



Monroe County

4-H Family News

July 2020

It's officially FAIR SEASON! We thank you for your patience as we roll out the all new

Virtual Showcase and Auction

The virtual showcase and auction is being planned only for this year and is not meant to be a full replacement of our normal Monroe County Fair and/or 4-H Youth Division experiences. We recognize that we cannot have the same experience as we have in the past, but this at least allows youth the opportunity to learn, to develop and improve their skills, and to showcase their hard work and talents. Being that the showcase is in a virtual format, the layout is going to look very different from usual and follow a different process and timeline leading up to the traditional fair week—August 2-8, 2020.

In order to take part in the virtual showcase, you need to make sure you have registered and paid participation fees for 4-H for this year! *If you have not done so already, visit www.4HOnline.com and finish your registration for 4-H. Participation Fees can be paid when the MSUE Office re-opens. July 7th. Contact Bailey Biniiecki (biniieck4@msu.edu) with any questions/concerns about payment and registration processes.*

**** Payments submitted to our office after March 15th have not been processed due to Covid-19 closures. Please be aware that these checks will be deposited around July 20th.**

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Find us on Facebook at:

Monroe County, MI 4-H



You can now view our google calendar with all the latest updates, including Zoom connection information, on our website.

https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=monroecounty4hprogram%40gmail.com&ctz=America%2FNew_York

July 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			1 VIRTUAL SHOWCASE REGISTRATION OPENS 10AM	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8 7PM SHOOTING SPORTS CANCELED	9 5-6PM OPEN OFFICE HOURS WITH 4-H STAFF	10	11	
12	13 7PM HORSE & PONY ZOOM CANCELED	14 CLOVERBUD CHEF CANCELED	15 7PM JLA ZOOM	16 7PM FAIR ADVISORY BOARD ZOOM	17	18 Shooting Sports Fair Shoot CANCELED Dog Fun Match CANCELED	
19	20	21	22	23	24 PROJECT REGISTRATION CLOSES AT 5PM	25	
26	27 Project Judging						28
			29	30	31		

August 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 JUDGES RESULTS PUBLISHED	3 JLA Virtual Auction 10am-10pm	4	5 SAA Virtual Auction 10am- 10pm	6	7	8 BEEF, SHEEP, SWINE POOLED TRANSPORTA- TION @ FAIR- GROUNDS
9 SAA YOUTH TO CONTACT AND MAKE ACCOMDATIONS WITH BUYERS	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

JULY OFFICE HOURS

Our office is now open with limited hours

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays

8:30am-4:30pm

Masks are required to enter the building.

4-H staff are still working remotely. The following “open office hours” are available via Zoom.

July 9th 5-6PM

Sara and Sarah are also available to assist you via phone or email.



VIRTUAL SHOWCASE & AUCTION TIMELINE

- **July 1 (Wed):** Registration opens at 10am, 4-H members can begin registering for all classes. When registering, 4-H members are also submitting the project itself – the registrations can be started, saved, and edited over a period of time
- **July 24 (Fri):** Registration closes at 5 pm for all classes
- **July 27-31:** Judging across all project areas
- **August 2 (Sun):** All judging results are published
- **August 3 (Mon) 10am-August 5 (Weds) 10pm:** Junior Livestock Association Auction (Beef, Sheep, Swine)
- **August 5 (Weds) 10am-August 7 (Fri) 10pm:** Small Animal Association Auction (Broilers, Roasters, Geese, Turkeys, Fryer Rabbits, Meat Pen Rabbits, Roaster Rabbits)
- **August 8 (Sat):** Large livestock will be shipped out to Jerome Country Market, Napoleon Livestock, or UPI; Small Animals designated as ‘resale’ will be collected



MONROE COUNTY 4-H

VIRTUAL SHOWCASE FAQ

How do we register? The registration process will take place here <http://monroecountyfair.fairentry.com/> This site is integrated with your 4honline.com account, so you will login with that same family email and password. Please contact us if you have problems logging on. You should NOT create a new account.

