



January 2026

4-H Family News

Lapeer County



**Beyond
Ready**

Happy New Year, Lapeer County 4-H Families!

As we welcome January, we're excited to begin another year of learning, service, and hands-on growth across our clubs and communities. Winter may be settling in, but our members, volunteers, and leaders are gearing up for a season full of fresh goals, new projects, and meaningful experiences.

Thank you for the dedication you bring to 4-H here in Lapeer County—your enthusiasm is what keeps our programs thriving. We look forward to a year filled with creativity, leadership, and opportunities for our youth to shine.

Read on to see what's happening this month in Lapeer County 4-H and how you can get involved!



Looking Ahead! Save the Dates:

Frozen Frontier Winter Day Camp | February 21 | Clifford

4-H Day at The Breslin | March 1 | Lansing

Spark & Share Summit | March 7 | Frankenmuth

Exploration Days Registration Opens | March 12

Spring Achievement | March 14 | TBD

Fundraiser Auction | April 17 and 18 | Bells Event Center

4-H Day with The Tigers | May 3 | Comerica Park

Exploration Days | June 24 - 26 | MSU Campus

Lapeer County 4-H Day Camp | July 8 - 10 | Camp Lael

Eastern Michigan State Fair | July 28 – August 1 | EMSF

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

Facebook: LapeerCounty4h

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COUNTY 4-H NEWS

KIDS NIGHT OUT

Event Profits benefit
Lapeer County 4-H Camp Committee

MAKE A MESS
Kid's Night Out
For Youth Ages 5-12

Friday, January 16, 2026
5:00pm - 8:00pm

LAPEER COUNTY 4-H
1800 IMLAY CITY ROAD, LAPEER

- Pizza
- Popcorn
- Crafts
- Games
- Activities

\$15 Per Child

Glitter, Glue and Greatness!

Come make a mess at Kid's Night Out!

Friday, January 16th from 5-8pm! \$15 per child, ages 5-12.

Pizza, Popcorn, Crafts, Games, and Fun!

Preregister at <https://bit.ly/4hkidsnight> by Jan. 12th.

Kids Night Out is planned, organized and hosted by Teen Counselors of Lapeer County 4-H Camp Committee with guidance from adult volunteers and staff. This event is a fundraiser activity that benefits the Lapeer County 4-H Camp Committee to help fund activities and other costs associated with hosting the summer camp held in July.

BECOME A CAMP COUNSELOR

Lapeer County 4-H Camp Committee is looking for more teens to join this year's group of Teen Camp Counselors. Camp Counselors must be between 12 and 19 years old and attend Counselor Trainings. Camp will be held July 8-10, 2026 at Camp Lael. Camp is a Day Camp but counselors have the option to stay the night. If you are interested in becoming a Teen Counselor or Adult Volunteer, Contact Sarah or join us at our next committee meeting on January 13th at 6pm at the Extension office.

LAPEER COUNTY 4-H CAMP

SUMMER CAMP

TEEN CAMP COUNSELORS NEEDED
AGES 12-19

CAMP LAEL
LAPEER, MI
JULY 8-10

Make Memories
Be a Mentor
Build Friendships
Gain Leadership Skills
Earn Volunteer Hours

Contact:
Sarah, graversa@msu.edu (810)667-0341
For a counselor application or more information.

FROZEN FRONTIER WINTER CAMP

Spots are limited – don't miss this unforgettable winter adventure!

Step Back in Time This Winter!

Bundle up and head to The Frozen Frontier – Winter Day Camp for a day packed with hands-on fun and pioneer-inspired adventures!

- Make candles & soap
- Try tin punch & leather work
- Paint a barn quilt
- Play outdoor winter games
- Lunch included!

Saturday, February 21, 2026 ~ 10:00am-4:00pm
Clifford, MI

Youth ages 10-19

\$35 per camper

Register by February 12:

<https://frozenfrontier.4honline.com>

Lapeer, Sanilac, Tuscola, Huron and St. Clair County 4-H

THE FROZEN FRONTIER WINTER DAY CAMP

Step back in time for a fun-filled winter adventure packed with pioneer-inspired activities! Join our Winter Day Camp for learning, adventure, and unforgettable memories!

