



JULY 2025

4-H Family News

WAYNE COUNTY



July Newsletter Contents:

- Wayne County Upcoming Events
- 4-H Member Spotlight
- 4-H Volunteer Spotlight
- 4-H Volunteer Tip of the Month
- Statewide Calendar of Events
- Statewide 4-H News

CONTACT US

[Richard Wooten](#)

MSU Extension – Wayne County
District Director

[Diane Wisnewski](#)

4-H Supervisor

[Laurie Rivetto](#)

4-H Educator

[Ashleigh Klein](#) [LaToya Jones](#)

4-H Program Coordinators

[Waverly Eubank](#) [Holly Sysol](#)

4-H Program Instructors

PHONE & EMAIL:

(734) 721-6576
(Western Wayne)

msue.wayne@msu.edu

WEBSITE:

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

<https://www.facebook.com/MI4HWayne>

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. Issued in furtherance of MSU Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Quentin Tyler, Director, MSU Extension, East Lansing, MI 48824. This information is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply endorsement by MSU Extension or bias against those not mentioned.





Wayne County Upcoming Events

Garden to Table Summer Workshop Series

In this hands-on program, youth will explore the journey of food from seed to plate! Participants will learn how to plant and care for a garden, harvest fresh produce, and turn their homegrown ingredients into simple, healthy meals. Activities promote teamwork, environmental awareness, and healthy living through fun and engaging gardening and cooking experiences.

Where: Taylor Community Library
(12303 Pardee Rd, Taylor, MI 48180)

When:

- **7/25, 4-5:30pm:** Harvest & Snack!
Participants will explore how to identify when produce is ripe and ready to harvest. They'll pick garden-grown fruits and vegetables, learn about their nutritional value, and prepare a simple meal.
- **8/22, 4-5:30pm:** Keep it Fresh! Learn simple ways to make your garden harvest last longer! Youth will explore easy preservation methods like quick pickling, drying herbs, and freezing produce.

Cost: Free!

Suitable for ages 10 & Up.

Registration Required (Opens May 1st): <https://events.anr.msu.edu/gardentotableworkshops/>

Apply Today: Scholarship to attend Michigan State University

If you currently attend or are planning to attend Michigan State University this fall, please consider applying for the Sandy Brand Memorial Scholarship. The amount will be between \$1250 - \$2500 (depending on the number of applicants chosen). All you need to do is type a one-page essay (double spaced; size 12 font) on 'How 4-H has prepared you for your future'.

Please send your essay to 4-H Program Coordinator, Ashleigh Klein at apelashl@msu.edu by the deadline: **July 15, 2025**.

Garden to Table Workshop Series

at Taylor Community Library

Jun 20th 2-3:30 PM:
Plant it, grow it eat it!

Jul 25th 4-5:30 PM:
Harvest and Snack

Aug 22nd 4-5:30 PM:
Keep it Fresh

Registration
Required, suitable
for ages 10 & up



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



Wayne County Upcoming Events

Dog Days of Summer 4-H Mini Day Camp

Join us for a tail-wagging good time at this 3-day 4-H mini day camp all about dogs! Youth will explore canine anatomy, breeds, nutrition, grooming, first aid, enrichment, and careers in the dog world. Campers will participate in making homemade dog treats and toys, practicing pet care skills, and meeting a dog trainer. Dog ownership is not required to participate—just a love for animals and a curiosity to learn!



Pre-Registration Required by: August 12, 2025

Registration Link: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/dog-days-of-summer-4-h-mini-day-camp>

Cost: FREE!

Who: Youth ages 8-14

Where: Flat Rock Public Library (25200 Gibraltar Rd, Flat Rock, MI 48134)

When: August 19-21, 2025 | 2-5 PM

Contact: Ashleigh Klein (apelashl@msu.edu or 734-727-7408)



Member Spotlight- Sophia Sloan

What are your recent/past 4-H achievements?

I learned how to make so many things from bollo ties to cheesecake. Winning 1st place with my cheesecake at fair in 2024. One of my greatest achievements is my horse, Bart. I've learned to train him and learned to take care of him and show him. He's my best friend. My first year of showing, we won reserve championship.

