



Lapeer County

4-H Family News

April 2020

Dear 4-H families,

On April 2, 2020, Michigan State University made the decision to modify or suspend youth events scheduled to take place this summer on MSU's campus. This, combined with the suspension of in-person K-12 instruction for the remainder of the academic year, informed changes to scheduled MSU Extension youth programming. As a result, all on-campus MSU youth events scheduled to occur before September 1, 2020 will be modified to an online space, postponed or cancelled. In addition, no face-to-face MSU Extension youth events or programs will take place anywhere in the state until September 1, 2020. This was a heartbreaking decision for MSU Extension to make but is a reflection of our ongoing commitment to youth safety and security, a guiding principle of Michigan 4-H, and the right thing to do to protect the health and wellbeing of MSU Extension staff, volunteers, program participants and all Michiganders.

This decision impacts several programs scheduled to occur in Lapeer County in the coming months. We are currently evaluating our options for moving the following programs and events to an **online format**:

4-H Summer Camp, Camp Lael

Given the fluid nature of this situation, it may be a few weeks before we are able to determine the best course of action and we will notify you as soon as that information is available. Unfortunately, a variety of challenges prevent us from moving the following programs to an online format and therefore, these events will be **postponed** till a future date:

Lapeer County Celebrity Autographed Items and Spring Auction

MSU Extension remains committed to delivering meaningful experiences to youth through supplemental education offerings that support the educational development of Michigan youth. We encourage you to visit the [Remote Learning and Resources](#) space to view the ever-growing list of online programs and resources.

Thank you for your continued interest in Michigan 4-H programming and for your support and understanding of our efforts to protect participant health. If you have any specific questions or concerns not addressed above, please do not hesitate to contact Kathy George at george92@msu.edu or 586-464-7007.

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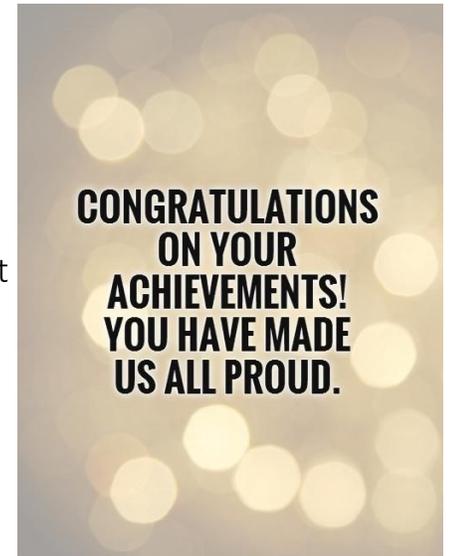
Facebook:
Lapeer County 4-H

Lapeer County 4-H Annual Awards Program

Due to having to cancel Spring Achievement/Style Revue and Awards Ceremony in March, we were not able to honor the 4-H members, volunteers and clubs who earned recognition for their accomplishments throughout the year, as well as positions and scholarships awarded. We congratulate everyone for their amazing dedication and efforts in the 4-H program! Here is a full listing of all awards (full press release will also be sent out so keep an eye out for it in the newspapers as well):

Project Medals:

Diana Aboukarroum	Food and Nutrition
Theresa Austin	Rabbits
Nathan Dahn	Dairy
Alexis Hedgcock	Photography
Brooke Jostock	Swine
Sabrina Kosa	Rabbits
Elizabeth Myers	Demonstrations, Sheep, Visual Arts
Henry Myers	Demonstrations, Photography, Sheep, Vet Science



Member Awards:

Emily VandenBerghe	Key Club
Mackenzie Johnston	Achievement All-Around Award
Audrey Johnston	Citizenship, Leadership, Agriculture, Achievement All-Around
Bryan Dahn	National 4-H Congress Scholarship– \$1,500
Juliatt Hawa	Teen Council Representative
Alexis Hedgcock	Senior Ambassador Court Member
Audrey Johnston	Senior Ambassador Court Member
Brooke Jostock	Junior Ambassador Court Member
Sabrina Kosa	1st Place Awards Ceremony Program Cover Design
Jorja Beaver	2nd Place Awards Ceremony Program Cover Design
Connor Reed	Honorable Mention Awards Ceremony Program Cover Design
Alexis Hedgcock	MSU Pre-College Scholarship-\$2,000

Friend of 4-H Awards:

Pizza Machine of Imlay City-submitted by Thresa Schumitsch

The Pizza Machine has made pizza on Monday for Young Pioneers even when they were closed for business that day. We did not ask them to do it, but the owner volunteered to do this for the 4-H kids.

