



# 4-H Family News

Nov 2023

Kalamazoo County



## Reenrollment time is running out!

Starting September 15th, 2023, families and volunteers will need to log into the 4-H online database at: <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in> to re-enroll for the new programming year.

- Any youth 5-19 years old as of January 1, 2024 will be able to enroll in the 4-H program
- There is no fee to enroll in 4-H.
- Adults who would like to be a volunteer will need to go through the MSU Extension Volunteer Selection Process (VSP) prior to working with youth, unless it has been completed previously.
- VSP completion is required for both virtual and face to face programs. For information on this process please visit: [https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/msu\\_extension\\_volunteer\\_selection\\_process](https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/msu_extension_volunteer_selection_process)
- New members may join anytime during the year, but will not be able to meet fair participation requirements if enrolled after April 1, 2024
- **Re-enrollment is due no later than November 30, 2023.**

Do you need help with your enrollment?

Check out the 4-H online [family guide](https://www.canr.msu.edu/od/planning_evaluation_and_reporting/File-Uploads/4-H%20Online%20Family%20Guide%20-%20rev.%209-1-23.pdf) at [https://www.canr.msu.edu/od/planning\\_evaluation\\_and\\_reporting/File-Uploads/4-H%20Online%20Family%20Guide%20-%20rev.%209-1-23.pdf](https://www.canr.msu.edu/od/planning_evaluation_and_reporting/File-Uploads/4-H%20Online%20Family%20Guide%20-%20rev.%209-1-23.pdf)



### CONTACT US

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[msue.kalamazoo@campusad.msu.edu](mailto:msue.kalamazoo@campusad.msu.edu)

### WEBSITE:

<http://canr.msu.edu/kalamazoo4H>

### Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/Kalamazoo-County-4-H-Youth-Program-122047197873078>

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## Portage Partners 4-H Election Meeting

The Portage Partners 4-H Group are meeting on

**Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at  
Saint Michael Lutheran School.**

We will be discussing the election process, electing our club officers, and installing them.

If there any questions, please reach out to  
John Hecht ([masterjohn\\_99@hotmail.com](mailto:masterjohn_99@hotmail.com)),  
Sarah King ([crazy4monkeez@yahoo.com](mailto:crazy4monkeez@yahoo.com)) or  
JulLea Stolsky ([jstolsky@gmail.com](mailto:jstolsky@gmail.com)).

We look forward to seeing everyone!



**Tri-United is holding a  
Poinsettia fund raiser.**

They are available in  
3 different colors and  
2 sizes.

6.5 inch are \$12  
8 inch are \$20.

Contact Jen Burhans for  
details  
[burhansj1022@gmail.com](mailto:burhansj1022@gmail.com)



## Poultry Project News

Thursday, November 16th is our next Poultry Project Meeting starting at 7pm in Room B of the Expo Center. We will be planning subjects to discuss for the year's meetings and the 2024 Fair along with a feather craft - potential presents for the holidays or a stills entry for fair!

Collect some pretty feathers from your flock- the smaller the better- wash them, dry them flat and bring them to the meeting.

Hopefully you all can join us as we have many new members to meet.

Remember that there is a 3-meeting attendance requirement for the poultry project to be able to show at the fair.

We have meetings on the calendar for

- Jan.18
- March 21
- May 16
- June 20
- July 18.

Attending other poultry related events such as poultry shows and clinics can also count towards attendance.

**FYI** - The American Poultry Association is celebrating its 150th anniversary at the Ohio National Poultry Show to be held at the Ohio State Fairgrounds in Columbus on Nov. 10th-12th. This will be the biggest bird entry in the country with a HUGE variety of breeds competing - even some/many for sale in the sale area. An event not to be missed!!!

And don't delay enrolling/re-enrolling in 4-H using 4-H OnLine. The deadline is the end of November!





## Is Beekeeping Right for Me?

Have you ever wondered if beekeeping is right for you? This free, self paced, online course provides an introduction to honey bees, covers the time required, physical demands, and financial resources of beekeeping, and suggests ways to help all pollinators.

Interested? Check it out at :

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/courses/msu-is-beekeeping-right-for-me>






## It's a Balancing Act...

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 UNIVERSITY | Extension

# DAILY TO-DO LIST



TAKE BALANCING ACT COURSE	<input type="checkbox"/>
GO TO CLASSES	<input type="checkbox"/>
WORK A SHIFT	<input type="checkbox"/>
HANGOUT W/ FRIENDS	<input type="checkbox"/>
TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF	<input type="checkbox"/>

**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.



## ***Seniors –***

as you are preparing for graduation, it is also time for you to think about secondary education and time to complete scholarship applications. The Kalamazoo County 4-H Leaders Council is offering scholarships to high school seniors entering college or advanced education (trade school).