Barn Quilt Painting | \$35 includes Lunch | Leather Crafting | Outdoor Games

Soap and Candle Making

Saturday, February 21, 2026
10:00am - 4:00pm
Clifford Elevator 9769 Main St. Clifford, MI
Register online at <https://frozenfrontier.4honline.com>
Register by February 12.

If your child is not a current 4-H member, you will need to enroll them as a member before completing the camp registration. Camp is designed for youth ages 10-19.

Contact your local 4-H office for assistance with enrollment/registration and possible event scholarships.

Limited Slots | REGISTER NOW

Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, marital status, age, religion, sexual orientation, or disability. Persons with disabilities who are unable to attend may request accommodations. Please contact your local 4-H office for more information. Requests received after this date will be handled on a case-by-case basis.



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



Through fun, hands-on educational opportunities, Michigan 4-H is helping to prepare a ready generation in a world of change. And critical to delivering these opportunities are volunteers - the most essential partner in the 4-H program.

Consider becoming a Michigan 4-H volunteer today and help to prepare the next generation. By giving your time, talent and skills, you can help ready youth for whatever the future holds. Give an hour a week, month or year - there are volunteer roles for any skill level, time commitment and interest area.

With your help, more kids will be ready to take on the world. More youth, more community, more ready!

To learn more about becoming a volunteer, go to https://www.canr.msu.edu/becoming_a_4_h_volunteer/

2025 MARK OF EXCELLENCE RECIPIENT

Congratulations Autumn Wellington! Autumn is a recipient of the 2025 Michigan 4-H Mark of Excellence Award. Autumn states that because of her 4-H experiences she feels beyond ready to achieve all of her life goals. Autumn says that through 4-H she has learned to manage her time, feel more confident speaking to adults and in public and sees the value in giving back to her community.

Earlier this year, Autumn received a certificate and a medal for her achievement. Her winning essay will also be added to the Mark of Excellence history book at the Michigan 4-H Foundation and State 4-H Office at MSU Extension.



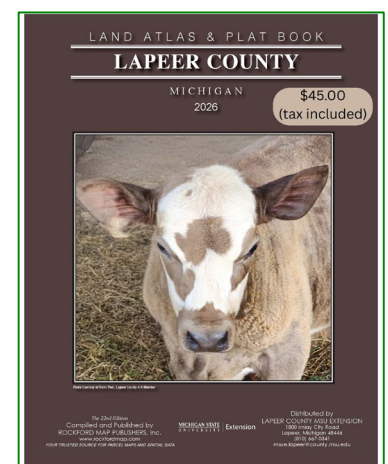
2026 PLAT BOOK – COVER PHOTO BY 4-H MEMBER

Congratulations Remi Peel! Remi's photo was selected for the cover of the 2026 Lapeer County Land Atlas & Plat Book.

The 2026 Lapeer County Land Atlas and Plat Book is now available from the Lapeer County MSU Extension office. This newest edition published by Rockford Map Publishers is available for purchase for \$45 from the MSU Extension Office. Every plat book that is sold in Lapeer County helps fund local Extension Educational opportunities.

The new plat book accurately displays parcel boundaries, acreage data, roadways, waterways, railways, section lines, municipal boundaries, recreational areas, and includes an index to landowners. A 3D aerial map lies opposite each township parcel map and is very useful in providing a quick gauge to the use of a particular parcel.

Plat books are a great reference tool for landowners and business owners. It is a necessary reference guide for industries such as agriculture, land development, hunting, real estate, utilities, municipal government, and more.





COUNTY 4-H NEWS

2026 SPARK AND SHARE SUMMIT

Reignite your passion for 4-H at the 2026 Spark and Share Summit March 7th at the Bavarian Inn Lodge and Conference Center in Frankenmuth!!

4-H Volunteers and teens can register for this 1-day conference where they can learn new projects and information that they can take back to teach and share in their local 4-H program at:

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/SparkShare2026/>.

Registration is \$75 and includes lunch and selection of up to 4 breakout sessions. A link to session descriptions is available through the registration page. The deadline for registration is February 9th.

