



CLOVER CHRONICLES

September 2020

Isabella County

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4-H Recognition Banquet

The Isabella County 4-H Council deeply regrets that we will have to cancel our annual Recognition Banquet due to the Covid-19 pandemic in accordance to the rules set forth by Michigan State University and Michigan State University Extension. We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the banquet next year!

Seeking Adult 4-H Council Representatives

We have four board positions up for election: Becki Crampton, Darlene Misenhelder, Micca Crampton and Mallory O'Dell have all graciously agreed to run again. We are accepting nominations "from the floor." This is open to any registered adult volunteer leader of the Isabella County 4-H program who has completed at least one year of volunteer service and is currently enrolled as a volunteer leader.

Please email your nominations to Kristi Schreiber, schrei61@msu.edu by September 30. If no nominations are received, we will accept the slate as presented.

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.

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

Attention All Youth Cooks

Please be watching for our new series, "Cooking with Kristi!" We are developing a weekly recipe for youth to make at home (with parental supervision as needed per age appropriateness). Our young cooks will make some unusual and tasty new foods, learn basic kitchen safety and sanitation, learn a variety of cooking techniques and culinary terms, and get to show off their product proudly in a virtual space as yet to be determined. We will let you know when registration opens, let's get ready to have some fun cooking virtually!



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CLUB CORNER

Farm Hands - Farm Hands 4-H Club is excited to begin a new year with our members and are waiting patiently to hold meetings and gatherings face to face. We are looking forward to the 2020/2021 year and everything it brings.

Administrative Leader Meeting

Tuesday, September 22

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Online via Zoom

We'll be sending all Administrative Leaders a packet in the mail the week before the meeting of items that will be discussed.

Annual Financial Summary Reports

DUE by October 15 to Kristi at

schrei61@msu.edu.

Your club enrollments will remain "pending" until the report is turned in.

A fillable version is available at:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/4_h_financial_management_toolkit

You will also receive a hard copy in your packet.

Fall Bulb Kits for Youth

Get ready to get your hands in the dirt and plant some bulbs this fall for beautiful spring flowers! Kits will come with bulbs, instructions and some video links. Look for more information via emails. We will have 15 kits available at between \$12-\$15 dollars (less if possible). When the kits are ready to be distributed, we will send out emails and the first lucky 15 youth gardeners will be able to pick them up by appointment at the Isabella County Office, or perhaps at another destination as yet to be determined. Watch your emails!

"Covid Creations" Project of the Month - October is Baked Goods

The Isabella County 4-H Council wants to see the ingenuity of our youth during these challenging times! We are offering a "Covid Creation" project of the month for youth to create a month in advance to show off their skills and creations. During the month of September, youth who wish to participate will create a baked good project, provide a picture of the project and themselves, provide the recipe and a few sentences describing something they learned while completing the project. September 29 is the deadline for pictures to be submitted to Kristi Schreiber, schrei61@msu.edu and submissions will be published in the October Clover Chronicles. Please submit your name, age and name of your 4-H Club. We are hoping to have a lot of great baker participants!

Clover Chronicle Art Work Contest

The Isabella County 4-H Council is promoting an artwork contest for youth. This is for original artwork (not photography). Each month will have a theme, October will be Fall/Halloween. The artwork must be in keeping with the theme and can be done in any medium. Artwork must be submitted to Kristi Schreiber, schrei61@msu.edu by September 28. 4-H Council will vote on the pictures submitted (artwork and artist must both be in the picture) and the winner will have their artwork featured in the October Clover Chronicles. Please include your name, age and name of your 4-H Club. We are looking for lots of wonderfully cool artwork!

