

*Cass Clover*

4-H Family News

January/February 2019

Dear 4-H Family and Friends,

Happy New Year! The 2019 4-H year has finally begun! I wanted to thank each and every one of you for your patience and assistance the last few months as I learn the ropes of this amazing new career. I have some exciting and fun things planned for 2019 and I hope that everyone will consider at least participating in one event. I also love to hear what you want to see in this county. Be the change and keep making a difference in our 4-H program by speaking out and being the true leaders all of you are! I am elated to begin 2019 with a county full of amazing leaders and youth and I look forward to watching you all grow!

Sincerely,

Hailey Harman

4-H Program Coordinator



2018 Holiday for Heroes

Thank you to everyone who participated in Holiday for Heroes! This is just a small portion of what we received from our 4-H clubs and community. We also have a lot of Christmas cards to send out as well. Thank you for remembering our troops this holiday season!

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Newsletter Website

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newsletters](http://www.canr.msu.edu/Cass/4-h/newsletters)



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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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, February 20th at 7:00 p.m.



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, January 24th and February 28th 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.

January

- 1 Happy New Year, Office Closed
- 1 Fair Theme/Fair Book Contest Deadline, casscountyfair@gmail.com
- 21 Martin Luther King Day, Office Closed
- 24 Clubs 101 Leader Training, MSU Extension Conference Room, 5:30 p.m.
- 24 Leaders' Association Meeting, MSU Extension Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.
- 26 State 4-H Rabbit Show, MSU Pavilion, East Lansing
- 29 Club Bylaws Training, MSU Conference Room, 6:00 p.m.
- 31 Senior Scholarship Applications Due, MSU Extension office, 5:00 p.m.

February

- 1 State Award Applications Due, MSU Extension Office, 5:00 p.m.
- 1-2 Michigan 4-H horse Judging Workshop, MSU Pavilion, East Lansing, MI
- 11 "Let's Get Egg-Cited About Embryology" Begins
- 18 President's Day, Office Closed
- 20 Horse Leaders' Association Meeting, MSU Extension Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.
- 24 4-H Day at the Breslin, Jack Breslin Student Center, East Lansing
- 28 Leaders' Association Meeting, MSU Extension Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.

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

January 26: State 4-H Rabbit Show

This one day event is open to Michigan 4-H members ages 8 to 19. Exhibitors may enter as many breeds as they wish. Spectators are welcome!

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/2019_state_4-h_rabbit_and_cavy_show

February 1: 4-H State Award Deadline

Submit your State Award application on time for careful review by the selection committee. The application may take several weeks to finalize, so be sure to get an early start.

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_state_awards

February 1-2: Michigan 4-H Horse Judging Workshop and Practice Contest

Participants will have the opportunity to judge high quality Quarter Horses and deliver a set of reasons after learning more about evaluating horses from Extension experts.

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/michigan_4_h_horse_judging_workshop_practice_contest

February 11– Let's Get Egg-cited about Embryology! (FREE)

Put on your lab coat and study the miracle of life using the scientific method with this fun, hands-on program! This five week program will allow youth to design an experiment, collect, data, and report their finding in the form of a scientific poster! This program will show youth the embryonic development of the chicken, the hatching process, and the importance of each phase all in just 1.5 hours a week! The main goal is to allow youth to ask questions, investigate using the scientific method, and, of course, these finding are unknown unless they are communicated! Let's get egg-cited about embryology and see some chicks hatch! Please join us for this great educational hands-on experience! For more information and registration visit: www.events.anr.msu.edu/CCEmbryology19 or email Hailey Harman at harmanha@msu.edu.

Cass County 4-H Leaders' Association Scholarship

The Cass County 4-H Leaders' Association will award college scholarships to two outstanding 4-H seniors from Cass County. **Application deadline is 5:00 p.m. on January 31, 2019. Must be postmarked by January 25, 2019.**

If you are interested in applying for this award, please stop in the MSU Extension office to pick up an application, or you may call the office to request the application be sent or emailed to you.

Interviews will be scheduled with selected individuals after the deadline. Remember to dress in 'business/interview' type apparel for your interview.

2018-2019 Enrollment Fees/4-H Online

Our new 4-H year began 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. To register for 2018-2019 go to www.mi.4honline.com

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 by the deadline, 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, 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 or you can mail your payment in.

