SPAGHETTI DINNER AND HOLIDAY AUCTION

What a great evening. We started with over 400 dinners served. Of course the meal was excellent with Cindy Andrews’s special spaghetti and the homemade desserts.

The fun began about 4:00 pm – when chairmen Wendy and Rick Rozanskii opened the doors so that bidding could begin on the silent auction. This was the second year for this auction and it was more popular than last year. Several of our participants got some good buys – and some paid top dollar – but everyone had a great time.

Larry Hamblin began the main auction at 6:30 p.m. 4-H Clubs and organizations donated items or created theme baskets and boxes for this years activity. During the evening New Horizons provided snacks for the audience.

The evening also featured a bake sale, pick a prize tree, and grab bags for the younger crowd. Many young 4-H members crossed the stage bearing wonderful items for the auction. From an autographed football from the Detroit Lions, to a gift tree, toys, candles, gift certificates and appliances - anything you wanted could be purchased. A tremendous assortment of articles and gifts were available.

Thanks to everyone who contributed and attended. The funds raised will provide programs and help to maintain the Activity Center to allow for more activities for kids. The final total for the evening was over $18,000.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 6, 2014

MSU EXTENSION OFFICE
HOURS WILL BE
9:00 am – NOON & 1:00 – 5:00 pm
MONDAY–FRIDAY
51st MONROE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ANNUAL MEETING & DINNER

52nd ANNUAL AGRICULTURE BANQUET

“The HISTORY of NABISCO,
The NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY”

Thursday, December 12, 2013

Dinner  6:00 pm

Prince of Peace Community Center
1920 Lewis Avenue, Ida

TICKETS SOLD IN ADVANCE ONLY

$10.00 per person
PROTECTING FAMILY ASSETS:  
PART I

SOURCES OF FAMILY FINANCIAL RISK AND POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Regardless of our family situation, each of us desires the peace of mind that comes with knowing that our financial situation and our assets are protected from serious harm or loss. Begin by thinking about the types of financial losses that might happen and then look at the options available to us to reduce the impact of the losses.

The potential financial risk in our lives falls into several categories, illness or accident, legal liability, death and property loss. Examples of potential financial risks for these categories might be high medical bills, loss of income, being sued, fire, theft, or natural disaster.

There are many options for managing financial risk. “Avoid it” is one option. Get rid of the car or the house or don’t ski or be involved in high risk activities where the chances of injury is greater. Another option is to “reduce it”. Reduce the risk by installing smoke detectors and bolt locks or by keeping the house and garage uncluttered. A third option is to self-insure. This is where you are financially prepared for a major loss such as becoming ill and needing surgery or losing you home to a fire. This takes a great deal of discipline to save enough funds for such major events. Finally, the fourth option is “transfer it” by acquiring insurance.

Steps in asset protection are much like the process that you would use in managing any part of your life. Start by identifying sources to risk. Do you have a car, do you live near a water source, do you enjoy risk taking hobbies, etc.

Next evaluate the potential loss or the severity of the loss. If you are displaced because your house has been destroyed do you have the funds to cover the cost of temporary shelter, to rebuild and replace items? If you break your leg skiing, do you have the money to pay for the medical cost and to cover living expenses while your off from work.

Third, select a way to handle the risk exposure. Again think about the options for managing financial risk: “avoid it” – sell car or avoid participating in high risk activities, “reduce it”—drive carefully, do not have a trampoline in your back yard, “accept it”- have a car that is not worth much and only have liability insurance coverage, take the chance that you will not become sick or get seriously hurt, or “transfer it”- purchase insurance.

Once this assessment is completed take a good look at your financial plan to make adjustments as needed and then implement the plan. Make sure to evaluate and adjust the plan every couple of years. Principles of asset protection are to never risk a lot to save a little, never risk more than you can afford to lose and access if you can accept financial impact of small risks. Create a plan to insure against major risk possibilities.

The goal of risk management is to protect the resources and assets you have from the possibility of financial loss. Your personal risk management plan will grow out of your personal situation: your job, size of household, income, savings, etc.

