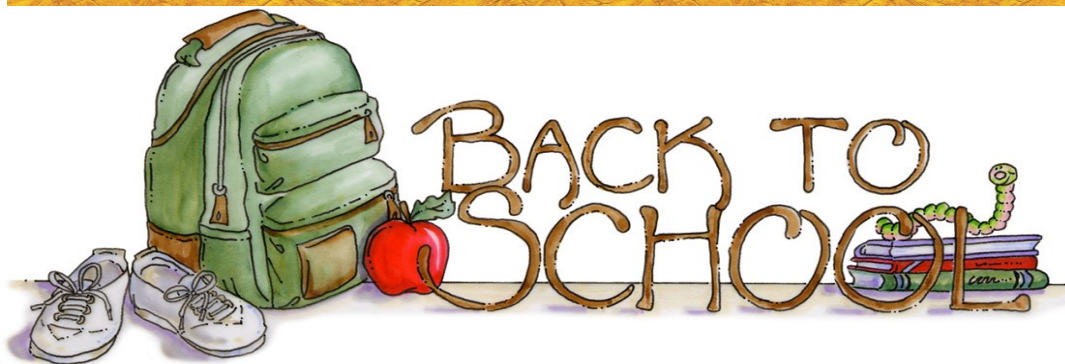


*Kalamazoo County*

4-H Family News

September 2020



2020-2021 4-H program year

We know that the end of the face to face 2019-2020 programming year ended abruptly with all programming moved to virtual in March due to COVID-19. With the announcement that 4-H programming will remain virtual for the time being we wanted to hold a series of fireside chats. These will be broken down into 4 age categories: cloverbud, 8-11 year olds, middle school and high school. You are invited to brainstorm with staff during these times to help with creative and fun ways to engage the kids, while limiting screen time. Zoom links will be sent out to those who sign up by September 28th. Meetings will be held on the following dates:

Tuesday, September 29th at 7pm (Cloverbuds)

Thursday, October 1st at 7pm (8-11 year old)

Tuesday, October 6th at 7pm (middle school)

Thursday, October 8th at 7pm (high school)

You may sign up at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf12zZvNwUmz4OC13mkvpQ2j3nqtrwjMWkjvYQ_8pd8SqIUcA/viewform

Keep an eye out for fun activities and games throughout the next couple of months. There is a new resource that is being developed also to support families, teachers and homeschoolers. You can find more information at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-learning-tools/index>.

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ALONE WE CAN
DO SO LITTLE.
TOGETHER WE CAN
DO SO MUCH.

-HELLEN KELLER

2020 Kalamazoo County 4-H Virtual Fair Showcase Youth Fair

THANK YOU to our Livestock Auction Supporters

Ambs Family	Justin & Kristen Shook
Artell Watson	Justin Mezo
Battle Creek Farm Bureau	Kalsee Credit Union
Buckham Farms	Nally's Greenhouse
Carleton Equipment	Neal Family Dentistry
Compton Family	Open Arms Hobby Farm
Create Foods Innovation LLC	Perkins Farms
Crystal Flash	Peterman Concrete
Deb Newhouse	Rich Hunter
East Main Animal Hospital	Rose Family
Gail Overton	Shelley Dinzik
Gernaat Greenhouse	The Buckham Agency—Farm Bu-
Hall Builders	reau Insurance
Harmon's Maple Ridge Farm	VandeGiessen Trucking
Hecht Family	Voyce's Elevator Inc.
Hisler Agency Farm Bureau Insur-	West Kalamazoo Dental Care
ance	Wood Work Specialties
Julie Pioch	



Thank you to
Zoetis for your
continued
financial
support of the
MSU
Extension,
Kalamazoo
County 4-H
Program and
supporting the
Kalamazoo
County 4-H
Virtual
Showcase



Congratulations to the 55 youth who presented a total of almost 200 entries in the 2020 Kalamazoo County 4-H Virtual Showcase. Youth, ages 5-19 were able to submit pictures and videos that show off their projects for the year. Youth were able to enter all of the same classes during the virtual showcase as they would have during a traditional face to face fair. There are also 7 youth who participated in the Michigan State Virtual showcase this year.

