

*Cass Clover*

4-H Family News

JULY/AUGUST 2021

Dear 4-H Family and Friends,

It feels like its been ages since I've been able to say this but... THE COUNTDOWN HAS BEGUN! I am beyond excited to see all of you, your amazing projects, and all the hard work you've put in, pay off at the 2021 Cass County Fair!

A friendly reminder for those auctioning at this years' fair, if you haven't sent out buyer letters, you may want to do that soon. The clock is ticking, after all!

A friendly reminder to all, remember to be the best sportsman you can be this year inside and outside of the show ring. I know that you will model what 4-H has taught you fair week and continue to make the best better!

You might find it beneficial to like our Facebook page, if you haven't already. We intend to post updates throughout the week that I'm sure you won't want to miss!

I know you are all just as excited as I am for the fair and I can't wait to see you there! Say hi as you see our staff and fair board members around!

Sincerely,
Hailey Harman
4-H Program Coordinator

2021 Michigan 4-H Mark of Excellence Award Winner

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 refer 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 country are selected to be recognized as award winners.

Congratulations to our 2021 Cass County recipient: Alexus Johnson!

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July

- 2 Horse Honoree Applications Due
- 7 Teen Leader Association Meeting, MSU Extension Office, 6:30 p.m.
- 7 Senior Bio Deadline
- 8 Tin Punch Still Exhibit Workshop, T.K. Lawless Park, 5:30 p.m.
- 8 Goat Barn Clean-Up, Cass County Fair, 6:30 p.m.
- 10 Market Rabbit Validation, Cass County Fairgrounds, 8 a.m.– Noon
- 10 Rabbit Barn Clean-Up, Cass County Fairgrounds, 8 a.m.– Noon
- 10 Poultry Barn Clean-Up, Cass County Fairgrounds, 10:00 a.m.
- 13 YQCA, Cass County Fairgrounds, 6:00 p.m.
- 13 Dog Showmanship Workout, Bergman's, 6:00 p.m.
- 16 Woodburning Still Exhibit Workshop, T.K. Lawless Park, 5:30 p.m.
- 16 Cass County Horse Leaders' Scholarships Due
- 17 Dairy Feeder Barn Clean-Up, Cass County Fairgrounds, 9:00 a.m.
- 19 YQCA Certification Deadline
- 21 Horse Leaders' Association Meeting, Extension Office, 7:00 p.m.
- 21 Teen Leaders' Association Meeting, MSU Extension Office, 6:30 p.m.
- 22 Woodburning Still Exhibit Workshop, T.K. Lawless Park, 5:30 p.m.
- 22 Leaders' Association Meeting, MSU Extension Office, 7:00 p.m.
- 27 Clean-Up/4-H Kick-Off to the Fair, Lowe Building, 5:30—7:30 p.m.
- 31 Still Exhibit Judging, Cass County Fairgrounds, 9:00 am—2:00 p.m.

August

- 1 Still Exhibit Auction, 2:30 p.m.
- 6 4-H Day at the Fair, 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
- 7 4-H Dance
- 11 Teen Leader Association Meeting, MSU Extension Office, 6:30 p.m.
- 17 Still Exhibit Development Meeting, MSU Extension Office, 7:00 p.m.
- 18 Horse Leaders Association Meeting, MSU Extension Office, 7:00 p.m.
- 20 County Medal Applications Available
- 24 Livestock Development Meeting, MSU Extension Office, 7:00 p.m.
- 25 Horse Development Meeting, MSU Extension Office, 7:00 p.m.
- 26 Leaders Association Meeting, MSU Extension Office, 7:00 p.m.

4-H Statewide Events and Workshops

July 1: 4-H History at Home SPIN Club with the Naval History and Heritage Command

Online—www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-history-at-home-spin-club-2

July 10: MSU Tollgate Farm HomeGrown Gardening Series 2021—Online

www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-tollgate-farm-homegrown-gardening-series-2021-july-10

July 12: Michigan 4-H Sights and Sounds of Nature—Online

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-sights-and-sounds-of-nature

July 14: 4-H Cloverbud Outdoor Adventure Day Camp— DeVries Nature Conservancy, Owos-

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-cloverbud-outdoor-adventure-day-camp

July 17: 4-H Spartan Coding Camp—Onlinewww.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-spartan-coding-camp-

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

4-H Spartan Coding Camp

Explore the exciting field of computer coding with MSU Extension's newest premier pre-college program, 4-H Spartan Coding Camp! Discover your passion for technology and develop skills you can continue practicing throughout high school.

