

*Montcalm County*

4-H Family News

April 5, 2019

April showers bring May flowers... and then the fair!

On this gloomy April morning, we can only hope we will soon be seeing warm weather, sunny skies and some flowers sprouting. Winter has hung on too long and I think we are all ready for some warmth.

We had a very successful Alternative Spring Break series of activities and are hopeful to offer something again next year.

With May approaching, make sure to get your fair registration forms completed and in on time. All of the forms can be found on our MSU Extension webpage with a timeline of deadlines. ShoWorks registration is set to open soon, as well. We are a few months away from the fair but it will go quickly with all the preparations and excitement. Don't forget about your fair community service hours either. More information about that can be found farther in the newsletter.

It has been busy around here programming with community organizations and schools and we are excited to develop partnerships throughout the county to showcase what 4-H has to offer the community. Maybe you will see us in your local school.

Sincerely,
Tarin Minkel

Contact Us

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Web Site
https://www.canr.msu.edu/montcalm-county/montcalm-county_4_h/index

Calendar of events:

- April 9– Montcalm County 4-H Horse Leaders, Ash Building, 7:00 p.m.
- April 12– 4-H Council Benefit Auction, Ash Building, 6:00 p.m.
- April 15– 4-H Small Animal Committee, MSUE, 6:00 p.m.
- April 15– 4-H Community Connection, MSUE, 7:15 p.m.
- April 27– Montcalm County 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show, Crystal Community Center
- May 1– goat, sheep, swine, breeding beef, livestock exhibitor agreements all due
- May 2– 4-H Dog Committee Meeting, Ash Building, 6:30 p.m.
- May 7– 4-H Council Meeting, MSUE, 6:30 p.m.

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TSC Paper Clover Campaign



The TSC Paper Clover Campaign is going on right now. TSC in Greenville is our only TSC store in Montcalm County and 70% of the proceeds from the Paper Clover Campaign raised at that store stay right here with Montcalm County 4-H.

We would like to give a shout out to Alivia, Krin and Trenity Groce of Boots and Dreams 4-H Club for dedicating many hours in the store helping sell clovers and talking with customers about 4-H. If you would like to help, please contact Greenville TSC directly. They would love for members to stop by and help promote clover sales. Don't forget to stop in and purchase a clover, too!

4-H Events and Workshops

Ash building and concession stand sign up sheets were emailed to administrative leaders this morning by Vicki. If you did not receive them, please reach out to her directly.

The 4-H Council Benefit Auction is quickly approaching! Each club is asked to provide a donation for the auction and baked goods for the dessert bar. If you haven't submitted your donation yet, please do so by Monday, April 8th so there is adequate time to advertise the list of donations and get them all organized. Baked goods can be dropped off at the fairgrounds on Thursday, April 11th between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. or on Friday, April 12th at 5:30 p.m. The dessert bar and browsing of items will be from 6-7 p.m. and the auction will start at 7 p.m. Don't worry- we won't put the desserts away! We are all set for helpers to set up on Thursday night and are now in need of helpers to set up Friday. If you are interested, please arrive by 5:45 p.m. on Friday. The proceeds from this auction support scholarships, promotion, community events, and much more!! I have included a donation form at the end of the newsletter.

Help Needed! MSU Extension is partnering with the Conservation District for 4th Grade Field Day on May 14th and they have asked 4-H to provide a petting zoo/small animal education station. This is an all day event (8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.) at the fairgrounds where over 300 students will visit the station during 15 minute rotations to learn about animals. I am in need of 4-H members who want to help teach students about animals, members who want to bring animals and help, or members that want to bring animals that can't help that day. We are interested in any animal goat/sheep size and smaller. Lunch will be provided to volunteers and an excusal note for school. If you are interested in helping, please reach out to me at minkeltj@msu.edu.

Pictures wanted! We are looking for pictures for a slide show presentation at the 4-H Council Benefit Auction as well as for the Annual Report. If you send them, know you are acknowledging that we will be using them. Please attach them to the comments of the post on Facebook or send them via email to minkeltj@msu.edu.

4-H Social Media- I am learning there are many clubs and committees that have social media pages and groups. If your 4-H club or a committee you are involved in has a social media outlet, please email me with the name of it. I would like to create a list. Also note: if they are affiliated with 4-H, they must contain the name "4-H " in the title.

Some dates have been set for fairgrounds clean-up. This is where members can complete their 2 hours of required community service to exhibit in the fair. Those dates are: May 4 and May 18 from 10-noon, June 1 from 11-1 and June 15 with the time to be determined. Please bring gloves, rakes, shovels, wheelbarrows or sleds, weed whips or any other supplies that can be used to help clean up the grounds. If possible, RSVP to Jason Nadeau at jandjnadeau@yahoo.com.

