

*Antrim County*

# 4-H Family News

November 2019

## Sandi Pyle Bestowed Friend of Extension Award



For the past 50 years as a Michigan 4-H Volunteer, Sandi Pyle has been a leader in three counties (including Antrim), served on numerous county committees and councils, guided hundreds of youth projects, and served in statewide capacities that include animal science programming, 4-H CAPS International Exchange Program, and Kettunen Center development. Sandi is the matriarch of a four-generation, active 4-H family based in Elk Rapids. She is also “Mamma Sandi” to hundreds of 4-H members and alumni. Her 4-H mentorship and guidance have devel-

oped youth into community, business, and organizational leaders across Michigan and beyond.

The Epilson Sigma Phi (ESP) Friend of Extension Award is presented annually at the MSU Extension Fall Conference. The award recognizes individuals who have been true friends to Extension and supported programs. ESP honors Sandi for her leadership, guidance, vision, and commitment to MSU Extension.

Congratulations Sandi and thank you from Antrim County 4-H!

## Have You Considered a SPIN Club?

A 4-H SPIN club is a special interest club where five or more young people get together to learn about a topic of interest. The topics covered can be anything of interest to the youth. The SPIN club model provides increased flexibility in when and how long groups meet. Leaders don't need any expertise.

To learn more about Spin Clubs go to <https://www.canr.msu.edu/spin-clubs/>

## Contact Us

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**Register now  
for the 2020  
State 4-H Rabbit  
& Cavy Show!**



The State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show will be held on January 25, 2020 at the MSU Pavilion in East Lansing. This one-day event is open to participants age 8 to 19. To enter, exhibitors must be Michigan 4-H members and own the rabbits or cavies they enter.

Youth may enter as many breeds as they wish at [bit.ly/31KaOpQ](https://bit.ly/31KaOpQ). Pre-entry for this event is optional.

Spectators are welcome!

## 4-H Events and Workshops

**November 8: Gladwin County 4-H Fish Fry Fundraiser**

*Knights of Columbus, Gladwin*

Gladwin County 4-H in partnership with the Gladwin Knights Of Columbus will be hosting its annual Fish Fry Fundraiser. Come enjoy fish and support 4-H!

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/gladwin-county-4-h-fish-fry-fundraiser>

**December 3: Give Green Day**

*Statewide*

Help Michigan 4-H reach their goal of raising \$5,000 in a 24-hour period on Giving Tuesday. Funds raised provide 4-H participant scholarship grants for youth who are unable to pay the 4-H youth participation fee.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4h-give-green-day>

**December 5: Family Holiday Open house**

*Plant & Soil Science Building, East Lansing*

This free event provides the opportunity to purchase decorations and immerse yourself in a world of poinsettias. Santa will also be a part of the event starting at 5:30 p.m.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/family-holiday-openhouse>

## Save the Date!

**January 31—February 1: 4-H Horse Judging Workshop & Mini Contest**

*MSU Pavilion, East Lansing*

**February 1: 4-H Horse Benefit Clinic**

*MSU Pavilion, East Lansing*

**February 21-22: 4-H Veterinary Science Leaders Workshop**

*Kettunen Center, Tustin*

**February 22-23: 4-H Beef, Sheep & Swine Leaders Workshop**

*Kettunen Center, Tustin*

**March 7: 4-H Dog Workshop**

*MSU Anthony Hall, East Lansing*

**March 13-15: 4-H Dairy Conference**

*Kettunen Center, Tustin*

View more 4-H events at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4h/events>.

## Michigan 4-H partners with MSU's Women's Leadership Institute to energize women leaders

Every day, in every way, women are leaders. To learn more about female leadership, 21 youth gathered together on September 24 to attend the Michigan State University (MSU) [Women's Leadership Institute](#) (WLI). An annual event now in its fourth consecutive year, the WLI is designed to empower women students with leadership aspirations.



A collaborative effort between MSU's College of Social Science, MSU alumni, professional women and students, the WLI seeks to ignite the passion of women leaders. Among the institute's executive board is Dr. Amy Bonomi, director of children and youth programming for MSU Extension. Bonomi worked to include high-school students for the first time in this year's event.

"One of the 2019 WLI themes was 'we're never not leaders' and we know youth are leaders in their own communities, every day," said Bonomi. "They're leaders in clubs, churches, schools, friend groups and even their families. So as we thought about this year's event, we knew it was the perfect time to invite high-schoolers to participate."

[Michigan 4-H](#) led the youth component of the event. Youth ages 14–19 were invited to attend a special pre-reception hosted by Bonomi and Dr. Erica Tobe, associate director of children and youth programming for MSU Extension. Several other members of MSU Extension's 4-H staff also supported the pre-reception, and MSU Athletics Chief of Staff Alan Haller and [MSU College of Agriculture and Natural Resources](#) (CANR) Dean Ron Hendrick delivered keynote addresses.

"Having the ability to listen to adults with higher experiences than what I have had so far in my life, and being able to identify and relate with the things they have gone through on their own leadership journeys was an opportunity like no other," said Savannah Mauk, an Eaton County 4-H'er.

After the keynote presentations, the youth interacted with the speakers, CANR and MSU Extension staff and each other to share their leadership stories. Following the reception, youth attended a WLI panel discussion at the Wharton Center, which featured world leaders Carolyn Woo, Tiffany L. Jones and Anne Whelan. Youth also participated in a pre-session in advance of the reception that discussed the themes of the evening and how to share their own leadership stories.

"The WLI was an awesome opportunity that challenged everyone, regardless of their stage in life, to be a better leader and develop their leadership skills," said Grace Schmidt, a 4-H'er from Livingston County. "I left the WLI feeling inspired to embrace authenticity in my own leadership," said another 4-H'er, Addy Battel of Huron County. "That experience is having lasting effects on my personal life."

Plans are already underway for another youth-focused event to be held in collaboration with the 2020 WLI.

### *Michigan 4-H to participate in Giving Tuesday*

On Dec. 3, Michigan 4-H is once again teaming up with Michigan State University in their Give Green Day campaign held in conjunction with Giving Tuesday. The ultimate goal is to engage Michigan 4-H alumni and friends in an online effort to make real-time, fast, easy and secure gifts in support of Michigan 4-H. All funds raised will support 4-H participation fee scholarship grants for youth who are unable to pay the 4-H youth participation fee.

From 12 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. EST, Michigan 4-H supporters are invited to participate in Give Green Day by giving their support financially or helping spread the word via social media channels and word of mouth.

During the 24-hour period, Michigan 4-H members, volunteers and supporters will have the chance to support Michigan 4-H through various challenges published on social media. Follow along using #GiveGreenDay on your social media channels to help Michigan 4-H earn bonus funds. Learn more about Giving Tuesday and Give Green Day at <https://givingday.msu.edu/>.