



4-H Family News

Macomb County, MI | Volume 6 Issue 6 | Feb. 2021

Macomb County 4-H News & Events

2021 Virtual 4-H Skillathon - March 20

There will be a Virtual Skillathon for 4-H members and adults on March 20, 2021 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Each region across Michigan is hosting a Skillathon. Finalists from each region will proceed to a statewide event on April 10th. Species include Rabbits, Poultry, Dogs, Sheep, Goats, Swine, Beef, Dairy and Horses. Participants will be quizzed with questions specific to each species:

- Novice – 15 questions
- Junior – 20 questions
- Seniors and Adults – 25 questions

Scores will be weighted evenly. Links to study resources are listed [here](#). The 2021 4-H Skillathon is free.



For more information or to register, visit <https://events.anr.msu.edu/skillathon/>. Rules and regulations are available online at www.canr.msu.edu/otsego/4-h/2021-michigan-4-h-skillathon.



S.T.E.A.M. Careers SPIN Club starts March 2

Hey! Are you interested in learning more about S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) careers as a career pathway? This exciting series of STEAM Careers is being offered for high school youth to offer exposure to employment opportunities in a variety of fields. Different session topics will be offered on Tuesdays from March 2nd - April 6th from 4:00-5:00 p.m. EST. To receive club access, please make sure all high school youth who are interested are registered in [4-H Online](#).

Interested in sharing your STEAM career pathway with youth? We are looking for panelists to share their experiences . Please email Ally

Baird (bairdal2@msu.edu) with questions. Visit <https://bit.ly/2NCbVXf> to receive more information about this club.

Mars Base Camp S.T.E.M. Challenge

Join Michigan 4-H Staff as we explore the National 4-H Mars Base Camp Challenge on March 8, 10, and 11. The race to land humans on Mars is on! The 4-H STEM Challenge will explore sending a mission to Mars with the activity, Mars Base Camp. Each participant will receive a family-sized kit that includes materials for 1-4 youth to participate in the offline activities and then share discoveries with youth from across Michigan.

Ages: 8-14 (Suggested)

Cost: \$20 (Includes 4-H Mars Base Camp Family Kit)

Location: This is an interactive event with Michigan 4-H Staff that will take place virtually with activities done simultaneously at home. A Zoom link will be sent once registration is complete along with the Kit.

For more information, and to register: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/NYSDMBC/>



Apply for a 4-H State Award by April 1

The Michigan 4-H State Awards application deadline is April 1, 2021. A 4-H State Award is the highest honor bestowed on a Michigan 4-H member. 4-H State Award winners become part of an elite group of 4-H youth who have demonstrated the highest level of excellence in learning, leadership, and service. Last year, Macomb was proud to have two State Award recipients. They were Aubrey Richards and Morgan Jowett, both of City Slickers 4-H Club.

The Michigan 4-H State Awards Program provides 4-H members a learning experience where they can develop career skills by using their 4-H experiences to compile a portfolio similar to a professional application while receiving recognition for their 4-H involvement. The application process will help youth build their skills in communication, literacy, record keeping, and marketable skills. The application will require youth to reflect on their past 4-H experiences and provide thoughtful responses. 4-H State Awards recognize youth for their engagement and learning in the 4-H program, focusing on the skills they have gained. Once completed, a 4-H State Awards portfolio may be a useful tool that can be referenced when completing future job, college, or scholarship applications.

To participate in the 4-H State Awards Program, start by downloading the application and instructions here:

- [2021 Overview and Instructions for Michigan 4-H State Awards Program and Mark of Excellence](#)
- [2021 4-H State Awards Junior Application \(4-H age 13-15\)](#)
- [2021 4-H State Awards Senior Application \(4-H age 16-19\)](#)
- [2021 4-H State Awards Group Application \(4-H age 13-19\)](#)

Virtual **State Awards Youth Trainings** are available to help youth with the application process. Sign up for one or more available sessions online at <https://bit.ly/36A1jPx>.

