



BERRIEN COUNTY SPOTLIGHT

**4-H Family News**

VOLUME 20 ISSUE 5 — April//May 2018

**Berrien County MSU Extension Office**

**Upcoming closed date:**

**April 26, 2018**

**May 28, 2018**

*The Berrien County MSU Extension Office will open at its regular hours, the next business day. Please, make sure to plan ahead to accommodate the above closure.*

The **Mission** of our 4-H Youth Development Program is to provide personal growth opportunities for youth in Berrien County through educational programs and activities which utilize quality volunteers, trained staff, and community partners.

Our **Vision** is to make a positive difference in the lives of Berrien County youth.

**Contact Us**

Berrien County  
MSU Extension Office  
1737 Hillandale Road  
Benton Harbor, MI  
49022

**Office Hours:**

Monday thru Friday  
8:30 a.m.—Noon  
&  
1:00—5:00 p.m.

**Phone**

269-927-5674

**Fax**

269-944-4128

**Web Site**

[http://msue.anr.msu.edu/  
county/berrien/  
berrien\\_county\\_4\\_h](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/berrien/berrien_county_4_h)

**Facebook**

Berrien County 4-H  
Youth Development

**Your 4-H Youth  
Development Staff**

**Kelly Stelter**  
4-H Program Coordinator  
grandtke@anr.msu.edu



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### Deadlines

#### Reminder:

Annual Financial  
Report Forms  
PAST DUE

**December 1, 2017**

Re-enrollment  
PAST DUE

**January 1, 2018**

New Member/Final  
Enrollment  
Deadline

**June 1, 2018**

If you have missed  
a deadline, please  
submit forms AS  
SOON AS  
POSSIBLE.

All Leaders must  
go through the  
Volunteer  
Selection Process  
prior to being  
approved in 4-H  
Online.

For questions or  
issues, please  
contact the Berrien  
County MSUE  
Office.

Mark your calendars! Leaders Council  
has been busy planning!

## Annual Leaders Meeting

The 53rd Annual Meeting of the Berrien County 4-H Leaders Association, Inc. is scheduled for Monday, April 30, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Berrien County Youth Fair in the Youth Memorial Building. This meeting is for all project leaders, club coordinators, resource leaders, and teen leaders. This is the one meeting of the Leaders Council each year that is open to all adult and teen 4-H leaders. The Leaders Council encourages leaders and teen leaders to attend to see the Leaders Council in action and to be updated on the 4-H Youth Program. Door prizes and refreshments will be provided at the conclusion of the meeting. The Berrien County Youth Fair may have 2018 Exhibitor Handbooks and materials available for pick-up. For questions or agenda items, please contact a local Berrien County 4-H Leaders Council Board Representative.



## Alumni Scholarship & Joseph Cerny and Evelyn Cerny Memorial Scholarship

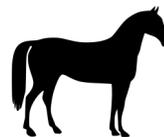
The Berrien County 4-H Leaders Association, Inc. announces two scholarship opportunities—the Alumni Scholarship and the Joseph Cerny & Evelyn Cerny Memorial Scholarship. The Berrien County 4-H Leaders Association, Inc. annually awards one or more scholarships, for a minimum of \$700.00 each. The Joseph Cerny & Evelyn Cerny Memorial Scholarship is also awarded annually for a minimum amount of \$700.00 and is offered independently of the Alumni Scholarship.

Although both scholarships are not awarded to one recipient in the same year, an eligible applicant may be awarded the Cerny Memorial scholarship one year and the Alumni Scholarship another year. If you are planning to continue your education, we encourage you to review the requirements and if eligible, apply for these scholarships.

Applications are available at the MSU Extension office, by emailing Kelly Stelter at [grandtke@anr.msu.edu](mailto:grandtke@anr.msu.edu) or online at [http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/berrien/berrien\\_county\\_4\\_h](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/berrien/berrien_county_4_h).



