



Monroe County 4-H Network

4-H Family News

January 2021

Happy New Year! Looking ahead at 2021!

Wow! What a year 2020 was! I am sure each of you, like me, are looking ahead to what good things 2021 can bring! I hope you all had a fun, yet restful holiday season!

As we move forward over the course of the next couple of months, I want to remind everyone that we are expected to continue with 4-H programs, meetings, events, and activities in a virtual format. In a message from MSU Extension Director Jeff Dwyer on 1/6/21, there are plans to resume face-to-face programming with a great team working hard to get those efforts rolling forward with first interactions likely being outside. However, there is no set date that I can provide at this time for when those first interactions will take place. While I understand this continues to be less than ideal for our hands-on program, I appreciate the understanding, patience, and grace you've shown during these difficult times. I have said it before, and will continue to thank you all for your perseverance and resiliency! THANK YOU!

Some points of interest that you will find more details on throughout the newsletter include: Beef Tagging, Workshop announcements, and more!

Sincerely,

Sara Lewis

ANNOUNCEMENT: 4-H Program Coordinator Vacancy

As of Friday, January 8, 2021 there is a vacancy for one of the Monroe County 4-H Program Coordinator positions! Sarah Misiak announced she would be resigning from the position due to the uncertainty of the upcoming year. She has accepted another position with another organization. We wish her much success in that endeavor.

It is unknown at this point when to expect a new job posting for the opening. In the meantime, please direct all 4-H inquiries to either Sara Lewis (seitzsal@msu.edu) or Bailey Biniecki (binieck4@msu.edu or 734-240-3182). We appreciate your patience and understanding during the time of vacancy.

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Contact Us

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VACANT

4-H Program Coordinator

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msue.monroe@county.msu.edu

Web Site

https://www.canr.msu.edu/monroe/monroe_county_4_h/index

Office Hours

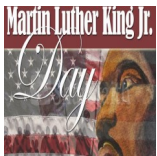
(currently working remotely)
Monday-Friday
8:30am-4:30pm

Social Media

Find us on Facebook:
@MonroeCountyMI4H



January 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 2 Office Closed- Happy Holi- days!!	2
3	4 7pm 4-H Coun- cil @ Zoom	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 4-6pm Hippol- ogy Meeting @ Zoom	18 	19 7pm State Awards- Application Overview @	20 7pm Junior Livestock As- sociation @ Zoom	21 7pm Fair Advi- sory Board @ Zoom	22	23
24	25 4pm State Awards Appli- cation Over- view @ Zoom 7pm Small Ani- mal Associa- tion @ Zoom	26 7pm Dog Pro- gram @ Zoom	27 4pm State Awards-Life Skills Overview @ Zoom 7pm Teen Am- bassadors @ Zoom	28	29	30
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February 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7pm 4-H Council @ Zoom Monroe County 4-H Scholarship Applications are available!	2	3	4 7pm State Awards-Life Skills Workshop @ Zoom	5	6 9am-12pm Beef Tagging @ Fairgrounds
7	8	9 4pm State Awards Resume Workshop @ Zoom	10	11	12	13
14 <i>Happy Valentine's Day</i>	15  Presidents Day	16 4pm State Awards Cover Letter Workshop @ Zoom	17	18	19	20
21	22 7pm State Awards Resume Workshop @ Zoom	23	24 7pm State Awards Cover Letters Workshop @ Zoom 7pm Teen Ambassadors @	25	26	27
28						

ICYMI (In Case You Missed It)

Email communication from MSU Extension Director Jeff Dwyer and State 4-H Leader Jake DeDecker on Wednesday, January 6, 2021:

To say that 2020 was difficult is an understatement. The COVID-19 pandemic and the losses and life changes that came along with it took its toll on many of us. At MSU Extension and Michigan 4-H, we felt the pain that comes with cancelling events and pivoting exclusively to online programming.

You'd be hard pressed to find anyone—inside or outside Extension—who isn't eager to get back to face-to-face programming. We understand that our Michigan 4-H families are missing incredible experiences and connections that were built through in-person gatherings and programs. Waving to your friends, colleagues, volunteers and 4-H'ers in a Zoom meeting isn't the same as seeing them in person. It is, however, an important step toward protecting our friends, families and colleagues during a public health crisis.

