



Lapeer County

4-H Family News

September 2020

Hello 4-H families!

In this newsletter you will find fun, new programs and a new hands-on kit that can be picked up at 3 locations in Lapeer County, as well as auction information and important updates from Michigan 4-H. There's a lot to chat about this month!

On page 4, you will see information regarding an updated version of 4Honline.com. It looks quite a bit different, but much more user friendly AND you will be able to make payments and register for programs on it! There are instructions, as well as videos on entering information as you re-enroll for the new 4-H year. **Just as a reminder, Michigan 4-H has waived the 2020-21 participation fees**, so a quick re-enrollment online is all you will need to do this year. It is expected to go live in mid-September, so I am hopeful it will be in the next few days. Please look for emails with helpful information and the new website link.

On page 5, you will see a flyer for a new indoor herb garden project kit! I created these free kits for families in Lapeer County (4-H participation not necessary) and plan to offer new hands-on project kits regularly! My next one will be flower bulb kits, so keep an eye on Facebook for promotion and registration link. I want to provide something "non-virtual" that families can do together, so if you have any ideas for other kits, please let me know!

The Lapeer County MSUE Office is still closed to the public at this time. Tina House, our Office Manager, is in the office daily and can come out to the parking lot you need to pick up or drop anything off.

Many new online workshops are available for registration and can be found on our [Facebook](#) page or [Michigan 4-H Facebook](#). 99% are free, so check them out! I've highlighted a few on page 6.

Please remember, **we are still in a virtual only format until further notice**, so that means no meetings or any 4-H activities of any kind outside of virtual means. I know that makes things difficult, but the safety of our families is our highest priority. Club meetings should continue to take place online and if you need any help with setting that up, we'd be happy to help. *With Appreciation—Kathy George*

Michigan State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Michigan State University 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. Issued in furtherance of MSU Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Ray Hammerschmidt, Interim Director, MSU Extension, East Lansing, MI 48824. This information is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply endorsement by MSU Extension or bias against those not mentioned. The 4-H Name and Emblem have special protections from Congress, protected by code 18 USC 707.

Contact Us!

Kathy George
4-H Program Coordinator
george92@msu.edu

Jean Kreiner
4-H Program Aide
Camp Director
Kreiner@msu.edu

Sarah Griffin
4-H Fundraising Coordinator
graversa@msu.edu

Lapeer Cty. MSU Extension
1800 Imlay City Rd., Ste. 1
Lapeer, MI 48446

Office Hours:
Monday –Friday 8am-5pm;
closed 12-1pm for lunch

Phone: 810-667-0343
Fax: 810-667-0355

Email:
MSUE.Lapeer@county.msu.edu

Web Site:
msue.msu.edu/lapeer

Facebook:
Lapeer County 4-H

Year End Paperwork and Leader Update (for Administrative Leaders)

For our awesome administrative leaders, it's the time of year again for the leader update meeting, completing year end paperwork for clubs and committees. An email was sent to all administrative leaders, so please let me know if you have any questions or would like it to be resent. All year end paperwork needs to be completed and submitted by **October 12**, in order for the club and leader to remain in good standing. The information is then used to complete required tax documentation and submit to the IRS.

Over the next month, I'll be contacting you about your fall plans for virtual 4-H programming and support you in continuing your 4-H club virtually for now. I have also set up two leader update zoom meetings for September 24 and October 8 with the links in the email sent.

Lapeer County 4-H Award Nominations

We have the award nominations open for all adult, club and leader awards, which are due **November 2**. All nomination forms can be found at https://www.canr.msu.edu/lapeer/lapeer_county_4_h/county_awards_program.

Auction Update from Sarah Graver, Fundraising Coordinator

Rowley Auctions will be holding an online auction to benefit The Lapeer County 4-H Youth Program.

Bidding will take place online starting **Tuesday, September 29, 2020** and the closing process will start at 8pm on Tuesday October 6th, 2020. You can register and place your bids at www.rowleyauctions.com. Winning bidders will be able to pick up their items from Rowley Auction Service in Attica on October 7th, 8th, and 9th. For more information visit the website or you can call Rowley Auctions at (810)724-4035.

Due to the covid-19 pandemic we were unable to hold our annual spring fundraiser auction. The auction committee was hopeful that we would have been able to hold the event in late September but do to current situations surrounding the pandemic and MSU Policies, we are unable to hold an in-person event of that size. Instead, Rowley Auctions will be hosting an online auction consisting of the donations that were able to be collected. All the profits will then be donated back to Lapeer County 4-H Youth Program. Please be sure to check out the online auction and let your friends and family know about the event. Your support is appreciated!

Lapeer County 4-H Virtual Summer Game Winners!

Thank you to everyone, who played our Goosechase app game as well as submitting photos of 4-H activities while at home through our Facebook 4-H Photo Contest! The winners of the games were supposed to receive either a full or partial 2020-21 4-H Participation Fee scholarship, but since Michigan 4-H waived all fees this year, Lapeer 4-H presented them with Amazon gift cards instead!