4-H Spartan Coding Camp is a four-day virtual camp being held over two weekends this summer, July 17-18 and August 14-15. In addition to coursework, it will include evening engagement activities, including career exploration. Whether you have prior computer coding knowledge, or have never even thought about it, you will gain valuable coding experience and skills through this interactive online experience. By the end of the camp, youth will learn how to develop their own tech ideas, as well as design and code a personal website from scratch!



This camp is open to rising high school freshman, sophomores, juniors and seniors with an interest in learning computer coding and applying it to solve problems. **Space is limited, register online by July 12 at www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-spartan-coding-camp.** The cost to attend this four-day camp is \$300 and includes tech support, post-camp support and program fees. There is potential grant funding and limited scholarships available. Attendees will need a computer with internet and the ability to do video conferencing (microphone and webcam) to participate.

Questions? Contact Christine Miller at 517-552-6905 or email johns832@msu.edu.

Michigan 4-H eliminates 4-H participation fee

It is with great enthusiasm that MSU Extension has eliminated the 4-H participation fee beyond the current program year. The fee was not collected in 2020-2021 in consideration of the financial strain put on some families due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This pause gave the organization an opportunity to reflect on how it can best reach all audiences. Despite best efforts, this fee has been a barrier for some. By removing the fee indefinitely, MSU Extension feels it can best bring the power of 4-H to all young people in Michigan.

MSU Extension 4-H program coordinators played a large role in leading MSU Extension through this decision. These professionals serve alongside youth across the state and have been champions for removing the participation fee in an effort to better reach under-served audiences in rural, urban and suburban communities.

It is important to note that enhancements previously supported by 4-H participation fee funds, including 4-H grants, awards and scholarships, and supplemental accidental insurance for 4-H youth and volunteers, will continue. Michigan 4-H has identified alternative funding sources that can support these and other local and state programming initiatives previously enhanced by participation fee dollars. This includes endowments, grants, reallocating funds formerly used for 4-H participation fee scholarships and other methods. The quality and quantity of programming offered by Michigan 4-H will not be diminished as a result of the participation fee dissolution.

The last 15 months have been difficult. MSU Extension is excited to once again offer face-to-face programs in local communities and hopes this new policy will provide the current and future 4-H community with new and improved opportunities to grow with 4-H.

Support Michigan 4-H at Walgreens

Help communities you care about by donating your **myWalgreens** Cash rewards



4-H community members that frequent Walgreens can now support Michigan 4-H while they shop!

The Michigan 4-H Foundation is now participating in the **myWalgreens** nonprofit donation program. At Walgreens, customers earn unlimited 1% Walgreens Cash rewards when shopping with a free **myWalgreens** membership. Walgreens customers may choose to donate their **myWalgreens** cash rewards to the Michigan 4-H Foundation or they can contribute \$1, \$5, or more of their Walgreens Cash rewards. It's that easy and the amount you donate is up to you!

To participate, interested individuals should login or create a **myWalgreens** account at: <https://www.walgreens.com/mywalgreens/donation.jsp>. Then, shop at Walgreens, using your **myWalgreens** rewards. Once your Walgreens cash adds up, donate all or a portion of your Walgreens cash to support the Michigan 4-H Foundation.

The last day to donate Walgreens cash is August 31, 2021.

4-H Leaders' Association

Are you looking to help the county 4-H program? The 4-H Leaders' Association is the place for you! Come to our meetings on Thursday, July 22, and August 26, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be in-person in the Kincheloe Room of the County Services Building.



Horse Leaders' Association

Our Cass County 4-H Horse Leaders' Association works to provide educational opportunities for youth in the horse project area. If you would like to be involved, please consider coming to the Horse Leaders' meetings on Wednesday, July 21 and August 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the Kincheloe Room of the County Services Building.

