



June 2026

4-H Family News

WAYNE COUNTY



Beyond Ready

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Learn by doing.

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Wayne County Upcoming Events

Summer at the FLI!

Kids Summer Garden Camp
At DPFLI!
16745 Lamphere St. Detroit, 48219

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Beyond Ready

AGES 7-12

MONDAY - THURSDAY 10AM-12PM

Session I: June 22-25
Session II: July 13-16
Session III: August 10-13

- STEAM-based, outdoor learning
- Gardening and plant science
- Nature-based art
- Farm fresh snack
- Entrepreneurship

Option to participate in a kids booth at the Northwest Detroit Farmers Market on the Thursday afternoon of each session!

SCAN THE QR TO REGISTER!
Or go to this link: tinyurl.com/DPFLIcamp

Questions? Contact Elena: moshere@msu.edu

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Join us for a fun summer camp at the DPFLI location located in Brightmoor community of the City of Detroit. Scan to register.

Contact LaToya Jones @ email: Cainjone@msu.edu for more information.

4-H Farm to Table Workshop Series

The 4-H Farm to Table Workshop Series is a hands-on program for youth in grades 4 and up that explores where food comes from and how it makes its way from farms to our tables. Hosted at the Allen Park Farmer's Market, participants learn about local agriculture, nutrition, and sustainability through interactive lessons and engaging cooking activities using fresh, locally sourced ingredients. Youth also build practical life skills such as food preparation, teamwork, and decision-making while gaining confidence and a greater appreciation for healthy eating.

Who: Youth in 4th grade and up

What: Hands-on workshops focused on food systems, nutrition, and cooking

Where: Allen Park Farmer's Market

When: Fridays, May 29 – June 19, 5:00–6:30 PM

Cost: Free; registration required

Workshop Topics: Garden Salsa, Strawberry Freezer Jam, Bean Dip, Overnight Oats

Register at: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-farm-to-table-workshops>

Farm to Table Workshop Series
at Allen Park Farmer's Market

Fridays, May 29th–Jun 19th
5:00–6:30 PM

4-H Farm to Table gives youth a hands-on look at where food comes from through interactive agriculture and cooking activities.

Questions? Contact Ashleigh Klein at apelashl@msu.edu or 734-727-7408

Registration Required, suitable for grades 4th & up

<https://peas.is/evntb/msooc05647/>

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For more information, contact Ashleigh Klein at apelashl@msu.edu or 734-727-7408.



Wayne County Upcoming Events

Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase

Got a project to show off? We want to see it!

Join the Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase!

- Ages 5–19 | FREE entry | No 4-H membership needed
- Submit photos or videos
- Register by Aug. 7
- Scholarships available for youth 8-19 as of Jan 1, 2026
- Enter as many classes as you want. All exhibitors receive ratings AND feedback from judges!



Enter today at: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/State-Fair-Virtual-Showcase/>

Michigan 4-H Business Pitch Contest

Got a business idea? Let's hear your pitch!

Enter the Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase and share your entrepreneurial skills in a 2-minute video! Whether your business is already running, just getting started, or still an idea-you can compete.

- Open to youth ages 8–19 (as of Jan 1, 2026) in three age brackets
- Product, service, or community impact ideas welcome
- Submit a short video pitching your business directly to the audience
- Entry deadline of August 7, 2026

🏆 Win gift cards (\$75, \$50, \$25) thanks to MSU Federal Credit Union!

Show your creativity, confidence, and innovation—start planning your pitch today!

For more information and to register, check out the Fair Book (Dept 73) and registration link at:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/State-Fair-Virtual-Showcase/>





Wayne County Upcoming Events

Michigan 4-H License Plate Youth Marketing & Promotion Contest

  Help promote the Michigan 4-H License Plate!

Enter the Michigan 4-H License Plate Youth Marketing & Promotion Contest through the Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase (via FairEntry)!

Create a design, flyer, poster, or video (90 seconds or less) that encourages others to support 4-H by purchasing the Michigan 4-H license plate.

