



Alpena County

# 4-H Family News

January 2016

You're Invited:

## Alpena County 4-H Youth Day!



**When:** Saturday, February 27, 2016

**Time:** 9:00am-2:00pm (arrive at 8:00am for set-up)

**Where:** Alpena Mall (2380 South U.S. 23, Alpena)



2015 Youth Day Best of Show Winners

For more information on Youth Day, such as project categories, contests and other activities **please see pages 3-5** in this newsletter

### \*\*\* **Enroll in 4-H Today - Just 2 Steps** \*\*\*

The 2015-2016 4-H year is here—Enroll in 4-H today! Volunteers and youth can enroll at home or use our 4-H volunteer computer at the MSU Extension office. The \$10 4-H enrollment fee for each youth (\$30 family fee for 3+ children in the same family) or participation fee waiver form can NOT be paid or completed online, you must come into our office, drop it in our secure mailbox located outside of our main entrance, or mail us your participation fee/waiver form.

**Youth are NOT enrolled in 4-H until their participation fee/waiver is turned into the Alpena MSU Extension office and they completed their 4-H Online enrollment.** Don't miss the **March 1, 2016 deadline** in order to be eligible to market livestock projects! Your online enrollment and \$10 participation fee or waiver form must be turned in by March 1, 2016 at 4:30pm in order to be eligible to market an animal at the 2016 Alpena County Fair.

**4-H Online Website:** <https://mi.4honline.com/Login.aspx>

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### Contact Us:

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MSU Ext. Office Hours  
Tues-Thurs; 8:30a-4:30p

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

### 4-H Online Family Guide

Looking to enroll in Michigan 4-H? Your county, Michigan State University (MSU) Extension office staff can help you find a club, get the forms you need and begin the enrollment process.

**ENROLLING IN 4-H ONLINE AS A NEW FAMILY**  
To enroll in Michigan 4-H Online, you need a computer, internet access, a valid e-mail address and a web browser. Although 4-H Online will work in Internet Explorer, Chrome or a Microsoft browser, some aspects work better with Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome. If you need assistance accessing the internet, please contact your county MSU Extension office.

To begin, go to <https://mi.4honline.com> (notice there is no "www" in the address).

To move between boxes, you need to use your mouse or the TAB key. Don't press the ENTER key or click on the BACK ARROW as you will lose any information that you have entered.

1. Click "I need to set up a profile." Select the county in which you want to join 4-H and then type in your valid family email address.
2. Confirm your e-mail address.
3. Type in the last name of the household parent/guardian. This will be the name that appears on mailing labels, i.e. "The Johnson Family".
4. Create your password. It must be a minimum of eight characters and include at least one letter and one number/symbol.
5. Select Family as your role.
6. Click on "Create Login".

**NOTE:** Email addresses must be valid in order for you to have access to your enrollment information. The email address will serve as your account login as well as how you receive information.

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For directions on how to enroll in 4-H online see the "4-H Online Family Guide" on the home page of 4-H Online's website or stop into our office to pick up a copy.

## STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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### Host a Foreign Exchange Student Through 4-H!

Host a Youth from Belize this Summer from June 26th until July 14th! Did you know there is a 4-H program in Belize? Did you know that Belize is the only Central American country where the official language is English? Did you know that by opening your home for 3 short weeks to a youth from Belize could result in a lifelong friendship and a better grasp on global competencies? Sign up to be a host family today! We are in search of 2 additional families for two 18 yr. old girls, 1 family for a 15 yr. old boy, and 1 family for an adult male chaperone. Families will need to complete an in-home interview and a background check. Please contact Jackie Marti ([marti623@msu.edu](mailto:marti623@msu.edu)) or Heather Gray ([grayhea2@msu.edu](mailto:grayhea2@msu.edu)) by May 1, 2016 for more information. This is your chance to be involved in an exchange program without a long term commitment.