## Berrien County 4-H Horse Leaders Association 2018 Versatility Scholarship Event



**Date:** Sunday, August 12, 2018 at 2:00 PM at the Berrien County Youth Fair

**Eligibility:** Open to any Berrien County 4-H member who is 14—19 years of age and has completed the ninth grade. Maximum years of participating in the event is not to exceed five. Age/grade is determined as of January 1, 2018. Exhibitors must be enrolled in Berrien County 4-H Horse and Pony Project by June 1, 2018.

**Purpose:** The Purpose of the Berrien County 4-H Versatility Scholarship Event is to identify and recognize the most versatile 4-H teen-member and horse team in the Berrien County 4-H Horse and Pony Project. The scholarship recognizes the outstanding 4-H horse and rider versatility combination at the Berrien County 4-H Versatility Event.

### 2018 Gymkhana will be Cloverleaf Barrels Race

**Amount of Scholarship:** \$500.00 to Champion and \$250.00 to Reserve Champion.

Member and horse must be pre-registered or post marked for the Berrien County 4-H Versatility Event by Friday, July 6, 2018.

For eligibility, rules, requirements and application can be found at:

By calling the Berrien County MSU Extension Office at 269-927-5674

Online at [http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/berrien/berrien\\_county\\_4\\_h](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/berrien/berrien_county_4_h)

For questions related to the Versatility Scholarship Event, contact Chrissy Bradford, Berrien County 4-H Horse Leaders Association Versatility Scholarship Event Chair, at [canterloper@aol.com](mailto:canterloper@aol.com) or via phone at 269-362-2915.

## Annual Spring Fundraiser

The Berrien County 4-H Leaders Association, Inc has rolled out is annual Spring Fundraiser. Again, the annual Spring Fundraiser will be selling Southwestern Michigan Buttery products and gift sets. Members are able to sell fruit butters in a variety of flavors such as apple, peach, plum, rhubarb, blueberry, apple/cran, and apple/cherry. Fruit Butters are sold for \$8.00 a jar and gift boxes are \$30.00. Fruit butters are made to be diabetic friendly, gluten free, lactose free & kosher.

All orders and money are due to the MSUE Office in Benton Harbor no later than April 27, 2018. Fruit Butters will be available for pickup at Spring Achievement on Friday, May 18, 2018. Late orders will not be accepted.

Checks should be made out to the club's treasury account. Club Coordinators should consolidate member orders onto one order form for the club and submit it with one check made out to the Berrien County 4-H Leaders Association, Inc. Sale profits will be split 50/50 between the Berrien County 4-H Leaders Council and participating clubs. Packets were mailed to Club Coordinators at the beginning of April. If you have any questions, contact Amber Smith, Berrien County 4-H Leaders Council Fundraising Chair at [amberjadesmith13@gmail.com](mailto:amberjadesmith13@gmail.com) or by phone at 269.932.8172.

### Volunteer Opportunity Available:

The Berrien County Youth Fair Dog Department is looking for four volunteers to assist with the handling, the set up and the tear down of the BCYF Traditional Dog Agility Competition equipment on Wednesday, August 15th, 2018.

You will receive a BCYF day pass for volunteering and Community Service Volunteer Hour Letter for your services.

If interested, please call  
Linda Shannon-Chaillet at  
269-934-0462 or  
email at  
[shannollet@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shannollet@sbcglobal.net).



**County-wide  
Projects  
Coming Soon  
in May & June!**

Interested in  
leading a  
workshop/  
activity related  
to a  
4-H project?

Have an idea  
for upcoming  
county-wide  
project?

Contact:

Kelly Stelter,  
4-H Program  
Coordinator at  
269-927-5674  
ext. 4015 or via  
email at  
grandtke@anr.  
msu.edu



## Club Coordinator/Admin. Leader 4-H Online Training

The Berrien County 4-H will offer two trainings for Club Coordinators and Administrative Leaders on 4-H Online. Club Coordinators/Admin. Leaders will learn how to generate reports, approve members, ask questions and gain a better understanding of the 4-H Online enrollment system. Please note dates have changed due to the Annual Leaders meeting and National 4-H Week.

