

*Kent County*

4-H Family News

September 2018

HAPPY NEW (4-H) YEAR!

Where has the time gone?! It seems as if summer was here and gone in the blink of an eye and we are already gearing up for another season. Suddenly, we're trading in swimsuits for sweaters, trips to the beach for bus rides to school, and ice cream spoons for pencils and books. Luckily, this time of year means we are preparing for our brand new 4-H year! We can't wait to see what the 2018-2019 program year will bring!

August was certainly a busy month celebrating our 4-H Explorer graduates, watching our 4-H members show and compete at fair, and wrapping up a busy summer of programming in the community. As we roll in the month of September, please be on the lookout for reminders pertaining to 4-H Explorer age changes, 4-H membership enrollment deadlines, and additional resources to help you complete any annual paperwork.

We are excited for all that the month of September has to offer! As always, please feel free to reach out to the MSU Extension 4-H team with any questions, concerns, or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Nana Temple & Mary Newman

4-H Program Coordinators, Kent County



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**National 4-H
Youth Summits
registration now
available**



Participate in 4-H Maker, Agri-Science, Healthy Living or Photography summits to gain real world exposure and meet other 4-H'ers from across the nation that share your passions.

Held at the National 4-H Conference Center, these multi-day programs allow youth to learn technical skills, participate in hands-on activities and engage with nationally-recognized leaders. Students typically attend in groups comprised of two to eight youth and are accompanied by an adult chaperone.

Registration and more information about these events are available at <https://4hcenter.org/tours-programs/national-youth-summits/>.

4-H Events and Workshops

September 13: Completing Your 4-H Groups Annual Financial Report

Online Webinar

Join MSU Extension staff in this online webinar to learn how to complete an Annual Financial Report Summary, required by Michigan State University Extension.

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/completing_your_4_h_groups_annual_financial_report

September 22: Michigan 4-H Goat Project Youth Workshop

Ionia Fairgrounds, Ionia

Learn about parasite management, the digestive system and dairy goat judging at this hands-on workshop. Registration closes September 12.

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/2018_michigan_4-h_goat_project_youth_workshop

September 29: 4-H Night at MSU's Observatory

MSU Observatory, East Lansing

Gaze into the sky using MSU's 24 foot reflecting telescope and others. Engage in hands on astronomy-related activities. Preregistration required by September 22.

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4-h_night_at_msus_observatory

October 5: Michigan 4-H Foundation Annual Membership Meeting

Michigan State University Kellogg Center, East Lansing

All Michigan 4-H Foundation members (donors of \$25 or more) are invited to attend and vote on items. Major donors to Michigan 4-H from the past fiscal year will also be recognized.

<https://mi4hfdtn.org/event/michigan-4-h-foundation-annual-membership-meeting/>

October 5: Michigan 4-H Emerald Awards

Michigan State University Kellogg Center, East Lansing

Michigan 4-H Citation Award, Emerald Clover Society, Salute to Excellence and Michigan Farm Bureau 4-H Excellence in Agriculture Award winners will be honored at this event.

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/michigan_4_h_emerald_awards

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

Save the Date!

November 17: Michigan 4-H Creative Arts Celebration

Kettunen Center, Tustin

Meet others from across the state passionate about creative arts while engaging in hands-on activities that build your creative talent. Registration available in September.

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/save_the_date_michigan_4_h_creative_arts_celebration

Accepting nominations for Michigan 4-H Animal Science Sportsperson of the Year

Again in 2018, Michigan 4-H Youth Development will be awarding a Michigan 4-H Animal Science Sportsperson of the Year Award. If you know an adult or youth that has exemplified the definition of good sportsmanship in any of the 4-H animal science project areas, please consider nominating them by filling out the nomination form by Oct. 1, 2018. Help us to recognize deserving youth and adults in the 4-H program going above and beyond to make the best better.

Please be sure to include the following with your submission:

- Nomination form found at http://msue.anr.msu.edu/resources/competitive_event_resources
- Nomination letter
- Letter of support from county staff

Reminder of upcoming changes to Michigan 4-H Age Policy

The new 4-H programming year is finally here, and with it comes changes to the Michigan 4-H Age Policy. Beginning September 1, the Michigan 4-H Participant Age Policy reflects a younger beginning age for 4-H members. The new age for 4-H members is 8 to 19 years old, continuing to use January 1 of the program year as the date of calculation. The 4-H Cloverbud experience will remain available to youth ages 5-7.



Youth ages 8 to 19 as of January 1 of the program year are eligible to be Michigan 4-H members.

This policy change has been implemented by MSU Extension after lengthy consultation with early childhood and Michigan 4-H youth development staff, as well as careful consideration of research regarding youth and competition. Furthermore, it moves Michigan 4-H into alignment with counterparts across the country, including National 4-H.

As always, age appropriateness and safety remain a top consideration for 4-H programming areas and Michigan 4-H continues to support minimum age limits for certain learning environments that may not be appropriate for children 8 years of age. Additionally, individual county 4-H programs with MSU Extension also retain their right to determine the beginning age for 4-H involvement within that county.

