



MAY 2025

4-H Family News - St. Clair County

From Lori Warchuck's Desk,

Why 4-H?

People often ask what impact 4-H Youth Development has on its participants. We know from our experiences that 4-H changes lives, helping youth to become confident, mature adults ready to succeed in today's challenging world. Studies show that youth participating in 4-H do better in school, are more motivated to help others, feel safe to try new things, and develop lasting friendships.

We utilize the 4-H Guiding Principles to focus and drive the work we do with young people. As we move into our busy 4-H season we should make it a point to review them as we plan club meetings and activities.

1. Youth develop positive relationships with adults and peers.
2. Youth are physically and emotionally safe.
3. Youth are actively engaged in their own development.
4. Youth are considered participants rather than recipients in the learning process.
5. Youth develop skills that help them succeed.
6. Youth recognize, understand and appreciate multiculturalism.
7. Youth grow and contribute as active citizens through service and leadership.

Young people will be more interested and active learners if they plan and develop activities around these guiding principles. One of the first steps a club could take is to incorporate the guiding principles in their meetings. Help youth get comfortable with the words and discuss what each principle means. A simple activity exploring the seven guiding principles could also help build understanding. A large sign can be made of each principle. At a club meeting, give the members an opportunity to write a single descriptive word on the principle sign. Focus on one principle at a time at each meeting. Debrief after everyone participates about what that principle means, and the descriptive words used.

After all principles have been discussed at a meeting, a review activity could be done to reinforce what was learned. Create seven groups and have each group come up with a short skit that demonstrates that principle. They could use props or adults to help. This is a fun way for them to reinforce and understand what they mean.

After all the principles are reviewed and discussed, it is important to revisit these guiding principles once a year. This process can help new families understand what it means to be part of a 4-H program. A repeat or review of the activity could be done. Another quick and easy way to remind the group of the guiding principles is to have youth share one of the principles at each meeting and mention a few concepts that are connected to that principle.

Check out the rest of the guiding principles, and other resource at:
https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/bring_youth_into_the_promotion_of_4-hs_guiding_principles

Updated from an original article written by Sandy Risedorph

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Featured 4-H Ambassador – Vanessa Dazer

2025



FEATURED 4-H AMBASSADOR

Vanessa

Is a member of St Clair County Sharp Shooters 4-H Club and has been involved with the 4-H program for 7 years. She participates in swine, market meat poultry, cakes, public speaking, photography, shooting sports and much more.

Quote: "I love to help and volunteer plus I love being judged in 4-H and just being involved."

Future plans: Vanessa would love to serve on Fair Court, earn Exhibitor of the Year and when she is an adult have her own club as a volunteer.

Goal for this year: Place with one of my animals and get Exhibitor of the Year.





St. Clair County Events

Local Calendar

May

- 5/1 – 4-H Horse Project Paperwork Turn In, Goodells, contact your horse project leader for details
- 5/3 – Discovery Day Market Swine Tag Pick Up / Market Lambs, Veal & Goat Livestock weigh in & Tagging
- 5/7 – Photography Workshop, St Clair (pre-registration required)
- 5/10 – Sheep Showmanship Clinic, Goodells (pre-registration required)
- 5/10 – Horse Round Robin Clinic, Goodells (pre-registration required)
- 5/12 – Fair Board Meeting, 7pm, Goodells
- 5/13 – Exploration Days Participants Mandatory Orientation, MSU Extension Office, Port Huron (Donald Dodge Auditorium)
- 5/17 – John Tate Memorial Horse Show, Goodells
- 5/21 – Beginner Cake Decorating Workshop, Goodells (pre-registration required, limited space, opens May 1st)
- 5/31 – 4-H Rabbit Skill-A-Thon, Goodells (pre-registration required)

June

- 6/7 – 4-H Poultry Showmanship Workshop, Goodells (pre-registration required)
- 6/9 – Fair Board Meeting, 7pm Goodells
- 6/21 – Warm Up Horse Show
- 6/22 – State 4-H Qualified Horse Show
- 6/24 – 6/26 – Thumb Area 4-H Camp
- 6/28 – Shooting Sports Tournament Blue Water Sportsman's Club
- 6/29 – Archery Tournament Goodells

