



SEPTEMBER 2024

4-H Family News

Calhoun County



Wrapping Up the 2023-24 Program Year

It hardly seems possible, but we are wrapping up the 2023-24 program year. We've made it through fair, and now it's time to focus on year end paperwork.

2023 -24 Year End Financial forms are now available here:
https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/annual_4_h_financial_summary_report

I will also be sending the form via 4-H Online to all club leaders.

Please remember that submission of this paperwork is MANDATORY and failure to do so could result in your club being disbanded by MSU.

Also rapidly approaching is re-enrollment. 4-H Online will be going offline at the end of August and will remain so until mid-September. At that time, I will send out an email letting you know it's back online and that enrollment for the 2024-25 program year has opened.

Sincerely,

Cressie Vargo

4-H Program Coordinator, Calhoun County

Upcoming Events

Annual Award Nominations Due October 1st

CraneFest | October 12 & 13 | 12 pm – Dusk

Annual Convention & Leaders Banquet | November 10th | 2 pm

RSVP Due by October 31st

MSU Extension is a partner organization for Crane Fest, which is sponsored by Kiwanis Club of Battle Creek. The event runs from Noon until dusk and is held at the Kiwanis Club Youth Conservation Area, 22300 15 Mile Rd, Bellevue. Admission is free but there is a \$7 fee for parking.

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STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4-H Financial Manuals for Volunteers and Treasurers updated in 2024!



The 4-H Financial Manual for Volunteers and the 4-H Financial Manual for Treasurers has been updated for 2024; it includes information about the Debit Card Policy and more. These tools will help guide 4-H members in developing financial management life skills.

The 4-H Financial Manual for Volunteers provides 4-H volunteers with information needed to address financial matters in any 4-H group, including assisting 4-H treasurers with handling the group's financial business (including required forms and reporting).

The 4-H Financial Manual for Treasurers was specifically created for 4-H treasurers (youth and adult) and contains additional information to guide their 4-H financial responsibilities.

Find these resources at:
www.canr.msu.edu/resources/financial-manual-for-4-h-volunteers
www.canr.msu.edu/resources/financial-manual-for-4-h-treasurers

September 4: Welcome Back MSU 4-H Alumni Reception

Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing

If you are a current or former 4-H'er attending MSU this fall, stop by the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. for networking and free dinner!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-welcome-week-4-h-alumni-reception

September 18: 4-H Volunteers' Guide to Parliamentary Procedure

Online

This session will cover the fundamentals of motions, voting and meeting protocols, providing you with the tools to support the youth in your group so they can lead with confidence and clarity. A session will be held from 12 to 1 p.m., and again from 7 to 8 p.m.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-4-h-volunteers-guide-to-parliamentary-procedure

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-4-h-volunteers-guide-to-parliamentary-procedure7pm-1

September 24: Online Extension Extras Parenting Hour – Exploring Parenting Styles

Online

This workshop will explore and reflect on parenting styles, how they have developed, the benefits and drawbacks of each kind of parenting style, and how to find a balance that best supports a strong family for you.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/online-parenting-exploring-parenting-styles-9-24-24

October 4: Michigan 4-H Foundation Annual Membership Meeting

Kellogg Center, East Lansing

Michigan 4-H Foundation members are invited to attend; members are individuals or organizations that donated \$25 or more to Michigan 4-H in the past year. Agenda items include: 2023 president's report, audited financial statement report, trustee elections, and recognition of major donors to Michigan 4-H within the past year.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-foundation-annual-membership-meeting

October 5: MSU Tollgate Pumpkinfest 2024

Tollgate Farm and Educational Center, Novi

Pumpkinfest is a family-friendly fundraising event for Tollgate. Enjoy a harvest celebration of wagon rides, u-pick pumpkin patch, cider, donuts, food, music and activities on the farm.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/pumpkinfest-2024





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

National 4-H Week: October 6-12

For more than 100 years, 4-H has inspired families, shaped careers, and impacted communities. From October 6-12, we will celebrate the impact of 4-H during National 4-H Week. The theme of this year's National 4-H Week is "Beyond Ready." This theme celebrates how 4-H is building a ready generation in a world of change, equipping youth with skills for the future while meeting them where they are today.

As you plan ahead for how you will mark National 4-H Week in your community, here are some ideas of how you can celebrate 4-H!

Wear Your 4-H Gear — Nothing says 4-H pride like a 4-H tee! Dress yourself (or the entire family – pets included!) in 4-H green and clover gear.

Shout-Out a 4-H'er — Recognize the hard work and dedication of 4-H'ers by shouting out one youth or an entire club on social media, in a local newspaper or other media.

Storefront Displays/Information Booths — In some communities, you can ask local businesses to display 4-H posters, flyers, showcase the work of 4-H'ers, or host a table to share information about your local 4-H program.

Become a 4-H Volunteer — If you are a 4-H alum, parent or recent 4-H 'graduate', you might be looking for ways to connect with 4-H. Consider giving your time to a local 4-H program by becoming a volunteer.

Share Your 4-H Story — Take to social media to share a 4-H memory, express how 4-H shaped who you are today, describe what 4-H means to you, post an old 4-H photo, or shout-out your 4-H club.

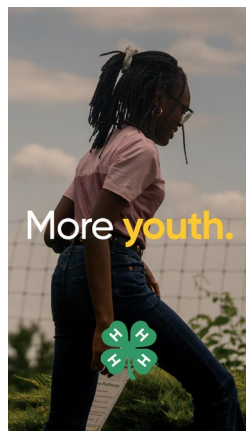
Have a 4-H Reunion — Gather your old 4-H friends and spend some time together reminiscing on your 4-H experience or recreate a 4-H project together!

