



Sept-Oct 2023



# Family News



## A Fair to Remember



Visitors to the fair can walk through each of the barns at fair and easily see our Leelanau 4-H'ers in action, and their many ribbons posted by their animals. Their decorations show their great enthusiasm, with photos depicting smiling faces and fun facts about their projects and how much care they gave them in the months leading up to fair. Their pens and cages are clean, their animals are cared for, they are present and smiling and speak with visitors clearly, and they are helpful. Many of our youth also show in multiple barns and have extraordinary knowledge of multiple species of animals and poultry. I also can't say enough about our 4-H volunteers—they are always there, working with their 4-H families, mentoring their 4-H youth, and helping make things smoother for fair week. When I check in with them, they smile and say they are having a great week, even if that moment is a challenging one. I am so proud of our 4-H program!

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## A Fair to Remember: The Numbers

We had seven Leelanau County 4-H clubs (so lucky) at the Northwestern Michigan Fair this year:

- Frontier Quest 4-H Club
- Gotta Lluva Cool Critter 4-H Club
- Happy Hooves 4-H Club
- Lake Ann 4-H Livestock Club
- Proclites 4-H Club
- Small Town Farmers 4-H Club
- Two by Two 4-H Club



There were 19 registered adult 4-H volunteers with us, as well as most of our 4-H'ers' parents.

There were 101 registered 4-H members there from our Leelanau County 4-H clubs. Our clubs were present, active, helpful, and did so well throughout the week! Silliness, hard work, focus, and joy. I am so very proud of our county and our clubs!

Two of the Northwest Michigan 4-H Livestock Council Executive Board officers are Leelanau County 4-H volunteers: Nicki Brown (Vice President) and Amber Pomper (Secretary).

One of this summer's 4-H Teen Representatives on the board is a Leelanau County 4-H youth: Marin Barrett of Gotta Lluva Cool Critter.

We also have species chairs and assistants on the NW MI 4-H Livestock Council Board: Kathy Easter is the Species Chair for Llama and Alpaca, Renee Hobbins is the Assistant Chair for Llama and Alpaca, and Allison Wittkopp is an Assistant for the DA (Differently Abled) Program





## A Fair to Remember: Winners of Awards from Leelanau County 4-H

Differently Abled Program Special Achievement Award with a Horse Project: Hattie Hays of Happy Hooves 4-H Club

Dairy Feeder Excellence in 4-H Award: Taryn Williams of Proclites 4-H Club (who also received Grand Champion Show and Grand Champion Market for Dairy Feeder)

Goat Excellence in 4-H Award: Jack Anderson of Frontier Quest 4-H Club

Goat Barn Award: Frontier Quest 4-H Club

Goat Reserve Champion Showman Pack Goat: Judy Steffens of Frontier Quest 4-H Club

Goat Reserve Champion Showman: Jack Anderson of Frontier Quest 4-H Club

Goat Grand Champion Showman Pack: Jack Anderson of Frontier Quest 4-H Club

Goat Grand Champion Showmanship: Marin Barrett of Gotta Lluva Cool Critter 4-H Club

Heifer Best Overall: Sophie DePuy of Happy Hooves 4-H Club

Llama/Alpaca Excellence in 4-H Award: Kinsley Crowther of Gotta Lluva Cool Critter 4-H Club

Llama/Alpaca Grand Champion Pack Showman: Kinsley Crowther of Gotta Lluva Cool Critter 4-H Club

Llama/Alpaca Grand Champion Showman: Marin Barrett of Gotta Lluva Cool Critter 4-H Club

Jr. Beef 4-H Rising Star Award: Kenneth Grant of Gotta Lluva Cool Critter 4-H Club

Jr. Beef Reserve Grand Champion Market: Morgan Barrett of Gotta Lluva Cool Critter 4-H Club

Jr. Beef Barn Award: Gotta Lluva Cool Critter 4-H Club

Horse 4-H Rising Star Award: Maia Hanson of Happy Hooves 4-H Club

Poultry Reserve Grand Champion Production Chicken: Jaxson Plamondon of Frontier Quest 4-H Club