Second Annual Barn Dance

Our teen leaders have been hard at work while they plan a western themed dance for the youth in Cass County as a final celebration to close out the fair, pending fair board approval. The dance will take place Saturday, August 7th from 9-11 p.m. (pending Fair Board approval). Refreshments will be available for purchase at the dance. Tickets for the dance are \$2.00 for non-4-H members and \$1.00 for 4-H'ers and can be purchased during Still Exhibit Judging near the snack tent and the Youth Office throughout fair week (check the 4-H bulletin board at the youth office for specific hours of ticket sales). We hope you will put on your dancing boots and two-step your way to join the Cass County 4-H Teen Leader Association in the grand finale of the 2021 Cass County Fair with a good ole' fashioned, family friendly, 4-H dance.

We will need some adults to volunteer a couple of hours to be chaperones at the dance to ensure that all youth attending are safe! If you are interested please email Hailey at: harmanha@msu.edu.

Still Exhibit Workshops

Join us for the last set of Still Exhibit Workshops in July! This program is intended to assist you in creating a finished project, meeting all guidelines, for the 2021 Cass County Fair Still Exhibit Division. All supplies will be provided, at no cost to 4-H members! Sessions will begin at 5:30 pm at T.K. Lawless Park in Vandalia. Registration can be found on 4-H Online and closes one week in advance.

July 8– Tin Punch

July 22– Wood Burning

Clerks & Runners Needed!

We are in need of adult clerks for Still Exhibit day, July 31st. We are asking each club to identify one or two adults available that day to serve as clerks for our judges. Youth ages 12 and older are needed as runners during Still Exhibit judging day helping youth bring exhibits in, assisting judges with displaying projects, and other general tasks as needed. Morning, afternoon, or all-day sign-ups are available. Please contact your Key Leader or the MSU Extension office to volunteer.

4-H Kick-Off to the Fair & Lowe Building Clean-Up

Join us as we celebrate returning to the 2021 Cass County Fair with a clean-up (of the Darlene B. Lowe Exhibition Building for our 4-H youth exhibits) and food, games and activities immediately following clean-up! As the old saying goes, "Many hands make light work". We look forward to having lots of help so we can have a longer time with our kick-off festivities. Clean-up will be on July 27th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Lowe Building... don't forget to bring some cleaning supplies!

MORE CASS COUNTY 4-H NEWS

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County Medal Applications

County Medal Applications are once again available to everyone, regardless of whether you have been nominated by a leader! Which means if you would like to apply, please make note of the dates below!

August 18th—Nominations from Leaders Due

August 20th— Nomination Notification Letters Mailed

August 20th—County Medal Applications Available

October 15th—County Medal Applications Due

October 22nd—County Medal Recipient's Award Invites Mailed

A County Medal is the highest form of recognition a 4-H Member can receive at the county level. It is a great accomplishment to receive these awards. Members will be recognized at the Annual 4-H Awards Banquet in November. To apply, members must submit an application by the deadline above. No late applications will be accepted.

Attention 4-H Volunteer Leaders!

Important reminder... all 4-H volunteers need to have their Communicating through Conflict training complete in order to receive your \$5 fair pass! This task is easily achievable and will only take you about 20 minutes. To access the training visit your volunteer portal or: [MSU Extension Volunteer Communicating Through Conflict Training - Organizational Development](#) . If you experience difficulty please contact Hailey Harman.

Outdoor Experience

The Leaders' Association is hosting their annual Outdoor Experience on Saturday, September 11, 2021 at T.K. Lawless Park from 10:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m. Registration and payment can be made on the day of event and will begin at 9:00 a.m. The program will begin at 10:00 a.m. This event is for any youth ages 5-12 and the cost is \$5 per person or \$10 per family and lunch is provided. This year's activities include fishing lures, entomology, rocketry, stained glass, and sand art. Any projects made at this program may be used for the 2022 Cass County Fair and will be awarded a special ribbon signifying your participation at Outdoor Experience. The Leaders' Association is looking for teen volunteers (ages 13-19) to help with this event. If you are interested in helping or would like more information, please contact Hailey Harman.

4-H Farm Safety Day

Cass County 4-H is partnering with MEC (Midwest Energy & Communications) to host a Farm Safety Day in August. Watch our Facebook page for a date and location. This program will be an all-day program FREE to any 4-H member. Lunch will be provided and you will get your very own Farm Safety T-Shirt. This program is for children who visit, live, or are looking to pursue a career on a farm, ages 10 to 19. Spots will be limited, so watch for registration information to come!