Furthermore, Michigan 4-H partners such as fairs and exhibitions may choose to implement age limits for certain projects where they feel 8-year-old participation (or older age groups) may not be safe or appropriate (for example, market beef projects). Alternatively, fairs and exhibitions may offer activities that are not consistent with 4-H Cloverbud policies, such as competition for youth below age 8. These are not considered a Michigan 4-H Youth Development activity and participation is the decision of the young person and his or her family.

For more information on the 4-H Participant Age Policy, visit http://msue.anr.msu.edu/resources/michigan_4_h_participant_age_policy. For questions regarding the Cloverbud age, visit http://msue.anr.msu.edu/resources/michigan_4_h_cloverbud_frequently_asked_questions.

Michigan 4-H Foundation Annual Membership Meeting



All Michigan 4-H Foundation members (those who have donated \$25 or more in the past year) are invited to attend and vote at the Michigan 4-H Foundation Annual Membership Meeting. This meeting will be held on Friday, Oct. 5, at 2:30 p.m. at the MSU Kellogg Center in East Lansing.

Agenda items include trustee elections, audited financial statement report, 2018 president's report and recognition of major donors to Michigan 4-H within the past year. Michigan 4-H donors are encouraged to attend. Admission to the annual membership meeting is complimentary.

Register by Sept. 20 at <https://mi4hfdtn.org/event/michigan-4-h-foundation-annual-membership-meeting/>.

***Completing your
4-H Groups
Annual Financial
Report***

Is your 4-H club or group ready for the next 4-H program year? MSU Extension staff will help you complete the required Annual Financial Summary Report in their online webinar on September 13, 2018.

***Learn more
here:***

[http://
msue.anr.msu.edu/
events/
completing_your_4_h_grou
ps_annual_financial
_report](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/completing_your_4_h_groups_annual_financial_report)

4-H County Workshops and Events

4-H Horse Leaders Meeting	9.6.18
4-H Dog Committee Meeting	9.13.18
Annual Financial Report Webinar	9.13.18
Kent County 4-H Council Meeting	7.17.18
4-H Online Member Enrollment Deadline	10.11.18

4-H Council Updates

Did you know that you can help support Kent County 4-H just by shopping on Amazon? The council would like you to know that the next time you order with Amazon, be sure to shop with Amazon Smile using the following link: <https://smile.amazon.com/>. Once there, you can select Kent County 4-H Council as a charity to donate to!

Feel free to join us at the next Kent County 4-H Council Meeting which will be held on September 17th, 2018 at 5:30pm. Meetings take place at the Kent County MSU Extension Office (775 Ball Ave. NE, Grand Rapids MI, 49503).



4-H Online Member Enrollment Deadline

It's that time of year again. We are welcoming in a new 2018-2019 4-H program year! Please mark October 11th as the deadline to get ALL your 4-H club and group members re-enrolled for the new program year. Re-enrollment includes updating your profile and re-enrolling with 4-H Online and submitting your \$20.00 participation fee to the Kent County MSU Extension office. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Newman or Nana Temple, Kent County 4-H Program Coordinators.

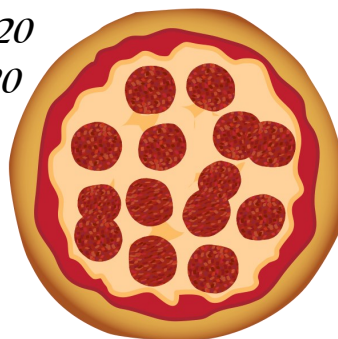
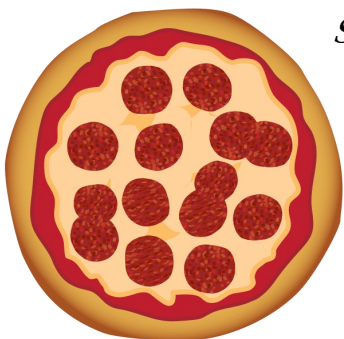
ATTENTION 4-H CLUBS: WANT TO WIN A PIZZA PARTY FOR YOUR GROUP?!

Reminder that the deadline to re-enroll with 4-H Online for the new 4-H program year is October 11, 2018.

As a little incentive to complete this annual task, the Kent County 4-H team is going to award three pizza party gift cards for any 4-H club that gets ALL their members re-enrolled before the October 11th deadline. See details below on how to be entered for your chance to win:

Pizza Party Contest

- 1. Make sure ALL 4-H Club Members are re-enrolled on 4-H Online and have paid their Participation Fee by October 11th at 5pm.*
- 2. All clubs who meet the deadline will be entered into a drawing. The drawing for winners will take place on October 12th in the morning.*
- 3. First Place Winner: \$50
Second Place Winner: \$20
Third Place Winner: \$20*



Starting New Projects in your 4-H Club?

Is your 4-H club or group looking to add, expand, or explore new project areas? Do you have kids who want to explore topics related to STEM, cooking, outdoor adventure, or more? Look no further! We know that kids have a WIDE range of interests and passions. Your 4-H program coordinators can help provide lessons and resources that will help guide exploration of new project areas!

Contact Nana Temple for Mary Newman, Kent County 4-H Program Coordinators for more information.