Shooting Sports Tournament Discussion

The Shooting Sports program will offer a Zoom meeting on September 14 at 7 p.m. for any volunteers or families interested in discussions about a new statewide event. Commonly called a “postal” tournament in other shooting organizations, this event will allow clubs to compete on their home range and send scores to event organizers. This has many benefits, including competition at a statewide level at minimal cost, travel, etc., and may be particularly appealing when we transition to a post-covid era, yet avoid gathering in large crowds. The September 14 meeting is a planning session only, to discuss the event and determine if there is interest to move forward once clubs again meet in-person. *Like all 4-H shooting sports activities, this activity will require the physical presence of a certified 4-H shooting sports instructor.*

WHAT: Shooting Sports Tournament Discussion over Zoom

WHEN: Monday, Sept 14, 2020 at 7 PM EST

LINK: Pre-registration REQUIRED for link: <https://bit.ly/31spJrM>

Read more and complete survey here: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/email-in-survey>

Attention Administrative Leaders

With clubs still not able to meet in a face to face format, I (Kristi) am more than happy to assist you with virtual club meetings and meeting set-ups, and I 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 me (schrei61@msu.edu) and I will contact or connect you with a guest speaker for a club activity.

We also have added an Isabella County “**Fun Learning Links**” page that could be utilized for a monthly club activity. https://www.canr.msu.edu/isabella/isabella_county_4_h/fun-learning-links



Pictured left is a family that has faithfully participated in our 4-H Ocean Explorers weekly broadcasts. The kids have really enjoyed the program.

Attention Volunteer Leaders

Annual Background Checks and Code of Conduct

Many of our volunteers completed their last background check in fall 2019. Volunteer Central has already started sending automated emails to volunteers informing them that it is time to login to Volunteer Central, review/ update their profile, consent to the annual background check and agree to the Code of Conduct. These reminders are sent 30, 22, 15, 8 and 1 day prior to the due date for the annual check. Updates were made in the system late last week to make it easier for volunteers to complete the process of authorizing the annual background check, completing the media and medical release, and agreeing to the updated Code of Conduct. To complete the process, the volunteer will login to Volunteer Central, click "Please complete" next to Authorizations and Background Checks. Weekly VSP/ Volunteer Central open office hours which are held on Thursdays at 2 p.m. Questions can also be sent to MSUE.msuevol@msu.edu.

The date of the last background check was not included in all transferred files because it was missing in the original data source (4-HOnline or VMS). For these volunteers, we will be setting the due date as November 1, 2020 for 4-H and a date during the recertification period for EMG.

Updated Code of Conduct

The MSU Extension Volunteer Code of Conduct has been updated to include program specific addendums and an addendum for novel coronavirus/ COVID-19 expectations. Volunteers agree to the Code of Conduct during the application process or upon acceptance and annually within Volunteer Central. The full code of conduct is [posted here](#).

The addendum reads:

Novel Coronavirus/ COVID19 Addendum

I understand that policies related to in-person programming and requirements for social distancing, personal protective equipment and virtual options will evolve during the program year due to the novel coronavirus pandemic.

I agree to follow the most up-to-date guidance provided by Michigan State University Extension and the [Michigan State University Community Compact](#). This may include, but is not limited to:

- o Conducting meetings virtually
- o Maintaining proper social distance at all times
- o Wearing face coverings
- o Posting safety instructions when hosting a meeting
- o Providing hand sanitizer and hand washing stations at meetings
- o Prior to hosting or attending an MSU Extension event as a volunteer, I will review the most recent communication from my volunteer supervisor and/or contact my supervisor for guidance
- o I will not attend in-person meetings or programs if:
 - o I am experiencing signs of illness
 - o Anyone in my household has experienced signs of illness in the last 14 days
 - o I have traveled outside the United States in the past 14 days
 - o I have reason to believe that anyone in my household, including me, has been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19
- o If any of the above occur, I will self-quarantine for 14 days with no symptoms or until I have tested negative for COVID-19

4-H Participation Fee Waiver and Virtual Programming

Many things have changed in the last six months, so much so that we have lost track of what the word “normal” means. We continue to be impressed with the members of the 4-H community who, despite their disappointments, have embraced “the new normal” and continue to make the best better. Thank you for all you do.

