

*Cass Clover*

# 4-H Family News

September/October 2019

Dear 4-H Family and Friends,

## Contact Us

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## New Leader Requirements for Re-Enrollment

Re-enrollment for leaders will open on September 1, 2019. Along with your annual enrollment, MSU Extension is now requiring all of its volunteers to complete national background checks annually. Please monitor your email as information on how to complete this background check will be sent out the first week of September. This background check will need to be complete by October 25, 2019, along with your 4-H online re-enrollment. We do have paper forms of the background check available in the office for those that do not have internet service. I understand this process may be confusing so please call or stop in our office at any time and someone will be able to assist you! Thank you for all of your dedication and hard work to make this program great!

## 2019-2020 Enrollment Fees/4-H Online

Our new 4-H year begins on September 1, 2019. All 4-H members and leaders are strongly encouraged to enroll online. If you have forgotten your 4-H online login information, please do not make a new profile. Instead, please contact our office and we can reset your password for you. We do have paper forms available for those that do not have internet access.

The deadline to enroll in 4-H Online and to **pay your enrollment fee** of \$20 per member (\$60 family, 4 + children) will be March 27, 2020 by 5:00 p.m. There will be no exceptions to this deadline. If your child is not registered and paid for, they will not be eligible to participate in 4-H for the current year (including fair as a 4-H member). Please keep in mind that this deadline does not override your club's deadline. Example: your Key Leader requires you to pay your enrollment fee and register online by January 1, 2020. You would follow that deadline. We encourage all payments be made with your Key Leader but you may make a payment in the MSU Extension office. For your convenience, we now can take credit/debit cards over the phone or you can mail your check.

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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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## Apply now for the 2020 4-H Youth in Action Awards



Every 4-H'er has a story, and those stories are worth telling! Apply for the 4-H Youth in Action program, where sharing your 4-H story could earn you a \$5,000 scholarship and a trip to Washington, D.C. for National 4-H Council's Legacy Awards!

The program recognizes four confident young leaders in our core pillar areas of Agriculture, Civic Engagement, Healthy Living and STEM, giving pillar winners the chance to share how 4-H changed their lives and how they have used the skills they gained in 4-H to change the lives of others.

Applications open now through October 21st. Visit [www.4-h.org/youthinaction](http://www.4-h.org/youthinaction) to learn more or email any questions to [YouthInAction@4-h.org](mailto:YouthInAction@4-h.org).

## September

- 2 Office Closed, Labor Day
- 7 Cass County 4-H Farm Safety Day, Cass County Fair Grounds, 9:00 a.m.
- 11 Teen Leader Meeting, MSU Extension Conference room, 6:00 p.m.
- 14 4-H Outdoor Experience Day, T.K. Lawless Park, Vandalia, 9:00 a.m.
- 18 Horse Leaders' Association Meeting, MSU Extension Conference room, 7:00 p.m.
- 19 Leaders' Association Auction Committee, MSU Extension Conference room, 7:00 p.m.
- 20 County Medal Applications due, MSU Extension office, 5:00 p.m.
- 26 **Mandatory** Key Leader Update, MSU Extension Conference room, 6:30 p.m.
- 26 Leaders' Association Meeting, MSU Extension Conference room, 7:30 p.m.
- 27 Explore the Night T.K. Lawless Park, 7:00 p.m.
- 28 Explore the Night, rain date

## October

- 2 Dog Leader/Parent Meeting, MSU Extension Conference room, 7:00 p.m.
- 7 Trunk Reservations due, MSU Extension office, 5:00 p.m.
- 9 Teen Leader Meeting, MSU Extension Conference Room, 6:00 p.m.
- 18 B.R.A.V.O. R.S.V.P. due, MSU Extension office, 5:00 p.m.
- 19 Harvest Fest/Trunk-or-Treat, T.K. Lawless Park, Vandalia, 2:00 p.m.
- 24 Leaders' Association meeting, MSU Extension Conference room, 7:00 p.m.
- 26 B.R.A.V.O. Banquet, Gregarek Building, Cass County Fair Grounds, 11:00 a.m.
- 31 Happy Halloween!

