

*Kent County*

# 4-H Family News

December 2019

## Happy Holidays from us to you!

It's the most wonderful time of year yet again! The snow is falling, the roads are slick, and the ovens are on high. West Michigan winter is officially here!

This also means that a calendar year is coming to an end. Exciting things are coming for the next decade that is right around the corner. We have a lot of things in the planning processes that we can not wait to share with all of you.

The new year will bring new changes including a new volunteer portal that will make applying as a new volunteer a breeze, lots of teen activities that are going to be geared towards our older 4-H members, State Award process updates, and so many more wonderful things that are going to make your time with Kent County 4-H even better than it already is!

As always if you are looking for support, have some burning 4-H questions, or your brain is filled with ideas that you would like to bring to our youth in Kent County don't hesitate to reach out to us here in the Kent County MSU Extension office.

Sincerely,

Alexis Garbo & Nana Temple

Kent County 4-H Program Coordinators

## Contact Us

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Program



## 2020 State Award and Mark of Excellence Applications are now open!

Have you always thought about being recognized for your hard work that you put into your project areas throughout the year? Well here's your chance!

The 2020 applications are now open and ready for you. Remember... start the application early so you have plenty of time to refine it before turning the final copy in by FEBRUARY 1, 2020. Find the application online [here](#)! See page 4 for more information on both programs.

If you are interested in applying, but not sure where to start... make sure to hop onto the webinars in December or January to learn more about how you can turn in the ideal application. (more details below on how to access webinars)

## 4-H Dog Patch Program



The Michigan 4-H Dog Patch Program is designed to recognize the personal achievements of individuals participating in the 4-H dog project area.

The program has been in existence since 1987 and provides youth with goals to work towards in this project area. There are numerous patches available to reflect the varying disciplines in which youth can participate. In 2019, three new patches have been added; the Rally Intermediate, Rally Master and Beginning Novice.

For more information about the Michigan 4-H Dog Patch Program or to order patches, visit [https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/4\\_h\\_dog\\_patch\\_program](https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/4_h_dog_patch_program).

## 4-H Events and Workshops

### December 19: Resume and Cover Letter Webinar

This is the first of three separate times that this webinar is going to be offered by MSU Extension staff. For more information and to register follow this link: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/ResumeCover/>

### December 30: 4-H Spa-Delicious Countywide Project

*Van Buren County MSU Extension Office, Paw Paw*

Learn how to make homemade body products in this fun and educational class. Each participant takes home their own bath fizzies, sugar scrub, lip balm and air freshener! <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-spa-delicious-countywide-project>

### February 1: Michigan 4-H Winterfest

*Kettunen Center, Tustin*

A crowd favorite every year, this statewide event is for youth ages 8-12. A special emphasis is placed on providing sessions that offer hands-on learning. Registration can be found here: [https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4\\_h\\_winterfest\\_2019](https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4_h_winterfest_2019)

## Kent County Events:

### December 19: 4-H State Awards Tips and Tricks Webinar

Interested in applying for a 2020 State Award? This webinar will give you the insight you need when filling out your application. If you need help accessing the Zoom please contact the MSU Extension office. Zoom link: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/808186409>

### December 24-25: Kent County MSU Extension Office CLOSED

We wish you the happiest of holidays while our staff enjoy time with their loved ones!

### December 31- January 1: Kent County MSU Extension Office CLOSED

Feel free to email us during this time, but we might not get back to you until the office is open again!

### January 2: Horse Committee Meeting

Horse leaders this ones for you! The first meeting of 2020 will take place at the MSU Extension office beginning at 7:30 pm.

### January 20: Kent County 4-H Council Meeting

Join the Kent County 4-H Council during their January meeting to discuss fundraising and plans for the 2020 year.

View more 4-H events at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4h/events>.