**NEW Dates:** Monday, June 4, 2018 and  
Thursday, November 8, 2018

**Time:** 6:00 PM—7:30 PM

**Where:** Berrien County MSU Extension Office in Benton Harbor, MI

**Cost:** FREE

**Who:** Open to 4-H Club Coordinators and Administrative Leaders

**Register at:**

By Email to Kelly Stelter, 4-H Program Coordinator at [grandtke@anr.msu.edu](mailto:grandtke@anr.msu.edu) or  
calling the Berrien County  
MSU Extension Office at 269-927-5674

Participants are asked to bring their laptops with as well as already have access to  
their 4-H Online Club section.

Deadline to register for a session is one week before the event.

For questions, please contact the Berrien County MSU Extension Office at 269-927-5674.

## SAVE THE DATE—2018 Annual Leader Update Training

The Berrien County 4-H Annual Leader Update Training dates have been set. Don't waste time and mark those calendars. Club Coordinators, project, and resource leaders are strongly encouraged to attend. It is important that each 4-H club/group is represented. Volunteers that are working on becoming new club leaders are also welcome. This is a valuable opportunity. Leaders only need to attend one time.

September 17  
6:00—8:00 PM

September 20  
9:00—11:00 AM

September 20  
6:00—8:00 PM



All sessions will be at the Berrien County MSU Extension Office.



## State 4-H Award Delegates selected

The Berrien County 4-H Youth Development Program congratulates the following individuals on being selected as 2018 State 4-H Award Delegates. Youth selected as state 4-H award delegates will proceed into the final rounds of the state 4-H award process. Juniors will take part in a leadership program at 4-H Exploration Days, while Seniors will take part in a formal interview as well as a leadership program at 4-H Exploration Days.

*Companion Animal Science—Senior Division*  
*Darlene Mattson*

*Rabbit Science—Senior Division*  
*Karen Smith*

*Goat Science—Junior Division*  
*Grace Bachman*

The Berrien County 4-H would like to congratulate these individuals on this great honor and wish you all the luck in the final round! A recognition reception will be held at 4-H Exploration Days for delegates and their families.

## Results from the county Rabbit & Cavy Expo

The Berrien County 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Expo was held on Saturday, February 3, 2018 at the Berrien County MSU Extension Office. Participants were able to compete in classes that included quiz bowl, skill-a-thon, breed identification and written quiz. Cloverbuds were able to join in on a non-competitive setting in the written quiz division. Thank you goes out to the Baroda Bunnies 4-H Club Leaders and Teen Leaders who facilitated and hosted the event as well as the practice workshops.

Results from the 2018 event are:

### Written Quiz

Senior Division 1st Place: Ayvah Molica  
 Senior Division 2nd Place: Kyle Smith  
 Junior Division 1st Place: Melody Hackett

### Breed Identification:

Senior Division 1st Place: Kyle Smith  
 Senior Division 2nd Place: Ayvah Molica  
 Junior Division 1st Place: Melody Hackett

### Skill-A-Thon:

Senior Division 1st Place: Ayvah Molica  
 Senior Division 2nd Place: Kyle Smith  
 Junior Division 1st Place: Melody Hackett

### Quiz Bowl:

Senior Division 1st Place: Ayvah Molica  
 Senior Division 2nd Place: Kyle Smith  
 Junior Division 1st Place: Melody Hackett

Cloverbuds that participated received a participation ribbon for completion of their written quiz. Cloverbuds that participated included Lincoln Sobralski and Maizie Murphy.

The Berrien County 4-H Youth Program is conducting an online evaluation of the event in order to assist in improving the event for years to come. Please note, **this evaluation is ONLY for the local county event and is not for the state 4-H event.** The evaluation can be done online at: [https://msu.col.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_brNiuxCjXFAMdzn](https://msu.col.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_brNiuxCjXFAMdzn). The link will remain active till April 20, 2018 at midnight. For questions or accommodations, contact the Berrien County MSU Extension Office at 269-927-5674.

