



December 2024

# 4-H Family News

## Montcalm County



### Happy Holidays 4-H Families and Volunteers,

4-H Online has opened back up for re-enrollments. Please submit your re-enrollment by December 1<sup>st</sup>. This is for volunteers as well.

Check out the calendar of events on page 2, and the multiple event flyers at the end of this newsletter, for more information on what is happening.

If you know of someone who would like to be added to our newsletter distribution, shoot us an email, and we'll add them!

Sincerely,  
Sunni Haglund  
4-H Program Coordinator

### Montcalm County Committee Meeting times & locations

Fairboard Association | 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month | 7:00 p.m. | Ash Building – Fairgrounds

4-H Dog Committee | 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month | 6:30 p.m. | Ash Building – Fairgrounds & via zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/92086229811> passcode: 4Hdog)

4-H Horse Leaders | 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month | 7:00 p.m. | Ash Building – Fairgrounds & via zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/96502762151> passcode: Horse)

4-H Council | 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month | 6:30 p.m. | via zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/95340301576> passcode: Council)

4-H Community Connection Committee (CCC) | 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month | 7:00 p.m. | via zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/95542684298> passcode: 4HCCC)

4-H Small Animal Committee | 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month | 6:00 p.m. | Ash Building - Fairgrounds & via zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/93871161694> passcode: 4hyouth)

4-H Youth Livestock Committee | 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month | 6:30 p.m. | Ash Building - Fairgrounds & via zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/93871161694> passcode: 4hyouth)

## CONTACT US

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## WEBSITE:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/montcalm-county/>

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# COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Fairboard Date: 12/2/24
- Dog Committee Date: 12/5/24
- Horse Leaders Date: 12/10/24
- Advisory Council Date: 1/20/25
- Community Connections Date: 1/20/25
- Small Animal Date: 1/27/25
- Youth Livestock Date: 1/27/25
- MCFAAC (Livestock) Date: 1/27/25

Times and locations for each 4-H committee meeting can be found on the front page of this newsletter!

**Don't forget to visit the Montcalm County Fairgrounds webpage**  
<https://montcalmcountyfairgrounds.com/>.

## Other Services Offered:

**MSUE Master Gardener Hotline:**

1-888-678-3464

The hotline is open weekdays between 9-noon and 1 – 4 p.m.

Select option “1” to speak directly with a gardening expert.

## Ask an Expert:

Ask Extension offers one-to-one answers from MSU Extension experts and Extension Master Gardener volunteers on topics such as lawns, gardening, agriculture, nutrition and physical activity, food safety, food preservation, natural resources, community development, youth programming and more!

Ask here:  
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/outreach/ask-an-expert>





## 4-H County News:

The 4-H Program Coordinators within District 8 (Clinton, Eaton, Gratiot, Ingham, Ionia, Montcalm) are planning teen and adult leader training sessions this February, March, and May.

\*February's session will be February 1<sup>st</sup> from 10:30am - 2pm and will cover "Empowering Youth Leaders" in the Ionia County MSU-Extension office.

\*March's session will be on March 16<sup>th</sup> at 6pm and will cover "Helping Youth Thrive" (see page 4), at the Ash Building, at the Montcalm County Fairgrounds.

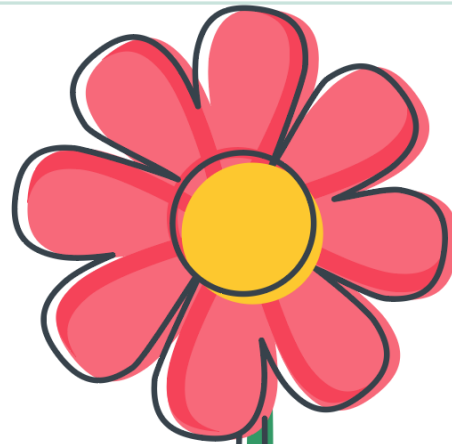
\*May's session will be on May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10:30am - 2pm and will cover the showmanship sweepstakes show, at the Clinton County Fairgrounds.