How and when did you get involved with 4-H?

My siblings were in 4-H and it seemed fun, so I wanted to join.

What drew you to being a part of the 4-H program?

How much I love Bart and all the fun things I seen my siblings do. I seen it as an opportunity to learn a lot.

What have you gained from being a part of 4-H?

I've gained a lot of knowledge of things; I have so much fun and made a lot of friends.

What advice would you give someone else in 4-H or thinking about joining 4-H?

I would advise them to join.

What is your favorite memory of 4-H?

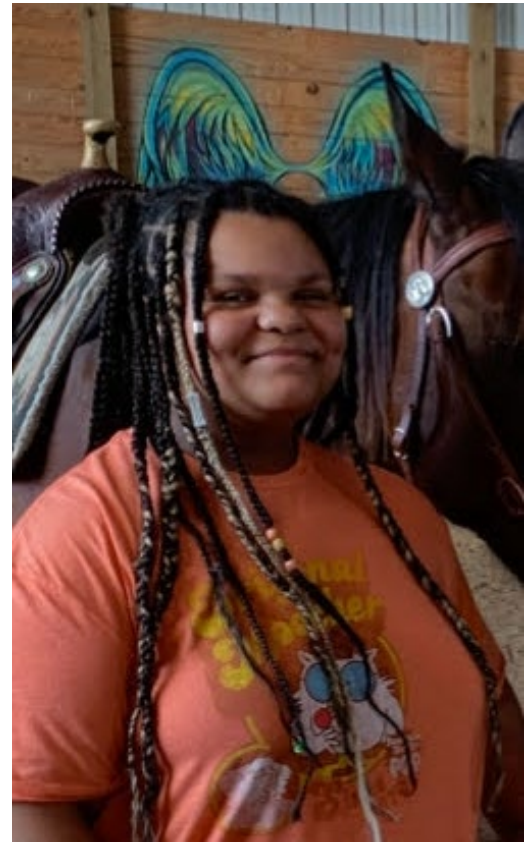
I have so many but my most favorable is with new friends I've met and with Bart.

What are your plans for the future?

My plans are to becoming a veterinarian, owning a bakery and one day when I'm older I'd like to be a leader for 4-H.

Is there anything else you want to share about yourself, 4-H, or recent experiences that we may include?

I feel like 4-H and the support from my peers have changed my life all for the better. The positive encouragement and good vibes have helped me in so many ways.





Volunteer Spotlight- DaCoriona Cooper

Where do you volunteer, and how did you get started?

Since October 2024, I've been volunteering with the 4-H Club at Oakland Avenue Urban Farm.

What has been your favorite or most fulfilling part of volunteering with 4-H?

Seeing the youth smile.

What volunteer projects do you most like to be a part of?

Anything related to youth, agriculture, and African material culture.

Do you have any advice for other 4-H volunteers?

Always have snacks.





Volunteer Tip of the Month

Volunteer Tip of the Month: Recap of Mini Gather and Grow Training- Running Effective Meetings- refer to this article

https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/tips_for_running_a_successful_4_h_meeting

- **Start and stop on time.** Starting a meeting at the designated time and finishing within a time frame of one to two hours can hold the interest, reach goals and be fun for club members. The club officers and leaders set the tone for the club.
- **Let the officers fulfill their responsibilities.** The president calls the meeting to order and is in charge. Let other officers and committee chairpersons do their assigned jobs. Volunteers should help officers develop confidence in their abilities by providing guidance while remaining in the background.
- **Communicate upcoming events, dates and responsibilities.** Use a variety of methods to convey the message to members and parents including phone, personal visits, social media, written notes, newsletters and phone chains. Repeat important dates and events at several meetings. Communicate with parents about club meeting locations along with beginning and ending times and stick to them.
- **Set behavior standards.** Members and parents need to know what is expected of them. Club meetings are an excellent place to learn and practice good citizenship and respect for people and property.
- **Plan meetings with variety.** Utilizing the format of 15-20 minutes of fun, 15-20 minutes of business and 45-60 minutes of learning will keep the meeting full of variety and interest of participants. Mix up meetings with lots of variety to keep interest, encourage learning and just for fun. Keep the business section effective and to the point.
- **Conclusion.** Make sure each members has a chance to do and learn something at every meeting. Keep members involved and include lots of variety to help 4-Hers learn and grow through club work. Know what needs to be accomplished at each club meeting and be intentional about the learning and fun.