What classes will look like? When you register, you will also be submitting the project itself. Submission of projects will mainly be uploading still photos of the project; there are some classes (i.e. showmanship) that will ask for a video upload. Small and large livestock projects: keep in mind the first photo you upload into the system is the photo that will be displayed on the Auction web page. Some project areas will ask you questions about your project during registration; this would be similar to a judge asking you questions when you presented the project to them. When you register a project it will ask if you want that project to be shared on our Monroe County FairEntry website; this website would be similar to displaying your still exhibits in the exhibit buildings for friends, family, and community members to see

What projects can we submit? Some traditional project areas are not available on this platform. Visit our website to view the 2020 Premium Catalog along with a list of eliminated classes and an addendum.

https://www.canr.msu.edu/monroe/monroe_county_4_h/monroe-county-4-h-virtual-auction-and-showcase Printed Premium Catalogs are also available at the Monroe County Fair office, MSU Extension office, Tractor Supply (Monroe and Dundee) Family Farm and Home, Ida Farmers Co-op, Maybee Co-op, Ottawa Lake Co-op, and Masserants Feed and Grain (Monroe and Temperance)

What about Livestock projects? Showman who completed YQCA and submitted their pre-registration forms by June 1st are eligible to enter their animal projects.





Keeping Youth Safe Virtually: Best Practices

When engaging youth in virtual learning experiences, it is important to consider youth safety. The following best practices should be considered by youth as they engage in online experiences, as well as parents, guardians, volunteers and other adults.

LIMIT IDENTIFIABLE DETAILS.

Consider how much and what types of personal information are being shared. If at all possible, don't share a youth's hometown, age, school, or parent's name(s). Best practice indicates only the youth's first name and 4-H club should be shared online. However, at times it might be necessary to share a last name, such as when creating videos that will be used for virtual auctions.

ONLINE PHOTOS AND VIDEOS HAVE PERMANENCY.

Remember that photos and videos shared online always have the potential for becoming a permanent part of history. Even if deleted, they can easily be recovered and shared. Consider who else might see the information once the virtual learning experience is complete, such as potential employers, college admission officers, scholarship selection committees, etc.

PHOTOS AND VIDEOS CREATE A LEGACY.

While photos and videos are developed to share about learning experiences, projects, shows and auctions, they will be viewed by judges and receive a rating. Consider distractions such as articles of clothing, backgrounds items the viewer can see, and noises that occur in videos that can detract from the project.

COMMUNICATION SHOULD BE CLEAR AND EFFECTIVE.

Be sure photos and videos are of good quality. Double check for proper grammar and misspellings. Have another person review materials to ensure what is submitted is high quality and free of mistakes.





4-H Virtual Auction: Youth FAQ

Please use the following key when reviewing this document:

- *Items in bold italics* - Requirements

YOUTH PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

IF YOUTH HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW IN ANOTHER FORMAT CAN THEY PARTICIPATE ONLY IN THE VIRTUAL AUCTION?

- ***No, youth participating in the 4-H virtual auction MUST take part in the show aspect in order to move forward into the auction.***

HOW WILL INDIVIDUAL ANIMALS BE IDENTIFIED?

- Market animals should have an official fair tag like a back tag to identify animals. This will be easier than trying to read RFID tags or Scrapies tags. Official tag numbers, like the RFID tag, should be recorded by the youth member and kept as part of the official record on their project animal.

WHEN DOES PARTICIPANT INFORMATION NEED TO BE UPLOADED ONTO THE FAIRENTRY SITE?

- 4-H members should be prepared to upload photos at the time of registration, typically 1-2 weeks prior to the typical fair date. Videos may be added at a later date but prior to the judging and/or sale date. This will allow time for judges to complete their evaluation of projects and provide potential buyers an opportunity to view animals that will be auctioned off.

HOW CAN YOUTH ADVERTISE THEIR MARKET PROJECTS?

- Contacting potential buyers ahead of time will be critical to your success. Failure to promote your livestock projects may result in a lack of bidders for your project during the virtual auction.
- Given that face-to-face contact is prohibited until September 1, 2020, virtual contacts are encouraged.
- Resources are being developed that can be shared with potential buyers to explain what a virtual auction is and how it will work.
- Resources are available to help buyers understand the amount of product to expect when an animal is processed.
 - Market beef
 - Market sheep and goats
 - Market swine
 - Market poultry (chickens, turkeys and ducks) and rabbits

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- It is recommended that you begin making contact with potential buyers at least one month prior to the virtual showcase and auction site going live.

DO YOUTH STILL NEED TO COMPLETE YQCA?

- Yes, if this is a requirement of your local 4-H program, processor or stockyard.

HOW WILL THE SALE ORDER BE DETERMINED?

- All animals of the same species will be listed in alphabetical order by the last name of the youth member

HOW WILL ANIMAL WEIGHTS BE DETERMINED?