Bylaws Workshop

Does your club have bylaws? When was the last time they were reviewed? Clubs with or without bylaws would benefit from this workshop being held on January 29th at 6:00 p.m. in the MSU Extension conference room. This workshop will allow you to ask questions and get insightful information on what exactly should be in your bylaws. We encourage **all** clubs to have a representative at this workshop to report back to the club. If you have bylaws, bring a copy with you! Please R.S.V.P. by phone or email to let us know if your club will be represented. **The deadline is January 24, 2019.**

Clubs 101: Leader Training

New clubs and existing clubs should join in on this fun, informational session before the Leaders' Association meeting on January 24th at 5:30 p.m. We will be covering the fundamentals of a club and a few financial policies. This is to get new clubs started out on the right foot but also allow existing clubs to grow and allow youth to flourish in the clubs. We encourage every club to have a representative at this training, especially since there is a Leaders' Association meeting after! Please **R.S.V.P. by January 21st** by phone or email to let us know if your club will be represented!

Michigan 4-H Robotics Leaders Workshop!

Enhance your engineering skills at the hands-on, 4-H Robotics Leaders Workshop, March 16-17, at the Kettunen Center in Tustin! The workshop is open to adult and teen volunteer leaders ages 13 and up. Learn more at http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/michigan_4_h_robotics_leaders_workshop_2019.

Exploration Days 2019

Exploration Days will take place June 19-21, 2019. This fun MSU pre-college program could be the highlight of your summer- it could even change your life! About 2,500 youth (ages 11-19) and chaperones from across Michigan attend annually. The 2019 registration book and forms will be available mid to late February 2019 in the MSU Extension office. Session assignments are made on a first come, first serve basis. More information to follow.

Volunteers

It has been brought to our attention that there were many errors with the number of years served at our last Senior/Leader Banquet. We need your help to capture the correct information. When you are enrolling on 4-H online it is very important that you check your years of service every year. When we run our reports, the information is coming from 4-H online. Please check this information and contact us as soon as possible so we can correct, if needed. This information is very important to us when it comes time for the Senior Leader awards banquet in the fall. Thank you for your help and thank you for all you do!

If you became a volunteer after 1995, only your adult years of service are to be counted as active years, not youth years.



2018 County Medal Winners

Congratulations to our 2018 County Medal Winners! If you were unable to attend, your certificates and medals can be picked up in the MSU Extension office.

Ella Boulanger	Legacy	Rabbit
Jena Bradley	Flaming Youth	Beef
Jena Bradley	Flaming Youth	Goat
Harmony Dohm	4-W	Rabbit
Triston Gless	Legacy	Photography
Katherine Gregory	Flaming Youth	Sheep
Andrew Harris	Flaming Youth	Sheep
Jamie Howard	North Red Hill	Cooking
Landon Jellison	Sleepy Hollow	Horse
Noah Krager	Legacy	Dairy
Noah Krager	Legacy	Shooting Sports
Jonathan Leach	Legacy	Photo Master
Jonathan Leach	Legacy	Livestock Master
Kate Mih	Hoofbeaters	Horse
Jade Milliken	5-H	Dog
Tyler Shindeldecker	4-W	Swine
Brianna Stockwell	North Red Hill	Poultry
Brianna Stockwell	North Red Hill	Swine
Amy Wyse	Sleepy Hollow	Citizenship
Amy Wyse	Sleepy Hollow	Key Club
Madeline Yuhas	Legacy	Achievement
Madeline Yuhas	Legacy	Livestock Master

2018 Outstanding Leader Award

Congratulations to Char Aardema from Hoofbeaters and Deb Duebner from Penn for being selected as the Cass County 2018 Outstanding Leaders. Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to our program! A very special thank you to our "Green Clovers" for their entertainment for the evening: Amy Wyse, Noah Krager, Jamie O'Brian and Katherine Gregory.

2018 Senior/Leader Banquet

Thank you to the Cass County Leaders Association for sponsoring the 70th Senior/Leader Banquet. Thank you to all of you who helped make this event possible.

Save the Date: Cass County Leaders' Association Auction

The Cass County Leaders' Association will be holding their annual auction on Saturday, March 16, 2019 at the Dowagiac Conservation Club in Dowagiac, MI. This year's theme will be "Surprise Treasures". More information will follow.

Statewide News

2019 State Award Applications now available

Michigan 4-H members 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.

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. Final candidates for the junior, senior and group level awards in each project area will be selected to participate in the State Awards program during 4-H Exploration Days in June, where final selection and announcement of winners will take place.

The application can be found at <http://bit.ly/2xWk3VO> and is due Feb. 1, 2019. For more information, contact Hailey Harman in the MSU Extension Office.

2019 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest for Michigan 4-H Members

Michigan 4-H youth can improve their science, knowledge, writing and research skills and win a cash prize by entering the 2019 4-H Beekeeping Essay Competition. This year's essay topic is *Honey Varietals, State to State*. Each jar of honey reflects an unrepeatable combination of climate, soil, weather and flowers. Each state has unique honey varietals that beekeepers can market to their customers. Contestants should identify one unique varietal to their state and discuss the flower's uniqueness and how beekeepers can effectively market that varietal. Please include a photo of the varietal's flower, an interview with a local beekeeper who collects this varietal, and a recipe that highlights the varietal.