## Senior Membership Plaque Nomination Forms Deadline extended:

The purpose of the Senior Membership Plaque is to recognize loyalty and devotion of members have for 4-H. Eligibility for the award includes:

- ⇒ Five or more years as a member
- ⇒ Have plans to graduate from high school this current 4-H year.

Nomination forms must be submitted by a Club Coordinator or Administrative Leader. Forms can be found in the Berrien County 4-H Awards & Incentive Handbook or requested at the Berrien County MSU Extension office.

Deadline for forms is June 1, 2018.

This award is sponsored by the Berrien County 4-H Leaders Association, Inc.

## Tentative Schedule:

### Thursday, May 17

TBD—Early Evaluation  
4:00—8:00 PM—Set-up

### Friday, May 18

4:00—8:00 PM

- ◆ Evaluations Begin
- 4:00—8:00 PM
- ◆ Demonstrations Exhibit Set-up

### Saturday, May 19

10:00 AM — 6:00 PM

- ◆ Activities & Demos Open
- ◆ 4-H Live Animal Exhibits Open
- ◆ String Art Demo Open

Noon—3:00 PM

- ◆ 4-H Dog Project Evaluation Demo

Noon—2:00 PM

- ◆ Leathercraft Demo

3:30 PM—5:00 PM

4-H Talent Show

5:00—6:00 PM

4-H Style Review

6:00 PM (Sharp)

Projects, Demos & Exhibits Released

Demonstrations will be added until May 1, 2018

## 2018 Spring Achievement

May 18 & 19, 2018

### Berrien County Youth Fairgrounds, Berrien Springs

Spring Achievement is a 4-H Exhibition where 4-H'ers showcase their project achievements over the last year! 2018 Handbooks are now available at the Berrien County MSU Extension Office, online at or talk to your local Club Coordinator.

There are three age divisions:

Cloverbuds: ages 5—8 years    Junior: 9—14 years    Senior: 15—19 years

Early Evaluation Forms and 4-H Talent Show Applications can be found on page 7 & 8 of the 4-H Spotlight as well as in the back of the 4-H Spring Achievement Handbook.

All county-wide projects that have been created after the completion of the 2017 Seasonal Expo are eligible to be evaluated at Spring Achievement. Project identification cards can be picked up starting on May 1, 2018 or clubs may request cards to be mailed to Club Coordinator by contacting the Berrien County MSU Extension Office at 269-927-5674.

This year there are a wide variety of demonstrations and exhibits being offered. Some of the exhibits and demonstrations include: leathercraft, string art, horse care, beekeeping, 4-H dog project evaluation, poultry demo, llamas, miniature horse, rabbit & cavy demo and much more. All demonstrations are open to the public on Saturday, May 19, 2018. No admission fee.

The Berrien County 4-H Spring Achievement will once again be having a 4-H Talent Show. The Talent Show will be held on Saturday, May 19 from 3:30—5:00 PM in the Youth Memorial Building. The 4-H Talent Show is open to youth ages 5—19 years of age. Youth must be members of the Berrien County 4-H program to be showcased. For questions about the 4-H Talent Show, contact Natasha Hesser at [gnahtesser@gmail.com](mailto:gnahtesser@gmail.com).

The Berrien County 4-H Style Review will be held on Saturday, May 19 from 5:00—6:00 PM at the Berrien County Youth Fairgrounds. Participants will need to submit a narrative form in advance. Please make sure narration forms are legible. Sequence of style review will be knitting and crocheting, personalization and sewing. For questions about the 4-H Style Review contact Tracie Baker at [nolanjames1214@aol.com](mailto:nolanjames1214@aol.com).

In order to make the event successful we need volunteers! If interested contact the Berrien County MSU Extension office at 269-927-5674.

