



MAY 2023

# 4-H Family News

## Grand Traverse County



## Welcome to Summer 2023!

Another exciting 4-H summer is right around the corner! This newsletter brings you updates on 4-H summer program opportunities, MI 4-H State-Wide information, and news on how 4-H programs are reaching out into the wider Grand Traverse County community!

Continuing our 4-H Member Spotlight Series, Eliana Mackenize shares how participating in 4-H since age 5 has continued to teach her to be a strong agricultural advocate for her community and inspired her to attend Michigan State University this fall. See her full interview on page 2!

Looking forward to August and the excitement of fair season, page 5 has helpful guidelines and tips on safely bringing home animals during this time of year.

Please reach out with any questions about how to enjoy summer to the fullest with 4-H in 2023!

Sincerely,

*Emily Kotz*

Grand Traverse County 4-H Program Coordinator

## CONTACT US



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4-H Program Coordinator

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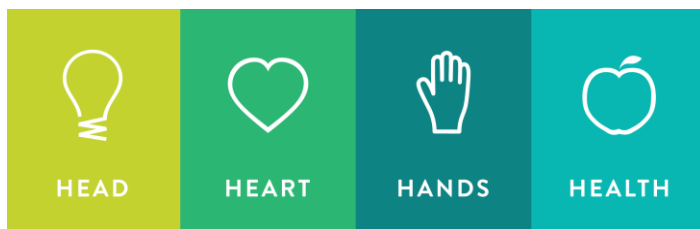
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## County Announcements, Dates and Events!

4-H Birding Workshops | Sundays 10am-11:30am | See flyer, pg. 7

4-H Fishing Workshops | June 8<sup>th</sup> and June 11<sup>th</sup> | See flyer, pg. 6

4-H Group Camp Weekend | July 14-16th | See flyer, pg. 9



There will be multiple virtual and in-person 4-H events happening around the county over the next two months! State-wide events are listed on the following two pages. Please contact Emily Kotz at [kotzemil@msu.edu](mailto:kotzemil@msu.edu) or 231-922-4825 with questions on 4-H events.



# 4-H Member Spotlight

## WELCOME...

### New GTC 4-H Volunteers!

- Kyle McLachlan, 4-H Fishing Resource Volunteer
- Heather Heuser, 4-H Project Volunteer, Youth Leader's Association Member, Lone Wolves 4-H Club
- Jennifer Davis, NWMI 4-H Livestock Council Swine Species Chair
- Kathy Flegel, 4-H SPIN Birding Workshop Volunteer
- Jerry Freels, 4-H SPIN Birding Workshop Volunteer



## 4-H Member Spotlight: Elliana Mackenzie



**Name:** Elliana MacKenzie  
**Age:** 17  
**Current 4-H Club:** Pen Pals  
**How many years have you been in 4-H?:** 13 years

1. *What do you like the most about 4-H and/or why have you continued to participate?*

Since the age of five I always knew I wanted to continue. I have gone from being the 4 year old sitting ringside to being a senior going to Michigan state this fall for livestock industries. I highly believe staying in 4-H has kept this deep passion for agriculture alive. Being able to gain leadership and communication skills has opened so many new doors. I strongly appreciate the opportunity to be able to connect with the community and to talk about agriculture. I stayed for both 5 year old and 17 year old me.

2. *What do you think the senior age group of 4-H participants can bring to the larger 4-H community?*

I believe the senior age group has a lot to bring to the table when it comes to the larger 4-H community. We have gained so many great skills and have been able to go through so many incredible experiences. Throughout our years we have had role models and then have been able to become role models ourselves.

3. *How has your participation in 4-H helped you grow as a person in different ways throughout your involvement?*

My participation in 4-H has helped me grow as a person because it has taught me so many lessons about being a leader and being an advocate for agriculture. I have learned so many lessons through my 4-H years about growth and perseverance. The main way it has helped me grow is giving me the skills to adapt and overcome life.

