



CLOVER CHRONICLES

February 2021

Isabella County

Inside this issue:

<i>Club Corner</i>	2
<i>Teddy Bear Project</i>	3
<i>Fun Learning Links Resource Page</i>	4
<i>Statewide Calendar of Events</i>	5
<i>Statewide News</i>	6
<i>State Awards Informational Meeting</i>	7
<i>Cooking With Kristi</i>	8
<i>4-H Calendar</i>	9

Community Service/Service Ideas

Welcome to Michigan 4-H and Learning to Give Partnership. We are so excited to be more intentional about serving our communities across the state. Many 4-H clubs participate in service during the year and your communities are so grateful. In partnership with Learning to Give, Michigan 4-H is offering monthly lesson ideas from the Learning to Give website. We have lessons selected for the full 4-H year with quarterly support Zoom meetings to share and ask questions. We invite all clubs to participate. Everything is possible to do virtually!

To learn more, visit: https://www.canr.msu.edu/community_service_learning/Philanthropy-Service-Education/

4-H Mark of Excellence Award

The 4-H Mark of Excellence Award is a division of the 4-H State Awards Program for 11 and 12 year old 4-H members. To enter, write an essay on the theme, "Because of 4-H I can...." Deadline for submission is April 1. If you need assistance or help or to submit your essay, send an email to Kristi at schrei61@msu.edu.

For more information:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_scholarships_and_recognition_program/4-h-awards-and-recognition-program/youth-recognition/

Isabella County 4-H STEAM Corps News

All Isabella County youth are welcome to join 4-H STEAM Clubs. 4-H STEAM Clubs are SPIN Clubs (SPecial INterest Clubs) that focus on topics related to science, technology, engineering, art, and math.



While we are not able to meet face-to-face at this time, we are providing club opportunities virtually, via email, and by using the USPS for packets of information/activities sent directly to members. Club topics are chosen by members and have included Crime Scene Investigation, Winter Science, the Art of Math, Jr. Audubon Explorers, Monarch Conservation, Lifecycles in Nature, and CodeBreakers! Upcoming clubs include Winter Gardening, Zooming Among Us/Zoombaloo!, Germ Hunters, and more!

If you are 5-19 years old and interested in science, adventure, exploring, fun, and learning, please complete this survey <https://forms.gle/jj8ZghfdrMuRwjWv9> and contact Mary Lee Humphreys, 4-H STEAM Corps Coordinator at humph186@msu.edu for more information.



Protected Under
18 U.S.C. 707



CLUB CORNER

Canine Clovers - We started the new year with a service project. Our club collected requested items for the local animal shelter (HATS). During our virtual meeting this month, members were able to work with their dogs on a specific skill.

Retrograde Rhapsody - At our December meeting, we discussed small acts of kindness that can have a big impact. We also took time to relax and play holiday bingo. We shared a lot of laughs and enjoyed the time to get to know each other better. At our January meeting, we planned and organized our upcoming community service project. Then we conquered some creative virtual games together, including navigating a maze, hide and seek, and testing our virtual agility.

Teen Representatives Needed on 4-H Council

What is the Isabella County 4-H Council? The 4-H Council is the main decision-making body for the county 4-H program. It is responsible for working with the paid staff to support county 4-H program planning, administration and policy making. The Council is charged with keeping track of "the big picture" for our county 4-H program. It assists with volunteer recruitment, 4-H awareness building, and it oversees things such as member and volunteer recognition and the county award program. Monthly meetings (the 4th Tuesday of the month) are held virtually via Zoom at this time and are open to all 4-H leaders and interested people.

Link to application: http://www.canr.msu.edu/isabella/isabella_county_4_h/newsletters-and-forms

United Way "PITCH-ER THIS"

PITCH-ER THIS is a youth development competition sponsored by the Gratiot-Isabella United Way. Students team up to "pitch" an idea that will benefit their school or community by providing quality education, financial stability, or healthy lifestyles.

4-H members have great ideas for community improvement, and this is the chance to see those ideas become a reality! Get together with classmates, friends, club members, or siblings to create a team for "PITCH-ER This".

Previous winning ideas include health fair attractions, programs with guest speakers, field trip funding, and more.

For more information or to complete an application: <https://www.uwgic.org/pitch>

The application deadline is February 12, 2021. If your idea is chosen for competition, electronic presentations will be submitted no later than March 19, 2021.



