



Clare County

# 4-H Family News

MAY 2021

## 4-H Program Coordinator's Message

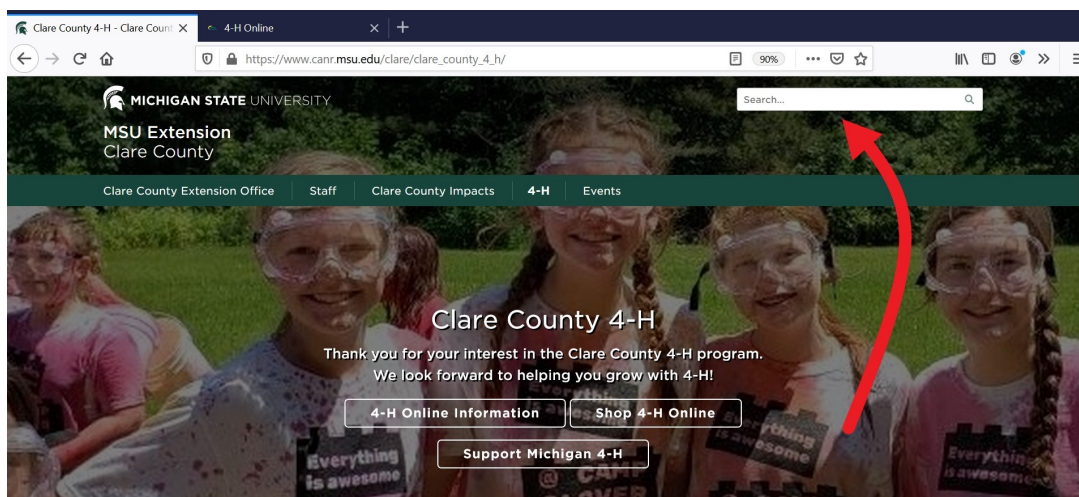
Hello, 4-H families!

We've had a lot of neat things happening in the county program lately, and I hope everyone enjoys reading about our member's and volunteer's accomplishments and checking out the pictures in this newsletter. We also have some really fun things in the works and I hope to see many of our 4-Hers taking part in these opportunities!

I would like to take this time to point out our website: [https://www.canr.msu.edu/clare/clare\\_county\\_4\\_h/](https://www.canr.msu.edu/clare/clare_county_4_h/) Below you will see a screenshot of the website with an arrow pointing towards the search bar. Not only can you find most everything relevant to Clare County 4-H here, you can also find very helpful resources from all of MSU and Michigan 4-H. If you are looking for showmanship manuals, club activity ideas, art projects or anything else 4-H related, use the search bar on the website to find research and science based resources.

During the month of May I will be working in the MSU Extension Office all day on May 4 and 18. If you need anything from the office please feel free to stop in on those days or let me know what it is you need so that arrangements can be made.

Alex Schunk



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 [mi.4honline.com](https://mi.4honline.com)

 @clarecounty4h

 [facebook.com/clarecounty4H/](https://facebook.com/clarecounty4H/)

## MANAGING YOUTH STRESS



The novel coronavirus pandemic has been stressful for everyone. Families and youth are navigating new challenges, including social distancing, uncertain health outcomes and “a new normal.” These new stressors may spill over into their relationships and compound other stressful conditions in the family.

MSU Extension's “Managing Youth Stress” document shares warning signs, ways to help and resources for stressed youth and parents of stressed youth. View or download the factsheet at [www.canr.msu.edu/resources/managing-youth-stress](http://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/managing-youth-stress).

### 4-H Events and Workshops

May 5—26: Shiawassee Small Animal Online Workshop

*Online*

Join us each Wednesday in May for a small animal workshop! Great for 4-H youth, parents and volunteers, the May 5 presentation will focus on goats, May 12 on poultry, May 19 on rabbits and May 26 on biosecurity and animal health.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/shiawassee-small-animal-online-workshop](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/shiawassee-small-animal-online-workshop)

May 1—29: Michigan 4-H Horse Programs' Virtual Communications Contest

*Online*

Youth ages 5-19 have the opportunity to demonstrate their communication skills and earn prizes through various contests including public speaking, demonstration, infographics and photography. Entries must be submitted during the appropriate contest time frame.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/2021-mi-4-h-horse-program-s-virtual-communications-contest](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/2021-mi-4-h-horse-program-s-virtual-communications-contest)

