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**LOCAL 4-H UPCOMING EVENTS AND DEADLINES**

- **April 29**: OCHDC Shaggy Show
- **May 1**: Horse Coggins, Registration Page & Parent Acknowledgement due by 5:00 p.m.
- **May 10**: Swine Pictures, Breeds and Ear Tags Due *(for primary and backup pig if signing one up)*
- **May 13**: Oceana 4-H Youth Program Bake Sale
- **May 13**: OCHDC Youth Horse Show
- **May 30**: Exploration Days Pre-orientation 6:30 at the Hart Community Center
- **June 1**: Feeder Calf Pictures, breed & tag numbers due
- **June 1**: Lamb pictures, breed & ear tags due *(for primary and backup lamb if signing one up)*
- **June 17**: OCHDC Youth Horse Show
- **June 21-23**: 2017 Exploration Days
- **June 30**: Deadline for Swine Project replacement *(if project animal should die)*
- **July 14**: Deadline for Lamb Project replacement *(if project animal should die)*
- **July 15**: OCHDC Youth Horse Show
- **July 17-22**: 4-H Countywide Yard/Bake Sale
- **August 1**: 2017 4-H Enrollment Deadline for Oceana County
- **August 1**: Small Market Animal Project Pictures, Breeds, due for Rabbits, Poultry, Goats (ear tags also) by 5:00 p.m.
- **August 2**: Buyer’s Name due for **ALL** Market Animals
- **August 21**: WorkBee at Fairgrounds
- **Aug. 22-26**: Oceana County Fair
- **August 24**: Large Market Animal Auction
- **August 26**: Small Market Animal Auction
- **August 27**: Load out of Fair
- **August 31**: Last day of the 2016/2017 4-H year
- **Sept. 1**: The new 4-H year begins!!

*This is not a complete list. Check your rules, for complete deadlines. All deadlines are by 5:00 p.m. unless stated otherwise.*
COUNTYWIDE 4-H BAKE SALE

The annual bake sale will be held on Saturday, May 13th. This year the bake sale will be held at Gales IGA, Hansen Foods and the OCHDC Horse show in Hart. The proceeds of these bake sales go to those youth attending Exploration Days in June, provided they work at the sale. This is worth one nonclub point for anyone signing up with the office at 873-2129. You must bring a baked good (at least one per person) and work for one hour. The more baked goods the better, so if you like to bake, or know of someone who would like to help by donating baked goods, that would be wonderful! You can drop them at the office on Fri. or at the sale itself.

CELEBRATE 4-H DAY AT MICHIGAN’S ADVENTURE

4-H members, volunteers and families come celebrate 4-H at Michigan’s Adventures on Saturday, June 3rd. For an admission price of $25.00 per person you will have unlimited use of the amusement and water parks (with the exception of the Ripcord & Bumper Boats). 4-H Day meal tickets will also be available for only $6.00 each! This meal consists of a hog dog, macaroni salad, chips & a soft drink.

Reservations are required for admission and meal ticket (if purchasing) by May 31, 2017. You can contact group sales directly at 231-766-9959 or visit www.miadventure.com /specialevents. You may also read the helpful trip tips & see a complete listing of rides and attractions while at this site. (click on the 4-H day link).

You will need to wear a 4-H shirt, have a 4-H ID card or something else identifying you as a 4-H member to enter. We can print an ID card off in the office if you would like one.
CONGRATULATION TO BOTH OUR JUNIOR & SENIOR GOAT QUIZ BOWL TEAMS AS THEY PARTICIPATED AT THE STATE COMPETITION THIS PAST WEEKEND AND PLACED 1ST IN BOTH AGE DIVISIONS!! THERE WERE MANY INDIVIDUAL WINS ALSO, WAY TO GO!

Junior Team Members: Hannah & Makenna Beggs, Lane Eubank
Senior Team Members: Cassidy & Haley Jessup, Damian Pider

Individual Results:
- Jr. Illustrated Talk—1st place Hannah Beggs
- Jr. Creative Writing—2nd place Makenna Beggs
- Jr. Creative Poster—7th place Hannah Beggs

Regular Crafts—1st & 9th place Lane Eubank, 7th place Hannah Beggs
- Jr. Arts—7th place Lane Eubank
- Jr. Photo—1st place Hannah Beggs, 8th place Damian Pider
- Senior Skillathon—2nd place Cassidy Jessup

CONGRATULATIONS TO BOTH OUR GRADUATING SENIORS!