- Since there is a limit on the face-to-face interactions, animals cannot be transported to a certified scale to receive the certified weight required by the State of Michigan to sell by the pound; all animals will sell by the head.

Competition Time!

Now more than ever, showman should be reaching out to potential buyers. Join in this challenge for some friendly competition.

Buyers Letter Competition Criteria Explanations

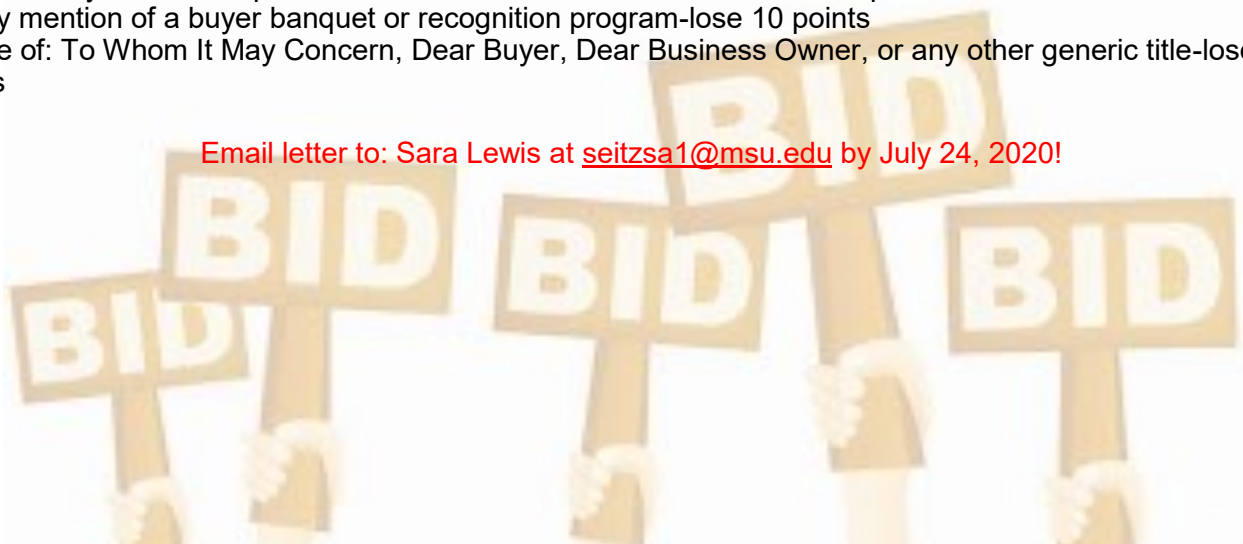
Be creative-it does not have to be in a formal letter format. Total possible points 50
It must be limited to one page.

1. Letter is appropriate to the age of youth. Possible point value: + 2
Does the letter have the feel and appropriateness for the age of the exhibitor?
2. No spelling or grammatical errors. Possible point value: +2
Check that the words are spelled correctly and that it is the appropriate word to use. Sentences are structured correctly.
3. Invite the buyer to the Auction with all the correct information included: fair dates, auction dates, your club name, your name and what project you are in, contact information of 4-H Program Coordinator, Sara Lewis, for auction questions. Possible point value: +10
4. Pictures or graphics are a part of the letter. This will assist the buyer in knowing who they are looking for on the online auction. Possible point value: +4
5. Mention the fact that there are other exhibitors out there that they can still help if they are not able to get your animal, (Sibling, club, 4-H). Possible point value: +4
6. Purpose of the letter-what is your plan after selling your animal? Why should the person buy your animal? Possible point value: +4
7. Is anything handwritten? The letter or a handwritten note as part of the computerized letter. Is it signed? Possible point value: +4
8. Information that personalizes the letter to the buyer. Show that there is a connection between the exhibitor and the potential buyer. Demonstrate in the letter that the exhibitor realizes what the business/person does or how they can relate to each other. Possible point value: +10
9. The "voice" of the writer is evident. Mention of goals, accomplishments, information about the exhibitor (age, years in project, etc.), skills learned, experiences you have had in the project, how this has helped you, relate this to other areas regarding life experiences. You don't need to list everything just give a general overview of highlights. Possible point value: +10

Penalties-Do NOT put these items in your letter. If the following items are mentioned, the points will be subtracted from the total earned.