4-H Online 2.0 club rosters now include project areas

The rosters that administrative club leaders can access through 4-H Online 2.0 now include project areas. When you download your club roster, look for an additional tab for project areas at the bottom of the spreadsheet. If you don't remember how to access your club roster, refer to the [Club Leader Login](#) instructions or contact Macomb County MSU Extension 4-H Office at Macomb.4h@macombgov.org.

In the news...

- The **4-H Virtual Home Gardening Program** for youth in Wayne and Macomb counties was highlighted in this Macomb Daily [article](#). The program is free and gives youth participants a combination of hands-on and virtual gardening experiences. In Macomb County, contact 4-H Program Coordinator Lizz Duran at duraneli@msu.edu or visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/macomb/4-h/featured-programs/virtual-home> for more information.
- **Keran Walkowicz** was recently featured in the Macomb Daily for her years of volunteer

service with Macomb County 4-H, and was awarded the 2020 4-H Lifetime Achievement Award. Read the article [here](#). To find out more about the [Macomb County 4-H Awards Program](#) or the [Michigan 4-H Awards Program](#), contact Macomb County 4-H Program Coordinator Lizz Duran at duraneli@msu.edu. Learn more about becoming a Michigan 4-H volunteer [here](#).

- Read about **Macomb County 4-H and its Horse Program's involvement at Camp Rotary** in [Momentum Magazine](#).
- Listen to what National 4-H Council CEO Jennifer Sirangelo has to say about **4-H at-home learning programs** in this Fox News [interview](#).

Other Local News & Events

Armada Fair news

Tagging Dates: Steer Tagging is February 7, 2021 from 12-2 p.m. at the Armada Fairgrounds in Armada. Animal tagging dates are listed online at <https://armadafair.org/livestocksale>.

Bill Hahn Scholarship: The Armada Agricultural Society sponsors the Bill Hahn Memorial Scholarship in memory of former president and longtime board member, Bill Hahn. The scholarship will be awarded yearly to two high school graduating seniors. The applicant must have been a volunteer, employee, Open Class exhibitor or Youth Organizations exhibitor at the Armada Fair to apply. This would include Miss Armada and her court.

Applications must be postmarked no later than April 15th and may be mailed to the Armada Agricultural Society, P.O. Box 507, Armada, MI 48005, dropped off at the Armada Fair Office during normal business hours or emailed to the fair office by 11:59 p.m. April 15th. office@armadafair.org. More information about the scholarship can be found online [here](#).



SCHOOL FOOD MOBILE PANTRY

The School Food Mobile Program provides free nutritious, healthy food for up to 100 families.

The mobile pantry includes 30 lbs. of fresh fruits and vegetables, fresh milk, whole grains and lean protein.

Each family also receives healthy recipes and nutrition information.

February 3 & 17, 2021
1:30 to 3:00 pm

To learn more, contact:
North Shore Church
north-shore.org

The Institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Gleaners Mobile Food Pantry

For those who need food assistance and those who work with families in need, the Gleaners Mobile Food Pantry will be at 51028 Base Street in New Baltimore. Families should plan to arrive at 1 p.m.

Dates and times for the upcoming distributions:

Wednesday February 3rd
Wednesday February 17th
Wednesday March 3rd
Wednesday March 17th
Wednesday March 31st

For more information, contact North Shore Church at north-shore.org.

Statewide 4-H News & Events



4-H Capitol Experience

All sessions will be held virtually

- March 13, 10 am - 1 pm
- March 17, 4 - 6 pm
- March 20, 10 am - 1 pm

Youth Summit

Coming soon: Virtual 4-H Capitol Experience Youth Summit

Save the date for the 4-H Capitol Experience Youth Summit, March 13, 17 and 20! This fully virtual event will have opportunities for youth engagement, networking, sharing ideas, meeting with decision makers, learning about careers in and around policy, and learning the basics about government. Youth will select issue groups, which will become small group learning cohorts throughout the event.

Sessions will be held:

- March 13, 10 a.m.- 1 p.m.
- March 17, 4-6 p.m.
- March 20, 10 a.m.- 1 p.m.

