



SEPTEMBER 2023

# 4-H Family News

St. Joseph County



## Dear 4-H Families and Friends,

Summer is quickly coming to a close, which means fair week is right around the corner! Are you ready? Please carefully read through this newsletter to ensure you don't miss any important dates or information.

We have an exciting opportunity to share our passions and hard work with our community. The county fair gives us the chance to connect with people outside of 4-H and show them how GREAT this organization is!

We know there's a lot of information, so please do not hesitate to contact the MSU Extension Office at (269) 467-5511 with any questions you may have. I also want to thank everyone for the warm welcome this year; I am looking forward to meeting many of you at the fair!

Helping to "Make the Best Better",

Kayla Mitchell  
Program Coordinator  
4-H Youth Development

## EXTENDED OFFICE HOURS

The 4-H Fair Office located between 4-H still project exhibit buildings #43 and #44 will be open during the following hours starting Saturday, September 16, 2023.

- Saturday 9/16: 8:00 am - 7:00 pm
- Sunday 9/17 - Thursday 9/21: 9:00 am - 7:00 pm
- Friday 9/22 & Saturday 9/23: 9:00 am - 9:00 pm

Thursday staffing will be limited. If you need assistance, please go to the show arena.

## CONTACT US

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4-H Program Coordinator

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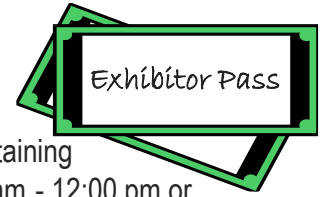
## WEBSITE:

[https://www.canr.msu.edu/st\\_joseph/](https://www.canr.msu.edu/st_joseph/)

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# 4-H COUNTY & FAIR NEWS



## PASSES AND EXHIBIT TAGS

One of the first things 4-H members need to do when they arrive at the fair is pick up an envelope containing their fair admission pass and/or still project exhibit tags on Saturday, September 16, 2023, from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm or 1:00 - 4:00 pm in a **pop-up next to** building #46. No passes will be distributed after the 4:00 pm deadline on Sunday.

Fair Admission Passes: 4-H members only receive fair passes if they exhibit a project at the fair. In addition, only members 13-19 years old will receive fair passes, since all youth ages 12 and under are admitted free.

One-day car and driver passes will be available upon request (at the rate of one/family/event) for 4-H members who are not eligible to receive 4-H livestock exhibitor passes but who will be participating in one or more of the following non-animal activities at fair:

- 4-H Animal Project Demonstrations scheduled for Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at 3:00 pm at the 4-H Photo Wall.
- 4-H Still Project Demonstrations/Illustrated Talks/Performances and Style Revue scheduled for Wednesday, September 20, 2023, 3:00 - 7:00 pm, in the Community Tent.

4-H Leader Passes: Active registered 4-H leaders will receive a fair pass UPON REQUEST. Individuals registered to serve as leaders, but who have been identified as inactive by club organizational leaders in terms of fulfilling their responsibilities as leaders will NOT receive fair passes. It is the responsibility of 4-H club organizational leaders to see that all project leaders are registered in the St. Joseph County MSU Extension office. (All leader passes MUST be picked up by 5:00 pm on Sunday, September 17.)

## EXPRESS PASS

4-H members who will be exhibiting in the 4-H Dog Show, Rabbit Evaluations, or Poultry Evaluations on Saturday, September 16, and who also need to have still projects evaluated on that date may, if their situation meets the conditions stated in the next paragraph, pick up a special 4-H wristband in the 4-H Fair office (located between buildings #43 & #44) that will serve as an "express pass" for still project evaluation. The "express pass" will allow members to be moved to the front of still project evaluation lines.

**Express Pass Criteria:** Express passes will be distributed only when special access to still project exhibit evaluation is absolutely necessary to ensure that the 4-H member in question can complete participation in both the 4-H Dog Show/Rabbit Evaluations/Poultry Evaluations and Still Exhibit Project Evaluation during the times allotted for these activities.

## TSC PAPER CLOVER FALL CAMPAIGN



The fall 2023 4-H Paper Clover Campaign will take place Wednesday, October 4, through Sunday, October 15. Shoppers at the Sturgis and Three Rivers TSC stores will have the opportunity to support 4-H in St. Joseph County by purchasing paper clovers for just \$1 at checkout. All funds raised will be donated to 4-H and will support 4-H youth development program activities in St. Joseph County.

## PROMOTIONAL & CLUB DISPLAYS

Promotional and club displays are to be set up on Saturday, September 16, 5:00 - 7:30 pm in building #43 or #44.