May 8: MSU Tollgate Farm Homegrown Gardening Series

*Online*

Interested in starting a vegetable garden for the first time or an experienced veggie gardener looking to explore new ideas? Join this new monthly series designed to encourage and support home vegetable gardeners! The May session will focus on growing fun with kids.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-tollgate-farm-homegrown-gardening-series-2021-may-8](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-tollgate-farm-homegrown-gardening-series-2021-may-8)

May 11: Michigan 4-H Virtual Meats Judging Contest

*Online*

Evaluate carcasses and identify meats online in both individual and team competitions. The contest will include three beef classes, three pork classes, identification of 20 retail cuts, beef yield grade, quality grade of beef, two classes with questions, and one set of oral reasons.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-virtual-meats-judging-contest](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-virtual-meats-judging-contest)

May 11: Wild Spartans Series—Conservation & Management of Tribal Natural Resources

*Online*

Learn about researching and protecting species with cultural significance and discover how one Michigan tribe is preserving the natural world. Doug Craven, natural resources director for the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians, will share his field work, education and career path.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-series-may](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-series-may)

May 21: MSU Tollgate Farm Virtual Sustainable Stewards Series

*Online*

Explore climate science and climate change with PhD candidate Lindsey Kemmerling as she shares climate science basics to help build your knowledge and understanding. Explore your own carbon footprint and engage in conversation about how you can make a difference.

[www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-tollgate-farm-virtual-sustainable-stewards-series-may-21](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-tollgate-farm-virtual-sustainable-stewards-series-may-21)

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

## Michigan 4-H Foundation opens 2021-22 grant cycle

Awarded annually, the Michigan 4-H Foundation recently opened their grant and award opportunities for the 2021-2022 season. Open to 4-H volunteer leaders, members and staff, the grants and awards support local 4-H clubs and county programs, as well as recognize members of the 4-H community. All applications are due June 1.

Opportunities include:

- **Michigan 4-H Legacy Grants of \$1,000.** These grants are awarded to support development of a new program or initiative or to strengthen, enhance or expand a current program that is making a difference.
- **4-H On-Target Grants of \$500.** These grants support 4-H Shooting Sports programs to enhance existing programs, develop a new program or offer a special experience related to 4-H Shooting Sports.
- **The Collins 4-H Youth Horticulture Grant of \$350.** This grant is available only to 4-H youth clubs and supports advancement of club work in plant science and horticulture activities.
- **4-H Educational Garden Grants of \$1,000.** These grants support the creation of local 4-H educational gardens in Michigan.
- **Michigan Farm Bureau 4-H Excellence in Agriculture Award (includes \$1,000 grant).** This award recognizes the outstanding achievements of 4-H agricultural volunteers that have exhibited excellence in 4-H youth education and leadership development.

Learn more or apply online at <http://mi4hfdtn.org/grants>. Questions? Contact the Michigan 4-H Foundation at 517-353-6692.



The 4-H After-School Robotics Club in Iosco County received a \$1,000 Michigan 4-H Legacy Grant to use VEX Robotics as a tool to help club members develop life skills.

## Michigan 4-H Alumni and Supporters Walking Challenge



The MSU Extension 4-H Alumni Engagement Committee is excited to share a fun engagement opportunity for alumni and supporters!

Starting May 2, MSU Extension will host a 4-H Alumni & Supporters Walking Challenge, where participants will track their miles walked and compete for a top spot in the contest! Each week, top contestants will win a 4-H alumni swag prize and the county who logs the most miles throughout the whole challenge will earn a \$100 cash prize for their county 4-H program!

Learn more and register at [www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-alumni-and-supporters-walking-challenge](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-alumni-and-supporters-walking-challenge).

**Save the Date**

2021 MICHIGAN 4-H  
EXPLORATION DAYS: EXPANDED  
June 22-24, 2021

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

## Plug into 4-H this summer with 4-H Exploration Days 2021-22: Expanded

Make plans to attend an exciting summer opportunity and choose your own adventure with 4-H Exploration Days: Expanded. This MSU precollege program has something for everyone, ages 12-19!

From June 22 - 24, youth from across Michigan can participate in this fun and engaging virtual learning experience that offers more than 60 different topics. Attendees will also hear from keynote speakers Justin and Alexis Black, authors of *Redefining Normal*, and come away with new energy and a desire to make a difference.

Registration for this event will open May 1 and close May 28. The cost to attend is \$20 and all youth will receive a swag bag, with the option to order their own 4-H Exploration Days: Expanded apparel. Learn more at [www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_exploration\\_days](http://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days).

