

*Cass Clover*

# 4-H Family News

September/October 2018

## Dear 4-H Family and Friends,

What is the benefit of 4-H? As we begin the program year, I like to reflect back on how much I have gained from being part of the 4-H program. As volunteers, members, parents, and peers, we all have the pleasure of gaining something very special from this organization. The main focus we talk about throughout the year is life skills: teamwork, responsibility, civic engagement, leadership, etc. I look back and see the growth measured in these life skills each year, which produce some well-rounded and terrific kids, leaders, and staff!

Additionally, I see passion and desire. I see love for a project so deeply ingrained, making you eager to be the best you can be. I see summertime friendships developing into everlasting confidants. I see people connecting their own skills and knowledge to help others. I see kids excited to share their experiences with their peers. I see kids having new, sometimes once in a lifetime, experiences. Most of all, I see communities being built from within existing communities.

So, what is the benefit of 4-H and how do you sum it up in just a few words? As simply as it can be put, 4-H is family and I am so grateful to belong to this family.

Sincerely,

Hailey Harman  
4-H Program Coordinator of Cass County



***“There are millions of stars in the sky and just remember that you are a star among them all!”***

***-T. Higginsworth***

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## Rocky River Riders

Our deepest condolences to the Hahn Family. Ray Hahn was the key leader for Rocky River Riders and passed away last week. Ray was a leader for 48 years and was a wonderful asset to our Cass County Program.

Thank you for your many years of service Ray!

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Fair Exhibitor's Premium Checks

Any auction checks are processed by the fair. Please call 269-445-8265 if you have any questions.

## Senior Scholarship Opportunities

Looking for ways to fund your college education? You may be eligible for one of several scholarships available through Michigan State University, MSU 4-H Youth Development, or the Michigan 4-H Foundation. Eligibility varies by scholarship. You may visit the following web address for details regarding each scholarship. [http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/4\\_h\\_scholarships\\_and\\_recognition\\_program/4\\_h\\_scholarships](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/4_h_scholarships_and_recognition_program/4_h_scholarships)

Many of these scholarship applications are typically due by November 1st and need to be sent to the county Extension office for approval before going to the state office for review. Be sure to start these early and get them in to the Extension office by October 20th to ensure enough time to process at the county level.

## September

- 3 Office Closed, Labor Day
- 4 After Fair Developmental Meeting, Livestock, MSU Extension Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.
- 6 After Fair Developmental Meeting, Still Exhibits, MSU Extension Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.
- 8 Outdoor Experience Day, T.K. Lawless Park, 9 :00 a.m.– 4 :00 p.m.
- 14 County Medal Nominations due in MSU Extension office, 5:00 p.m.
- 19 Horse Leaders' Association Meeting, MSU Extension Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.
- 27 **MANDATORY** Key Leader Update, MSU Extension Conference Room, 6:00 p.m.
- 27 Leaders' Association Meeting, MSU Extension Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.
- 29 MSU Observatory 4-H Night, MSU 4299 Pavilion Dr, Lansing, MI 48910, 9:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.

## October

- 5 R.S.V.P. due for B.R.A.V.O. Award Banquet, MSU Extension Office, 5:00 p.m.
- 6-13 National 4-H Week
- 3-14 Paper Clover Campaign at Tractor Supply Company
- 10 Trunk-or-Treat Reservations due, MSU Extension office, 5:00 p.m.
- 12 County Medal Nominee Applications due in the MSU Extension office, 5:00 p.m.
- 13 B.R.A.V.O. Award Banquet, Gregarek Building-Fair Grounds, 5:00 p.m.
- 17 Horse Leaders' Association Meeting, MSU Extension Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.
- 26 Leaders' Association Meeting, MSU Extension Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.
- 20 Harvest Fest/Trunk-or-Treat, T.K. Lawless Park, 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
- 30 R.S.V.P. due for Senior Leader Banquet
- 31 Happy Halloween!

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



## B.R.A.V.O. Award 2018 Sponsors

★	Gail and Mary Lou Peterson	Mechanicsburg 4-H	★
★	Creative Vinyl Signs P.C.	Legacy 4-H	★
★	Bonnie and Charles McCarthy	Penn 4-H	★
★	North Red Hill	Cleopatra's Hair Hut	★
★	Accounting Consultants P.C.	Quality Masonry	★
★	Betty and David Groth		★

**Thank you for your sponsorship!**



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

Best Recognized Achievement Validated Outstanding Award is given yearly 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. Congratulations to our 2018 B.R.A.V.O. recipients: Makayle Weedon, Micah Samys, Sierra Carpenter, Lenah Borsman, Grace Krager, Skylar Westphal, Drew Russell, Mathew Burke, Cade Tyrakowski, Grace Strukel, Jeremiah Whickum-Ray, Jessica Schoff, Connor Baker, Jaren Waldschmidt and Noak Krager. They will be recognized along with our sponsors at a banquet dinner on October 13, 2018 in the Gregarek Building at the Cass County Fair grounds at 5:00 p.m. More information will be mailed and RSVP’s will be due on October 5, 2018.

### 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 20, 2018 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 the trunk-or-treat portion. Pull out your costumes and pull up your trunk and help us provide a safe, fun event for our youth. The trunk-or-treat portion of the event will be from 3 p.m.-4 p.m. Trunks will need to be in place by 2:30 p.m. There will be a prize for the best trunk. **New this year...**we are looking for a group of volunteers (club, family or organization) to make a haunted trail. Please 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 Wednesday, October 10, 2018. This safe event will only be possible with your participation. May the best trunk win!