- Open to ALL youth (you do NOT need to be a 4-H member!)
- Ages 8–19 (as of Jan 1, 2026)
- Divisions: 8–11, 12–14, 15–19
- Enter one or both categories—video AND non-video!

Show your creativity, promote a great cause, and earn recognition on Michigan 4-H social media!

Thanks to the Michigan 4-H Foundation for the support of the prizes. Entries are then eligible for the Michigan State Fair Virtual Showcase scholarship!

Registration link : <https://www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/State-Fair-Virtual-Showcase/>

Michigan 4-H License Plate Promotion Contest
Help Drive Support for Michigan 4-H!

Use your creativity to help promote the Michigan 4-H license plate while showcasing what 4-H means to you!

Youth are invited to create original videos, graphics, posters, and more that inspire others to support Michigan 4-H programs across the state.

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MICHIGAN 4-H FOUNDATION



Member Spotlight- Averii O.

What are your recent/past 4-H achievements?

I am getting better at showing pigs! Last year I even placed in my showmanship class.

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

Mr. Jim Budd told my dad we could get chickens and then I started showing with them! I have been in 4H for 2 years now.

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

I love working with and being around the animals.

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

I have learned to work with different types of livestock.

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

4-H is really fun, you can learn about and show many different animals, and make good friends

What is your favorite memory of 4-H?

My favorite memory so far is showing petunia my pig.

What are your plans for the future?

I want to be a horse trainer and learn about different horses.

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

I love being a part of 4-H because you can meet new friends and learn about many different types of livestock.



Do you want to be featured under our member spotlight in an upcoming Newsletter? If so, take a moment to complete this form

<https://forms.gle/U5nBbBYPS3YaNvqZ7>



Volunteer Spotlight- Amy H.



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

In Wayne County. I volunteer with Livestock Development and am the Chairperson of Master Stockman, Co-chair of Agri Business Program, Assistant Barn Superintendent of the Beef and Dairy Barn. I was in 4-H as a youth and had a great experience and wanted this experience for my own children.

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

I love the opportunities 4-H affords youth and watching the youth grow and using their voices to shape their program and Fair.

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

Master Stockman and AgriBusiness. Anything related to vet or animal science.

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

Encourage kids to try new things and provide opportunities for them to fail safely and learn how to pick themselves up after. Also, providing opportunities for youth to use their voices and shape the program.

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

Working in another county in 4-H has opened my eyes to other programs and opportunities. I think everyone can benefit from visiting other 4-H programs and collaborating with them. We can all learn from each other.

Do you want to be featured under our Volunteer spotlight in an upcoming Newsletter? If so, take a moment to complete this form

<https://forms.gle/DbH1CYaWRE7bvTUr6>



Announcements

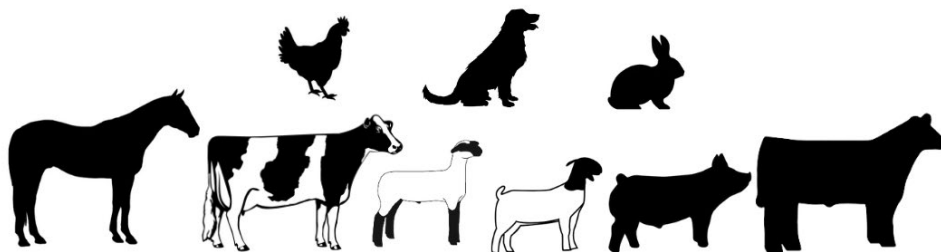
Michigan 4-H Animal Science Showmanship Guide

Are you new to showing animals? Did you earn a spot in your county's showmanship sweepstakes contest? Perhaps you'd simply like to sharpen your showmanship skills for a project you've been taking for a few years now... Michigan 4-H now has showmanship guides available for every species that were designed with you in mind!

With county fair season approaching, there is no better time than now to start building your showmanship skills.