Scholarships to attend may be available in some counties. Please contact your local 4-H office for information.



PLANNING AHEAD: EXPLORATION DAYS 2026



Headed to Exploration Days 2026... but need a ride?

We're looking into offering round-trip bus transportation and want to know if YOU'D use it!

Take our super quick survey and help us decide!

What's Exploration Days? A 3-day, pre-college adventure at MSU with 100+ hands-on sessions for youth ages 12–19!

Your \$250 registration includes: 2 nights of lodging, Meals, Sessions + free-time fun, and Event T-shirt (Lapeer County youth—scholarships are available!)

Survey link: <https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLSceHj2AqR2.../viewform...>

Let's make the road to Exploration Days even easier!

AVOIDING MONEY MISHAPS WEBINAR



Avoid Money Mishaps!

Learn how to protect yourself from fraud, scams, and identity theft in our FREE webinars—plus, get ready for an upcoming essay contest on the same topic! Find more information in the Statewide 4-H News section of this newsletter.

Pick your date:

Jan 13 @ 6 PM EST

Feb 11 @ 6 PM EST

Same content, two chances—don't miss out!

Register now: <https://bit.ly/avoidingmoneymishaps>



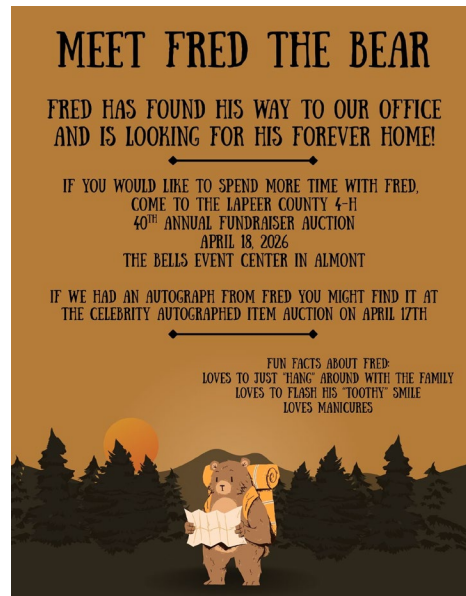
COUNTY 4-H NEWS

40TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISER AUCTION

SAVE THE DATE!

We're excited to announce that our 40th Annual 4-H Fundraiser Auction will be held on April 18, 2026, and the 33rd Annual Celebrity Autographed Items Auction will be held on April 17, 2026. Both events will be held at The Bells Event Center in Almont.

Stop by the office and meet Fred the Bear and we can answer any auction questions you might have!



JOIN THE CLOVER CROWD!

Drive into the New Year with 4-H! Start 2026 by showing your 4-H pride everywhere you go! The Michigan 4-H specialty license plate is more than just a plate—it's a way to help youth become beyond ready by building leadership, citizenship, and life skills through 4-H.

- Easy to order through the Michigan Secretary of State
- A portion of every plate benefits Michigan 4-H

Make this year count—order your plate today for just \$35 and drive your support forward!

Learn more at extension.msu.edu/4-Hplate



RADA CUTLERY FUNDRAISER



Support Our Fundraiser!

Shop our online Rada Cutlery fundraiser today and get prepared for all your upcoming gatherings with 100% USA-made kitchen products! Every purchase made through our unique shopping link helps support Lapeer County 4-H Camp. Your contribution truly makes a difference.

Shop Here: <https://radafundraising.com?rfsn=8906913.9bbe73>

Special Offer: Spend \$35 and save \$5 on shipping with code SHIPDEAL

In July 2025, 60 youth campers and 19 teen counselors enjoyed a 3-day summer camp supported by 11 dedicated volunteers and thanks to community support, more than 20 local youth attended through camp scholarships!

Thank you for supporting our campers and helping grow the next generation of leaders!



STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS



Register for Michigan 4-H Capitol Experience!

At Michigan 4-H Capitol Experience, teens learn how to change the world for the better through engagement in Michigan's state government and public policy process. The program is scheduled for March 15-17, in Lansing.

