



Grand Traverse County

# 4-H Family News

May 2022

## Happy Spring and Summer to all Grand Traverse County 4-H Members!

Dear Grand Traverse County 4-H Families,

As we enter the spring and summer seasons, I would like to celebrate some of the amazing 4-H youth we have in our county and their accomplishments! Included in this newsletter is the first installment of "4-H Member Spotlight." Within each county newsletter, there will be a space reserved to highlight the work of a 4-H youth in Grand Traverse County. It could be a youth member you know personally, or someone you just met during a fundraiser, community service project, or education session. It could be someone in your own club or a neighboring club you work alongside while preparing for a show or the fair. The goal of the spotlight is to congratulate and showcase the hard work of a local 4-H youth and how they contribute to their local community. This month we have two youth to showcase, both on page 3!

If you would like to nominate the name of a 4-H youth to have them be included in next issue's "Member Spotlight", please reach out to me by the end of September! Family Newsletters will be published in October, February, and May.

Good luck to everyone working on their projects for display this summer and I look forward to seeing all your hard work in August!

Sincerely,

Emily Kotz, Grand Traverse County 4-H Program Coordinator

## Contact Us

**Emily Kotz**  
4-H Program Coordinator  
520 W. Front St.  
Traverse City, MI, 49864

**Phone**  
231-922-4825

**Email**  
kotzemil@msu.edu

**Check our social media for program and volunteer opportunities!**

**Web Site:**  
[Grand Traverse County 4-H - Grand Traverse County \(msu.edu\)](https://www.grandtraversecounty4h.org/)

**Facebook:**  
[Grand Traverse County 4-H | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/grandtraversecounty4h/)

**Instagram: @gt\_county4h**  
[Grand Traverse County 4-H \(@gt\\_county4h\) • Instagram photos and videos](https://www.instagram.com/grandtraversecounty4h/)

## Tips for purchasing and bringing home livestock

Adapted from: [www.canr.msu.edu/resources/tips-for-purchasing-and-bringing-home-livestock](http://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/tips-for-purchasing-and-bringing-home-livestock)

Acquiring new stock is exciting whether you are building your herd or flock, or purchasing your annual 4-H project. These tips will help you manage their health and safety by making sure you know the questions to ask before purchasing and the preparations required to bring livestock home.

### Assessing Animal Health and Treatment Documentation:

When purchasing animals, you should know their history. Ask the following questions:

- When was the animal born?
- What specific vaccinations has the animal been given and when were they given?
- If necessary, was the animal properly castrated and what method was used?
- Have any other treatments been administered to the animal? If so, what is the slaughter withdrawal for the drugs given?
- Have any of the animals on the farm been ill or shown symptoms of illness?
- If acquiring a market animal, what is the approximate weight?

**Considerations as You Bring Animals Home:** Transporting, Unloading, Settling in, and Comingling time are all important considerations to make prior to bringing new livestock home. Visit the link above for tips and more information on each step of the process.

Michigan State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status. Issued in furtherance of MSU Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Quentin Tyler, Director, MSU Extension, East Lansing, MI 48824. This information is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply endorsement by MSU Extension or bias against those not mentioned. The 4-H Name and Emblem have special protections from Congress, protected by code 18 USC 707.



## Support 4-H with the spring Tractor Supply Co. Paper Clover Campaign



Tractor Supply Company customers across the nation will have the opportunity to support 4-H youth by purchasing a \$1 paper clover at checkout this April 27 -May 8. This applies to purchases made in stores and while shopping online at [www.TractorSupply.com](http://www.TractorSupply.com).

Funds raised will support county, state and national 4-H programming. To learn more regarding the campaign, visit <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/cms/4h>.

## 4-H Events and Workshops

**May 1—28: Michigan 4-H Alumni and Supporters Walking Challenge**

*Across the state*

Michigan 4-H alumni and supporters are invited to join a virtual walking challenge! Track and report miles walked for a chance to win prizes for you and your county 4-H program.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-alumni-and-supporters-walking-challenge](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-alumni-and-supporters-walking-challenge)

**May 5: 4-H State Awards Preparation Training — Mock Interview and Tips**

*Online*

Learn 10 tips for a successful interview, practice answering questions in small groups and get both positive and constructive feedback to prepare you for the 2022 4-H State Award process.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-state-awards-preparation-training-mock-interview-and-tips-may-5](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-state-awards-preparation-training-mock-interview-and-tips-may-5)

**May 7: Outdoor Survival Skills 4-H SPIN Club**

*Price Nature Center and Saginaw Field and Stream Club, Saginaw*

Learn basic survival skills to help keep you safe in the outdoors during this three day SPIN club that will take place on May 7, May 12 and May 14.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/outdoor-survival-skills-4-h-spin-club](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/outdoor-survival-skills-4-h-spin-club)

**May 8: 4-H Grow Your Financial Garden Goosechase**

*Online*

Grow your financial garden of knowledge as you gain money tips during this GooseChase app-based scavenger hunt! Win potential prizes and have fun!