This event is open to youth in eighth grade through age 19; registration will begin in February. The \$20 cost to attend will include a mailed conference kit to enhance the virtual experience. Scholarships are available.

Update on Michigan 4-H programming

A message from MSU Extension Director Jeff Dwyer and Jake DeDecker, state leader of Michigan 4-H Youth Development



To say that 2020 was difficult is an understatement. The COVID-19 pandemic and the losses and life changes that came along with it took its toll on many of us. At MSU Extension and Michigan 4-H, we felt the pain that comes with cancelling events and pivoting exclusively to online programming.

You'd be hard pressed to find anyone—inside or outside Extension—who isn't eager to get back to face-to-face programming. We understand that our Michigan 4-H families are missing incredible experiences and connections that were built through in-person gatherings and programs.

We are making plans to resume face-to-face programming, and we look forward to engaging 4-H'ers, their families and volunteers. Our staff is working diligently to chart a path toward resuming in-person programming when the threat to public health caused by COVID-19 greatly diminishes. Though it is premature to cite a specific date, we are eager to see you all at the events, club meetings, competitions and fairs we all have grown to love.

In the meantime, we are committed to bringing high-quality virtual programming to residents and communities with varying needs throughout the state. We encourage 4-H'ers and clubs to continue meeting via zoom and engage in the many virtual educational programs offered by 4-H. For more information on virtual programs and resources or help setting up 4-H club meetings, contact your 4-H program coordinator or visit MSU Extension Remote Learning and Resources web page at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/rlr/>. Thank you for all that you do. We hope to see you soon.



World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute applications due April 1

As millions across the globe deal with food insecurity, the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute (WFP MIYI) offers young people an opportunity to be part of the solution. On May 6, youth will join virtually to become inspired and prepared as the next generation of global leaders to end world hunger.

Attendees will have the opportunity to share their ideas related to global food security with experts and other Michigan youth while learning how university faculty and staff members, researchers and students are working to address world hunger.

To participate, youth should be in grades 7-12 and register by the April 1 deadline. As part of the registration process, youth are required to prepare a two- to five-page research paper about a developing country and how it is affected by one of 20 key factors that impact food security. At the online event, youth will present and discuss their papers with other attendees and research and industry experts. They will also participate in an interactive session with global challenge experts to learn more about topics related to global food and food security.

The top performing students at the WFP MIYI will be considered as possible delegates to attend the World Food Prize Global Youth Institute in Des Moines, Iowa, or virtually, in October. For more information, visit www.canr.msu.edu/wfpmiyi/. Registration will open on March 1; registration and papers are due by April 1.



Important information for swine exhibitors

If you're planning to show your swine at fair, be aware of some changes:

[Updates for obtaining official identification for exhibition swine in 2021](#).

Swine owners will now be responsible for acquiring the official identification for their animals. Per the [Michigan 4-H Livestock and Veterinary Science](#) Facebook page, "...fairs will no longer be able to purchase tags from MDARD for your show pigs. What does this mean

for you? First, check first with your local fair to see if they have leftover inventory that they can use this year. If they don't, ask the breeder where you purchase your pig(s) if they can place a USDA 840 tag in your animal(s). You can also register the premises where the pigs are housed by contacting MDARD, and purchase your own 840 tags. If you have any questions, please reach out to Nick Babcock, Michigan State University Extension 4-H livestock and veterinary science program educator, at babco116@msu.edu or Beth Ferry, MSU Extension pork educator, franzeli@msu.edu."

4-H League of Clovers Live!

The beacon has been lit once again, friends! Rally to the Clover Banner! The Mason County 4-H League of Clovers Gaming Society is hosting a multi-day virtual [Dungeons and Dragons](#) event February 27, March 6, and March 13, 2021 (all Saturdays) from 2-3:30 p.m. Participants ages 10-19 will be able to take part in 1 of up to 4 different adventures.

Register online at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/LoCLive/> by February 24th. For more information contact Aaron Myers at 231-845-3365 or myersaa1@msu.edu.