Saginaw Knitting Mills/Nan Meisel – submitted by Jean Kreiner

Nan at Saginaw Knitting Mills has been great working with in the ordering of t-shirts for our Lapeer County 4-H Camp. She makes sure we get our needs met, especially if there are any mistakes in our order or need add-ons. She always sees we get our t-shirts on time for camp.

Adult Awards-

Meritorious Service Award – Kris Johnston



Kris Johnston has been a committed 4-H leader for the past 4 years in the project areas of rabbits and goats in the Busy beavers 4-H Club. Additionally, Kris has contributed to the county program in a variety of ways. She has acted as rabbit superintendent for the year 2019. She acted as an officer of the rabbit committee in 2018, as well as an adult advisor for the Lapeer County Ambassadors for the past several years. Most recently, Kris has taken on the role of

Superintendent for Market Goats. Kris is a fair-minded individual with a cheerful demeanor who truly enjoys working with both kids and adults.

Outstanding Lifetime Leader – Michelle Peel

Michelle Peel is deserving of the recognition of the Outstanding Leader Award for so many reasons. As a 4H alumni, she knows first hand the impact that 4H can have. Her passion for teaching kids and helping them achieve goals is on full display whenever she is with them. She takes a personal interest in every kid, and goes the extra mile to help them achieve their goals and to be the best that they can be.

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The standard she sets for the group is high, and she is willing to do whatever it takes to help everyone succeed. She gives freely of her time, whether to answer questions about the project, organize a group trip, or to help hone individual skills for another project. No matter how busy her life is, she makes it happen!

Sometimes the best leaders are the ones who are easily overlooked. When things run smoothly, when difficulties are addressed before they become larger problems, when things are taken care of quietly in the background, the people responsible for this are rarely noticed. True leaders do the job that needs to be done without thought of credit, and always put their best efforts towards whatever task is at hand. Michelle is one of these exceptional people.

Over her 21 year career as a 4H leader, she has displayed her commitment to 4H in many ways. She has been the key force in developing quality educational programs for her swine club as well as being the Swine Area Superintendent for 8 years and the Woodworking Superintendent for 4 years. She also serves as Secretary of the Swine Committee (since 2012) and has been Chairman (2011). She has helped organize and coordinate a meats judging program for the county, coaching kids into top 10 finishes at the state level every year. The county wide trip to McNees Meats for a meats judging workshop was a result of her effort and helped over 40 kids learn about carcass grading. She also organized and secured funding for 2 other county wide educational trips. She has helped coach 5 Group State Awards winning teams. She developed, organized, and led Young Livestock Leaders for 2 years. She has served on Council as President. She is the Livestock Committee Secretary and wrote the grant that purchased the Showworks computer program that is used for the fair shows and auction. She serves on numerous subcommittees that help our programs run smoother and provide quality programming to the entire 4H program.

Her passion for the mission of 4H led her to help create an opportunity for kids in the community that are differently abled. She knew that 4H could have a positive impact on kids that might not have the chance to own or show animals through the regular program. Thus, 4H Challenged Me was started. Through her tireless efforts, this spin club has grown into a program that celebrates every child's achievements, not just in Lapeer County, but in other counties across the state and nation.

There are so many ways that Michelle positively impacts our program. We are truly blessed to have her knowledge, her energy, and her willingness to give her all for others as a part of our program! Thank you so much Michelle!!