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-financial-garden-goosechase](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-financial-garden-goosechase)

**May 9: Line Dancing Lessons with Lia**

*Montcalm County Fairgrounds Ash Building, Greenville*

Join an evening of fun on your feet! Lia of Lia's Line Dance will teach you the basic steps of line dancing. This event is free and open to all.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/line-dance-lessons-with-lia](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/line-dance-lessons-with-lia)

**May 10: Wild Spartan Series**

*Online*

Are you a Wild Spartan? Join this free monthly fisheries and wildlife research webinar series for families interested in exploring science, careers and conservation.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-series-may2022](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-series-may2022)

**May 10: 4-H State Awards Preparation Training — Mock Interview and Tips**

*Online*

Learn 10 tips for a successful interview, practice answering questions in small groups and get both positive and constructive feedback to prepare you for the 2022 4-H State Award process.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-state-awards-preparation-training-may-10](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-state-awards-preparation-training-may-10)

**May 14: Eaton County 4-H Pre-Fair Dog Fun Match**

*Eaton County Fairgrounds, Charlotte*

4-H dog project members and leaders are invited for a day of showing and fun hosted by Eaton County. Both youth and adults may participate in agility, obedience and showmanship classes.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/eaton-county-4-h-pre-fair-dog-fun-match](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/eaton-county-4-h-pre-fair-dog-fun-match)

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



## 4-H Member Spotlight: Lillian Wasson, 2022 Skill-a-thon Champion

1. What made you want to sign up for the Skill-a-thon this year? How did you prepare?

I signed up for the Skill-a-thon because I had fun last year and wanted to see if I could beat last year's score. I prepared by making notecards from study guides and taking online quizzes.

2. What section of the Skill-a-thon competition did you like the most? Do you like studying a specific animal the most?

I liked the horse section the most, it even included some draft horse questions. I like studying cattle the most.



3. Did the Skill-a-thon competition help you with your current 4-H project?

Yes, because the showmanship judge could ask me knowledge questions.

4. Did you celebrate your second Skill-a-thon win in any special way?

My Mom did order me a belt buckle with my name, year, and livestock Skill-a-thon champion on it.

5. Do you plan to participate next year and what are you looking forward to this year for 4-H?

Yes, I plan on entering next year and it will be my first year as a Junior. This year I am looking forward to showing my Boer goats at shows and at the fair.

6. What is another hobby you have outside of participating in 4-H?

I show draft horses around the US, like to read, and do Benzie Cheerleading and Track

## 4-H Member Spotlight: Darlene Wilcoxon, Livestock Council Teen Rep 2022

Name: Darlene Wilcoxon

Age: 15

Current 4-H Club: Excaliburs Mazkaraders

How many years have you been in 4-H?: 10 years

What 4-H project are you currently working on?: Horse

What has been your favorite 4-H project?: Horses

1. Why did you decide to apply for the teen rep position this year?

I wanted to help more with 4-H activities.

2. What do you think senior age 4-H participants can bring to the larger 4-H community?

Older 4-Hers can help the younger ones to learn more about their animals.

3. How has your participation in 4-H helped you grow as a person in different ways throughout your involvement?

I've grown more in my confidence and communication skills.

4. What type of activities or projects are you excited to work on as a teen rep this year?

I'm excited to work with the horse program and learn more about other species.

5. What is one thing you would tell someone about 4-H who didn't know anything about it?

It can help you learn more about different species and a good way to make friends with people who might have different interests.



## 4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp returns!



Save the date: 4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp is returning in person this summer! Hosted at Camp Chickagami in Presque Isle, this fun summer event will take place July 31—August 6.

Teens ages 13—15 will have fun and amazing outdoor hands-on learning experiences that educate them about natural resources, environmental stewardship and more. Youth will also enjoy charter fishing, snorkeling, sailing, hiking through forests, wading through wetlands, exploring dunes and more!

Registration will open in early May and space is limited. Learn more at [www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_great\\_lakes\\_natural\\_resources\\_camp/](http://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_great_lakes_natural_resources_camp/).