Sierra Albus  Cody Alvesteffer  Grace Alvesteffer
Crystal Bromley  Kaylee Herrygers  Cassie Holladay
Brooke James  Rebecca Kanouff  Averi Lohman
Valtteri Pitkanen  Carl Tanner  Brady Tate
Jaxon Tate  Marianne Tate

2017 4-H EXPLORATION DAYS

4-H Exploration Days is being held June 21 - June 23 this year. At this time we have 18 Oceana County 4-H members signed up to attend. There will be a MANDATORY meeting of all those attending Exploration Days on Tuesday, May 30th at 6:30 p.m. at the Hart Community Center. (postcards will go out as a reminder with the time indicated).

Remember, depending on which classes you signed up for, you may have additional fees. These fees are due at the mandatory meeting. When you receive your postcard, it will have the fees owed indicated on it. Any questions, call the Extension Office at 873-2129.
**2017 Michigan 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Expo**
*April/May 2017*
**Saturday, June 10, 2017**
**MSU Anthony Hall**

**register at:** [http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/2017_michigan_4_h_rabbit_and_cavy_expo](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/2017_michigan_4_h_rabbit_and_cavy_expo)

**Cost:** $5.00 per individual and $3 per event

**Who:** All exhibitors must be ages 9-19 as of Jan. 1, 2017

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**Tentative Schedule**

7:30 – 8:00 a.m. Registration

8:00 a.m. Exhibitor Welcome and Quiz Bowl Drawing *All Quiz Bowl Participants Must Attend*

8:15 a.m. Contest entries must be in the judging rooms - Educational Poster Contest

8:30 a.m. Junior Written Quiz Begins - Senior Skill-a-thon

9:45 a.m. Senior Written Quiz - Junior Skill-a-thon

8:45 a.m. Contest Rooms open

- Virtual Cavy Breed Judging
- Virtual Rabbit Breed Judging
- Rabbit Showmanship
- Cavy Showmanship
- Educational Poster (Sign up for an interview time)

11:30 a.m. Quiz Bowl Contest Begins

Lunch on your own

2 p.m. All Contests Close. Awards Program will be held at the conclusion of all contest scoring

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**2017 S.M.O.R.E.S.**
Southern Michigan Outdoor Recreational Education Symposium
*June 16-18, 2017*
Camp Tuhsmeheta, 10500 Lincoln Road NE, Greenville, Michigan

Spend a weekend learning things such as:

- Archery
- Backpacking
- Fishing
- Outdoor Cooking
- Rock Wall Climbing
- Swimming
- Trail Running
- Woodworking
- Youth Yoga
- First Aid/CPR

(just to name a few options)

This 4-H event is open only to 4-H families, leaders, members & chaperones. (younger children under 6 may not attend daily workshops and must be accompanied by parents at all times).

**Cost:** $20.00 (4-H youth, chaperone or leader) Three meals per day are included in the price.

**Deadline to register is May 26, 2017**

For more information contact Denise Noble, Van Buren Voyagers Secretary
269-303-5407 or nobledenise@rocketmail.com

* See enclosed flyer for more information
HORSE (HDC) NEWS

REGISTRATION & COGGINS DUE! All horse project members remember that your negative Coggins along with your project registration page *(NOT the cover page of your notebook)* and parent acknowledgement page are due to the MSUE office by 5:00 p.m. on May 1st.

OCHDC HORSE SHOWS:

The first Oceana County Horse Show of 2017 will be held April 29th at the Oceana County Fairgrounds beginning at 9:00 a.m. (rain or shine)

This is the Shaggy Show!! This show is open to both youth and adults and is just a fun show to get the year started. There is no show clothing required (proper riding attire such as boots and helmets is still necessary), and there will be a prize for the shaggiest horse! The show bills are available in the office and also on the portal at:

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/info/ocoeana

(click on the 4-H Horse Project link in the left side column. You can also find the notebooks, level tests and more at this link).