For more information go to: Michigan State University Extension – mimoneyhealth website.

Next month, we will discuss insurance in more detail and how it helps to protect family assets.

For additional information and resources go to:
www.extension.org
www.mimoneyhealth.org
THE POWER OF GRATITUDE

A LITTLE THANKFULNESS WILL DO YOU A LOT OF GOOD.

This is the time of year where many of us give thanks for what we have and show gratitude to those we care about. Not only is this a good practice but research is showing gratitude, itself, is good for us in many ways. A grateful spirit brightens mood, boosts energy and fills daily living with a sense of contentment.

According to the University of California- Berkley- Greater Good Science Center, people who practice gratitude have reduced anxiety and depression, healthier, sleep better, more resilient, stronger relationships, encourages forgiveness, and inspires altruism. So with that said, practicing gratitude would be very beneficial all year round!

The benefits of gratitude are not just for those with a naturally positive outlook. It is a skill anyone can develop and gain the rewards along the way. So here are some tips to get started on your journey towards an attitude of gratitude.

- Write down three to five things that you are grateful for on a daily bases in a journal. During the month of November you will have seen this happen on social media.

- Write and send a “gratitude” letter to an important person in your life that you have never properly thanked.

- Enjoy the good in your life! We tend to be a negative society. Turn that around and accentuate the positive.

- Try to focus on the good intentions of peoples actions. Their intent tends to be genuine and they are trying to bring goodness to you. This in turn goes a long way to cultivate gratitude in adults and children alike.

Remember that gratitude is not about feeling happy because something good happens, but realizing that someone who didn’t have to, deliberately did something of value for you. Begin today and experience the power of gratitude to reap the benefits for you and your family.

Take some time as a family to create a list of what you are truly grateful for and embrace them to the fullest.

For more information on healthy relationships visit Michigan State University Extension website today!

URL for more information
http://greatergood.berkeley.edu/topic/gratitude

"as we express gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not in words, but to live by them.”

- John F. Kennedy
get the facts

Not sure what to expect from your health insurance?

Why do I need health insurance?

What do I need and want?

Why is it important?

What are my choices?

How much can I afford?

How much will it cost?

Learn how to make the Smart Choice.

Join us live online to learn how you can get the most out of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

Individuals and families:
Join MSU Extension experts for a live, online webinar. Webinars will be held on Mondays. The same information will be provided at each of the following times:
- 9 – 11 a.m.
- 3 – 5 p.m.
- 6 – 8 p.m.

Farmers, self-employed people and small business owners:
Join us Mondays from noon to 2 p.m.

Visit aca.msue.msu.edu to see which topics we’ll cover each week.

JOIN US!
To participate, log on to: connect.msu.edu/healthinsurance.
Click “Guest” and type in any name. (You will be anonymous. No information is collected during the discussion.)

Don’t have a computer with a high-speed connection? Visit your local library for access.
PARENTING PROGRAMS

FALL 2013

NURTURING PARENTING ONGOING CLASS

Every Tuesday
11:30 am—12:30 pm

Arthur Lesow Community Center
120 Eastchester
Monroe, MI 48161

COST: FREE

Pre-register required
734 240-3179

Certificate of completion is awarded once six classes are completed.

MONROE COUNTY HOMEMAKERS OF EXTENSION

The presentation “Grandma’s Yellow Pie Plate” by Terry Clark-Jones on November 6th was attended by 6 members. Comments — “Very good lesson”, “Very informative”.

Carleton Study Groups Auction on October 22nd had a pretty good turn-out. Lots of nice items sold. They used the money for charity. They also collected school supplies earlier for local students.

Council made up a Homemaker Basket for the 4-H Holiday Auction on November 23rd.

We still have some cookbooks to sell. Members also are selling “Flower Cards” for $30.00. That comes to $2.50 per month for a beautiful bouquet of fresh flowers from Deb’s.

Council donated $150.00 to Fairview to be used as needed.