Once we have the registration links and more information, I will send it all out in an email to all families. If you are interested in any of these training sessions, or interested in hearing more about them, please reach out to me. If you are interested in doing the one at the Ash Building, but the topic doesn't seem interesting or the date doesn't work, email me by January 6<sup>th</sup> with your suggestions.



## LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

- Academic or Vocational Success
- Civic Engagement
- Employability & Economic Stability
- Happiness & Wellbeing



- Positive Academic Attitude
- Social Competence
- Personal Standards
- Connection with Others
- Personal Responsibility
- Contribution

## DEVELOPMENTAL OUTCOMES

(Positive Youth Development)



## YOUTH THRIVING

(Social, Emotional & Cognitive Learning)

- Growth Mindset
- Openness to Challenge & Discovery
- Hopeful Purpose
- Prosocial Orientation
- Transcendent Awareness
- Positive Emotions
- Goal Setting & Management



## DEVELOPMENTAL CONTEXT

(4-H Programs)

- Sparks
- Belonging
- Relationships
- Engagement





# 4-H Committee News

Join us in our 4-H committee meetings, while we plan/prepare or the upcoming year. You have a voice too we just need to hear it! Youth and adults are welcome.

## 4-H Committees:

Dog Committee – 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month at 6:30pm at the Ash Building

Horse Leaders – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month at 7pm at the Ash Building

Advisory Council – 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month at 6:30pm via Zoom

Community Connections – 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month following Advisory Council via Zoom

Small Animal Committee – 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month at 6pm at the Ash Building

Youth Livestock Committee – 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month at 6:30pm at the Ash Building

# 4-H LEADERS





# 4-H Committee News

The committee meetings are a great opportunity to have your voice be heard. Any 4-H member/family can attend and take part in the planning of the species-specific events throughout the year and at fair. It is encouraged and very important to attend, so that everyone has a voice. Typically, August through October is when most of the changes are voted on, but planning occurs throughout the year.

**The Youth Livestock Committee** is hosting various educational workshops during their 4<sup>th</sup> Monday meetings. Their next meeting in January, will be “Beef up your Market Project” – with a special speaker and resources for making the most of your market animal projects.

**4-H Community Connections Committee** is getting ready to ramp up for their Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital toy drive challenge. As a reminder, there is a bin at our Stanton office, just outside of our door. Any new/homemade gifts, puzzles, activity books, art supplies, etc., can be used as a donation. All clubs that participate in this challenge, qualify to attend the 4-H CCC pizza party at fair!

**The Small Animal Committee** is finishing up the plans for our spring showmanship workshop. Let them know if you have any ideas, or if you would like to contribute to the planning/organizing/running of the workshop. They are also looking for donations for door prizes. This workshop is a fundraiser for new poultry/goat pens.

4-H is a **community** of **young people** across **America** who are learning **leadership, citizenship** and **life skills.**





# Shooting Sports:

4-H Precision Seekers –

Looking for youth that are interested in 4-H Shooting Sports to join our club for 2025.

Rifle Disciplines being offered: BB Gun, Air Rifle (Sporter and Precision), .22lr Rifle (Field and Target)

Age Requirements:

4-H Age As of Jan 1 of the participation year	BB Gun .177	Air Rifle .177	.22lr Rifle
9-11	Yes	Yes	No
12-19	Yes	Yes	Yes

If you are interested, you must log into 4-H Online and join 4-H Precision Seekers as your primary or secondary club. Meetings/practices will start in January 2025 for new youth. Everyone who signs up will be notified of meeting dates and times.

Questions/Info: Please call or email Scott Wallace if you have questions or need additional information. Phone 616-826-6310, email [scott.wallace.mich@gmail.com](mailto:scott.wallace.mich@gmail.com)

Note: Please, Do Not buy your youth any equipment prior to attending a meeting/practice or contacting Scott.





# Montcalm County Fair Association

## MCFA Info/Updates:

We also have various committees that are always looking for new faces and input. If you're interested in serving on one of the following committees, please reach out to Sunni at [haglun10@msu.edu](mailto:haglun10@msu.edu).