The OCHDC Open Youth Horse Shows will take place: May 13th, June 17th and July 15th. We will have the show bills, tab sheets and waivers available in the office or on the portal soon.

**Be part of the committee planning for your project shows, rules, etc.** Give your input and advice...remember that HDC meets the 3rd Monday of each month. Let us know in the office if you would like added to the list for reminders.

2017 Michigan 4-H Trail Ride & Family Camp Weekend

Complete info and forms can be found at:
www.ans.msu.edu/extension/horse_youth_programs

Date: June 23-25th Location: D Bar D Ranch, 7064 E. 64th St., Chase, MI 49623

REGISTRATION: Registration forms and fees are then due to the State Extension Office no later than June 1st, 2017. Please send entry forms and check (payable to MSU) for all entries to State 4-H Trail Ride, 474 South Shaw Lane Room 1287, Anthony Hall, East Lansing,

Eligibility: Michigan 4-H club members, families, and leaders. Participants under 14 years of age must be accompanied on the State 4-H Trail Ride and its individual rides, by a parent, legal guardian, or responsible adult. Members 14-17 years old must have a 4-H leader in attendance at the ride, designated by the county, to whom they are responsible, but this advisor does not need to accompany them on all rides. Youth are responsible to any of the State 4-H Trail Ride Committee members.

ASTM/SEI approved riding helmets are required for youth under the age of 19 and highly recommended for all riders.

Horses: Participants will be responsible for bringing their own horse for their use. NO STALLIONS ARE ALLOWED. Hay and grain will not be furnished. There will be space for picket lines. DUE TO THE TERRAIN IN THIS AREA IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR HORSES BE SHOD AND CONDITIONED. Horses should be controllable and safe on the trails to ensure a safe enjoyable ride for all.
**LARGE MARKET LIVESTOCK INFORMATION**

**SWINE PICTURES, BREEDS & EAR TAGS** *due by May 10th at 5:00 p.m.*

**LAMB PICTURES, BREEDS & EAR TAGS** *due by June 1st at 5:00 p.m.*

Both swine & lamb pictures need to show the entire animal and also the 4-H ear tag. If the ear tag is not legible, your leader can sign the back of it verifying the number. The easiest way to get your picture is to bring in 2 pictures, one close up of the ear and one full body shot.

Each 4-H Market Livestock Project lamb is required to have two ear tags (one is the green 4-H tag, the second is the Scrapies tag).

Swine are required to have 1 4-H tag in one ear and 1 MDA tag in the other. Please remember that you also need to know the breed and where you are housing the animal. The office is open Mon– Fri from 8-noon and 1-5.

If you are registering a second animal you need a picture with the tag & breed also. You may pick up tags at the office after paying the $5.00 fee. You will declare your primary at this time and have until August 8th to change to your backup if desired.

*(faxes & emails will NOT be accepted* as all we receive is a black and white picture. We also cannot print them for you in the office, we do not have that type of supply budget to print everyone’s pictures for them)*.

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**FOR ALL MARKET ANIMAL PROJECTS**

**POTENTIAL BUYERS NAMES:** You have until *Wednesday, August 2nd* to turn in your potential buyer’s names. You may turn them in sooner, and it is preferred that you do. Remember the following.

1. Your list must be submitted in person to receive a stamp & initialed MSUE staff. You will return the original to your book.

2. You must have 3 different names than those of your siblings.

3. You must have complete MAILING addresses, including zip codes, to be accepted.

4. Try to approach those who you feel may seriously consider purchasing an animal. We mail bidder cards & information out to those names turned in and the stamps are purchased with money from the sale of the animals (market project expenses). You don’t want to have them mailed to people you do not feel may be a truly potential buyer.
SMALL MARKET ANIMAL NEWS

April 1st was the registration deadline for both 4-H & Junior Market Projects. Below are the deadlines for paperwork due to the MSU Extension Office:

- Feeder Calf & Young Beef pictures, breed & RFID electronic tag numbers must be on file by June 1, 2017
- Goat pictures, breed, 4-H Tag & Scrapies number must be on file by August 1, 2017
- Rabbit pictures & breed must be on file by August 1, 2017
- Poultry pictures & breed must be on file by August 1, 2017

* all deadlines are by 5:00 p.m. on that day

If you have any questions on project requirements please refer to the 4-H SMAA Rules & Guidelines. We have copies in the office or you can view them on line at:

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/info/oceana

(faxes & emails will NOT be accepted as all we receive is a black and white picture. We also can not print them for you in the office, we do not have that type of supply budget to print everyone’s pictures for them).