### 4-H Events!

January 8-10, 2016: Michigan 4-H Horse Judges & Show Superintendents Conference  
Kettunen Center, Tustin

January 13: Michigan 4-H Embryology Program Coordinator and Volunteer Training  
Michigan State University Federal Credit Union, East Lansing

January 15-18: National Youth Summit on Agri-Science  
National 4-H Conference Center, Chevy Chase, Maryland; <http://bit.ly/1Pp304q>

January 16, 2016: 4-H Day at the Breslin  
Breslin Center, MSU, East Lansing

January 29-31: Green & White Youth Event & Open Hog Show  
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing; Contact Carla McLachlan ([mclachl2@msu.edu](mailto:mclachl2@msu.edu))

January 30: 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show  
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

January 30: 4-H Youth Leadership & Global Citizenship Spectacular  
Kettunen Center, Tustin

January 30-31: 4-H Youth Leadership & Global Citizenship Spectacular  
Kettunen Center, Tustin; <http://bit.ly/1Xc491o>

February 5-6: 4-H/MQHA Horse Judging Workshop & Mini Contest  
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

February 6-7: 4-H Winterfest  
Kettunen Center, Tustin

February 13-14: Junior Master Gardener Workshop  
Kettunen Center, Tustin; Contact Dixie Sandborn ([dixie@msu.edu](mailto:dixie@msu.edu))

February 19-20: 4-H Veterinary Science Teen & Adult Leaders Workshop  
Kettunen Center, Tustin

February 20-21: 4-H Beef, Sheep & Swine Teen & Adult Leaders Workshop  
Kettunen Center, Tustin

February 26-28: Teen & Adult 4-H Horse Leaders' Conference  
Kettunen Center, Tustin

March 11-13: Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference  
Beechpoint Christian Camp, Allegan

March 20-23: 4-H Capitol Experience  
State Capitol, Lansing

April 23: State 4-H Goat Expo  
MSU Anthony Hall, East Lansing

June 11: 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Expo  
MSU Anthony Hall, East Lansing

June 22-24: Exploration Days!  
MSU, East Lansing



*\*For more information on each event and for the most up-to-date events listing, go to <http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events>*

## Alpena County 4-H Youth Day Saturday, February 27, 2016 @ Alpena Mall

- 2380 U.S. 23 South, Alpena, Michigan -

**9:00am—2:00pm (arrive at 8:00am for set-up)**

**Who can participate in Youth Day?** All 4-H members are encouraged to participate! This event is open to the public; so invite your parents, family and friends.

**How do I participate?** Bring your 4-H project(s) to Youth Day—it could be a poster, record book, something you made, or more. Then you present your project to a judge in that category (project categories listed on page #5). After you present you will immediately receive a ribbon—if you receive an honor ribbon you are in the running for the best of show; which is the overall best project in that category. There are (18) best of show individual project areas and (3) best of show individual/group project areas.

**Why should you participate?** The purpose of Youth Day is to recognize you for your hard work this past year, and specifically your winter projects. Come showcase what you have been working on. Another reason to come is so you can interview for a chance to receive a 4-H Council scholarship that can be used for Summer Camp, Exploration Days, or another educational 4-H event or activity. **Participating in Youth Day is also a requirement in order to be eligible to represent Alpena County at the State Horse Show.**



**2015 Written Expression**  
Courtney Krentz & Jenna Britton



**2015 Horse/Veterinarian Science**  
Hope Reed & Corey Boboltz



**2015 Performing Arts**  
Nehemiah Rao & Lindsay Hoppe

## 2016 Youth Day Schedule:

8:00am	4-H Members Arrive (start setting up club displays)
8:50am	Youth Day Kick Off! (center of mall)
9:00am	Project Evaluation Begins
9:00am	4-H Council Scholarship Interviews Start
11:45am	Lunch Break (on your own)
12:15pm	Speeches, Demonstrations and Preforming Arts start
1:15pm	Best Name Tag Award Club Display Winners (2) 4-H Scholarship Recipients Best of Show and Reserve of Show Awards
2:00pm	Clean-up