Earlier this year we pivoted all of our programming to online formats to comply with the original Stay Safe, Stay Home order ([EO2020-42](#)). Though this has been a difficult time for communities, families and our own faculty and staff members, we are proud of the work our team has done to ensure that you continue to have access to high-quality educational opportunities throughout Michigan.

After much discussion and study, we have decided to continue to keep all 4-H programming, meetings and events virtual until further notice. This applies to all children and youth activities involving ages birth to 19. We recognize that this is a hardship on those who are eager to engage in in-person activities with their 4-H community. However, we must do everything we can to keep youth and adults safe and healthy. As such, please continue to hold 4-H club meetings and other local events virtually. MSU Extension staff members, including 4-H program coordinators, cannot support in-person activities. Further, funds raised in the name of 4-H cannot be used to support in-person events until further notice.

Although our delivery modes have changed, we are still hard at work for you. Because of our statewide reach, you have access to a number of MSU Extension events. Visit our [MSU Extension Remote Learning and Resources](#) to learn more.

Finally, we recognize that the COVID-19 pandemic and other associated factors have put a financial strain on many families. Therefore, we have opted to waive the Michigan 4-H participation fee of \$20 per person or \$60 per family for the 2020-21 4-H program year which begins September 1, 2020. Some events may continue to have registration fees. You will continue to register through 4-H Online as usual, but no participation fees will be collected or expected next year.

We assure you that this does not diminish our commitment to the 4-H community. We will continue to offer high-quality, virtual programming and experiences, and look forward to the day when we can resume in-person programming.

If you are interested in supporting 4-H in lieu of paying participation fees, please contact your 4-H program coordinator for opportunities.

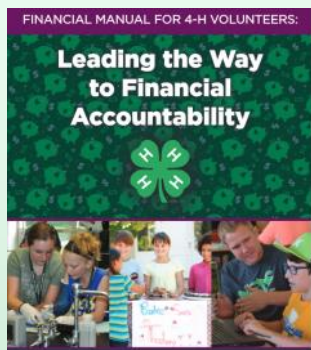
May we all continue to make the best better.

Sincerely,
Jeff Dwyer
Director, MSU Extension

Jake DeDecker
State Program Leader, Michigan 4-H

STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Important Changes to 4-H Financial Manuals for Volunteers & Treasurers



The 4-H Financial Manuals for Volunteers and Treasurers support 4-H volunteers and adult and youth treasurers in their roles managing 4-H funds.

Small revisions and updates to these books were made in 2020. The online PDF versions of the manuals contain the changes. However, if you have a printed or hard copy version that does not contain the 2020 changes, a one-page document is available online that notes all the important content adjustments. It is recommended that you print this resource and store it in your manual for quick reference.

Download the 2020 changes resource at www.canr.msu.edu/resources/4_h_financial_management_toolkit. For more information, please contact your local county staff member.

Update on Face-to-Face Michigan 4-H Programming

Earlier this year, MSU Extension pivoted all programming to online formats to comply with the original Stay Safe, Stay Home order ([EO2020-42](#)). Though this has been a difficult time for communities, families and our own faculty and staff members, we are proud of the work our team has done to ensure that the 4-H community continues to have access to high-quality educational opportunities throughout Michigan.

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4-H Events and Workshops

September 2: 4-H in the Kitchen Live

Zoom Webinar

Explore the kitchen and learn how to bake old-fashioned cream cheese cookies. Topics covered include the proper ways to mix ingredients, safety in the kitchen, and cleanliness.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-in-the-kitchen-live>

September 10 & 14: Women's Leadership Institute

Zoom Webinar

On Day 1, listen and learn from women leaders working at the intersection of health and wellness. On Day 2, discuss Day 1 speakers and explore your own challenges and successes as leaders.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/women-s-leadership-institute-2020>

September 14: Upper Peninsula 4-H Babysitting SPIN Club

Zoom Webinar

This 8-session 4-H SPIN club will run through October 7. It is open to U.P. youth in grades 6-9 who want to learn about caring for children and how to be a great babysitter.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/upper-peninsula-4-h-babysitting-spin-club>

September 19: Birds of Prey—LIVE!