You can find all the guides under the "Publications" tab on this webpage:
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/tag/4-h-showmanship-guides>

**Michigan 4-H
Animal Science
Showmanship Guides
now available!**





Volunteer Tip of the Month

Be a Spark Champion

Every young person has a “spark” — a passion, interest, or activity that excites them and gives them purpose. As volunteers, mentors, and caring adults, we have the opportunity to become “spark champions” by encouraging youth, believing in their abilities, and helping them grow in confidence.

Research shows that youth thrive when they have supportive adults who take an interest in what matters to them. Whether it’s animals, art, leadership, sports, science, or community service, sparks can help youth build life skills, resilience, and a sense of belonging. While parents are often a child’s first spark champions, volunteers and other trusted adults play an important role in helping youth discover and pursue their interests.

One important reminder is that sparks can change over time. If a young person struggles or loses interest, supportive adults can help them reflect, adjust, and explore new opportunities rather than simply giving up. The more positive champions a young person has in different areas of their life, the brighter their spark can shine.

How Volunteers Can Be Spark Champions

- Show genuine interest in what youth enjoy and ask questions about their hobbies, goals, and ideas.
- Encourage effort and growth, not just success or talent.
- Create opportunities for youth to explore new activities and experiences.
- Celebrate small wins and recognize progress along the way.
- Listen actively and make youth feel heard, valued, and respected.
- Help youth connect their interests to future opportunities, careers, or leadership roles.
- Be patient when interests change and encourage youth to keep exploring new passions.
- Model positivity, curiosity, and a willingness to learn alongside youth.
- Help youth build confidence by giving them meaningful responsibilities and leadership opportunities.
- Remind youth that their ideas, talents, and voices matter.

Sometimes one caring adult who believes in a young person can make all the difference.

For more information, read the original article published by MSU Extension:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/why-are-sparks-champions-important-for-youth-to-thrive>





Fun Stuff

Edible Sand Cups

Dirt cups were always a hit when I was a kid (let's be honest, they still are). Chocolate pudding, crushed Oreos, and gummy worms are a combination you never knew you needed.

When I got to high school, I discovered the opposite of a dirt cup: a sand cup. I immediately started making them for my friends and family because I wanted to show everyone there was a beachy version of the classic dirt cup everyone loves. They're super easy to make, and you can even turn it into a sand cake instead of making individual cups!

Ingredients

- 1 box instant vanilla pudding (3.4 oz)
- 2 cups cold milk
- 1 container Cool Whip (8 oz), thawed
- 1 box vanilla wafers / Nilla Wafers
- Blue sprinkles or blue sugar crystals
- Swedish Fish candies
- Clear plastic cups



Instructions

- Make the vanilla pudding with the cold milk according to the box directions.
- Let it thicken for about 5 minutes.
- Fold in the Cool Whip until smooth and fluffy.
- Crush the Nilla Wafers into fine crumbs — this becomes the “sand.”
- In clear cups, layer:
 - pudding mixture
 - Nilla Wafer crumbs
 - repeat if desired
- Top with extra cookie crumbs, blue sprinkles (“water”), and Swedish Fish.
- Chill for at least 1 hour before serving.

Optional Extras

- Gummy sharks
- Cocktail umbrellas
- Teddy Grahams as “sunbathers”





STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Preparing Youth to Be Beyond Ready Through 4-H Livestock Projects



Beyond Ready

4-H livestock projects provide powerful, real-world learning that helps youth become Beyond Ready for life, work and leadership. Caring for animals teaches responsibility, time management and problem solving, all of which are essential skills for future success. Through chores, recordkeeping and making informed decisions, youth practice accountability and perseverance.

Livestock projects also build confidence as members explain their work to judges, interact with buyers and demonstrate professionalism in the show ring. When volunteers encourage reflection, support goal setting, and help youth connect these experiences to life beyond the barn, young people begin to see how their efforts today prepare them for tomorrow. Are your project activities helping youth become Beyond Ready?

