4-H Leader’s Banquet Award Recipients

Bob Nickels & Sheryl Proteau recognized for 10 years of service (left)

David Rogers recognized for 5 years of service (right)

Steve Benham, Sally Lambert, Kassie Hamaker, Michelle Barnes recognized for 15 years of service (right)

Congratulations to all and a heartfelt thank you for your many dedicated years of service to the 4-H program!
NEW THIS YEAR:
TWO ENROLLMENT FORMS REQUIRED

EVERY 4-H MEMBER must fill out an enrollment form and a youth code of conduct/media medical release form whether a new member or existing member.

We would appreciate it if all members would sign these 2 forms (only 1 set of forms required per member) and staple them together and turn them into their primary club leader with all the clubs they are involved in listed on the 2nd page to ensure they are put into the database correctly and that all club leaders have an accurate roster.

If for some reason a member wants to join another club at a later date, they will have to make sure the added Club Leader has an enrollment form and he/she is added to their roster and also the MSU Extension database.

Please do not hesitate to call the MSU Extension Office if you have questions or concerns about the new enrollment forms or what is required of you as a 4-H member or leader.

4-H Member Enrollment & Participation Fee Requirements

Participation Fees have not changed

The $10.00 4-H membership fee needs to be submitted to a Club Administrative Leader at the same time as the 2 new enrollment forms or to the Calhoun County MSU Extension office by March 28 or before. Non-payment will result in being unable to participate in the Calhoun County Fair as a 4-H’er and other 4-H events such as 4-H Exploration Days.

If attending a 4-H event before March 28th, you will need to pay the participation fee ahead of the event, such as the Kettunen Center Workshops.

There is a $30 cap for families with four or more children in 4-H.

Thank you for all your hard work in helping to implement these 4-H policies. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the MSU Extension office (269) 781-0784.

Registration for 4-H Capitol Experience is now open

4-H Capitol Experience is March 16 - 19, Quality Inn, 3121 E. Grand River, Lansing, MI. Teens experience state government in action.

4-H Capitol Experience is a 4-day conference that focuses on civic engagement and public policy. Up to 100 teens from around the state converge in Lansing to experience state government in action and learn how they can influence policy issues. Participants interact with legislators, state agency staff, lobbyists and other resource people to learn how policy is made.

Attendees will:

♦ Understand the responsibilities of a citizen
♦ Explore different aspects of a policy issue that may affect individuals and communities
♦ Explore various careers in public policy
♦ Attend bill writing session
♦ Have an in-depth meeting with someone in (or involved with) state government

Registration Link:
http://events.anr.msu.edu/4hcapex
Celebrate 4-H at the MSU Women’s Basketball Game

You’re ALL invited to attend the ninth annual celebration of MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development at the Spartan Women’s basketball game at 1:30 p.m., Sunday, February 2, 2014.

Last year over 5,400 MSUE staff, 4-H volunteers, members and their families attended this exciting opportunity at the MSU Breslin Student Events Center. The Lady Spartan’s take on the Purdue Boilermakers.

Ticket Price: **FREE** for MSUE 4-H youth and their families, 4-H volunteers and MSU Extension staff and their families!

Date: Sunday, February 2, 2014

Time: Game starts at 1:30 p.m. **Gate D** will open at **NOON** and is the gate you need to enter if you are picking up tickets from the 4-H Registration Table. (DO NOT go to the Breslin Center “will call” entrance).

Show your MSUE/4H pride by wearing your green and white 4-H or MSUE apparel.

Fair Fundraiser Celebrity Luncheon

The 14th Annual C.C.A.I.S. Celebrity Luncheon will be **Friday, January 31st**, from noon to 1:30 pm at Cornwell’s Turkeyville USA.

Every year the C.C.A.I.S. holds this luncheon as a fundraiser for the Fairgrounds. Lunch will cost $10.00 per person (plus tips for exceptional service from your “celebrity” server). There are no reservations required. Proceeds will go to the general funds that assist in supporting the Fairgrounds.

All prices for meals and tips are tax deductible. There will be raffle prizes and a 50/50 drawing. Please take the time that day for a great lunch and help support your Calhoun County Fairgrounds.

If you or someone you know would like to be a server for this fun-filled lunch, please call the fair office at (269) 781-8161. The more servers, the more customers, the more customers the more income for the Calhoun County Fairgrounds.