We are making plans to resume face-to-face programming, and we look forward to engaging 4-H'ers, their families and volunteers. Our staff is working diligently to chart a path toward resuming in-person programming when the threat to public health caused by COVID-19 greatly diminishes. Though it is premature to cite a specific date, we are eager to see you all at the events, club meetings, competitions and fairs we all have grown to love. Our first interactions will likely be outside, and, of course, will respect other public health protocols.

In the meantime, we are committed to bringing high-quality virtual programming to residents and communities with varying needs throughout the state. It's a great opportunity to keep 4-H'ers connected and get other young people interested in the organization we all know and love so much. We encourage 4-H'ers and clubs to continue meeting via zoom and engage in the many virtual educational programs offered by 4-H. For more information on virtual programs and resources or help setting up 4-H club meetings, contact your 4-H program coordinator or visit [MSU Extension Remote Learning and Resources web page](#).

Thank you for all that you do. We hope to see you soon.

Sincerely,

Jeff Dwyer
Director, MSU Extension

Jake DeDecker
State Leader, Michigan 4-H Youth Development
Associate Director, Children and Youth Institute
Michigan State University Extension

Beef Tagging

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Saturday, February 6, 2021

9am-12pm

Monroe County Fairgrounds-Beef Barn

For more information, please contact Beef Superintendents:

Mike Jaworski: 734-770-3881

Tobie Fitch: 734-735-3210

Sheep & Swine Tagging

Saturday, May 1, 2021

9am-12pm

Monroe County Fairgrounds-Show Arena

More details to come, specifically for Swine, as there are changes in the tagging requirements with MDARD.

YQCA

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals

Required for youth (8-19 y/o) showing the following animals:

Swine	Beef Cattle
Dairy Cattle	Goats (Meat and Dairy)
Sheep	Market Rabbits
Market Poultry	

Participation Options:

Online: \$12/youth, visit yqca.org (please use 4honline login credentials)

In person: To Be Determined-please don't rely on this option!





HOLIDAY LIGHTS TOUR

Elegance of Design
THE ZORN FAMILY

Clark Griswold Award
THE SULIER FAMILY

People's Choice
THE BEAUDRIE FAMILY

Creative Inflatables
THE ZITEK FAMILY

Ever "Green"
THE SCHMIDT FAMILY



Virtual Youth Recognition

On December 17th, members, parents and leaders gathered together for a virtual recognition celebration to announce the results of the county awards process. Thank you to all who joined to celebrate the accomplishments of our youth and clubs in the 2019-2020 4-H program year!

Congratulations to all of our members and clubs who took the time to complete the county awards application process. It was so great to see your perseverance and resiliency demonstrated throughout the difficult year and the growth and success in your project areas! Thank you to the leaders and parents who nominated the outstanding youth for the prestigious I Dare You award.

County Awards

Alana Aulph-Visual Arts & Leadership

Corinna Aulph-Fine Arts & Demonstrations

Camden Schmidt-Money Management & Bicycle

Katlyn Shroyer-Food & Nutrition & Community Service

Joshua Marimpietri-Visual Arts & Fine Arts

Brandon Fisher-Pets & Robotics

Older Teen Awards

Jaren Schmidt-Achievement & Rabbits

Jewell Mason-Childcare & Development & Healthy Living

Amy Grummel-Dogs & Achievement

Alexis Fisher-Public Speaking & Cavy

Hannah Vincent-Mentorship & Citizenship & Civic Engagement

Outstanding 4-H Club Award

Treasure Hunters

Whispering Spirits

Rockin' Ranchers

Teen Ambassadors

I Dare You Award (** denotes winner)

Gauge Buckingham

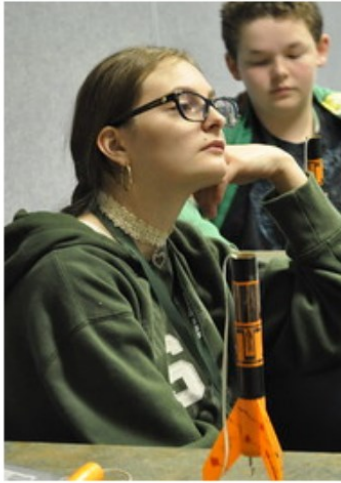
Hannah Vincent**

Keegan Aerts

Jaren Schmidt**

Ezra McLaughlin

Levi Couch



WE NEED YOUR VOICE!

