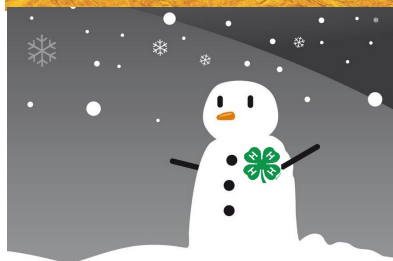


*Grand Traverse*

4-H Family News

DECEMBER 2019



Happy Holidays, 4-H Families!

As the end of 2019 approaches, bringing the crazy busy holiday season, your dedicated 4-H staff will be taking time to reflect on our many blessings and memories from the past year, and hope that your family does the same! The office will be closed December 24 and 25th as well as December 31st and January 1st, but we are

usually open from 8-5pm Monday thru Friday. Feel free to stop by the office to pay member participation fees or check out the lending resources we have available. Participation fees can be paid over the phone with a credit or debit card by calling our office. These fees can also be mailed to the office or stop by and pay with check, credit card or cash. Paying the participation fee will make youth an "active member" of Grand Traverse County 4-H. The fee is \$20 per youth with a cap of \$60 per family. Scholarships are available, just ask your club leader or our office staff. We hope you all have a wonderful holiday season and look forward to working with you next year!

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**Does your club know the do's & don'ts of fundraising?
Do you know what financial accountability entails?
What about all those financial forms?**

The 4-H Financial Management Toolkit can give you the answers! https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/4_h_financial_management_toolkit

The 4-H Financial Management Toolkit provides volunteers working with 4-H groups information needed to address financial matters in any 4-H group. The resources on this page supplement the materials in the 4-H Financial Manuals for 4-H volunteers and 4-H treasurers, including fillable PDFs, tip sheets and short videos that summarize a topic in five minutes or less. Check it out!

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4-H Dog Patch Program



The Michigan 4-H Dog Patch Program is designed to recognize the personal achievements of individuals participating in the 4-H dog project area.

The program has been in existence since 1987 and provides youth with goals to work towards in this project area. There are numerous patches available to reflect the varying disciplines in which youth can participate. In 2019, three new patches have been added; the Rally Intermediate, Rally Master and Beginning Novice.

For more information about the Michigan 4-H Dog Patch Program or to order patches, visit https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/4_h_dog_patch_program.

4-H Events and Workshops

December 3: Give Green Day

Statewide

Help Michigan 4-H reach their goal of raising \$5,000 in a 24-hour period on Giving Tuesday. Funds raised provide 4-H participant scholarship grants for youth who are unable to pay the 4-H youth participation fee.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4h-give-green-day>

December 12: Start Your Own Insect Collection

Macomb County MSU Extension Office, Clinton Township

This class will introduce collecting and preserving insects. All participants receive an insect collection box, set of pins, and leave the class with 10-20 pinned insects.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/starting-your-own-insect-collection>

December 14: Treat Yourself Workshop

Berrien County MSU Extension Office, Benton Harbor

A countywide project where youth will learn about chocolate and spa projects.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/berrien-county-4-h-treat-yourself-workshop>

December 15: 4-H Day at the Lions

Ford Field, Detroit

4-H members, families and friends are invited to the Dec. 15 Detroit Lions game. For every ticket purchased, \$10 will go back to county 4-H programs.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-lions-19>

December 30: 4-H Spa-Delicious Countywide Project

Van Buren County MSU Extension Office, Paw Paw

Learn how to make homemade body products in this fun and educational class. Each participant takes home their own bath fizzies, sugar scrub, lip balm and air freshener!

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-spa-delicious-countywide-project>

Save the Date

February 1: Michigan 4-H Winterfest

Kettunen Center, Tustin

A crowd favorite every year, this statewide event is for youth ages 8-12. A special emphasis is placed on providing sessions that offer hands-on learning.

View more 4-H events at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4h/events>.

STATEWIDE NEWS AREA



2019 State Award winners with their plaques at 4-H Exploration Days.

**Get ready for the 2020 4-H State
Award applications process!**

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.

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.

More information about the Michigan 4-H State Award process can be found online at https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_scholarships_and_recognition_program/4-h-awards-and-recognition-program/youth-recognition. Applications are due Feb. 1, 2020. For more information, contact Betty Jo Krosnicki at nashbett@msu.edu.

What can you do because of 4-H? Share for a chance to win!

Michigan 4-H'ers ages 11-12 are encouraged to share how 4-H has impacted them through the 4-H Mark of Excellence Essay Contest. A great introduction to the Michigan 4-H State Awards program, Mark of Excellence contestants write a 500 word essay on the topic of "Because of 4-H, I can..." Winners will receive a certificate of recognition and medal to commemorate their accomplishment.

Essays are due to respective county 4-H offices by February 1. County 4-H programs then select up to two youth essays as their representatives and submit those names and essays to the State 4-H Awards Committee. The committee uses the essays to inform the public about what 4-H means to youth and copies are also shared with the Michigan State 4-H Office, Michigan 4-H Foundation, and Kettunen Center.

For more additional information and instructions, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-scholarships-and-recognition-program/4-h-awards-and-recognition-program/youth-recognition-or-com> or contact Kelly Stelter at grandtke@msu.edu.

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**3 ways to get ready
for holiday
shopping - and
support 4-H while
you're at it!**

1. AmazonSmile will give 0.5% of eligible purchases to the Michigan 4-H Foundation when you shop at <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-1539997>.

2. JOANN's Fabrics
shoppers who use their
free 4-H loyalty card
([http://www.joann.com/4-
h/](http://www.joann.com/4-h/)) will save 15% while
also giving 2.5% back to
the National 4-H Council.

3. SHOP the 4-H online store - buy 4-H apparel and essentials for your favorite 4-H'ers! (<https://shop4-h.org/?rfsn=871792.16dd0>)

5% of the purchase will go back to Michigan 4-H!

