



Monroe County 4-H Network

4-H Family News

December 2020

QUIET DECEMBER!

We invite you to join us for a quiet December. As we begin to round out the year 2020, we would like to encourage to spend time for you and your family, reflecting on the year, good and bad, happy and sad, ups and downs. We know this year has been met with a number of challenges, personal and professional. Either way, the Monroe County 4-H program continues to be here for YOU! Take the time through this holiday season to make time for what is important to you and the needs of your family! On behalf of the Monroe County 4-H Program, THANK YOU! We are thankful for you and your involvement in our program. We are grateful for you and your family and look forward to all that may come in 2021. Happy Holidays to you and your friends!

Please Join
Us

FOR A QUIET DECEMBER



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https://www.canr.msu.edu/monroe/monroe_county_4_h/index

Office Hours
(currently working remotely)
Monday-Friday
8:30am-4:30pm

Social Media
Find us on Facebook:
@MonroeCountyMI4H



December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 County Award Applications DUE by 5pm!	2	3	4	5
6	7 7pm 4-H Council Meeting @ Zoom	8	9	10 Last Day for Mitten Tree Donations	11 Last Day to register for 4-H Holiday Lights Tour	12
13	14	15 Small Animal Adult Elections- Qualtrics Survey to be distributed 	16	17 6:30pm 4-H Virtual Youth Recognition @ Zoom	18	19
20	21 Voting for 4-H Holiday Lights Tour 	22 7pm Dog Program @ Zoom	23 4-H Holiday Lights Tour Winners Announced!! 	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	Office Closed- Happy Holidays!!	
Office Closed- Happy Holidays!!						

January 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 <i>Office Closed- Happy Holi- days!!</i>	2
3	4 7pm 4-H Council @ Zoom	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 7pm Junior Livestock Association @ Zoom	21 7pm Fair Advisory Board @ Zoom	22	23
24	25 7pm Small Animal Association @ Zoom	26 7pm Dog Program @ Zoom	27 7pm Teen Ambassadors @ Zoom	28	29	30
31						

4-H Holiday Lights Tour

The Monroe County 4-H Program presents the 4-H Holiday Lights Tour and we would like you to participate. 4-H families and alumni are invited to decorate the outside of your homes for the holiday season. The only requirement is a 4-H Clover (any size) must be part of your display. Prizes are at stake! People's Choice (\$100 gift card award) and four other categorical winners (\$25 gift card award each) will be recognized.

4 - H FAMILIES & ALUMNI ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE HOLIDAY LIGHTS TOUR

Monroe County 4-H families and alumni are invited to decorate the outside of your homes for the holiday season. The only requirement is a 4-H Clover (any size) must be part of your display.

Your display needs to be ready for viewing by Monday, December 14 and remain until January 1, if possible. A map of participating locations will be posted online.

Winners will be announced on December 23. Voting for People's Choice will take place on Monday, December 21.

Register online at <https://bit.ly/4-HLights>

Decorate between Now-Dec. 11

Awards

- PEOPLE'S CHOICE \$100
- CLARK GRISWOLD AWARD
- EVER "GREEN"
- CREATIVE INFLATABLES
- ELEGANCE OF DESIGN \$25 EACH

Deadline to complete your registration submission form (<https://bit.ly/4-HLights>) is Friday, December 11. Your display needs to be ready for viewing by Monday, December 14 and remain until January 1, if possible. A map of participating locations will be posted online.

Categories Include:

- People's Choice---the 4-H community votes
- Clark Griswold Award---lights, lights, lights; the WOW factor
- Ever "Green"---Best use of Green theme throughout your display
- Creative Inflatables---Grinch, Santa, Inflatables: How many? That's debatable!
- Elegance of Design---Overall use of color, lighting, and/or decorations

Winners will be announced on December 23. Voting for People's Choice will take place on Monday, December 21

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE
COMEBACK DINNER OF THE YEAR

SPAGHETTI DINNER AND AUCTION

NOVEMBER 2021



Stay tuned for "Basket of the Month" and presale tickets for 2021. We look forward to seeing you next year!

