



CLOVER CHRONICLES

October 2026

Isabella County

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Go Green! Oct 5

On Monday (October 5) during National 4-H Week, Go GREEN and show your 4-H spirit! Whether it's a green hat, shirt, face paint, or even green socks—show the world you're #4HBeyondReady. Let's paint the nation GREEN, on October 5! Share your 'Go Green' moment on social and tag Isabella County, Michigan and National 4-H and use: #IsabellaCounty4H #4HBeyondReady

2026-27 4-H Club Enrollments

All club re-enrollments are due by October 31 for members and leaders in Isabella County 4-H. Here is the link to re-enroll: <https://mi.4honline.com>.

Join 4-H in the CMU Homecoming Parade

Isabella County 4-H is excited to participate in the **CMU Homecoming Parade on Saturday, October 3!** We would love to have 4-H youth, families, and volunteers join us.

Participants can **walk in the parade or ride on the 4-H float**. Line-up begins at **10:00 a.m.**, with the parade starting at **11:00 a.m.** The parade typically lasts no more than an hour.

Interested in joining us? Contact Liz via text 989-615-6574 for line-up details and to be added to the parade group.

The CMU Homecoming Parade is always a fun opportunity to represent 4-H, connect with our community, and see familiar faces from Isabella County and beyond!

Still Exhibit & Small Animal Auction Checks

Checks will be handed out at the 4-H Recognition Banquet on Thursday, October 8 to exhibitors or parents (siblings cannot pick up checks) after the program.



CLUB CORNER

- **Aim High** - We met for a potluck dinner and fair "recap" member report in September. It was fun to hear about special achievements and experiences! We look forward to a new 4-H year and a couple of our teens are already making plans for various activities and service opportunities!
- **Country Neighbors** - In September our club met at Island park and had a potluck and we also welcomed several new families to our club!
- **Dairy Dreamers** - Once again, we had a very successful Dairy Days at the state competitions at MSU! We had one Novice team competing this year along with one Junior. Max Deters competed well in management as a Jr., taking 6th overall. Our Novice team of Adair Deters, Ally Bryant, Beau Turner, and Jasper Dick took 2nd as a team in both judging and management! Adair placed 3rd in management and 6th in judging individually, while Ally was 10th in management and 2nd in judging. In September, Ally and Beau combined with some past Dairy Dreamer's members and volunteered to hand out 1200 pints of milk free at Sportsmen for Youth at the Muskegon County fairgrounds. They were accompanied by Clover (the jersey cow), and Snickers the calf to teach attendants about ruminant digestion, and to get some cow and calf hugs in. When all the milk had been distributed members explored the other booths about outdoor activities where they saw raptors, visited the amphibian building, rock climbed, learned to throw spears and axes, and learned about hunting, fishing, bow & arrow, conservation, safety, and so much more! This annual volunteer event has long been a favorite of our club!
- **Farm Hands** - At their September meeting Farm Hands scheduled roadside cleanup for October. They also discussed the upcoming 4-H year and what plans were for their club.

Free Day & Boo Bash at Discovery Museum – October 16!

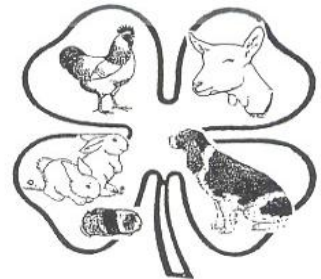
Mark your calendars for **Friday, October 16!** Isabella County 4-H Council and the Mt. Pleasant Optimist Club are partnering with our friends at **Discovery Museum** for a full day of FREE admission!

Then, from **5:00–8:00 PM**, join us for the **Boo Bash Trunk or Treat & Touch-a-Truck!** Come in costume, bring a treat bag, check out emergency vehicles and cool trucks, play games, collect treats, and meet some of our Isabella County 4-H clubs.