Join The Scheme Team,
our 4-H Exploration Days Planning Committee.
Youth aged 12 - 19.



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

Would you like to be a voice to help influence one of the premier 4-H overnight events, Exploration Days, held at Michigan State University? Never attended Exploration Days or not highly involved in 4-H? Great! We want your feedback too! We are looking for youth ages 13-19 to help create an amazing event and fill openings in our planning team. Youth will have a role in decision-making, supporting focus groups with other youth, and helping market and promote this event! To share your interest and get more information, complete the short form located at by January 24, 2021: <https://forms.gle/Ddoza52D3QFtSp5C6> Questions, contact Laurie Rivetto at rivettol@msu.edu.



January 19 @ 7pm	Application
January 25 @ 4pm	Application
January 27 @ 4pm	Life Skills
February 4 @ 7pm	Life Skills
February 9 @ 4pm	Resume Writing
February 16 @ 4pm	Cover Letters
February 22 @ 7pm	Resume Writing
February 24 @ 7pm	Cover Letters
March 9 @ 4pm	Open Office Hours
March 24 @ 7pm	Open Office Hours

Have you ever thought about applying for a 4-H State Award but you just do not know where to start or maybe you have submitted an application in the past but you need suggestions on your cover letter or resume? Consider joining a virtual training. Each training will start at the stated time, there will be a short video played around that topic and then staff will stay on to answer specific questions. Open office hours is a time that staff will be available to answer any questions that you have regarding your 4-H State Award application. Open office hours are designed to pop in, ask a question and get an answer, you do not need to stay the whole time. Registration is required, registration will stay open through each event. You must register for each session you plan to attend, click the date below to register. Questions? Please reach out to your county 4-H Program Coordinator or Janice Zerbe, rajzerj@msu.edu, 4-H State Awards Program co-chair. For more information about 4-H State Awards visit, <http://bit.ly/stateaward>.



Time to get Creative!! Do you love arts & crafts? Do you enjoy sewing & textiles? Do the performing arts provide you with enjoyment? Registration is still open for the 2021 Michigan 4-H Creative Arts Celebration Workshop virtually held February 19-21, 2021! If you want to participate register now as sessions are limited and the registration deadline is January 26th! Virtually connect with instructors and work together on your projects, have fun doing a Goose Chase, reconnect or make new friends virtually, be creative, increase your emotional health, and have an enjoyable experience! Here's the link to register: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/.../2021-virtual-creative-arts...>

4-H State Rabbit & Cavy Showmanship and Educational Showcase

- Educational Brochure
- PowerPoint or Slides
- Demonstration
- Showmanship
- Speech
- Photography

Contest Information and Registration:

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/showmanshipandeducationalshowcase/>

Entries due January 22, 2021

Test your rabbit and cavy knowledge and improve your communication skills in this state 4-H competitive event. Youth, ages 8-19, compete for awards in the following categories: Educational Brochure, Demonstration, Showmanship, Speech, Photography and Presentations. Information and registration <https://events.anr.msu.edu/showmanshipandeducationalshowcase/>.

Give the gift of Spartan Cheese!



Spartans are creative and adaptive, so when the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted normal operations this year, MSU Dairy Store cheese was transferred to MSU Extension. The MSU Product Center then turned this into an opportunity for the perfect holiday gift box. Start your new year with delicious Spartan cheese!

MSU Dairy Store cheese boxes are available for a limited time. From smoky cheddar to salty caerphilly, gift boxes are available for delivery or contactless pickup in Okemos or Novi. Visit the online store today at <https://msu-dairy-store.myshopify.com/>.

