

*Cass Clover*

4-H Family News

MARCH/APRIL 2021

Dear 4-H Family and Friends,

Spring is upon us! In 4-H World that means we are all *busy* prepping for all of the fun activities coming up! We have a lot of great county wide events coming up that I hope that you will consider participating in. One of my favorites is the Community Service Challenge with Berrien County! Community service is a huge part of 4-H and it has been difficult to participate in community service activities during the pandemic. We have created a safe, fun way for your family to give back to your community through community service. You can read more about this challenge on page four. I hope to see you in the game!

Sincerely,

Hailey Harman
4-H Program Coordinator, Cass County

2020-2021 4-H ONLINE ENROLLMENT FOR MEMBERS AND LEADERS

Remember, no participation fees for this enrollment year!

If you have friends that would like to try 4-H, but have been hesitant because of the fee, it's a great time to sign them up!

Please make sure you do enroll so you are not missing out on upcoming opportunities.

Don't forget to get your enrollment submitted ASAP. The link to re-enroll is:

<https://v2.4honline.com/> Remember, no participation fees for this enrollment year! All re-enrollments are due April 30th!

Please make sure you do enroll. New this year, you have the ability to register for workshops and other events through 4-H Online. We actually have two opportunities in this newsletter to register for events with this new system... it should be easy for you AND easy for us to keep track of registrations and being able to remind you of things you may need for your event. We are excited for this new addition to 4-H Online; we think you will like it too.

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Contact Us

Hailey Harman
4-H Program Coordinator

120 N. Broadway
Suite 116
Cassopolis, MI 49031

Phone: 269-445-4438

Email:
harmanha@msu.edu

Web Site:

www.canr.msu.edu/Cass/4-h

Newsletter Website:

www.canr.msu.edu/Cass/4-h/newsletters



WE MAKE A LIVING
BY WHAT WE GET.
BUT WE MAKE A LIFE
BY WHAT WE GIVE.

- WINSTON CHURCHILL

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Michigan 4-H presents
American Ninja
Warrior Daniel Gil**



Join Michigan 4-H on March 24 for a special presentation by 2020 American Ninja Warrior winner Daniel Gil!

During the free virtual event, Gil will discuss overcoming obstacles. This unique opportunity is open to all Michigan youth and their families.

The event will take place at 6:30 p.m. EST. Preregistration is required. To register, visit www.canr.msu.edu/events/daniel-gil-presentation.

March

- 4 Equine Education Thursday, *Zoom*, 6:30 p.m.
- 10 Cass County 4-H Teen Leaders' Association Meeting, *Zoom*, 6:30 p.m.
- 11 Equine Education Thursday, *Zoom*, 6:30 p.m.
- 15 Deadline for Ag Explorers Registration
- 18 Equine Education Thursday, *Zoom*, 6:30 p.m.
- 22 Ag Explorers, *Zoom*, 5:00 p.m.
- 23 Ag Explorers, *Zoom*, 5:00 p.m.
- 24 Ag Explorers, *Zoom*, 5:00 p.m.
- 25 Cass County 4-H Leaders' Association Meeting, *Zoom*, 7:00 p.m.
- 25 Equine Education Thursday, *Zoom*, 6:30 p.m.

April

- 1 State Award Applications and Mark of Excellence Essays Due
- 1 Equine Education Thursday, *Zoom*, 6:30 p.m.
- 1 Possession Date for Dogs
- 8 Equine Education Thursday, *Zoom*, 6:30 p.m.
- 8-14 Community Service Goose Chase Event
- 13 Volunteer Toolkit: Parliamentary Procedure Training, *Zoom*, 6:30 p.m.
- 14 Cass County 4-H Teen Leaders' Association Meeting, *Zoom*, 6:30 p.m.
- 17 Equine Shot Clinic, *Cass County Fairgrounds*, 9:00 a.m.
- 17 Dairy Feeder Steer Validations, *Cass County Fairgrounds*, 10:00 a.m.
- 21 Cass County 4-H Horse Leaders' Association, *Zoom*, 7:00 p.m.
- 22 Cass County Leaders' Association, *Zoom*, 7:00 p.m.
- 26 Clovers and Canvas, *Zoom*, 6:00 p.m.
- 29 Cloverbud Clovers and Canvas, *Zoom*, 6:00 p.m.

