**4-H Newsletter**

**Happy Holidays**
From the Oceana MSUE Staff!

~ Thank You ~

Throughout the year and especially in the past 6 weeks, the MSU Extension office has been blessed with opportunities to express and receive gratitude. We have praised the accomplishments of our youth, celebrated the dedication of our volunteers and welcomed new members into the 4-H family. The daily reminders of the value of 4-H in Oceana County and the surrounding communities is the best gift of the season. Here are a few of the gifts Oceana County 4-H has given to our community this past year!

- Youth and volunteers who say “YES!” and “How can I help?” when told something needs to be done.
- Teen Leaders who share their passion for 4-H and seek opportunities to engage others in their passion.
- Adults whose employers support their volunteer hours with a monetary contribution to our organization! Thank you, Alcoa employees!

We APPRECIATE and CELEBRATE you, our 4-H family, this holiday season. Warmest wishes for a safe and happy winter, Toni & Kathy.

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STEER WEIGH IN

The steer weigh in takes place in the Beef Building at the Oceana County Fairgrounds. It will be held on Saturday, December 3rd from 8:00-10:00 a.m. Your steer will be weighed to record its starting weight, tag number scanned and picture taken. If you personally cannot attend you must inform the office of the name of your sibling or parent bringing the animal in your absence. This is worth 1 non-club point only if you remember to sign in at the event.

*** IMPORTANT-IF YOU ARE REGISTERING A BACKUP STEER***

You must have paid your $5.00, per person registered on that animal, to the MSUE office by 5:00 p.m. on December 1st (the market steer signup deadline date). If you do not have it paid there is no need to bring your animal as it will not be registered as a backup.

There will be donuts, coffee and hot cocoa to help keep everyone warm and happy! Thank you in advance for everyone’s cooperation and those who have volunteered to assist, your help is always greatly appreciated.

MARKET PROJECT SIGNUPS

In spite of the cold and early hours, the Market Livestock signups went well on Saturday, November 12th. Everyone enjoyed donuts, hot cocoa and coffee to try to stay warm. As of the printing of this newsletter the only large market project full is swine. There are still 5 spots in the steer project and 9 in the lamb.

Notebooks were given to everyone as they signed up for a market spot. You may download one, or specific pages, at: www.msue.anr.msu.edu/county/info/oceana under market livestock or purchase an additional copy for $2.00 in the office if needed.

SMAA & Horse Notebooks will be available after the first of the year.

DATES & DEADLINES

Dec. 1- Steer Project Deadline
Jan. 2.- Swine Project Deadline
May 10– Swine Pictures with breed & ear tag are due to the office.
June 1– Lamb Project Deadline
June 1– Lamb Pictures with breed & ear tag are due to the office
Aug. 2– Potential Buyer’s names due
Aug. 8– Office must be notified in writing of backup animal being used.
Aug. 22– Load in day of Fair
**SMAA MARKET ANIMAL INFO**

**PROJECTS:** Small Market signups took place immediately following the large market signups. Everything went very well and at the time of the printing of this newsletter we have the following projects full; goats & feeder calves. There is still room in all of the poultry projects and rabbits. If these projects are not full by the end of the day March 1st, beginning at 8:00 a.m. on March 2, 2017, you may sign up for a second project, if you choose.

**Most importantly, if you are going to drop your project you must do so by 5:00 p.m. on March 1st, or incur the penalty of not being able to sell the following year. If you must drop after that date, you need to request an exception from the SMAA committee.**

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**HDC NEWS**

*Congratulations to the HDC Award winners for the 2016 4-H year.*

**High Point:**

- **Mini**
  - Beginner Horse - Grace Ann Barlow & Bobbi
  - Walk/Trot 9-14 yr. old - Alexis Settler & Milo
  - Walk/Trot 15-19 yr. old - Tressa Swihart & Tanner
  - Walk/Trot/Canter 9-14 yr. old - Chloe Coker & Lily
  - Walk/Trot/Canter 15-19 yr. old - Brittany Knight & Sugar
  - Walk/Trot/Canter 9-14 yr. old - Caitlin Coppess & Reylena Jayne
  - Walk/Trot/Canter 15-19 yr. old - Deanna Gray & Joker
  - Grace Meacham & Rocky

**Most Improved:**

- **Cloverbud**
  - Walk/Trot - Brooklyn Storms
  - Walk/Trot/Canter - Lane Eubank
  - Walk/Trot/Canter - Jessica Riggs

**Sportsmanship Award**

Caitlin Coppess
Attention - (8-12 year olds!)