The applications are due to the 4-H office no later than  
4:30 PM on February 1, 2024.

There are also scholarships available through a variety of other sources and have a variety of deadlines. You can find some of those opportunities on our website at

[https://www.canr.msu.edu/kalamazoo/kalamazoo\\_county\\_4\\_h\\_1/4-h-member-resources-forms](https://www.canr.msu.edu/kalamazoo/kalamazoo_county_4_h_1/4-h-member-resources-forms)

**Want to hear about upcoming events and programs from**

**MSU Extension?**

***It's Easy!***

**Use the QR code below and sign up for our Monthly Newsletter!**

**Or go to**

**<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/SoKxe0p>**

**And Sign Up!**





## Why do YOU love 4-H?

4-H members can be our best advertisers by helping spread the word in a short video highlighting **“Why You Should Join 4-H!”**

Be a 4-H changemaker by using your voice and sharing your story of 4-H. Chance to win prizes for 4-H youth 9-19 as they explore video creation and editing. Learn more about this opportunity here:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-clovers-code/contest/>

Deadline to register and submit videos is January 31, 2024. The 4-H Creative Campaign Contest is sponsored with a grant from the Michigan 4-H Foundation.

A total of six prizes will be awarded to the top videos judged by professionals.

**There will be two age brackets with 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prize winnings in each bracket:**

- 4-H Ages 9-13 (as of January 1, 2024)
- 4-H Ages 14-19 (as of January 1, 2024)

**1st place prize is a \$100 Amazon gift card  
2nd place prize is a \$75 Amazon gift card  
3rd place prize is a \$50 Amazon gift card**

Need more information: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-clovers-code/contest>

### Contest Rules

- Contest open to all active Michigan 4-H youth 9-19. Not in 4-H, learn how to [join 4-H here](#).
- Register for the contest at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/4HCampaignContest/>. Must register to be eligible for prizes.
- Check out [Tips for Video Submissions](#) for ideas and [Video Creation Resources](#) for tools to create your video.
- Create a video lasting **1 minute or less** about “Why You Should Join 4-H!”
- Before uploading your video, name your video with your first and last name
- Upload your video here: <https://bit.ly/4-Hcreativecontest>
- Deadline to submit your video and to register is January 31, 2024
- Winners will be notified the week of March 4th through email used during registration. Any change in email must be provided directly to contest coordinators to receive their prize.

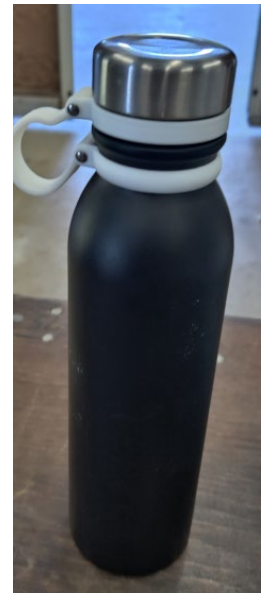




## Lost and Found

These items were found at fair.

They need to be picked up at the 4-H office at 201 W Kalamazoo Ave by Dec 1<sup>st</sup> or they will be donated or disposed of



**Show your Support!**

**4-H Grows Here** yard signs are available for purchase from the 4-H office for \$5.00 each.





# Kalamazoo Teen Leaders Club

Kzoo TLC is an opportunity for Kalamazoo youth to elevate their leadership, time management, communication, and civic engagement skills. Once part of the club, members will help organize and fun events & community service opportunities for the county of Kalamazoo.

Follow the link below to sign up!

# WE WANT YOU!



**Michigan State University Extension  
is recruiting TEEN LEADERS**

for the 2024 program year.

**Increase your Professional & Networking Skills**

**<https://forms.gle/E4ubDW9spuv3vywv7>**





## This month's Wild Spartans: November 2023

### Froggin' around - careers in the exotic animal industry

November 14, 2023, 6:30PM - 7:30PM

This month's 4-H Wild Spartans Series will jump into the world of breeding amphibians and reptiles.

Join us on Tuesday, November 14th, 2023 at 6:30pm EST for  
**"Froggin' around - careers in the exotic animal industry."**

You will meet Zach Brinks, Vice President of Live Operations at Josh's Frogs.

You'll learn about his work, and the education and career path he followed to get there.