Monroe County 4-H Virtual Youth Recognition

Please join us as we recognize our youth for their outstanding work in their areas of expertise. While we acknowledge that this program will be much different than how we have celebrated in the past, we invite you to the virtual recognition event where we will still highlight the accomplishments of our youth who have applied for the county and older teen awards, key club awards, club awards, and I Dare You Award nominees.

When it is safe to do so, we will work to host a recognition banquet program where we can thank and recognize our youth and volunteers for their exemplary service this past program year!

If you are able to join us, please follow the connection information below!

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/92260883011>

Passcode: 853099

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923

Meeting ID: 922 6088 3011



Youth Enrollment Deadlines EXTENDED until April 1, 2021!

Thank you to all returning members and volunteers who worked so hard to submit enrollments by the expected November 1, 2020 deadline. We appreciate you! We recognize there has been a number of challenges with the enrollment process and understand that this new deadline and expectation has also come at a time where there is so much uncertainty. As a result, we have decided to continue to accept new enrollments AND re-enrollments until April 1, 2021! This only applies to youth members! Volunteers-if you have questions regarding your re-enrollment status, please reach out to Sarah Misiak at misiaksa@msu.edu.

Agents of Kindness SPIN Club



AGENTS OF KINDNESS SPIN CLUB

**MUST REGISTER ON
4-H ONLINE TO GET
ACCESS TO CLUB**



**FREE AND OPEN
TO YOUTH
AGES 9 - 13**

Are you interested in getting involved in your community from the comfort of your home? During the Agents of Kindness SPIN Club, we'll explore ideas for generous actions that encourage youth voices and promote the common good, even when we are apart.

**WHEN: MONDAYS 4-5 PM EST VIA ZOOM APP
DECEMBER 14-JANUARY 18**

Please email Rachel Ochylski (ochylski@msu.edu) with questions or visit <https://bit.ly/AOKSPIN> to receive more information about this club and how to register on 4-H Online

Are you interested in getting involved in your community from the comfort of your home? During the Acts of Kindness SPIN Club, we'll explore ideas for generous actions that encourage youth voices and promote the common good, even when we are apart. Michigan youth ages 9-13 are invited to join us for discussions and activities related to service learning, and participants will learn how to match their interests to community needs through investigation, planning, action and reflection.

Michigan AmeriCorps members will lead the meetings from 4:00-5:00 PM EST Mondays from December 14th until January 18th. To receive club access, please make sure all youth interested are registered on 4-H Online. Please email Rachel Ochylski (ochylski@msu.edu) with questions. Please visit <https://bit.ly/AOKSPIN> to receive more information about this club.

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Michigan State Fair Scholarship Winners Announced!!!

The Michigan State Fair Presented by [Ram Trucks](#) is committed to promoting and recognizing excellence in agricultural, and is pleased to announce the winners of our Gold Ribbon Scholarship Program. Despite the challenges that 2020 has brought, the Michigan State Fair continued to offer these scholarships this year to exhibitors.

We annually recognize and celebrate those youth participating in Rural and Urban Agriculture development by awarding \$40,000 in scholarships. Thank you to our sponsors as well as the community who helped us be able to award these dollars. [Ascension](#), [Michigan Foundation For Agriculture](#), [Michigan Farm Bureau](#), [Detroit Shriners](#), [Kroger](#), [Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner \(WRC\)](#), [Pure Oakland Water – POW](#), [Guernsey Farms Dairy](#), [C F Creamery](#), [Leisure Works Hot Tubs and Master Spas](#).

Here is public link for results: <https://faireentry.com/Fair/Results/14835?hierarchyEntityToken=45ca28ab-5fd4-4de7-afbb-9d1f1a3eb2ae>





MITTEN TREE DONATIONS

NOW ACCEPTING DONATIONS
FOR THE MITTEN TREE. DROP
OFF ANY DONATIONS IN THE
BASKETS LOCATED UNDER THE
CHRISTMAS TREE IN OUR
ENTRYWAY DOORS.

**BUILDING IS OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY
8 A.M. TO 5 P.M.**

OUR OFFICE IS CLOSED

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL
MISIAKSA@MSU.EDU

Salute to our Leaders!!!