### MCFA Committees:

- Accessibility
- Association Membership
- Awards
- Biosecurity
- Budget and Audit
- Buildings and Grounds
- By-laws/Policies and Procedures
- Camping
- Fairbook
- Grandstand Events
- Judges
- Kids Day/Special Needs Day
- Livestock and Agriculture (MCFAAC)
- Marketing
- Parking/Security
- Plat Book
- Rentals
- ShoWorks
- Vendors/concessions/exhibits





# Black Friday – Cyber Monday Sale

<https://montcalmcountyfairgrounds.com/store>

## BLACK FRIDAY THROUGH CYBER MONDAY SALE!!

**Barn post and rafter sponsorships half  
off 11/29 – 12/2**

A lifetime sponsorship for a barn post/beam (5" x 5") or  
rafter (8" x 16"), in the barn of your choice



### Barn Post Sponsorship

\$150.00 ~~\$300.00~~  
**SALE**



### Barn Rafter Sponsorship

\$100.00 ~~\$200.00~~  
**SALE**

# Brian Plank Memorial Building Fund

<https://godonate.akoyago.com/gacf/fund/4hfair>

## Help Us Honor Brian Plank's Legacy

For those who knew Brian Plank, his passion for beef extended far beyond his career. Brian was deeply involved in the Michigan Cattleman's Association, managed the MSU Bull Test, and served as a beef superintendent for the Montcalm County Fair. He tirelessly promoted the beef industry and found immense joy in supporting young people raising their own market animals. One of Brian's dreams was to expand the livestock barn to accommodate more animals. That vision took root with the resale of animals through our livestock auction and grew into the Brian Plank Memorial Classic Beef Show, held annually in October. Through these efforts and the generosity of our donors, we've raised \$30,000 for the Building Fund.

As we embrace the spirit of giving this season, we invite you to help us honor Brian's legacy by contributing to the Building Fund. Donations are securely held and managed by the Greenville Area Community Foundation.

You can donate here: [Donate to the Building Fund](#)

If you have any questions, please feel free to email us at [MCFLivestock@gmail.com](mailto:MCFLivestock@gmail.com).

Thank you for helping us keep Brian's dream alive.  
Wishing you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving,  
Livestock Committee

'TIS THE  
SEASON TO BE  
*thankful*



# STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

## Help youth build the Five C's: Competence, confidence, connection, character and compassion

*Adapted from an article by Christine Heverly, MSU Extension*

Michigan 4-H works to ensure that youth are engaged in a positive youth development program and utilizes the 4-H Thriving Model to help illustrate how it is meeting the needs of youth across Michigan. A key component of the 4-H Thriving Model is that youth form developmental relationships. Young people thrive best when their families, friends, schools, neighbors, businesses and other community members support them in a variety of ways.

Positive relationships with volunteers provide young people with chances to learn life skills such as goal setting, problem-solving and communicating. Volunteers can help young people move through the developmental stages and address difficulties along the way. One important way volunteers can help youth thrive is to help them build their Five C's. According to "Liberty: Thriving and civic engagement among America's youth" by Richard Lerner, the Five C's are competence, confidence, connection, character and compassion.



The Five C's aren't tangible things you can give to young people. They're skills and characteristics young people develop through their experiences and relationships. According to Zarrett and Lerner, young people who are able to display stronger evidence of having the Five C's are considered to be thriving and more likely to be developmentally on target than those who do not. Volunteers have the potential to assist young people in building the Five C's by creating relationships and situations that allow them to thrive.

MSU Extension recommends the following ideas to help Michigan 4-H volunteers working with youth to help build the Five C's.