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

4-H Statewide Events and Workshops

March 9: Wild Spartans Series - Searching for Vernal Pools, *Zoom*
www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-series-march

March 10: Officer Training - Virtual Edition!, *Zoom*
www.canr.msu.edu/events/officer-training-virtual-edition-march-10

March 18: MSU Tollgate Farm Stewards Virtual Winter Series 2021, *Zoom*
www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-tollgate-farm-stewards-virtual-winter-series-2021-march-18

March 23: The Roots and Branches of Your Family Tree
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/the-roots-and-branches-of-your-family-tree>

April 1: 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest Deadline
www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-beekeeping-essay-contest-deadline

STATEWIDE NEWS AREA

3

Apply for a 2021 4-H State Award!

Michigan 4-H true leaders 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.



2019 State Award winners with their plaques

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.

More information about the Michigan 4-H State Award process can be found online at <http://bit.ly/stateaward>. Applications are due April 1, 2021. For more information, contact your 4-H program coordinator or email Janice Zerbe at rajzerj@msu.edu.



Join the Michigan 4-H LGBTQIA+ Alliance leadership team!

Youth ages 15-19 are invited to apply for the new Michigan 4-H LGBTQIA+ Alliance leadership team to help create a friendly, positive environment for Michigan youth and communities. The Michigan 4-H LGBTQIA+ Alliance is the brainchild of two Michigan 4-H teens who attended the [2020 National 4-H True Leaders in Equity Institute](#) and were inspired to create positive change in their 4-H community.

Applications are being accepted for the teen leadership team that will serve as advisors for the state-level Alliance. These leaders will develop leadership skills and help to create opportunities for LGBTQIA+ youth and allies to come together in fun, positive, and supportive ways. While this group is being established through Michigan 4-H, youth do NOT need to be 4-H'ers to apply; this opportunity is open to all teens interested in supporting the inclusion and participation of LGBTQIA+ youth and allies in Michigan 4-H.

Teen leaders will meet two to three times per month and should plan on committing about three hours of their time each month. The first meeting will be in April. This teen leadership team is just the beginning; additional opportunities will be available for youth who wish to serve on regional or local Alliance leadership teams, as well as join and participate as members.

Applications from prospective youth leadership members will be accepted from February 15 – March 15 at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/4hlgbtqia/>. Youth interested in learning more about the Michigan 4-H LGBTQIA+ Alliance are encouraged to attend an optional Zoom open house on Tuesday, March 9 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Preregistration is required to participate in the open house, and can be completed at <https://bit.ly/3q6v1D8>. For more information, please contact MSU Extension Educator Brian Wibby at wibby@msu.edu.

4-H Youth in Action Awards Applications Now Open



Apply now for the 2022 4-H Youth in Action Awards! Each year, the program recognizes four confident young leaders with diverse backgrounds and unique perspectives in the pillar areas of agriculture, civic engagement, healthy living and STEM.

Winners will have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to share their stories along with unforgettable experiences, celebration on the national stage, recognition in the media and a \$5,000 college scholarship.

This opportunity is open to youth age 15-19. The deadline to apply is March 29. Learn more and apply at <https://4-h.org/parents/4-h-youth-in-action-awards/>.

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, March 25th and April 22nd via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. to see what we are all about!

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/92911449224>
+1 312 626 6799



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 on Wednesday, April 21st via Zoom.

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/92294069396>
+1 312 626 6799
ID:922 9406 9396
Password: Cass

Community Service GooseChase Challenge

Calling all Cass County 4-H members! Are you ready for a challenge?!?

We are excited to announce a very unique challenge between 4-H members of Cass County and 4-H members of Berrien County that could benefit many people in both counties while having fun! This will be a community service contest between the two counties following the popular "GooseChase" app online. In this time of safe distancing, it's super hard to find activities our youth can get out and do, and this could be fun opportunities for families to work safely together as a unit, earn points in the contest and make a difference in our communities.