Are you looking for a special event for 8 to 12-year-old youth? Well, here it is!

What: 4-H Winterfest

When: February 4-5, 2017

Where: Kettunen Center, Tustin, MI

4-H Winterfest is a hands-on educational program at which younger 4-H’ers spend two days in hands-on learning about many different project areas.

Since the overnight workshop is held in February, plans are to include some outdoor activities such as snow shoeing, cross country skiing, sledding, outdoor cooking and possibly hiking in the woods along the trails. The $70 registration fee includes overnight housing, three meals, all session supplies and a special gift.

This event offers youth an opportunity to experience Kettunen Center in an overnight camp setting, learn new skills, make new friends and spend time outdoors!

More information about this event will be available in December at:
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/topic/events/4_h

Green & White Hog Show

Join us for the annual Green & White Open Hog Show and youth education fair. New for 2017—A Jackpot hog show on Sunday! Also a pork judging contest and new Swine Production Scenario Contest

What: The Green & White Swine Youth Education Fair & Open Hog Show

When: January 27-29, 2017

Where: MSU Pavilion
(http://www.ans.msu.edu/facilities/pavilion)

Who can enter? All Michigan youth who have reached their 9th birthday (but are not yet 21) by January 1, 2017.

Entry deadline: January 6, 2017

Entry information and entry forms:
http://www.ans.msu.edu/extension/youth_events

Kettunen Center Workshop fees for Oceana County 4-H Leaders are reimbursed by the Oceana County 4-H Youth Council. Active Oceana County 4-H members must pay up front and are then reimbursed 100% of the fee once they return and share what they learned with their club, another club or the Oceana County 4-H Youth Council at their monthly meeting. This information must be shared within 60 days of returning from the workshop. If paying up front is a problem please talk with the office as Youth Council will try to figure out a way to work with you, they do not want anyone to miss out. If you carpool, you may also have your mileage reimbursed.

Don’t miss out on these wonderful opportunities.

A complete list of workshops can be found at:
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/info/4h_volunteer_training
STATE 4-H NEWS

4-H DAY AT THE BRESLIN CENTER

Come cheer on the Lady Spartans as they take on the Purdue Boilermakers at the Breslin Center.

When: January 22, 2017

Who: 4-H youth and their families, 4-H volunteers, and MSUE staff with their families.

Time: Gates open at for 4-H & MSUE guests at 3:00 p.m., game starts at 5:00 p.m.

Cost: FREE for the guests listed above.

Parking: Cars $.50.00, buses $20.00 and Free for school buses.

Show your pride by wearing your green & white 4-H or MSU Extension apparel.

Let the office know how many tickets you would like ordered by calling us at 873-2129 or email vanberg2@anr.msu.edu.

GO GREEN
GO WHITE

4-H Capitol Experience

Date: March 19-22, 2017

4-H Capitol Experience is an annual 4-day conference that helps prepare youth for active citizenship by focusing 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

More information coming soon at: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/info/4_h_capitol_experience

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

✦ State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Workshop
  Date: January 28, 2017
  Time: 9 a.m.
  Location: MSU Pavilion, 4301 Farm Lane, East Lansing, MI 48910
  Contact: Katie Ockert, ockertka@anr.msu.edu

✦ 4-H Veterinary Science Teen and Adult Leaders Workshop
  Date: February 17, 2017 - February 18, 2017
  Location: Kettunen Center, 14901 4-H Drive, Tustin, MI 49688
  Contact: Julie Thelen, thelenju@anr.msu.edu, 517-432-1626

✦ 4-H Beef, Sheep and Swine Teen and Adult Leaders Workshop
  Date: February 18, 2017 - February 19, 2017

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

The 2016 Leader’s Banquet was a night of celebrating Pirate style.

Trudy Sibley and Ann Marie Overla did a great job planning and organizing the event with the decorations, food, etc. For entertainment there was a spirited game of 4-H Jeopardy complete with animal sound buzzers. Thank you to Kathy Walicki for putting the game together. The Oceana County 4-H Youth Council presented a check for $1,100.00 to the Crystal Valley Care Fund from their annual fundraising efforts at the Countywide Yard/Bake Sale this past summer.

Sarah Sylvester, 4-H Youth Council President, along with Lori Cargill, 4-H Program Coordinator, presented those leaders in attendance with their year pins. Diane Cole outdid herself with door prizes from Oceana County businesses and everyone went home with at least 1 door prize.

