

*Cass Clover*

# 4-H Family News

January/February 2020

## Dear 4-H Family and Friends,

Happy New Year!

The 2020 4-H year has finally begun! I wanted to thank each and every one of you for your support over the last year as I continue to find new programs to implement in the county and all of the changes. I have some exciting and fun things planned for 2020 and I hope that everyone will consider at least participating in one event. I also love to hear what you want to see in this county. Be the change and keep making a difference in our 4-H program by speaking out and being the true leaders all of you are! I am elated to begin 2020 with a county full of amazing leaders and youth and I look forward to watching you all grow!

Sincerely,

Hailey Harman

4-H Program Coordinator



## 2019-2020 Enrollment Fees/4-H Online

Our new 4-H year began on September 1, 2019. All 4-H members and leaders are strongly encouraged to enroll online. If you have forgotten your 4-H online login information, please do not make a new profile. Instead, please contact our office and we can reset your password for you. To register for 2019-2020 go to [www.mi.4honline.com](http://www.mi.4honline.com)

The deadline to enroll in 4-H Online and to **pay your enrollment fee** of \$20 per member (\$60 family, 4 + children) will be March 31, 2020 by 5:00 p.m. There will be no exceptions to this deadline. If your child is not registered and paid for by the deadline, they will not be eligible to participate in 4-H for the current year (including fair, as a 4-H member). Please keep in mind that this deadline does not override your club's deadline. Example: your key leader requires you to pay your enrollment fee and register online by January 1, 2020. You would follow that deadline. We encourage all payments be made with your key leader but you may make a payment in the MSU Extension office. For your convenience, we now can take credit/debit cards or you can mail your payment in.

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## Contact Us

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**Newsletter Website**  
[www.canr.msu.edu/Cass/4-h/  
newsletters](http://www.canr.msu.edu/Cass/4-h/newsletters)



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Horse Leaders' Association

Our Cass County 4-H Horse Leaders' Association works to provide educational opportunities for youth in the horse project area. If you would like to be involved, please consider coming to the Horse Leaders' meeting! Their next meeting will be Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.



## 4-H Leaders' Association

Are you looking to help the county 4-H program? The 4-H Leaders' Association is the place for you! Come to our meetings on Thursday, January 23rd and February 27th at the Kincheloe Conference Room at 7:00 p.m. to see what we are all about!

Questions? Visit our webpage at <http://www.casscounty4hleaders.org/> for more information.

## January

- 1 Happy New Year, Office Closed
- 9 Senior Scholarship Applications due by 5:00 p.m., MSU Extension Office
- 11 Buddy Bench Assembly, T.K. Lawless Park, Vandalia, 9:00 a.m.
- 20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Office Closed
- 22 Teen Leader Meeting, Kincheloe Room, 6:30 p.m.
- 23 Leaders' Association Meeting, Kincheloe Room, 7:00 p.m.
- 31 Fair Book Cover and Theme Contest deadline, Cass County Fair

## February

- 1 State Award Applications due online, new this year!
- 2 TOP, First Baptist Church-Newberg, Jones, 8:00 a.m.
- 8 TOP, First Baptist Church-Newberg, Jones, 8:00 a.m.
- 12 Teen Leader Meeting, Kincheloe Room, 7:00 p.m.
- 15 TOP, First Baptist Church-Newberg, Jones, 8:00 a.m.
- 17 President's Day, Office Closed
- 19 Horse Leaders' Meeting, Kincheloe Room, 7:00 p.m.
- 27 Leaders' Association Meeting, Kincheloe Room, 7:00 p.m.

For the most up-to-date event listings, go to <http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events>

## 4-H Day at the Breslin 2020

4-H Youth Development at the MSU Women's Basketball game. The Spartans will host Penn State on Sunday, March 1, at the Breslin Center. Game time is still to be determined (either 12 p.m. or 2 p.m.). Gates open 1.5 hours before tip-off, come early to enjoy all the fun activities going on around the concourse. Tickets are free to 4-H youth and their families, 4-H volunteers and MSU Extension staff and their families.

**NEW THIS YEAR:** 4-H members and guests will obtain their own tickets online. Use the [ticket link \(https://fevo.me/34iKc1r\)](https://fevo.me/34iKc1r) to claim as many free tickets as desired. Once at the link, select the number of tickets required and click "add to cart." The tickets will be added to your cart, free of charge. Once done, click "CHECKOUT." Fill in your first and last name, email and phone number. In the space that says "Let's make it memorable. Name your event:" please type in your county followed by 4-H (ex. Ingham County 4-H). Once you name your event, you will need to fill in your address. After filling out all the information on the screen, click "CONFIRM." You will receive an email with your tickets. You can either scan tickets off your phone at the game or print them from your email and bring them to the game so they can be scanned at entry.