New members are encouraged to join. Please contact Betty Curley at 241-6238.
Breastfeeding is the optimal choice in infant feeding and is universally endorsed by both the World Health Organization and scientific communities. But—what do mom’s say about their experiences? Here are some personal testimonials from Monroe County mothers in 2013, two of which are first time mothers.

“If it wasn’t for the Mother to Mother program of Monroe County, I can honestly say I would have never breastfed my little girl. I am please to say I did it until she was a year old and the nutrition and bond I shared with my daughter is something I will cherish forever. I have recommended it to several other pregnant women….. This program rocks!” Monroe County mom.

“….. I gained the support, help and instruction to be successful in breastfeeding my second and third child. My first experience with nursing lacked knowledge and help and ended with feelings of failure. Without the help of our peer counselor, I know the other two experiences would have been a great struggle as well or not even attempted. She was able to take me through a very practical video before my second child was born as well as answer SO many questions I had because of my first experience. Gratefulness is not enough to express the comfort of knowing what my children were able to gain from successful breastfeeding experiences. Having the Mother to Mother program available allowed me to care for my children naturally in the earliest time of their lives. Having someone to go to whenever there was a need or question brought great comfort throughout.” Monroe County mom.

“I made the decision to nurse my second child after reading about the benefits to both me, and first and foremost, my baby. My healthy nine-pounder had initial issues latching…. I was given the number to the Mother to Mother program for nursing assistance…. Immediately returned my phone call and did not hesitate to meet with me and educate me on various breastfeeding positions and ways to alleviate breast soreness. Her encouragement and patience guided me through my first weeks as a novice breastfeeding mother as well as easing my concerns about the amount of milk my son was receiving. She would call to see how I was doing with nursing and always offered great support. Without her help I question whether I would have continued to breast feed or “throw in the towel” and revert to bottle feeding.

It’s been over a year and I continue to nurse my son. I am thankful for the guidance along my nursing journey. I would highly recommend the Mother to Mother program for any mothers who need nursing support.” Teacher, Meadow Montessori School
HORSE BANQUET

Congratulations to the Horse Program who held their banquet on October 26th at the 4-H Activity Center. All Horse and Pony Families were invited and encouraged to attend.

Recognition included awards from fair, State Horse Show, and several special awards as the Horse and Pony Board recognized members for their outstanding accomplishments. It has been an exciting year for the program, as they encouraged their members to attend and compete in each of the “Open Shows” and saw tremendous success at the State 4-H Horse Show.

The success of the 4-H Program is being accomplished by the “Teamwork” that the members, leaders and parents are displaying as they work together.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HORSE AND PONY AND SAA OFFICERS

Both the Horse and Pony Board and the Small Animal Association elected officers for the 2014 4-H year. They have already begun running their respective Boards.

Horse and Pony Officers

President – Stacey Woggons  
Vice-President – Amanda Eisterhold  
Secretary – Rebecca White  
Corresponding Secretary – Mackenzie Slatinsky  
Treasurer – Morgan Slatinsky  
Historian - Briana Princehorn

Small Animal Association Officers

President – Alexis Garbo  
Vice –President – Carter Paddy  
Secretary – Sarah Wachowicz  
Corresponding Secretary- Amelia Arting  
Treasurer - John Milkovich  
Historian –Reporter- Claudia Paddy

STATE AWARDS

Members who are interested in being a part of the State Awards for 2014 need to plan on attending a workshop to be held on January .7th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Extension Learning Center.

Members will be given copies of the forms and guidelines, we will discuss potential areas they may be interested in and have some hands on experiences as we begin to work toward completion of the application.

Completed award forms will be due on March 1st. Monroe County 4-H members who will be 13 as of January 1st, 2014, and have not reached their 20th birthday before January 1st of 2014 are eligible to apply, a member may win up to two state awards.
Members who are 11 and 12 may compete for State Recognition in the Mark of Excellence Essay Contest. Two 4-H members will be chosen from Monroe County for this award. The criteria for this award will also be discussed at the January 7th meeting.

