



Grand Traverse

4-H Family News

November 2019

Giving Thanks

With Thanksgiving just a few weeks away, it is a great time to reflect on all that we are thankful for. Here at the Grand Traverse County 4-H office, we are grateful for all of our 4-H leaders and volunteers, without whom we could not impact the lives of so many youth! We are also grateful for all the youth that make our clubs so vibrant, and the families who give their children participation opportunities such as 4-H! We are also thankful for the support of the community!



Giving Back

Traverse City High School was very grateful to receive such a generous donation from Grand Traverse County 4-H! Students and staff were on hand to receive the items from Gretchen Sauvage, on behalf of the GT County 4-H Advisory Council, who chose Traverse City High School as one of their serve and learn projects for this year. The council will be accepting donations from 4-H clubs through the end of November; please see page 4 for a list of items needed!

4-H Volunteer Honored with “Friend of Extension Award”

Sandi Pyle was recently honored at the annual MSU Fall Extension Conference for 50 outstanding years of service to local 4-H programs with the Friend of Extension Award, given by Epsilon Sigma Phi. “Mamma Sandi” has made a difference in the lives of hundreds of 4-H members and alumni with her leadership, guidance, vision and commitment. Thank you, Sandi, for everything you have done for 4-H families!

Sandi with Jeff Dwyer, MSU Extension Director



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STATEWIDE 4-H EVENTS

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Michigan 4-H partners with MSU's Women's Leadership Institute to energize women leaders

Every day, in every way, women are leaders. To learn more about female leadership, 21 youth gathered together on September 24 to attend the Michigan State University (MSU) [Women's Leadership Institute](#) (WLI). An annual event now in its fourth consecutive year, the WLI is designed to empower women students with leadership aspirations.



A collaborative effort between MSU's College of Social Science, MSU alumni, professional women and students, the WLI seeks to ignite the passion of women leaders. Among the institute's executive board is Dr. Amy Bonomi, director of children and youth programming for MSU Extension. Bonomi worked to include high-school students for the first time in this year's event.

"One of the 2019 WLI themes was 'we're never not leaders' and we know youth are leaders in their own communities, every day," said Bonomi. "They're leaders in clubs, churches, schools, friend groups and even their families. So as we thought about this year's event, we knew it was the perfect time to invite high-schoolers to participate."

[Michigan 4-H](#) led the youth component of the event. Youth ages 14–19 were invited to attend a special pre-reception hosted by Bonomi and Dr. Erica Tobe, associate director of children and youth programming for MSU Extension. Several other members of MSU Extension's 4-H staff also supported the pre-reception, and MSU Athletics Chief of Staff Alan Haller and [MSU College of Agriculture and Natural Resources](#) (CANR) Dean Ron Hendrick delivered keynote addresses.

"Having the ability to listen to adults with higher experiences than what I have had so far in my life, and being able to identify and relate with the things they have gone through on their own leadership journeys was an opportunity like no other," said Savannah Mauk, an Eaton County 4-H'er.

After the keynote presentations, the youth interacted with the speakers, CANR and MSU Extension staff and each other to share their leadership stories. Following the reception, youth attended a WLI panel discussion at the Wharton Center, which featured world leaders Carolyn Woo, Tiffany L. Jones and Anne Whelan. Youth also participated in a pre-session in advance of the reception that discussed the themes of the evening and how to share their own leadership stories.

"The WLI was an awesome opportunity that challenged everyone, regardless of their stage in life, to be a better leader and develop their leadership skills," said Grace Schmidt, a 4-H'er from Livingston County. "I left the WLI feeling inspired to embrace authenticity in my own leadership," said another 4-H'er, Addy Battel of Huron County. "That experience is having lasting effects on my personal life."

Plans are already underway for another youth-focused event to be held in collaboration with the 2020 WLI.

Michigan 4-H to participate in Giving Tuesday

On Dec. 3, Michigan 4-H is once again teaming up with Michigan State University in their Give Green Day campaign held in conjunction with Giving Tuesday. The ultimate goal is to engage Michigan 4-H alumni and friends in an online effort to make real-time, fast, easy and secure gifts in support of Michigan 4-H. All funds raised will support 4-H participation fee scholarship grants for youth who are unable to pay the 4-H youth participation fee.

From 12 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. EST, Michigan 4-H supporters are invited to participate in Give Green Day by giving their support financially or helping spread the word via social media channels and word of mouth.

During the 24-hour period, Michigan 4-H members, volunteers and supporters will have the chance to support Michigan 4-H through various challenges published on social media. Follow along using #GiveGreenDay on your social media channels to help Michigan 4-H earn bonus funds. Learn more about Giving Tuesday and Give Green Day at <https://givingday.msu.edu/>.

**Register now
for the 2020
State 4-H Rabbit
& Cavy Show!**



The State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show will be held on January 25, 2020 at the MSU Pavilion in East Lansing. This one-day event is open to participants age 8 to 19. To enter, exhibitors must be Michigan 4-H members and own the rabbits or cavies they enter.

Youth may enter as many breeds as they wish at bit.ly/31KaOpQ. Pre-entry for this event is optional.

Spectators are welcome!

4-H Events and Workshops

November 8: Gladwin County 4-H Fish Fry Fundraiser

Knights of Columbus, Gladwin

Gladwin County 4-H in partnership with the Gladwin Knights Of Columbus will be hosting its annual Fish Fry Fundraiser. Come enjoy fish and support 4-H!

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/gladwin-county-4-h-fish-fry-fundraiser>

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 5: Family Holiday Open house

Plant & Soil Science Building, East Lansing

This free event provides the opportunity to purchase decorations and immerse yourself in a world of poinsettias. Santa will also be a part of the event starting at 5:30 p.m.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/family-holiday-openhouse>

Save the Date!

January 31—February 1: 4-H Horse Judging Workshop & Mini Contest

MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

February 1: 4-H Horse Benefit Clinic

MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

February 21-22: 4-H Veterinary Science Leaders Workshop

Kettunen Center, Tustin

February 22-23: 4-H Beef, Sheep & Swine Leaders Workshop

Kettunen Center, Tustin

March 7: 4-H Dog Workshop

MSU Anthony Hall, East Lansing

March 13-15: 4-H Dairy Conference

Kettunen Center, Tustin

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

Traverse City High School List of Needs

Dear 4-Her's and Leaders:

The Grand Traverse 4-H Advisory Board sponsors a couple serve and learn projects each year. We have again chosen to help the students at **Traverse City High School**, where many are homeless or young parents, for our fall serve project. After speaking to the Social Worker at the school, we were sent the following list of needs.

Men's boxer briefs, all sizes including 2xl

Men's regular boxers, same sizes

No show socks, both men and women

Women's bikini underwear, all sizes

Diapers all sizes except 2's (really need size 6)

Pull ups (2t-3t)

Formula

Washcloths

Laundry detergent (smaller ones)

Dish soap

Student snacks (prepackaged such as granola bars, fruit cups, etc)

Canned meat (tuna and/or chicken)

Bata passes

Gas cards

Gift cards

We are asking clubs and youth to help fulfill the wish list. Items can be brought to the November Livestock meeting or dropped off at the 4-H office-MSU Extension Building through November.

Thank you,

Gretchen Sauvage

Grand Traverse County Leader's Advisory Board Secretary/
Treasurer