Poultry Exhibitors- There has been some confusion this week about poultry leg bands. Those are available to anyone who needs them for \$1 each and can be picked up at the MSU Extension office. 4-H families or leaders are able to get them.

Beef and swine exhibitors- This year, PQA is not required for swine exhibitors. There is no requirement for exhibiting swine other than the mandatory meeting that is required of all exhibitors. Those exhibiting finished beef projects (those of dairy and beef breeds) are required to complete YQCA this year. This does not apply to feeder projects or non-market projects.

**Apply now for
4-H Great Lakes
& Natural
Resources
Camp**



The 2019 4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp is now accepting applications! Designed for youth aged 13 to 15, this program is held at Camp Chickagami in Presque Isle, Aug. 4-10.

Campers explore dunes, hike forest trails, wade through wetlands, fish, snorkel and sail on Lake Huron while educators and scientists teach them about the Great Lakes ecosystem.

Learn more and register today at https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_great_lakes_natural_resources_camp/.

4-H Events and Workshops

April 4: 4-H Healthy Living Showcase

Online Webinar

Learn about Michigan 4-H curriculum related to nutrition, physical fitness, gardening and mental health from the comfort of your home.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-healthy-living-curriculum-showcase>

April 11: Financial Fitness

Farmington Branch Library, Farmington

Pump up your savings to meet your financial goals by learning more about stocks, bonds and investments. Registration is required.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/financial-fitness>

April 13: Michigan 4-H Goat Expo

MSU -Anthony Hall, East Lansing

The State 4-H Goat Expo is designed for 4-H members interested in live animal evaluation and in testing their knowledge of the goat industry in a fun and educational manner.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/2019-michigan-4-h-goat-expo>

April 16: 4-H Junior Master Gardener Workshop

MSU Detroit Center, Detroit

Become a certified Junior Master Gardener during this one-day workshop comprised of both lecture and hands-on activities. Registration is required.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-junior-master-gardener-workshop-april-2019>

April 26-28: Michigan 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Certification Workshop

Kettunen Center, Tustin

All 4-H shooting sports clubs are supervised by certified 4-H shooting sports instructors. This event leads to instructor certification in archery, rifle, shotgun, pistol and muzzle loader.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/2019-michigan-4-h-shooting-sports-instructor-certification-workshop>

April 28: Environmental Science and Citizenship

Ingham County Fairgrounds, Mason

Joining the spirit of Earth Day, learn about different environmental systems such as watersheds and wetlands and how you can make a difference in your community.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/enviromental-science-and-citizenship>

May 11: Northern Michigan 4-H Rabbit and Poultry Palooza

Kalkaska Fairgrounds, Kalkaska

Participate in a showmanship contest and learn from experts in educational workshops focused on rabbits and poultry.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/northern-michigan-4-h-rabbit-and-poultry-palooza>

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

Pledge your hands to larger service this April with the #DaretoServeChallenge!

Every day, 4-H'ers are rolling up their sleeves in service as they lead positive change that empowers their peers and their communities. This April, 4-H is launching the annual True Leaders in Service initiative to unite 4-H members across the country in making a collective positive impact in their communities. All 4-H'ers are encouraged to venture out into their community to lend a helping hand in a way that is meaningful to them: neighborhood clean-ups, beautification projects, food and donation drives and much more!

This year, members of the Michigan 4-H State Youth Leadership Council are issuing a special challenge to their fellow Michigan 4-H members, as well as volunteers, alumni and staff. They have created the Michigan 4-H Dare to Serve Challenge, which seeks to inspire everyone in Michigan 4-H to do at least one thing to serve their community during the month of April. Their goal: have at least one 4-H led community service project completed in each of Michigan's 83 counties during the month of April! Imagine how big of an impact we can have if each of us chooses to lend our hands to larger service!

Here's how it works:

1. Join with others, or work on your own, to plan a service project in your community that you think will make a positive difference.
2. Register your project and add it to the map showing all the community service projects taking place in Michigan. This will help others find your service opportunity so they can take part, too!
3. When you complete your service project, share it on social media and tag a Michigan 4-H friend to whom you want to issue the Michigan 4-H Dare to Serve Challenge! Use the hashtags #MI4H #DareToServeChallenge and #TrueLeaders to connect with others who are making a difference.

If someone is issued the Dare to Serve challenge, but chooses not to complete a community service activity, they can choose to offer their support instead by making a donation to the Michigan 4-H Foundation at <https://mi4hfdtn.org/>.