# 4-H COUNTY & FAIR NEWS

## EARLY CHECK-IN FOR DAIRY, HORSE, SHEEP, AND SWINE MEMBERS

Any Dairy Cattle, Horse, Sheep, and/or Swine member that would like to bring in their animal(s) early may do so on Friday, September 15, 2023, during the following times: Dairy Cattle (not dairy market or dairy feeder) 5:00-8:00 pm., Horse by request, Sheep 4:00-7:00 pm, Swine 4:30-7:00 pm. Superintendents will be on hand to check tag numbers. Animals should be clean and tags easy to read. If tags are not clean and easily read; member, animal, and vehicle will be moved to the end of the unloading line. All Swine will be weighed as unloaded from trailer. Note: There is no reweighing.

## MARKET LIVESTOCK WEIGH-IN

Official "weight" of a given market livestock project animal (for show and sale purposes) will be determined when the animal is weighed in at the fair (see weigh-in schedule list). The weight of your animal at this time will determine the specific market "weight-class" your animal will be entered in for competition at fair.

Attention! Market livestock will be weighed ONE TIME ONLY. Market beef cattle, dairy beef, swine, and rabbits must be weighed before being housed.

- Poultry = Friday, 4:00 - 7:00 pm
- Rabbits = Friday, 4:00 - 7:00 pm
- Lambs = Friday, 4:00 - 7:00 pm and Saturday, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
- Swine = Friday, 4:30 - 7:00 pm and Saturday, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
- Goats = Saturday, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
- Steers = Saturday, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

## 2023 HEALTH REQUIREMENTS FOR LIVESTOCK

The following is a summary of important animal health information for animals brought to exhibit at the 2023 St. Joseph County Grange Fair.

All Cattle (Market & Breeding Stock) - Must have an official radio frequency identification device (RFID) ear tag.

Goats - Have official identification (Scrapies tags) in the ear or tail of animal.

Horses and Ponies - All equine, except foals under six months and nursing their dam, entered in a fair, exhibition, exposition, or show must test negative to an official Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) test within the current calendar year. (Coggins Test) Have original on hand with you, a copy should accompany your fair registration form.

Rabbit - No paperwork or vaccinations required at this time.

Sheep - All sheep moved within Michigan shall be identified with official USDA Scrapies program identification tags prior to movement off the farm. Contact the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) at (517) 324-5290 for ear tags.

Swine - Have clean animals and be sure ear tags are readable and clean when entering fair. A NEUES ID tag is also required of all Swine. If your swine does not have a NEUES ID tag or 840 tag in the ear, one will be put in prior to penning the animal at the fair for 2023.

## CARCASS CONTEST INFORMATION

All Species Carcass Contests will be held at:  
 Bontrager Custom Meat Processing  
 53541 Correll Rd.  
 Leonidas, MI 49066  
 269-496-7587

All carcass contest animals must be delivered to the fairgrounds for weigh-in on Saturday, September 9, 2023, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Hanging Evaluations on Tuesday, September 12, 2023:

- Goats - 5:30 p.m.
- Swine - 6:00 p.m.
- Sheep - 6:30 p.m.
- Beef - 7:00 p.m.





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## 2023 DAIRY FEEDER STEER VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS

- Step 1 - First vaccination must be received at the June weigh-in to help protect against infectious diseases.
- Step 2 - "Booster" the calf two to four weeks later (following the Step 1 vaccination) with the same type of modified live vaccine used in Step 1.
- Step 3 - Nasalgen will need to be administered to all steers. 4-H Club leaders will be responsible to administer Nasalgen between August 17 - 31, 2023.

## WATERING LIVESTOCK REMINDER

Due to the potential for transmission of communicable livestock diseases through use of shared drinking water containers, no group watering tanks will be allowed at the fair.

In addition, all animals are to be watered either in their pen/stall or at the appropriate wash rack, and the wash rack cleaned up if necessary (i.e. any manure left behind by your animal properly disposed of). This rule is necessary due to the problems with "water holes" and mud that are created when livestock are watered next to water faucets at the ends of barns.

## MIRACLE OF BIRTH TENT

The Birthing tent coordinator is looking for volunteers to help staff the tent during the fair. Your responsibilities would include but are not limited to:

- Encourage and show visitors where to wash their hands after petting animals.
- Keep area clean of all feces.
- Do not let anyone pet animals that appear ill.

It is requested that you volunteer for a 3-hour shift any time between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. during the week of the fair (Sunday, September 17 - Saturday, September 23). For more information and/or to sign up for a volunteer time call Steve Wolf at 269-254-5488.

## STILL EXHIBIT JUDGING & CLUB BANNER CHECK-IN

All 4-H still exhibits and club banners MUST be checked in and evaluated on Saturday, September 16, 2023, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm or 1:00 - 4:00 pm.

