



CLOVER CHRONICLES

March 2021

Isabella County

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VERY IMPORTANT - Volunteer Central

****Attention Volunteer Leaders****

It is imperative that you check your junk and spam email for emails coming from Volunteer Central regarding your volunteer status. Many of you are in need of updating your background authorizations and code of conducts. MSUE sends out emails to update you when you need to go in and reauthorize and sign.

Kristi has been sending emails, making phone calls and leaving messages that many times go unanswered. By March 1, if you are not in compliance with your background check and code of conduct as an existing and approved volunteer, you will be receiving a dismissal letter as per instructions from Michigan 4-H. It is vital that you keep up with your status.

We value you as an Isabella County volunteer and would hate for you to have to complete the entire process again.

If you have any questions, please contact Kristi at schrei61@msu.edu or (989) 330-5131.

Teen Reps Needed on 4-H Council

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

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/



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CLUB CORNER

Canine Clovers - We participated in another community service project for this year. Members baked 18 quarts of homemade dog treats! We donated them to the Midland area Leader Dog for the Blind puppy raisers. The Puppy Raisers have already expressed their gratitude to our group for their thoughtfulness and encouragement.

Retrograde Rhapsody - In February, we sent homemade Valentines, sweet treats, and little gifts to the residents and staff at Prestige Place. At our February meeting, we discussed our Valentine project with Prestige Place and discussed future projects. Then we managed to get ourselves trapped in a wizard escape room. Each family had their own set of clues, but we worked together to solve the various puzzles. We snacked on jelly beans through the sorting hat, wands, flying keys, a magic map, a chess game, and some not so good tasting jelly beans to free our whole club. We escaped the wizard escape room and loved every minute of it.



Tally-Ho members held a virtual cooking/chopped competition in February.



Scholarship Opportunities

Isabella County 4-H Scholarship

Isabella County offers two \$500 scholarships to 4-H members or former members each year. The scholarship recipient must be enrolled at an institution of higher learning and have been involved with 4-H in Isabella County. The scholarship is not limited to college freshmen.

To get an application, click here: [Isabella County 4-H Scholarship](#). Applications are due back to Kristi (schrei61@msu.edu) by April 20. The scholarship recipients will be notified by May 15.

Kathryn Methner Fike Scholarship

For high school seniors and current college students. Thank you to the family of Kathryn Virginia Methner Fike for establishing a \$1000 scholarship in her name to benefit 4-H members in Isabella County.

Kathryn Virginia Methner Fike was born on the farm of her parents in northeast Wise Township, Isabella County on Nov 21, 1918. Except for a few winters in Florida, she spent all most 96 years within 5 miles of her birthplace. She married Lester Fike on March 29, 1936 and spent over 60 years on what became the Fike Centennial Homestead. In her childhood years, she was a member of a 4-H sewing club lead by her mother, Daisy Methner. After having children of her own, she became a leader, too. She served in this capacity for many years. Kathryn took great pride in the accomplishments of her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren in their 4-H activities.

4-H has been a top priority in Kathryn's family for 5 generations and so it is with pride that her family is honoring Kathryn's many years of dedication to 4-H education in Isabella County with this scholarship.

Application is available at: https://www.canr.msu.edu/isabella/isabella_county_4_h/newsletters-and-forms. Applications are due back to Kristi (schrei61@msu.edu) by April 20. The scholarship recipient will be notified by May 15.

Isabella County 4-H STEAM Corps News

Currently, there are many 4-H STEAM Clubs occurring virtually throughout the state. If you are interested in Isabella County STEAM Clubs, please complete this survey <https://forms.gle/jj8ZghfdrMuRwjWr9> or contact Mary Lee Humphreys, 4-H STEAM Corps Coordinator at humph186@msu.edu for more information.



Club topics are chosen by members by completing the survey. Previous clubs have included Crime Scene Investigation, Jr. Audubon Explorers, Monarch Conservation, and CodeBreakers!

Our current club is Germ Hunters, and Zoombaloo will be starting in March. If you are 5-19 years old and interested in science, adventure, exploring, fun, and learning - join a club!



MICHIGAN 4-H Beekeeping Essay Competition

Submission Deadline: April 1, 2021

Michigan 4-H youth can improve their writing and research skills and have the opportunity to win a cash prize. Complete contest details are available at our [4-H Beekeeping website](#). Participants must be active 4-H club members and may meet this requirement by joining the 4-H Bee SPIN club which will soon be announced.