4-H has been contacted by R.I.S.E. to help provide approximately 100 Teddy Bear shells per year that can be decorated and stuffed by children staying in the domestic violence shelters in Clare, Gratiot and Isabella counties. These projects will hopefully provide a wholesome activity for those children and also be a comfort for them during and after their stay at the shelter. Participation in this survey is not a commitment, but we will be contacting you to verify your involvement.

The needs for this project are primarily members willing to cut out and sew teddy bear shells with a Velcro opening for stuffing. The actual stuffing and decoration of the bears will be done by the children at the shelters. We are also looking for those willing to donate material for the teddy bears, though we are able to provide material for those that do not have it. We will be providing the patterns and will ask that everyone uses the same patterns for ease of use and consistency at the shelters.

This may be done as a club, family or individual project. We will be working with each group to arrange the best way to deliver and pickup needed materials and completed projects. This may change over time depending on the county and state policies for pandemic related reasons.

Again, thank you for your interest and we look forward to the awesome impact our members will have on our communities.

Sincerely,

Kristi Schreiber, Isabella County 4-H PC

Alex Schunk, Clare County 4-H PC

Chris Thompson, Gratiot County 4-H PC

Attention Administrative Leaders

With clubs still not able to meet in a face to face format, Kristi is more than happy to assist you with virtual club meetings and meeting set-ups, and she would love to attend as well! With this virtual “new norm”, one of the benefits is that we are able to obtain more guest speakers and educators who are now more easily able to participate in meetings because they can avoid traveling from distances.

If you have topics of interest, please reach out to Kristi (schrei61@msu.edu or 989-330-5131) and she will contact or connect you with a guest speaker for a club activity.

Fun Learning Links Resource Page

Be sure to check out our **NEW Fun Learning Links** page for online educational opportunities! Lots of great learning opportunities for families or leaders to use as a learning piece for virtual meetings with their clubs.

Check it out: https://www.canr.msu.edu/isabella/isabella_county_4_h/fun-learning-links



LIKE our Isabella County

4-H Facebook page to
stay up to date on all the

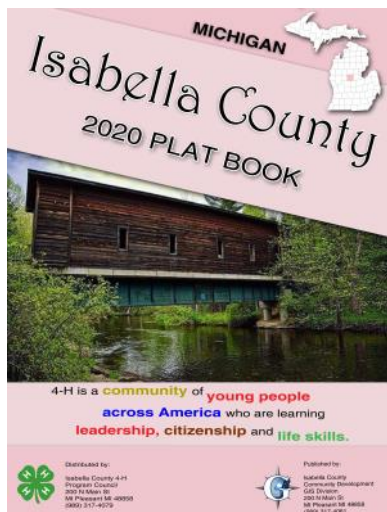
latest news and events:

<https://www.facebook.com/IsabellaCounty4H/>

Get Text Reminders

To receive reminder text messages (via Remind App) with important dates and times of Isabella County 4-H events:

Text “@6c82ek6”
to “81010”



NEW Isabella County Plat Books Now Available

Cost for each book is \$30 and can be purchased at Isabella County Register of Deeds, Jay's Sporting Goods, Farm Service Agency in Mt. Pleasant or Farwell Trading Post.

STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Coming soon: virtual
4-H Capitol Experience
Youth Summit**



Save the date for the 4-H Capitol Experience Youth Summit, March 13, 17 and 20!

This fully virtual event will have opportunities for youth engagement, networking, sharing ideas, meeting with decision makers, learning about careers in and around policy, and learning the basics about government.

Youth will select issue groups, which will become small group learning cohorts throughout the event.

Sessions will be held:

- March 13, 10 a.m.- 1 p.m.
- March 17, 4—6 p.m.
- March 20, 10 a.m.- 1 p.m.

This event is open to youth in eighth grade through age 19; registration will begin in February. The \$20 cost to attend will include a mailed conference kit to enhance the virtual experience. Scholarships are available.

4-H Events and Workshops

February 1-28: Cooking with Kristi

Online

This six-part on-demand video series will provide participants with access to instructional cooking videos and a private Facebook group. Youth will learn kitchen safety and sanitation, recipes for tasty and economical foods, and cooking techniques and terms.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/cooking-with-kristi

February 2: Life of the Straits Winter Edition

Zoom Webinar

The program will take place Tuesdays and Thursdays through Feb. 9. Each session will share information on amazing features of the Straits of Mackinac and the wonderful winter activities you can enjoy there. This program is ideal for youth 8-12 years but is open to any family.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/life-of-the-straits-winter-edition-2021-feb-2

February 9: Wild Spartans Series—Working with Honeybees

Zoom Webinar

Join each month to meet scientists from across MSU Extension, the MSU Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. In February, attendees will hear from an entomologist and learn what the buzz really is about bees!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-series-february

February 13: MSU Tollgate Farm Homegrown Gardening Series

Zoom Webinar

Interested in starting a vegetable garden for the first time or are you an experienced veggie

gardener looking to explore new ideas? All levels of experience are welcome at this new series designed to encourage and support home vegetable gardeners! Sessions will be held monthly.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-tollgate-farm-homegrown-gardening-series-2021-feb-13

February 18: MSU Tollgate Farm Stewards Virtual Winter Series

Zoom Webinar

This youth-led series, occurring monthly, is a safe place for past, present, and future MSU

Tollgate Farm stewards and stewards-in-training to connect or reunite as a community and to explore resiliency and growth as youth leaders.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-tollgate-farm-stewards-virtual-winter-series-2021-feb-18

February 20: 4-H in the Kitchen Live! Baked Corndogs

Zoom Webinar

Participants will learn how to prepare a healthier version of a corndog.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-in-the-kitchen-live-baked-corndogs

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

STATEWIDE NEWS AREA

Update on Michigan 4-H programming

A message from MSU Extension Director Jeff Dwyer and Jake DeDecker, state leader of Michigan 4-H Youth Development

To say that 2020 was difficult is an understatement. The COVID-19 pandemic and the losses and life changes that came along with it took its toll on many of us. At MSU Extension and Michigan 4-H, we felt the pain that comes with cancelling events and pivoting exclusively to online programming.



You'd be hard pressed to find anyone—inside or outside Extension—who isn't eager to get back to face-to-face programming. We understand that our Michigan 4-H families are missing incredible experiences and connections that were built through in-person gatherings and programs.

We are making plans to resume face-to-face programming, and we look forward to engaging 4-H'ers, their families and volunteers. Our staff is working diligently to chart a path toward resuming in-person programming when the threat to public health caused by COVID-19 greatly diminishes. Though it is premature to cite a specific date, we are eager to see you all at the events, club meetings, competitions and fairs we all have grown to love.

In the meantime, we are committed to bringing high-quality virtual programming to residents and communities with varying needs throughout the state. We encourage 4-H'ers and clubs to continue meeting via zoom and engage in the many virtual educational programs offered by 4-H. For more information on virtual programs and resources or help setting up 4-H club meetings, contact your 4-H program coordinator or visit MSU Extension Remote Learning and Resources web page at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/rhr/>. Thank you for all that you do. We hope to see you soon.



World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute applications due April 1

As millions across the globe deal with food insecurity, the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute (WFP MIYI) offers young people an opportunity to be part of the solution. On May 6, youth will join virtually to become inspired and prepared as the next generation of global leaders to end world hunger.

Attendees will have the opportunity to share their ideas related to global food security with experts and other Michigan youth while learning how university faculty and staff members, researchers and students are working to address world hunger.

To participate, youth should be in grades 7-12 and register by the April 1 deadline. As part of the registration process, youth are required to prepare a two- to five-page research paper about a developing country and how it is affected by one of 20 key factors that impact food security. At the online event, youth will present and discuss their papers with other attendees and research and industry experts. They will also participate in an interactive session with global challenge experts to learn more about topics related to global food and food security.

The top performing students at the WFP MIYI will be considered as possible delegates to attend the World Food Prize Global Youth Institute in Des Moines, Iowa, or virtually, in October. For more information, visit www.canr.msu.edu/wfpmyi/. Registration will open on March 1; registration and papers are due by April 1.

**TIME Magazine
selects 4-H'er as
"Kid of the Year"**

TIME

Congratulations to Colorado 4-H'er Gitanjali Rao, TIME Magazine's Kid of the Year! At age 15, Gitanjali is the first 4-H'er to ever be selected for the honor.

Gitanjali earned the distinction for her efforts to address a range of major problems. Utilizing STEM, she has worked on issues that include contaminated drinking water, opioid addiction and cyberbullying. It is her belief that young innovators such as her hold the key to solving world problems.

Read more about Gitanjali's 4-H story and experiences in her interview with TIME:

<https://time.com/5916772/kid-of-the-year-2020/>.

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension

Isabella County 4-H State Awards Informational Meeting with Kristi

(via Zoom)

AGES:**13-19** (by 1/1/21)**DATE:****Tuesday, February 9****TIME:****7:00 PM****REGISTRATION:**

Email your name and age to Kristi at schrei61@msu.edu



MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer. "Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the MSU Extension office at (989) 317-4079 at least 5 days prior to the scheduled event to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements. Requests received after this time will be met when possible."



The 4-H State Awards Program provides a learning experience that includes developing tools and experiences to be successful. In addition, the 4-H State Award Program provides opportunities for youth to be recognized for the great work that they do in their local communities.

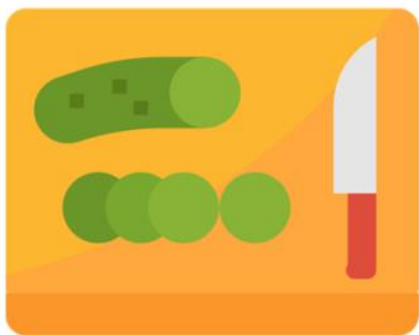
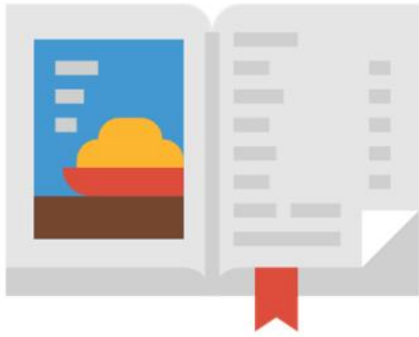
Please join Kristi for a Zoom meeting as she explains the 4-H State Awards program, and answers questions relating to the application process, the timeline and how she will best be able to assist you in participating in this prestigious opportunity.

For More Information **State Awards Website**

[https://
www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_scholarships_and_recognition_program/4-h-awards-and-recognition-program/youth-recognition/](https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_scholarships_and_recognition_program/4-h-awards-and-recognition-program/youth-recognition/)

Overview Video of the 4-H State Awards Program

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?
time_continue=82&v=RgsEF13sLq4&feature=emb_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=82&v=RgsEF13sLq4&feature=emb_logo)



COOKING WITH KRISTI

Learn

- new recipes
- kitchen safety
- cooking terms & techniques

Your free enrollment includes access to a private Facebook group where you can access six videos to watch on your schedule. You will also receive a PDF to go along with each video that includes the recipe and other valuable info.

This series is recommended for youth 10 and up or younger with help from an adult.

To register:

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/Cooking2021/>



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension

All youth who post pictures of all six recipes by April 1, 2021 will be entered into a drawing for a prize package of fun kitchen items! Participants who confirm they have completed the survey included in the initial welcome email will get an additional entry into the drawing. There will be up to 5 winners.

Isabella County
200 N. Main Street
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Phone: (989) 317-4079
Fax: (989) 773-1622

Website:
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/isabella/>

Get Text Reminders

To receive reminder text messages (via Remind App) with important dates and times of Isabella County 4-H events:

Text “@6c82ek6” to “81010”

LIKE our Isabella County 4-H Facebook page to stay up to date on all the latest news and events:



<https://www.facebook.com/IsabellaCounty4H/>



NEW Isabella County Plat Books Now Available

Cost for each book is \$30 and can be purchased at Isabella County Register of Deeds, Jay's Sporting Goods, Farm Service Agency, or Farwell Trading Post.

Isabella County 4-H Calendar

February		
2	Horse Leaders via Zoom	7 PM
9	State Awards Informational Meeting via Zoom	7 PM
17	Shooting Sports Committee via Zoom	7 PM
18	Small Animal Association via Zoom	7 PM
23	4-H Council via Zoom	7 PM

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status. Issued in furtherance of MSU Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Jeffrey W. Dwyer, Director, MSU Extension, East Lansing, MI 48824. This information is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply endorsement by MSU Extension or bias against those not mentioned.

"Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the MSU Extension office at (989) 317-4079 at least 5 days prior to the scheduled event to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements. Requests received after this time will be met when possible."

Kristi Schreiber, 4-H Program Coordinator
schrei61@msu.edu

Nonie Gross, Secretary
Paul Gross, Extension Educator
Eric Karbowski, Extension Educator
Kara Lynch, Extension Educator
Sabrina McGee, SNAP-ED PI