The three-day event, open to high-school-aged youth, includes tours of the Michigan Capitol, interactions with state legislators, meetings with state agency staff, lobbyists and state-level experts and learning how policy is made. During the program, youth work in small teams to draft legislation on: agriculture; civil rights and youth advocacy; crime and law enforcement; education and teacher retention; environment and natural resources; health; and jobs, the economy and infrastructure.

The cost to attend is \$365, which includes lodging at the Okemos Conference Center. Please contact your local 4-H program coordinator to inquire about local funding opportunities. To learn more and/or find the link to register, visit www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_capitol_experience/.

Earn prizes with the Michigan 4-H Cash Composition Contest

Did you know youth are being targeted by scams too? That's this year's theme for the 2026 Michigan 4-H Cash Composition Contest! Michigan youth aged 9–19 are invited to participate through writing an essay on this year's question.

Top entries receive a \$100 gift card, thanks to contest sponsor, Extra Credit Union. MSU Extension will host two webinars to help with fraud awareness and essay writing. Essays are due by March 1. For contest details and essay submission information, visit: www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-money-smarts/money-smart-kids-contest.



Apply for the Michigan 4-H State Awards!

Michigan 4-H true leaders ages 10 and older have an opportunity to be recognized for the great work they do in 4-H and develop their career skills by completing a state award application. A Michigan 4-H State Award is the highest honor bestowed on a Michigan 4-H member and provides an opportunity to receive recognition for their engagement in rich learning experiences that result in outstanding knowledge and life-skill development.

State award applications are divided into four categories: Mark of Excellence contest (10-11 years), junior state award (12-15 years), senior state award (16-19 years) and group awards (13-19 years). An Achievement Award was added last year for 18–19-year-olds. Each application and selection process varies, dependent on the applicant's age.

More information about the Michigan 4-H State Award process and Mark of Excellence Contest can be found online at bit.ly/stateaward. Applications are due April 1. For more information, contact your 4-H program coordinator or email Betty Jo Krosnicki at nashbett@msu.edu or Janice Zerbe at rajzerj@msu.edu.



County Calendar of Events

January

Office Closed.....	1/1, 1/2
Auction Committee Meeting.....	1/6: 5:30pm
Camp Committee Meeting.....	1/13: 6:00pm
Kids Night Out.....	1/16: 5:00pm
Office Closed.....	1/19
Ambassador Outing.....	1/19(Tentative)
Livestock Committee Meeting.....	1/19: 6:00pm
Council Meeting.....	1/19: 7:00pm
4-H AgriQuest Homeschool Club.....	1/21: 10:00am

February

Auction Committee Meeting.....	2/3: 5:30pm
EMSF Board Meeting at Fairgrounds.....	2/4: 7:00pm
Camp Committee Meeting.....	2/10: 6:00pm
Ambassador Meeting.....	2/16: 6:00pm
Council Meeting.....	2/16: 7:00pm
4-H AgriQuest Homeschool Club.....	2/18: 10:00am
The Frozen Frontier Winter Day Camp.....	2/21:10:00am
Horse Committee Meeting.....	2/23: 6:30pm

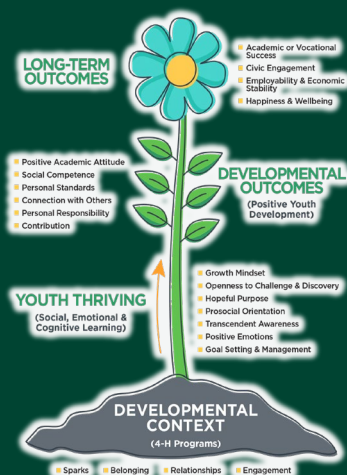
Get Involved in Shaping the Lapeer County 4-H Program!

We're looking for passionate people (parents, adult volunteers, and youth members) to join our committees and help plan and organize 4-H events. More committee members = more amazing opportunities for our youth! If you're ready to make an impact and keep our program thriving, reach out to Sarah or Debbie, or stop by at one of the committee meetings listed above. **Let's make great things happen together!**



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4-H Thriving Model of Positive Youth Development



Relationships are the foundation of a successful 4-H program! These relationships include building friendships with other members and leaders, building great working relationships and trust between program leaders and members, and adult leaders working together to organize great opportunities for youth.

