



CLOVER CHRONICLES

November 2023

Isabella County

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Isabella County Building Closed

The Isabella County Building and our office remain closed until further notice for asbestos abatement activities. During this time, MSU Extension staff are working remote but will remain available to serve the public by appointment only.

If you have any questions, please contact Kristi Schreiber at schrei61@msu.edu, Nonie at grossn@msu.edu or call (989) 317-4079.

Beef Weigh-In



Saturday, December 2
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Isabella County Fairgrounds

All beef project members must bring their market beef animals to the fairgrounds to be weighed and tagged. Each member may weigh-in two animals.

4-H Council Representatives

The following volunteer leader was selected to be a 4-H Council representative:

- Tiffiny McGill

The following volunteer leaders were selected to be 4-H Council representatives for another term:

- Becki Crampton
- Micca Crampton
- Darlene Misenhelder

4-H Council officers will remain the same as this year.

2022-23 4-H Honor Clubs

Congratulations to the following clubs for being chosen as Honor Clubs for the 4-H program year of 2022-23. Each club received a monetary award from the Isabella County 4-H Program Council for their outstanding participation and organization.

Aim High, Evergreen, Pony Creek, Western Spurs



Protected Under
18 U.S.C. 707

CLUB CORNER

Broomfield Valley - We had our November meeting at the Broomfield Township Hall. We had all members present (11) and 6 guests present. We gave options for our future meetings and we came up with a community service option with the Treasurer. For a craft we had the children do a step-by-step drawing of a barn.

Country Kids Livestock - We had several members that couldn't make it so we held off doing officer elections until next month. We reminded the members that were there to sign up Online before Oct 31. Went over what is required to be an Honor Club and tried to plan our year for meetings, craft projects, community service projects and activities.

Pony Creek - In October we talked about doing a club project to enter in the still exhibit building. We are going to do our roadside clean up on the 22nd. No meeting in November. At our December meeting we will have a potluck, cookie exchange and game night.

Award Winners

The 4-H Meritorious Service Award and the 4-H Alumni Award were announced at the Recognition Banquet on October 5.

We thank these winners for their dedication and continuous support for 4-H. Your years of hard work and assistance are greatly appreciated!

Congratulations to:

Dan Reid - Meritorious Service Award, Friend of 4-H
Micca Crampton - 4-H Alumni Award

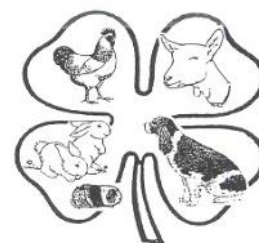
Youth Competition - PITCH-ER THIS!

PITCH-ER THIS! is a youth development competition for youth in Gratiot and Isabella counties. It is an opportunity for youth to bring their ideas to life with the winner receiving up to \$5,000 to complete their idea. More information is on page 8 of the newsletter or you can visit:

www.uwgic.org/pitch

Small Animal News

- At the Small Animal Buyer Appreciation Banquet we honored Tricia Boerma, Boerma Realty as the 2023 Meritorious Service Award winner for their continued support of the youth of Isabella County for so many years.
- If you sold a rabbit/poultry/goat at the fair and did not attend the banquet, your check will be mailed to you this year. **Please cash your checks as soon as possible because they are only good for 90 days.**
- If you are not on a waiting list with a breeder for your 2024 Goat wethers or does, you should do that soon. You are able to sell a wether (castrated male) or a doe. You can contact Theresa Frederick to help with finding a breeder at (989) 621-6866.
- If you are a rabbit member, you will also want to start making some connections for your 2024 fair project.
- We are looking for teens to consider being fair superintendents. If you are interested, please review the requirements for these positions here: https://www.canr.msu.edu/isabella/isabella_county_4_h/newsletters-and-forms



So, You Want to Show a Pocket Pet

Did you know that you can show a pocket pet at fair?

A pocket pet is house pet other than a cat or a dog. It might be a bird, a hamster, a gerbil, a guinea pig, a snake, a reptile, a ferret, a hermit crab, or even a fish.

How do you show a pocket pet?

Unlike other animals, there are no set rules for how to show a pocket pet. The judge will ask you questions about your animal related to care, maintenance, grooming, feeding, etc. Depending on the type of pet you bring, the judge might ask you to handle your animal.



Do I have to bring my entire habitat?

We understand that some pocket pets have large set-ups/enclosures. We just ask that your animal is kept safe during its time at the fair as well as during its transportation to and from the fairgrounds.

Do I have to do feed records?

Yes. There is a feed record form for pocket pets. We are currently updating the pocket pet feed records. They will be available from the 4-H office after Jan 1, 2024.

Any other requirements?