There will be a 1-hour lunch break for judges and judging clerks from 12:00 - 1:00 pm. Still project exhibit buildings will be closed during the lunch break. Member access to the exhibit buildings will be limited as necessary starting at 11:30 am to help ensure that judges wrap things up in time for lunch.

The Still Exhibit Evaluation procedure is as follows:

1. Pick up an envelope containing your 4-H member gate admission pass and still project exhibit tags in during the noted times above. Location next to barn #46.
2. Report to the EAST end of the appropriate still project exhibit building. An Evaluation Traffic Controller will assist members with finding the right stations.
3. 4-H members only will be admitted into the buildings during evaluation times. Each member exhibiting "still projects" will receive a one-on-one evaluation.

**Note:** Sewing, Knitting, Crocheting & Wardrobe Personalization members will not be asked to change into their garments for evaluation at fair. Sewing and Wardrobe Personalization project members are reminded to bring garments on a hanger(s) so that they are ready to be "hung" on the exhibit building wall for display purposes.



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## STILL EXHIBIT UNLOADING

Unloading of still exhibits may be done next to the barns; however, your vehicle MUST be moved immediately after unloading is complete (do not leave your vehicle unattended). If your vehicle is left in the unloading zone it will be towed to the back of the southeast parking lot. Please make sure you are not in an animal unloading line.

## STYLE REVUE

The 4-H Style Revue will be held on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at 4:50 pm, Location next to barn #46. All 4-H members who will be exhibiting a completed Sewing, Knitting, Crocheting, and/or Wardrobe Personalization project at fair are eligible to participate in the Style Revue.

Members may model a combination of project exhibits if desired. In addition, members may also use purchased accessories to complete or accentuate their outfit and/or a "prop" to help "set off" the particular type of garment(s) being modeled.

4-H Style Revue participants will be divided into two divisions according to age (8-13 year olds and 14-19 year olds). Members will be judged on their modeling ability and garment fit, and will receive an A, B or C rating and premium accordingly.

## DEMONSTRATIONS & PERFORMANCES

All 4-H still project demonstrations, performances, public speaking presentations and illustrated talks will be given on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, 3:00 - 7:00 pm in the Community Tent.

All 4-H animal project demonstrations will take place on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, 3:00 - 4:00 pm at the 4-H Photo wall.

Note: One table and one easel will be provided at each of the above noted locations.

Demonstration/Performance "Times": Sign-up for "times" will be conducted on a first-come, first-served basis next to building #46 on Saturday, September 16, 8:30 am - 12:00 pm and 1:00 - 4:00 pm or in the 4-H Office between buildings #43 & #44 on Sunday, September 18, 2023, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

Plan to be at your designated "presentation" location at least 15 minutes early. Be sure to bring all the equipment you need.



## VIEWING SCHEDULE FOR STILL PROJECT BARNs

The two 4-H still project exhibit buildings (#43 & #44) will be open for public viewing according to the following schedule starting with the opening on Sunday, September 17, 2023.

- Sunday: 1:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- Monday - Thursday: 10:00 a. m. - 9:00 p.m.
- Friday & Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

4-H Still Exhibit Building Monitors will be on duty each day during viewing hours as a security measure to help prevent mishandling and theft of exhibits. This viewing schedule will be strictly adhered to out of concern for security of the exhibits.



# 4-H COUNTY & FAIR NEWS

## EVALUATION PROCESS FOR ANIMALS

All skill-a-thons are scheduled for Saturday, September 16, 2023, 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. in the Community Tent.

### **Beef/Dairy Beef/Feeder Steer:**

- Sunday, September 17, 2023
- Interview required, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
- Beef Barn/Feeder Steer Barns
- Notebook optional
- Skill-A-Thon required

### **Dairy:**

- Saturday, September 16, 2023
- Interview required, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
- Dairy Barn
- Notebook required
- No Skill-A-Thon
- 4"x 6" Picture required on front of Notebook

### **Dog:**

- Wednesday, September 6, 2023
- Livestock Arena, Fair Grounds
- 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- Skill-A-Thon/Grooming judging required

### **Goat:**

- Sunday, September 17, 2023
- Interview required, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- 4-H Goat Barn
- Notebook optional
- Skill-A-Thon required

### **Poultry:**

- Saturday, September 16, 2023
- Interview required, 2:00 - 6:00 p.m.
- Poultry/Turkey Barn
- Notebook optional
- Skill-A-Thon required
- Study guides available at [https://www.canr.msu.edu/st\\_joseph/h4\\_h\\_livestock#poultry](https://www.canr.msu.edu/st_joseph/h4_h_livestock#poultry)

### **Rabbits:**

- Saturday, September 16, 2023
- Interview required, 2:00 - 6:00 p.m.
- Rabbit Barn
- Notebooks optional
- If member is doing **BOTH** Breeding Stock and Market, they **MUST** do a notebook/report and interview for **Both**.
- Skill-A-Thon required

### **Sheep:**

- Sunday, September 17, 2023
- Interview required, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
- Sheep Barn
- Notebook optional
- Skill-A-Thon required

### **Swine:**

- Sunday, September 17, 2023
- Interview required, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- Swine Barns
- Notebook optional
- Skill-A-Thon required

## VOLUNTEER IN THE MILK BARN

The 4-H Youth Council Milk Barn Committee is looking for volunteers who are willing to sell milk during the week of fair. There are several shifts available if you are interested in helping out. We are looking for adults and older teens. Please call Craig Ulsh at 269-506-0199, Vice president of the 4-H Youth Council to schedule your time.