2014 4-H Exploration Days scheduled

4-H Exploration Days is Michigan State University’s (MSU) largest pre-college program, annually attended by 2,500 youth and adult chaperones from across Michigan. The 2014 conference will be held **June 18-20** on the MSU campus.

The theme is “Unleash Your Inner Scientist.” Approximately 200 hands-on classroom and field trip sessions will be offered and many will focus on science topics. The conference’s special emphasis on science will include a Science Palooza following sessions on Thursday afternoon that showcases cool science-related projects and activities.

The number of Michigan students receiving science, technology, engineering and math (STEM)post-secondary education credentials is has been declining even though American businesses are projected to require 1 million additional college graduates with STEM degrees in the next decade to remain competitive. The 4-H Exploration Days science theme was selected with this in mind. 4-H is uniquely positioned to equip youth with the science knowledge and skills to regenerate the Michigan workforce.

4-H Exploration Days gives youth ages 11 to 19 an authentic collegiate experience as they live in MSU residence halls and explore interest areas and career options, increase their awareness and readiness for college, and develop decision-making, independence and teamwork skills. They also have fun and make friends with people from different backgrounds and areas.

The fee to attend is $165 plus the $10 4-H participation fee, which must be paid by the registration date. Registration books will be available from county MSU Extension offices and online at the 4-H Exploration Days web site in early March. **Registration opens on March 18.** Sessions are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis so early registration is encouraged. The registration deadline is **April 29, 2014**.

http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/4_h_exploration_days
Courtney Heisler attends National 4-H Dairy Conference

Calhoun County 4-Her Courtney Heisler of Springport was selected to participate in the National 4-H Dairy Conference. She was selected from a field of applicants based on high quiz scores and outstanding interviews relating to their experience at the 2013 MMPA/4-H Milk Marketing Tour.

Courtney was one of the five 4-H members in the Michigan delegation to enjoy several days of fun and learning during the 59th annual National 4-H Dairy Conference held on the University of Wisconsin campus in Madison. The educational program attracted approximately 200 youth and adult delegates from across the United States and Canada. The group’s attendance was sponsored by the Michigan Milk Producers Association (MMPA).

The four-day experience exposed 4-H members to new dairy science technology and dairy-related careers. The 4-H members learned information they could apply to future careers in the dairy industry by participating in workshops and educational off-site experiences, hearing from renowned speakers, and networking with other youth. Topics covered in the hands-on workshops included biotechnology, genetics, dairy foods evaluation, animal nutrition and marketing. Courtney was selected to be part of the 2014 MMPA/4-H Milk Marketing Tour planning committee.

She has been a member of several 4-H clubs including the Calhoun County Dairy Starter Calf, Beef, Sheep and Dairy 4-H clubs. She has held a number of leadership roles within clubs. Courtney has volunteered for many 4-H committees including: planning for fundraisers, trips and special activities.

Courtney is the daughter of Kathy and Ray Heisler. She attends Springport High School where she is active in volleyball, softball and FFA. Courtney is planning on attending Michigan State University, majoring in agriculture.

WPTB Horse Show Raises Money for Soup Kitchen

Wattles Park Trailblazers held the second annual Fuzzy Open Horse Show at the Calhoun County Fairgrounds in September, riding to raise money for God’s Kitchen in Battle Creek. This is a fun event and not for competition.

Last year, about 28 people entered in the benefit horse show, raising about $500. That money went towards last year’s Christmas dinner at God’s Kitchen.

“There’s a lot of people who need assistance out there. With their jobs they have enough money for bills and everything, but when it comes to food they come up strapped,” 4-H volunteer Scott Brenner says.

Organizers hoped the event would bring in $1,000, they surpassed that number with $1819.81.

Donations are always welcome at God’s Kitchen.

4-H Family Newsletter Deadlines Set for 2014

The MSU Extension office will be happy to put in your 4-H activities, fundraisers, meeting dates, personal stories and pictures in the newsletter.