Please note, with much consideration Seasonal Expo will revert back to its original name of Spring Achievement.

# 2018 4-H Talent Show Application

**Deadline: May 1, 2018**

4-H talent will be in the spotlight at 4-H Spring Achievement – Saturday, May 19, 2018. **Those interested must complete the information below and return it to the Berrien County MSU Extension Office and agree to a preview on Thursday, May 4, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the office on Hillandale Rd in Benton Harbor. Previews will be contacted with their assigned time slot prior to Thursday, May 4, 2018.**

Contact person to receive performance details on behalf of the performer(s):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City Zip

Phone: Day: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

## Performer(s) Information (Please check all that apply)

Soloist performance Soloist name/age: \_\_\_\_\_

Group performance:

Number in group/age ranges: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of group: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of all performers: \_\_\_\_\_

Title or type of performance: \_\_\_\_\_ Length: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description of performance: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

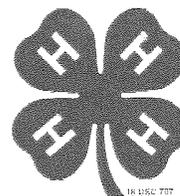
Equipment needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate what equipment you will bring and what equipment you will need provided.

Other information you would like to share about your group:

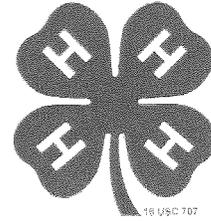
Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to:** Berrien County MSU Extension Office  
1737 Hillandale Road  
Benton Harbor, MI 49022-9630  
Phone:(269) 927-5674  
Fax:(269) 982-4128



# 2018 4-H Spring Achievement Early Evaluation Request Form

FORMS ARE DUE May 4, 2018



Return completed form to:

Submissions can be made via:

1. By Mail to the Berrien County MSU Extension Office
2. Dropped off to the Berrien County MSU Extension Office  
**Berrien County MSU Extension Office**  
**1737 Hillandale Road**  
**Benton Harbor, MI 49022**
3. Faxed to the Berrien County MSU Extension Office at 269-944-4128

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Area:	Quantity:
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Reason for requesting an Early Evaluation: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please select your top two choices that are your primary preference for assigned judging times. Please note, selection does not guarantee choice. However, it will aid in assigning times.

Thursday, May 17: 5:30 PM – 6:00 PM \_\_\_\_\_ 6:00 PM – 6:30 PM \_\_\_\_\_ 6:30 PM – 7:00 PM \_\_\_\_\_

4-H Member's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*For questions or issues, contact the Berrien County MSU Extension office at 269-927-5674.*

## Berrien County 4-H Events and Workshops

### April 21: Buchanan Plow Day

*Buchanan School Farms, Buchanan, MI*

Time: 10:00 AM—3:00 PM

The Berrien County 4-H program in partnership with the Rainbow Tracks 4-H Club will be hosting an educational station as well as a petting zoo. If interested in assisting, please contact the Berrien County MSUE Office at 269-927-5674 or Kelly Stelter, at grandtke@anr.msu.edu.

### April 30: Berrien County 4-H Leaders Association Annual Meeting

*Berrien County Youth Fair—Youth Memorial Building, Berrien Springs*

Time: 7:00 PM

Open to Berrien County 4-H Project Leaders, Teen Leaders and Club Coordinators. The meeting will provide an update on the 4-H Youth program.

### May 1: Deadline

- ⇒ 4-H Talent Show Applications
- ⇒ Small & Large Animal Demonstration Requests
- ⇒ Non-Animal Demonstrations Requests

### May 4: Deadline

- ⇒ 4-H Spring Achievement Early Evaluation Requests

### May 18 & 19: 4-H Spring Achievement

*Berrien County Youth Fair—Wonders of Birth & Horticulture Barns, Berrien Springs*

Please advise Handbook for evaluation procedures and demonstrations for public viewing for more information.