Send a 4-H 'Thank You' — We all have a reason to thank our local 4-H staff, leaders and supporters. To show your appreciation, send a handwritten 'thank you' note to someone who has supported youth and made a difference.

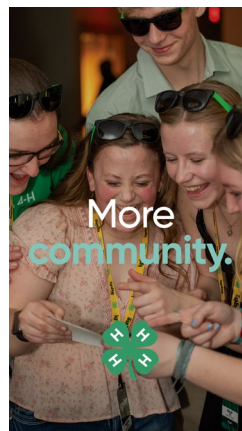
Raise Awareness — On October 9, Michigan 4-H and MSU Extension will be hosting the second Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol. Join this exciting education and awareness event to help elevate knowledge of Michigan 4-H and share the impact of its programming across Michigan. Learn more at www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-day-at-the-capitol.

Give Back — Local programs are always looking for resources to continue growing 4-H for the future. Help programs thrive by making a donation at mi4hfdtn.org/countymatch/ that can help support your county 4-H program.

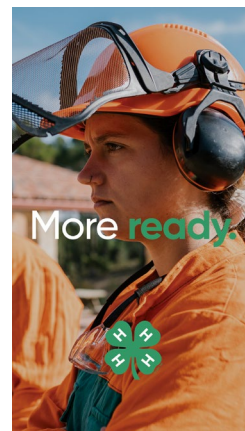
Adapted from:
4-h.org/about/blog/
10-ways-to-celebrate-national-4-h-week/.



More youth.



More community.



More ready.



Beyond Ready

Join 4-H today at
4-H.org



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Creative & Expressive Arts – “Generation 2 Generation: A Hip-Hop Story”



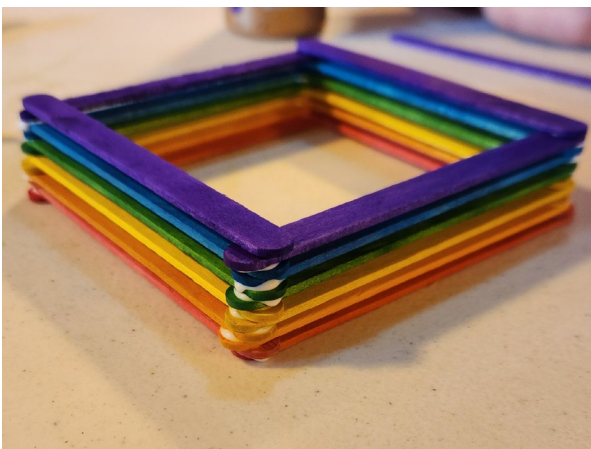
On Thursday, August 15th, members of the 4-H Creative & Expressive Arts program presented their play, “Generation 2 Generation” A Hip-Hop Story” at Marshall Opportunity High School in Albion.

The play, which also featured numbers songs and dance numbers, was written by club members this summer. Creative & Expressive Arts is an intensive, 6-week summer program that gives youth the opportunity to showcase their creativity. Youth work to write the script, identify appropriate songs, choreograph dances and most importantly, learn leadership skills.

In addition to their hard work, youth were able to attend a performance at the Franke Center in Marshall, visit an African American History museum in Lansing, and swim at Albion College!



4-H Council Sponsors FREE Kids Activities During Fair



Thank you to the 4-H Council & volunteers from Southern Michigan Bank & Trust for spearheading activities for five days during fair week!

Activities included building a birdhouse, making a puppet, ceramics, woodworking and Lego competition! These activities were generously sponsored by area businesses & offered free of charge to families.

A special thank you to Kara Mead for taking the lead on this, from thinking of projects, recruiting volunteers and even finding sponsors!

Everyone had a lot of fun & we are looking forward to next year!



News You Can Use

2024 Leader Meet

Save the date for our 2024 Leader Meet! Adult and teen 4-H leaders are welcome to join us on September 8, 2024 from 2-6 PM at the STEM Building on Michigan State University's campus!

This event will feature whole group sessions on energizing your 4-H club and youth/adult partnerships. Breakout sessions will be available on the following topics: photography, biosecurity, horses, dogs, make & take crafts, engineering a junk drawer car, preparing for the animal science Skill-a-thon, working with Cloverbuds, and more!

Register at: bit.ly/4HLeaderMeet

We look forward to seeing you there!

Calhoun County 4-H Council Needs YOU!!

As we wrap up our 2023-24 program year, it's time to start planning for 2024-25! One major need is members of 4-H Council! We have several current members who are off to college and will not be able to commit to participating this year. We are looking for youth ages 12 & up who have at least one year of 4-H experience to join Council.

4-H Council helps plan the Annual Convention & Leader's Banquet, manages the 4-H Lemonade Stand, provides scholarships for things like Exploration Days, trainings, etc., and helps plan county wide programs & events.

This is a GREAT opportunity for youth to gain leadership experience and shape 4-H for Calhoun County! We also have adult spots available. Contact Cressie at vargocre@msu.edu for more information.

Save the Date – Annual Convention & Leader's Banquet

Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 10th, at 2:00 p.m. for the Annual Convention & Leader's Banquet. 4-H Council has voted to hold these events jointly this year and will be providing dinner for attendees.

This year's event will be held at Newton Township Hall – 11003 9 ½ Mile Rd, Ceresco.

RSVP is requested by October 31. RSVP at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F45A9A928AAFE3-50865844-2024>



Calhoun County 4-H
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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



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4-H GROWS HERE