## Cass County 4-H Leaders' Association Scholarship

The Cass County 4-H Leaders' Association will award college scholarships to two outstanding 4-H seniors from Cass County. **Application deadline is 5:00 p.m. on January 9, 2020.**

Interviews will take place on January 14, 2020. Applicants will be contacted directly to sign-up for a time. Remember to dress in 'business/interview' type apparel for your interview.

### 2020 State Award Applications now available

Michigan 4-H members ages 11 and older have an opportunity to be recognized for the great work they do in 4-H by completing a state award application. A Michigan 4-H State Award is the highest honor bestowed on a Michigan 4-H member and provides an opportunity to receive recognition for their engagement in rich learning experiences that result in outstanding knowledge and life-skill development.

State award applications are divided into four categories: Mark of Excellence essay contest (11-12 years old), junior state award (13-15 years old), senior state award (16-19 years old) and group awards (13-19 years old). The application process and selection is determined by the age of the 4-H member. Final candidates for the junior, senior and group level awards in each project area will be selected to participate in the State Awards program during 4-H Exploration Days in June, where final selection and announcement of winners will take place.

The application is due Feb. 1, 2020. For more information, contact Hailey Harman in the MSU Extension Office. [http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4\\_h\\_state\\_awards](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_state_awards)

### MSU Extension to launch new portal for volunteers in 2020

In early 2020, MSU Extension will launch Volunteer Central, a statewide volunteer management database and screening system. Volunteers are the core of many MSU Extension programs and the most essential partners MSU Extension has. In the new system, volunteers will enjoy improved features including easy-to-read dashboards and a one-stop application process, among other advantages.

A unique feature of Volunteer Central is that each volunteer will have their own unique online account and profile. Unlike 4-H Online, family profiles will not be permitted. This is necessary to protect the confidentiality of each volunteer and the integrity of data in the system. In preparation for the launch of Volunteer Central, those who currently share an email address with another 4-H volunteer should make plans to create a separate email address for each shared user. Once you have created a new email address, please either:

1. Log in to 4-H Online and add the newly created email address to the volunteer with whom it should be associated; or
2. Contact your local 4-H program coordinator and share the newly created email address and the volunteer with whom the account should be associated.

The email addresses in 4-H Online and shared with 4-H program coordinators will be used to create access accounts for current volunteers in Volunteer Central. In the coming weeks, look for additional information about Volunteer Central and when current volunteers will have access to the system. In the meantime, please contact your local 4-H program coordinator with any questions or concerns.



### 2020 Michigan 4-H State Award Changes

Are you making plans to apply for a 2020 Michigan 4-H State Award? Take note of the exciting changes to this year's program!

- The awards program will be held on Wednesday evening of 4-H Exploration Days.
- Senior interviews will be held via Zoom during the week of June 9.
- This will open up the opportunity for all State Award delegates to attend both first and second half sessions at 4-H Exploration Days.
- Applications will be submitted with the MSU Extension events management system.

Learn more and apply at: [extension.msu.edu/4HStateAwards](http://extension.msu.edu/4HStateAwards).





## More 4-H News

### 2019 County Medal Winners

Congratulations to our 2019 County Medal Winners! If you were unable to attend, your certificates and medals can be picked up in the MSU Extension office.

Bailey Asmus	Legacy	Food & Nutrition
Abigail Asmus	Legacy	Food & Nutrition
Abigail Asmus	Legacy	Swine
Riley Bush	Legacy	Livestock Master
Nick Dussel	4-W	Citizenship
Paige Knepple	Legacy	Personalization
Noah Krager	Legacy	Engines, Tractors & Field Equipment
Noah Krager	Legacy	Poultry
Grace Krager	Legacy	Photography
Grace Krager	Legacy	Visual Arts
Jonathan Leach	Legacy	Achievement
Jonathan Leach	Legacy	Community Service
Blake Majewski	5-H	Dogs
Alainna Preston	M-40 Hustlers	Agriculture
Alainna Preston	M-40 Hustlers	Dairy
Piper Ruff	M-40 Hustlers	Swine
Jessica Schoff	North Red Hill	Photography Master
Megan Schuur	Creative Kids	Arts & Crafts
Megan Schuur	Creative Kids	Fine Arts
Mackenzie Schuur	Creative Kids	Photography
Adam Starr	Legacy	Goats
Adam Starr	Legacy	Sheep
Brianna Stockwell	North Red Hill	Livestock Master
Ethan Stout	M-40 Hustlers	Gardening & Horticulture
Ethan Stout	M-40 Hustlers	Sheep
Paul Thomas	M-40 Hustlers	Poultry
Addison Ward	Legacy	Citizenship
Addison Ward	Legacy	Community Service
Aidan Ward	Legacy	Cooking Master

### 2019 Outstanding Leader Award

Congratulations to Rachele Ward and Rebekah Green from Legacy 4-H Club for being selected as the Cass County 2019 Outstanding Leaders. Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to our program!

