



NOVEMBER 2024

4-H Family News

Calhoun County



Program Coordinator Update

Thank you so much to our leaders for finishing your 2023-24 financial reports & getting those submitted to me!

Just a reminder that your bank statements **MUST** be sent to the Extension office. If you have paper statements, they need to be mailed to our office. If you receive them electronically, please send them to me via email at vargocre@msu.edu.

For those clubs that have their statements sent to our office, we will be sending those to clubs via email unless specifically requested otherwise.

As we move into another program year, please keep in mind that if you do not complete your re-enrollment by December 31, you will stop receiving emails from 4-H Online.

I've also been getting a lot of feedback about folks not receiving emails – please make sure to check your SPAM folder. If the emails DO go to your spam folder, you should be able to mark “Not Spam” and it will move the email to your inbox. After that it should start showing up in your inbox each time.

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STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Support 4-H with the TSC Paper Clover Campaign



To embrace the holiday spirit, the Tractor Supply Company (TSC) Paper Clover campaign has moved from its traditional October dates to November and December this year! Now from Nov. 29 – Dec. 15, TSC customers across the nation will have the opportunity to support 4-H youth by purchasing a \$1 clover at checkouts when shopping both in stores or online at www.TractorSupply.com during the campaign dates.

Funds raised will support county, state and national 4-H programming. To learn more, visit www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/cms/4h.

New for 2024, you can also support 4-H by purchasing three special commemorative 4-H holiday ornaments, now in TSC stores! Proceeds from the sale of ornaments support 4-H.



November 6: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series - Ways Volunteers Can Spark Big Dreams and Future Careers

Online

November is National Career Development Month! Learn easy activities to help youth explore career pathways and develop skills to be ready for the workforce. Explore tools and resources that allow youth to reflect and prepare for the next steps in their career journey. This session will be offered twice for the convenience of volunteers.

12 – 1 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-ways-volunteers-can-spark-big-dreams-and-future-careers

7 – 8 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-ways-volunteers-can-spark-big-dreams-and-future-careers7pm

November 12: Wild Spartan Series – Behind the Scenes in the Life of a Park Ranger

Online

This month's 4-H Wild Spartans will fly into the refuges that many migrating birds depend on for migration. Join us at 6:30 p.m. to meet Andrea Martinson, park ranger for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge. Learn about her work, and the education and career path she followed to get there. Youth will be encouraged to ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A. This free virtual series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19 years.

events.anr.msu.edu/wildspartans2024_25/

November 19: Adulting 101 - Cracking the Code to College

Online

The Michigan 4-H Adulting 101 series helps young people prepare for college or life on their own. In this session, explore the admission and application process and get tips on writing your essay.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/college

November 21: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series - Positive Youth Development 101; Building Strong Relationships Through Every Stage

Online

Understanding the development of youth is crucial for building strong, positive relationships. In this webinar, we will explore the key stages of child and youth development and the common characteristics that young people share as they grow. Learn how to support and engage with youth effectively, recognizing that each young person develops at their own pace. Equip yourself with the knowledge and tools to foster meaningful connections with youth at every stage of their growth.

12 – 1 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-positive-youth-development-101-building-strong-relationships-through-every-stage

7 – 8 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-positive-youth-development-101-building-strong-relationships-through-every-stage7pm





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Starting the 4-H season off right: Suggestions for the year's first meeting

Adapted from an article by Michelle Neff at www.canr.msu.edu/news/starting-the-4-h-season-off-right-suggestions-for-the-years-first-meeting.

A new 4-H year has started and that means it is time to start thinking about the goals and plans for educational, inspirational and recreational activities for Michigan 4-H clubs! No matter what project youth are participating in, it is important to start the year off right!