Announcements

Wayne County Fair: August 4 - 9

- Fair Entries are due no later than July 15th. 2025 (late fees after July 1 may apply)
- The Fair book and fair forms can be found on the Wayne County fair website:
<https://www.waynecountyfairgrounds.net/forms>
- Wayne County Youth Livestock Auction Will take place on Thursday August 7, 2025 at 5pm.



Now Forming: 2024–2025 Wayne County 4-H Recognition Event Planning Committee!

Wayne County 4-H is beginning preparations for the 2024–2025 Recognition Event—and we need YOUR help to make it a success! We're looking for adult Gold Level volunteers and teen leaders (ages 12 and up) to serve on this year's planning committee. Whether you love organizing events, getting creative, or just want to lend a helping hand, there's a role for you!

▪ Why get involved?

- Help shape one of the biggest events of the year
- Share your ideas on awards, themes, decorations, and more
- Build leadership and teamwork skills
- Choose a role that fits your interests and availability



WE WANT YOU!

The event will take place in late January or early February 2026, with our first committee meeting happening in early September 2025. This year's committee will be more flexible—members will take on specific tasks based on their availability and skills.

Committee Roles Include (but are not limited to):

- Graphic Design** – Create social media graphics, invitations, programs, and other print materials.
- Awards** – Proofread applications, assist with judging, and help select prizes.
- Fundraising & Donations** – Seek out silent auction items, sponsorships, or supply donations.
- Data & Mailings** – Compile mailing lists in Excel, create labels, and manage RSVPs.
- Day-Of Support** – Assist with event setup/cleanup, registration, food line, activity stations, presenting awards, and silent auction management.
- Planning & Implementation** – Help make key decisions on theme, decorations, food, awards, and more!

Whether you want to dive in or just lend a hand in one area, there's a spot for you on the committee. Your voice and talents matter! And it takes a team to make this event a success! Interested?

Complete the short interest form here: <https://forms.gle/SDReuJn2oYZuU76V9>

Questions? Contact Ashleigh Klein (apelashl@msu.edu or 734-727-7408).

Let's work together to create a meaningful and memorable event that celebrates the achievements of our Wayne County 4-H youth and volunteers.



STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2025 4-H State Shooting Sports Tournament



4-H State Shooting Sports Tournament

August 2, 2025

Registration is open for the 2025 Michigan State 4-H Shooting Sports Tournament! To be held August 2 at the Saginaw Field & Stream Club in Saginaw, this event provides 4-H shooting sports members with the opportunity to test their skills, earn recognition and build camaraderie with other 4-H members from all over the state.

Events at the tournament include: .22 rifle, 3-D archery, air rifle, BB gun, hunting and wildlife, muzzle loading, pistol, target archery, trap and skeet.

The deadline to register is **July 13, 2025**.

To learn more, visit www.canr.msu.edu/events/2025-4-h-state-shooting-sports-tournament

July 8-10: Garden Writers Workshop

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing

Young writers will learn about the wonderful world of writing in the garden. Using the garden as their inspiration, campers will connect writing to nature by creating poems, stories, plays and much more.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/garden-writers

July 9: Adulting 101 – Mastering Meal Planning

Online

Learn how to eat healthy on a budget and stretch your food dollars, including how to cook once and eat twice, making a meal plan that will save you money at the store, and other great tips!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-mastering-meal-planning

July 16-17: Saginaw Bay Fish Camp

Haithco Park, Saginaw

All campers will receive a fishing rod with a reel, tackle box, t-shirt and snacks. Learn about knot tying, tackle crafting, casting, aquatic ecology, angler ethics and more! Open to 4-H members ages 8-12.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/saginaw-bay-4-h-fish-camp-2025

July 16 - August 13: Guiding Principles for Highly Successful Parenting Webinar Series