Deadlines are as follows:

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<th>Month</th>
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<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>July 7</td>
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<td>April</td>
<td>September 8</td>
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<td>June</td>
<td>December 5</td>
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A Calhoun County 4-H Club is giving back to the community by lending a helping “hoof” to a local soup kitchen.
Calendar of Events and Special Points of Interest

February 2 - 4: 4-H Day at Breslin - MSU Lady Spartans will host Purdue Boilermakers 1:30 pm Celebrating MSU Extension’s 4-H Youth
March 1-9 Ad & Natural Resources Week, MSU, Please visit the website for more information: http://anrweek.canr.msu.edu/
March 16 - 19: 4-H Capitol Experience, Quality Inn, 3121 E. Grand River, Lansing, MI 48912 This MSU pre-college program focuses on civic engagement and public policy. Teens experience state government in action as they interact with legislators and staff.
April 25 - 27: Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference, Location: TBD
Do you have an interest in learning more about the dairy industry in Michigan? Then this is the conference for you! You’ll learn about real-world dairy management topics, like nutrition, reproduction, warfare, health, and cattle evaluation. You’ll have the chance to practice for the state dairy skill-a-thon and quiz bowl contests and get to tour area farms. Experts from the dairy industry and Michigan State University will lead educational, hands-on sessions about dairy management to bring the learning to life! This conference is open to youth ages 13-19 as of January 1, 2014. Support for this workshop is provided by the American Dairy Association of Michigan and the Michigan Milk Producers Association.

May 3: 4-H Poultry Palooza, Gratiot County Fair for Youth, Alma, MI The State 4-H Poultry Palooza is designed for young people ages 9 to 19 June 18 - 20: 4-H Exploration Days, Michigan State University Campus, Every year, approximately 2,500 youth and chaperones from every Michigan county (or close to it), come stay at 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! http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/4_h_exploration_days

MSU Pavilion Events
January 25: State Rabbit & Cavy Show
January 24-25: Green & White Youth Event & Open Hog Show
January 31 & Feb 1: 4-H Judging Workshop & Mini Contest
February 14-16: MSU Spartan Stampede Rodeo
March 7-9: MI Horse Expo
March 23: 4-H Hairy Horse Benefit Show
April 4-6: Michigan Beef Expo
April 12: 4-H Horse Spotlight on Speed Clinic Show
April 12: Small Animal Day
April 13: Block & Bredie Club Livestock Judging Contest
June 6-8: MI Jr Beef Show & Beef Showcase
June 7: 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Expo, Anthony Hall
June 7-9: MI Jr Sheep Spectacular & B&B Club Lamb Show
June 13-15: MI Spartan Classic Jr Swine Show
June 23-27: 4-H Animal & Veterinary Science Camp
June 28: State 4-H Goat Show
July 18: State 4-H/FFA Livestock Judging Contest
July 17-20: Michigan Livestock Expo
July 21-25: MI Dairy Expo & 4-H Dairy Days
August 9: State 4-H Dog Show
August 15-17: State Horse Show

Kettunen Center Events
Feb. 1 - 2: 4-H Winterfest is a hands-on educational program that is open to youth ages 8 to 12 years old. Youth will spend 2 days learning about many different project areas while meeting youth from around the state. Winterfest offers participants an opportunity to experience Kettunen Center in an overnight camp setting. Youth will participate in hands-on sessions that range from crafts to shooting sports. Winterfest is also an opportunity to spend time outdoors enjoying all that Michigan winters have to offer! Youth will also have the opportunity to go sledding/tubing, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing. Support for this workshop is provided by donors to the Michigan 4-H Foundation.
Feb. 21 - 22: 4-H Veterinary Science Teen and Adult Leaders Workshop Explore animal systems and learn about animal health for a broad array of animal species. Come prepared to learn from others, share information and experiences, ask questions and quiz veterinarians about their careers. You will also participate in hands-on demonstrations that will teach you how to help members recognize healthy, sick, or injured animals. Meet other youth that have developed outstanding veterinary science projects and gain ideas to help others start their own vet science projects. Open to adult and teen volunteers ages 13 (as of January 1, 2014) and older. Support for this workshop is provided by the Michigan 4-H Foundation.