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

## We Need Your Help!

Sometimes recognition isn't given as often as it should be. It is our goal to lift up all the volunteer leaders, parents and youth in the county. Do you have someone who has made a large impact on you or even just made your bad day, better? We want to hear about it. Please send us your "shout outs" to help lift up leaders, parents, and youth within the county. You may email, message us on Facebook, drop them off, or mail them to our office. There is no limit to how many "shout outs" you can give. Please help us with this great task that will be exhibited at the 2019 4-H Awards Banquet in November.



### B.R.A.V.O. Awards Banquet

Best Recognized Achievement Validated Outstanding Award is given to 15 youth exhibitors that demonstrate skills that echo the 4-H motto “to make the best better” and have shown they have done their very best on their project each year. Congratulations to our 2019 B.R.A.V.O. recipients: Jackson Bement, Elliott Town, Madelyn Harding, Ellis Leonard, Erin Ridenour, Olivia Dell, Parker Stout, Mackenzie Schuur, Kerith Spake, Aubrey King, Alayna Brown, Hanna Carr, Makayle Weedon, Hayley Marx and Conner Baker. They will be recognized, along with our sponsors, at a banquet brunch on October 26, 2019 in the Gregarek Building at the Cass County Fair Grounds at 11:00 a.m. Invitations have been sent and R.S.V.P.’s are due Friday, October 18, 2019.

### Harvest Fest/Trunk-or-Treat

Looking for a safe place to take your kids trick-or-treating? Please join us, along with the Cass County Parks, on Saturday, October 19, 2019 from 2 p.m.-5 p.m. at T.K. Lawless Park. The cost is \$1 or 1 canned good per person. The Cass County 4-H Program is in charge of trunk-or-treat. Pull out your costumes and pull up your trunk to help us provide a safe, fun event for our youth. Trunk-or-Treating will be from 3 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Our goal is 30 trunks this year. Trunks will need to be in place by 1:30 p.m., so they have plenty of time to set up before the tricksters arrive. There will be a prize for the best trunk. Contact Hailey Harman if you would like more information or would like to volunteer. Please see the attached flyer (page 6) and return your trunk reservation by Monday, October 7, 2019. This safe event will only be possible with your participation. May the best trunk win!

### 2019 4-H Awards Banquet Hosted by CCLA

Please join us for the 71st Annual 4-H Recognition Program. We will be honoring our 4-H Leaders, County Medal Winners, Class of 2020 4-H Seniors, horse judging team, horse honorees, CWF delegates, and Teen Leaders. The banquet will be held on Saturday, November 16, 2019 at the First Church of God in Cassopolis. Check-in will begin at 4:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 5:00 p.m. with the awards to follow. This year’s meal will include; pasta, carved turkey, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans and rolls. Invites will be sent out early October and R.S.V.P.’s will be due November 1, 2019.

### County Medal Applications

County Medal Applications are due September 20, 2019 in the MSU Extension office by 5:00 p.m. You can find the application on our website, [www.canr.msu.edu/cass/4-h/4-h\\_awards\\_banquet](http://www.canr.msu.edu/cass/4-h/4-h_awards_banquet), or you can pick them up in the office.

### Don't Forget Your Thank You!

As a friendly reminder to all youth exhibitors who participated in the auctions at the fair, or won a trophy, please send a thank you card or letter to your buyer or trophy sponsor.

Also, don't forget about your leaders, parents, and peers! A big thank you to those that have helped get you to the fair to exhibit and taught you all of the necessary skills to show your project will put a smile on their face.



### Georgia Boots Partners to Support 4-H

Georgia Boot is offering members of the 4-H community a 50% discount on any boots on their website (except clearance items) through September 30, 2019.

Georgia Boot will also give part of all 4-H boot sales back to 4-H by donating 5% to the National 4-H Council. To get your discount code, go to [www.georgiaboot.com/4-h/](http://www.georgiaboot.com/4-h/) and register.

**Horse Leaders' Association**

The 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 their meeting on Wednesday, September 18th at 7:00 p.m. Please remember, changes start with recommendations!



**4-H Leaders' Association**

Do you want your voice to be heard? Do you want to help with decisions for county programming? The 4-H Leaders' Association is the place for you! Come to our next meeting on Thursday, September 26th and October 24, 2019 at the MSUE Conference Room at 7:00 p.m. to see what we are all about!

Questions? Visit our webpage at <http://www.casscounty4hleaders.org/> for more information.

**2019 Outdoor Experience**

The Leaders' Association is hosting an Outdoor Experience on Saturday, September 14, 2019 at T.K. Lawless Park from 10:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m. Registration and payment can be made on the day of event and will begin at 9:00 a.m. The program will begin at 10:00 a.m. This event is for any youth ages 5-12 and the cost is \$5 per person or \$10 per family and lunch is provided. This year's activities include recycling, wind chimes, terrariums and bead craft. Any projects made at this program may be used for the 2020 Cass County Fair and will be awarded a special ribbon signifying your participation at Outdoor Experience. The Leaders' Association is looking for teen volunteers (ages 13-19) to help with this event. If you are interested in helping or would like more information, please contact Hailey Harman, 4-H Program Coordinator.



**2019 B.R.A.V.O. Award Sponsors**

- |                             |                       |                   |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Gail and Mary Lou Peterson  | Teresa and Allen Ives | Mechanicsburg 4-H |
| Creative Vinyl Signs P.C.   | Legacy 4-H            | M-40 Hustlers     |
| Bonnie and Charles McCarthy | Penn 4-H              | North Red Hill    |
| Cleopatra's Hair Hut        | Quality Masonry       | Creative Kids     |
| Betty and David Groth       | Erin and Jason Young  |                   |
| Dan and Wren Hershberger    |                       |                   |

**Thank you for your sponsorship!**



**2019 B.R.A.V.O. Winners**

### 1st Annual Barn Dance

The Teen Leaders' had their very first event, a Luau Barn Dance. The teens sold over 100 tickets and had close to 100 youth in attendance. Everyone had a great night stomping their boots! If you want to be a part of planning fun county 4-H events like this, join the Teen Leaders at their next meeting! Their meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6:00 p.m. in the MSU Extension Conference room.



**2019 First Annual Barn Dance**

### Explore the Night

Cass County 4-H is hosting an astronomy program FREE of charge! Dark Skies Advocate, Robert Parrish, will be bringing a high-powered telescope and assist as you see the universe from T.K. Lawless Park. A space craft will also be included! This event will take place on September 27th from 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Bring the whole family for a night of space-tacular fun! Please pre-register at this link:

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/CCExploretheNight19/>

Rain/cloud date will be September 28, 2019. Please signify on the registration if you would attend the rain date if necessary.

### Still Exhibits/ Senior Photos

We still have still exhibits from the fair and senior photos in the MSU Extension Conference room leftover from the fair. Please make sure you pick these items up by Friday, September 6, 2019. Any remaining items will be put in the trash.





# 2019 HARVEST FEST

October 19, 2019

T.K. Lawless Park - Monkey Run Street - Vandalia, MI

**Admission:**

1 canned good per person **OR** \$1 per person

**Event Time:**

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Trunk Time:**

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Once again, the Cass County Parks Department and the Cass County 4-H program have combined their Harvest Fest and Trunk or Treat events into one great family activity!



**ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:**

- Inflatable Activity
- Hayride
- Face Painting
- Arden' Choo-Choo
- Bonfire
- Zip Line
- Balloon Animals
- Pumpkin Decorating
- Costume Contest
- Crafts
- Much, much more!!

Yes! I would like to join the fun and bring a trunk!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Whether an organization, family or individual... trunks are welcome, but must register. Information regarding specifics will be sent to you. Call Hailey at the MSU Extension office at 269-445-4438. Thank You!

Free pumpkins given to the first 400 kids ages 10 and under!

The Friends of the Cass County Parks will have delicious concessions available for purchase.



September 27, 2019

Dr. T.K. Lawless Park

# Explore the Night

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

(Rain Date - September 28)

To Register:

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/CCExploreTheNight19/>

Registration closes September 24 at midnight

Have you ever explored the universe with a high-powered telescope?

Hear what YOU can do to help preserve the night skies!

Join us as we explore the possibilities... the sky's the limit!

Robert Parrish, Dark Skies Advisor

Register on-line for this free evening of amazement and wonder!

Craft included!



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