### 2018 Senior Leader Banquet Hosted by CCLA

Please join us for the 70th Annual Recognition Program. We will be honoring our 4-H Leaders and County Medal Winners for the 2017-2018 4-H year. We will also be honoring our Class of 2019 4-H Seniors. The banquet will be held on Saturday, November 10, 2018 and the location will be determined. Check-in will begin at 4:30 p.m. and dinner will be served at 5:00 p.m. with the awards to follow. We’re celebrating our volunteers and seniors in a really groovy way. Do us a solid, come celebrate our 70th year with our 70’s theme! Be there or be square!

County Medal Nominations from Key Leaders are due September 14, 2018. The members that are nominated will receive word by mail and the nominee applications will be due by October 12, 2018. Invitations will be mailed out by the middle of September and the RSVP will be due on October 30, 2018 in the MSU Extension office. More information will follow.

### 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. Help brighten someone’s day and thank your sponsors, buyers, and leaders for everything they do to make your exhibition possible!



### 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 19th and October 17, 2018 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 27th and October 25th, 2018 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.

### 2018-2019 Enrollment Fees/4-H Online

Our new 4-H year begins on September 1, 2018. 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.

**NEW THIS YEAR...**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 29, 2019 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). Please keep in mind that this deadline does not override your clubs deadline. Example: your key leader requires you to pay your enrollment fee and register online by January 1, 2019. 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 payment in.

### 2018 Outdoor Experience Day Camp

The Leaders' Association is hosting an Outdoor Experience Day Camp on Saturday, September 8, 2018 at T.K. Lawless Park from 9:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m. Registration and payment will be on the day of event and will begin at 9:00 a.m. Camp will begin at 10:00 a.m. This event is for any youth ages 5-13 and the cost is \$5 per person or \$10 per family. This year's activities include string art, wood burning, tin punch, terrariums and bead craft. Any projects made at this camp may be used for the 2019 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 14-19) to help with this event. If you are interested in helping or would like more information, please contact Hailey Harman, 4-H Program Coordinator.

### Future Clovers

Reminder: For the rest of 2018 year, the Clover will be emailed/mailed every other month. Beginning, January 1, 2019 we will no longer be able to mail the Clover. It will be emailed only! Please make sure we have an email address on file. We will have a limited supply of paper copies available in the MSU Extension office. Thank you for your understanding.

### 2018 Farm Safety Camp

Farm Safety Camp was a huge success with an attendance of 40 youth who participated. Sessions included Grain Bin Safety, Pesticide Safety, Fire Safety, Propane Safety, Lawnmower Safety, Emergency Services, Tractor Safety, Electrical Safety, ATV Safety and Animal Safety. All youth reported to have learned something new and that they learned how to prevent and handle dangerous farm situations. We would like to extend a huge thank you to Midwest Energy and Communications for housing and supporting this amazing program in Cass County. We are confident every youth that attended this camp went home knowing how to keep themselves safe at a farm, whether it's their own or a relative's, or a future agriculture job. These youth will take this knowledge they gained and share it with others. We also would like to thank all of our session hosts that took the time out of their day to educate our local youth. You all played a major role in the camp and we, as well as the youth, are very thankful for your contribution. Our motto is "to make the best better" and with that said, Cass County 4-H is looking forward to continuing our partnership with MEC to reach even more kids on safely working on farms to lower the cases of farm related accidents within the Southwest Michigan area.



Thank you Josh High, Pokagon Fire Department, Deputy Pompey, Bruce MacKellar, Jon LaPorte, Cory Dolan, Marty Smego, Rob from Life Care, and Rich Drews-MEC for volunteering your time to help educate our youth on Farm Safety.

### Paper Clover Campaign 2018

The paper clover campaign will begin October 3 and run through October 14, 2018. Stop by the TSC in Dowagiac to donate! Your donations come back to the Cass County 4-H Program to help with programming, costs, and scholarships to name a few! Thank you for your support!

### National 4-H Week

National 4-H Week is October 6-October 13, 2018. We encourage our clubs to participate and if you need assistance, please contact Hailey Harman, 4-H Program Coordinator.

North Red Hill will have their club's still exhibits on display at D&R Sports in Dowagiac for National 4-H

# Harvest Fest



# Trunk or Treat

## October 20, 2018

### EVENT TIME:

2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

### TRUNK TIME:

3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

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

Once again, the Cass County Parks Department and the Cass County 4-H Youth Program have combined their Harvest Fest and Trunk-or-Treat events into one great activity that is fun for the whole family!

### ADMISSION:

1 canned food item per person  
OR  
\$1 per person

If you would like to provide a trunk, please contact Hailey at the MSU-Extension office (269-445-4438) and plan to arrive at the park between 2:00 and 2:30 p.m.

Along with all the extra activities, free pumpkins will be given to the first 400 kids aged 10 and under, as supplies last.

All canned food items will be donated to local food pantries

### ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

- Inflatable Activity
- Hayride
- Face Painting
- Corn Box
- Bonfire
- Zip Line
- Balloon Animals
- Trunk-or-Treat
- Pumpkin Decorating
- Costume Contest
- Crafts
- Much, much more!!

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

### 2018 Trunk Reservation Form

Please complete and return to the MSU Extension office -  
120 N. Broadway, suite 209 - Cassopolis, MI 49031

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

Check one:  4-H Club     Individual or Family  
 Business     Organization     School

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

*Please RSVP by October 10, 2018*