MSU Extension has resources for volunteers to help lead and manage their 4-H club on the 4-H Club Development website, www.canr.msu.edu/4hclub/index. A good start to the 4-H year will allow youth members, club leaders and parents to be clear about expectations and plans for the group and be excited for what will take place. Some tips to get you started include:

- Get to know youth and adults and share about 4-H! Clubs transition from year to year. There may be members new to 4-H, youth trying new project areas, and members who have left or transitioned to different activities. Make sure everyone knows each other with a fun icebreaker activity.
- Prepare a list of activities for the year. The 4-H year goes fast and there is a lot to do in a short period of time. Preparing a list of club activities for meetings is important to ensure youth are learning the life and technical skills of their 4-H project.
- Create a calendar. Once you have your activities picked out, it's time to plan when and where it will all happen!

MSU Extension hosts successful second Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol

On October 9, MSU Extension hosted the second Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol to showcase the positive impact of the Michigan 4-H program and bring additional visibility to its effects. The event was held in the atrium of Heritage Hall – the Capitol Visitor's Center.

"We were so excited to bring this event back in 2024," said Deanna East, MSU Extension associate director who served as the event emcee. "Michigan 4-H is certainly worth celebrating every day of the year and we are grateful for the opportunity to highlight this impactful program to our state's leaders."

Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol was attended by legislators, stakeholders and members of the public. At the event, attendees visited information booths hosted by Michigan 4-H youth and staff. A brief program featured East as well as: legislative host Representative Reggie Miller; MSU President Kevin Guskiewicz; Emma Young, policy analyst for Governor Whitmer and a Michigan 4-H alumna; Everett Howell, Michigan 4-H youth from Leelanau County; and Brianna Sierra, Michigan 4-H youth from Genesee County.



Mich. 4-H youth with Rep. Miller (fourth from left).

"The Michigan 4-H program serves an incredible number of youth each year but we hope to reach even more young people in the years ahead" continued East. "Elevating awareness of the program is one of our primary goals for Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol and we believe this event will help connect more youth with our program and all that Michigan 4-H has to offer."

The program was livestreamed on the Michigan 4-H Facebook and can be viewed at www.facebook.com/Michigan4H.



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Leader Updates



I am working on updating leader resources, including curriculum. We have a LOT of resources at the office that are available for check out and use by clubs.

To view a list of the items I that I currently have inventoried – visit this link:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1aZKK2B_bZKsvwd8ju_oz9PE7I0pN1JQ_loQl8nZCv84/edit?usp=sharing

This is NOT an all-inclusive list of what we have in the office, this is just the list of things I've organized so far.

To check out curriculum, please reach out to me at (269) 781-0785 or vargocre@msu.edu

4-H Council NOW RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS

4-H Council is seeking new members!

Open to youth ages 12 & up, and also adults, the Calhoun County 4-H Council helps guide 4-H programming in the county.

Meetings are the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm. Join us & learn more about how you can help!

JOIN 4-H COUNCIL

BENEFITS OF JOINING

- Learn parliamentary procedure
- Become more involved in the community of 4-H
- Belong to a group with a purpose
- Represent your 4-H Club

4-H COUNCIL IS

- Working with the community
- Guiding the 4-H programming in Calhoun County
- Influencing 4-H policies

ANYONE 12 OR ABOVE CAN APPLY

Our next meeting is November 7th @ 7pm
at MSU Extension office
(315 W. Green St., Marshall MI)

18 USC 707

https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/michigan_4_h_advisory_council_responsibilities_best_practices_requirements

Special thanks to Anabelle Davis for creating this flyer!



Help Wanted!

Leaders, parents, participants, supporters – I need YOUR help!

I am working on promoting 4-H to recruit new members & volunteers.

I'm looking for testimonials, pictures, and even ideas – is there something you'd like to see / learn / do that we currently don't offer?

Do you have fun photos from fair or club meetings? Or maybe a club car wash?

Are you willing to chat with me about what you love about 4-H and why others should join?

Email me at vargocre@msu.edu. Any photos that feature youth must include a list of names, so that I can ensure that privacy policies are followed.

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4-H 
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