CONGRATS TO OUR FIRST YEAR VOLUNTEERS

THANK YOU

Cara Bischoff
Brittany Santure
Katelyn Hodge
Pam Weiss
Paul Martell



CONGRATS TO OUR FIFTH YEAR VOLUNTEERS

THANK YOU

Alan Achtabowski	Elizabeth Auer	Natalie Dressel
Amy Wertenberger	Gray Johnson	Penny Freeman
Angel Post	Gregory Muir	Rachel Jaworski
Anthony Hartman	Heather Paddy	Robin Esquibel
Betsy Winter	Jeanne Schall	Rosida Burton
Bryant Chapman	Jenni Hall	Ryan Pittman, Sr.
Charles Allen	Jessica Drouillard	Scott Abernathy
Charles Donnelly, Sr.	Jessica Whiteaker	Stacey Ramirez
Cheryl McDowell	Jill Pittman	Tabatha Lajiness
Dan Salenbien	Karen Kidd	Tammy Schmidt
Darrell Brown	Kenneth Vagt	Teresa Oberly
Deanna Roberts	Kristal Laurain	Valerie Sulier
Debra Allen	Mary Jean Hosler	
Debra Chapman	Michael Jaworski	
Dona Kennedy	Michelle Hartman	



CONGRATS TO OUR TENTH YEAR VOLUNTEERS

THANK YOU

Aimee Prati	Jonathan Kuehnlein
Amy Harbaugh	Kimberly Leonard
Anette Neddo	Laura Hill
Brock Koppelman	Lea Cheblek
Carrie Koppelman	LeeAnn Thomas
Charles Sprouse	Lori Breitner
Jan Maciejewski	Mark Woodruff
Jason Neddo	Michelle Grider
Jean Woodruff	Nicole Jaskot
Jeff Bohmer	Shari LaVoy
Jonathan Jaskot	Sherry Kuhn



CONGRATS TO OUR FIFTEENTH YEAR VOLUNTEERS

THANK YOU

Justin Rozanski
Merwin Ashbaucher
Stacy Jenkins
Todd Pier

CONGRATS TO OUR TWENTIETH YEAR
VOLUNTEERS

THANK YOU

Amanda Cadle
Andy Hill
Elizabeth Kotus
James Longnecker
Renee Stillwell
Tim Henes
Wendi Sargent

CONGRATS TO OUR TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR
VOLUNTEERS

THANK YOU

Butch Williams
Jodie Bean
Marie Kuehnlein
Martha Shipe
Michelle Aulph

CONGRATS TO OUR THIRTIETH YEAR
VOLUNTEERS

THANK YOU

Connie Happy
Dale Happy
Darlene Liedel
Denise Hill
Gary Michel

CONGRATS TO OUR THIRTY-FIFTH YEAR
VOLUNTEERS

THANK YOU

Brenda Lewis
Gwen Schmidt
Juergen Koenig
Susan Andrews

THANK YOU so much to our dedicated leaders and volunteers who have given countless hours and passion to our youth and program. We are so thankful for each and every one of you.

This year has been particularly challenging with the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting policies and procedures in which we find ourselves navigating. We thank you for all of your efforts to support and guide the youth members of your clubs and the Monroe County 4-H program. We recognize the efforts each of you have given to continue carrying out the 4-H motto: ***To Make the Best Better!***

To all of our volunteers, we salute you! We recognize that we haven't been able to recognize you in our tradition Leader Banquet style. On behalf of the Monroe County 4-H Council, when it is safe to do so through a get-together and banquet-style event, we will recognize you in our traditional style. In the meantime, we hope you accept this recognition and thank you for your continued support!