## 10 Reasons to Participate in Youth Day

- 1. SUPER FUN!**  
It's really, really, really fun!
- 2. Showcase your 4-H project(s)**  
Present all your 4-H projects from summer and/or winter and get recognized for all your hard work and dedication!
- 3. Compete for Best of Show**  
Compete against your fellow 4-H members in a fun environment.
- 4. Talk and network with judges about your 4-H project(s)**  
You will be presenting your project(s) to a judge—it's a great time to meet new people and make a few connections!
- 5. You could get \$\$\$**  
At Youth Day you can interview for a scholarship from Alpena 4-H Council that can be used for an educational 4-H activity or event (like Exploration Days or Summer Camp).
- 6. Meet 4-H'ers**  
In 2015 over 80 4-H members participated in Youth Day! Join your fellow 4-H'ers and meet new people.
- 7. Your club could win prizes**  
Door prizes will be given to the club with the best name tags and to 2 clubs that have a display.
- 8. State Horse Show Requirement**  
If you're thinking of trying out for the state horse show it's a requirement to participate in Youth Day.
- 9. Exploration Days Registration Books will be available**  
Interested in going to Exploration Days? Pick up information about this year's trip, classes, and registration information at Youth Day!
- 10. Show Your 4-H Spirit**  
Come show your 4-H spirit and cheer on your fellow 4-H members while they present their projects.

## Youth Day Name Tag Contest

**Who should make a name tag?** Each club designs their own matching name tag for all their members and leader(s)



**What should be on my name tag?** Your first and last name and the name of your 4-H club

**\*New:** Please make 1 extra name tag for judging and to display. There will be a name tag table at Youth Day showcasing each club's name tag. For the extra name tag make the name "Alpena 4-H"

## Youth Day Club Display

**What should we include in our club display?** Club name, 4-H clover (stickers are available at our office), member list, projects your club does, pictures, a fun game or activity for other 4-H'ers and community members, and more.

**Activity at display:** The activity at your club display should be a fun educational game; such as matching, trivia, obstacle course, etc. This activity is for fellow 4-H members and community members!

**Club display rules:** You must have at least one 4-H member by your display at all times. Since we are having Youth Day at the mall we want to make sure we take this opportunity to show the community all the amazing things you are doing! Having someone at your display to help answer questions and showcase your 4-H club will help inform the community on the power of 4-H in Alpena.

**Club Display Contest:** There will be a 4-H club display contest at Youth Day! The winning 4-H Club(s) will receive a special prize!



## 4-H Council Scholarship Interview

**Who should interview for a scholarship?** All 4-H members interested in attending Exploration Days (11-19 year olds), Summer Camp (9-12 year olds) or another educational 4-H event or activity (such as a Kettunen Center Workshop).

**How:** When you arrive at Youth Day sign-up for an interview time slot and fill out an application. A sign-up sheet and applications will be on the MSU Extension table. If you would like an application e-mailed to you prior to Youth Day contact Helen-Ann.

**Requirements:** In order to be eligible to receive a 4-H Council scholarship you must participate in an individual project category at Youth Day.

## You're Invited to the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual 4-H Day at the Breslin Center

Join thousands of Michigan 4-H (<http://4h.msue.msu.edu>) families, volunteers and staff members, on **January 16**, to cheer on the **Spartan Women's Basketball team** as they battle the **Iowa Hawkeyes**. This fun family event celebrates the 4-H and MSUE Community.

<http://on.fb.me/1NknZA2>



Tickets are free for 4-H youth and their families, 4-H volunteers, and MSUE staff members and their families.

Contact your local Extension office (<http://it.ly/1NzQFET>) no later than **January 11** to reserve your free tickets.



More event information (for example, transportation, parking, attire and other activities) is available on the 4-H web site (<http://bit.ly/1NlhomE>).