Pat Lause and John Herremans were presented with the Friend of 4-H for their dedication to our market program and auctions. These two men have spent many years volunteering their professional auctioneering services for our large and small market auction respectively. They are wonderful at working the audience and getting the 4-Hers the best price possible and in the process save our 4-H members a very sizeable amount by donating their services.

We appreciate each and every one of our leaders, assistant leaders, resource leaders and everyone that helps behind the scenes. The following awards are for those leaders who have gone above and beyond what is expected from a 4-H Leader. The nominations were reviewed by the Awards Committee and the following were awarded this year:

**Lifetime Achievement Award:** The Lifetime Achievement award is for recognition of dedication to the 4-H Program through active service. This award was presented to Kathy Carter.

**Mentor Award:** The Mentor Award is for recognition in impacting a 4-H member’s life above and beyond volunteer expectations. The nomination for this award had to be made by a 4-H youth member. This award was presented to Brian Holladay.

**Service Award:** The Service award is for recognition for service to the Oceana County 4-H Programs in 2015-2016. This award was presented to Michelle Holladay.

**Horizon Award:** The Horizon Award is for recognition in demonstrating successful participation and implementation of a new program area or event. This award was awarded to Lori Cargill.

We also had two of our volunteers receive special recognition this year. Congratulations to Hollis & Jill Rockwell for receiving the Michigan Farm Bureau 4-H Excellence in Agriculture Award.
THANK YOU TO OUR 2014 4-H LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS

One Year Leaders
Trish Cederquist
Amanda Hepworth
Beth Meacham
Sarah Rudat

Two Year Leaders
Hannah Berry
Kellie Dahl
Barbara Grondsma
Amy Homminga
Wendy Kenney
Stephanie Purvis
Colleen Sayers
Melanie Sayles
Chandra Sillman
Jennifer Witteveen

Three Year Leaders
Cathy Alvesteffer
Shelly Berry
Susan Fleser
James Gray
Audrey Herremans
Michael Herremans
Whitney Hintz
Whitney James
Sarah Sylvester

Four Year Leaders
Brian Holladay
Elizabeth Johnson
Gloria Ritchie
Kim Wade
Eric Whitaker

Five Year Leaders
Theresa Jessup
Brittany Miller
Deborah Tate

Six Year Leaders
Sherri Lemmen
Gary Tate

Seven Year Leaders
Michelle Holladay
Cindy Lohman
Hiedi Michael
Joanna Mackey Teall

Eight Year Leaders
Amanda Coker
Sara Agiler
Kim Mischler
Teena Sorensen
Karla Swihart
Steven Vandernaalt

Nine Year Leaders
Kim Eubank
Stan Eubank

Ten Year Leaders
Christi Marsh

Eleven Year Leaders
Debra Giraitis

Thirteen Year Leaders
Lindsey Merten

Fourteen Year Leaders
Char Vanderstelt

Fifteen Year Leaders
Marie Elliott

Sixteen Year Leaders
Amanda Freeman

Seventeen Year Leaders
Tara Vandernaalt

Nineteen Year Leaders
Alisha Gray
Jill Merten

Twenty-One Year Leaders
Heidi Bromley

Twenty-Three Year Leaders
Kathy Grantz
Kristy Sauser

Twenty-Four Year Leaders
Pat Mackey

Twenty-Five Year Leaders
Ann Marie Overla
Jane Thocher

Twenty-Eight Year Leaders
Karen Pankow

Twenty-Nine Year Leaders
Diane Cole
Kip Cole

Thirty Year Leaders
Nancy Koposky

Thirty-One Year Leaders
Becky Freeman

Thirty-Six Year Leaders
Phil Carter

Thirty-Seven Year Leaders
Trudy Sibley

Thirty-Nine Year Leaders
Kathy Carter

**and many, many resource volunteers who help behind the scenes serving on committees, etc. to support the Oceana County 4-H Youth Program**

FRIEND OF 4-H Awardees

Congratulations to Pat Lause, large market auctioneer and John Herremans, small market auctioneer for their MANY years of dedication to our 4-H program. These men volunteer their time as professional auctioneers to support out youth and programs. We hope they know how much their time and talents are appreciated!
COUNTY MEDALS/AWARDS

Congratulations to the following 2015/2016 4-H medal awardees. Although everyone works hard at their projects there are a few who go above and beyond with both their projects and/or helping in their clubs. Good job everyone!

4-H YOUTH AWARDS

Rosie Alvesteffer
Jenna Babbin
Joseph Bizon, Jr.
McKenzie Brimmer
Carly Califf
Thorissa Carter
Amanda Cederquist
Chloe Coker
Wyatt Dean
Akira Dodge
Phoebe Dykman
Dolph Eisenlohr
Lane Eubank
Luke Eubank
Claire Fleser
Elise Goralski
Kevon Gray
Alden Grondsma
Rodney Grondsma
Alayna Hammerle
Thomas Harvell
Jenna Hepworth
Laura Hepworth
Cole Herremans
Hannah Hiddema
Katlyn Jager
Kevin Jager
Kayden Johnson
Kennedy Johnson
Myca Johnson
Mikaylyn Kenney
Genevieve Kroll
Josephyn Mannor
Alaina McCormick
Nikolas Michael
Ben Mischler
MaKayla Rockwell
David Routley
Jenna Sauser
Blane Sawdy
Eian Sawdy
Mandi Sayles
Marissa Sayles
Kaitlynn Scott
Alexis Settler
Joanna Sillman
Chase Stockman
Brooklyn Storms
Amanda Whitaker
Hannah Woller

Citizenship:
Jamee Dahl
Sarah Gray
Alexis Wade

Communication Arts:
Kaylee Herrygers

Community Service:
Cody Alvesteffer
Grace Alvesteffer
Corbin Berry
Lilia Gonzalez
Morgan Herremans
MaKennah Sawyer
Emma Woller

Personal Development:
Sierra Albus
Crystal Bromley
Edward Cornell
T.J. Grieve
Lindsey Harvell
Brooke Jager
Jodi Lemmen
Zackery Lemmen
Kari Merten
Markell Owens
Hannah Riggs
Hannah Smith
Rebekah Tate
Sienna Wallace
Maisie Whitaker

Teen Leadership:
Tyler Coker
Alexis Mischler
Simon Payne
Adrianna Powell
Joel Woller
COUNTY PROJECT AWARDS

Beef: Loren Kroll
      Nicole Rockwell

Clothing & Textiles: Anna Olson

Dairy: Gianna Bromley
       Dylan Dean
       Mikayla Hepworth

Expressive Arts: Caitlin Coppess

Gardening/Horticulture: Claire Meacham

Goats: Cayden Gray
       Barbie Grondsma
       Damian Pider

Horse: Madelyne Meacham
       Hannah Riggs

Rabbits/Cavies: Sadie Sorensen

Sheep: William Kidder

wine: Brandon Fleser
       Alison Hall
       Joshua Hitts
       Emma Vanderwall
       Matthew Vanderwall

Veterinary Science: Cassidy Jessup

OCEANA COUNTY 4-H MEDALS

Achievement: Grace Alvesteffer
             Jennie Bromley
             Cassie Holladay
             Jessica Riggs

Agriculture: Kaleb Adams

International/Cross-Cultural: Alex Holladay

Leadership: Haley Jessup
            Hailey Lemmen
            Lars Mattson

Sportsmanship: Sarah Hepworth
              Whitney Holladay
              Brooke Jager

JOHN SAYLES MEMORIAL RECIPIENTS:

Cody Alvesteffer
Loren Kroll
Sarah Hepworth

(thank you to Melanie, Mercedy, Marissa and Mandi Sayles)

4-H YOUTH COUNCIL COMPETITIVE SCHOLARSHIP Awardees:

Terri Carlson    Joseph Marsh    Lars Mattson
Brooke Jager    Haley Mast     Jessica Riggs
GOOD BYE & THANK YOU

We wish the best to Lori Cargill who has been our 4-H Program Coordinator for the past 3 1/2 years. Lori’s last day with us was November 7th. She will be greatly missed in our Oceana County Program and we hope that our teen leaders continue to push themselves to set goals and pursue their dreams, as Lori has pushed you to do. We have many great memories and we wish her only good things on her next life endeavor.

If you know of someone who may be interested in learning more about the Project Coordinator position please direct them to the job posting at:

www.jobs.msu.edu

WELCOME

We would like to welcome, Amanda VanSickle, who filling in as our temporary Program Coordinator. Amanda is extremely familiar with 4-H as she participated in Oceana County 4-H from the time she was old enough until she headed off to college. She was an ambassador and represented the program very well as such.

We are happy to have her in the office.
HAPPY HOLIDAYS

&

BEST WISHES FOR 2017!

(IF YOU HAVE NOT RE-ENROLLED YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE ANY FUTURE NEWSLETTERS. PLEASE GO TO: MI.4HONLINE.COM AND GET YOUR REENROLLMENT DONE)