The contest will run from April 8-14 and youth will need to sign up by April 13. There will be prizes for the winning county as well as prizes for individuals at the end of the 'chase'. Youth can choose from working in the county parks (trail maintenance, painting, planting flowers), making T-shirt dog toys, doing "shout outs", cards to nursing homes, appreciation letters, doing a virtual demonstration, homemade blankets, or providing hygiene items for foster care among other activities. The community service must make an impact in the county in which they live to be credited in the contest.

"This challenge is open to anyone between the ages 13 and 19 (younger youth can participate with an older sibling or parent/guardian), the only requirement is that you must be signed up in 4-H, which is free this year!" says Harman, "I know we've got a great group of families in Cass County providing services to our community... and so does Berrien County. We are hoping to make this challenge one to remember, and maybe get other counties to do the same!"

Youth ages 5-19 interested in signing up for 4-H this year may do so by going to 4-H Online (<https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>) under the "Events" tab! This challenge is completely free, but you will need a smart device to participate (phone, tablet or computer).

Ag Explorers

Have you ever wondered what kind of careers are available in agriculture in the world today besides the traditional "farmer"? Cass County 4-H, in partnership with Cass County Farm Bureau, will be presenting a virtual series addressing just that beginning March 22 for three consecutive evenings at 5:00 p.m. This introduction is just the "tip of the iceberg" of careers available to our area high school age youth. Highlighting part of this series, professionals will be covering resumes and interview building; both so important as our students enter the portion of their lives where they seriously pursue career options.

For 4-H youth interested in joining this free, virtual experience, the process is very simple; just access your 4-H Online profile and click on "events", the sign-up is done within a few clicks. If non-4-H youth are interested in joining 4-H, this is a great year to try it out, as it is free for 2021, and all you have to do is go to 4-H Online and register in Cass County! Registration for this program is now through March 15th. Questions can be directed to Hailey Harman through email at harmanha@msu.edu.

Clovers and Canvas

Cass County 4-H is offering a "Clovers and Canvas" painting opportunity for both Cloverbuds (April 29th) and youth (April 26th). This program will be administered via a kit delivered directly to your home and an online Zoom to walk you through the painting. Registration will be through 4-H Online under the "Events" tab and will be available beginning March 22nd. In the past, similar kits have gone quick and spots will be limited!

Cass County 4-H Leaders' Association Auction

The Cass County Leaders' Association will be holding their annual auction *virtually* this year! Red Star Auction will be administering a great online auction for the Association Fundraiser from May 19-21. Items will be visible beginning May 14th. Are you not local but still want to support? Shipping is an option this year! More details will be available in the future via our Facebook and the next Clover. We hope that you will log-on and peruse the fantastic items that will be offered!

Volunteer Toolkit: Parliamentary Procedure Training

Are you a 4-H Leader who is an association member or responsible for teaching youth to run meetings? If you said yes, then this program is just for you! In the second program of the Volunteer Toolkit training series, you will learn the basics of parliamentary procedure and how to teach youth these practices for your club meetings! This virtual program will take place via Zoom on April 13th at 6:30 pm. Pre-registration is required to receive the Zoom link. Registration is through 4-H Online. To register, sign into your 4-H Online Family Profile (<https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>), select your profile, select the "Events" tab, and find the program!

Cass County Boards = Opportunities for Young Adults!

Many dedicated people assist Cass County Government by serving on Boards and Commissions. If you are a 4-H youth between the ages of 16-19 and are interested in helping your community while learning how government works on a local level, you should check out the possibility of serving on a county board! The County of Cass website lists all the boards and commissions, along with a brief description of the board and the terms of appointment, along with meeting times. Boards are very interested in hearing the concerns and solutions our young adults have to offer.

Who knows... you may be unknowingly looking at a political career and it could start right here... or even be a future congress-person.... or President of the United States!!

4-H Teen Leaders' Association

Our Cass County 4-H Teen Leaders' Association works to provide educational (and fun) opportunities for youth in Cass County 4-H. All youth 13+ are encouraged to attend! If you would like to be involved, please consider coming to the Teen Leader meetings on Wednesday, March 10th and April 14th at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/92261798949>

+1 312 626 6799

ID:922 6179 8949

Password: Cass



Equine Shot Clinic

Saturday, April 17th
at 9 a.m.