If you've never visited Discovery Museum or it's already a family favorite, this is a great opportunity to enjoy the museum and a fun fall evening with the community. **Admission is FREE all day!**

Small Animal News

- Members who sold in the Small Animal Auction can pick up their checks at the Recognition Banquet on October 8, at Sacred Heart Parish Hall, at 6:30 PM. (if you are unable to attend, checks can be picked up from the Extension office the week of October 12)
- If you have not yet done so, send a thank you note to your specific buyer. Just a simple, personal comment will mean a lot for those that so faithfully support the auction every year.





STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Preparing youth to
be Beyond Ready:
Building leadership
skills through 4-H**



**Beyond
Ready**

4-H provides youth with opportunities to develop leadership skills in meaningful and age-appropriate ways. Whether leading a club activity, serving as an officer, mentoring younger members, or helping plan an event, youth practice communication, teamwork, decision-making and responsibility.

Volunteers can support leadership development by encouraging youth voice, sharing responsibilities and creating opportunities for members to take ownership of their learning. Every leadership experience helps young people build confidence and prepares them to contribute in school, work and their communities.

How are you helping youth grow as leaders this year?

#BeyondReady

October 3: MSU Tollgate Pumpkinfest

Tollgate Farm, Novi

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

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/pumpkinfest-2026>

October 4-10: National 4-H Week

Nationwide

For over 100 years, 4-H has inspired families, shaped careers, and impacted communities. During this week, celebrate the impact of 4-H in various ways including Go Green Monday, Wheels Up Wednesday, Thankful Thursday and Stay Connected Saturday!

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/national-4-h-week>

October 7: Adulting 101—Mental Health Toolkit: Everyday Skills and Resources to Help Care for Your Mental Health

Online

This Adulting 101 session will equip participants with practical tools to support their mental health and emotional wellbeing.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-extension-adulting-101-mental-health-toolkit-everyday-skills-and-resources-to-help-care-for-your-mental-health>

October 27: 4-H Volunteer Webinar – Infusing Positive Youth Development into Your 4-H club

Online

Explore simple strategies that foster belonging, build developmental relationships, encourage youth voice, and create engaging experiences where young people can develop confidence, competence, character and caring.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-infusing-positive-youth-development-into-your-4-h-club>

October 31: 4-H Animal Science Fall Fest

Anthony Hall, East Lansing

Youth will have the chance to learn about a variety of animal science topics, disciplines and careers from industry experts and Department of Animal Science staff. Open to youth ages 12-19. **Register by October 15!**

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-animal-science-fall-fest-2026>





STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Nominate a deserving 4-H'er for Michigan 4-H Animal Science Sportsperson of the Year!

Do you know someone who displayed extraordinary sportsmanship at a recent 4-H animal science program? Perhaps at a club meeting, clinic or the county fair? Nominate them for the 2026 Michigan 4-H Animal Science Sportsperson of the Year Award!

This annual award recognizes one youth member and one adult 4-H leader who exemplify the definition of sportsmanship and have gone above and beyond to lend a helping hand to those around them during animal science programs. Nominations are due **October 15**. You can find full details, including the nomination form, at: https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/competitive_event_resources



Join the 4-H Future Squad!

Ready to level up your future? Youth ages age 12–19 are invited to join the 4-H Future Squad, a virtual 4-H club focused on life skills, career readiness, financial literacy, Adulging 101 topics and more.

4-H Future Squad was inspired by Generation Z youth seeking life skill development for a better future for themselves and their peers. This will be the sixth year of the program, which is designed to help youth feel prepared and ready to take on the future and adulthood.

The club will meet twice a month October 2026 through May 2027, virtually through Zoom. Meetings will involve team-building and will cover areas such as money management, career readiness, stress management, goal setting, time management,

communication, politics, food safety and basic household tasks.