You need to own your pet by May 1.

Other questions/concerns?

Email Alecia Devantier or Madeline Devantier, pocket pet superintendents, at IsabellaCountyPocketPets@gmail.com

Attention Small Animal Members (or anyone interested in learning more about this area of 4-H projects)

The small animal superintendents are in the process of planning an opportunity for hearing details, tips, input, and basic educational instruction to share with 4-H members to make experiences better. We will also be asking for your input, so start thinking about your comments and questions now. This event will be scheduled to occur sometime in January or February 2024, and we hope to include all of the small animal species. We will have break out sessions as well as group gatherings. We wanted to put this on your radar now so watch the next couple of newsletters for more specific information. We hope you will be able to join us! - *Small Animal Association*

Are you ready to leave for college or be out on your own?

Are you prepared to do adult tasks and have skills to be successful?

Michigan State University Extension's Adulting 101 programs help teenagers and young adults demystify the obscure reality of being an "adult" through engaging educational sessions. Each **FREE** session is packed full of important life skills and tools necessary to live independently.

Register here:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting101f23>

Adulting 101 Series

PROFESSIONALISM IN THE WORKPLACE

Gain tips on how to better manage your time, workspace, relationships, and setting boundaries.

Wednesday November 8, 2023

6:00 PM

Zoom

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension





STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Explore the globe with Crafts Around the World!



Curious about other countries around the globe? Like making crafts? The Michigan 4-H Crafts Around the World series provides lessons and instructions for youth to create simple crafts and increase cultural awareness.

In its latest piece, youth can learn about the European country of Norway while making a Norwegian gnome. In Norway, a gnome is called a nisse: a creature who lives in barns or homes, protecting the countryside and the people who live there.

View this activity at www.canr.msu.edu/resources/crafts-around-the-world-series-europe-norwegian-gnome-nisse.

View all the Crafts Around the World activities at www.canr.msu.edu/global_cultural_education/resources.

November 8: Adulting 101 - Professionalism in the Workplace

Online

Participants will increase their awareness of what it means to be professional and gain tips on different aspects of the work environment to consider, including: shared workspace, relationships with coworkers, communicating and setting boundaries. This free online series is open to teens and young adults (17 and under) and youth development professionals, teachers and adults (18 and up).

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting10111-8-23>

November 14: Wild Spartans – Careers in the Exotic Animal Industry

Online

Jump into the world of breeding and caring for amphibians and reptiles. Meet Zach Brinks, vice president of live operations at Josh's Frogs. Learn about his work and the education and career path he followed to get there. Youth will be encouraged to ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A. This free online series is open to youth ages 12-19.

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/wildspartans20232024>

November 21: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series - Youth Engagement in 4-H Experiences

Online

Explore ways 4-H volunteers can help to increase the level of youth engagement in their 4-H experiences. This series will provide Michigan 4-H volunteers with a variety of learning opportunities to help them grow as a volunteer and support Michigan 4-H'ers. This session will be offered twice, once as a daytime option and once as an evening option for the convenience of volunteers.

12 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-youth-engagement-in-4-h-experiences

7 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-youth-engagement-in-4-h-experiences7pm

November 28: Giving Tuesday

Online

Join the #GivingTuesday movement — a global day of giving — and support 4-H! From 12 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. EST, Michigan 4-H supporters are invited to participate by giving their support financially or helping spread the word. Michigan 4-H has a goal to raise \$5,000 to grow 4-H county endowments in a 24-hour period. County 4-H endowments provide a perpetual source of income for county 4-H programs and every dollar is an investment in 4-H!

<https://mi4hfdtn.org/giving-tuesday/>





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

MSU Extension partners with legislators to host first Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol

On Wednesday, October 4, Michigan State University Extension hosted the first Michigan Day at the Capitol, in partnership with State Reps. Matthew Bierlein (R-Vassar) and Reggie Miller (D-Van Buren Twp.). The event, held at Heritage Hall, showcased the positive impact of the Michigan 4-H program and brought visibility to its efforts throughout the state.

“Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol was a great opportunity to educate about and bring awareness to the 4-H program,” said Quentin Tyler, director of MSU Extension. “We truly appreciate Reps. Bierlein and Miller for their collaboration in hosting this event.”

Michigan 4-H is the flagship youth development program of MSU Extension and reaches nearly 100,000 young people ages 5 to 19 each year. Through various activities, clubs, groups, programs and events, 4-H’ers are offered hands-on learning experiences where they can explore their passions and interests while growing confidence, life skills and a sense of responsibility.

“Michigan 4-H is helping to grow youth in every county of our great state but we would like to reach even more young people with the life-changing program,” continued Tyler. “We hope that our event brings us closer to that goal by increasing the visibility of our 4-H program and all that we offer to youth in our state.”

Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol was attended by legislators, stakeholders and members of the public. At the event, attendees had the opportunity to visit informational booths hosted by Michigan 4-H youth and staff. A brief program was also held, with event hosts Reps. Bierlein and Miller delivering comments to the audience. Also providing comments were Tyler, MSU Interim President Teresa Woodruff, Genesee County Clerk Register of Deeds Domonique Clemons, who is a Michigan 4-H alum, and Lenawee County 4-H’er Lia Kurowicki.

The program was livestreamed on the Michigan 4-H Facebook and can be viewed at www.facebook.com/Michigan4H. To learn more about Michigan 4-H, visit www.canr.msu.edu/4h.

Michigan 4-H license plate proposed

On Tuesday, September 26, legislation was unveiled that if passed, will create a new fundraising license plate that would generate support for Michigan 4-H. State Reps. Matthew Bierlein, of Vassar, and Reggie Miller, of Van Buren Township, sponsored the legislation which would allow for the creation and sale of a Michigan 4-H plate through the Secretary of State.

The plans would create the 4-H fundraising plate and establish regular disbursements from the license plate sales to the Michigan 4-H Foundation. Led by a board of trustees, the foundation works in partnership with MSU Extension and Michigan 4-H Youth Development to support programs to prepare youth for meaningful and productive lives.

The bills were referred to the Michigan House Committee on Transportation, Mobility and Infrastructure. On October 11, Michigan 4-H Foundation Director Abbey Miller and MSU Extension Associate Director Dr. Deanna East testified before the committee in support of the 4-H fundraising license plate legislation.



Reps. Miller (left) and Bierlein (right) with MSU Interim President Woodruff (center).

Youth today can have a lot going on including work, school, a social life, family, extracurricular activities, and self-care. This interactive, self-paced, online class will share information on how to find balance in life with competing options and obligations. Learn about ways to stay organized and manage your time, the importance of building a supportive social network, options for working as a student, avoiding burnout, and getting academic support and enrichment to round out your education. With opportunities to reflect and apply in your own life, you will leave with tips to find balance in your Wheel of Life! Add this course to your To-Do list and complete at your own pace. Find out more and take the free virtual class at: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/courses/balancingact>

MICHIGAN STATE
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Extension

DAILY TO-DO LIST



**TAKE BALANCING ACT
COURSE**



GO TO CLASSES



WORK A SHIFT



HANGOUT W/ FRIENDS



TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF



Struggling to balance it all? Need tips on how to organize and prioritize to achieve success?

Add the self-guided, interactive “Balancing Act” class to your to-do list! Dive into tips and tricks created by college students on how to find balance in life with competing options and obligations.



A BRIGHT IDEA TO IMPROVE OUR COMMUNITY

PITCH-ER THIS! is a youth venture competition for students in Gratiot & Isabella Counties. Student teams of one to four will be paired with a community mentor who will help them develop their idea and prepare for their big pitch. Ideas may include anything from programs and events to technology and arts that will help people achieve their full potential through quality education, financial stability and healthy lifestyles. A selected panel of judges and community members will vote for their favorite ideas. United Way of Gratiot & Isabella Counties will provide funding to help bring the top idea(s) to life. Apply online at uwgic.org/pitch no later than November 30, 2023.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
NOVEMBER 30, 2023

FINAL TEAMS SELECTED:
DECEMBER 15, 2023

MAKE YOUR PITCH:
FEBRUARY 24, 2024



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

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Website:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/isabella/>



<https://www.facebook.com/IsabellaCounty4H/>

Still Exhibit Auction Checks

Still Exhibit Auction checks will be mailed out to members by mid-November if you haven't picked up your check yet.

SAVE THE DATES

Beef Weigh-In
December 2, 2023

4-H Exploration Days at MSU
June 19-21, 2024

Isabella County Youth & Farm Fair
July 20 - 27, 2024

Isabella County 4-H Calendar

November 7	Teen Horse Leaders @ Nbakade Restaurant	6 PM
7	Horse Leaders @ Nbakade Restaurant	6:30 PM
15	Small Animal Association @ TBA	7 PM
23 & 24	CLOSED	
28	4-H Council @ Lincoln Twp Hall	6:30 PM

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"Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the MSU Extension office at (989) 317-4079 at least 7 days prior to the scheduled event to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements. Requests received after this time will be met when possible."

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Nonie Gross, Secretary
Monica Jean, Field Crops Educator
Eric Karbowski, District 6 Director
Kara Lynch, Food Safety Educator
Misty Oebel, Farm Stress Educator
Sabrina McGee, SNAP-ED PI