## - Youth Day Individual Project Areas -

*All Ages as of January 1, 2016*

- 1) **Clothing & Textiles (9-13 years old)** Showcase your sewing, knitting, crocheting, tie dye, and other related projects.
- 2) **Clothing & Textiles (14-19 years old)** Showcase your sewing, knitting, crocheting, tie dye, and other related projects.
- 3) **Cloverbuds (5-8 years old)** We want to see the work of our youngest members and the future of 4-H! Cloverbuds (All 4-H members age 5-8 years old) will have the opportunity to discuss and showcase their project(s) in a non-competitive but rewarding venue.
- 4) **Cooking** Bring in those cakes, cookies, hors d'oeuvres, pies, smoothies, and canning items to name a few ideas.
- 5) **Visual Arts/Crafts (9-11 years old)** Arts and crafts that do not fall under any other category will be evaluated here.
- 6) **Visual Arts/Crafts (12-15 years old)** Arts and crafts that do not fall under any other category will be evaluated here.
- 7) **Visual Arts/Crafts (16-19 years old)** Arts and crafts that do not fall under any other category will be evaluated here.
- 8) **Gardening and Conservation** Did you make a garden related art project, design a bird house, or start a recycling program at your house? Maybe you have a seed experiment that you tried. Perhaps you have learned about no-till methods and completed a project on it. Showcase your gardening, horticulture and other related projects in this category.
- 9) **Pets** Projects that should be included in this category include personal pet projects such as dogs, cats, birds, mice, hamsters and other domestic pets. You could present about how you trained your dog, talk about how you take care of your cat, make a poster on what you feed your pet, and more. To see if you can bring your personal pet projects to Youth Day please contact the Alpena MSU Extension office at least two weeks prior to Youth Day for permission.
- 10) **Horse Veterinarian Science** This project area can include a research based poster or display related to horses, a research project on a disease or current issue related to horses, a presentation about your horse related 4-H projects, etc. Any project specifically related to horses should be presented in this category.
- 11) **Large Animal Veterinarian Science** Ex: beef, dairy, swine, goat, sheep, alpaca, etc. This project area can include a research based poster or display related to large animal livestock, a research project on a disease or current issue related to large animal livestock, a presentation about your large animal livestock related 4-H projects, etc. Any project specifically related to large animal livestock should be presented in this category.
- 12) **Small Animal Veterinarian Science** Ex: poultry, rabbits, etc. This project area can include a research based poster or display related to small animal livestock, a research project on a disease or current issue related to small animal livestock, a presentation about your small animal livestock related 4-H projects, etc. Any project specifically related to small animal livestock should be presented in this category. To see if you can bring your small animal livestock projects please contact the Alpena MSU Extension office at least two weeks prior to Youth Day for permission. No poultry can be brought.
- 13) **Informational Displays and Exhibits** Projects such as a family history poster, a display on how you collected honey from bees you raised, a poster on safety when riding ORVs, etc should be presented in this category. This project category includes all informational posters and displays that are **NOT** specifically focused on horse, livestock, pets, or woodworking.
- 14) **Photography, Drawing and Painting**
- 15) **S.T.E.M** This category includes all projects related to S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics); such as invasive species, water science related projects, welding, ROVs, etc. *Depending on entries, this category may be divided into two project areas, an ROV project area focus and welding project area focus.*
- 16) **Shooting Sports** Bring in your bow and talk about your archery 4-H project, make a display on your shooting sports project(s), bring in the bow or rifle case you designed, etc. *(No firearms or ammunition can be brought in for this project category)*
- 17) **Woodworking** Bring your 4-H wood projects to be evaluated. Such as a table you made, wood burning project you designed, and more.
- 18) **Written Expression** Poetry, short stories, reports and other written projects should be displayed in this category.

## - Youth Day Individual or Group Project Areas -

*To be completed after lunch in the center of the Mall*

- 19) **Speech** Speeches can be done individually or by a group, and can be on any appropriate topic. Topic such as what 4-H has taught you and/or how it has impacted your life, current events related to 4-H (animal disease, climate, new regulations, etc), what your 4-H club is doing in Alpena County, confidence, leadership, etc are some topic examples.  
Time restriction: No longer than 8 minutes.
- 20) **Demonstration** Demonstrations can be done individually or by a group, and should consider teaching something to others. Demonstrate anything from how to properly saddle a horse to making French crepes.  
Time restriction: 5-12 minutes.
- 21) **Performing Arts** This project category could include a group or individual dance routine, singing, musical instrument, comedy act, or club skit. Time restriction: No longer than 8 minutes.