- Help youth learn new concepts for the projects or activities they are participating in.
- Know youth names and address them by their preferred names and pronouns.
- Have youth find their spark by trying something new.
- Help youth navigate obstacles that they encounter.
- Help youth work through the tough side of giving away a project (i.e., selling an animal, giving away a project they worked hard on).
- Help youth record progress, no matter how small; each completed task is a job well done (i.e., maintain a "Done It List").
- Identify values or ethical standards a youth lives by. Do this with them. Write a non-negotiables list showing beliefs the youth will not alter. This helps alleviate peer pressure break downs.
- Define confidence, competence, connection, character and compassion. Use one of these terms to define during a group meeting and discuss ways we show it. Align with the 4-H pledge and have youth brainstorm ways (or goals) to show these traits in the new 4-H year on paper. They can draw or write those ideas.
- Use simple ice breaker activities in pairs or small groups to help young people talk through or work on a common activity or topic. Have them share out loud to the larger group their shared connection or how they worked together to achieve a common goal (building competence and confidence, building connections).
- Focus on building relationship with the youth involved by really getting to know them (their hobbies, interests, events in school or family) and inquire about them with a genuine interest.
- Recognize specific positive behaviors or accomplishments in competence, confidence or character of youth in the club/group.
- Be compassionate in one's interactions with youth (and others) and serve as a role model in that behavior.



# STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Shop the Michigan 4-H store this holiday season



Buy your favorite Michigan 4-H apparel, drinkware, and essentials at the SHOP 4-H Online Store!

Offered in collaboration with National 4-H Council through Shop 4-H, the Michigan 4-H store offers Michigan 4-H branded apparel and other gifts. Visit the store online and find the perfect item for your favorite 4-H'er, volunteer, alumni, professional or fan! The shop is open to the public and a percentage of all proceeds will be donated to Michigan 4-H.

To order Michigan 4-H specific items, visit <https://bit.ly/30pdNJw>. The store will remain open beyond the holiday season to continue offering Michigan 4-H branded gear to the Michigan 4-H community.

### November 29 – December 15: Fall TSC Paper Clover Campaign

*Local Tractor Supply Co.*

Support 4-H by purchasing a \$1 paper clover at your local Tractor Supply Co. (TSC) store!

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/tractor-supply-co-paper-clover-campaign](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/tractor-supply-co-paper-clover-campaign)

### December 3: Giving Tuesday

*Online*

Join the #GivingTuesday movement — a global day of giving and a chance to celebrate the opportunities that makes 4-H so extraordinary. 4-H'ers are leading the way in a world full of change and together, we can build a generation ready for anything. We have set a goal to raise \$5,000 to grow 4-H county endowments in a 24-hour period.

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

### December 10: Wild Spartans – Forestry Fire Crew

*Online*

Join 4-H staff to spark excitement in the world of wildland fire. Meet Jennifer Hansen and Courtney Kubitskey, who are on the forestry fire crew with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Learn about their work, and the education and career path they followed to get there. This free series is open to all youth ages 12-19 years. Pre-registration is required:

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-monthly-wildlife-fisheries-webinar-series-december-2024-25](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-monthly-wildlife-fisheries-webinar-series-december-2024-25)

### December 17: Online Extension Extras - Helping Kids Manage Stress

*Online*

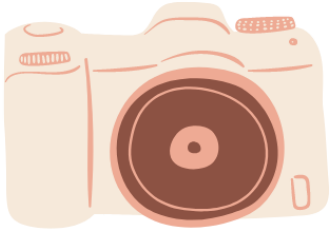
Children and youth experience stress; parents and caregivers have an opportunity to support them. This workshop will cover common causes, signs and symptoms of stress, as well as discuss strategies for supporting children, youth and parents experiencing stress.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/online-parenting-helping-kids-manage-stress-12-17-24](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/online-parenting-helping-kids-manage-stress-12-17-24)

### Kettunen Center Inventory Closeout

Kettunen Center was the first 4-H volunteer and youth training center in the nation, owned and operated by the Michigan 4-H Foundation from 1961 to 2021. The center's remaining merchandise and furnishings is now available for sale through the MSU Surplus Store! We know the Kettunen Center meant so much to the 4-H community and this is an opportunity to purchase something by which to remember the center. Purchase yours today!