We hope you can find others in the 4-H program in which you can build positive friendships and/or mentorships. Join us for any events and meetings to get to know everyone in the program.

Youth thriving is the first step in building youth who are #BeyondReady! Contact your local 4-H staff for more information.

January 13: Wild Spartans

Online

This month's session is "Nature's Detectives: How Insects Help Solve Crimes Against People, Animals and the Environment through Forensic Entomology." Tiny creatures can tell BIG stories about the world around us: explore creepy-crawly clues and learn how science and nature work together to solve puzzles. Ask questions through a live Q&A. This free virtual series is for youth ages 12-19.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-wild-spartans-january

January 13: Avoiding Money Mishaps

Online

In today's digital world, young people are increasingly targeted by fraudsters, scammers and predatory lenders. This interactive webinar will empower youth with the knowledge and tools to protect themselves and their personal information.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/avoiding-money-mishaps-jan13

January 21: Adulting 101 – Fraud Fighters: How to Stay Scam-Free

Online

From fake jobs offers to phishing texts, scammers are everywhere. This workshop breaks down the latest tricks and shows you how to guard your info, your credit, and your peace of mind.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-2026>

January 24: 2026 State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show and Expo

Farm Bureau Pavilion, Lansing

4-H'ers exhibit rabbit and cavy projects and participate in educational knowledge contests: showmanship, skillathon, breed identification and rabbit hopping. **Register by January 14.**

www.canr.msu.edu/events/2026-state-4-h-rabbit-and-cavy-show-and-expo

January 26: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series: Beyond Ready Basics

Every great 4-H experience has a few powerful ingredients—and volunteers play the biggest role in making them happen. Explore the four vital elements that help youth thrive: discovering sparks, feeling a sense of belonging, building developmental relationships, and staying meaningfully engaged.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-beyond-ready-basics-bringing-the-vital-elements-to-life-in-your-4-h-club

February 7: 4-H Winterfest

Eagle Village Retreat Center, Hersey

4-H Winterfest is a hand-on learning camp for youth ages 8-12. Youth pick workshops and participate in team building activities. Come and have fun this winter! **Register by January 23.**

www.canr.msu.edu/events/2026-winterfest





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

MICHIGAN 4-H HORSE SHOW JUDGES AND VOLUNTEERS CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2026
MI STATE UNIVERSITY - ANTHONY HALL
474 S SHAW LANE, EAST LANSING
REGISTRATION: 7:30-8:30 AM

Conference Overview:

Current MI 4-H Horse Show Judges as well as those with an interest in becoming a judge are encouraged to attend. Show chairs and volunteers and leaders will also find the conference educational and a great opportunity to network with judges. The conference is divided into two tracks, one focused on building the judge's skillset and the other geared towards volunteers.

Cost for attendance at this one-day conference is \$75/person. (Late fees apply after January 10). Registration can be completed at: [2026 MI 4-H Horse Judges and Volunteers Conference](#). **Contact Carla McLachlan at CarlaM@msu.edu if you have questions or need to make alternate arrangements for registration.** Meals are included with registration.

Featured Conference Topics and Presenters:

Presenter	Topic
Lindsay Rinehart	<i>Evaluating Fine Horses. Lindsay is featured in sessions concentrating on presentation of Fine Horses in both English and Western divisions.</i>
Jennifer Wahr	<i>Ranch Class Scoring</i>
David Lindsay	<i>Evaluating Draft Horses</i>
Kara Fleminger	<i>No Announcer, No Horse Show: Importance of a well-trained announcer to keep your show running smoothly.</i>
Tom Rossman & Christy Deal	<i>Hiring Judges for your Show</i>
Mike Yanz	<i>Handling Horse Show Emergencies</i>

MI 4-H Horse Show Judges and Volunteers Conference
Saturday, January 17, 2026
Anthony Hall, Michigan State University, 474 S Shaw Road, East Lansing, MI 48824

Conference registration is from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Final session wraps up at approximately 6:00 p.m.



STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS



Project F.I.S.H. Fishing Instructor Training



**MSU Campus
Room 152 Natural Resources Building**

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

**March 3rd and 4th, 2026
9:30-4:00 each day**

Michigan State University's Department of Fisheries and Wildlife invites teachers, educators and volunteers to 2 days of:

"Place Based Learning through Sportfishing and Aquatic Resource Education".

This workshop is open to anyone, even those who may want to learn a bit more about fishing to be able to volunteer for local fishing events, or even teach your own family!

Coordinated through Michigan State University's Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, this workshop is a partnership with MSU Extension, MSU 4-H Youth Development, Department of Natural Resources, Michigan United Conservation Clubs, schools, and community service organizations and many others to educate young people about our natural resources through FISHING.

This is a workshop based on the Project FISH philosophy of hands on, multiple-contact sportfishing and aquatic resource education. We will offer activities in Aquatic Ecology, Tackle Crafting, People and Fish Management and actual Angling Skills. Participants will leave with curriculum activities, equipment, even a fishing rod & reel, and access to supplies and resources to begin a successful fishing program/club with children in the classroom or in an after school setting. The workshop is partially funded through **donors to Project F.I.S.H.** (lunch will be provided)

Cost for the Workshop is only \$100

Contact: Mark Stephens at 517-432-2700, steph143@msu.edu, or Early registration will insure your participation, space is limited.

Registration info at <http://www.projectfish.org/pfworkshopanrweek2026.pdf>

You can register online at

https://commerce.cashnet.com/msu_3804?&itemcode=3804-ANR2026

Registration deadline: February 24th, 2026





Event Profits benefit
Lapeer County 4-H Camp
Committee



MAKE A MESS

Kid's Night Out

For Youth Ages 5-12



Friday, January 16, 2026
5:00pm - 8:00pm

LAPEER COUNTY 4-H
1800 IMLAY CITY ROAD, LAPEER



- Pizza
- Popcorn
- Crafts
- Games
- Activities

\$15
Per Child



Preregistration Required by January 12th.

To register your child(ren) to attend, complete the google form at <https://bit.ly/4hkidsnight>. Payment by cash or check will be collected at the event. You can also register by calling the office at (810)667-0341 or email graversa@msu.edu. Participants will need to enroll as Lapeer County 4-H members, you will receive a link after registration to complete enrollment.

Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status. Persons with disabilities have the right to request and receive reasonable accommodations. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting Sarah at (810)667-0341 by January 12, 2026 to make arrangements. Requests received after this date will be fulfilled when possible.

Lapeer, Sanilac, Tuscola, Huron and St. Clair County 4-H

THE FROZEN FRONTIER

WINTER DAY CAMP

Step back in time for a fun-filled winter adventure packed with pioneer-inspired activities! Join our Winter Day Camp for learning, adventure, and unforgettable memories!

Barn Quilt Painting

\$35
includes
Lunch

Leather Crafting

Soap and Candle Making

Outdoor Games



Saturday, February 21, 2026



10:00am - 4:00pm



Clifford Elevator 9769 Main St. Clifford, MI



Register online at <https://frozenfrontier.4honline.com>

Register by February 12.

If your child is not a current 4-H member, you will need to enroll them as a member before completing the camp registration. Camp is designed for youth ages 10-19.

Contact your local 4-H office for assistance with enrollment/registration and possible event scholarships.

Limited Slots | REGISTER NOW

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Hands on with Wool



LAPEER COUNTY 4-H



Milk, Sugar, Science



Sap to Syrup

AGRIQUEST

HOMESCHOOL CLUB

CONNECT, LEARN, AND EXPLORE TOGETHER!

3RD WEDNESDAY MONTHLY @ 10AM

Agriquest is a fun-filled 4-H Special Interest (SPIN) club designed for homeschoolers ages 5–12, who love to imagine, create, and explore! Meetings will be a mix of ag-related stories, imaginative crafts, and science activities that will turn learning into an adventure.