Goosechase top placings: Bryan Dahn, Adelynn Thomas, Nathan Dahn, Kenleigh Radford and Avis Schapman

Facebook Photo Contest top placings: Tyler Mette, Abigael Fox, Kenleigh and Adelynn Thomas



Michigan 4-H Volunteer Spotlight: Lapeer County's Michelle Hedgcock

Michigan 4-H volunteers are finding creative ways to continue connecting with Michigan 4-H'ers during social distancing.

Read about one these Michigan 4-H volunteers and what she is doing!

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/michigan-4-h-volunteer-spotlight-lapeer-county-s-michelle-hedgcock>



During the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing restrictions, [Michigan State University Extension](#) volunteers are finding new, unique and creative ways to reach youth. Michigan 4-H is excited to spotlight a few of these volunteers and their efforts, as well as provide tricks, tips and tools other volunteers can apply in their own support of 4-H youth.

Often times, when 4-H families talk about their experiences in 4-H, they reflect fondly about their experiences as 4-H youth participants. That's exactly the case for Lapeer County 4-H volunteer Michelle Hedgcock. Hedgcock recalls that her 4-H leader was such an encouraging mentor to her that when her own daughter was old enough to join 4-H, she sought out the same woman who had served as 4-H leader in hopes of gaining the same experience for her daughter.

As regularly occurs in 4-H, being a parent of a 4-H'er often means you become a volunteer. Fortunately for the Lapeer County 4-H program, Hedgcock has served as a volunteer for over six years, making huge impacts on her daughter and other youth in the community.

Hedgcock is the founder and 4-H leader of the Imagination Unlimited 4-H Club. It's a club with primarily older youth that focuses on preparing for a successful future. The youth have decided to focus on project topics such as budgeting, record keeping, the importance of college scholarships, and how to complete college and job applications. Most recently, the Imagination Unlimited 4-H Club has explored, discussed and investigated ways to go to college debt-free, choosing the right school, working while in college, saving money, and paying for school as you go. These are all topics Hedgcock encouraged the youth to dig into while supporting them, guiding them toward resources, and encouraging them to continue researching options that would be best for them.

Kathy George, Lapeer County 4-H program coordinator, says, "Michelle wanted them to go deeper and talk with the members about spending habits. She reached out to me for more resources and we worked together with an MSU Extension educator in Wayne County to provide specialized trainings for the youth about financial education. Michelle has been creative, innovative and inspiring to the youth throughout these educational experiences."

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Hedgcock has remained engaged with the youth in her 4-H club. She says that if she could share a tip with other 4-H volunteers, it would be that "finding a topic that is age appropriate that interests kids is definitely a key." Hedgcock adds that she's already started thinking about ways to be successful in the 2020-2021 program year if we continue virtual programs. She plans to continue letting the youth decide what projects and activities they will do while she helps make the necessary connections.

Hedgcock says, "4-H was an important aspect of my childhood and exposed me to skills and activities that I otherwise wouldn't have." In return, that's exactly what she's doing for the youth in her club. She's inspired by seeing the youth take on leadership roles and help their fellow club members to gain skills. "Knowing that growth and those skill will help them in their adult lives to be productive and successful individuals is what keeps me dedicated to working with them," she says.

Michigan 4-H volunteers play an important role in connecting with 4-H youth during these times. There are many ways that volunteers can [connect with youth when they cannot meet in person](#). Additional resources can be found on MSU Extension's [Remote Learning and Resources website](#).

Update on Face-to-Face Michigan 4-H Programming

Earlier this year, MSU Extension pivoted all programming to online formats to comply with the original Stay Safe, Stay Home order ([EO2020-42](#)). Though this has been a difficult time for communities, families and our own faculty and staff members, we are proud of the work our team has done to ensure that the 4-H community continues to have access to high-quality educational opportunities throughout Michigan.

After much discussion and study, we have decided to continue to keep all 4-H programming, meetings and events virtual until further notice. This applies to all children and youth activities involving ages birth to 19. We recognize that this is a hardship on those who are eager to engage in in-person activities with their 4-H community. However, we must do everything we can to keep youth and adults safe and healthy. As such, please continue to hold 4-H club meetings and other local events virtually. MSU Extension staff members, including 4-H program coordinators, cannot support in-person activities. In addition, funds raised in the name of 4-H cannot be used to support in-person events until further notice. Although our delivery modes have changed, we are still hard at work for you. Because of our statewide reach, you have access to a number of MSU Extension events. Visit our [MSU Extension Remote Learning and Resources](#) to learn more. We assure you that this does not diminish our commitment to the 4-H community. We will continue to offer high-quality, virtual programming and experiences, and look forward to the day when we can resume in-person programming.

Update on 2020-2021 4-H Participation Fees

MSU Extension recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic and other associated factors have put a financial strain on many families. Therefore, we have opted to waive the Michigan 4-H participation fee of \$20 per person or \$60 per family for the 2020-21 4-H program year which begins September 1, 2020. Some events may continue to have registration fees. You will continue to register through 4-H Online, but no participation fees will be collected or expected next year. If you are interested in supporting 4-H in lieu of paying participation fees, please contact your 4-H program coordinator for opportunities.

