievements?

My first year showing chickens I won Grand Champion Poultry. My first year showing my pet rabbit I won 1st place in showmanship.

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

This is my 5th year in 4h. I started as a protégé on my brother's horse, but that wasn't for me. I now show livestock.

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

I saw my brother doing all sorts of cool things at fair and I wanted to be a part of that too. I just had to find something I was good at. I really like the livestock side of fair.

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

I have gained a lot of new friends. I also think I have gained a new knowledge of different things regarding a bunch of animals I never thought I would know.

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

You should school, it!

What is your favorite memory of 4-H?

My favorite memories would be getting my bunny Jane and just spending the whole week with all my friends.

What are your future plans?

Once I graduate high school, I would like to go to college for computer science.





Volunteer Spotlight- Aimee Smith

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

American Youth 4-H club and WCHP. I was in American Youth as a child and now have children in the club.

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

I think being surrounded by generations of families who have been part of our 4-H community is the most fulfilling. Our current club leader is the daughter of my club leader when I was a kid. Several of my old club members have children in the club with my own and many adult volunteers have spanned the years from my childhood to now my children. Seeing the same names and new faces really shows how the history of our group is what keeps it growing.



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

Horse & Pony as well as community service are my favorite aspects of volunteering with 4-H.

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

Do what you can when you can and remember everyone is volunteering for the kids.



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Get free tickets for Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin!



Make plans for a fun day in East Lansing on March 1! Join with other members of the 4-H community for Michigan 4-H Day at the Breslin. This fun family event will be held at the Jack Breslin Student Events Center as the MSU Women's Basketball team takes on the Minnesota Golden Gophers.

In addition to the game, attendees will also enjoy 4-H activities around the concourse. Doors will open at 12:30 p.m., with tip-off scheduled for 2 p.m. Participants are encouraged to show their pride and wear green and white 4-H or MSU Extension apparel.

Tickets are free to 4-H youth and their families as well as 4-H volunteers and their families. For more information and to order tickets, visit www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-Breslin.

A member of the 4-H alumni community? Consider also stopping by the 4-H Alumni Tip-Off Reception on March 1! More information and registration at www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-alumni-tip-off-reception.

February 4: Crash Course: Credit Survival 101

Online

Youth learn the basics of credit: advantages and disadvantages, credit vs. debit, credit scores, interest, and tips to managing credit wisely.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/crashcreditcoursefeb-4

February 11: 4-H Wild Spartans – The Relationship Between Tribes and Fish

Online

Plunge into the world of Great Lakes fisheries and meet Jason Smith, Great Lakes fisheries assessment biologist for the Bay Mills Indian community. Learn about his work, and the education and career path he followed to get there. Ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A. Open to youth ages 12-19 years.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-monthly-wildlife-fisheries-webinar-series-february-2024-2025

February 12: Online Parent Talk System Webinar Series

Online

A course for caregivers to improve communication and provide strategies for raising confident, caring, responsible children. This weekly series will be offered Wednesdays from Feb. 12 – Mar. 19 at no cost.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/the-parent-talk-system-series-february-march-25

February 13: Ace the Interview: Tips to Land Your Dream Job

Online

Through the partnership of Toyota and Michigan 4-H, youth will explore a variety of career paths in the automotive industry as well as build workforce readiness skills to take on their goals. This second offering in the five-part webinar series will focus on tips for a successful interview.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/ace-the-interview

February 15: 4-H Animal Science Career Quest 2025

Online

A career exploration program for youth ages 12-19 interested in pursuing a career in animal science. Learn about everything animal science has to offer and many career skill-building activities through hands-on sessions. Register by Feb. 3.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-animal-science-career-quest-2025

February 25: 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series; Facilitation Skills for 4-H Clubs

Online

Gain essential facilitation skills to engage every voice and increase efficiency in your 4-H club. This session offers tools to create inclusive, dynamic discussions, making sure all members feel heard while streamlining club activities. This webinar will be offered at two different times:

12 p.m. www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-every-voice-facilitation-skills-for-dynamic-4-h-clubs-noon

7 p.m. www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-every-voice-facilitation-skills-for-dynamic-4-h-clubs-7pm





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS



Apply for the Michigan 4-H State Awards!

Michigan 4-H true leaders ages 11 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). 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 <http://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.

Participate in the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute

As millions across the globe deal with food insecurity, the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute (WFP MIYI) offers young people an opportunity to be part of the solution. Held May 8 in East Lansing, or by participating from anywhere else using Zoom video/web conference technology, the event seeks to inspire and prepare the next generation of global leaders to end world hunger.

To participate, youth should be in grades 7-12 and register by the March 15 deadline. As part of the registration process, youth are required to prepare a three- to five-page research paper about a developing country and one of 22 key factors that affect food security. At the event, youth present and discuss their papers with other attendees and research and industry experts.

The top performing students at the WFP MIYI will be selected to attend the World Food Prize Global Youth Institute in Des Moines, Iowa, in October. For more information, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/wfpmiyi/>. Registration opens Feb. 1 and closes Mar. 15.



Seeking outstanding agricultural 4-H volunteers

The Michigan 4-H Foundation is seeking nominations of remarkable agricultural 4-H volunteers for the Michigan Farm Bureau (MFB) 4-H Excellence in Agriculture Award. This award recognizes outstanding 4-H volunteers that have exhibited excellence in 4-H youth education and leadership development in the areas of 4-H beef cattle; dairy cattle; goats; horses; horticulture, crops and soils; poultry; rabbits; sheep; swine; and veterinary science.

Up to five MFB Excellence in Agriculture Award honorees are recognized each year. Selected recipients will be recognized by both Michigan 4-H and MFB. In addition, honorees receive a \$1,000 grant they designate to a 4-H agricultural program of their choice. The award is supported by an endowment with the Michigan 4-H Foundation that was established by MFB.



Nominations for the MFB Excellence in Agriculture Award should be submitted by March 15. To nominate a deserving individual or learn more about the 4-H Excellence in Agriculture Award, visit <https://mi4hfdtn.org/grants-scholarships/mfb-4-h-excellence-in-agriculture-award/>.