# 4-H COUNTY & FAIR NEWS

## PHOTO COVERAGE

4-H members receiving trophies or special awards in still and/or livestock projects may report to the 4-H Fair Photo Wall located on the **NORTH SIDE** of the show arena from 5:00 - 6:00 pm starting on Monday, September 18 and running through Friday, September 22 for "photo opportunities" with reporters from area newspapers.

4-H Photo Information Sheet: All award-winning 4-H members seeking a "photo opportunity" must report to the 4-H Fair Office to obtain and complete a 4-H Photo Information Sheet prior to reporting to the Fair Photo Wall.

"Photo trophies" have been set aside for use in photo sessions with local media. These trophies have blank engraving plates and "generic" figures on top. The trophies will be on loan from our trophy supplier. A volunteer "photo session coordinator" will be on hand each day that photo sessions are scheduled to assist the reporters/photographers. The photo session coordinator will be responsible for: Transporting the "photo trophies" to the photo session location at the 4-H Fair Photo Wall by 4:45 pm, and returning the trophies to the 4-H Fair office at the end of the photo session. Assisting photographers from local newspapers in coordinating an orderly flow of interested members through the photo process. Your cooperation with this system of handling photo opportunities with our local newspapers and fair photographer will be greatly appreciated.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES STILL AVAILABLE

Many volunteers are needed to help with the operation of the 4-H portion of the fair September 16-23. Volunteers are needed to serve as judging clerks, on Saturday, September 16 from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm and/or 1:00 - 4:00 pm. Judging clerks record projects, handling them from evaluation on, by attaching ribbon and recording best of shows/trophies; exhibit set-up, Sunday helpers, and in a variety of other capacities throughout the week.



Please call the St. Joseph County MSU Extension Office at 269/467-5511 to volunteer your services.

## GOLF/ATV/OFF ROAD VEHICLES POLICY

Golf Carts/ATV/Off Road Vehicles will NOT be allowed for recreational use. Any vehicle, if on the fairgrounds, shall require a permit at a cost of \$50.00 purchased at the fair office.

- The Fair office must have a proof of liability insurance for all vehicles before a permit can be issued. (form available on the Fair website. [www.centrevillefair.com](http://www.centrevillefair.com))
- Drivers must be 16 years or older with a valid drivers' license. Must have copy filed with fair office.
- Permit must be displayed on vehicle and be visible.
- NO more than the allotted number of people can ride on the vehicle than the available seating
- A map will be given to each person showing the routes allowed to travel based on type of permit given and time of day.
- Any violation to these rules may result in the removal of the vehicle from the fairgrounds.
- Lights must be on the front and rear with proper intensity and must be operating after dark.

Exception: persons handicapped and/or disabled will be allowed to have battery-powered wheelchairs and/or battery-powered three-wheeled scooters.



# 4-H COUNTY & FAIR NEWS

## AG-CITING EXPERIENCE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

With fair fast approaching we are finding that we are still in need of volunteers for the 31st annual Ag-Citing Experience. The dates for the program are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday of fair.

For those of you who are not aware of "Ag-Citing Experience", it is an educational program that gives 3rd grade students an opportunity to learn about farm animals and agriculture. The classes are bussed to the fairgrounds where they will be lead on a tour of designated animals and field/vegetable crops. The animals they will be learning about this year are cattle, goats/sheep, swine, poultry and rabbits. Note: Knowledge is not necessary in these areas in order to volunteer.

Sign-up has begun and we are in need of a few tours guides, a lot of resource people.

Please call Charity Thompson at 269/467-5511 at the MSU Extension office to see when volunteers are needed and/or to sign up.

## END OF FAIR EVENTS

4-H Fun Night will be held Friday night right AFTER Sweepstakes on the east end of the livestock show arena. This will be a fun night for 4-H members and Cloverbuds to celebrate a week of fun and friendly competition.

To get your free ticket, you must pick up the exhibitor envelope next to barn #46 (red barn) on Saturday, September 16, 2023, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. You MUST have a ticket to enter the event! For more information call the MSU Extension office at 269-467-5511.