### 2019 4-H Awards Banquet

Thank you to the Cass County Leaders' Association for sponsoring the 71st 4-H Awards Banquet. Thank you to all of you who helped make this event possible. We would also like to extend a very special thank you to our MC's of the program: Katherine Gregory, Jamie Howard, Noah Krager and Brianna Stockwell!

*Congratulations*

### Chili Cook-Off Fundraiser for Horse Leaders

I don't know about you but we've been a little.... chili (shameless bad pun!). Do you think you have an amazing chili? For only \$10 you can enter your chili into the Cass County 4-H Horse Leaders' Chili Cook-Off for people to vote and PROVE you have the best! All you need is to prepare the chili and we will provide the test cups and spoons! Contact our office today to sign-up and for rules. There will prizes for the top three chilies submitted! Maybe you don't want to submit chili but you love to eat chili! For \$5 you can come enjoy all of the chilies and vote (\$3 for youth under the age of 12)! All profits from this fundraiser will be used to provide educational opportunities for youth in the equine project area. It will be a fun family event with great chilies and games! The Chili Cook Off will take place at the Cass County Conservation Club located at 13710 US-12, Union, on March 14th from 11-3 pm. We hope to see you there!

### New Leader Requirement for Fair Pass

**New this year...** All Cass County 4-H Leaders must participate in one of the following activities before June 17 in order to receive their \$5 fair leader pass:

- Attend 1 Leaders' Association or Horse Leaders' Meeting
- Volunteer at 1 county event (Leaders' Association Auction. Horse Leaders' Horse Show, County Programs hosted throughout the year, Trunk-or-Treat, etc.)
- Host a county or club educational activity/event
- Attend 1 or 3 provided professional development opportunities (dates to be announce in the next Clover)

Sign-in sheets will be present at all county events. Do not forget to sign in to get your credit! Club events will be at the discretion of the Key Leader and they will track the participation.

### Cass County Parks Presents Winter Nights

Cass County Parks and Recreation will be holding their annual Winter Nights. All we need is some snow! This event is only \$2 per person and will run on January 18 and 25 and February 1 and 8 from 5pm-9pm at T.K. Lawless Park. Events include: tubing, crafts, star gazing, a 3 mile long lit cross country trail, and special activities! Of course this event is dependent upon us having snow! 4-H will be holding a fun, educational winter activity at the event, as well! Join us for all the fun!



## Cass County Fair News for 2020



**2020 Cass  
County Fair**  
**August 2-  
August 8, 2020**

### Contact

**Information:  
Cass County  
Fair**

590 N O'Keefe St  
Cassopolis, MI 49031  
269-445-8265  
269-262-2005  
[casscountyfair@gmail.com](mailto:casscountyfair@gmail.com)

### Blue Ribbon Entry/Pen Reservations

All fair registrations will be done online using the Blue Ribbon website. No paper forms will be permitted. There will be workshops provided during the registration period for those that need assistance. Dates and locations will be determined and announced at a later date. All fair entry registrations will be due on June 17, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. **NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED!** As a reminder, please remember that fair registration is not the same as 4-H enrollment. When signing up as a 4-H member you use the 4-H online system and when registering for the fair you use the Blue Ribbon system.

**New this year...** There will NOT be mandatory pen reservations. Some species may continue to use a form but failure to turn them in will not result in ineligibility to exhibit at the fair. The species that decide to have a paper form will be noted in the upcoming clovers. These forms will be available in our office once online registration launches.

### 2020 Fair Book Cover and Theme Contest

Calling on 4-H youth! The fair book cover and theme contest is back again this year! Do you want your name and artwork on the cover on the 2020 fair book, be able to choose the theme, AND win a FREE 6 Day Ride Mega Pass?! Submit your hand-drawn artwork and theme on 8 1/2 x 11 paper by email or mail by January 31st to [casscountyfair@gmail.com](mailto:casscountyfair@gmail.com) or PO Box 56, Cassopolis, MI 49031.