National 4-H Week Competition October 4—10, 2020

National 4-H week will be held on October 4—10, 2020 this year.

While we aren't able to get together to have a competition of window decorations, have bake sales, booths at TSC, etc. we want you to show your 4-H pride. There are a couple of ways that you can participate:

1. Wednesday is 4-H spirit day. Wear your 4-H gear, decorate your car, etc.
2. Create a Tik Tok video sharing the benefits of joining 4-H
3. Create a video using something other than Tik Tok to share the benefits of joining 4-H
4. Create a flyer that can be shared on FB or Instagram about joining 4-H
5. Decorate your front window/yard display to show your 4-H pride
6. If you are at school face to face talk to your administration about decorating a window, display case or bulletin board

Once you have your creation submit it to Veronica at Bolhuisv@msu.edu by October 1, 2020. There are a group of volunteers that will judge them and they will be posted on the Kalamazoo County 4-H Facebook page during National 4-H week.



Help to Inspire Youth!

Kalamazoo County 4-H is looking for adults to help inspire youth to learn something new or to grow in a topic area they are already interested in.

You could share about your job, cooking, animals, car care, life skills, etc. To become a volunteer please submit your application at https://www.canr.msu.edu/becoming_a_4_h_volunteer/



Spring Bulb Planting Kits

It's not too early to think about planting flowers for the spring. In fact, it is the perfect time to plant bulbs that will bloom

in the spring. We have 15 bulb kits available for families to learn about and plant this fall. When you sign up you will receive the following:

10 daffodil bulbs and 20 grape hyacinth bulbs

Instruction sheets and other education material will be supplied.

Here is a sampling of what we will be covering:

How to store bulbs before planting.

What is naturalizing bulbs - How to naturalize bulbs

How to plant bulbs

How to layer bulbs

How to force in soil

How to force in water

What is the difference between bulbs, corms, etc.

How to dig and separate bulbs

What is going on with bulbs in the winter

Families need to sign up at <https://forms.gle/iKCCrSgw7mL89rBC6> by October 1, 2020 and will receive the bulbs the following week. If there are more than 15 families interested we'll start a waiting list and potentially order more kits. Kits are free, but youth will need to be signed up in 4-H online.



You have the power to inspire youth to grow into the leaders of tomorrow!!!

Ten Celebrities you may not know were in 4-H growing up:

1. Craig Melvin
2. Aubrey Plaza
3. Peggy Whitson
4. Andrew Bosworth
5. Eric Stonestreet
6. Kevin Richardson
7. Jennifer Nettles
8. Jordy Nelson
9. Carla Hall
10. Nancy Grace

By volunteering and encouraging young people you can make a difference in the lives of young people. Help them to find their passions and reach for the stars!!!!

Adulthood 101

Ready to be out on your own? Learn some important skills to be successful as an adult. Our Adulthood 101-Fall Series includes: interview skills, household tasks, and develop spending plan. Bring questions and learn important skills for life. Series starts October 12th at 4:00 p.m. Register <https://events.anr.msu.edu/Adult101Fall/>

Interview for Success	October 12 th
Household Tasks	October 19 th
Developing a Spending Plan	October 26 th





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

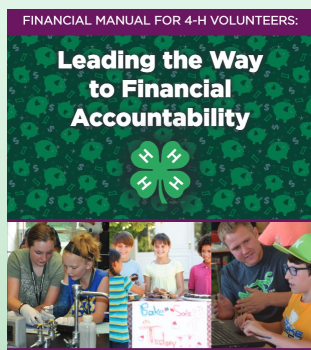


Though the back-to-school season occurs each fall, this year is unlike anything that has been experienced before. The 2020-2021 school year will present new challenges for families and teachers alike, whether youth are returning to school in the classroom, online or at home.

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.

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.

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. In addition, 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.

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.

4-H Events and Workshops

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>.