The Open Adult and Youth Livestock Judging Contest will take place on Saturday, September 23, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. It will happen in the show arena with judging of all large animal species. It is a free event with quality prizes being given to those who "know their stuff". Come and test your knowledge!!

Come and celebrate with us!

## REMINDERS

- Don't Forget to check your fair books for all project requirements.
- Notebooks are in a three ring or plastic binders.
- Livestock members.. Remember to show up on time for your interviews. Dress appropriately for your interviews and species show.
- Use good sportsmanship before, during and after each show.
- Entry Tags: 4-H members will not be allowed to add classes that they do not have tags for on Saturday, September 18. Only projects registered on the entry forms will have printed tags. These will be the only projects that we have in our computer system.
- Rabbit exhibitors: **Showmanship classes** dress code long sleeve **white** shirt, black pants, closed toes shoes. **Market and Breeding Stock classes** long sleeve shirt, dark colored pants, closed toe shoes.
- Teen leadership Leader evaluations are due to the MSU Extension office by Wednesday, September 8, 2021. Forms can be found at [http://canr.msu.edu/st\\_joseph/4-h/4\\_h\\_still\\_projects](http://canr.msu.edu/st_joseph/4-h/4_h_still_projects)





# 4-H COUNTY & FAIR NEWS

## THANK YOU NOTE CARDS FOR SALE



The 4-H Youth Council will be offering "sets" of 4-H "thank you" note cards, for sale at fair, with each "set" including a 4-H "note card", plus a stamped envelope. "Thank you" note sets may be purchased at the 4-H Fair office starting on Sunday, September 17, 2023, and running through Saturday, September 23 during regularly scheduled office hours for as long as supplies last.

At \$2.00 each, these attractive "thank you" note sets are a great buy for use in writing "thank you" notes to trophy, plaque and special award donors and market livestock buyers! (However, the use of "4-H" thank you note stationary is not required.)

Trophy and special award recipients are required to write and submit a "thank you" note for the donor(s) of each trophy/special award received. The "thank you" note is then exchanged by the member for his/her trophy/special award. "Thank you" notes must be submitted in a stamped envelope (which has both the donor's address and the award recipient's return address neatly written on the envelope). Note: If the "thank you" note is for a buyer, write on the back of the envelope what species of yours they purchased.

Attention: Thank you notes (including envelopes) should be written using an ink pen to end up with the most professional and neat-looking results! In addition, the 4-H Youth Program Coordinator reserves the right to refuse "thank you" notes submitted with sloppily and/or incompletely addressed envelopes and/or dirt-smudged envelopes.

Donor Name/Address Information: The trophy/special award donor's name will be printed on a "donor identification card" that will be attached to each trophy/special award. A list of all trophies/plaques/special awards and the corresponding donors (including the donor's complete address and the name of the "contact person" for business donors) will be posted on the A-frame in the middle of building #43.

Buyer Name/Address Information: The buyer's name and number will be written on a sheet of paper that is filled out immediately following the sale of your animal. A list of all buyers (including complete address and "contact person" for businesses) will be posted on the A-frame in the middle of building #43.

Be sure to put some real time and thought into composing your note. Hastily written notes are not well received by donors and buyers. It is up to you as an award winner to express your appreciation in such a way that donors are encouraged to continue donating trophies and special awards in the future. Without the support of our donors, the awarding of fair trophies and awards would not be possible.

## TROPHIES & SPEICAL AWARDS PICK-UP

Trophies and special awards may be picked up on Saturday, September 23, 2023, 10:00 - 11:00 p.m. and Sunday, September 24, 2023, 9:00 am- 12:00 pm in building #43.

To pick-up your trophy you must submit a stamped and sealed, thank you note written to the donor with the correct address and your return address. Thank you notes with pre-stamped envelopes will be for sale in the 4-H office for \$2.00 each during regularly scheduled hours. A listing of all the donors, with correct spelling address etc. will be posted in building #43.





# 4-H COUNTY & FAIR NEWS

## SHOOTING SPORTS

Thanks to the wonderful efforts of a few volunteers this year, St. Joseph County 4-H members who are interested in archery, BB gun, shotgun and rifle will be able to compete in the 18th annual county "shoot". This is possible because of the many hours the shooting sports volunteers put in to organize and work with the kids throughout the year. The "shoot" will take place at the St. Joseph County Conservation Club. Check with your discipline leader for specific date and time. The conservation club and leaders have been very influential in helping get support from other organizations for supplies, etc. and have offered hunter safety classes, that are necessary to participate in any shoot. For more information, contact your shooting sports leader. Each shooting sports participant must also do an educational still project to be judged on Saturday, September 16, 2023.