December 17
January 21
February 18
March 18
May 20



Lapeer County MSU Extension
1800 Imlay City Road
Lapeer, MI 48446

REGISTRATION



To register your child(ren) to attend, complete the google form at <https://bit.ly/4oxJB4f> . You can also register by calling the office at (810)667-0341 or email graversa@msu.edu. Participants must enroll in Lapeer County 4-H, you will receive a link after registration to complete enrollment. (It's Free!)



Curious
Conversations



Interactive
Activities



Creative
Crafts



Real World
Connections

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JANUARY CRAFTS & SNACKS

POT BELLY SNOWMAN



Have a little indoor fun making this 3D Paper Snowman craft. Complete instructions at: <https://kidscraftroom.com/3d-paper-snowman-craft/>

Supplies needed:

- [Printable Snowman Template](#)
(This link takes you to a template to purchase – we think crafty 4-Hers can create their own template!)
- 2 Sheets White Paper/Cardstock
- 1 Sheet Blue Paper/Cardstock
- Marker Pens
- White Paint
- Paintbrush
- Glue
- Scissors

For some counting practice, Sarah suggests seeing how many cotton balls your snowman's belly will hold!

3D PAPER SNOWFLAKES

These are traditional Paper Snowflakes from Scandinavia!

Materials needed per snowflake:

- 3 sheets of printer paper (though any paper is fine!)
- scissors
- glue stick
- stapler
- string for hanging

Follow these instructions from RedTedArt:

<https://www.redtedart.com/3d-paper-snowflakes-how-to-diy/>



SNOWMAN KEBABS



Make snack time fun with these cute little snowman kebabs!

Use these suggested ingredients or tweak them to whatever you have available.

- Banana
- Hat – Strawberry / Raspberries / Grapes / Blueberries
- Eyes and buttons – Raisins
- Nose – Carrot
- Kebab stick

Slice up the banana and thread onto the kebab stick. Add the fruit to make a hat. Gently press raisins into the banana for eyes and buttons. Then take a small piece of carrot and place as his nose.

HEAD OUTDOORS

HOMEMADE BIRD FEEDERS



Bird Feeders

www.messylittlemonster.com

Spend a little time making these homemade bird feeders for our feathered friends. It will be so much fun watching them come into your yard looking for a snack!

Materials Needed:

- Bird seed mix
- Knox Gelatine
- Boiling water
- Mixing bowl and spoon
- Cookie cutter
- Tray covered in foil
- Ribbon

Find complete instructions at Messy Little Monster:

<https://www.messylittlemonster.com/2014/12/how-to-make-biscuit-cutter-bird-feeders.html>

JOURNEY STICKS

This Winter outdoor activity is perfect for budding collectors and storytellers. Every adventure and walk has a story to tell, especially when you're adventuring with children. Gathering and hunting for nature on your walk is such a great way of documenting your journey, these sticks can often be referred to as nature sticks or storyteller sticks.



Gather up flowers, leaves, feathers, acorns, etc. along your walk and wrap them around your stick. You may find pinecones that could have been nibbled by badgers, a feather, winter berries or sheep's wool. To secure your treasures to the stick use elastic bands or hair bobbles for young children and for older children use string or yarn and get them to wrap bits of nature around the stick which also keeps them busy working on knot tying skills.

For very young children use a piece of cardboard with double sided sticky tape as an easier way to independently document their journey.





TRY SOMETHING NEW

January is a great month to try something new! Maybe it's learning a new language, reading a new kind of book, learning to play a new instrument, or trying out a new hobby. This can be an activity for your kids or for your whole family!

LEARN YOUR NAME IN MORSE CODE!

MORSE CODE ALPHABET & NUMBERS

A • —	T —
B — • • •	U • • —
C — • — •	V • • • —
D — • •	W • — —
E •	X — • • —
F • • • •	Y — • • —
G — — •	Z — — • •
H • • • •	0 — — — — —
I • •	1 • — — — —
J • — — — —	2 • • — — —
K — • —	3 • • • — —
L • — • •	4 • • • • —
M — —	5 • • • • •
N — •	6 — • • • •
O — — —	7 — — • • •
P • — — •	8 — — — • •
Q — — • —	9 — — — — •
R • — •	
S • • •	

TEACH

January 11th is "learn your name in Morse Code day".

