



JULY 2026

# 4-H Family News

Livingston County



## Market Poultry Washing Clinic: Tuesday July 14<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm

New to market poultry? Looking to improve your market poultry washing techniques? Join us on Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at 5pm at the Fowlerville Family Fair 4-H Livestock Arena, 8800 W Grand River Rd, Fowlerville, MI, to learn how to get your chickens in tip-top shape for show day! This is open to both 4-H members and non 4-H Members.

Demonstration birds will be provided - **please do not bring your birds with you!**

RSVP is required: <https://bit.ly/4-HChickenWash>

Questions?

Please contact Kat  
[Krollkat@msu.edu](mailto:Krollkat@msu.edu).



### UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS:

#### Night Run Series

July 8<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at the Fowlerville Family Fairgrounds

#### Leaders Day Open Youth Horse Show

July 11<sup>th</sup> at 8 am (show starts) at Cohoctah Park

#### Market Poultry Washing Clinic

July 14<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm at the 4-H Livestock Arena at the Fowlerville Fairgrounds

#### Fowlerville Family Fair

July 26<sup>th</sup> -August 1<sup>st</sup> at the Fowlerville Family Fairgrounds

#### 4-H Council Potluck

July 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm on Northside of 4-H Building

## CONTACT US

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# COUNTY 4-H NEWS

## Livingston County 4-H Horse Committee 2026 Night Run Series & Leaders Day

Livingston County 4-H Horse Committee is excited to announce the upcoming dates for their 2026 Night Run Series and the 2026 Leaders Day Open Youth Horse Show!

The Night Run Series final dates are July 8<sup>th</sup> and July 12<sup>th</sup> at the Fowlerville Family Fairgrounds. Prizes for each division are 1<sup>st</sup> Belt Buckle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lawn Chair, 3<sup>rd</sup> Picture Frame, and Open Payback. This is an open show for Adults (+20), Seniors (15-19), Intermediate (12-14), Juniors (9-11), and walk/trot (8+).

Events include barrels, poles, and other speed games. For more information and to enter, check out the full Showbill: <https://bit.ly/4HNightRun26>

The 2026 Leaders Day Open Youth Horse Show will be on July 11<sup>th</sup> at Cohoctah Park, 1000 W Allen Rd., Howell, MI 48855. Gates open at 7 am and the show starts at 8 am. Highpoints for English, Western, Gymkhana. Rosette Ribbons for 1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> place. There are four divisions: 8-13, 14-19, Pony 8-19, and Walk/Trot 8-19. Also there are Cloverbud and PEP/TRP classes.

For more information, check out the full Showbill: <https://bit.ly/4HLeadersDay26>



## Congratulations to Michigan 4-H State Award Winners Rachel Pollok-Newsom & Vincent Coppola!



Congratulations to Livingston County 4-H'ers Rachel Pollok-Newsom of Gusty Acres 2.0 4-H Club and Vincent Coppola of Roots & Wings 4-H Club on winning 4-H State Awards! Rachel received the Michigan 4-H State Award in Sheep (Junior Division) and Vincent received an award in STEM (Junior Division). If you see Rachel or Vincent, please congratulate them on this accomplishment!

The Michigan 4-H State Awards program recognizes outstanding 4-H members during 4-H Exploration Days. A Michigan 4-H State Award is the highest honor bestowed on Michigan 4-H members and recognizes excellence in learning, leadership and service.

The program is open to 4-H members who are 12-19 years old with two or more years of 4-H experience. To qualify, 4-H'ers must submit a written application that showcases the learning experiences, knowledge and skills they've acquired through 4-H, as well as their contributions to 4-H communities. In addition to a plaque, each 4-H State Award winner receives a monetary award made possible by generous donations to the Michigan 4-H Foundation.



# COUNTY 4-H NEWS

## Volunteers Needed for Fowlerville Fair Workdays Tuesdays & Thursdays

It takes a community to get the fairgrounds ready for Fair! Join the Fowlerville Fair every Tuesday and Thursday from 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM for Fair Work Nights.

Whether you can help with painting, cleaning, repairs, or other projects, we welcome all volunteers. Every helping hand makes a difference!

- Every Tuesday & Thursday
- 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
- Fairgrounds, 8800 West Grand River, Fowlerville, MI 48836

Bring your work gloves, a positive attitude, and help us make this year's fair the best one yet!

Questions? Contact the Fair office for more information at [fair@fowlervillefamilyfair.com](mailto:fair@fowlervillefamilyfair.com) or 517-223-8186



## Livestock Judging Contest at Fowlerville Fair Hosted by 4-H Livestock Judging Team



We are excited to announce that Livingston County 4-H will be hosting a Livestock Judging Contest once again at the 2026 Fowlerville Family Fair! Exhibitors age 5-21 (20-21 year olds must be participating in the Fowlerville Family Fair) will be eligible to participate this year.