### June 1: Deadline

- ⇒ New Member Enrollment

### June 2: Southwest Michigan Mini Maker Faire

*200 Broad Street, St. Joseph, MI → Located by Silver Beach*

Time: TBD

The Berrien County 4-H Youth Development Program will be hosting an educational activity station during the Mini Maker Faire. Individuals looking to volunteer to assist with the station, contact the Berrien County MSUE Office at 269-927-5674 or email Kelly Stelter at grandtke@anr.msu.edu.

For the most up-to-date events listing, go to [http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/berrien/berrien\\_county\\_4\\_h](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/berrien/berrien_county_4_h) or “like” us on Facebook at Berrien County 4-H Youth Development.

## TSC Spring Paper Clover Campaign

Beginning on April 11 and running through April 22 shoppers at the Niles and Stevensville TSC Store will have the opportunity to support 4-H in Berrien County by purchasing paper clovers for just \$1.00 at checkout. Funds raised through the paper clover campaign will be donated to 4-H, with the majority of the funds coming back to the local county program to provide leadership opportunities for Berrien County 4-H members.



## 4-H Renewable Energy Camp



Explore Michigan State University's campus while learning about ideas, research and opportunities in the field of natural resources and agriculture energy during the 2018 Michigan 4-H Renewable Energy Camp.

Taking place July 23 to 27, participants will be lodged in Shaw Hall as they learn from company executives, interactive farm tours, discussions with MSU professors and more.

The camp is open to youth ages 13 to 19 and registration closes June 1. Register at [msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4\\_h\\_renewable\\_energy\\_camp\\_2](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_renewable_energy_camp_2).

## Michigan 4-H Events and Workshops

### April 14: 4-H Night at the MSU Observatory

*Michigan State University Observatory, East Lansing*

Engage in hands-on, space-related activities at this free event (weather permitting).

[http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4\\_h\\_night\\_at\\_the\\_msu\\_observatory](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_night_at_the_msu_observatory)

### April 14: State 4-H Goat Expo

*Anthony Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing*

The State 4-H Goat Expo is designed for young people who are interested in live animal evaluation and in testing their knowledge of the goat (caprine) industry.

[http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/state\\_4\\_h\\_goat\\_expo](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/state_4_h_goat_expo)

### Norma Agnew Memorial 4-H Hairy Horse Show

*Michigan State University Pavilion, East Lansing*

This warm-up, no-placings horse show/clinic is the perfect opportunity to receive valuable feedback at the start of a new show season.

[http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/norma\\_agnew\\_memorial\\_4-h\\_hairy\\_horse\\_show](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/norma_agnew_memorial_4-h_hairy_horse_show)

### April 17: Pork Quality Assurance Workshop

*Alma Public Library, Alma*

This educational session will teach 4-H members about caring for their swine projects.

Registration due April 15.

[http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/pork\\_quality\\_assurance\\_workshop\\_1](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/pork_quality_assurance_workshop_1)

### April 20: Starting and Sustaining a School Garden

*Michigan State University Extension Tollgate Farm and Education Center, Novi*

Learn the steps to design, build and maintain a school garden.

[http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/starting\\_and\\_sustaining\\_a\\_school\\_garden\\_tollgate\\_2016](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/starting_and_sustaining_a_school_garden_tollgate_2016)

### April 20: Mad City Money—Budget Simulation for Teens

*True Covenant Church, River Rouge*

Participate in this two-hour, hands-on simulation to learn about money in the real world.

Registration due April 15.

[http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/mad\\_city\\_money\\_budget\\_simulation\\_for\\_teens](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/mad_city_money_budget_simulation_for_teens)

### April 27-29: Michigan 4-H Shooting Sports Adult & Teen Instructor's Certification

*Kettunen Center, Tustin*

Learn about Michigan 4-H shooting sports' mission, policy, risk management, and more to become certified to offer live-fire, on-range shooting and archery experiences. Register by April 8.