Morse Code was invented by Samuel Morse and is a series of "dots and dashes". The dots and dashes are encoded text characters, considered the forerunner to email, text messages, and other near-instant messaging used today.

Happy Hive Homeschooling has a post on the history of Morse Code and activities to help you learn your name at:

<https://happyhivehomeschooling.com/write-your-name-in-morse-code/>

You can also use the links from the article to visit a few online sites where you can input text and it will play it back in Morse Code!

This is one of them: [Morse Code Translator](#) | [Morse Code World](#)

MAKE FROZEN BUBBLES

The STEAM Powered Family! have discovered the secrets for how to make the perfect frozen bubble! Visit their site at: <https://www.steampoweredfamily.com/creating-the-perfect-frozen-bubble/> to learn how!

Frozen Bubble Experiment Supplies Needed:

Bowl and spoon
200 mL warm water = 0.8333 cups
2.5 Tbsp corn syrup (for thickness)
2 Tbsp sugar (for crystallization)
2.5 Tbsp dish soap (for bubble formation)
1 straw
1 water or pop bottle
modeling clay or playdough
A day that is cold with no wind





LAUGH A LITTLE OR A LOT!!!

How do you scare a snowman?

- Pull out a hair dryer.

Why was the little snowman sad?

- Cause he had a meltdown.

What do you call a snowman's dog?

- A slush puppy!



What bites but doesn't have teeth?

- Frost.

What's the difference between ice and icicle?

- Ice has noel.

What falls from great heights but doesn't hurt?

- Snow.

What is a snowman's favorite Mexican food in the winter?

- Burr-ito.

What do you call a snowman in August?

- A puddle.

Why was the snowman rummaging through the bag of carrots?

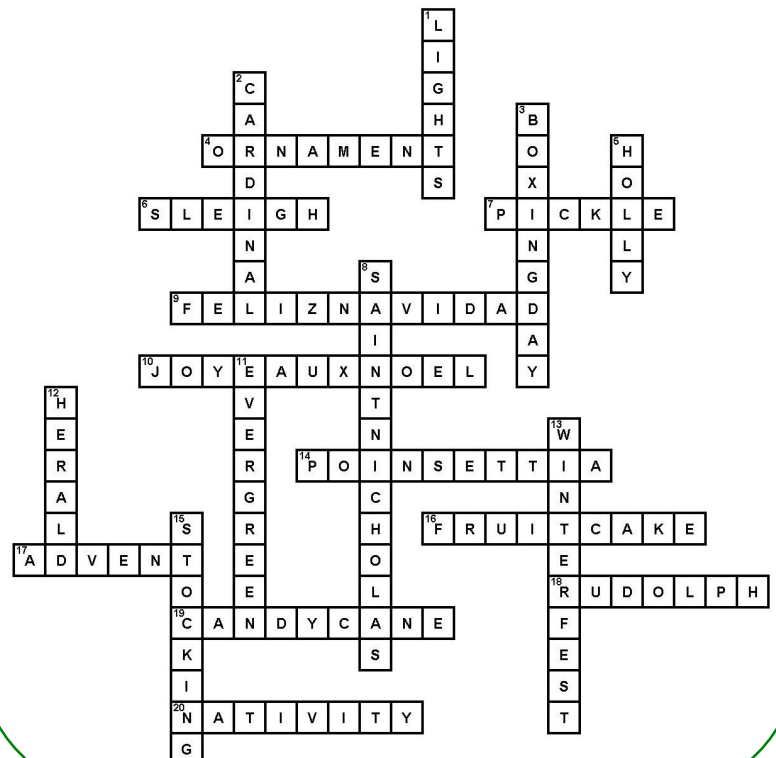
- He was picking his nose.



Who is Frosty's favorite aunt?

- Aunt Arctica.

ANSWER TO DECEMBER'S CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Lapeer County 4-H
MSU Extension
1800 Imlay City Road
Lapeer, MI 48446

MICHIGAN STATE
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**Beyond
Ready**