Leader Year Recognition:

1 Year

Ginger Asbury

Sarah Calhoun

Scott Craig

Michelle Deselm

Heather Hand

Ashley Winter

Kadie Worrell

Hayley Albrecht

5 Year

Chantel Bilsky

Linda Bloss

Kathryn De Cou

Cheryl Evans

Michelle Hedgcock

Ralph Hedgcock

Arnold Rayl

Shavonne Spudowski

Erika Stroman

Sarah VandenBerghe

10 Year

Julianne Bennett

15 Year

Steve Hansen

Julie Slack

Carlene Turrell

20 Year

Michelle Peel

25 Year

Thelma Gravlin

Joan Tessmer

30 Year

Elizabeth Hunt

Wayne Hunt

35 Year

Karen Aboukarroum

Richard Lucius

50 Year

Dennis Keefer

*Congratulations to everyone and thank you for your
dedication to Lapeer County 4-H Program!*



Tractor Supply Paper Clover Campaign

As we continue to work through these unique circumstances associated with COVID-19 and focus on the needs of 4-H youth, Extension staff, Volunteers, and communities, the 2020 Spring 4-H Paper Clover campaign with Tractor Supply Company (originally scheduled to take place 4/29 – 5/10) will be postponed to a later date.

We also want to confirm that our partnership with Tractor Supply will continue with the Fall Paper Clover campaign as planned for 10/7 – 10/18.

YQCA

Given that all face-to-face Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) trainings have been cancelled for the next few weeks, I wanted to make you aware of a special discount available for online YQCA trainings. During the month of April, YQCA will offer a \$3 discount for all online training. Those wishing to take advantage of this discounted rate will need to purchase \$9 web-based training coupons from YQCA. Coupon order forms are attached to this message or may be obtained by emailing sales@yqca.org. Please note this is the only way to receive the discounted price. For more information on YQCA's self-paced online training visit yqca.org. (Instructions will be a link in the body of the newsletter email).

Lapeer County 4-H Community Service Opportunity!

Trying to come up with something to do to help others during this difficult time? A safe way to do something for our community is to write letters to local nursing homes since they can't get visitors at this time. I spoke with Suncrest Assisted Living and Stonegate Health Campus facilities so far in Lapeer and they were very excited at the idea of families mailing cards, drawings, etc. to be given to or read to residents. To keep it safe, they will hold the letters for at least 3 days to ensure the virus is not active on them. Of course, out of an abundance of caution, if anyone in your household is not well, please do not mail letters. Please address envelopes this way:

Lapeer County Medical Care Facility

4-H Letters of Kindness
1455 Suncrest Drive
Lapeer, MI 48446

Stonegate Health Campus

Attention: Activities Department
4-H Letters of Kindness
2525 Demille Blvd.
Lapeer, MI 48446

Lapeer County 4-H Facebook Photo Contest!

Take a picture or video recording on the [Lapeer County 4-H Facebook](#) of you participating in some of the following activities through August 31 and Lapeer County 4-H will be providing **20** Lapeer County 4-H scholarships for 2020-21 4-H participation fees through a random drawing! Make sure you upload each picture or video with a description of what you've done and your name. Have fun!

- ⇒ Video or take a series of pictures of yourself preparing a healthy meal or snack to share with family
- ⇒ Have someone take your picture reciting the 4-H Pledge or explaining the Life Skills wheel
- ⇒ Pick an animal or another project area to research, and post some interesting facts learned
- ⇒ Make a homemade facemask and share the pattern
- ⇒ Paint a rock with a positive message
- ⇒ Make a craft and share how you made it or the site
- ⇒ Learn with your parents how to build a campfire and make a foil packet dinner
- ⇒ Make a video of singing a campfire song or another song with your family
- ⇒ Choreograph a dance with family members and record it
- ⇒ Take a video of you reading a children's book out loud
- ⇒ Color or draw a picture
- ⇒ Do a science experiment of your own and show your results
- ⇒ Do the tin foil boat challenge <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7R7JYAdYIY>
- ⇒ Take an egg carton nature hike! Label one side of the carton rough the other side smooth. Take a family hike and find objects with rough and smooth textures and place in the appropriate pockets. See what you can come up with!
- ⇒ Have a picture taken of you helping with some household or barnyard job; examples- setting table, vacuuming, making your bed, dusting, cleaning pens, feeding animal, exercising animal, etc.
- ⇒ Plant seeds in a seed starter or egg carton and take a picture of the sprouts or another gardening project

PLEASE CHECK [LAPEER COUNTY 4-H FACEBOOK PAGE](#) FOR LOTS OF ONLINE EVENTS AND FUN ACTIVITIES TO DO THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER! TOO MANY TO PUT IN THE NEWSLETTER AND POSTS WILL BE ADDED CONTINUOUSLY AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE!

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