## RELEASE OF EXHIBITS AT THE END OF THE WEEK

- **Saturday, September 23** - All 4-H still project exhibits released from 10:00 - 11:00 pm.
- **Sunday, September 24** - All livestock will be released between 5:30 and 10:00 am. This includes beef cattle, dairy beef, dairy cattle, goats, horses, poultry, rabbits, sheep, swine, and horses.
- **Sunday, September 24** - Pick up of any remaining still project exhibits from 9:00 - 11:00 am in buildings #43 and #44.

It is highly recommended that still exhibits be picked up during the above noted times as there is no guarantee of exhibit security. Any exhibits not picked up two weeks following the fair will either be disposed of or given to a charitable organization as deemed appropriate.

## PEN/STALL CLEAN OUT POST-FAIR



The Fair Board requests that all livestock exhibitors clean out their pens/stalls on Sunday, September 24 following removal of animals. This clean-out effort on your part really helps the fair maintenance staff get the fairgrounds back in order quickly and efficiently following the fair. 4-H project leaders will be responsible for organizing their members to get the clean-up accomplished. Be sure to visit with the appropriate 4-H animal superintendent/assistant superintendent during fair week to get details on how the clean-out will be handled. Attention: All 4-H Livestock member/clubs will be held responsible for cleaning and tearing down their project pen/stall at the end of fair. Individuals or clubs maybe assessed a \$50.00 fine for failure to do so.

## 4-H MEMORIAL PARK

Access to the 4-H office during the fair is by way of the beautiful brick-paved pathway. There have been several bricks added to the walkway this year. To put your mark on the fairgrounds, pick up a 4-H Donate-A-Brick Program form. Fill it out and return it to the MSU Extension office. **Note:** The Donate-A-Brick Program is a fund-raiser for the 4-H Youth Council that started with the 2001 fair season.

## JIM & THELMA FAIRCHILD VOLUNTEER 4-H LEADER AWARD

Just a quick reminder that applications are now being accepted for the Jim & Thelma Fairchild Volunteer 4-H Leader Award. If you know of someone who you think is deserving of this special award, contact the MSU Extension office at 269-467-5511 for more information and guidelines. Completed forms are due to the MSU Extension office by Friday, October 6, 2023.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10 Carcass live weight in Beef, Goats, Sheep, Swine - 10-11 am	11	12 5:00 pm Rabbit and Poultry showing delivery at the fairgrounds.	13 Carcass Evaluation @ Bontrager Custom Meat Processing Leondas	14 6 pm Cat Show	15 4 - 7 pm Poultry Check in 4 - 7 pm Rabbit Check in 4 - 7 pm Lamb weight in (optional) 4:30 - 7 pm Swine weigh in (optional) 5-8 pm Dairy Cattle Entries (optional) Horse Check-in (by request)	16 8 am - 12 pm Beef Weight in 8 am - 12 pm Goat Weight in 8 am - 12 pm Sheep Weight in 8 am - 12 pm Swine Weight in 8 am - 1 pm Dairy Cattle Entries 8:30 am Dog Show ALL Dog Classes 9 am - 12 pm & 1 - 4 pm Still Project Entries 2 - 6 pm All Skill-a-Thons 2 - 6 pm Poultry Interviews 2 - 6 pm Rabbit Interviews 3 - 5 pm Dairy Cattle Evaluation
17 8:30 am Horse Show - Western/ Showmanship/Reining/ Trail 9 am Poultry Show 9 am Rabbit Show 9 - 11 am Sheep Interviews 9 am - 12 pm Beef/ Dairy Beef Interviews 9 am - 12 pm Goat Interviews 9 am - 1 pm Swine Interviews	18 8:30 am Horse Show - English/ Jumping 8:30 am Goat Show 9:30 am Swine Show	19 8:30 am Horse Show - Driving 9 am Beef Cattle Show 9 am Dairy Beef Show 4 pm Sheep Show	20 10 am Dairy Cattle Show 8 - 7 pm Still Project Demonstrations & Performances 3 pm Animal Project Demos 6:30 pm Horse Costume Show 6:50 pm Style Revue	21 10 am Small Animal Sale (rabbits, goats, chickens, turkeys) 10:30 am Large Animal Sale (lamb, market beef, dairy steers, gallon of milk, dairy feeder steers, hogs)	22 7 pm Sweepstakes Showmanship 9 pm 4-H Members' Fun Night	23 8 am Horse Show - Gymkhana 10 am Livestock Judging Contest 3~6 pm Horse Project Awards 4 pm Still Project Auction 10 pm Poultry & Rabbit Barn Clean- up/Load Out 10 - 11 pm Still Project Check-out



# 4-H COUNTY & FAIR NEWS

## EXPLORATION DAYS

Are you ready for Exploration Days 2024? We had a GREAT trip this year. Don't miss out! Let's see if we can charter a bus next year! Dates for 2024 Exploration Days are June 19-21. For more information go to

[https://www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_exploration\\_days](https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days)

## CITIZENSHIP WASHINGTON FOCUS

CWF is a learning lab about our national government in Washington D.C., for 4-H members between the ages of 15 and 19. Held at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase, MD., (one mile outside of Washington, D.C.) the week-long session runs with the help of college aged program assistants. There are scholarships available for those who are interested. We only have 2 spots available for 2024, so don't wait...Call now for more information and to reserve your spot! Applications to attend CWF will be on the website under the County Awards.