4. *What is one of your favorite memories, or moments you are most proud of, from your time in 4-H?*

My favorite memory through 4-H is when my grandma (Gail Weber) would sit ringside with her camera snapping pictures of all of us grandchildren and being our biggest supporter. Another one of my favorite memories is the grandstand meeting every year getting to see all the 4-Hers, fair board, livestock council, and the parents coming together to celebrate all the hard work we all put in year-round.

5. *What is one thing you would tell someone about 4-H who didn't know anything about it?*

One thing I would tell someone about 4-H that does not know anything about it would be the number of opportunities and growth you gain through such an amazing organization. 4-H's motto is "to make the best better." and I stand by that. This organization helps take amazing people and lead them to such bigger and better things.





# COUNTY 4-H NEWS

## 4-H GROWS HERE

## GTC 4-H in the Community: Long Lake Elementary School 4-H Jr. Master Gardener Program

4-H learning opportunities reached a new audience this spring thanks to the Grand Traverse County program being awarded a Michigan 4-H Foundation grant focused on gardening education. 4th graders at Long Lake Elementary School took part in a 6-week Jr. Master Gardener program, taught by two MSU Extension Master Gardener volunteers, Joan Longton and Braun Campbell. Both 4th grade classrooms spent an hour every Tuesday learning plant and soil science lessons and increased their knowledge on how to start seedlings and maintain a garden space until the end of the school year. The hoop house space available at the Long Lake Culinary Campus next door helped the students have a devoted area for watching plant development and growth. Students planted and harvested radishes and lettuce, which were then served at the school's cafeteria for everyone to enjoy. Students also helped to transplant marigolds and sunflowers to the front of the school prior to the last week of classes. The school hopes to keep the opportunity available for all 4th grade classes in the coming school year!





# STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Register for the 2023 State 4-H Shooting Sports Tournament



The 2023 State 4-H Shooting Sports Tournament is once again returning to Centerline of Calhoun County on August 19! This annual event provides Michigan 4-H shooting sports members with the opportunity to test their skills and earn recognition with other 4-H members from all over the state.

Registration will be opening soon and closes July 16.

For registration information, tournament rules or additional information, visit 4-H State Shoot website at [www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_state\\_shooting\\_sports\\_tournament](http://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_state_shooting_sports_tournament).

### June 8: Adulting 101 – How To Buy a Car

*Online*

Buying a car is an important and costly decision to make. Attend this session to learn about choosing a vehicle, purchasing it, and all of the considerations when making your decision.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-6-8](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-6-8)

### June 16: Head, Heart and Hands for the Health of Tanzania – 100 Dresses Challenge

*Online*

Join us in a Zoom sew along as we make pillowcase dresses to send to little girls in Tanzania! Our goal is 100 handmade dresses. All sewing levels are welcome!

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/100-dresses-challenge-1](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/100-dresses-challenge-1)

### June 17: 2023 Michigan 4-H State Goat Show

*MSU Pavilion, Lansing*

Begin your show season at the Michigan 4-H State Goat Show! Registration closes June 1 but spectators are welcome to attend.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/2023-michigan-4-h-state-goat-show](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/2023-michigan-4-h-state-goat-show)

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

### July 12: Michigan 4-H/FFA State Livestock Judging Contest

*MSU Pavilion, Lansing*

In the livestock judging contest, participants can demonstrate their livestock evaluation and selection skills, as well as improve their communication and decision-making skills. Registration information coming soon!

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-ffa-state-livestock-judging-contest-2023](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-ffa-state-livestock-judging-contest-2023)

### July 15: 4-H Bullseye Bash Archery Tournament

*Wexford County Civic Center, Cadillac*

Archers to the line! Test your skill and meet fellow competitors at this 4-H archery event. Registration opens soon.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-bullseye-bash-archery-tournament](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-bullseye-bash-archery-tournament)

### July 18-20: 4-H Forestry Camp

*Gahagan Nature Preserve, Roscommon*

This fun and interactive three-day camp gives youth the opportunity to learn all about forestry in Michigan. Registration closes July 14.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-forestry-camp-23](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-forestry-camp-23)





# STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

## 2023 Michigan 4-H Mark of Excellence award winners

Every year, counties across Michigan offer 4-H youth, ages 11 and 12, the opportunity to participate in Michigan 4-H State Awards' 4-H Mark of Excellence essay contest. The essay theme is "Because of 4-H, I can..." and the youth referred to a variety of memorable experiences in their time as 4-H'ers.