Poultry Reserve Grand Champion Turkey: Kendyl LaPaugh of Proclites 4-H Club





## A Fair to Remember: Winners of Awards from Leelanau County 4-H cont..

**For the highly competitive Heather M. Barley Scholarship award,  
two of the three winners were from Leelanau County 4-H**

**1<sup>st</sup> Emma DePuy** of Happy Hooves 4-H Club

**2<sup>nd</sup> Marin Barrett** of Gotta Lluva Cool Critter 4-H Club

### **Fair Queen Finalists**

**Adrian Childs** of Lake Ann 4-H Livestock Club

**Elodia Peplinski** of Proclites 4-H Club

### **4-H Clover Award Finalists**

**Isabelle Plamondon** of Frontier Quest 4-H Club

**Taryn Williams** of Proclites 4-H Club

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Place 4-H Teen Rep Fair GooseChase Scavenger Hunt Contest**

**Frontier Quest 4-H Club**

Four of the Grant family's calves were asked to be part of the inaugural "Vows with the Cows" event, with several couples renewing their vows with calm animals standing nearby.

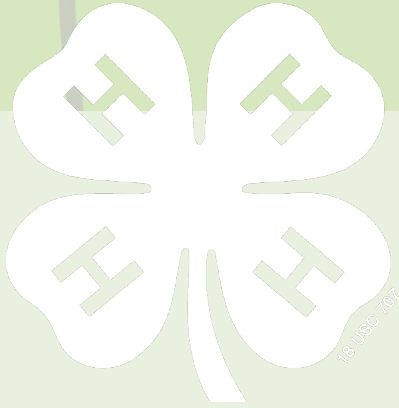
Now, our Leelanau 4-H families are gearing up for Fair 2024, after wrapping up last year by turning in their record books and receiving their auction checks. Youth are looking forward to the 4-H project giveaway at the start of our next 4-H Livestock Council meeting at 6:30 pm on Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Grawn. We hope to see you there!

Information for the project giveaway is posted on the 4-H Livestock Council website:

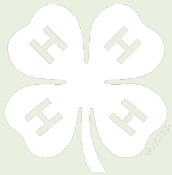
<http://www.northwestmichiganlivestockcouncil.org/>



# 4-H GROWS HERE







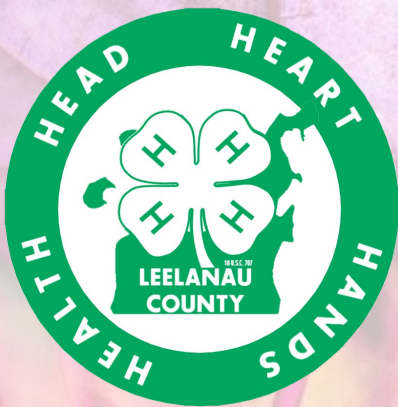






## Youth Association: In Need of More Youth Members!

The Leelanau County 4-H Youth Association is still searching for a Treasurer to join us at our monthly meetings and take care of our financial reports. We are working toward building up our membership, especially our youth members. Once in a while, we have some youth members show up, and it's always a great meeting when they do! Great ideas, wonderful energy, and fresh perspectives. Oh, and our Youth Association is for them! We are a small but mighty group, and it would be wonderful to have more folks join our meetings. Snacks! The chance to make decisions about our Leelanau 4-H program! If you are interested, please join us at our next monthly meeting on Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 pm at the Leelanau County Government Center. We will meet in Suite 107 (near Rosali's office), unless our group is too big for our office space. We would love to have you!



Do you have QuickBooks experience?

Do you have about 2 hours per month?

Can you attend a monthly Youth Association Meeting?

**We're searching for a 4-H Volunteer to serve as Youth Association Treasurer!**

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for further information contact:  
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## Local Sponsorship Funding Available Here in Leelanau!