# All of this and more!

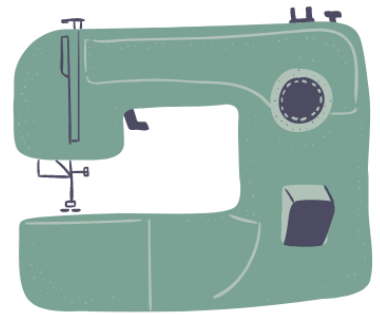
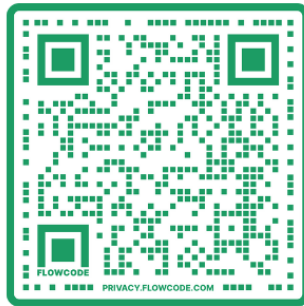


## 4-H HAS SO MUCH TO OFFER!



To find your local 4-H Program Coordinator, or to learn more about what 4-H can offer you and your family, go to:

[https://www.canr.msu.edu/4h/join\\_4\\_h](https://www.canr.msu.edu/4h/join_4_h)



**4-H** is about more than the ribbons & awards  
IT'S ABOUT the PEOPLE, the Experiences, the life-long skills, the memories, the COUNTY FAIRS  
IT'S ABOUT being a ROLE MODEL giving back, and MAKING THE BEST BET



## MONTCALM COUNTY 4-H COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS COMMITTEE

### What we do:

- Community Service Projects / Challenges
- Build / Expand Community Partnerships
- Bridge Gaps for Community Members
- Locate and Provide Needed Resources
- Join Together Surrounding Counties
- Host Events and Activities

Find us on Social Media

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/656549581412123>

# VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION









HOSTED BY: CURIOUS CLOVERS 4-H CLUB

# HOLIDAY

*Whobilation*



HOSTED BY: CURIOUS CLOVERS 4-H CLUB

# HOLIDAY

*Whobilation*



HOSTED BY: CURIOUS CLOVERS 4-H CLUB

# HOLIDAY

*Whobilation*



HOSTED BY: CURIOUS CLOVERS 4-H CLUB

# HOILDAY

*Whobilation*



HOSTED BY: CURIOUS CLOVERS 4-H CLUB

# HOILDAY

*Whobilation*





**MONTCALM COUNTY 4-H**  
COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS COMMITTEE  
PRESENTS:



# Holiday Bake-Off



**Congratulations  
to each of our  
outstanding  
kiddos!**

**Beginner  
Division:**

**1<sup>st</sup> – Quinn (Tails  
and Trails 4-H  
Club)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Ivy (Tails and  
Trails 4-H Club)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> – Gretta (Tails  
and Trails 4-H  
Club)**





**Intermediate Division:**

**1<sup>st</sup> – Kiera (Tails and Trails 4-H Club)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Brielle (4-H Future Leaders Club)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> – Ava (Tails and Trails 4-H Club)**





**Advanced Division:**

**1<sup>st</sup> – Kinley Moore (no club affiliation)**



**Special Category /  
Gingerbread house from  
scratch**

**1<sup>st</sup> – Tails and Trails 4-H  
Club (as a team)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Ally (4-H Future  
Leaders Club)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> – Brielle (4-H Future  
Leaders Club)**





# Upcoming Events



MONTCALM COUNTY  
4 - H & TAMARACK  
DISTRICT LIBRARY  
PRESENT:



# Gifts Made from the Home & Heart

Join us for some hands on activities creating a delicious homemade jam and a sugar scrub - these can be used as gifts for your loved ones, and you can learn something along the way!



Who: Anyone!

When: December 19th 5:30-7:30pm

Where: Tamarack District Library

Cost: FREE!

For more information and to register, please go to:  
<https://events.anr.msu.edu/HomemadeGifts/>



# Upcoming Events

# YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID WORKSHOP

A FREE resource workshop for adults and teens, to give parents/caregivers/peers some tools to recognize and assist young people experiencing mental health challenges, grief, or trauma.

**YMHFA Resource Workshop**  
January 14, 2025 | 5:30pm  
Tamarack District Library  
832 S Lincoln Ave,  
Lakeview, MI 48850



**REGISTER HERE:** <https://events.anr.msu.edu/YouthMentalHealth>

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