Online

This free course is for parents of toddlers to teens to learn strategies for helping children, parents and families be successful. This series will meet online each Monday for five weeks from 7:30 – 9 p.m.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/guiding-principles-for-highly-successful-parenting-webinar-series-july-2025

July 17: Bubble Day at the Children's Gardens

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing

Come celebrate summer vacation at the garden with bubbles!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/bubble-day

July 24: Bug Day at the Children's Gardens

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing

Join for a tribute to insects in the gardens. We will collect, observe and even make bugs! Our friends from the MSU Bug House will be back this year with their collections of insects from all over the world!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/bug-day

July 29-31: Camp Monet

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing

Young artists will spend three days in the gardens creating marvelous projects. Campers will use inspiration from the garden to make projects that involve sketching, painting, sculpting, dying, weaving and much more! Lunch will not be provided, so please bring a lunch each day.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/camp-monet





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Join the Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase!

MSU Extension is thrilled to partner again in 2025 with the [Michigan State Fair](#) on an exciting program for Michigan youth: the Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase. This statewide showcase provides a virtual platform for youth across Michigan to exhibit their work in all project areas and apply for up to \$10,000 in scholarships. Any Michigan youth ages 5-19 is encouraged to participate; 4-H membership is not required.

[Registration for this event is now open!](#) The diverse array of [classes](#) celebrate all the projects and programs in which youth have developed skill and mastery. This includes livestock and animal showmanship classes, as well as still exhibits, educational projects and more.



There is no cost to participate and youth may engage in as many classes as they wish by [submitting project photos and videos](#). **Be sure to submit your entries by the registration deadline of August 8 at 5 p.m..** Project evaluation will occur before the start of the Michigan State Fair so that winners can be announced at the event which occurs August 28 – September 1.

In addition to the opportunity to showcase their skills, recognize their accomplishments and receive constructive feedback for growth and development, participants in the Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase will also have the opportunity to apply for up to \$10,000 in scholarships. Learn more, find helpful resources and registration links at www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/State-Fair-Virtual-Showcase/.

2025 Mark of Excellence Award Winners

Every year, counties across Michigan offer 4-H youth, ages 10 and 11, the opportunity to participate in Michigan 4-H State Awards' 4-H Mark of Excellence essay contest. The essay theme is "Beyond Ready" and the youth referred to the various ways that 4-H is helping to prepare them to be ready for their future, be it work, college or life in general.

As part of the contest, up to two 4-H youth essays from each county are selected to be recognized as award winners. In 2025, the following 28 4-H members from 22 counties were selected as the 2025 Mark of Excellence county winners.

- Simran Adnani, Wayne County
- Abigail Baker, Cass County
- Claire Blaszyk, Oakland County
- Snyder Dunlap, Jackson County
- Lilly Edick, Gladwin County
- Alicia Etter, Sanilac County
- Chloe F., Ingham County
- Adreann Guikema, Newaygo County
- Colton Guy, Barry County
- Autumn Johnloz, St. Joseph County
- Nolan King, Branch County
- Jude Martin, Ionia County
- Madison McGuire, Midland County
- Richie McNutt, Washtenaw County
- Trula Michel, Monroe County
- Penelope Moore, Sanilac County
- VanAnder Noordyk, Marquette County
- Victoria Perez, Washtenaw County
- Madeline Piwowarski, Wexford County
- Breelyn Pullins, Berrien County
- Hadley Schafer, Monroe County
- Kristina Schwarz, Oakland County
- Asher Smith, Livingston County
- Jolene Smith, Ionia County
- Bette Stemaly, St. Joseph County
- Autumn Wellington, Lapeer County
- Tierney Westrate, Allegan County
- Josephine Wiltshire, Osceola County

Each recipient will receive a medal, and their winning essays will be added to the Mark of Excellence history book at the Michigan 4-H Foundation and State 4-H Office at MSU Extension. Congratulations to our winners!

To learn more about the Michigan 4-H State Awards, visit www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_scholarships_and_recognition_program/4-h-awards-and-recognition-program/Youth-Recognition/index.