Our Leelanau County 4-H Youth Association Advisory Board has a sponsorship form for youth to fill out if they are planning to attend a 4-H event (Capitol Experience, Exploration Days, Spartan Coding Camp, Great Lakes Camp, Washington Citizenship Focus, Vet Science, 4-H Spectacular, horse clinics, field trips, and more). Please contact our office for a copy of the application. Are you a past recipient of a sponsorship? Please send the Advisory Board a thank-you note. These mean so much to our volunteers who help to make these financial decisions to help our 4-H youth experience new things.



## Hoodies Ordered for our 4-H Volunteers as a Thank You

All of our 4-H volunteers will be receiving a navy blue cozy gift very soon, courtesy of Leelanau 4-H. We offered the chance to order a navy hoodie, zip hoodie, or crewneck sweatshirt as a gift to thank them for their efforts all year round with our 4-H youth audience. This program wouldn't be what it is without our wonderful volunteers! The color navy blue represents "trust and stability", and I think this is a perfect way to think about all of our 4-H volunteers here in the Leelanau County 4-H Program. You all create that feeling of trust and a strong sense of stability with your clubs and our programs. Our youth know they can depend on you, and we thank you for this.





## Leelanau County 4-H Awards Celebration and 4H4All: A Winning Combo!

Our Youth Association is working on planning a great mini-expo again for this coming winter, so everyone should save the date: Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at the Lions Club in Maple City. We will have our expo portion (4H4All) from 2:00- 4:00 pm, where our clubs will present an activity, share something about their livestock projects, etc.

while guests visit them, and then we will hold our awards celebration afterward, until about 5 pm. Pizza, hot chocolate, and 4-H cookies will be available! Leaders, please remember to turn in your club awards nominations to Rosali (text, email, snail mail) by **Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**. This will give us enough time to connect with youth about their nominations (if applicable) and order trophies and pins in time. Please also RSVP with expected numbers from your club for the event by that date! We hope to see you there—this is a great chance for everyone to come together in the winter and celebrate the past year in 4-H. Questions? Please call or email Rosali at [collierr@msu.edu](mailto:collierr@msu.edu)

**Come Join in the FUN at...**



**It's FREE!**

**4H4ALL DAY!**

**Prize Drawings**



**4-H...**

**The FUN Starts Here!**

**Families Welcome**

**Activities**

**January 14, 2024**

**2-4:00 pm Cedar Maple City Lions Club**

**\*Followed by the 4-H 2023 Awards Celebration\***

Bring your friends and enjoy presentations by local 4-H Clubs.

All youth who attend will receive a 4-H Goodie Bag!



**Activities**

**• Animals**

**• Snacks**

**• Crafts**

**• Outdoor Fun**

**• Games**

**• Science**

**• Exhibits**

**• Awards!**

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## **A Guest Article about Traveling to Japan with States' 4-H International Exchange**

**By: Everett Howell**

*This summer, I spent four weeks out of the country, the furthest I have ever been from home, and the longest too. As anyone would be at the ripe age of fifteen, I was exceedingly nervous about the experience. Not that I had any reason to be. It was catered amazingly towards making the kids comfortable. For that, I thank 4-H and their partner organizations, LABO, and Lex. It was an amazing experience from start to finish, and I will share some of it.*

*When the delegates leave their homes, they fly to a gateway city. Mine was Seattle, where I was met with chaperones and fellow delegates immediately once on the ground. From there, we flew to Tokyo on a long flight, my first over an ocean. We landed in Tokyo a day later and at 2:00 in the afternoon. There is a thirteen-hour time difference between the Island of Japan and my home here in northwestern Michigan. After going through a couple of orientations overseas, we packed up and headed out to meet our host family. For me, that meant boarding a Bullet Train or Shinkansen and riding two hours to a city named Hamamatsu in the same prefecture where Mt. Fuji resides. When the train's doors opened, I was met with the smiling faces of my host family who gifted me with a hand-fan that had my name and a drawing of Mt. Fuji. This was the start of one of the most memorable and joyful experiences of my life.*