#BeyondReady

June 6: Garden Geocache Event

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing

Cache veterans and new enthusiasts are welcome at this geocaching adventure. Bring your picnic lunch and enjoy a day of caching in the gardens. Find new caches, trade travel bugs, explore the gardens and much more.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/garden-geocache

June 9: Online Extension Extras for Parents: Internet Safety

Online

Screens are everywhere, and children are spending more and more time in front of them. This session will discuss topics including steps to take to keep kids safe online, apps youth use and their safety, Michigan laws, and more.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/online-internet-safety-6-9-26

June 11: Adulting 101 – AI and You: Smart, Safe and Savvy

Online

As part of the Michigan 4-H Adulting 101 webinar series, this session will explore the basics of how artificial intelligence works, ways it can support you, and how to make smart decisions.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/ai_and_you

June 18: Pirate and Pixie Garden Party

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing

Argh me mateys. Join a morning of swashbuckling fun! Go on a treasure hunt, making pixie dust, decorate an eye patch and more!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/pirate-and-pixie-garden-party

June 23: Digger Day

Michigan 4-H Children's Garden, East Lansing

Come to the garden and explore the world of diggers. Front-end loaders, dump trucks and back hoes – all of these tools help with projects both big and small in communities.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/digger-day

July 1: 4-H and FFA Livestock Judging State Contest

Farm Bureau Pavilion, East Lansing

Participants will demonstrate their livestock evaluation and selection skills, as well as improve communication and decision-making skills. Register by June 15.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-and-ffa-livestock-judging-state-contest-2026





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Register for the Michigan 4-H and FFA State Livestock Judging Contest

Registration is now open for the Michigan 4-H and FFA State Livestock Judging Contest! Participants can demonstrate their livestock evaluation and selection skills, as well as improve their communication and decision-making skills at this fun statewide contest. The day will include both individual and team competition with classes of beef cattle, Boer goats, sheep and swine.

Contest divisions include:

- 4-H Juniors - 4-H youth ages 8-13 as of January 1
- 4-H Seniors - 4-H youth ages 14-19 as of January 1
- FFA Junior High - FFA members that recently completed seventh or eighth grade
- FFA High School – FFA members that recently completed grades 9-12
- MLE - Youth ages 8-21 as of January 1 that are not a member of 4-H or FFA
- Cloverbuds - 4-H youth age 7 as of January 1, non-competitive

While the dates for the contest no longer coincide with Michigan Livestock Expo (MLE), this contest does still count as an educational experience for the MLE Premiere Stockman Award. Registration is due by June 15. Find registration information at www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-and-ffa-livestock-judging-state-contest-2026.



MSU Extension honors 11 Michigan 4-H volunteers for 50 years of service in 2026

For the sixth year, MSU Extension is celebrating outstanding volunteers who have given a half-century of service to Michigan 4-H. These individuals have pledged their heads, hearts, hands and service to improving the lives of youth and their communities through Michigan 4-H for the past 50 years.

“We give thanks for every volunteer in our program,” said Quentin Tyler, director of MSU Extension. “Michigan 4-H would not exist as it does today without the dedication of volunteers who generously share their gifts, and these 11 remarkable individuals in particular have been sharing their gifts for a half-century. We offer them our sincere and heartfelt appreciation for all they’ve done for our organization and Michigan 4-H’ers.”

The Michigan 4-H 50-year volunteers being recognized in 2026 are:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Kay Booth, Barry County | • Deb Pincumbe, Ingham County |
| • Joyce Goerge, Clinton County | • Linda Preston, Cass County |
| • Betty Groth, Cass County, | • Peter Preston, Cass County |
| • Beverly Koppelman, Monroe County | • Kathy Williams, St. Clair County |
| • Gary Koppelman, Monroe County | • Mary Yeomans, Midland County |
| • Michael Lee, Osceola County | |

In recognition of their service, 50-year volunteers received a gift of appreciation from MSU Extension leadership, as well as a personal note of thanks. Tribute gifts in honor of any or all of these 4-H volunteers may be made to support 4-H at:

<https://mi4hfdtn.org/memorial-tribute-gifts/>.