TIME Magazine selects 4-H'er as "Kid of the Year"

Congratulations to Colorado 4-H'er Gitanjali Rao, TIME Magazine's Kid of the Year! At age 15, Gitanjali is the first 4-H'er to ever be selected for the honor.



Gitanjali earned the distinction for her efforts to address a range of major problems. Utilizing STEM, she has worked on issues that include contaminated drinking water, opioid addiction and cyberbullying. It is her belief that young innovators such as her hold the key to solving world problems.

Read more about Gitanjali's 4-H story and experiences in her interview with TIME:

<https://time.com/5916772/kid-of-the-year-2020/>.

Volunteer Survey

Michigan 4-H volunteers are asked to complete a survey online at https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_d5dU2WLEGPBQML3. The information from this survey will help us to develop virtual and face to face programming resources. Please complete the survey by February 5, 2021. We appreciate your support!

4-H Ninja Training SPIN Club

Have you ever wondered what it takes to be a ninja warrior, like you see on TV? Besides being physically active and in shape, what other things help them be successful? Michigan 4-H is offering a fun SPIN club opportunity for youth ages 9 to 19 to learn about what it takes to be a ninja. Join us Wednesdays, February 10th thru March 17th from 4:30 to 5:30 pm EST. Register online at <https://bit.ly/4hninja> by February 5th. Space is limited so don't wait! Youth will also have the opportunity to hear motivational speaker and 2020 winner of American Ninja warrior, Daniel Gil in March.

LEGO Challenge 2 Virtual 4-H SPIN Club

Are you a fan of LEGOs and want to

4-H LEGO Creator SPIN Club

The 4-H Lego Creator SPIN Club begins on Monday, February 22 and ends Friday, February

bring your imagination to life? Now you can with the LEGO Challenge 2 Virtual 4-H SPIN Club. This club will meet on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from February 22 through March 5 via Zoom to design your very own LEGO creations. This free club is open to youth ages 9 and up. Please email Jessica Luckey at luckeyje@msu.edu for registration.

26. Participants will meet daily via Zoom from 3:30 p.m.-4:45 p.m. EST. You are never too old to be creative, be ingenious, be an engineer and be creative with LEGO! This 4-H SPIN Club is FREE and OPEN to 4-H and non-4-H members ages 13 to 19. Register online at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/4HLegoCreator/> by February 18. The Zoom link information will only be sent to event registrants that complete their [4-H Online enrollment](#) by February 18th.

Apply for Mark of Excellence

Michigan 4-H'ers ages 11-12 are invited to apply for a Mark of Excellence Award. To apply for this state-level award, write and submit an essay (500 words or less) that focuses on the theme, "Because of 4-H I can..." Essays are due to your county MSU Extension 4-H Office no later than April 1, 2021. For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/2LNpfqU> or contact your county's MSU Extension 4-H Office.

Apply for a Michigan 4-H State Award

Michigan 4-H'ers ages 13-19 can develop their career skills and receive recognition for their 4-H involvement by participating in the [Michigan 4-H State Awards Program](#). Applicants will create a portfolio that highlights their 4-H careers, will be asked to reflect on their past 4-H experiences and provide thoughtful responses.

4-H State Awards recognize youth for their engagement and learning in the 4-H program, focusing on the skills they have gained; not necessarily the past achievements and awards received. Once completed, a 4-H State Awards portfolio may be referenced when completing future job, college, or scholarship applications.

Find out more about State 4-H Awards Program online at <https://bit.ly/3r0UApu> or contact your county's [MSU Extension Office](#). Applications are due by April 1st.