*Some of you may be wondering what I did while I was there. My response to that is, "Where do I even begin?" I did a range of things from having a demo of a private school (four days) to visiting one of the four biggest castles in the country. The other time was filled with swimming in waterfall basins and mountain biking. Most of the time I spent with my family which enabled me to have this good of a time overseas. My host uncle, despite not being directly part of the immediate family, did many things with me to improve my time. He happened to be a Japanese teacher at the school I went to and led the school's rock climbing club which he had me take part in. He also took me to places such as the castle and an Olympic-level cycling center. We spent many nights eating as a family in a variety of different places. The food in Japan is very different as you can imagine. It generally is healthier and consumed in larger quantities due to that fact. My host brother (who is 13 years old) ate an entire pizza and two desserts, and it was normal! It was difficult for me to keep up but the food was delicious.*

*I would also attend LABO parties, essentially the club meetings for LABO. LABO is an international youth programming/education organization similar to 4-H. 4-H tends to stay in the US and has distinct clubs and programs, but LABO is broken into small groups that are taught through fun activities such as books, skits, and songs. A lot of it is focused on the English language and eventually their exchange programs. I would introduce myself at these parties and explain a little about where I come from and what I do as an American. Along with my little introductions, I would answer questions from the youth and join them in their fun activities. Everyone in Japan was very welcoming so I soon became comfortable with public speaking. While there, I began to stop stressing over things that were coming up and instead took them in stride. I was certainly not the only one who felt more confident after the trip due to this.*

*Throughout the month, I did many memorable things. I want to talk about a few more. One such was visiting a flight museum at the active air base in Hamamatsu. There, my host brother joined me in piloting a full-flight simulator built into one of the actual fighter planes. We also went to a safari park at the base of Mt. Fuji where we were able to see hundreds of creatures of all shapes and sizes. Some of these included lions, bears, and my favorite, capybaras. We were able to drive through their enclosures and see them come right over to the cars. We also attended LABO camp in Kurohime, a mountain area, where the Americans and Japanese mixed. There were around 400 youths at the camp including around 10 Americans. We all put on a show of Boom Chicka Boom at the final night campfire and had a lot of fun with new friends. We also visited a cave one day and were able to see bats inside. Along with this, I did a lot of shopping, going for walks around my city, and trying to play sports when I could (one day I was able to play an hour of ping-pong).*

*I would highly recommend anyone who is interested in this program to seek out your local 4-H Program Coordinator and speak to them about attending or if you have questions. There are many more opportunities than just 4-weeks in Japan. There are also 8-week programs and other countries available. The staff are amazing as are the host families. Due to this program, I feel as if I have grown up a little and become a little more confident. I have grown as a person and would love to see others embark on their own adventures that they will never forget.*





Are you thinking about traveling to another country through 4-H? This summer's countries are Costa Rica, Japan, Korea, Norway, Taiwan, and Argentina! The 2024 States' 4-H Outbound Program Application program deadline is December 15, 2023, by Midnight. For Michigan 4-H processing of applications, we need youth to apply by **December 8, 2023!** To be eligible to apply for a States' 4-H Outbound Program, applicants must:

- Be 12-18 years old at the time of travel.
- Be a lawful resident or citizen of the United States.

There are several scholarships available to help you and your family pay for your trip. For more information about 4-H travel opportunities, you may contact Jan Brinn, the 4-H Outbound Coordinator for Michigan, at [brinn@msu.edu](mailto:brinn@msu.edu) or Rosali Collier at [collierr@msu.edu](mailto:collierr@msu.edu).



## Leelanau Shooting Sports Are On Target!

Our NW MI 4-H Shooting Sports Club met regularly out at Myles Kimmerly this fall, and the 24 youth members, along with 4-H leaders Stephanie Steffens and Shelly Roots, were right on target! The two sessions met every Wednesday, and celebrated their final night with balloon and pinata targets, candy treats, 4-H giveaways, and getting their 4-H archery club t-shirts! This is a fantastic partnership with our county's Parks and Recreation Committee, as we use the old 4-H horse park space for this outdoor club, free of charge.