1. Taxes-Any mention of potential tax deduction or contribution - lose 10 points
2. Any mention of a buyer banquet or recognition program-lose 10 points
3. Use of: To Whom It May Concern, Dear Buyer, Dear Business Owner, or any other generic title-lose 5 points

Email letter to: Sara Lewis at seitzsa1@msu.edu by July 24, 2020!



Royalty Update

Moving forward, starting with what would have been the 2020 Monroe County Fair, in an effort to ensure DEI (diversity, equity and inclusion) expectations and initiatives are met, there will no longer be the long-standing, traditional 4-H Royalty Program in Monroe County. The four youth who are currently serving will be the last representatives in this role as Monroe County 4-H King, Queen, Prince and Princess—their term will conclude officially as of the end of the program year (August 31). We are in a time of transition and change for the future of the 4-H Royalty program, locally and statewide. While there are no plans put in place at this time to offer a replacement program with similar efforts, it remains the commitment of the Monroe County 4-H Program and MSU Extension to recognize youth for their accomplishments and empower youth to grow, learn and lead.



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4-H Cloverbud Project Learning Reflection

Cloverbuds participating in the virtual learning showcase will be asked to reflect on the following questions to highlight their experiences. The questions will be asked as part of the FairEntry process. Cloverbuds should consider their answers in advance of entering classes online.

QUESTIONS

1. What was your favorite part of this project?
2. What was the hardest part of your project?
3. What is one thing you learned from this project?
4. What do you want to be when you grow up and why?



4-H CLOVERBUDS



4-H Cloverbuds are youth members 5-7 years of age as of January 1, 2020. The following categories will be offered to 4-H Cloverbuds at the 2020 Monroe County Fair 4-H Division. Project descriptions and rules are published in the Fair Premium Catalog. **updated 6.27.2020**

Crafts I and II

- Pottery
- Terra Cotta Pots
- Jewelry
- Woodworking Kits
- Scale Models
- Gift Wrapping
- Challenge
- Mosaics
- Scrapbooking
- Wind Chimes
- Needlework
- Greeting Cards
- Decorative Bird Houses
- Leathercraft
- Christmas Tree Ornaments
- Fleece
- Ceramics and Plastercraft
- Glass Etching
- Duct Tape Art
- Flip Flops
- Decorated Shirts
- Soap and Bath Products
- Metal Punch
- Stenciling
- Paper

Foods & Nutrition

- Decorated Cookie
- Pet Treats
- Decorated Cupcake
- Gingerbread Houses

Educational

- Basic Conservation Collection
- Fishing Lures and Flies
- Photography
- Toy Construction
- Puzzles
- Safety and First Aid

Communications

- Storytelling
- Show and Tell

Produce/Hort

- Yard Art-Stepping Stone
- Scarecrow 1'-2'
- Flowers (Single Marigold)
- Potted Marigold Plant
- Cactus or Succulent Garden
- Vegetables (Single Vegetable)

Small Animals

- Poultry Showmanship
- Rabbit Showmanship
- Pocket Pets
- Cavy Showmanship
- Pocket Pet Showmanship
- Small Animal Dress-Up
- Dog Dress-Up
- Dog Showmanship

Large Animals

- Sheep Showmanship
- Swine Showmanship
- Goat Showmanship
- Lamb Lead

Virtual 4-H programming guidelines for volunteers



When face-to-face programming is not possible due to social distancing, virtual 4-H experiences are opportunities for 4-H groups to continue engaging together. Though virtual programs may never fully replace the relationships built by meeting in-person, they can also supplement face-to-face programming. But how can you make sure virtual programs are successful?

MSU Extension recently released a helpful document that can guide 4-H volunteers in using technology to the fullest potential. This resource provides volunteers with expectations for leading virtual programs with youth and best practices for success.

Access “Virtual 4-H Programming Guidelines for Volunteers” online at canr.msu.edu/resources/virtual-4-h-programming-guidelines-for-volunteers.