4-H Members from across the state selected to sit on State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Showcase

The Michigan 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Showmanship and Educational Showcase is sponsored by Michigan 4-H Youth Development Programs, which is part of Michigan State University Extension. We would like to thank the following people for their efforts in planning and conducting the 2021 Virtual 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Showmanship and Educational Showcase! State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show Committee

Jeff Granger	Helena Hickerson
Kelly Hansen	Katie Holcomb
Krista Hunt	Dale Mize
Tim Henes	Bryan Shirk



Reserve Winter Bird Feeder Kits through February 12

Winter Bird Feeder Kits are available to Michigan youth who are ages 4-19 as of 1/1/2021. The kit includes a self-paced project that can be completed at home. Kits will be shipped directly to your home the week of Feb. 15. Cost is \$10. Visit <https://bit.ly/3pgNdHm> or contact Mollie Hogg, hoggmoll@msu.edu, for more information. Register February 5-12.

Calendars of Events

February 1-28
[Cooking with Kristi](#)

February 20
[4-H in the Kitchen Live! Baked Corndogs](#)

Online

This six-part on-demand video series will provide participants with access to instructional cooking videos and a private Facebook group. Youth will learn kitchen safety and sanitation, recipes for tasty and economical foods, and cooking techniques and terms.

February 2

[Life of the Straits Winter Edition](#)

Zoom Webinar

The program will take place Tuesdays and Thursdays through Feb. 9. Each session will share information on amazing features of the Straits of Mackinac and the wonderful winter activities you can enjoy there. This program is ideal for youth 8-12 years but is open to any family.

February 7

Beef Tagging

12-2 p.m., Armada Fairgrounds

February 9

[Wild Spartans Series](#)

Zoom Webinar

Topic: [All About Honeybees: Working with a superorganism](#)

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 February, attendees will hear from an entomologist and learn what the buzz really is about bees!

February 10-March 17

[4-H Ninja Training SPIN Club](#)

4:30-5:30 p.m., Zoom

Wednesdays through March 17

February 13

[MSU Tollgate Farm Homegrown Gardening Series](#)

Zoom Webinar

Interested in starting a vegetable garden for the first time or are you an experienced veggie gardener looking to explore new ideas? All levels of experience are welcome at this new series designed to encourage and support home vegetable gardeners! Sessions will be held monthly.

February 18

[MSU Tollgate Farm Stewards Virtual Winter Series](#)

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.

Zoom Webinar

Participants will learn how to prepare a healthier version of a corndog.

February 22-26

[4-H LEGO Creator SPIN Club](#)

3:30-4:45 p.m. daily, Zoom

February 22-March 5

LEGO Challenge 2 Virtual 4-H SPIN Club

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays

Zoom

February 27, March 6 & 13

[League of Clovers Live!](#)

2-2:30 p.m., *Zoom*

March 2

[S.T.E.A.M. Career SPIN Club](#)

4-5 p.m., *Zoom*.

Club will meet Tuesdays, March 2-April 6.

March 8, 10 & 11

[Mars Base Camp STEM Challenge](#)

5-6 p.m., *Zoom*

March 9

[Wild Spartans Series!](#)

Zoom Webinar

Topic: [Searching for Vernal Pools, Nature's](#)

[Disappearing Act](#)

March 13, 17 & 20

4-H Capitol Experience

Online

March 20

Virtual 4-H Skillathon

Online

April 1

[State Awards](#) application deadline

April 13

[Wild Spartans!](#)

Zoom Webinar

Topic: [Researching Wildfire in Boreal and Arctic](#)

[Regions](#)

May 11

[Wild Spartans!](#)

Zoom Webinar - Topic TBA

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

Macomb County 4-H Staff & Office Locations

Ed Scott,
District 11 Coordinator
Oakland & Macomb Counties

[Diane Wisniewski](#)
4-H Extension Supervising
& Staff Development Educator

[Allenique Baird](#)

[Katelyn Golembiewski](#)
4-H Program Coordinator

[Kathy Jamieson](#)
4-H Educator

[Seth Martin](#)
4-H Program Coordinator

Office Locations:

MSU Extension
VerKuilen Building
21885 Dunham Road, Suite 12
Clinton Township, MI 48036
Phone: (586) 469-6431

MSU Extension
Max Thompson Family Resource Center

4-H STEAM Corps
AmeriCorps Member

[Kea Norrell-Aitch](#)
4-H Educator

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[Elizabeth Duran](#)
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website