[http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/michigan\\_4\\_h\\_shooting\\_sports\\_adult\\_teen\\_instructors\\_certification\\_workshop](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/michigan_4_h_shooting_sports_adult_teen_instructors_certification_workshop)

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

## April kicks off 4-H True Leaders in Service activation



Throughout the month of April, Michigan 4-H members, parents and volunteers are encouraged to pledge their hands to larger service by taking part in the annual 4-H True Leaders in Service initiative. This nationwide endeavor will connect 4-H'ers with their community as they lend a helping hand to those in need. The month-long service activation will officially kick-off April 1 and will finish with the National 4-H Day of Service on Saturday, April 28.

Last year, nearly 7,000 youth and adults across the nation volunteered during the month of service, through nearly 400 registered projects. These individuals impacted approximately 65,000 people within their communities.

Make plans now to take part and host a service project of your own! There are lot of great ways to get involved, from donation drives to neighborhood cleanups! Visit [www.4-H.org/true-leaders-in-service](http://www.4-H.org/true-leaders-in-service) to learn more, access a planning guide, and register your project.

## Michigan 4-H Text, Talk, Revive Civility Challenge

Every day, 4-H'ers are rolling up their sleeves in service as they lead positive change that empowers their peers and their communities. 4-H members are not afraid of a challenge, and in fact, they are known to seek out challenges they can help solve with their knowledge, leadership skills and fierce resolve.

This April, Michigan 4-H members are challenged to take on one of the most significant and widespread problems currently facing our nation: incivility. 4-H members can help revive civility across the state by taking the Michigan 4-H Text, Talk, Revive Civility Challenge.

The challenge helps youth engage their families, peers and communities in conversation around civil dialogue while doing something they are already experts at: talking and texting! Taking part is just three simple steps: first, organize a group of three to five individuals and text CIVILITY to 89800. Next, with help from a series of text messages, have a one-hour conversation about civility to learn what it is, the importance of it, and how to incorporate it into everyday life. After learning about civility, take a picture of your group and post it on social media to keep the challenge going!

The Michigan 4-H Text, Talk, Revive Civility Challenge is part MSU Extension's celebration of the True Leaders in Service initiative. To learn more about True Leaders in service or to register your civility conversation as a service project, visit [www.4-H.org/true-leaders-in-service](http://www.4-H.org/true-leaders-in-service).

To learn more about the challenge, visit [msue.anr.msu.edu/news/will-you-accept-the-2018-michigan-4-h-text-talk-revive-civility-challenge](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/will-you-accept-the-2018-michigan-4-h-text-talk-revive-civility-challenge).

***Emerald Clover Society open for nominations!***



Do you know an outstanding Michigan 4-H alumnus? Nominate them for the Michigan 4-H alumni hall of fame - the 4-H Emerald Clover Society!

The Society honors individuals who have had significant Michigan 4-H involvement as a youth and who have made significant contributions to their local, state and national communities as adults.

Nominations are being accepted now for the 4-H Emerald Clover Society Class of 2018. The deadline for nominations is April 30, 2018. For details and a nomination packet, visit [www.mi4hfdtn.org](http://www.mi4hfdtn.org).

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## RAISE YOUR HAND FOR 4-H

4-H gives youth the opportunity to learn by doing, grow from failure and develop the skills they need to handle what life throws their way. No one knows better than a 4-H Alum. We're asking you to Raise Your Hand to support 4-H'ers in Michigan. Each hand raised is a vote towards a \$20,000, \$10,000 or \$5,000 award for the three states with the most alumni hands raised. Show your 4-H pride and raise your hand to help bring the same opportunities to even more youth right here in Michigan. The Raise Your Hand campaign will run till May 15.

Raise your hand to support youth in your community. Raising your hand is as easy as 1, 2, 3:

1. Raise Your Hand: Go to [4-H.org/RaiseYourHand](https://4-H.org/RaiseYourHand) to vote for your state.
2. Compete for Your State: Raising your hand is a vote towards a \$20,000, \$10,000 or \$5,000 award for the three states with the most hands raised.
3. Pay It Forward: Tweet, post and share your #4HGrown support and ask your network.