Our 4-H shooting sports archery leader Joe Blondia is continuing another year with our other archery club in Leelanau held at the Leelanau School: Thunderbirds on Target! The 17 members (many of them new to 4-H this year) in the club are all high school students, and chose to take part in this club as an "outdoor arts" experience, combining such experiences as hiking, fly-cast fishing, decoy-painting, and archery. Usually, the group has archery in the winter months, using their Leelanau 4-H archery backdrop curtain, their targets, and new archery equipment. Leelanau 4-H is working with Mr. Blondia to build the club up and support its other pursuits—fishing is the current focus for help with funding and supplies.

We are also working with a couple of new archery volunteers, Allison Marion and her daughter, Luella Marion, who is a 4-H teen leader. They just completed the archery certification training with MSU Extension, and can now start to plan their spring session of archery. We are very excited to support their club this coming year!



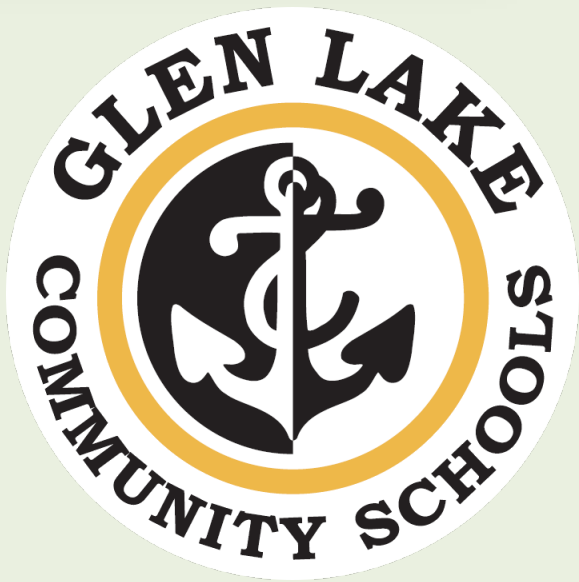


## 4-H Grows Here at our Five School Farm Markets!

We had an amazing school farm market season this fall, with five markets: Leland Public School, Glen Lake Community School, Suttons Bay Public School, St. Mary School, and Northport Public School. Many of our Leelanau County 4-H youth were able to take part in them, and even help with their club animals! MSU Extension/Leelanau 4-H partnered with Northwest Educational Services, the Northwest Michigan Horticulture Center, farm market vendors, and our five schools to hold these markets, some outdoors and some indoors (depending on the weather). The public was invited to most, and staff, parents, and students all had plenty of fun, education, taste-testing, and great local produce and products to experience! We had two smoothie bikes, fresh farm produce tasting, a cider press with free apples, free 4-H giveaways and a petting zoo, STEM trivia games with prizes using our Apple iPads and the plinko game, and more! Thank you also to our 4-H volunteers Linda Oosse, Kathy Swinney, Allison Wittkopp, Jessica Plamondon, and Steve Oosse for bringing goats, rabbits, chickens, guinea fowl, and pet rocks (crafts) to the markets to show to our county youth. Our petting zoos are always a fan favorite!













ST. MARY  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL





# SUTTONS BAY PUBLIC SCHOOLS





**Let's Have a Fa-Boo-Lous Time During Halloween at the Government Center!**

Please join Leelanau MSU Extension and Leelanau 4-H during our annual Halloween event at the Government Center in Suttons Bay (off M-204) from 3 to 5 pm on Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. Feel free to bring youth right after school, in costume, to trick-or-treat indoors by visiting all of the government offices, play games (pumpkin pounding, anyone?), make crafts, enjoy some light refreshments, and more! Every youth will receive a free bag and candy, as well as some simple 4-H giveaways! A great way to kick off Halloween before heading out into the neighborhoods!