As part of the contest, up to two 4-H youth essays from each county are selected to be recognized as award winners. In 2023, the following 11 4-H members from nine counties were selected as the 2023 Mark of Excellence county winners.

- Allegan: **Ezri Westrate**
- Berrien: **Brady Pullins**
- Cass: **Levi Johnson and Conner Shirk**
- Monroe: **John Jinks and Cecelia Aulph**
- St. Claire: **Jinger Vantroostenberghe**
- Alpena: **Jazzmyne Kowalski**
- Branch: **Gwendolyn Berry**
- Menominee: **Dodge Sundberg**
- Oakland: **Natalie Keen**

Each recipient receives a medal, and their winning essays will be added to the Mark of Excellence history book at the Michigan 4-H Foundation and State 4-H Office at MSU Extension. Congratulations to our winners!

## Tips for purchasing and bringing home livestock

Acquiring new stock is exciting whether you are building your herd or flock or purchasing your annual 4-H project. These tips will help manage their health and safety by making sure you know what to ask before purchasing and how to prepare to bring livestock home.

### Assessing Animal Health and Treatment Documentation

When purchasing animals, you should know their history. Ask the following questions:

1. When was the animal born?
2. What specific vaccinations has the animal been given and when were they given?
3. If necessary, was the animal properly castrated and what method was used?
4. Have any other treatments been administered to the animal? If so, what is the slaughter withdrawal for the drugs given?
5. Have any of the animals on the farm been ill or shown symptoms of illness?
6. If acquiring a market animal, what is the approximate weight?

### Considerations as You Bring Animals Home

**Transporting.** Secure a trailer. If you do not own a trailer, make arrangements with someone who can transport animals for you. Be prepared to pay someone to provide transportation, as a courtesy.

**Unloading.** Make sure that your facility is ready to house your new animals before they arrive. Have a pen identified for new animals to go into with fresh water and appropriate feed. (Feed should be similar to their previous diet; changing to a new diet should be done over a period of time.) Have a clear and direct path to the animals' new pen from the trailer. Make sure that all gates are open or closed, as appropriate, and secured.

**Settling in.** Quarantine, or separate, new animals for a minimum of 21 days. At minimum, try to avoid nose-to-nose contact, and comingling feeding and watering. Minimize stress on new animals during the quarantine period. If after 21 days, the newly acquired animals have not shown any symptoms of illness, it should be safe to comingling them into your existing herd or flock.

**Comingling.** Since each species has a social hierarchy, observe animals during comingling and separate if there is risk of injury. Over the course of a day, the herd or flock should settle into a routine that includes the new animals.



# COUNTY 4-H NEWS

## Learn and Practice New Skills this Summer with 4-H!

### 1st Annual! GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY 4-H FREE FISHING WORKSHOPS AND GO FISH DAY!



REGISTER HERE



REGISTRATION TAKES PLACE  
ON 4-H ONLINE

REGISTER FOR 1 OR BOTH EVENTS

- 4-H FISHING WORKSHOP 1
- AND/OR
- 4-H FISHING WORKSHOP 2

REGISTER EARLY! SPACE IS LIMITED  
TO 20 YOUTH PARTICIPANTS PER  
WORKSHOP

EVENT CONTACT:  
EMILY KOTZ  
GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY 4-H  
PROGRAM COORDINATOR  
231-922-4825 OR  
KOTZEMIL@MSU.EDU

**Workshop 1:**  
June 8th, 6-7:30pm

Grand Traverse County Conservation District  
Community Room

**Workshop 2 and Go Fishing Day:**  
June 11th, 2-5pm

Kids Creek Park, Oleson Pond Fishing Dock

#### Workshops will include:

- Educational presentations from local Platte River State Fish Hatchery MI DNR Staff
- Hands on skill building fishing activities led by MSU 4-H Extension Educators on knot tying, tackle crafting, fishing safety, as well as rigging and casting practice!

**OPEN TO AGES 10-19  
PARENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND  
WITH YOUTH UNDER AGE 12**



Grand Traverse  
Conservation District  
Boardman River Nature Center

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# COUNTY 4-H NEWS

## Monthly Birding Series Every First Sunday of the Month



Official GTA club logo by Tom Ford



Grand Traverse County 4-H  
Birding Workshop Schedule 2023

### 4-H GROWS HERE

Workshop Times: 10-11:30am

- June 6/4:** Migration patterns and Bird ID Skill Practice. Meeting location Shumsky Rd. Warbler location.
- July 7/9:** Bird Habitat. Meeting at DeYoung Natural Area.
- August 8/6:** NMC Tour. Discuss Bird Physical Adaptations, visit NMC's bird model collection.
- September 9/10:** Birding Practice Day at Medalie Park!
- October 10/8:** Backyard Birding tips for the fall and winter months. Meeting at Grand Traverse Conservation District.

**4-H Youth Birding Workshop Series II**  
**Sunday, June 4, 2023**  
 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Located at Shumsky's Canoe Landing on the Boardman River in Traverse City, MI

Exact GPS coordinates are 44.650935, -85.590737



Register through the QR code Sign in, create a 4-H Online Profile and look to register for the event: "4-H Birding Workshop 2: Migration and Bird ID Practice."

**No cost to participate**  
**Parents are encouraged to attend with their children**

For more information, contact Grand Traverse County 4-H Program Coordinator  
**Emily Kotz**  
KotzEmil@MSU.edu | (231) 922-4825



Kirtland's Warbler

### Spring Migration Birding Objectives:

Have fun, get your questions answered, see cool birds! Learn how, when and why birds migrate. Be able to plan your next spring birding trip!



# COUNTY 4-H NEWS

## SPIN Junior Master Gardener Summer Camp Now Enrolling!



[REGISTER HERE](#)



REGISTRATION TAKES PLACE ON 4-H ONLINE: [HTTPS://V2.4HONLINE.COM](https://v2.4honline.com)

**REGISTER FOR THE SPIN CLUB: JUNIOR MASTER GARDENER. THERE IS NO COST TO PARTICIPATE!**

# 4-H JUNIOR MASTER GARDENER SPIN CLUB

**SUMMER CLUB DATES: TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS**

**June:** 20th, 22nd, 27th, and 29th

**July:** 6th, 11th, 13th

**2ND - 4TH GRADE**

10AM - 12 PM

**5TH - 7TH GRADE**

1PM - 3PM



**LOCATION: BOTANIC GARDENS AT HISTORIC BARNS PARK**

1490 RED DRIVE, TRAVERSE CITY, MI 49684

PLEASE CALL GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY 4-H PROGRAM COORDINATOR, EMILY KOTZ, AT (231)-922-4825, OR EMAIL AT [KOTZEMIL@MSU.EDU](mailto:kotzemil@msu.edu), FOR MORE INFORMATION.

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# COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Join us for a 4-H camping weekend July 14-16!



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

## 4-H GROUP CAMP WEEKEND

**INTERLOCHEN STATE PARK**  
4167 J. MADDY PKWY, INTERLOCHEN

**JULY 14-16**

The Grand Traverse Youth Leader's Association has reserved a group camping site at Interlochen State Park for GT County 4-H participants to use during the weekend of July 14-16.

There will be educational activities led by park staff Saturday, July 15, 2023, and other educational activities provided by 4-H staff. Event is open to tent camping and there will be space for two campers if needed.

Contact: **Emily Kotz | (231) 922-4825**

**REGISTER HERE**



Space available  
**80 people**

Cost of attendance  
**Free**

Deadline to register  
**Friday, June 30, 2023**

Scan, sign in & search  
**"GTC 4-H Group Camp Weekend"**

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