## HELPFUL LINKS

Be sure to check the fair book and the website for information, updates and new requirements.

- Fair Information - [https://www.canr.msu.edu/st\\_joseph/4-h/4\\_h\\_fair](https://www.canr.msu.edu/st_joseph/4-h/4_h_fair)
- Companion Animals - [https://www.canr.msu.edu/st\\_joseph/4-h/4\\_h\\_dog\\_project](https://www.canr.msu.edu/st_joseph/4-h/4_h_dog_project)
- Horse & Pony - [https://www.canr.msu.edu/st\\_joseph/4-h/4\\_h\\_horse\\_and\\_pony](https://www.canr.msu.edu/st_joseph/4-h/4_h_horse_and_pony)
- Livestock - [https://www.canr.msu.edu/st\\_joseph/4-h/4\\_h\\_livestock](https://www.canr.msu.edu/st_joseph/4-h/4_h_livestock)
- Still Project - [https://www.canr.msu.edu/st\\_joseph/4-h/4\\_h\\_still\\_projects](https://www.canr.msu.edu/st_joseph/4-h/4_h_still_projects)

## ANNUAL RECOGNITION & AWARDS BANQUET

The annual recognition is scheduled for Thursday, November 2, 2023 at the Centreville Jr/Sr High School at 6:00 p.m. Check the website for the awards application.

## Have a Great Fair!

Remember to be kind and courteous to judges, clerks, leaders, fellow 4-H members, MSU Extension staff and all other fair goers.

**Reminder:** Enrollment for next year begins in October.

Check with your club leaders to find out when your club is doing enrollment.

Sign up online at: [www.v2.4honline.com](http://www.v2.4honline.com)



# 4-H COUNTY & FAIR NEWS

## STILL PROJECT AUCTION

The purpose of the still project auction:

- To entice more interest in 4-H youth participation in still project areas because of the opportunity of financial gain.
- To give the 4-H still project exhibitors the “marketing” experience like the livestock exhibitors have, such as face-to-face experience with potential buyers, writing skills in the form of buyer letters and Thank-you notes, and the character-building skills of presentation in the sale ring.
- To have the means for funds specifically earmarked for Still Project area development and Exhibit improvements by assessing a small commission.

### Criteria for Still Project Auction Entry:

1. Entry is completely voluntary.
2. Exhibitor must have shown in that project area at least once before.
3. Project must be entered in current year fair and receive an “A” rating.
4. 4-H member **MUST** take project through the auction.
5. Auction entry form must be completed and turned into the 4-H office by Monday, September 20 at noon to allow committee enough time to verify placings and completeness of application.
6. If project was awarded a trophy/award, the appropriate thank you note must be submitted with the Auction Entry form. Committee will record this on 4-H office records.
7. Project may be pulled from auction with a written request by exhibitor and parent/guardian no later than Friday, September 22 at 5:00 p.m.
8. Items entered in Auction will be moved to barn #44 on Monday afternoon.
9. Exhibitors are strongly encouraged to contact at least three potential buyers in writing and/or in person to attend the auction.
10. Auction will be held in Still Exhibit Barn #44 at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 23, 2023. Thank you cards for auction items must be turned in to the 4-H office by October 1, 2023. No monies will be released to the exhibitor until thank you note is turned in.
11. Items that are auctioned become the property of the buyer upon completion of the sale. Project item must remain on display until the designated pick-up time. **Exception:** A fresh batch of food product must be made to give to buyer(s) on Saturday.
12. Items purchased may be picked up on Saturday, September 23 after 10:00 p.m. or Sunday, September 24, between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. (same as other still projects) with Bill of Sale **ONLY**.
13. There will be a Sales Commission of 2% deducted from sale check. These monies will remain with the SJC Youth Council and be used for Still Project Development programs/workshops and Still Project Exhibit/Display improvements only.





# 4-H COUNTY & FAIR NEWS

## GOING HOME: BIOSECURITY TIPS FOR ANIMALS THAT WENT TO THE COUNTY FAIR

Author: Katie Ockert, Michigan State University Extension



Animals exhibited at the county fair that will return to their home herds pose a significant biosecurity risk to the animals left at home. Follow these steps after the fair has ended to protect everyone.