## SPIN Club Information

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For more information on any SPIN Club opportunity please contact Erin Lilly at the Kent County MSU Extension Office (lillyeri@msu.edu)

### So... What is a SPIN Club?

A SPIN club—or in long form a Special Interest Club—is a club that usually takes place for six weeks meeting one time a week for one hour. These six weeks are spent focusing on one topic or area. Some of these can include crafts, financial management, nature, or anything that youth might be interested in. Through their SPIN club experience, youth learn by doing as they build, create, explore, make, discover, test, plan, cut, estimate, experiment, experience, measure, draw and so much more!

Looking for something fun to do during these cold winter months? Come join Kent County 4-H to make some nifty winter time crafts!

### 4-H SPIN CLUB Winter Crafts

STAY WARM AND GET CRAFTY WITH FUN HANDS-ON PROJECTS PERFECT FOR THE WINTER SEASON INCLUDING ACTIVITIES FOR VALENTINE'S DAY, ST. PATRICK'S DAY AND MORE!  
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED.

AGE: 10 and up  
DATES: Saturdays, 02/01 - 03/07 @ 10 am - 11 am  
LOCATION: Michigan State University Extension 775 Ball NE Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
CLUB MAX: 15 Members  
COST: \$5 for 4-H Members \$25 for Non 4-H Members \*Includes 4-H Membership fee

**TO SIGN UP VISIT:  
[HTTP://BIT.LY/WINCRAFT20](http://bit.ly/wincraft20)**

Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested two weeks prior to the start of the event. Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.  
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT MSU EXTENSION  
PHONE: 616-632-7888 EMAIL: LILLYERI@MSU.EDU

### 4-H SPIN CLUB Winter Crafts Call for Volunteers

WE'RE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP US LEAD KIDS THROUGH FUN CRAFTS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON. PERFECT FOR BOTH TEENS AND ADULTS.  
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED.

DATES: Saturdays, 02/01 - 03/07 @ 10 am - 11 am  
LOCATION: Michigan State University Extension 775 Ball NE Grand Rapids, MI 49503

**TO SIGN UP VISIT:  
[HTTP://BIT.LY/WINCRAFTVOL20](http://bit.ly/wincraftvol20)**

Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested two weeks prior to the start of the event. Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.  
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PHONE: 616-632-7888 EMAIL: LILLYERI@MSU.EDU

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## Welcome Erin Lilly, Our New Kent County 4-H SPIN Club Coordinator!

I'm really excited to be part of the 4-H SPIN Club program! STEAM learning is very important to me because I love creative writing, technology and finding new ways to work with both at the same time. If you're wondering how those two subjects can possibly be related, I promise that they can go together way better than you might think! I've studied both English and user experience in software design and I use both sets of skills everyday. I've been fortunate to work on all types of projects, from book publishing production workflows to public television broadcast scheduling. Communication and technology are always working together, whether it's writing poetry or redesigning a website. But I'm happy that my unique path has brought me to 4-H, as I hope that I can encourage our youth to follow their passions wherever they might lead!

## Help Support your 4-H Council!

The Kent County 4-H Council is gearing up for an exciting 2020 year. They are currently in the process of brainstorming ideas for fundraisers and educational activities that will continue to help support the Kent County 4-H Members. If you have an idea for a fundraiser or an educational activity that you would like to see please contact them at [Kentcounty4hcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:Kentcounty4hcouncil@gmail.com) or attend one of their meetings that take place on the third Monday of each month (excluding August and December) beginning at 5:30 at the MSU Extension office.

If you have any questions about Kent County 4-H events or opportunities please contact Nana Temple or Alexis Garbo at the MSU Extension Office (616-632-7865)



## Please welcome our newest Kent County 4-H Team... Hippology!

The Kent County 4-H Program has recently started a 4-H Hippology and Communications Team. Hippology does sound like a funny word to most, but it simply translates to “the study of the horse”. Our team had their first meeting on December 4 and plans to meet weekly until the state wide competition March 21 held at the Michigan State University Campus in East Lansing. The team will be competing in five different phases on the day of competition, written exam, stations, slides test, skills, judging, and a team problem phase. Each team member is put into an age division cloverbud, junior, or senior so members compete against youth in similar age. The team will be competing against other 4-H teams from across the state, to hopefully qualify for a national competition spot. If you are interested in learning more about the Hippology team please contact Jessica Bouman at [jbouman13@gmail.com](mailto:jbouman13@gmail.com) for more de-

