Letter from Les

Welcome to the Fall 2014 Alcona 4-H newsletter. As you likely noticed, we have a new format, courtesy of MSU’s ANR Communications. It’s a little more professional looking— but don’t worry— we have the same great local content in addition to news plus happenings from around the state!

This has been a great summer for me and for this program as we’ve grown, not only in the number of youth participating, but also in the scope and types of activities youth participated in. More youth participated in camps, in 4-H Exploration Days at MSU and the public was able to see us more clearly as the youth development organization that we are. Don’t get me wrong— we still have much work to do! But let’s take a moment and reflect at a club year well spent! Of course this doesn’t happen without volunteers— so as always, we thank them for their support of our clubs, activities, events and on our Advisory Council.

Inside this letter, you’ll find award winners, events past and coming up as well as club listings- some of which will be starting soon! We’re excited to be able to pack so much information into this letter— so read it, share it with others and let’s continue to grow this wonderful program!

If you have any questions, please give me a call— I will be happy to help any way I can.

Have a wonderful Fall,

Les

New staff at Alcona County MSU Extension!

Three new faces may greet you when you stop into the MSU Extension Office— we are excited to welcome:

Tracy D’Augustino is a new statewide— Science team educator who will be working to promote STEM education (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) in clubs, afterschool and at events.

Jessica St. George is the new SNAP Ed Program Coordinator in Alcona and Iosco Counties and will be looking for ways to get involved in the community.

Angela Spaulding is our new Support Staff and is going to be busy trying to keep us all on track and keep the office open!

Please help me in welcoming the new staff to Alcona County MSU Extension!
VOLUNTEER!
Life's little questions aren't meant to be answered alone.

Attention…

Become a 4-H volunteer!
Michigan 4-H has a goal of recruiting 8,000 new volunteers in the 2014-2015 program year. Would you or someone you know make a great 4-H volunteer? There are many ways to get involved: help at camp, teach a workshop, lead a club, chaperone an event, lend your professional skills, help at the fair and more!

Contact the county MSU Extension office at http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county to learn more about becoming a 4-H volunteer today. By giving your time, you'll help youth achieve big dreams and prepare for the future. After all, life's little questions aren't meant to be answered alone.

 STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4-H Workshops

2014

October 18-19: 4-H Visual Arts, Crafts, Sewing & Textiles Workshop
http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=4HVisualArts14
Kettunen Center, Tustin

October 25-26: 4-H Proud Equestrian Program Instructor Update
http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=4HPEP14
W. K. Kellogg Biological Station, Hickory Corners

November 1-2: Michigan 4-H Poultry Science Teen & Adult Workshop
http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=4HPoultry2014
Kettunen Center, Tustin

November 14-16: 2014 Multi-State Horse Judges Conference
Crowne Plaza Lansing West, Lansing

November 21-23: Teen & Adult 4-H Horse Leaders’ Conference
http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=4HHorseLeaders14
Kettunen Center, Tustin

November 21-23: 4-H Advisory Group Retreat
http://events.anr.msu.edu/4HAdvisoryRetreat14
Kettunen Center, Tustin

Local 4-H Events

Oct 29 or November 8 4-H Leaders In-Service meetings
EMS Building, M-72 in Lincoln

Alcona Youth from the 2014 Exploration Days delegation
4-H Scholarships

Are you – or do you know – a 4-H member who could use support in pursuing a college education? If so, read on and be sure to visit the Michigan 4-H Scholarships web site (http://4h.msue.msu.edu/awards_scholarships/4-h_scholarships) for all of the details.

General Eligibility

General requirements include the following:

- 4-H involvement at county, regional, state, national and international levels
- Outstanding achievement in 4-H
- Scholastic excellence
- A broad range of 4-H experiences and project involvement
- Leadership and citizenship contributions within and outside of 4-H
- Financial need (applies to 4-H Rabbit/Cavy scholarship only)

Michigan 4-H Youth Development Scholarships

The 4-H Rabbit/Cavy Scholarship is the only one available through this application for 2014. Two to four scholarships will be awarded. Specific requirements and details include:

- Applicants must have been enrolled in a 4-H rabbit or cavy project for at least three years.
- Applicants must be college freshmen in the Fall 2015.
- The award amount varies.
- The application is due by November 1, 2014.

Michigan State University Scholarships

Six of these scholarships are given each year. Although the application and more details are available on the Michigan 4-H Scholarships web site, specific information and requirements include:

- Applicants must be 4-H members who are high-school seniors in 2014-15.
- Applicants must meet MSU’s standard admissions requirements.
- Applicants must apply to MSU on the application found at http://4h.msue.msu.edu/uploads/files/Scholarships/MSU_4H_Scholarship_App_2014.pdf. (A Word version is also available on the web site.)
- The award amount is $2,500 annually for four consecutive years of full-time study at MSU.
- The application is due by November 1, 2014.

Michigan 4-H Foundation Scholarships

The Michigan 4-H Foundation (http://mi4hfdtn.org) offers scholarships to attend Michigan State University. There is no separate application process for these scholarships; recipients are selected from the MSU 4-H Youth Development Scholarship applicant pool.