Feb. 22 - 23: 4-H Beef, Sheep and Swine Teen and Adult Leaders Workshop This workshop is designed for both teen and adult leaders who are involved with beef cattle, sheep and swine projects. Topics include animal health, management, care and nutrition. In addition, breakout sessions will include livestock and meat evaluation, state awards, and more. Interaction with leaders from different counties is encouraged for exchanging ideas and programs, and meeting other volunteers in the same interest areas. The workshop will also offer ways to enhance communication and teaching skills, and learn about the many opportunities available for those interested in the beef, sheep and swine industries. Open to adult and teen volunteers ages 13 (as of January 1, 2014) and older. Support for this workshop is provided by the Michigan Pork Producers Association.
March 1 - 2: 4-H Environmental and Outdoor Education/Plant Science and Entomology, This workshop will focus on “hands-on” activities for adult and teen leaders 12 years (as of January 1, 2014) and up who are interested in Environmental and Outdoor Education and Plant Science/Entomology 4-H projects. Many projects will be highlighted during this workshop including Outdoor Challenge, Gardening, Insect Collecting, and Archery as well as how science relates to these project areas. Other topics will include leadership, service learning, and volunteer development. This will be a fun filled educational weekend for all participants. Support for this workshop is provided by donors to the Michigan 4-H Foundation.
April 25 - 27: Michigan 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Certification, This MI 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Certification workshop is for 4-H staff, adult 4-H volunteers who have completed the 4-H Volunteer Selection Process with their county, and teens enrolled in a 4-H shooting sports club who are at least 16 years old as of Jan. 1, 2014. Participants must be approved by their county MSU Extension 4-H Staff person to work with 4-H Shooting Sports Programs and have at least a basic working knowledge of, and experience in the discipline in which they wish to participate. Disciplines offered will include shotgun, rifle (BB, .22, air/pellet), archery, muzzle-loading, and hunting and wildlife. Participants will learn about MI 4-H shooting sports mission, policies, risk management, safety, discipline specific equipment use and care, how to teach shooting fundamentals to youth, range set-up, and more. Participants will also develop and improve skills in teaching shooting sports activities to youth; learn how to develop, expand, and maintain local 4-H Shooting Sports clubs/programs; have the opportunity to exchange ideas for local and State 4-H Shooting Sports programs with volunteers from many counties, and develop renewed respect and concern for the history and safety of the 4-H Shooting Sports program. Adult leaders must successfully complete the workshop and all other requirements will receive certification as a MI 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor for the discipline in which they participated. Only 4-H certified instructors can lead live-fire, on-range shooting and archery experiences for youth and/or in 4-H Shooting Sports programs. Simply attending this workshop does not guarantee that you will receive certification as a MI 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor.

April 17, 18: 4-H Companion Animal Teen & Adult Volunteer Training Workshop Participants in this exciting, hands-on training opportunity will gain new ideas and information about companion animal projects, while having the ability to work with their own companion animal. This workshop is open to 4-H volunteers and youth aged 12 (as of January 1, 2014) and up, who are interested in sharing, learning, and exploring new information about companion animals. Participants will learn new information about activities, club and group development, companion animal management skills, nutrition, and many other topics. New for 2014! Participants are welcome and encouraged to bring their dogs to experience hands-on workshop sessions! Support for this workshop is provided by donors to the Michigan 4-H Foundation.

Calhoun County Fairgrounds Event
Jan. 31: Celebrity Luncheon Fundraiser - Cornwell's Turkeyville
Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by calling the MSU Extension Office at (269) 781-0784 ten days before an Extension-sponsored event to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements. Requests received after this date will be met when possible. MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer. MSU 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 & June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the USDA. Thomas G. Coon, Director, MSU Extension, East Lansing, MI 48824. The 4-H name and emblem are protected under Title 18 U.S.C. 707. Reference to commercial products, services or trade names does not imply endorsement by MSU, MSU Extension, 4-H or Calhoun County or bias against those not mentioned. This information is for educational purposes only.

Sherry Grice, Extension Educator,
4-H Youth Development
Newsletter Edited by Patricia Dadow,
MSUE Support Staff

Congratulations to all the 4-H Award Recipients!

4-H Volunteer Leaders recognized for their first year of service (right)

Left to right: Adam Wilson, Tina Wilson, Matt Sims, Nicole Sims, Lora Finch, Kristen Sommers, Scott Brenner, Teri Letts, Techia Lohmann, Jeff Adams and Kristen Murphy.

Please Note: Allison Brenner (left) was mistakenly awarded as a 5 year volunteer leader, however she should have been recognized as a 1st year volunteer leader. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.