Changes coming to 4-H Online this fall!

This fall, 4-H Online will be upgraded to version 2.0. This enhanced version of our current registration system will offer many improvements, including the ability to register for events, the ability to collect registration fees via credit card, and improved communication features, among others. Though the system will look a bit different, we anticipate this upgrade will also provide a better user experience for the 4-H community.

In preparation for this upgrade, 4-H Online will shut down on August 27 as our Michigan 4-H data are migrated to the 2.0 version. The system will reopen mid-September; during the transition time, you will not be able to access 4-H Online. Once the system is operational again, MSU Extension will email the 4-H community with instructions on how to enroll/re-enroll in the upgraded system. In that communication, we will also provide additional training resources for administrative leaders/volunteers, as well as 4-H families who would like to learn more about 4-H Online 2.0. We appreciate your patience with this transition and look forward to starting the 2020-2021 program year with an even better 4-H Online experience.



Virtual Learning Resources for Parents, Teachers and Homeschool Families

Though the back-to-school season occurs each fall, this year is unlike anything that has been experienced before. The 2020-2021 school year will present new challenges for families and teachers alike, whether youth are returning to school in the classroom, online or at home.

To support teachers, parents and homeschool families in their educational efforts, MSU Extension is compiling a list of helpful resources that can be used by varying audiences to supplement school plans. Arranged by audience, grade level and topic, a variety of resources will be available in differing delivery methods. While not all tools utilize school standards, many do.

Look for additional information coming soon! In the meantime, please check out extension.msu.edu/online4MI.

Important Changes to 4-H Financial Manuals for Volunteers & Treasurers

The 4-H Financial Manuals for Volunteers and Treasurers support 4-H volunteers and adult and youth treasurers in their roles managing 4-H funds. Small revisions and updates to these books were made in 2020. The online PDF versions of the manuals contain the changes. However, if you have a printed or hard copy version that does not contain the 2020 changes, a one-page document is available online that notes all the important content adjustments. It is recommended that you print this resource and store it in your manual for quick reference.

Download the 2020 changes resource at www.canr.msu.edu/resources/4_h_financial_management_toolkit. For more information, please contact your local county staff member.

4-H INDOOR HERB GARDEN KITS



Free Kits to Grow Basil, Chive and Dill!

4-H Indoor Herb Garden Project Kits are great hands-on and fun learning for youth of all ages!

Kit will include everything you need to successfully plant and grow herbs indoors as well as learning resources, recipes and a bonus activity!

Limited supply available and one per family. Kits will be available for pick up at Lapeer County MSU Extension, Seven Ponds Nature Center in Dryden and at the Marguerite De Angeli Library in Lapeer. Must register to participate at

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/IndoorHerbGarden/>. For more information, please email Kathy George, 4-H Program Coordinator at george92@msu.edu or call 810-667-0341.

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal opportunity employer. Michigan State University 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.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension



For more listings of current online 4-H programs,
please visit [Lapeer County 4H](#) and [Michigan 4-H](#)
Facebook pages!



GET READY TO MAKE NOT JUST ANY GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICH BUT THE ULTIMATE GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICH! JOIN US FOR ANOTHER EPISODE OF 4-H IN THE KITCHEN LIVE TO LEARN THE SECRETS TO THIS MOST EXCELLENT SANDWICH!

October 17, 2020 | 3:00 pm

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/UltimateGrilledCheese/>



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



ADULTING 101-FALL SERIES

High School Youth

October 12, 19, 26

4:00 PM

Register: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/Adult101Fall/>
For info: hydemich@msu.edu

ENHANCE YOUR 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS CLUB AND PROJECT MEETINGS

ON TARGET TUESDAYS

Series of FREE Shooting Sports Workshops featuring Olympic Athletes and USA Top Shooters

SHOTGUN ○ RIFLE ○ ARCHERY ○ PISTOL

6:30-7:30 pm PST

OCT 6, 13, 20 & 27 NOV 3, 10 & 17 DEC 1

Register for these webinars through your Zoom account:
https://wsu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7KOfRuI9TTmOUewf7mxLuA

Sponsored by Washington State 4-H Shooting Sports



Questions?
dan.white@wsu.edu
a.hernandez-hall@wsu.edu



The mission of 4-H is to empower youth to reach their full potential, working and learning in partnership with caring adults. Extension programs are open to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension office.



JOIN US ONLINE!

4-H MINECRAFT SPIN CLUB

An introduction to computer coding through the world of Minecraft! Open to all youth age 8 to 12.

Choose one SPIN Club Opportunity
Sign up TODAY!

Monday, September 21-25, 10-11:15am

Register: <https://bit.ly/34FkJII>

Monday, October 19-23, 4-5:15pm

Register: <https://bit.ly/2Ylmyuu>

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension