

Clare County 4-H

Last Month's Highlights



The Cut Tour

By Liliann Strouse

From the Barn to the Table, Meat Processing at The Cut

The Denim & Dust 4-H group was taken on two tours at The Cut Custom Processing, by Thad Reger, at 3653 E Weidman Rd in Rosebush, the 23rd of November and the 27th of December. Several families went to learn about what happens to their fair animals after sale at market.

Kids who chose to see the process from start to finish even saw the kill. Mr. Reger said that the facility primarily processes beef, not many pigs, and no deer. However, he stated that, "This year the Clare fair brought us around 30 pigs and 4 beef which were added onto our already full schedule of 25 beef that week. Those are the weeks where we may have to work weekends to finish everything up."

The kill is called knocking, after which the beef is beheaded, skinned, gutted, cut in half, and sprayed with lactic acid. Beef halves are then hung in a curing room where 70+ can be cured at a time. These hang for about 14 days.

The kids were given a walk through of the breaking down process where the meat is split up. About 20,000 pounds of bones and guts are picked up weekly for dog food and fertilizer.

Cooked product, such as bacon, is processed in a separate room than the raw. The Cut can smoke 600 pounds of ham at a time.

The kids thought it was important to learn what happens after their animals are sold. Seeing how their hard work makes it from the barn to the table, after raising good quality meat, is really empowering.

The Denim & Dust 4-H group would like to thank Thad Reger and his employees for keeping such a clean facility, putting in the extra hours to process fair projects, and passing on such valuable knowledge to all the kids during these tours.





4-H HOLIDAY CRAFT DAY

Hosted by the Arthur Center Church of God

A wonderful group of new 4-H leaders from the Arthur Center Church of God hosted a 4-H Holiday Craft Day on December 3rd, 2022

This was their first event after becoming 4-H volunteers and they plan to have many more to come!

They are excited to teach 4-H members their many skills and talents. This group loves to get crafty, so stay tuned for what they have in store!



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CPR & FIRST AID TRAINING

This free event was made possible through the wonderful minds of the Bouncing Bunnies & Galloping Goats 4-H Club! Ursula Jehnzen, their club leader, and her daughter, Rebecca, organized this life-saving training event that was open to all 4-H members of Clare County.

The duo requested funding from the Clare County 4-H Council to assist them with making this idea become reality. Utilizing the [Clare County 4-H Mini Grant](#), they hired Michelle Jewell to instruct the training and purchase supplies. Their passion to help youth grow and to make things happen is what makes 4-H thrive!





4-H YOUTH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL HAVE A BLAST HOSTING 2022 HOLIDAY PARTY

The 4-H Youth Leadership Council outdid themselves at this end of the year gathering! The group had a fun time making cards for local senior citizens and emergency responders, decorating cookies, and celebrating with some good ol' fashion holiday fun!

The evening started out with frosting cookies and decorating cards, and soon after everyone participated in some Christmas Trivia. The Ugly Sweater Contest was a hoot! Competition was close with all these amazing sweaters and ended with a tie. Josiah and Faith were the big winners of the night; those lightbulb sweaters are fantastic!

A few shout outs to some wonderful parents and volunteers for their contributions to the 4-H Youth Leadership Council: Joanna and Frank Krell for their donation of cookies; Marta Shaw for her donation of ice cream and being an advisor for the council; Ursula Jehnzen for her donation of snacks and beverages; Jereme Bear and Sandy King for being advisors on the council; and Betty Libbey for helping out with the activities.

Currently the council is preparing to host the Baby Barn and other activities at Fair. They are also working on plans for an educational workshop, a Showmanship Clinic, and hopes are high for an educational fieldtrip!

To learn more about how to get involved, go to The [Clare County 4-H](#) website and head to the [4-H Youth Leadership Council](#) page!



4-H Calendar of Events

JANUARY

10th - 6:30 PM

[A Career As A Wildlife Biologist](#)

[Wild Spartans Series - Online](#)

[LEARN MORE](#)

Meet Erin Johnston, wildlife biologist with the Michigan Natural Resources Department. Learn about researching, managing and protecting species.

11th - 6:30 PM

[4-H Youth Leadership Council Meeting](#)

Pere Marquette District Library Clare, MI

[LEARN MORE](#)

13th **Registration Closes** [Smart Gardening with Vegetables](#)

[MSU Extension Webinar Series](#)

[LEARN MORE](#)

14th [MI 4-H Horse Judges and Show Volunteers Conference](#)

MSU Pavilion Lansing, MI

[LEARN MORE](#)

This annual event is open to all judges, horse show managers and adult volunteers.

16th - 20th

[2023 National 4-H Shooting Sports Quiz](#)

Online

[LEARN MORE](#)

21st - 1:00 PM

[Family Fun STEM Day](#)

Eagles Church of God Clare, MI

[LEARN MORE](#)

Experiment with chemistry. Take home your creations!

25th - 6:00 PM

[4-H Council Meeting](#)

Pere Marquette District Library Clare, MI

[LEARN MORE](#)

28th - 11:00 AM

[Community Winter Carnival](#)

Pere Marquette District Library Clare, MI

[LEARN MORE](#)

28th

[State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show](#)

MSU Pavilion Lansing, MI

[LEARN MORE](#)

31st

[Adulting 101- International Conversations](#)

Online

[LEARN MORE](#)

Join us for an engaging cultural conversation live and learn about another county. Gain new knowledge and ask questions that interest you with an international guest.



Connect



Experiment



Compete



Explore

FEBRUARY

1st Registration Closes Animal Science Career Quest

Anthony Hall 474 S. Shaw Lane East Lansing MI [LEARN MORE](#)

Are you interested in a career working with animals? Join us for 4-H Animal Science Career Quest to learn more about career paths in animal science and veterinary medicine, as well as the MSU programs that can get you there! This program is a joint effort between Michigan 4-H, the MSU Department of Animal Science, and the MSU College of Veterinary Medicine, and its focus is introducing youth to the wide variety of career options available to them within these fields.



Animal Science

8th - 6:30 PM 4-H Youth Leadership Council Meeting

Pere Marquette District Library Clare, MI

Join the YLC as they plan activities and Baby Barn for Fair 2023 and other events!

5th Registration Closes 4-H Day at the Breslin Center

Register Online

[LEARN MORE](#)

Seventeenth annual celebration of MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development at the MSU Women's Basketball game. The Spartans will host the Penn State Nittany Lions on Sunday, February 12, at the Jack Breslin Student Events Center on MSU's campus. Tip-off is 3 p.m. Gates opening to the public at 1:30 p.m.; come early to enjoy all the fun activities going on around the concourse.



GO MSU

12th GAME DAY! 4-H Day at the Breslin Center

East Lansing, MI



Plan Together

22nd - 6:00 PM 4-H Council Meeting

Pere Marquette District Library Clare, MI

[LEARN MORE](#)

Help with organizing 4-H activities and events! The council seeks volunteers and teen leaders to help with the Annual 4-H Craft Day, St. Patty's Day Parade, and other events. **Can't make it to a meeting?** Connect with a committee! See how by clicking the "Learn More" link.

23rd - 5:30 PM 4-H Decorative Candle Creations 101

Clare County Building, 3rd Flr Harrison, MI

[LEARN MORE](#)

In this introductory 2 hour course learn how to make a variety of decorative candles. Experiment with different kinds of waxes, scents, colors, candle molds and containers. Spice the look of the candles up with dried flowers, herbs, and fruits. While the wax settles, learn about other candle-related techniques to master.



Create



To Make the
Best Better

HELP WANTED

CONTACT

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Clare County 4-H is teaming up with Mid Michigan College to bring non 4-H youth an opportunity to learn about the animals we care for and to promote the 4-H Program. We are in search of 5 to 10 youth, volunteers, alumni, or others who may present any available animals throughout this informative series.

FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH

START TIME - 5:30 PM

MID MICHIGAN COLLEGE - THE OED (POET) CENTER



Birds & Poultry

March 2nd



Rabbits & Cavies

April 6th



Goats, Sheep, Llamas,
Alpacas, Swine

May 4th



Horse or Cow

June 1st