## Holiday Float Success!

Alpena County 4-H had a float in the 2015 Bolenz Jewelry Holiday Parade. A special thank you to our 2015-2016 4-H Member of the Year, **Stephanie Domke**, for designing and coordinating our float! We placed 2nd in the non-commercial division. Thank you to everyone that volunteered their time to work on the float and participate in the parade—You're helping Alpena County 4-H "to make the best better" and spread the word about 4-H in our local community.



2015 Alpena County 4-H float in the holiday parade—Pictured above is Spencer Domke and Stephanie Domke, the 2015-2016 Alpena County 4-H Member of the Year

## 2015 County Awards Banquet

Congratulations to all the 4-H members that received awards!

### Beef/Veal (2)

Kelsey Udell  
Savannah Avent

### Clothing & Textiles (6)

Bree Oliver  
Hannah Schultz  
Kalie Spragg  
Kayla Fras  
Kelsey Udell  
Morgan Burr

### Community Service (2)

Brandy Worth  
Morgan Graham

### Dairy (2)

Carly Leatzow  
Taylor Wong

### Dog (3)

Aaron Spigelmyre  
Beau Oliver  
Demi Oliver

### Entomology & Bees (1)

Michael Coonrod

### Food & Nutrition (3)

Bree Oliver  
Jacob Thomas  
Taylor Roznowski

### Gardening (2)

Macy Schram  
Taylor Roznowski

### Goat (1)

Jenna Britton

### Hobbies & Collections (2)

Ian Kasubowski  
Jona Bixel

### Horse & Pony (6)

Autumn West  
Brooke Gersewski  
Dakota Gersewski  
Hailey Britton  
Kaylyn Orban  
Lasia Dubie

### Performing Arts (1)

Nehemiah Rao

### Photography (5)

Demi Oliver  
Jacob Thomas  
Jona Bixel  
Katelyn Coonrod

### Molly Thomas

### Poultry (7)

Caitlin Borke  
Ethan Leatzow  
Harrison Butch  
Josie Howard  
Julia Butch  
Katelyn Coonrod  
Randy Udell

### Rabbits (8)

Caliber Kowalski

Coty Avent  
Courtney Krentz

Emalee Dorie

Kayla Fras

Morgan Greene

Samantha Manning

Samuel Manning

### Sheep (5)

Brooke Gersewski  
Kelsey Fras

Samantha Manning

Samuel Manning

Savannah Avent

### Shooting Sports (1)

Beau Oliver

### Swine (16)

Amanda Johnson

Carey May Udell

Carly Leatzow

Dakota Gersewski

Ethan Leatzow

Hailey Britton

Hailey Lucas

Ian Kasubowski

Jenna Britton

Jordan Hemmingson

Josie Howard

Kelsey Fras

Mya Klimczak

Nicole Johnson

Taylor Wong

Tyler Erickson

### Visual Arts (2)

Molly Thomas

Mya Klimczak

### Veterinarian Science (2)

Brandy Worth

Nehemiah Rao

### Wildlife & Fish (1)

Caliber Kowalski

### Wood Science (2)

Emalee Dorie

Michael Coonrod

### Achievement (4)

Carey May Udell

Courtney Krentz

Jessica Howard

### Citizenship (5)

Stephanie Domke

### Leadership (6)

Amanda Johnson

Coty Avent

Harrison Butch

Morgan Graham

Nicole Johnson

Leadership (6)

Caitlin Borke

Julia Butch

Kelsey Udell

Randy Udell

Taylor Wong

Tyler Erickson

### Most Improved (7)

Brooke Gersewski

Damien Lafave

Emilee Modrzejewski

Jona Bixel

Katelyn Coonrod

Randy Udell

Stephanie Domke

### 2015 Teen Leaders (40)

Amanda Johnson

Anissa Eagling

Bobby Kowalski

Bree Oliver

Brianna Chechlowski

Brooke Gersewski

Caitlin Borke

Carey May Udell

Carly Leatzow

Chance Sommerfeld

Claire Butch

Courtney Krentz

Dakota Gersewski

Demi Oliver

Elizabeth Chechlowski

Emalee Dorie

Eric Slosser

Hailey Britton

Holly Hull

Hope Reed

Jacob Kline

Jessica Schoville

Julia Butch

Katelyn Coonrod

Kelsey Fras

Kelsey Udell

Madison Domke

Michael Coonrod

Morgan Allen

Morgan Graham

Morgan Greene

Nehemiah Rao

Nicholas Schultz

Randy Udell

Savannah Avent

Stephanie Domke

Taime Lafave

Taylor Wong

Tori Gentry

Tyler Erickson

Cloverbud Recognition (10)