# CLARE COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4

★HAPPY★  
BIRTHDAY!

## Youth:

Wyatt Witbeck  
Faith Bay  
Brady Greene  
Faith Jehnzen  
Addison McConnell  
Thomas Lewis  
Ethan Rogers  
John Crawford  
Chase Murphy  
Russell Eberhart

## Volunteers:

Kim Langlois  
A.J. McInnis  
Julie Judge  
Erika Schunk  
Ashley Eberhart  
Phoebe Hall

## Honor Clubs

Club leaders, don't forget to fill out the Honor Club Credit Form to earn money for your club!! The purpose of the Honor Club system is to motivate club members and leaders to participate in 4-H activities throughout the 4-H year. Clubs can earn Gold, Silver or Bronze awards each year. Fill out the form monthly at [https://www.canr.msu.edu/clare/clare\\_county\\_4\\_h/honor-clubs](https://www.canr.msu.edu/clare/clare_county_4_h/honor-clubs)

## MAY

**12:** Youth Leadership Council, 6:30pm, <https://msu.zoom.us/j/92623877393> Password: youth, Theme: Favorite School Sport or Club

**17:** Making the most of your Record Book, 7pm, Registration [https://msu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYude2gpzMjHtMuvVTITy8RFwEGC1-LHV\\_a](https://msu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYude2gpzMjHtMuvVTITy8RFwEGC1-LHV_a)

**26:** 4-H Council, 6:30pm, <https://msu.zoom.us/j/95898773456> Password: council

## JUNE

**9:** Youth Leadership Council, 6:30pm, location TBD

**22-24:** 4-H Exploration Days: Expanded, [https://www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_exploration\\_days/](https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days/)

**23:** 4-H Council, 6:30pm, location TBD

## JULY

**14:** Youth Leadership Council, 6:30pm, location TBD

**21:** 4-H Council, 6:30pm, location TBD

# CLARE COUNTY NEWS

## Coming soon!!

More details and registration links will be coming soon for these programs, but here is a preview of what we have around the corner! Registration is expected to fill quickly for the kits, so do not delay when you see that they are open.

**Over the Fire Cooking Kit:** This kit will be open to families with youth age 8 to 19 in Clare and Gladwin Counties. In the kit, families will get a pie iron, telescopic roasting fork, tin foil and recipe cards for food to make over the fire, plus on demand videos with directions to each recipe!

**Wildflower Garden Kit:** In this kit youth will get supplies to make wildflower seed balls, directions to make a bee house, a wildflower hiking scavenger hunt and resources to learn about pollinators! This kit will be open to Clare County youth.

**National Children's Day GooseChase:** On Sunday, June 13th, 4-H, Jay's Sporting Goods and Mid Michigan College are teaming up for another GooseChase program! This digital scavenger hunt is intended for families with youth age 5 to 10 and will include some great prizes! If you haven't participated in a GooseChase before, especially one with 4-H, Jay's and Mid, you'll want to check this one out!

## 4-H Exploration Days: Expanded

4-H Exploration Days: Expanded is June 22-24<sup>th</sup>. This MSU Pre-College Program is open to any youth 4-H age 12 to 19 years old and they do not have to be current 4-H members to participate! Cost of this program is \$20.00 and includes a swag bag that will be mailed to youth. **Current Clare County 4-H members and youth currently residing or attending school in Clare County are eligible for a \$10.00 scholarship by emailing [schunkal@msu.edu](mailto:schunkal@msu.edu) for a coupon code.** This means you only pay \$10.00 per a youth for this great program thanks to the Clare County 4-H Council!

More details and registration: [https://www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_exploration\\_days/](https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days/)

## Clare County Fair News

- Fair Dates: July 26-31, Theme: Beach
- Fair books will not be printed and handed out this year. The Fair Book will be on the Fair website this Spring. Anyone that needs help filling fair forms out or needs printed copies, contact Donna in the Fair Office.

Do you have questions about the Fair information above? Contact the Fair Office at 989-539-9011.

# PLEDGING OUR HANDS TO LARGER SERVICE

## Teddy Bear Community Service Sewing Project

Many Clare County 4-H members and volunteers have been hard at work sewing and stuffing teddy bears for children at R.I.S.E. Inc.'s shelter. Clare, Gratiot and Isabella County 4-H programs participated in this community service project as R.I.S.E. services all three counties. Overall, Clare County had approximately 24 youth and 7 adult volunteers engaged in this project making a total of 66 teddy bears! Participants sewed and stuffed the teddy bears and children at the shelter will complete them with putting on their faces and other features of choosing. The goal was to have 100 teddy bears donated between the three counties and that goal was overwhelmingly met!