4-H Events and Workshops

January 5: Art & Activism SPIN Club

Zoom Webinar

Youth ages 9-13 are invited to join discussions and activities related to activism. Michigan AmeriCorps members will lead the meetings from 6-7 p.m. each Tuesday from Jan. 5 - Feb. 23.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/art-activism-spin-club>

January 6: Supportive Teens Empowering Peers SPIN Club

Zoom Webinar

The 4-H Supportive Teens Empowering Peers (STEP) SPIN Club provides an opportunity for teens ages 13- 19 to connect virtually with peers through fun games, social interaction and more! This club will meet from 4-5 p.m. each Wednesday from Jan. 6—Feb. 24.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-step-spin-club-jan-6-feb-24>

January 7: Cloverbud Social Emotional Wellness Kit

Statewide

Complete activities together with your child to help them explore their emotions. Supplies for activities are included in the kit and can be shipped directly to your home.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/cloverbud-social-emotional-wellness-kit>

January 12: Wild and Crazy Careers 4-H SPIN Club

Zoom Webinar

In this six-week series, youth will hear from people who have turned their hobbies and passions into their dream job. Hear from wildland firefighters, wildlife documentary creators, zookeepers, mountaineers and more!

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-and-crazy-careers-4-h-spin-club>

January 14: Adulting 101 - International Conversations

Zoom Webinar

The Adulting 101 series helps high school youth prepare for life on their own. This session will explore cultural values from around the world. Additional sessions will be held on the next two Thursdays and cover goal setting and food safety, respectively.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-winter-series-jan-14>

January 21: Success and Safety on Volunteer-led Virtual Programs

Zoom Webinar

In this workshop, participants will learn about best practices and strategies to use when programming virtually with youth and adults.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/success-and-safety-in-virtual-volunteer-led-programs-1>

January 26: Success and Safety on Volunteer-led Virtual Programs

Zoom Webinar

In this workshop, participants will learn about best practices and strategies to use when programming virtually with youth and adults.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/success-and-safety-in-virtual-volunteer-led-programs-2>

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



4-H Ninja Training SPIN Club

Ever wonder what it takes to be a ninja like you see on TV? Besides being physically active and in shape, what other things help them to be successful?

Michigan 4-H will be hosting a new and fun SPIN club opportunity for youth to learn what it takes to become a ninja. Throughout the six-week series, different topics will be explored to help youth learn how to be active and strive to be healthy.

This series will run each Wednesday from February 10—March 17. Topics covered will include:

- **Goal setting.** Uncover your physical fitness goals and how you can accomplish them.
- **Strength.** Ninjas have to have both physical and mental strength. Explore ways to improve your strength.
- **Physical activity.** Learn exercise practices that can help you move and gain flexibility.
- **Good nutrition.** Ninjas must eat right to perform at their best. Discover what does good nutrition look like.
- **Balance.** Balance is fundamental in ninja training. Learn ways to build balance into everyday routines.
- **Mindfulness (patience and focus).** Learn strategies that build patience and focus during your ninja training.

Youth that complete the SPIN club will have the opportunity to hear directly from a real-life ninja: 2020 American Ninja Warrior winner Daniel Gil. He will speak to Michigan 4-H youth and friends on Wednesday, March 24. To register for the club, visit www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-ninja-warrior-spin-club.

Resolve to have a great 4-H year

Christine Heverly, MSU Extension. Adapted from an article originally published by Sandy Risedorph.

As we begin 2021, here are ten suggestions to make the upcoming year a successful one. Resolve that:

1. Club meetings will start and end on time.
2. Business meetings will follow Roberts Rules of Order. All club paperwork such as minutes, club inventory and financial statements will be completed in a timely manner.
3. All members will take part in discussions and have a say in decisions that are made. Keep a chart with each member's name and when they speak at business meetings.
4. The club meeting will be safe, comfortable and welcoming.
5. Fun will be included in each meeting.
6. The club will pursue at least one community service project chosen, planned and celebrated by the club.
7. New members will have a buddy they may talk with about any 4-H questions.
8. The 4-H Pledge will be said at every meeting.
9. Every club member will be recognized in some way to let them know they are cared about.
10. The club will review club resolutions and Guiding Principles at least once year.

2021 Michigan 4-H State Award Changes



Are you planning to apply for a 2021 Michigan 4-H State Award or submit a Mark of Excellence essay? The timeline for these exciting programs has changed!

The deadline to submit applications or essays is now April 1, 2021.

Applications will again be submitted with the MSU Extension events management system.

Additional information regarding the awards program will be forthcoming. Learn more and apply at: extension.msu.edu/4HStateAwards.