Alis on Borowski

Brooklyn Leaym

Claire Orban

Grace Male

Jared Johnson

John Male

Juliet Bixel

Landon Lucas

Lane Leaym

Myia Schram

Wyatt Smith

### First Year Member (31)

Adam Degen

Alayna Trelfa

Ashlyn Grey

Autumn West

Brooke Male

Brooklyn Leaym

Eden Grey

Emily Trelfa

Grace Male

Hailey Lucas

Hannah Schultz

Ian Kasubowski

John Male

Jonathan Zbytowski

Jordan Hemmingson

Juliet Bixel

Justin Orban

Katlyn Trelfa

Kaylyn Orban

Landon Lucas

Lane Leaym

Makayla Helinski

Miya Zbytowski

Morgan Burr

Mya Klimczak

Myia Schram

Nicholas Schultz

Samantha Manning

Samuel Manning

Tyler Erickson

Tyler Orban

### State Horse Show Delegates (3)

Hope Reed

Kelsey Fras

Mackenzie Jore

### Master Stockman Award

Novice - Ethan Leatzow

Junior - Carly Leatzow

Senior - Stephanie Domke

### Adeline Alexander Memorial

Bree Oliver

### I Dare You Award

Dakota Gersewski

### Mark of Excellence Essay Contest

Molly Thomas

### Volunteer of the Year

Jeanna Gersewski

### 4-H Member of the Year

Stephanie Domke

### Runner-up Brooke Gersewski

## Help MSU Extension Sharpen Its Focus!

Michigan State University Extension has long been a source of information and education for Michigan residents. To help define the needs and priorities of those residents, MSU Extension is asking them to **take a short online survey** that will help determine where to place future emphasis.

Michigan 4-H parents, alums and volunteers (anyone over the age of 18) are asked to take the survey located at (<http://bit.ly/1QtthL6>). The **deadline is January 31, 2016**.

**Prior interaction with MSU Extension is not required; so, please share this opportunity with friends and family.**

Although not collected in the survey, input from youth will be solicited through a series of face-to-face meetings.

## Member Challenge!

Follow Us



Alpena County 4-H  
@Alpena4H

Friend Us



MSU  
Extension Alpena

Watch Us!



## Alpena County 4-H Council 2016 4-H Member Challenge!

Your active participation in 4-H can earn you a FUN REWARD!

Do you like to get together with your 4-H friends and have fun? We have the opportunity for you! Earn points by attending and participating in a variety of fun 4-H events throughout the year. Earn enough points and you can go on a trip sponsored by the Alpena County 4-H Council. The goal is to have the fun trip in August after the fair, but unforeseen circumstances may result in the trip being on a Saturday after school starts. The reward is still to be determined, but will be an amusement park or indoor water park. Please note transportation may be on your own.