Pre-registration is required: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/wildspartans20232024/>



## WILD SPARTANS

SCIENCE \* RESEARCH \* CAREERS \* CONSERVATION

FROGGIN' AROUND - CAREERS IN THE EXOTIC ANIMAL INDUSTRY

WITH ZACH BRINKS

VICE PRESIDENT OF LIVE OPERATIONS, JOSH'S FROGS

November 14 | 6:30 PM EST

Registration required:

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



## Michigan Farm Bureau's 2023 High School REGIONAL Discussion Meet Registration

Each year, Michigan Farm Bureau hosts the High School Discussion Meet competition for high school students active in FFA, 4-H, and Farm Bureau member dependents. The purpose of the Discussion Meet is to build students' public speaking, collaboration, and problem-solving skills, while exposing them to the agriculture industry's largest challenges and the organization of Michigan Farm Bureau.

Registration opens on September 1st and ends one week prior to your specific region's competition date. Each FFA chapter, 4-H club, and county Farm Bureau can register up to three competitors.

The top three competitors from each regional competition will move on to compete at the State High School Discussion Meet held on Wednesday, November 29th in Grand Rapids during the Michigan Farm Bureau State Annual Meeting.

Register Here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeQc2UGXyCy-wExU3WPjUXrX2ImFLxZGk6vg4CCn8xv8LuNpQ/viewform>

REGION	EVENT DATE	REGISTRATION DUE DATE	TIME	LOCATION
I	Nov. 13	Nov. 6	5 p.m.	Vicksburg High School



## Michigan 4-H Youth Code of Conduct



The opportunity to participate in or attend 4-H activities is a privilege. All 4-H participants – youth, families, volunteers, and Extension staff who participate in or attend any activity or event sponsored by the Michigan State University Extension 4-H Youth Development Program are expected to uphold the values of the Michigan 4-H program.

All 4-H youth participants must conduct themselves according to the following standards that apply to all Michigan 4-H programs, including virtual programs, and interactions such as social media and internet engagement:

- 1. Create a Welcoming Environment for All.** Encourage everyone to fully participate in 4-H. Recognize that all people have skills and talents that can help others and improve the community. Though we will not always agree, we must disagree respectfully. When we disagree, try to understand why. Our first priority is to create a safe, inclusive space for learning, sharing and collaboration that is welcoming to people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives. Diversity includes, but is not limited to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.
- 2. Bring Your Best Self.** Conduct yourself in a manner that reflects honesty, integrity, self-control, and self-direction. Accept the results and outcomes of 4-H activities and programs with grace and empathy for other participants. Accept the final opinions of judges and evaluators. Be open to new ideas, suggestions, and opinions of others.
- 3. Obey the Law.** Obey the laws of the locality, state and nation and Michigan State University and Extension policies and guidelines. Commit no illegal acts. Do not possess, offer to others, or use alcohol, illegal drugs, marijuana, or tobacco products, which include e-pens, e-pipes, e-hookah, e-cigars, JUULs, vapes, vape pens or other electronic nicotine delivery systems. Do not attend 4-H activities under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances. Do not possess or use weapons or firearms except as expressly permitted as part of supervised 4-H shooting sports programming. This includes dangerous or unauthorized materials such as explosives or similar items.
- 4. Honor Diversity – Yours and Others'.** Respect and uphold the rights and dignity of all persons with whom you interact as part of Michigan 4-H.
- 5. Create a Safe Environment.** Be kind and compassionate toward others. Be considerate and courteous of all persons and their property. Do not carelessly or intentionally harm or intimidate anyone in any way (verbally, mentally, physically, or emotionally). Do not insult, harass, or bully others or engage in other hostile behaviors, including sexual harassment, sexual assault or sexual abuse. Abstain from sexual behavior and intimate physical/sexual contact in either public or private situations at an MSU Extension youth 4-H activity or event.
- 6. Be a Team Player.** Work cooperatively with all individuals involved in 4-H programs and activities. Be responsive to the reasonable requests of the person in charge such as volunteers and staff. Respect the integrity of the group and the group's decisions.
- 7. Humane Treatment of Animals.** Treat animals humanely and provide appropriate animal care.
- 8. Participate Fully.** Participate in and contribute to planned programs, be on time and follow through on assigned tasks/responsibilities in a manner that fosters the safety, well-being, and quality of the educational experience for self and others.

**Have fun!**



# 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](http://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](http://www.canr.msu.edu/global_cultural_education/resources).

### November 8: Adulthood 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).

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulthood10111-8-23](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulthood10111-8-23)

### 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.

[events.anr.msu.edu/wildspartans20232024/](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.facebook.com/Michigan4H). To learn more about Michigan 4-H, visit [www.canr.msu.edu/4h](http://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).