NEED A NON-CLUB POINT, OR JUST WANT TO HELP OUT?

You may contact Brenda Eilers (893-7808) about the Claybanks Township Cemetery Rake Clean Up (April 29th) or the Claybanks Campground/Park Clean up (May 4th).

You can also work the bake sale on May 13th, call the Office at (873-2129) at one of three locations (Gales IGA, Hansen Foods or the Fairgrounds during the OCHDC Shaggy Show).

The Countywide yard sale/bake sale will be held July 17-22nd so mark your calendars for that also, we will take names for slots when it gets nearer.

UPCOMING AREA FAIR DATES

Mark your calendars for the upcoming local Fair dates.

Muskegon– July 24-29th

Newaygo– August 5-12th

Mason/W.MI Fair– August 8-12th

Oceana County Fair– August 22-26th
AS YOU BEGIN WORKING ON YOUR NOTEBOOKS

4-H Project Notebooks are the primary way we keep records of our goals, work and accomplishments in project areas. The record of your work should be as accurate as possible and reflect the effort you put into raising your animal.

The following are some comments from former judges. The notebook judges are people who either work in the field they are judging, teach in that field, former superintendents and/or leaders from other counties, etc.

Keep in mind, every judge is different, just as every teacher you have is different in what they expect, so these are just some suggestions from a few of our past judges. We thought this may be useful for those who are new to the market, dairy and horse projects.

1. In the past MANY have left their judges comment sheet in a sheet protector, even though it specifically says not to. This will cause you to be marked down.

2. Do not glue your judges comment sheet to your cover. Judges understand the rationale, to secure it in the notebook, but a judge needs to move that sheet with them from page to page. A glued page makes them flip back and forth continually to write comments.

3. Record of Care – Your input costs should differ as your animal grows. You should not be feeding your starter “swine, feeder, duck, etc.” the same at the end as you were at the beginning of your project.

4. If a parent, or someone, donates the animal to you; there is still a cost to “someone.” You need to record what that purchase price would be.

5. For cloverbuds, the judges like to see that the youth did some writing, if possible. If the parent, or older youth, helped with all of the writing make sure it is in the 4-Her’s words, not the adults.

6. Some notebooks have had LOTS of pages of extra material, reference, etc. This is great, but the judges would like to know what the purpose of these pages are. Why did you include them, how did they relate to your project? This demonstrates that you did not just print a lot of filler material for no reason other than to make your notebook larger.

7. Of course neatness, etc. are all very important. You do NOT have to make your notebook fancy. You may put it in a binder, you may decorate the binder, etc. but you do not have to. You are judged on the content of the book.

8. You may purchase a replacement notebook in the office for $2.00 (to cover copy costs). You may also download copies from the portal at: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/info/oceana
4-H Day at Comerica Park
Sunday, June 18, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.

Join fellow 4-H’ers from across Michigan as we watch the Detroit Tigers take on the Rays and receive a special Tigers/4-H Shirt.

Sunday Kids Day—Presented by: Chevy Youth Baseball
Sunday Kids Days feature a pregame interactive kids area and the Every Kid. Every Sunday giveaway guarantee where every fan 14-and-under will receive a free promotional item. Kids Days will feature free rides for kids on the Fly Ball Ferris Wheel and Carousel, free face painting, and Kids Run the Bases following the game, presented by Aquafina, weather permitting.