4-H Events and Workshops

June 2: 4-H Teen Tuesday—Meet the Michigan 4-H State Youth Leadership Council

Zoom webinar

Current 4-H members can connect each Tuesday with their peers across the state while learning about a wide array of 4-H project areas.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-teen-tuesday-meet-the-michigan-4-h-state-youth-leadership-council-1

June 4: 4-H at 4 on Thursdays

Zoom webinar

These weekly 45 minute sessions are designed to provide an overview of a variety of 4-H programs and activities for 8 to 12 year-old youth.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-at-4-on-thursdays

June 4: Ocean Explorers

Zoom webinar

Join your 4-H friends and marine educator Madison Dix on a virtual discovery of sea life! Learn about amazing creatures, their habitats, and stewardship issues surrounding ocean ecosystems.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/2020-4-h-ocean-explorers-1

June 4: Adulting 101 Series– Household Tasks

Zoom webinar

This event will help youth navigate life and college. In this session, learn the right way to iron, make a bed, sew a button, set a table and more.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-mayseries-householdtasks

June 9: 4-H Teen Tuesday—Making Money at Home This Summer

Zoom webinar

Current 4-H members can connect each Tuesday with their peers across the state while learning about a wide array of 4-H project areas.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/june-9-4-h-teen-tuesday-making-money-at-home-this-summer-1

June 20: Missaukee 4-H Summer Classic Virtual No-Fit Heifer & Steer Show

Zoom webinar

Join this opportunity to build confidence and hear feedback from judge Randy Barnes This show is open to all Michigan 4-H members.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/missaukee-4-h-summer-classic-virtual-no-fit-heifer-steer-show

View more virtual events at canr.msu.edu/Online4MI.



4-H Spartan Coding Camp goes virtual!

Explore the exciting field of computer coding at MSU Extension’s newest premier pre-college program—virtually! Whether you have prior computer coding knowledge, or have never even thought about it, you will gain valuable coding skills at this fun STEM summer camp being hosted online from June 22-25.

Virtual 4-H Spartan Coding Camp campers will enjoy experiences

such as:

- Developing your own tech ideas; designing and coding an application from scratch; and attracting users to your product!
- Learning the fundamentals of launching a product.
- Discovering the essentials of web design and development.
- Practicing coding skills in HTML, CSS, JS, Ruby, Rails and Github.
- Enhancing your passion for technology and growing real-world skills.
- Exploring career opportunities available at MSU!

After the camp is over, youth will continue to learn and practice at their own pace with nearly 60 hours of self-paced online lessons that allow you to further hone your coding skills.

4-H Spartan Coding Camp is open to youth entering grades 9-12 in the fall of 2020. Attendees should have a computer with internet and the ability to video conference (microphone and webcam). Registration is now open. Learn more at www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-spartan-coding-camp/index.

The cost to attend this four-day camp is \$320 and includes tech support, post-camp support, and program fees. Current Michigan 4-H members receive a \$20 discount. Questions? Contact Christine Miller at 517-552-6905 or johns832@msu.edu. 4-H Spartan Coding Camp is offered in collaboration with CodeNow.

Michigan 4-H’ers pledge their hands to larger service in a time of need

Across the state, county and globe, COVID-19 has upended everyday life in nearly every way. In Michigan, families and communities struggle to adapt to closed schools and businesses while working to preserve their own health, well-being and sense of normalcy. For many Michigan 4-H’ers, lending a helping hand is part of that normal, and many have sprung into action to help their communities during this unprecedented time.



Across the state, 4-H’ers have found many ways to serve their communities while practicing social distancing. Among them were:

- Kalkaska County 4-H member Amy Saxton issued a 4-H Dare to Serve Challenge for other 4-H’ers to join in her Cards for a Cause efforts, encouraging youth to send cards to individuals living in adult foster care homes not able to receive visitors at this time.
- Similarly, 4-H’ers in Lapeer and Schoolcraft counties wrote letters and cards of kindness to residents of local senior centers and nursing homes.
- Alger County 4-H’ers volunteered to shop for seniors who didn’t feel safe traveling to the store to purchase their groceries and other supplies.
- 4-H’ers across the state sewed masks at home to donate to people in need.
- The Sebations, a 4-H family in St. Clair Co., re-purposed a fair billboard thanking essential workers.

“I continue to be impressed by the overwhelming generosity and creativity of our 4-H members, volunteers and staff across the state to continue the 4-H mission,” said Jacob DeDecker, Michigan 4-H state leader. “Our 4-H community remains committed to helping one another.”

MSU Extension offers at-home hands-on learning for youth



To support families and caregivers with youth at home during the COVID-19 pandemic, MSU Extension has put together a weekly list of DIY activities and online events. Choose from daily childhood development, career exploration, STEM, healthy living and leadership activities - or choose them all! There’s even two quick resources to support parents and caregivers during these unprecedented times. We hope this helpful resource will provide a weekly dose of fun and learning while staying safe at home.

View the resources at extension.msu.edu/weeklyactivities.