### Earn Points for a Reward:

- Enrolled in 4-H by March 1st -- **1 pt**
- Youth Day exhibition and attendance all day -- **5 pts**
- TSC Paper Clover Campaign (April and Oct) - **2pts each** (max 4 pts)
- Parades (July 4th and Holiday) -- **2 pts each**
- State 4-H event or another county sponsored event -- **2 pts each**  
*This does not include Exploration Days or Summer Camp. Examples include: MSU activities like the Goat Expo, Kettenun Center workshops, teen leadership training, Great Lakes Natural Resources Camp, etc.*
- Adopt a highway (April, July, and September) -- **2 pts each** (max 4 pts)
- Club meetings -- **attend 5 for 5 pts** (max 5 pts) *Verification required by leader*
- County Awards Banquet attendance -- **2 pts**
- Exploration Days -- **5 pts**
- Summer Camp -- **5 pts** (teen counselors can earn an additional 2 pts)
- Exhibit at Alpena Co. Fair (each livestock and/or grandstand entry) -- **5 pts max**
- Petting Zoo (occasionally 4-H is approached about putting one on) -- **2 pts**
- Showmanship clinic attendance -- **2 pts**
- Fair workbees -- **2 pts**
- Food Booth volunteering (4 hour shift ) -- **4 pts** (max 4 pts)
- Attend council meeting (1 meeting each month Jan-Nov) -- **1 pt** (max 2 pts)
- Teen 4-H Council member -- **5 pts**
- Present to Community Leaders -- **2 pts** (max 4 pts)  
*Examples include: Alpena County Commissioners, Youth & Rec Committee, Optimist Club, etc. Coordinate with Helen-Ann to schedule a presentation.*
- Other Alpena County sponsored activity -- **2 pts** (max 4 pts)  
*Events not listed on here, but may come up throughout the year*

**Members Age 5 - 11 need to earn at least 30 points**  
**Members Age 12 - 19 need to earn at least 35 points**

*Age based on January 1, 2016*

\*A form to keep track of your points will be available at Youth Day

## Alpena 4-H Council Senior Scholarships!

Apply for an Alpena County 4-H Council senior scholarship! All current Alpena County 4-H members that are graduating high school seniors are eligible to apply. Pick up an application at the Alpena MSU Extension office today or e-mail Helen-Ann and a Word version can be sent to you. E-mail: princeh1@anr.msu.edu



★ **Application Deadline:**  
**Tuesday, April 5, 2016**  
**at 4:30pm**

**Interview Date:**  
**Monday, April 11, 2016**  
**starting at 6:00pm**

*\*Sign-up for your interview time slot at the Alpena MSUE office or call us at (989) 354-9870.*

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**2015 Senior Scholarship Winners:**  
Aaron Spigelmyre  
Bree Oliver  
Kelsey Udell  
Miranda McDonald

## 4-H Mark of Excellence Award

4-H'ers who are **11 or 12 years old** are eligible to apply for the 4-H Mark of Excellence Award. To apply, a 4-H member needs to write an essay on the theme, "Because of 4-H, I can . . ." Counties select their representatives, and submit their names and essays to the State 4-H Awards Committee. For more information and instructions, see the *Overview and Instructions* link (<http://bit.ly/1QqI0uj>) on the Michigan 4-H web site (<http://bit.ly/1lhGcGc>). **Deadline** for submission is **February 1, 2016**.



2014 state awards winners, Brandon Borke and Caitlin Borke



2015 Mark of Excellence Essay winner, Molly Thomas

## State 4-H Awards

The State 4-H Awards program, the highest honor bestowed on Michigan 4-H youth, is for 4-H'ers **aged 13 and up** who have at least three years of 4-H experience. We encourage all young people who meet the requirements to apply for this program. Youth compete in 19 different recognition areas showcasing their knowledge, skills and experiences. To apply, youth **submit the State 4-H Awards application**, found on the 4-H web site (<http://bit.ly/1lhGcGc>) to **State4HAwards@anr.msu.edu** by

**February 1.** Applications are carefully reviewed by selection committees. Delegates, who are announced by March 15, are invited to participate either in an advanced leadership-development program (juniors), competitive interviews (seniors), or presentations (groups) at the State 4-H Awards Assembly held during 4-H Exploration Days (<http://bit.ly/1eFjEXH>). State 4-H Award winners are announced at the 4-H Recognition Program, also held during 4-H Exploration Days at the prestigious Huntington Club (<http://bit.ly/1l014Tc>) in Spartan Stadium (<http://bit.ly/1kABpk9>). Complete instructions (<http://bit.ly/1QqI0uj>) and the application, are on the Michigan 4-H web site (<http://bit.ly/1lhGcGc>).