## Horse Judging Team is Officially Underway for their 2020 Season

The Kent county 4-H Horse Judging Team has began meeting again to begin preparing for the 2020 season. The state wide competition will take place on March 22 at the Michigan State University Campus in East Lansing. The team meets weekly on Wednesday evenings beginning at 6:30pm at the MSU Extension office in Grand Rapids. If you are interested in joining the team for the 2020 season please contact Marlana Bar-kow, Mackinzie Whaley or the MSU Extension office.



## Kent County 4-H Discussion Evenings

We want to hear from you! We will be hosting three evenings in the month of January that are going to be an open discussion format to bring your wishes, concerns, or comments about the Kent County 4-H Program to. With the program growing and the addition of new staff we want to make sure that we are providing our members and volunteers with what they feel they need from the program. These meetings will be held in three different locations across the county to accommodate geographical locations. The first meeting will be held at the MSU Extension office on January 9 from 6:30-7:30. Another will be held at the Englehardt library in Lowell and a third in the northern part of the county (Dates TBD). These meetings are open to ALL Kent County 4-H Volunteers, families and members to attend.

## Did you know?

The Kent County 4-H Council offers a wide variety of scholarships to members that want to attend county, state, or national events that are associated with a cost. Scholarship amount will vary and will adjust depending on the cost of the event. For more information on how to apply for these scholarships contact the Kent County 4-H Council at [Kentcounty4hcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:Kentcounty4hcouncil@gmail.com).

## 4-H day at the Breslin Center

Michigan 4-H is hosting the annual 4-H day at the Breslin Center on March 1 during the Spartan Women's Basketball game against Penn State. Game time is TBD, but as years past there will be games and activities open before the game time start. All 4-H members and guests can use the ticket link below to claim as many free tickets as they would like.

Tickets can be requested [here](#) and continue to follow the prompts to claim as many tickets as you need. Select the number of tickets you desire, click add to cart. The tickets will be added to your cart free of charge. Once they are added to you cart, click CHECKOUT. When you click CHECKOUT, you will have to fill in some information in order to get the tickets sent to you. Fill out your first and last name, email, and phone number. In the space that says "Let's make it memorable. Name your event." please type in your Kent County followed by 4-H. (Ex: Kent County 4-H). Once you name your event you will need to fill in your address. When you fill out all the information on the screen click, CONFIRM.

After you click confirm you are all set! You will receive an email with your tickets. You can either scan your tickets off your phone once you arrive at the game or you can print them from your email and bring them to the game so tickets can be scanned at entry. There is a \$5.00 parking fee for cars at the event.

If you have anymore questions regarding this event please contact the MSU Extension office!

### STATE 4-H RABBIT & CAVY SHOW



#### Classes:

Rabbit and Cavy breed classes ONLY. Judging by ARBA Standards (breed, fur, meat). No showmanship classes offered.

#### Other events during the show:

- » Breed ID Contest
- » Educational Poster Contest
- » Supply Vendors
- » Scholarship Silent Auction

#### Cost:

\$3.00 per class

#### Who can participate:

Open to all Michigan 4-H members 8-19 years of age (as of January 1, 2020). A non-competitive Cloverbud division for 5-7 years of age is also available.

Want to become a 4-H member? Contact your county MSU Extension Office today!

#### Find out more...

For more information, event catalog, and online pre-registration, contact your local MSU Extension office or visit the website at: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/rabbitcavyshow2020/>



January 25, 2020

MSU Pavilion, East Lansing, MI

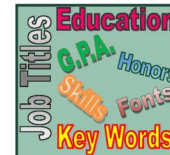
On-site registration begins at 6:30 a.m.

Online Pre-Registration available at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/rabbitcavyshow2020/>

The Michigan 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show is sponsored by Michigan 4-H Youth Development Programs, Michigan State University Extension.

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### Resumes and Cover Letters Made Easy!