The top three winners nationally will receive cash prizes of \$750, \$500 and \$250, and winning essays will be published in *ABF Quarterly*, the magazine of the American Beekeeping Federation.

Essay length should be 750 to 1000 words and will be judged on the scope of research, accuracy, creativity, conciseness and logic development of the topic. Download the complete rules at <https://bit.ly/2PuegUu> before beginning the contest. This contest is sponsored by the Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc., a non-profit corporation, to preserve the practice and the profession of beekeeping through education and research, established by the American Beekeeping Federation. Applications due March 1, 2019.

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4-H Day at the Breslin 2019

Free tickets are available from our county MSU Extension office for the 2019 4-H Day at the Breslin. Gather with 4-H friends, families, volunteers and staff to cheer on the MSU women's basketball team as they take on the University of Michigan Wolverines on Sunday, Feb. 24 at MSU's Jack Breslin Student Events Center.

Doors will open at 12:30 p.m. with the game beginning at 2 p.m. Make sure to come early to engage in the activities set up around the concourse showcasing various Michigan

4-H programs and events and to mingle with other Michigan State fans.

Wear your MSU Extension or 4-H green and white apparel to show your support!

Learn more at: <http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-breslin>.



**2019 Cass
County Fair**
**July 28-August
3, 2019**

Possession Dates and Weigh-Ins

The March Clover will have lots of important dates that you will need to remember for upcoming possession dates and mandatory weigh-ins for livestock. More information will follow.



Fair Registration with Blue Ribbon

NEW FOR 2019...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 entry registrations will be due on June 17, 2019 at 11:59 p.m. **NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE EXCEPTED!** As a reminder, please remember that fair registration is not the same as 4-H enrollment. When signing a 4-H member up you use the 4-H online system and when registering for the fair you use the Blue Ribbon system.

At this time, all pen reservations will still be on paper and the deadline for these forms will still be due by June 17, 2019, 5:00 p.m. at the MSU Extension office.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Swine Validations 2019

The 2019 swine validations and vaccinations will take place on Saturday, June 15, 2019 at the Cass County fair grounds from 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. If you can not attend this validation, you must have it done by your veterinarian.

Dog Information 2019

The dog program is looking for more club leaders! If someone is interested but unsure of their dog training ability, the superintendents would love to invite you to a class to learn the basics on training kids and dogs in a positive manner! Please contact Hailey Harman to let her know your availability so a single class can be created!

Record books for the dog program will be available in February! Previous books will still be cumulative but the superintendents are actively attempting to make the record books more age appropriate.

Qualification Dates: everyone must attend a qualification date (mandatory). They will be on Sunday, May 26th or Sunday, June 9, 2019 at Bergman's Animal Clinic.

Clean-Up Day: The 2019 clean-up day is scheduled for Wednesday, July 24, 2019 at the Cass County Fair Grounds. This is mandatory!

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Brooke Lamb, Superintendent at 269-462-3930.

Save the Date: Light Horse Driving Informational Meeting

The driving informational meeting will be on May 11, 2019 at the Cass District Library at 12:00 p.m. More driving dates will be available in the March Clover. Please contact Kim Blentlinger at 269-823-1677 for questions.

Let's Get Egg-cited About Embryology!

Cass County 4-H Program

Put on your lab coat and study the miracle of life using the scientific method with this fun, hands-on program!

Five week program, every Monday and Wednesday at 6: 00 pm starting February 11, 2019.

No experience needed, open to all youth, and FREE! For more information and registration please visit: www.events.anr.msu.edu/CCEmbryology19



For additional information, please contact Hailey Harman, Cass County 4-H Program Coordinator:

269-445-4438 Ext. 3 or harmanha@msu.edu

Sponsored By:

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension



2019 Discover Winter Nights

5:00 - 9:00 p.m.

\$2 per person



January 19, 26, February 2 & 9, 2019

T.K. Lawless Park

Monkey Run Street - Vandalia, MI

Winter is a GREAT time to enjoy your county parks!!!

Join us for:

- Warm fire
- Lighted tubing hill
- Lighted cross country skiing trail (3 miles)
- Tractor-pulled bobsled rides
- Crafts
- Star gazing demonstration
- Special activities
- and a LOTS of fun!

Private Tubing Parties
available throughout
the winter...
call us for details
and
scheduling!

**The Friends of the Cass County Parks
will have concessions available
for purchase, including hot chocolate!**

Winter Nights activities are held weather permitting -
Call 269-445-4458 and listen to the voice message or
check on Facebook to see if the event is happening!