## Why should YOU apply for state awards?

4-H State Awards are the highest honor a member can earn throughout their 4-H career. There are 18 award areas based on 4-H project interests for members ages 13-15 and 16-19 (senior category). There are also award areas for groups to apply. Awards are earned through an application process; and senior and group applicants also participate in an interview. Don't miss this opportunity to showcase what you have achieved through 4-H!

**Thinking about applying for state awards or the Mark of Excellence Essay Contest, but not sure where to start?** Stop into the Alpena MSUE office and talk with Helen-Ann, or call (989) 354-9878 or e-mail at princeh1@anr.msu.edu

## 2016 Exploration Days Deadlines:

### February 1

State Award Applications Due (13-19 years old)

### February 1

4-H Mark of Excellence Essay Contest Due (11-12 years old)

### March 9

Registration books available at Alpena County MSUE

### March 15

State award application results sent to applicants

### ★ March 15

Registration begins—classes fill quick!!! Register ASAP!!!

### April 26

Explorations Days registration deadline

### May 3

Last day cancellations are fully refundable

### June 1

Mandatory Exploration Days pre-meeting @ 6pm at the Alpena MSUE office

### June 1

Remaining Exploration Days payment due

### June 24-26

Exploration Days @ MSU!



## 4-H Exploration Days June 22-24, 2016 @ MSU

Every year, approximately 2,500 youth (11 years old and up) and chaperones from every Michigan county (or close to it), come to MSU for 4-H Exploration Days. This really fun MSU pre-college program could be the highlight of your summer – it could even change your life! Registration fee is \$165.00 (additional \$10 fee for non 4-H members)—remember, there are state scholarships available, 4-H Council scholarships, and **if you go to Exploration Days as a state awards delegate, Alpena 4-H Council will pay your registration!**

- More than 200 session options to choose from—Quidditch, glass etching, dairy production, and much more. There is something for everyone!
- Live in a MSU dorm—just like a college student!
- Spend time with other 4-H'ers from across the state swimming, skating, souvenir shopping, exploring, basketball, dancing, going to class, and more!

For more information on this year's Exploration Days, pricing, possible scholarships available or to register, please contact Helen-Ann Cordes, Alpena County 4-H Program Coordinator. **Registration opens March 15, 2016**—Hurry classes fill quick! Registration books will be available online the end of February.

For more information on the 2016 4-H Exploration Days at Michigan State University please visit the following link:

[http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/4-h\\_exploration\\_days](http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/4-h_exploration_days)

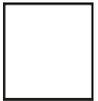
### Interested in serving as an instructor at Exploration Days?

Contact the Alpena MSU Extension office. You could teach a class on sewing, poultry, dance, singing, and more. You may not realize it, but you are an expert! Share your knowledge and in doing so, teach youth. There are over 200 classes for youth to choose from at Expo Days—In order for this to be possible, help from volunteers is needed. The Exploration Days fee (including lodging and meals) is covered for all instructors.





**Helen-Ann Cordes**  
4-H Program Coordinator  
Alpena County MSU Extension  
603 South Eleventh Avenue  
Alpena, Michigan 49707



*\*Even though you are receiving a newsletter it does NOT mean you are enrolled in 4-H. We are using the 2014-2015 enrollment list.*

### Enroll in 4-H Today for the 2015-2016 Year!

Don't miss the **March 1, 2016** deadline to be eligible to market livestock at the 2016 Alpena County Fair.

Enroll Online + Pay \$10 Enrollment Fee



**Congratulations to Stephanie Domke, the 2015-2016 Alpena County 4-H Member of the Year!** Stephanie is the daughter of Roland and Kristy Domke of Herron. Runner-up honors went to **Brooke Gersewski**, daughter of Paul and Jeanna Gersewski of Lachine. The 4-H Member of the Year is sponsored by Dale and Joann Huggler, who have been the sole sponsors of the award since its inception in 1975. A special thank you to Danielle and Timothy Hoggard for presenting our 4-H Member of the Year awards. Congratulations to Stephanie and Brooke! Great job accomplishing the 4-H motto and *making the best better* right here in Alpena County.

# “To make the best better”

*Alpena County 4-H is sponsored by the Alpena Youth and Recreation Millage*