Zoom Webinar

Join the Kellogg Biological Sanctuary (KBS) for a virtual presentation about the birds of prey that reside at the Sanctuary and meet two special guests. This workshop is offered for \$5 for KBS members and \$7 for non-members.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/birds-of-prey-live>

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

STATEWIDE NEWS AREA



Explore your leadership skills with the 2020 Women's Leadership Institute

Youth ages 13-19 are invited to learn from strong women leaders while exploring their own leadership skills at the 2020 MSU Women's Leadership Institute. This two-day event will begin on September 10 when attendees (open to anyone of any age) join an interactive webinar to hear from women leaders working at the intersection of health and wellness—including on the front lines of health care during the novel coronavirus pandemic. Learn how the

different leadership types responded during times of crisis, and how they're promoting health and wellness at this critical time.

On September 14, youth participants will take part in the second portion of this event, which is reserved just for teens. During this virtual session, youth will discuss the Day 1 speakers and their own leadership challenges and successes.

Each event will be hosted from 6-8 p.m. Although featuring women leaders, the Women's Leadership Institute is a great opportunity for youth of any gender to learn more about leadership. Register at www.canr.msu.edu/events/women-s-leadership-institute-2020 or contact Roxanne Turner (turnerr@msu.edu or 517-546-3950) or Darren Bagley (bagleyda@msu.edu or 810-244-8515) for more information.

Update on 2020-2021 4-H Participation Fees

MSU Extension recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic and other associated factors have put a financial strain on many families. Therefore, we have opted to waive the Michigan 4-H participation fee of \$20 per person or \$60 per family for the 2020-21 4-H program year which begins September 1, 2020. Some events may continue to have registration fees. You will continue to register through 4-H Online, but no participation fees will be collected or expected next year.

If you are interested in supporting 4-H in lieu of paying participation fees, please contact your 4-H program coordinator for opportunities.

Changes coming to 4-H Online this fall!

This fall, 4-H Online will be upgraded to version 2.0. This enhanced version of our current registration system will offer many improvements, including the ability to register for events, the ability to collect registration fees via credit card, and improved communication features, among others. Though the system will look a bit different, we anticipate this upgrade will also provide a better user experience for the 4-H community.

In preparation for this upgrade, 4-H Online will shut down on August 27 as our Michigan 4-H data are migrated to the 2.0 version. The system will reopen mid-September; during the transition time, you will not be able to access 4-H Online. Once the system is operational again, MSU Extension will email the 4-H community with instructions on how to enroll/re-enroll in the upgraded system. In that communication, we will also provide additional training resources for administrative leaders/volunteers, as well as 4-H families who would like to learn more about 4-H Online 2.0.

We appreciate your patience with this transition and look forward to starting the 2020-2021 program year with an even better 4-H Online experience.

Virtual Learning Resources for Parents, Teachers and Homeschool Families



Though the back-to-school season occurs each fall, this year is unlike anything that has been experienced before. The 2020-2021 school year will present new challenges for families and teachers alike, whether youth are returning to school in the classroom, online or at home.

To support teachers, parents and homeschool families in their educational efforts, MSU Extension is compiling a list of helpful resources that can be used by varying audiences to supplement school plans. Arranged by audience, grade level and topic, a variety of resources will be available in differing delivery methods. While not all tools utilize school standards, many do.

Look for additional information coming soon! In the meantime, please check out extension.msu.edu/online4MI.

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/>

4-H Online Update

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Please **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/](https://www.facebook.com/IsabellaCounty4H/)

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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."

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"

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