Learn more!

Visit www.canr.msu.edu/community_service_learning/dare-to-serve-challenge to learn more about the Michigan 4-H Dare to Serve Challenge and find resources for planning your project.



Raise Your Hand for Michigan 4-H!



From April 1 to May 15, 4-H youth, alumni, friends and supporters have the opportunity to help Michigan 4-H win \$20,000 as part of the Raise Your Hand campaign.

Simply visit <http://www.4-H.org/RaiseYourHand> to register and show your support of 4-H. Anyone can raise their hand, even if they participated in previous years! Each hand raised (registered) before May 15 counts as a vote and the states with the most hands raised will receive a \$20,000, \$10,000 or \$5,000 award.

Do your part and help grow Michigan 4-H experiences for additional youth in our state! After registering, make sure to share this opportunity with other fellow 4-H supporters and ask them to raise their hands as well.



Challenge

Community Service Project

4-H CCC is challenging ALL 4-H Clubs!

To complete a "Spring Clean-Up" Community Project of our choice
Between April 19th and April 21st (Easter Weekend) be creative
within your community and post photos of your Club stepping up to
the Challenge on our County-wide Facebook page.

Montcalm Co. 4-H Community Connection Committee

Use #DaretoServeChallenge and #MI4H



Montcalm County 4-H Youth Benefit Auction

Donation Pledge Sheet

The completion of this form at the earliest possible opportunity will enable the Montcalm County 4-H Auction Committee to establish a list of donations of merchandise and services. This list will be used to promote the 4-H auction. A list of items and donors will also be available at the auction. (The auction committee reserves the right to refuse inappropriate donations.)

Profits from this annual Benefit Auction will be used to support Montcalm County 4-H programs including but not limited to scholarships for 4-H events. Your support is greatly appreciated. Questions should be directed to Michelle Nitengale at (616) 894-1685 (in the evenings) or via e-mail to michelle.nitengale@gmail.com

Donations to 4-H are tax deductible.

Please mail or e-mail the completed form to:

Michelle Nitengale
6413 S Grow Road
Sheridan, MI 48884
michelle.nitengale@gmail.com

Deadline: April 8, 2019

Thank You!

Date: _____

Description of merchandise/service to be donated (please be as detailed as possible):

Donor or business name as you wish it to appear in auction list. (If you wish it listed anonymously, please state.): _____

No, please don't publicize our name

Estimated value of merchandise/service: _____

Name of person authorizing donation: _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone: _____ FAX: _____ E-mail: _____

Check box if item is picked up at time of pledge

If not picked up at time of pledge, what delivery arrangements have been made: _____

Name of 4-H Member or Volunteer obtaining donation: _____

MSU Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.

**Donors will receive a copy of this donation pledge sheet with a
thank you letter following the Benefit Auction.**

The Montcalm County 4-H Program is partially supported by United Way.



Montcalm County Youth 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show

NEW LOCATION: Crystal Community Center

217 East Park Street, Crystal, MI 48818



Saturday, April 27, 2019

Enter between 7:00 & 8:30 a.m. — **Show starts promptly at 9:00 a.m.**

Showmanship

\$2.00 entry fee

Trophy for each class winner.

- Beginner: 4-H age 8-10
- Junior: 4-H age 11-12
- Intermediate: 4-H age 13-14
- Seniors: 4-H age 15-19
- Cloverbuds – (4-H age 5-7) participation awards only, no placing/trophies

~ Place ribbons up to 5th place ~

Educational Posters are welcomed and will be judged

Breed Class — Rabbit & Cavy

\$3.00 entry fee – Breed
\$2.00 entry fee – Fur/Wool

Awards for:

- Rabbits – BOB & BOS
- Grand Champion & Reserve Meat Pens/Fryer
- Best Reserve in Show
- Best in Show
- Cavy – BOB & BOS
- Cavy – Best in Show & Reserve in Show
- Cloverbuds – (4-H age 5-7) participation awards only, no placing/trophies

~ Place ribbons up to 3rd place ~

~ Delicious Concessions will be available ~
~ Master Corner Cage Dealer will be present ~

EXHIBITORS MUST HAVE CARRYING CAGES WITH LEAK-PROOF BOTTOMS FOR ALL ANIMALS
~ Animals just in regular cages will **not** be permitted!

For more information contact:
Linda Peterson – (989) 814-0691

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



Rabbit Hopping Contest!



*Profits will go to the Montcalm County 4-H Small Animal Committee to fund rabbit programs, equipment, and committee expenses.
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