Species, schedule, and registration information coming soon! If your child is interested in joining our livestock judging team for next year, this is a great place to get in some practice!

If you have any questions, please reach out to Kat at [krollkat@msu.edu](mailto:krollkat@msu.edu).

## Fowlerville Fair Needs Livestock & Still Exhibit Auction Help

Fowlerville Family Fair is looking for volunteers to assist with livestock and still exhibit auctions. They need help with data entry and with filling water stations and serving popcorn. No experience necessary – just a willingness to help and have fun! Shifts are flexible and it's a great way to get involved to make the Fair a great experience for our youth.

If you are interested, contact the Fowlerville Family Fair at [fair@fowlervillefamilyfair.com](mailto:fair@fowlervillefamilyfair.com).





# COUNTY 4-H NEWS

## Livingston County 4-H Ambassadors Lead a Session at 4-H Exploration Days



Our Livingston County 4-H Ambassadors stepped up to lead a session at 4-H Exploration Days last week and taught 22 youth how to improve their communication skills with mock interviews, practice pitches, email drafts, and more!

The 4-H Ambassadors drafted their session proposal back in the winter and were accepted to teach in the spring. They then worked for the last few months developing their lesson plan and leading a practice session in May. The session, titled “Marketing Your Best Self” focused on communication skills including writing and public speaking.

The 4-H Ambassadors who taught this session are pictured to the left: Vincent Coppola of Roots & Wings 4-H Club, Raegan Kromer of Tri-County Kids 4-H Club, Rachel Pollok-Newsom of Gusty Acres 2.0 4-H Club, Emma Roberts of Tri-County Kids 4-H Club and Fuzzy Critters 4-H Club, and Ashley Bernardin of Rangers 4-H Club. Your hard work and planning paid off!

## A Busy Grand Equestrians Program Year Began in June

Grand Equestrians kicked off their first classes of the season in early June. The students have been learning horsemanship skills, grooming, horse anatomy and some of our students have already begun leading independently. We have a wonderful and dedicated group of volunteers that keep our kids engaged and our program running.



Our kids are looking forward to their busiest year yet! Going to showmanship clinics, the Leader's Day show and Fowlerville Fair in July, as well as participating in the Michigan 4-H State Horse Show at Michigan State University in August, for the first time in Grand Equestrians history!

## Backyard Chickens with MSU Extension at Brighton District Library on July 8th



We are excited to be partnering with Brighton District Library to offer a Backyard Chicken workshop for families interested in starting their own backyard flock on July 8<sup>th</sup> from 2-3 pm on their pavilion. **We are looking for 4-H teens interested in helping with this workshop.** Anyone with experience raising laying hens (sorry, we aren't talking about meat birds at this one) that is interested should contact Jenny at [speyerje@msu.edu](mailto:speyerje@msu.edu) or 734-436-1362.



# STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*Preparing youth to be Beyond Ready through the fair experience*



## Beyond Ready

The fair experience is more than a showcase; it's a powerful opportunity to prepare youth to be Beyond Ready for life. Through exhibiting their projects, interacting with judges and engaging with the public, young people practice real-world skills such as communication, responsibility, problem-solving and professionalism.

When volunteers create intentional learning moments, like encouraging youth to reflect on project growth, prepare for interviews or take leadership roles in their clubs, youth deepen their understanding and strengthen skills that extend far beyond the fairgrounds. Every fair interaction becomes a stepping stone toward future readiness.

Is your club helping youth make those connections and see how fair experiences prepare them for what comes next?

#BeyondReady

### July 13-15: Michigan 4-H Dairy Days

*Farm Bureau Pavilion, Lansing*

Join 4-H members from around Michigan July 13-15 at the Farm Bureau Pavilion for Michigan 4-H Youth Dairy Days! Dairy Days is part of Michigan Dairy Expo, a celebration of dairy farmers and dairy cattle in the Great Lakes State.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/2026-michigan-4-h-youth-dairy-days](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/2026-michigan-4-h-youth-dairy-days)

### July 16: Water Day

*Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing*

Come cool off from the summer heat and have fun in the garden with water. Play water games, do water art and explore all things fun about water. Come ready to get wet!