**HAPPY HALLOWEEN**

**TRICK OR TREATING**

**TUESDAY,  
OCTOBER 31  
3:00PM-5:00PM**

**FIRST FLOOR OF THE  
GOVERNMENT CENTER**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**CRAFTS, GAMES,  
CIDER & DONUTS**

**8527 E GOVERNMENT  
CENTER DR.  
SUTTONS BAY**



**4-H GROWS HERE**



## The 4-H Ski and Snowboard Program is Back!

Save the Date! We will open up registration for this winter's 4-H Ski and Snowboard Program on Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>! Links and flyers will be shared then, so that families can get youth registered in the Events system and on 4-H Online. We are partnering again with the Homestead in Glen Arbor, and the program will be held over four Sundays (rather than six), starting January 21<sup>st</sup>. There will be a free ski day on February 25<sup>th</sup>. This year will look a bit different: youth will register for one of three levels (based on descriptions given during the registration process): Beginner, Beginner Intermediate, or Intermediate, and will have the chance to choose either ski or board. Once a lesson group fills up online, we will create a waitlist here in the office. We are limiting the program numbers and lesson levels this year so that the Homestead can find enough instructors. We are very thankful that we can be back at the resort with families again this year! The same family coupons will be available (with the same prices—amazing), and fifth graders can get their usual free lift tickets by connecting directly with the Homestead. More information will be shared soon! Interested in being either a Homestead Instructor or a 4-H Chaperone? Contact Rosali at [collierr@msu.edu](mailto:collierr@msu.edu)



# We Are Back!



## 2024 4-H SKI AND SNOWBOARD PROGRAM OPENS FOR REGISTRATION!



The Homestead  
America's Freshwater Resort

## NOVEMBER 15TH, 2023



# STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Explore the globe with Crafts Around the World!



Curious about other countries around the globe? Like making crafts? The Michigan 4-H Crafts Around the World series provides lessons and instructions for youth to create simple crafts and increase cultural awareness.

In its latest piece, youth can learn about the European country of Norway while making a Norwegian gnome. In Norway, a gnome is called a nisse: a creature who lives in barns or homes, protecting the countryside and the people who live there.

View this activity at [www.canr.msu.edu/resources/crafts-around-the-world-series-europe-norwegian-gnome-nisse](http://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/crafts-around-the-world-series-europe-norwegian-gnome-nisse).

View all the Crafts Around the World activities at [www.canr.msu.edu/global\\_cultural\\_education/resources](http://www.canr.msu.edu/global_cultural_education/resources).

### November 8: Adulting 101 - Professionalism in the Workplace

*Online*

Participants will increase their awareness of what it means to be professional and gain tips on different aspects of the work environment to consider, including: shared workspace, relationships with coworkers, communicating and setting boundaries. This free online series is open to teens and young adults (17 and under) and youth development professionals, teachers and adults (18 and up).

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting10111-8-23](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting10111-8-23)

### November 14: Wild Spartans – Careers in the Exotic Animal Industry

*Online*

Jump into the world of breeding and caring for amphibians and reptiles. Meet Zach Brinks, vice president of live operations at Josh's Frogs. Learn about his work and the education and career path he followed to get there. Youth will be encouraged to ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A. This free online series is open to youth ages 12-19.

[events.anr.msu.edu/wildspartans20232024/](http://events.anr.msu.edu/wildspartans20232024/)

### November 21: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series - Youth Engagement in 4-H Experiences

*Online*

Explore ways 4-H volunteers can help to increase the level of youth engagement in their 4-H experiences. This series will provide Michigan 4-H volunteers with a variety of learning opportunities to help them grow as a volunteer and support Michigan 4-H'ers. This session will be offered twice, once as a daytime option and once as an evening option for the convenience of volunteers.

**12 p.m. session:** [www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-youth-engagement-in-4-h-experiences](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-youth-engagement-in-4-h-experiences)

**7 p.m. session:** [www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-youth-engagement-in-4-h-experiences7pm](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-youth-engagement-in-4-h-experiences7pm)

### November 28: Giving Tuesday

*Online*

Join the #GivingTuesday movement — a global day of giving — and support 4-H! From 12 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. EST, Michigan 4-H supporters are invited to participate by giving their support financially or helping spread the word. Michigan 4-H has a goal to raise \$5,000 to grow 4-H county endowments in a 24-hour period. County 4-H endowments provide a perpetual source of income for county 4-H programs and every dollar is an investment in 4-H!

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