Cass County Fair
Grounds

2021 Cass County Fair

August 1-
August 7, 2021

Contact Information:

Cass County Fair

590 O'Keefe St

Cassopolis, MI 49031

269-445-8265

269-262-2065

casscountyfair@gmail.com

Facebook: Cass County
Fair (Michigan)

Possession Dates for the 2021 Cass County Fair

Dogs– April 1, 2021

Dairy Feeder Steers– April 17, 2021

Dairy, Goats, Horses, Sheep, Swine– May 1, 2021

Beef Feeders and Beef Breeding Stock– May 1, 2021

Breed Rabbits– June 1, 2021

Cats– June 15, 2021

Market Rabbits– July 1, 2021

Poultry– July 3, 2021

Mandatory Validations for the 2021 Cass County Fair

Dairy Feeder Steers– Saturday, April 17, 2021, 10 a.m.– 2 p.m.

Beef Feeder Calves– Saturday, May 1, 2021, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Sheep– May 1, 2021, 9 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and May 2, 2021, 1 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Market Goats– Sunday, May 2, 2021, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Dogs– Sunday, June 13, 2021, 2 p.m. (all paperwork due)

Swine– Saturday, June 12, 2021, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Market Rabbits– Sunday, July 10, 2021, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

These dates follow the trend of previous years. Please check frequently as new, solidified dates become available. Please check the Cass County Fair Facebook page for validation information.

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 entries registrations will be due on June 17, 2021 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 2.0 system and when registering for the fair you use the Blue Ribbon system.**

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 upcoming Clovers. These forms will be available in our office once online registration launches.

Draft Horse Youth Program

There will not be a mandatory regular orientation this year. However, the superintendent still needs to know what youth are interested in participating in the 2021 Draft Horse Program. Please fill out this Google Form by March 31st if you have any interest in this program: <https://docs.google.com/.../1BZ1li.../edit>



Community Service GooseChase Challenge

Berrien County 4-H & Cass County 4-H

CONTACT US:

Hailey Harman
4-H Program Coordinator
Cass County 4-H
harmanha@msu.edu
269.445.4438

Kelly Stelter,
4-H Program Coordinator
Berrien County 4-H
grandtke@msu.edu
269.927.5674 ext. 4015



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Join the competition between Cass and Berrien Counties on the GooseChase app to see which county REALLY excels in Community Service. Youth (13+) will be challenged to complete missions that center around civic engagement, random acts of kindness, service, and more! Complete missions to earn individual points AND county points. Prizes will be awarded for the winning county and for individuals throughout the game!

Who:

Who open to Berrien County & Cass County youth ages 13 to 19 years as of January 1.

When:

The Scavenger hunt will open on April 8 at 10:00 a.m. and will close on April 14 at 11 p.m. for all participants.

Cost:

Free

Registration:

Pre-registration is required. Registration closes on April 14, 2021.

To register:

1. Log in or create a 4-H Online Account at:
<https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>
2. Select the youth you would like to register.
3. Select events on the left hand side.
4. Game Code and How to play instructions will be emailed.

It's that easy! You do have to have an active profile to register!



Ag Explorers

Resumes, Interviews, & Ag Careers

CONTACT US:

Hailey Harman
4-H Program Coordinator,
Cass County

harmanha@msu.edu

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Cass County, MI 4-H Youth
Development



PROGRAM SUMMARY:

Cass County 4-H, in partnership with Cass County Farm Bureau, will be presenting a virtual series addressing just that beginning March 22 for three consecutive evenings at 5:00 p.m. This introduction is just the “tip of the iceberg” of careers available to our area high school age youth. Highlighting part of this series, professionals will be covering resumes and interview building; both so important as our students enter the portion of their lives where they seriously pursue career options.

HOW TO REGISTER:

Pre-registration is required. Registration closes on March 15, 2021.

1. Log in or create a 4-H Online Account at:
<https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>
2. Select the youth you would like to register.
3. Select “Events” on the left hand side.
4. Select the Ag Explorers Program

It's that easy! You do have to have an active profile to register!

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