Meeting dates will take place on a variety of days of the week; dates and times will be communicated via email and on the program website. Youth can attend as many of these dates as they wish. 4-H Future Squad can be a primary or secondary club. Learn more and complete the interest form at: www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-future-squad/.

4-H scholarships available!

Outstanding Michigan 4-H members who are involved at county, regional, state, national or international levels are eligible to apply for Michigan 4-H scholarships to help fund their college experience.

A number of scholarship opportunities exist, ranging in value from \$500 to \$10,000 (over the course of four years). Each scholarship has specific eligibility, be sure to read the requirements to see if you qualify. All applications are due by November 1.

Learn more and access applications materials at:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_scholarships_and_recognition_program/4_h_scholarships



Coordinator's Corner – October 2026

Hello Isabella County 4-H Families!

A New 4-H Year Is Here!

October is here, and with it comes the start of another exciting 4-H year! While fair may be behind us, Isabella County 4-H certainly isn't slowing down. This month gives us so many opportunities to celebrate, connect with our community, and look forward to everything the new year has in store. One event I always look forward to is the CMU Homecoming Parade. It is one of my favorite parades because you never know who you are going to see! You see familiar faces from around town, people coming back to Mount Pleasant, CMU students and alumni, and visitors from communities near and far. I love seeing our 4-H families there representing our program and being part of an event that brings so many people together.

We're also trying something NEW this October! On October 16, we're partnering with our friends at the Discovery Museum and the Mt. Pleasant Optimist Club for a FREE day at the museum, along with our first Boo Bash Trunk or Treat!

I am especially excited that we are able to help provide a free day at the Discovery Museum. Removing the cost of admission gives more families an opportunity to come through the doors, explore the museum, play, learn, and spend time together. Maybe it will be someone's first visit, or maybe it gives a family that already loves the museum another chance to enjoy it. At the same time, families will have the opportunity to meet some of our 4-H clubs and learn more about what 4-H has to offer. It is a great way for two organizations focused on youth and families to come together for our community.

October also brings our Recognition Banquet, which is a chance for us to stop and celebrate. Our youth accomplish so much throughout the year, and behind them are volunteers, leaders, families, and community members helping make those opportunities possible. Recognition isn't only about receiving an award. It is also about celebrating growth, hard work, leadership, trying something new, helping others, and everything our members have accomplished throughout another 4-H year.

As we begin the 2026–27 4-H year, I encourage everyone to think about what you want your year to look like. Try a new project. Attend something you've never attended before. Volunteer. Invite a friend. Take on a leadership role. There is so much more to 4-H than one week at the fair, and October is a great example of that.

Don't forget to re-enroll by **October 31**.

I can't wait to see what this new 4-H year brings!



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<https://www.facebook.com/IsabellaCounty4H/>

REMINDER

All member and volunteer re-enrollments for the 2026-2027 4-H year are due by October 31, 2026!

SAVE THE DATES

National 4-H Week
October 4 - 10

4-H Recognition Banquet
October 8 at 6:30 p.m.
Sacred Heart Parish Hall

TSC Fall Paper Clover Campaign
November 27 - December 13

Beef Weigh-In
December 12

Isabella County Youth & Farm Fair
August 1-8, 2027

Isabella County 4-H Calendar

Oct 4-10	NATIONAL 4-H WEEK!	
3	CMU Homecoming Parade	11 AM
6	Horse Leaders @ Marantha Baptist Church	6:30 PM
8	4-H Recognition Banquet @ SHA Parish Hall, in Mt. Pleasant	6:30 PM
12	Shooting Sports Committee @ Commission on Aging	6:30 PM
16	Free Day & Boo Bash @ Mt. Pleasant Discovery Museum	
27	4-H Council @ Commission on Aging	6:30 PM
31	4-H Re-Enrollments Due https://mi.4honline.com	

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"Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the MSU Extension office at (989) 317-4079 at least 7 days prior to the scheduled event to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements. Requests received after this time will be met when possible."

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