This workshop will help teens build a resume from their classes, clubs, volunteer activities, and skills, even if you have limited paid work experience.

Those who attend will receive a step-by-step guide for creating attention grabbing cover letters and building resumes that will highlight specific skills and get noticed by 4-H State Award judges and employers!

Successful samples will be available!

This training will include information on:

- Formatting styles
- Showcase your marketable skills
- Make your education work for you
- How to catch an employer's eye
- Writing tools and tips
- What not to include
- Successful samples

#### Who should attend?

- High School Students
- Young Adults seeking employment
- 4-H Youth State Award applicants

**Cost to attend: FREE**

#### Dates and Times:

Thursday-December 19, 2019 at 5:00 pm  
Monday-January 6, 2020 at 4:00 pm  
Wednesday-January 8, 2020 at 6:00 pm

**Training location:** Online (A link will be provided once successfully registered)

**To register:** <https://events.anr.msu.edu/ResumeCover/>

#### For more information:

Kathy Jamieson 586-469-6093 or [jamies13@msu.edu](mailto:jamies13@msu.edu)



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## Save The Date!

MAY 16

### State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Showmanship Clinic

Clinton County Fairgrounds  
St Johns, MI



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## Citizenship Washington Focus Registration Now Open

Registrations for youth interested in participating in Michigan's delegation to 4-H Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) program are due January 6. CWF is a week-long program in the Washington D.C. area where participants stay at the National 4-H Center. The program includes leadership sessions and visits to all of the memorials and monuments with preprogram visits to the Flight 93 National Memorial and the Gettysburg Battlefield in PA. For more information and to register, visit <https://events.anr.msu.edu/CWF2020/> Have questions? Call Connie Lange, 517-279-4311 or email [lancec@msu.edu](mailto:lancec@msu.edu)



2019 State Award winners with their plaques at 4-H Exploration Days.

### Get ready for the 2020 4-H State Award applications process!

Michigan 4-H true leaders ages 11 and older have an opportunity to be recognized for the great work they do in 4-H by completing a state award application. A Michigan 4-H State Award is the highest honor bestowed on a Michigan 4-H member and provides an opportunity to receive recognition for their engagement in rich

learning experiences that result in outstanding knowledge and life-skill development.

State award applications are divided into four categories: Mark of Excellence essay contest (11-12 years old), junior state award (13-15 years old), senior state award (16-19 years old) and group awards (13-19 years old). The application process and selection is determined by the age of the 4-H member. Final candidates for the junior, senior and group level awards in each project area will be selected to participate in the State Awards program during 4-H Exploration Days in June where final selection and announcement of winners will take place.

More information about the Michigan 4-H State Award process can be found online at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-scholarships-and-recognition-program/4-h-awards-and-recognition-program/youth-recognition>. Applications are due Feb. 1, 2020. For more information, contact Betty Jo Krosnicki at [nashbett@msu.edu](mailto:nashbett@msu.edu).

### What can you do because of 4-H? Share for a chance to win!

Michigan 4-H'ers ages 11-12 are encouraged to share how 4-H has impacted them through the 4-H Mark of Excellence Essay Contest. A great introduction to the Michigan 4-H State Awards program, Mark of Excellence contestants write a 500 word essay on the topic of "Because of 4-H, I can..." Winners will receive a certificate of recognition and medal to commemorate their accomplishment.

Essays are due to respective county 4-H offices by February 1. County 4-H programs then select up to two youth essays as their representatives and submit those names and essays to the State 4-H Awards Committee. The committee uses the essays to inform the public about what 4-H means to youth and copies are also shared with the Michigan State 4-H Office, Michigan 4-H Foundation, and Kettunen Center.

For more additional information and instructions, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-scholarships-and-recognition-program/4-h-awards-and-recognition-program/youth-recognition> or contact Kelly Stelter at [grandtke@msu.edu](mailto:grandtke@msu.edu).

**Support  
Michigan 4-H  
with holiday  
shopping!**



Get ready for the holidays by supporting 4-H while making your 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.