A huge shout out to the following people for participating in this successful community service project: Sheldon Family, Elaine Nickerson, Neff Family, Jehnzen Family, Rogers Family, Ella Pettersch, Young Family, Alex Schunk, Hill Top Club: Gianna Forester, Conner Heaven, Stillion Family, McInnis Family, LilyAnn Pawlowski, Mekayla Keelean, Ficek Family, Busy Bunny Raisers Club: Gray Family, Grace Taylor, Waite Family, Kynlee Carr



## VOLUNTEER



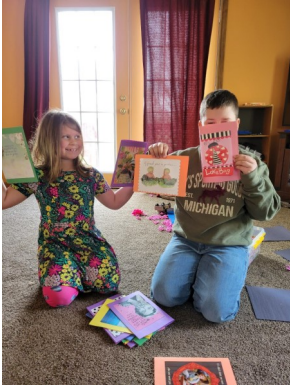
Are you or someone you know ready to give back to 4-H and the youth in the community? We are always accepting applications for new volunteers!

Apply today at [https://msu.samaritan.com/custom/502/volunteer\\_home](https://msu.samaritan.com/custom/502/volunteer_home)

## Kindness Project: Supporting Local Nursing Homes & Assisted Living Residents

The Youth Leadership Council recently came up with the idea of holding a 4-H Kindness Project. Clubs were encouraged to sign up for this community service project and support residents of local nursing homes or assisted living facilities. Members of the Country Neighbors club supported Prestige Place in Clare by creating signs to hang in windows, making birdfeeders for outside resident's windows and they created cards for the residents.

The Busy Bunny Raisers club members made bead sun catchers for the windows of the residents of Pratt Lake Nursing and Rehab in Gladwin. Great work 4-H members, parents and leaders!!



# MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR RECORD BOOK

MONDAY, MAY 17TH, 2021  
7:00PM VIA ZOOM  
PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED

LEARN ABOUT THE NEW CLARE COUNTY 4-H RECORD BOOKS FOR HOME ARTS, HORSE & PONY, LIVESTOCK AND SMALL ANIMAL PROJECTS! TIPS AND TRICKS WILL BE SHARED FOR HOW TO KEEP EXCELLENT RECORDS OF YOUR PROJECTS.



Did you know Clare County 4-H has a new and improved Record Book program? Did you know that participants will have the chance to win prizes such as engraved metal tumblers? Register for the Making the most of your Record Book program to learn more about this opportunity!

Pre-registration required at: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/91234567890>

This is open to all Clare County 4-Hers in project areas of home arts, horse & pony, small animal market & breeding projects and livestock market & breeding projects - including Cloverbuds! Download your record book(s) at: [https://www.canr.msu.edu/clare/clare\\_county\\_4\\_h/record-books](https://www.canr.msu.edu/clare/clare_county_4_h/record-books)

Calling all YOUNG horse enthusiasts!

Do you love horses? Do you like to create things while learning? Then this is the camp for you! The Michigan 4-H Colts & Fillies: Kick off to Summer Virtual Camp is now open for registration!!

Camp kits and t-shirts will be shipped to each participant with camp supplies and we will meet on Zoom three times during camp week (June 21, 23, & 25 at noon) to go over activities and learn all about equine science.

Each day of camp we will cover a different topic and play a game. Youth will only need to register one time for the entire week's camp, register soon as this camp has limited space.

Register HERE: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/MI4HVirtualColtsandFilliesCamp/>

*Sign Up Now!* 2021

**Michigan 4-H Virtual**

*For youth ages 5-10!*

**Puppy Pals Camp**

**June 21-25. Space is limited! \$35 registration fee includes kit, crafts, t-shirt & 3 camp meetings.**

Do you love dogs? Do you like to create things while learning? Then this is the camp for you! The Michigan 4-H Puppy Pals: Kick off to Summer Virtual Camp!! Camp kits and t-shirts will be shipped to each participant with camp supplies and we will meet on Zoom three times during camp week to go over activities and learn all about canine science! Each day of camp we will cover a different topic and play a game! Youth will only need to register one time for the entire week's camp, register soon as this camp has limited space. <https://events.anr.msu.edu/MI4HCaninePuppyPalsCamp/>