Animals that have been exhibited during the county fair are likely near and dear to their exhibitors' hearts. After all, they spent countless hours training and preparing their animal for the show at the fair. We protect them from everything before the show season, but do we give enough thought about what happens when they go home? Each time an animal is taken out of its home environment and exhibited, there is a certain amount of risk for exposure to illness.

Michigan State University Extension offers these biosecurity steps exhibitors can take to protect their show animals and those that were left at home after the fair has ended.

- Keep animals that were at the fair separate from animals that were not for 28 – 30 days. If at all possible, do not allow nose-to-nose contact and provide as much distance between animals.
- Disinfect all buckets, feeders, tools and footwear that was at the fair.
- Throw away any feed or hay that was at the fair.
- Always wear clean clothes and footwear. Boot coverings may be helpful when caring for animals.
- Take care of animals that stayed home from the show first, and animals that were at the show second. Do not go back and forth between animals as this increases the risk of cross-contamination.
- Do not eat or drink in the barn.
- Observe animals daily for signs and symptoms of illness, such as:
  - Obvious pain or discomfort.
  - Decrease in appetite and water intake.
  - Fever.
  - Lethargy.
  - Diarrhea or changes in consistency in manure.
  - Discharge from nasal cavity or eyes.
  - Overall weakness.

If you notice any of the above symptoms, please call your veterinarian immediately.

Care of animals after the fair is critical. Exhibited animals were exposed to animals from other farms, fair goers who may not have washed their hands in between various species of animals, and potentially a lot of stress. By following these steps, you can help keep all of your animals safe and healthy.

For more information about fair biosecurity, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/fair-and-exhibition-animal-health/biosecurity>.



# STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Share Your 4-H Story!



Across the state, Michigan 4-H has grown true leaders for today and tomorrow. From Marquette to Monroe, these young people are impacting their clubs, communities, country and world.

To help share this impact with others, we're looking for youth and 4-H alums to share their own testimonials of how 4-H has influenced their personal growth and development.

Submissions will be posted on the Meet Michigan 4-H'ers section of the MSU Extension website and promoted digitally in newsletters and social media.

To learn more and download the guidelines, visit [www.canr.msu.edu/4h/meet-michigan-4-h](http://www.canr.msu.edu/4h/meet-michigan-4-h).

### September 6: Welcome Back MSU 4-H Alumni Reception

*Justin S. Morrill Hall of Agriculture, East Lansing*

If you are a current or former 4-H'er attending MSU this fall, stop by outside the Justin S. Morrill Hall of Agriculture from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. for networking and free dinner!

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-welcome-week-4-h-alumni-reception](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-welcome-week-4-h-alumni-reception)

### September 16-17: 4-H Shooting Sports Workshop

*Shiawassee Conservation Association, Owosso*

Adult and teen 4-H volunteers can learn about 4-H shooting sports' mission policy, risk management and safety, discipline-specific equipment use and care, how to teach shooting fundamentals to youth, range set-up, and more.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-shooting-sports-workshop-owosso-1](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-shooting-sports-workshop-owosso-1)

### September 18: Adulting 101 - How to Tell Principals & Politicians They are Full of Poop While Being Polite

*Online*

This session will provide some skills and practice on how to influence people in power to make change in your community and world.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting1019-18-23](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting1019-18-23)

### September 21: Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series - Spice up Your 4-H Experiences with 4-H Resources

*Online*

This session will explore a variety of resources that 4-H volunteers can use in meetings to support Michigan 4-H'ers.

**12-1 p.m. session:** [www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-spice-up-your-4-h-experiences-with-4-h-resources](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-spice-up-your-4-h-experiences-with-4-h-resources)

**7-8 p.m. session:** [www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-spice-up-your-4-h-experiences-with-4-h-resources7pm](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series-spice-up-your-4-h-experiences-with-4-h-resources7pm)

### September 29: Michigan 4-H Foundation Annual Membership Meeting

*Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, East Lansing*

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](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-foundation-annual-membership-meeting)

### October 4: Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol

*Heritage Hall, Lansing*

Education and awareness event to elevate knowledge of Michigan 4-H and to share the impact of its programming across Michigan.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-day-at-the-capitol](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-day-at-the-capitol)





# STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

## National 4-H Week: October 1-7, 2023

For more than 100 years, 4-H has inspired families, shaped careers, and impacted communities. From October 1-7, we will celebrate the impact of 4-H during National 4-H Week. The theme of this year's National 4-H Week is "I ♥ 4-H." As you plan ahead for how you will mark National 4-H Week in your community, here are some ideas of you can celebrate 4-H and show all the ways you ♥ 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 4, Michigan 4-H and MSU Extension will be hosting the first 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](http://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 <https://mi4hfdtn.org/countymatch/> that can help support your county 4-H program.

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