CONGRATS TO OUR FIFTIETH YEAR
VOLUNTEERS

THANK
YOU

Judith Missler
Nancy Ciravolo

DEC2020



4-H Gratitude Challenge

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Start a gratitude journal. Each day write down something you are thankful for.	2 Write a thank you note to your 4-H leader.	3 Think of someone you are grateful to know. Tell them.	4 Complete one random act of kindness today.	5 Send a text to someone who makes you smile and tell them why.
6 Handwrite a letter and mail it to a friend.	7 Create a piece of art that shows what you are thankful for.	8 Spend time with someone you care about.	9 Compliment at least 5 other people today.	10 Think of someone you are proud of. Tell them!	11 Thank someone today!	12 Volunteer to do an unpleasant task, like taking out the garbage or doing the dishes.
13 Write a thank you note to a special teacher.	14 Bake a treat for your neighbors.	15 Gather 10 items from your closet to donate.	16 Make a social media post highlighting a person you are grateful for.	17 Write a thank you note to a coach or mentor	18 Color a picture and give it to a friend	19 Do a family member's chores for them today!
20 Set time aside to play a game with your family.	21 Share a photo of something you are grateful for on social media.	22 Think of a creative way to Pay It Forward today.	23 Leave a note of encouragement for a friend.	24 Call a relative you haven't spoken to recently.	25 Spend time with family and friends.	26 No complaining day. Each time you want to complain, say something you are grateful for instead.
27 Give a small gift to someone for no reason at all.	28 Write a letter or note to your parents or grandparents.	29 Donate one canned food item for each day you forgot to write in your journal	30 Read over your gratitude journal and spend time reflecting on the challenge.	31 Document and Goal Set for ways to learn and grow in 2021 to make the best better!		

4-H wants you to take our 2020 Gratitude Challenge! 2020 has not been an easy year, but we want to reflect on the reasons we have to be grateful. Print this calendar and hold yourself accountable to complete each daily task to show gratitude for your club, community, country, and world.

Use **#4HGrowsHere**, **#Grateful4Her**, and **#4HGratitudeChallenge** to spread an attitude of gratitude to all of your social media friends and followers.

Matthes Tree Farm to “Spread the Holiday Cheer” in a Fundraising Effort to Support Monroe County 4-H

Please consider supporting Monroe County 4-H while also supporting Matthes Tree Farm by presenting the certificate below during the 2020 Christmas season. 15% of your Christmas Shoppe purchase will go toward this fundraising effort! The offer is not valid on trees or independent craft vendors.

Matthes Tree Farm has lots of fun for the whole family each weekend, including Santa, pony rides, bonfire pits, and more! The 2020 season runs November 27-December 20th.

Join us for a Spread The Holiday Cheer Fundraiser Event for: Monroe 4-H Council



Matthes Tree Farm

13416 Lulu Rd

Ida, MI 48140

734-269-2668

Bring this certificate any time during our 2020 Christmas Season and 15% of your Christmas Shoppe purchase goes toward Monroe 4-H Council.

- Wreaths
- Roping and Greens
- Holiday décor
- Gift items



Lots for the whole family every weekend!

- Santa here 12 to 5
- Pony rides
- Petting zoo
- Free entertainment
- Bonfire pits
- Free Hayrides

Valid only on items in Christmas Shoppe. Season runs Nov 27th—Dec 20th. Must present flyer to cashier. Excludes trees and independent craft vendors.

****Print this coupon and present to cashier for support!****

Tortillas are a staple in Mexican cooking and can be used in appetizers, entrees and dessert. Join us for Flour Tortilla Making 101, Dec. 7 at 6:30 p.m. Register today: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/.../flour-tortilla-making-101...>



A poster for a virtual event. The background is a close-up of a flour tortilla. The text is in a bold, sans-serif font. The title 'FLOUR TORTILLA MAKING 101' is at the top. Below it, the event details are listed: 'Join Us!', 'December 7, 2020', '6:30 PM EST', and 'Via Zoom'. At the bottom left is the Michigan State University Extension logo, and at the bottom right is the 4-H logo with the slogan '4-H GROWS HERE'.



JOANN



STATE LINE TACK®

Shopping today? Did you know you can donate to [#MI4H](#) just with the click of a button? Check out where you can support [#MI4H](#) this shopping season.

<https://mi4hfdtn.org/shop-online-to-support-michigan-4-h/>

**Connect with
youth from across
the globe!**



Sign up for the States' 4-H Winter Pen Pal program for your chance to make international friends! Learn about culture and daily life in another country while sharing your own experiences with a peer across the globe.

The pen pal program will run from mid-January through mid-April. After being matched with a similarly-aged young person from another country, youth will write to each other twice a month. Topical prompts will be provided to jump start conversations but the possibilities are endless!

To get matched in the program, visit www.surveymonkey.com/r/7N8RBHY.