\*Cass County Fair reserves the right to modify or make changes to the winning artwork that is selected.

### Possession Dates for the 2020 Cass County Fair

Dogs– April 1, 2020  
Dairy Feeder Steers– April 18, 2020  
Dairy, Goats, Horses, Sheep, Swine– May 1, 2020  
Beef Feeders and Beef Breeding Stock– May 2, 2020  
Breed Rabbits– June 1, 2020  
Cats– June 15, 2020  
Market Rabbits– July 1, 2020  
Poultry– July 5, 2020

### Mandatory Validations for the 2020 Cass County Fair

Beef Feeder Calves– Saturday, May 2, 2020, 11 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
Dairy Feeder Steers– Saturday, April 18, 2020, 10 a.m.– 2 p.m.  
Sheep– May 2, 2020, 9 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and May 3, 2020, 1 p.m.-3:00 p.m.  
Market Goats– Sunday, May 3, 2020, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.  
Dogs– Sunday, June 14, 2020, Time TBD  
Swine– TBD  
Market Rabbits– Sunday, July 5, 2020, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

*These dates follow the trend of previous years. Please check frequently as new, solidified dates become available.*



WHEN  
SAFETY IS THE  
MAIN PRIORITY



**MEC**  
MIDWEST ENERGY & COMMUNICATIONS

# 4-H Tractor Operator Program

*February 1st, 8th, and 15th*

Michigan State University offers the Tractor Operator Program (TOP) through the 4-H Youth Development Program. Youth 13-19 years old will receive a certificate upon successful completion of the program, and 14-15-year-old youth may be eligible to receive an official certificate of training from the U.S. Department of Labor (required for operations of a 20 HP or greater, garden or agricultural tractor, by 14 and 15-year-old youth employed on property not owned, leased or operated by a parent or legal guardian).

**First Baptist Church-Newberg**

13021 Born St.  
Jones, MI 49061

**Sat., February 1, 8, & 15 2020**

**8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.**

Attendance at all session is required  
Lunch provided

**Cost:**

\$25 4-H youth

\$45 non 4-H youth

\$15 refund upon successful completion

Register in the Cass County or St. Joseph County Michigan State University Extension Office by January 23rd. Cash or checks are accepted. Pre-registration is required. Space is limited to 15 youth, so sign up today!

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# Cass County 4-H Leaders' Association

FEATURING:



Chicken Half

Pit-tatoes

Desserts

Silent Auction

Live Auction

Tickets: \$12 each



## ANNUAL DINNER & AUCTION

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2020  
CASS CENTRAL FIRE DEPARTMENT  
23201 M-60, CASSOPOLIS, MI 49031  
DOOR OPEN AT 4:00 PM  
SILENT AUCTION 4:30 PM— 5:30 PM  
LIVE AUCTION 6:00 PM

Dinner tickets available at event or:  
Cass County MSU Extension Office  
8am-11am or 1pm-5pm T-Th  
Hailey Harman 269-445-4435 Ext. 3



PROCEEDS SUPPORT CASS COUNTY 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS





**Cass County 4-H  
Horse Leaders'  
Association**



**1st**

**CHILI**

**COOK**

**OFF**

**Saturday**

**March 14, 2020  
11 - 3 p.m.**

**VENUE**

**Cass County Conservation Club  
13710 US-12, Union, MI 49130**

**INCLUDES:**

**Chili samples from all contestant  
1 Cup of Chili**

**\$5**

**DONATION**

**Cooks  
Needed!**

If you feel you have an amazing chili contact the MSU Extension office today for rules and sign-up! Entry fee is only \$10 and it includes the participant cups and spoons!

**Participating Restaurants:**

**Sign-up today and have your business or family name here!**

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# T.K. Lawless Park

Monkey Run Street—Vandalia, MI

**5:00—9:00 p.m.**

**\$2.00 per person**



Private tubing parties available throughout the winter... call us for details and scheduling!

Join us for:

Warm fire

Lighted tubing hill

Lighted cross country trail (3 miles)

Biking Trails will be OPEN!!

Tractor-pulled bobsled rides

Crafts

Star gazing demonstration

Special Activities

And LOTS of fun!!

## WINTER NIGHTS 2020

**January 18 & 25**

**February 1 & 8**

Winter is a GREAT time to enjoy your county parks!!



The Friends of the Cass County Parks will have concessions available for purchase, including some great tasting hot chocolate!

*Winter Nights activities are held weather permitting.... Please call 269-445-4456 and listen to the voice message or check on Facebook to see if the event is happening*