July

- 7/14-7/19 SCC 4-H & Youth Fair

More information about 4-H events can be found online:

- St. Clair County 4-H Facebook page: <https://m.facebook.com/4Hstclaircounty>
- <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4h/events>
- <https://msue.stclaircounty.org>
- (810) 989-6956

4-H Flower Arranging Workshop

Took place on Wednesday, April 16 at Goodell County Park. Brenda Ski of The Petal Wagon shared her floral design skills during this hands-on learning opportunity





Fair Updates

Discovery Day

Saturday, May 3

8-11 a.m.

Goodells County Park- Crater Parking Lot

2025

Market

Swine Tag Pick
Up

Exhibitors can have their
leaders, family
members, relatives pick
up their tags

All tags must be picked up
during time date & time



Bring
Registration
form filled
out

2025

Market

Lambs, Veal &
Goats

Livestock
Weigh in &
Tagging

Market lambs, veal and goats will be tagged and weighed in and swine exhibitors pick up your swine tags on Saturday, May 3rd from 8-11 a.m. Goodells County Park, North side in the Crater Parking lot.

Exhibitors fill out and bring market livestock registration forms with you, one form per exhibitor, per species.

<https://stclaircounty4hfair.org/.../Market-Livestock...>



Fair Updates



Highlight of changes?

- The 2025 Fair Book is posted on the fair's website.
- Policy regarding inability to be present during a project interview
- Cavies will be exhibited under Pocket Pets
- Beekeeping will be exhibited under Crops
- All leadership projects will be exhibited under one class.
- Exhibitors should thoroughly read the fair's Rules & Regulations and if exhibiting livestock, Livestock Rules & Regulations. You are responsible for knowing the rules.
- Link to Fair Book: <https://stclaircounty4hfair.org/fair-book-registration/>
- Fair Entry link will be posted around May 1st. Entry deadline is July 1.



Fair Updates



New for 2025: 24/7 generator camping will be on the south side of County Park Drive, in the "old campgrounds". The fair has tiled the field and we look forward to drier conditions in that area.

Get your camping applications for fair exhibitors: <https://stclaircounty4hfair.org/.../Camping-Application.pdf>



Market Poultry Hatching Dates



2025 Market Poultry Hatching Dates

Turkeys - March 30

Geese - April 13

*Heritage Chickens - April 13**

Ducks - May 18

Chickens - May 25

*Heritage Breeds only: Jersey Giants, Ancona, Delaware, Araucana, Blue Andalusian, Brahma, Dominique, Buff Orpington, Rhode Island Red, Bared Plymouth Rock, Speckled Sussex, Wyandotte



Fair Shirts



You can get your fair shirts now at the 4-H Office in Port Huron, 200 Grand Boulevard, Suite 102. They are open Mon-Fri 8:00 to 4:30, closed 12-1



SAVE THE DATE



Sheep Showmanship Clinic



Goodells County Park

CLINIC TIMELINE

- 9-9:15 WELCOME/PLAN FOR THE DAY
- 9:15-9:45 SHOWMANSHIP WORKOUT #1
- 9:45-10:15 FITTING/SHEARING/LEG CARE
- 10:15-10:45 SHOWMANSHIP WORKOUT #2
- 10:45-11:15 NUTRITION/EXERCISE
- 11:15-11:45 SHOWMANSHIP WORKOUT #3
- 11:45-12:15 WRAP UP/PARENT SESSION

DATE & TIME:

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2025

ENTIRE FAMILY ENCOURAGED TO COME

LUNCH PROVIDED

DOORPRIZES

BRING YOUR LAMBS

Who should attend?
Exhibitors of livestock
Sweepstakes Hopefuls

Presented by
Scovill's Sheep City
Laingsburg, MI



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SAVE THE DATE

ROUND ROBIN RIDING CLINIC

MAY 10, 2025

10 AM-3PM

**\$40.00 FOR THE DAY
FOR ALL 4 CLINICS!!**

Registration is Due by April 30,
2025

PLEASE REGISTER IN
[HTTPS://V2.4HONLINE.COM](https://v2.4honline.com)