For more information, contact:
Glenda Weiss - weissgle@anr.msu.edu  (734) 727-7408
Jeremy Hostetter - Jeremy.Hostetter@tigers.com (313) 471-2236
Purchase tickets at: http://m.mlb.com/tigers/tickets/special-events/4h

2017 Michigan 4-H Companion Animal Camp

This exciting, hands-on training opportunity – presented by MSU Extension (http://bit.ly/lsdvYu8) 4-H Youth Development (http://bit.ly/12NxlJN) – will provide participants with opportunities to:

- Gain new ideas and information about companion-animal projects, while being able to work with their own companion animal
- Attend various sessions such as:
  - Ask a vet
  - Games to play with your dog
  - Learn hands-on skills from a veterinarian
  - Try out new training techniques
- Have an overnight workshop experience
- Share, learn and explore new information about companion animals with others 4-H’ers from around the state
- Practice skills such as team building and leadership
- Bring new programming and ideas back to their 4-H clubs, county programs and local communities
- Participate in activities such as:
  - Hiking trails
  - An evening campfire
  - A climbing tower
  - Make-it and take-it crafts and more

Remember, there will also be awesome sessions for your dogs in obedience, games, agility and much more!

Who Should Attend? Michigan 4-H’ers who are 5 to 19 years old, as of January 1, 2017. Cloverbuds are welcome with parent chaperones.

When Is the Workshop? June 2-4, 2017

Where Will the Workshop Be Held?
Camp Tuhsmehet (https://camptuhsmehet.org) in Greenville. This facility offers various lodging options to participants. That is, lodge, tent or camper/RV sites are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

How Can Someone Register?
All camp registration forms (for 4-H youth members, 4-H volunteer leaders and 4-H parents) are available on the Michigan 4-H web site (http://bit.ly/2nhoqbk). Submit your registration form and payment to:
- Katie Ockert, Room 240, 446 West Circle Drive, East Lansing, MI 48824.
Camp registrations must be postmarked by May 5, 2017.

What Is the Cost of the Workshop?
The $50 registration fee covers lodging and meals.

More information about this camp is available from: The Michigan 4-H web site (http://bit.ly/2nsFThf)
- Katie Ockert (ockertka@anr.msu.edu), Michigan 4-H Animal Science Educator

For the most up-to-date events listing, go to http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events
2017 S.M.O.R.E.S.
Southern Michigan Outdoor Recreational Education Symposium
June 16-18, 2017
Camp Tuhsmehta, 10500 Lincoln Road NE, Greenville, Michigan

The Van Buren Voyagers 4-H Outdoor Club is pleased to sponsor the second SMORES Conference at Camp Tuhsmehta, Greenville, Michigan from Friday, June 16 to Sunday, June 18, 2017. This is a 4-H event open only to 4-H families, leaders, members, and chaperones. Participants may bring the entire family for the weekend, but children younger than 6 may not attend daily workshops and must be accompanied by parents at all times.

Members from Michigan 4-H clubs will participate in several workshops throughout the weekend, learning skills ranging from outdoor cooking to fishing. Attached is a list of session descriptions.

Cost: $20 (4-H youth, chaperone, or leader)
(Extra cost for CPR/1st Aid Training/Cert and Project FISH Leader training)
Three meals per day are included in the price; campers may supplement meals at their own site or in the group kitchen located in White Pine Lodge

Facilities: Camp Tuhsmehta (Camp T) is a 301 acre facility with pine and oak forests located on Flannigan Lake at the western edge of the Morgan Mills chain of lakes. Camp T offers indoor and outdoor accommodations for participants, as well as an archery range and three-sided climbing wall. There is a swimming area at Camp T's Lake Flannigan dock. Trails wander through the woods, offering unique wilderness opportunities for exploration. Participants may choose from indoor lodge housing in a bunk setting, primitive camping, or motorhome/camper sites. Indoor restrooms and showers are available for campers. Camp Tuhsmehta is easy to find, being located just off US 131 at 10500 Lincoln Lake Road, NE, Greenville, Michigan, northeast of Grand Rapids.
Coordinates: 43° 09' 33.18" N; 85° 20' 15.74" W.