Michigan State University Pre-College Program Scholarships

Students in 8th, 9th or 10th grade following involvement in an MSU precollege program may apply. If selected, $2,000 will be applied toward the student’s first year at MSU as a degree-seeking student. Full requirements and application information are found at http://4h.msue.msu.edu/awards_scholarships/4-h_scholarships.

Let’s get the 4-H clover all over Facebook for National 4-H Week 2014, October 5 to 11!

Show your 4-H face by changing your profile picture to one of the 4-H icons posted on the Michigan 4-H page http://4h.msue.msu.edu/resources/show_your_4_h_face

Be proud: Celebrate your 4-H connection by telling the world if you are a member, mentor, alum, supporter, volunteer or parent. If you are on Twitter and Instagram don’t forget to use #MI4HFace.
Dairy Heirs
Projects— Dairy Education, Public speaking
Ages— 5-19
Meeting place varies
Dues— none in addition to the $10 annual member fee.
Contact— Katie Dellar 335-0879

All Around Horses R Us
Projects— Horse, Home Arts,
Home Economics
Ages— Target ages are 13-19.
Meetings— Leader’s home in Lincoln.
Dues— none
Contact— Sue Schmitz 736-8447
Pam Joslin 736-8064

Ace Riders
Projects— Horse, Livestock, community service
Ages— 5-19
Meetings— Leader’s home in Lincoln.
Dues— none in addition to the $10 annual member fee.
Contact— Shannon Rifenbark 335-0394

Shoot What 4-H Variety Club
Projects— Shooting sports (Pellet gun) small livestock, but not mixing the two
Ages—
Meeting place— leaders’ home in Glennie.
Dues—
Contact— Jennifer Harte 305-2139

Alcona Softball
Projects— Outdoor recreation, nutrition, physical fitness.
Ages— 11-13 (middle school age.)
Meeting this winter at Alcona Schools.
Dues may apply in addition to the $10 annual member fee.
Contact— Ed Schmitz 736-8447

Student Stewards
Projects— Environmental Science, ROV, outdoor education,
recreation, camping, community service.
Ages— 11 and up
Meetings— primarily at leader’s home in Harrisville.
Dues— none in addition to the $10 annual member fee.
Contact— Tracy D’Augustino 724-9909

Dothraki Skydogs
Projects— Horse, Rabbit
Ages— 7-19
Meetings— Leader’s home in Mikado
Dues— none in addition to the $10 annual member fee.
Contact— Lindsay Nardi— 884-3295
Stephanie Maturen 590-3843

Rolling Hills Variety Club
Projects— All livestock (no beef)
Ages— 5-19
Meetings— At leaders home
on the south shore of Hubbard Lake.
Dues— none in addition to the $10 annual member fee.
Contact— Sandy LaBeau 335-4044
Missy Lobaugh 727-2013

Fishing Club
Projects— Outdoor recreation, fishing, aquatic science, community service.
Ages— 9 and up (younger with parent involvement.)
Meetings— monthly depending on where the fish are biting!
Dues— none in addition to the $10 annual member fee.
Contact— Tom Keerl 724-6804
Les Thomas 736-7231

A note to parents: If you have an interest in getting your child involved with a 4-H club but things are tight financially, don’t worry— the 4-H Council has your back! Member scholarships are available (no questions asked) to any family that is eligible to receive free or reduced lunch.
The member fee will not be a barrier to ANYONE who wants to participate in a 4-H Club!

Club directory continued on page 7
In an awards ceremony held during the Alcona Fair, youth from across the county were recognized for their accomplishments, culminating the 2013-14 4-H year. Youth are acknowledged one of two ways— in recognition of achievement or mastery of an individual project area (such as shooting sports or swine) or with County Awards that recognize the youth’s greater achievements throughout their 4-H career. Youth from 9-19 are eligible for up to three project awards per year and in addition, youth 12 and up are eligible for a county award. The more highly contested County Awards can only be given to a youth once in their lifetime and are acknowledged with a golden medallion and in some cases, a cash award. This year’s top winners included: Leadership- Maire MacMaster, Citizenship- Nelson French, Achievement- Crystal Allen and Hannah Terpstra, Safety – Matt MacMaster, Alumni- Jenny Sweet. This year’s 4-H’er of the Year honors went to Morgan Stewart, daughter of Pat Stewart of Harrisville. Morgan’s involvement in 4-H in Alcona county and throughout the state has been second to none. Not only has she participated in numerous statewide events, Morgan has been a volunteer for numerous statewide camps, trainings and events and is currently lending her time to a statewide children’s health taskforce. In 2014, Morgan was a regional state award winner in the Rabbit project area and recently received Michigan 4-H’s Key Club Award. Her medallion was accompanied by a check for $50, courtesy of the Alcona 4-H Advisory Council. Alex Stephenson, son of Scott and Lisa Stephenson of Barton City, was named the Junior 4-H Member of the Year. Alex’s involvement in the county program has been stellar and is currently a member in good standing of the Alcona 4-H Advisory Council. Alex has been successful in numerous project areas involving livestock, gardening and community service. In addition to his medallion, he received a $25 cash award, courtesy of the 4-H Council. In addition to his Junior 4-H’er award, Alex, brother Zach and Nelson French were all recognized for their submissions to the 4-H Essay Contest, “Because of 4-H, I can…”

Awards (continued)

Training & Scholarship policy

Did you know that the Alcona 4-H Advisory Council will pay for 50% of the cost of any elective Kettunen Center training for teen and adult volunteers? They will also pay 100% of mandatory trainings such as shooting sports, challenge training or PEP.