Cass County Teen Leaders' Association

The Cass County Teen Leaders' Association is alive and well, busy coordinating their next activity... which is the 4-H dance at the Cass County Fair! If you would like to become involved with this group of great kids that take an active role in the leadership of 4-H and are between the ages of 13 & 19, the group will be meeting July 7th and July 21st at 6:30 p.m. at the MSU Extension office to finalize the plans for the fair dance—why not join in and share YOUR great ideas!

Horse Honoree Trophy Applications

The five trophy disciplines are Western, English, Pony, Gymkhana, and Ranch. Points can be acquired from the Equine Test, the Leaders' Show and the fair. Horse Honoree Trophy Applications are due **July 2nd!** If you wish to compete for any of these trophies, please request a form by emailing harmanha@msu.edu or go to our website <https://www.canr.msu.edu/cass/4-h>. There will be an individual form for each trophy. The trophies will be handed out at the annual 4-H Awards Banquet in November.

Cass County 4-H Horse Leaders' Scholarships

The Cass County 4-H Horse Leaders' Association annual scholarship applications are available on our website and are due **July 16th** to the Cass County Extension office or via email.

ES Scholarship- \$750

Bea Porath Memorial Scholarship- \$500

Horse Leaders' Association Scholarship- \$250 & \$150

To receive the applications please email harmanha@msu.edu or visit our website: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/cass/4-h>.

BRAVO... B.R.A.V.O.!!

Eighteen years ago, (in 2003), the B.R.A.V.O. Award was created by two very devoted 4-H alumni who believed 4-H'ers should be recognized for their own individual accomplishments... kids that have done the very best they could regardless whether or not their project was deemed the prized "Best of Show" award by the judges... **Best Recognized Achievement Validated Outstanding**. Recipients who have excelled in doing their very best through their project completion and judging interview at this year's Cass County Fair are eligible to receive this award. Only 15 awards are given. Recipients are invited to an appreciation meal for themselves, a guest, and the sponsor. To continue to provide this amazing award, we are reliant upon sponsorships of \$25. If you would like to sponsor a B.R.A.V.O. award, or have any questions regarding the award, please contact Hailey Harman.

Canvas and Clovers

Our very popular Canvas and Clovers will be returning after fair. Our sincerest "Thank You!" to Kim Sawyer, one of our area artists for working with our groups via zoom. The paintings have been amazing and we are looking forward to the next time, as it will be offered as an in-person event. Whether you are an experienced painter or have never even thought of picking up a brush, your artistic talents are sure to come out! Be sure to check your 4-H Online profile often to take advantage of this and many other events the Cass County 4-H program offers... you may be surprised!

Class of 2021 Senior Recognition

If you haven't turned in your picture and bio to be recognized at the fair!, you still have time! Please fill out the following form by July 7th: <https://forms.gle/FTYRiuKSVdxFSmPb9>. If you have already filled out a senior form (for the 4-H Awards Banquet last fall) you don't need to resubmit.!

CASS COUNTY FAIR NEWS

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Possession Dates for the 2021 Cass County Fair

Market Rabbits– July 1, 2021

Poultry– July 3, 2021

Mandatory Validations for the 2021 Cass County Fair

Market Rabbits– Saturday, July 10, 2021, 8 a.m.- 12 p.m.

Barn Clean-up Dates

Goat– July 8, 2021, 6:30 p.m. , please bring rakes, brooms, shovels, & wheelbarrows

Poultry– Saturday, July 10, 2021, 10 a.m.

Rabbits- Saturday, July 10,2021, 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

Dairy Feeder– July 17, 2021, 9:00 a.m.

Important Dates & Times

| | | |
|----------|--|---------------------|
| July 31 | Still Exhibit entry and judging | 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. |
| July 31 | Registration for Still Exhibit Auction <u>Deadline</u> | — 3:00 p.m. |
| August 1 | Animal entry to fairgrounds | 7:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. |
| August 1 | Still Exhibit Auction | 2:30 p.m. |
| August 5 | Large Livestock Auction | 10:00 a.m. |
| August 7 | Small Animal Auction | 9:00 a.m. |
| August 8 | Still Exhibit Project Pick-Up | 8:00 a.m.—Noon |

Livestock Weigh-in Times on August 1:

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Beef & Beef Feeders | during check-in 7:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. |
| Dairy Feeder Steers—before entering barn | 7:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. |
| Goats—in the sheep barn by exhibitor | 3:00—4:00 p.m. |
| Swine | during check-in 7:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. |
| Sheep | during check-in 7:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. |
| Rabbits | during check-in 7:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. |
| Poultry | during check-in 7:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. |

MEET UP and EAT UP—All youth through the age of 18 (or 26 with disability) are invited for FREE breakfasts and lunches Monday through Saturday during fair week. Located across from the beef wash racks in the “Meet Up & Eat Up” tent.