Additional Equipment: Archery workshops: Bring own bow/arrows, if available
Backpacking: Bring own backpack, if available

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: May 26, 2017
For more information, contact
Denise Noble, Van Buren Voyagers Secretary
269-303-5407
noble.denise@rocketmail.com

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2017 SMORES Workshop Descriptions

Archery
Learn hand-eye coordination with target archery. —Voyagers Staff

Backpacking 101
Plan equipment, food necessities, how a pack fits, and how to load for those long or short backpacking trips. —Alec deflinta

Board Games
Try your skills at outdoor related board games like CAMP, Cracked Egg, and Appalachian Trail. —Voyagers Staff

Campfires
Campfires will take place at the Jack Pine firepit. SMORES supplies will be available on Saturday evening. —Voyagers Staff

Capture the Flag
If we have enough teams, we play. —Voyagers Staff

Fire and the Environment
Learn about fire and it’s how it impacts the environment. —DNRFire Supervisor Poul Rodgers

First Aid/CPR
Learn hands-on CPR/AED/First Aid from a certified American Heart Association Heutsaver instructor. Certification provided. Extra $20 each —Gary Brown

Flint Knapping
Learn the primitive art of flint knapping arrow and spear heads. —TBD

Free Fishing — Sunday Morning
Put to use what you’ve learned. Go Fishing! —Greenland Ropes Gymnastics
—Learn the Greenland ropes to improve your kayaking balance. —Tim Gallaway

Invasive Species
Learn all about invasive species in Michigan and explore the woods looking for these nasty invaders. —Eleanor Sorensen and Drew Byrner

Night Scavenger Hunt
Time to set off for a scavenger hunt — IN THE DARK! —Voyagers Staff

Orienteering
Lost? Not anymore. Practice your compass skills on paper and in the woods. —Alec deflinta

Outdoor Cooking
Learn the basic skills and equipment necessary to cook outside on backpacking trips. —Alec deflinta

Popcorn Maker
Try your skills at making a homemade popcorn popper from soda cans. —Voyager Staff

Project F.I.S.H. — Casting Games
Think you have great casting skills? Test your luck at these games. —Scott Miller

Project F.I.S.H. — Cleaning
Catch a big one and want to fry it up? You’ll need to know how to clean it first. —Scott Miller

Project F.I.S.H. — Popcorn Casting
Build your own fishing pole made from a simple pop can. —Voyagers Staff

Project F.I.S.H. — Fly Tying
Experienced fly tiers will lead you through the fine details of tying fishing flies. —Trout Unlimited & Voyagers Staff

Project F.I.S.H. — Water Biology
The pond is a universe all on its own. Discover what really lives where you swim. —Lisa Hooper, Emmeline Town

Project F.I.S.H. — Predator/Prey Game
Learn the basics of fish habitat and life cycles. —Scott Miller & Voyagers Staff

Project F.I.S.H. — Adult/Teen Leader Training
Become a certified Project F.I.S.H. leader and take home knowledge and gear to fish with youth at home. Extra cost of $75 per participant. —Mark Stephens

Project Learning Tree
Trees give us oxygen and life. Learn more about forestry. —Voyagers Staff

Quiz Bowl
(CLOVER BUDS) Time to prove what you know. Take a wandering quiz bowl walk through the woods and answer questions about the wild. —Voyagers Staff

Rock Wall
Experience the thrill of climbing Camp T’s three-sided rock wall. —Camp T Staff

Swim
Enjoy the lake — lifeguard must be present.

Trail Run
For our early birds, join Kelly for a morning trail run. —Kelly Hecker

Voyageur History
Friday night, experience a presentation of history by a Voyageur re-enactor while learning about French-American fur traders on the Great Lakes. —Wally Elsing

Wilderness Survival Crash Course
Take a crash course in wilderness survival. —Chris Thompson and Assistants

Woods Listening
(CLOVER BUDS) When you stop to listen, the woods can be quite noisy. Spend some after lunch time listening to the woods. —Denise Noble & Voyagers Staff

Woodworking
Make and take home an animal house for your own backyard. Cloverbuds may participate. —Josh Miller & Voyagers Staff

Youth Yoga
(CLOVER BUDS) Welcome the morning sun with yoga, a quiet way to enjoy the lake. —Kelly Hecker and Voyagers Staff