2021 Essay Topic: *Immunity: Threats to Bee Colonies and Methods to Defend Against the Threats*

Honey bee colonies have developed many ways to stay healthy. Their immune responses range from behaviors such as grooming to using materials such as propolis, a plant-derived substance bees coat on the interior of a hive for antimicrobial purposes. Even the gut of the honey bee contains beneficial bacteria to help the bee stay healthy! In your essay, name at least two threats (a parasite such as *Varroa*, a pathogen such as a virus, a predator such as a bear, etc.) to honey bee colonies and then discuss the methods colonies use to defend against the threats.

One winner will be selected from all Michigan 4-H entries and forwarded to the National 4-H Beekeeping Essay Competition. Cash prizes are awarded; 1st place is \$750. The three prize-winning essays will be published in *ABF Quarterly*, the magazine of the American Beekeeping Federation. All authors of essays submitted to the national competition will receive a relevant book on honey bees, beekeeping or honey.

Dance Party SPIN Club

April 12 - April 16

This club will meet virtually every day from 4:00 - 5:15 p.m. Explore computer coding by programming your own Dance Party! This is an introduction to computer coding. Participants will need access to the internet to go to the coding site. This 4-H SPIN Club is **FREE** and **OPEN** to ALL youth ages 8 to 14. For more information and to register: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/4HDancePartySPINClub/>.

This 4-H SPIN Club will meet virtually via [Zoom](#) (both computer and smartphone accessible). Zoom link information will only be sent to event registrants that complete their 4-H Online enrollment by April 8th (Club is listed under Livingston County – SPIN Club Dance Party Club).

JOIN US ONLINE!

4-H DANCE PARTY SPIN CLUB

*An introduction to computer coding by
programming your own Dance Party!
Open to all youth aged 8 to 14.*

Sign up by April 8th!
Starts: Monday, April 12-16, 2021
From: 4-5:15 pm

Questions: Christine Miller email at
johns832@msu.edu or call
(517)552-6905

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

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



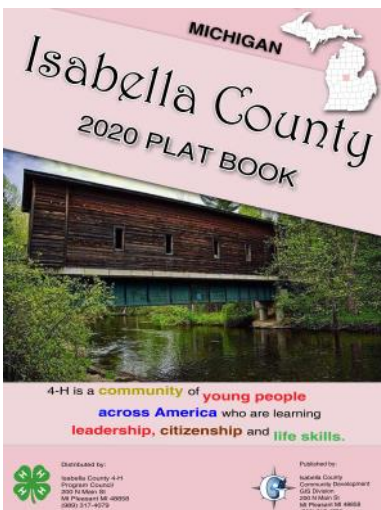
LIKE our Isabella County 4-H Facebook page to stay up to date on all the latest news and events:

<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

Michigan 4-H presents American Ninja Warrior Daniel Gil



Join Michigan 4-H on March 24 for a special presentation by 2020 American Ninja Warrior winner Daniel Gil!

During the free virtual event, Gil will discuss overcoming obstacles. This unique opportunity is open to all Michigan youth and their families.

The event will take place at 6:30 p.m. EST. Preregistration is required. To register, visit www.canr.msu.edu/events/daniel-gil-presentation.

4-H Events and Workshops

March 4— April 8: 4-H Trail Cameras 101 SPIN Club

Zoom Webinar

Explore ecosystems, Michigan wildlife, and citizen science by examining trail camera footage. The club will meet each Thursday from 5-6 p.m. EST through April 8.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-trail-cameras-101-spin-club

March 9: Wild Spartans Series - Searching for Vernal Pools

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 March, dive into the springtime ephemeral pools in the woods to discover the treasures within!

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

March 10: Officer Training - Virtual Edition!

Zoom Webinar

This training is open to all 4-Hers in Berrien, Clinton, Eaton, Gratiot, Ingham, Ionia, Kalamazoo, Montcalm, St. Joseph and Van Buren counties. The youth-focused training will offer instruction on running club meetings virtually and tips for voting in a virtual meeting, as well as provide an opportunity to try out various features.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/officer-training-virtual-edition-march-10

March 18: MSU Tollgate Farm Stewards Virtual Winter Series 2021

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-march-18

March 16: 4-H Give Green Day

Everywhere

Michigan 4-H is once again joining MSU's #GiveGreenDay. Help reach the goal of raising \$5,000 in a 24-hour period to support Michigan 4-H youth.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4h-give-green-day

March 23: The Roots and Branches of Your Family Tree

Zoom Webinar

Ever wondered about the traditions in your family, where they came from or how they settled where they are now? Join this webinar to learn how to start researching your family tree.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/the-roots-and-branches-of-your-family-tree>

April 1: 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest Deadline

4-H youth have the opportunity to develop writing and research skills, earn cash and become published through 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-beekeeping-essay-contest-deadline

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

STATEWIDE NEWS AREA

Apply for a 2021 4-H State Award!

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.



2019 State Award winners with their plaques

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.

More information about the Michigan 4-H State Award process can be found online at <http://bit.ly/stateaward>. Applications are due April 1, 2021. For more information, contact your 4-H program coordinator or email Janice Zerbe at rajzerj@msu.edu.



Join the Michigan 4-H LGBTQIA+ Alliance leadership team!

Youth ages 15-19 are invited to apply for the new Michigan 4-H LGBTQIA+ Alliance leadership team to help create a friendly, positive environment for Michigan youth and communities. The Michigan 4-H LGBTQIA+ Alliance is the brainchild of two Michigan 4-H teens who attended the [2020 National 4-H True Leaders in Equity Institute](#) and were inspired to create positive change in their 4-H community.

Applications are being accepted for the teen leadership team that will serve as advisors for the state-level Alliance. These leaders will develop leadership skills and help to create opportunities for LGBTQIA+ youth and allies to come together in fun, positive, and supportive ways. While this group is being established through Michigan 4-H, youth do NOT need to be 4-H'ers to apply; this opportunity is open to all teens interested in supporting the inclusion and participation of LGBTQIA+ youth and allies in Michigan 4-H.

Teen leaders will meet two to three times per month and should plan on committing about three hours of their time each month. The first meeting will be in April. This teen leadership team is just the beginning; additional opportunities will be available for youth who wish to serve on regional or local Alliance leadership teams, as well as join and participate as members.

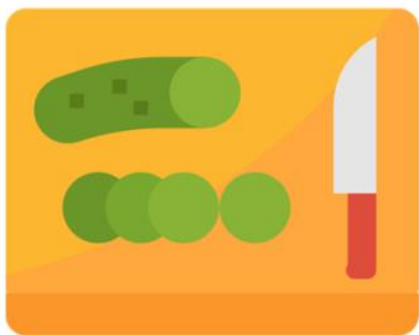
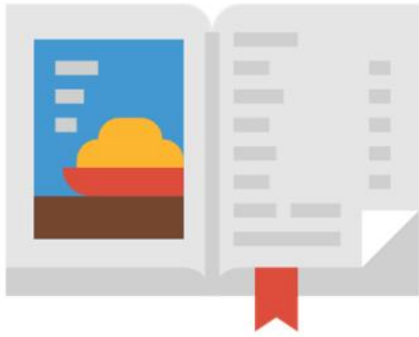
Applications from prospective youth leadership members will be accepted from February 15 – March 15 at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/4hlgbtqia/>. Youth interested in learning more about the Michigan 4-H LGBTQIA+ Alliance are encouraged to attend an optional Zoom open house on Tuesday, March 9 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Preregistration is required to participate in the open house, and can be completed at <https://bit.ly/3q6vID8>. For more information, please contact MSU Extension Educator Brian Wibby at wibby@msu.edu.

4-H Youth in Action Awards Applications Now Open



Apply now for the 2022 4-H Youth in Action Awards! Each year, the program recognizes four confident young leaders with diverse backgrounds and unique perspectives in the pillar areas of agriculture, civic engagement, healthy living and STEM. Winners will have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to share their stories along with unforgettable experiences, celebration on the national stage, recognition in the media and a \$5,000 college scholarship.

This opportunity is open to youth age 15-19. The deadline to apply is March 29. Learn more and apply at <https://4-h.org/parents/4-h-youth-in-action-awards/>



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/>



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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/>

SAVE THE DATES

4-H Exploration Days
June 22-24

Isabella County 4-H Calendar

March		
2	Horse Leaders 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

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“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