Breakfast is served: 7:00 a.m.—8:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday

Lunch is served: 11:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday

YQCA Requirement for Swine Exhibitors

All youth exhibiting swine at the Cass County Fair are required to complete YQCA. The final in-person certifications class is July 13th at 6:00 p.m <https://events.anr.msu.edu/CCYACA071321/> . Cost for in-person class is \$5. Youth do NOT need to be in 4-H to sign up for these trainings. The certification can also be completed online with your 4-H Online account at <https://yqca.org/> for \$12 per person. Certifications must be completed and mailed to Hailey Harman by July 19th.

Dog Showmanship Workout

Tuesday, July 13th

6:00 p.m.

Bergman's VMC

Cassopolis, MI 49031

2021 Cass County Fair August 1- August 7, 2021

Contact Information:

Cass County Fair

590 O’Keefe St

Cassopolis, MI 49031

269-445-8265

269-262-2065

casscountyfair@gmail.com

Facebook: Cass County Fair (Michigan)



Thank
you 

Don't forget your Thank You's

Here's a friendly reminder to all our 4-H exhibitors... please don't forget to send a thank you note to your auction buyers, trophy sponsors, and leaders. While you're at it, don't forget your parents and your peers. You certainly couldn't have made it to exhibit at the fair without a lot of help from those around you, so be sure you let them know you appreciate them!!

THROW
kindness
AROUND LIKE
confetti

Fair can be stressful for animals and people alike... please remember to be kind.

Still Exhibit Judging

Judging for non-livestock exhibits will be on Saturday, July 31st from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. There will be a lunch break for the judges from 12:00 noon until 12:30 p.m. and the judging area will be cleared during that time. All still project exhibitors must pick up their entry forms and exhibit tags from the registration tables (located at the first aid area) before judging, and return the form to the registration area after their projects have been judged on Saturday. Exhibitor passes may be purchased at that time. The white copy of the registration form is given back to the exhibitor to be kept for picking up projects on Sunday, August 8th from 8:00 a.m. until noon. If you are not able to pick up your projects personally at this time, please make arrangements for someone to do that for you. Exhibits left after noon may not be saved.

Mandatory Recipe Cards for Food Exhibits

You can find recipe cards at the MSU Extension office or on the Cass County Fair website (www.mycasscountyfair.com). Please note—your exhibit should **NOT** include mystery ingredients, mixes, pre-made pie fillings, or alcohol.

Still Exhibit Auction

Returning for the ninth year, the still exhibit auction will be held Sunday, August 1 at 2:30 p.m. Only exhibits registered prior to 3:00 p.m. (immediately after still exhibit judging on July 31) will be eligible for the auction. Auction sign up sheets will be located at a table in the registration area. All food items being auctioned required to be turned in at the time of registration. Exhibitors are limited to 1 (one) sale item, and must have received an "A" or "B" grade during judging. No Pee Wee / Cloverbud projects will be sold.

4-H Day at the Fair!

Once again we are happy to announce our Friday 4-H Day at the Cass County Fair activities. Starting at 8:00 a.m. until noon, the Cass County Leaders' Association will be located under the show tent behind the 4-H office with all kinds of 4-H swag for you to stock up on! Then, from noon until 4:00, join us for some fun games and educational activities and projects... including learning all about pollinator bees, rockets, tin punch, and more! Be sure to check the 4-H bulletin on the youth office for a finalized schedule!

After Fair Developmental Meetings

Our developmental meetings have been set for after the fair. These meetings are to discuss positive changes, things to improve, possibilities for the 2022 Cass County Fair, bring forward any concerns, etc. All three meetings will be held in the Kincheloe Room in the County Service Building at 7:00 p.m.

Still Exhibit Developmental Meeting: Tuesday, August 17, 2021

Livestock Developmental Meeting: Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Horse Developmental Meeting: Wednesday, August 25, 2021