4-H Events and Workshops

December 1: 4-H Giving Tuesday

Everywhere

Help grow a county 4-H endowment in your area and join the #GivingTuesday movement. Consider making a donation to grow funds that support 4-H youth today and in the future.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-giving-tuesday>

December 2: Success and Safety in Virtual Volunteer-led Programs

Zoom

MSU Extension volunteers will learn best practices and strategies for virtual safety for youth and adults in programs and meetings.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/success-and-safety-on-volunteer-led-programs-december-2nd>

December 7: Flour Tortilla Making 101

Zoom

Join in making tortillas — a staple in Mexican cooking. In this class, tortillas will be used as an appetizer, entrée, dessert or stand alone ingredient.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/flour-tortilla-making-101-dec-7>

December 8: Wild Spartans Series

Zoom

Join 4-H staff as we meet scientists from across MSU Extension, the MSU Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. December's event will explore invasive species with MSU researcher Taylor Haas.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-series-december>

December 8: Success and Safety in Virtual Volunteer-led Programs

Zoom

MSU Extension volunteers will learn best practices and strategies for virtual safety for youth and adults in programs and meetings.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/success-and-safety-in-virtual-volunteer-led-programs>

December 19: 4-H in the Kitchen Live! Holiday Scones

Zoom

Join 4-H in the Kitchen Live for a special holiday episode! Learn how to make a batch of eggnog scones—perfect for any holiday feast — with special guest Ruth Myers.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-in-the-kitchen-live-eggnog-scones>

Save the Date!

February 19-21, 2021: Michigan 4-H Creative Arts Celebration

Online

The Michigan 4-H Creative Arts Celebration will be going virtual this year! Adult and teen 4-H leaders are encouraged to join this exciting online event to learn new ideas for working virtually with youth in the areas of visual and performing arts, crafts, sewing, clothing and textile projects. Stay tuned for registration information!

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



Virtual showcase and auction success

When the COVID-19 pandemic led to the cancellation of many Michigan fairs, MSU Extension and Michigan 4-H were proud to team up with local community partners to provide an online platform

that supported the 4-H experience and continued longtime traditions. Though not the same as a county fair, 4-H virtual learning showcases and auctions provided a space for youth to demonstrate their mastery of skills developed in 4-H, receive feedback on their efforts and market and sell their 4-H projects. Though there were many learning curves and bumps in the road, the 2020 4-H virtual showcase and auction season led to many successes and for that, we say THANK YOU.

Here's a look back at the 2020 4-H virtual showcase and auction season:

- 58 counties offered a 4-H virtual showcase and/or auction for youth
- 17 virtual auctions were held
- 7,294 entries were submitted
- 2,699 youth participated
- 3,764 buyers/donors registered for virtual auctions
- \$1.4 million was spent by donors and buyers at 4-H virtual auctions



“We are grateful to partners who have collaborated with us to host these virtual events for 4-H'ers, as well as all the buyers who supported them,” said Jake DeDecker, MSU Extension’s state 4-H leader for Michigan 4-H. “We’re also grateful to each of the youth who took part in this new experience and made the best of a tough situation.”

Participating youth also had positive feedback:

- “The week at the county fair is always a huge event for my family that we look forward to year round. This year sure was different, but we are so blessed to have the virtual option and thankful for all of the hardworking volunteers that put these events on!”
- “Thanks so much for all of your support this year, we can’t thank you enough! What a challenging year for sure. Thank you for making a virtual fair happen when everyone could have simply just cancelled everything. You made it possible and we can’t thank you enough.”



Support Michigan 4-H with holiday shopping!



Get ready for the holidays AND support 4-H with purchases on AmazonSmile, SHOP 4-H Online and at JOANN's Fabric.

AmazonSmile will give 0.5% of eligible purchases to the Michigan 4-H Foundation when you shop at <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-1539997>.

Buy your favorite Michigan 4-H'ers 4-H apparel and essentials at the SHOP 4-H Online Store (<https://shop4-h.org/?rfsn=871792.16dd0>) and 5% of the purchase will go back to Michigan 4-H!

JOANN's Fabrics shoppers who use their free 4-H loyalty card (<http://www.joann.com/4-h/>) will save 15% while also giving 2.5% back to the National 4-H Council.