ST CLAIR COUNTY 4-H
HORSELEADERS PRESENTS



- BASIC HORSMANSHIP 101 WITH BONNI HAZEN
- SHOW RING ETIQUETTE



- ENGLISH/WESTERN DRESSAGE WITH BONNI HAZEN



- PRINCIPAL JUMPING SKILLS



- TRAIL CLASS CLINIC W/



broncomom4@hotmail.com

+8107054401





SAVE THE DATE

4-H Cake Decorating Workshop

Come learn tips & tricks in this beginner session.



Event Information

- Wednesday, May 21, 2025
- 5:30pm - 7:30pm
- Ages 8-19
- Goodells
- Deadline to reserve your spot is Monday, May 12 by 4:30pm
- Cost \$5
- Fee is payable after registration have been approved
- **LIMITED TO 12 PARTICIPANTS** first come first serve.

Pre-registration required by logging into your 4HOnline profile & add the event 4-H Cake Decorating Workshop





SAVE THE DATE

4-H Rabbit Skill-A-Thon

SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2025
GOODELLS COUNTY PARK

Showmanship contest
Clover Sprout Sessions
And much more!!

More event and registration information soon!



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SAVE THE DATE

How to register?

To reserve your spot, log into your profile in 4HOnline then click on events click on this event and register.





Rabbit Skill-A-Thon and Showmanship Contest



(For St. Clair County 4H-ers)



- May 31st - Saturday - 1:00pm @ Goodells County Park at the Community Building
- Check In & Health Check starts at 12-Noon





- Ages - 8-19 years old (4H age)
- Clover Sprouts 5-7 years old 1:00pm to 3:00pm (Clover Sprout Showmanship Available) *Parent must attend with the Clover Sprout*
- Register at 4H-Online
- Cost \$2.00 Per Exhibitor





- Chinese Auction - Proceeds will go to new Rabbit Barn Showtables
- Drinks and Snacks will be available for purchase



- *Remark Cards
- *Showmanship



TOPICS

(subject to change).

- *Fur Types/Body Types
- *Breeding/Kindling
- *Tattooing



- *Fair
- *Breed ID
- *Market

Any Questions, please contact Rob or Cathie Usakowski at robandcathie@yahoo.com
810-434-1194



SAVE THE DATE

Cluck, Cluck, Cluck...
Hey; 4-Her, are you ready for
the fair
& poultry showmanship?



4-H Poultry Showmanship Workshop

- Saturday, June 7, 2025
- 2pm - 4pm
- \$5 per participant
- Goodells County Park, Riverside Shelter

Who should attend?

4-Hers 8-19 interested in learning more about poultry showmanship, birds will be supplied.

To register: log into your 4HOnline profile, click on the member your registering, then events, find this event and register.

Questions contact the office at - 810-989-6935



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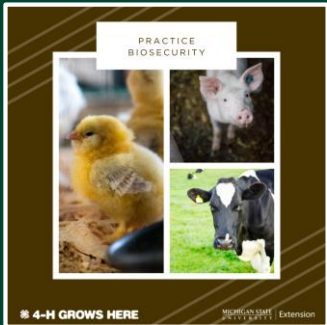
Extension





STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Livestock and poultry owners encouraged remain vigilant about biosecurity



In recent years, highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) has been detected in cattle, cats and poultry across the country and Michigan. Livestock and poultry owners are strongly encouraged to take proactive measures to defend against additional outbreaks in Michigan. Check out the following resources helpful information on biosecurity:

- www.canr.msu.edu/fair-and-exhibition-animal-health/biosecurity
- www.canr.msu.edu/resources/biosecurity-for-dairy-and-beef-cattle-farms
- www.canr.msu.edu/news/small-scale-and-backyard-poultry-owners-should-remain-vigilant-to-protect-against-highly-pathogenic-avian-influenza
- www.canr.msu.edu/avian-influenza/