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/water-day](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/water-day)

### July 20-21: Saginaw Bay Fish Camp

*Haithco Park, Saginaw*

This two-day camp will teach youth to fish and protect our Great Lakes. All campers receive a fishing rod with a reel, tackle box, t-shirt and snacks. Learn about knot-tying, tackle crafting, casting, aquatic ecology, angler ethics and more! Open to 4-H members ages 8-13. Registration deadline is July 10.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/2026-saginaw-bay-4-h-fish-camp](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/2026-saginaw-bay-4-h-fish-camp)

### July 23: Bug Day at the Children's Gardens

*Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing*

Join for a tribute to insects in the gardens. Collect, observe and even make bugs! The MSU Bug House will also be on site with their collections of insects from all over the world.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/bug-day](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/bug-day)

### July 27: 4-H Garden Adventures Summer Camp

*The Botanic Garden at Historic Barns Park, Traverse City*

Youth ages 7-12- are invited to join this camp for fun adventures in nature, nurturing resilience, kindness, community and creativity as they explore sustainability and growth through an engaging, hands-on approach.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-garden-adventures-summer-camp-2026](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-garden-adventures-summer-camp-2026)

### July 30: Bubble Day at the Children's Gardens

*Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens, East Lansing*

Come celebrate summer vacation at the garden with bubbles! Youth will paint, eat and even make music with bubbles.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/bubble-day](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/bubble-day)





# STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

## Join the Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase!

MSU Extension is thrilled to partner again in 2026 with the [Michigan State Fair](#) on an exciting program for Michigan youth: the Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase. This statewide showcase provides a virtual platform for youth across Michigan to exhibit their work in all project areas and apply for up to \$1,000 in scholarships. Any Michigan youth ages 5-19 is encouraged to participate; 4-H membership is not required.

There is no cost to participate and youth may engage in as many classes as they wish by [submitting project photos and videos](#). **Be sure to submit your entries by the registration deadline of August 7 at 5 p.m.** Project evaluation will occur before the start of the Michigan State Fair so that winners can be announced at the event. Learn more, find helpful resources and registration links at [www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/State-Fair-Virtual-Showcase/](http://www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/State-Fair-Virtual-Showcase/).



## 2026 MSF 4-H & Youth Showcase Business Pitch Contest

Got a business idea? Whether your business is already running, just getting started or still an idea, we want to hear your pitch! Enter the Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase and share your entrepreneurial skills in a two-minute video!

Entries will be judged on creativity, communication, understanding of the target audience, and overall presentation skills. Winners in each age division will receive gift card prizes (\$75, \$50, \$25) sponsored by Michigan State University Federal Credit Union and be recognized through Michigan 4-H communications and social media. For more information, visit Department 73 of the fair book at [www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/State-Fair-Virtual-Showcase/](http://www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/State-Fair-Virtual-Showcase/).

## 2026 MSF 4-H & Youth Showcase Michigan 4-H License Plate Promotion Contest

Michigan youth ages 8–19 are invited to enter the Michigan 4-H License Plate Promotion Contest as part of the Michigan State Fair 4-H & Youth Virtual Showcase! Create a short video and/or design a poster, flyer or graphic that encourages others to purchase the Michigan 4-H license plate and you could win. Prizes will be awarded and winners will be featured on Michigan 4-H social media channels. Put your creativity to work and help spread the word about 4-H across Michigan! For more information, visit Department 73 of the fair book at: [www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/State-Fair-Virtual-Showcase/](http://www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/State-Fair-Virtual-Showcase/).

## New scholarships for Michigan 4-H'ers!

The Michigan 4-H Foundation is pleased to offer new scholarship opportunities to Michigan 4-H members for fall 2026. Nearly \$30,000 in post-secondary 4-H scholarships are available for the 2026–2027 academic year to high school seniors or incoming college freshmen. Youth must have participated in 4-H for three or more years.

These scholarships are made possible through generous support from 4-H alumni, retirees and friends of 4-H. Apply by September 1 at [mi4hfdtn.org/scholarship](http://mi4hfdtn.org/scholarship).





# July 2026



| Sun  | Mon  | Tues  | Weds  | Thur   | Fri   | Sat   |
|--|--|---|---|--|---|---|
|  |  |   | 1   | 2  | 3<br>Extension office closed  | 4<br>4TH OF July  |
| 5  | 6  | 7   | 8<br><br>6pm - Night Run Horse Show at Fowlerville Fairgrounds | 9  | 10  | 11<br>6pm - Leaders Day Show @ Cohoctah Park<br> |
| 12   | 13   | 14<br>5pm - Poultry washing clinic<br> | 15  | 16   | 17  | 18  |
| 19   | 20   | 21<br>5pm - Fair Cleanup<br>           | 22  | 23<br><br> | 24  | 25<br>8am - Still project judging<br>          |
| 26<br>Animal haul in day<br>                 | 27<br> |   | 28  | 29   | 30<br>7 pm - 4-H Council Potluck in 4-H Building<br> | 31<br>   |
| <br>2pm-8pm - Optional Booth decorating time |  |   | <br>6pm - Dog practice                                     |  |   |   |