This benefit is available to encourage leaders (both teen and adult) to take advantage of educational clinics and training programs at the Kettunen Center in order to build their skills in project knowledge and youth development practices.

See page 2 for current list of Kettunen Center trainings with dates and registration deadlines.

All volunteers must register through their MSU Extension Office in order to attend these trainings!

Project Award Winners


**Sheep**- Matthew MacMaster, Hannah Riggs

**Swine**- Emily Lobaugh, Lilly Manning, Jenny McGuire, Rebecca McGuire, Hailey Petty, Sydney Petty, Alex Stephenson, Zach Stephenson, Morgan Stewart, Alyssa Terpstra, Hannah Terpstra, Harmony Travis and Seth Tulgetske.


**Horse**- Abby Lobaugh, Emily Lobaugh and Lilly Manning.

**Poultry**- Crystal Allen, Cloe Hahn, Alyssa Terpstra and Hannah Terpstra.

**Arts and Crafts**- Cloe Hahn and Haley Spaulding

**Pocket Pets**- Jansen Harte

1st Annual 4-H EXPO a success!

Youth and adults from across the county came to explore and enjoy everything Alcona 4-H has to offer this summer at the 1st annual Alcona County 4-H Expo. Club posters and displays, event information and lots of free food highlighted the event which also included demonstrations by the Alcona Sheriff’s Department, a dunk tank, children’s book giveaway, dodgeball tournament and bake sale. We are looking to grow this free family event for next year and hope to have participation from more community partners and 100% of the Alcona 4-H clubs.
Alcona Archery Club

Projects—Shooting sports (archery) Age—must be at least 9 years old before first club meeting. Meetings- ACCOA building in Lincoln on Thursday nights starting January 8.

Dues—in addition to the $10 member fee, a $2 per week dues will be collected to go toward the end of year banquet and awards.

Contact-
Chad Kamischke 471-2353,
Phil Potter 736-3137
Tom Keerl 724-6804

Orkie’s Camo Club

Projects—Rabbit, poultry, gardening, composting, Ages—5-19
Meetings—leader’s home in Harrisville. Dues—none in addition to the $10 annual member fee.

Contact- Pat Stewart 724-7474

Alcona 4-H Strikers

Alcona Bowling club will be meeting again this winter with interested youth of all experience and ability. Age—First grade and up! Meetings are weekly on Thursdays (3:30pm) starting on January 8th at Village Lanes in Harrisville. Weekly dues of $7 are in addition to the $10 member fee and include bowling, instruction, refreshments and awards party at the end of the year.

Contact-
Frank Belloli—724-6433

Apple Hill Variety Club

Projects—All livestock including beef Ages—5-19 Meetings-
Dues—none in addition to the $10 annual member fee.

Contact-
Dr. Jaci Fitzgerald 736-6020
Dr. John MacMaster 736-6020
Lisa Stephenson 989-370-1883

Jolly Rogers

Projects—Outdoor recreation, communication, community service, community engagement Ages—9-19
Meetings—primarily in Lincoln, but will move depending on activity
Dues—In addition to $10 Member fee, some activities may be at additional cost.

Contact- Judy French 335-1601

Crafts and Critters

Projects—Community Service, small animals, crafts, jewelry making Ages 5-19 Meetings—Start in October at leader’s home in Glennie.

Dues—none in addition to the $10 annual member fee.

Contact- Elaine McGuire 735-2094

Bird Brains

Projects—Woodworking, community service Ages—5-19 Meetings—Leader’s home in Mikado. Dues—none in addition to the $10 annual member fee.

Contact- Kevin or Deb Boyat 335-0307
Carl Racchini 739-7344

Reminder to Club Leaders!

Please plan on attending one upcoming Leader Meet session held at the EMS Building in on M72. The dates for the upcoming sessions are:
Oct 29, 6:30-8:00
Nov 08, 4:00-5:30

You only need to attend one as the content will be repeated.

We will be discussing updates to enrollment, policy and procedure as well as discussing needs for 2014-15. We will have refreshments and it should be a great time!

As a reminder, club financial paperwork will be due no later than November 8.
Alcona County 4-H
320 South State Street
Harrisville, MI  48740

New Office Hours!  Mon-Thurs  8AM-4PM and Fridays by appointment
Find us on the web at: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/info/alcona
Follow us on FACEBOOK at Alcona MSU Extension