May 7: Make the Most of Your Market Animal Project Webinar– Talk the Talk

Online

Effective communication is key to successfully selling livestock. This session covers tools and techniques to connect with buyers, convey product value, and empower youth with practical tips for impactful auctions and markets.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/market-animal-project-webinars-may-7

May 7: Make the Most of Your Market Animal Project Webinar– Records to Riches

Online

Learn how to keep track of what you spend and earn so you can make smart choices for your project. Discover the power of record keeping and learn how to calculate your break-even point to make smarter decisions in livestock marketing.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/market-animal-project-webinar5-14

May 15: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series: Fueling or Squashing the Rumor Mill

Online

This webinar will focus on supporting youth who face rumors about their projects and how to prevent the spread of misinformation.

12 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-fueling-or-squashing-the-rumor-mill-noon

7 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-fueling-or-squashing-the-rumor-mill-7pm

May 15: Adulthood 101 Webinar– Stay Safe Out There

Online

Practical strategies to help you stay aware, prepared and confident, no matter where you go.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/staysafe

May 19: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series: Engaging Parents in 4-H Experiences

Online

Discover strategies to engage parents and implement shared leadership in your 4-H club.

12 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-parents-in-4-h-experiences-and-implement-shared-leadership-in-4-h-clubs-noon

7 p.m. session: www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-engaging-parents-in-4-h-experiences-and-implement-shared-leadership-in-4-h-clubs-7pm

May 21: Make the Most of Your Market Animal Project Webinar– Market Mastery

Online

Delve into the 5 Ps of marketing and explore innovative strategies to elevate your outreach. Learn practical tools and techniques to promote projects successfully, enhance sales, and build valuable connections in the industry.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/market-animal-project-webinar-5-21





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Michigan 4-H license plate now available!

Michigan drivers have a new way to show their 4-H pride while supporting 4-H youth development programming: through the purchase of the newly released Michigan 4-H license plate. Available at the Michigan Secretary of State, the plate prominently displays the signature 4-H clover and part of the proceeds from every sale and renewal will go to support Michigan 4-H youth.

“We are elated that the Michigan 4-H license plate is officially here,” said Quentin Tyler, director of Michigan State University Extension, which is home to the Michigan 4-H program. “We hope the many members of our Michigan 4-H community—youth, parents, alumni and supporters – will consider supporting 4-H by purchasing a plate as they renew their licenses this year.”



Similar to other special cause fundraising license plates in the state, the Michigan 4-H license plate will cost \$35, with \$25 of the purchase fee benefiting Michigan 4-H Youth Development. A \$10 fee will also be charged to benefit Michigan 4-H when the plate is renewed. License plates may be ordered by visiting Michigan.gov/sos, by mailing in a form or scheduling a visit to any Secretary of State office. The plate will be delivered by mail in two to three weeks.

To learn more, visit extension.msu.edu/4-HPlate.

Michigan 4-H Foundation opens 2024-25 grant cycle

Awarded annually, the Michigan 4-H Foundation recently opened their grant and award opportunities for the 2025-2026 season. Open to 4-H volunteer leaders, members and staff, the grants and awards support local 4-H clubs and county programs. **All applications are due June 1.**

“County 4-H programs and clubs have so many unique programs,” said Abbey Miller, director of the Michigan 4-H Foundation. “Thanks to the support of our generous 4-H donor community, we are pleased to offer mini-grants to support these many wonderful programs.”



Opportunities include:

- **Michigan 4-H Legacy Grants of \$1,000.** These grants are awarded to support development of a new program or initiative or to strengthen, enhance or expand a current program that is making a difference.
- **4-H On-Target Grants of \$500.** These grants support 4-H Shooting Sports programs to enhance existing programs, develop a new program or offer a special experience related to 4-H Shooting Sports.
- **The Collins 4-H Youth Horticulture Grant of \$500.** This grant is available only to 4-H youth clubs and supports advancement of club work in plant science and horticulture activities.
- **4-H Educational Garden Grants of \$1,000.** These grants support the creation of local 4-H educational gardens in Michigan.

Learn more or apply online at <http://mi4hfdtn.org/grants>. Questions? Contact the Michigan 4-H Foundation at 517-353-6692.