Scholarships for Exploration Days will be given to all Regional State Award winners and to our Mark of Excellence winners.

**4-H LEADERS BANQUET**

The 2013 4-H Leader Banquet is in the process of being planned so we hope you have the date on your calendar to attend. Friday evening, December 13th at 7:00 p.m. at the 4-H Activity Center.

The committee has planned a fun evening, with prizes, great food, an opportunity to recognize some of our outstanding leaders and to conclude the evening by saluting Monroe Bank & Trust for their continued support to both 4-H and to the community.

We realize that the banquet is in the middle of the Holiday Season, but hope that you value the friendships you have made through 4-H to come and celebrate the successes that we have experienced in 2013 together.

Invitations have been mailed. Please feel free to call for reservations, even if your invitation has not arrived. Call 734-240-3184 or 734-240-3170.
PLAN TO ATTEND 2014 INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT ACADEMY

Program is designed to assist people who are working in a new cropping area or would like to brush up on their IPM skills.

Published on: Nov 12, 2013

Michigan State University Extension is hosting the third annual Integrated Pest Management Academy, Feb. 18-19 in East Lansing.

Michigan State University Extension's 2014 IPM Academy is a two-day workshop that will prepare growers, consultants and public sector employees to better understand integrated pest management strategies, identify pest insects and diseases, recognize beneficial insects, and adopt an integrated and informed approach to pest management. This program is designed to assist people who are working in a new cropping area or would like to brush up on their IPM skills.

On the first day of the program, participants will become familiar with the overarching tenants of IPM, which will help prepare them for the crop-specific breakout session on the second day. On day two of the program, participants will opt into two, half-day sessions on the topics of their choice. Sessions include content in fruit, vegetable, field crop, conifer and minor crop production.

Save The Date For The 2014 Integrated Pest Management Academy, Feb. 18-19

The final session roster will be released in December when registration for this event opens. Participants will receive program materials and a complimentary IPM-related MSU bulletin. Michigan pesticide recertification credits will be available.

STILL TIME TO SOIL TEST HAY FIELDS

JERRY LINDQUIST, MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Soil test samples can be pulled anytime of the year that the ground is not frozen. Various experts advise to try to soil test at the same season of the year to have a more accurate trend line when you compare fertility levels over long periods of time. But in today’s hectic world, a soil test taken any time of the year is better than not taking one at all.

According to Michigan State University Extension, there is still time to pull soil samples this year, especially on hay fields. If you have not soil tested in recent years, now may be a great time to still get them done.

In recent years many farms cut back on the fertilization of hay and pasture fields. Fertilizer prices were high and the price of forage was low. In many instances baling hay was not profitable, especially if you were trying to sell it, so many farms quit fertilizing and soil testing hay fields all together.
The times have definitely changed – hay prices for the upcoming winter season are running $115 - $240 per ton. Most of the dairy quality alfalfa hays are selling for more than $180 per ton. The other part of this changing equation is that fertilizer prices in last quarter of 2013 have fallen. Potash, 0-0-60, one of the key nutrients for alfalfa hay, has fallen 18 percent in price from one year ago to the $450 per ton range across Michigan retail markets. International markets for potash are showing weakness and many feel these markets will stay low for the spring and may even move lower.

The impact of these two price swings makes alfalfa hay one of more promising crops for 2014 from a profitability standpoint. But in order to optimize yield fertility levels must be optimum as well. “We have too many alfalfa hay fields across Michigan that are low in potassium” warns Kim Cassida, MSU Forage Specialist. “When potash was high priced farms backed off on their annual topdress rates and their alfalfa stands are showing it.” Alfalfa is less drought tolerant and less winter hardy when it is low in potassium.

Now is the time to get hay fields and pastureland soil tested and beat the spring rush. If we put off doing it now it may not get done in time for the upcoming growing season. In this upcoming season the reward could be significant.

For more information contact me at lindquis@anr.msu.edu or 231-832-6139 or MSU forage specialist Kim Cassida at cassida@msu.edu.

**ATTACK ON SEEDLING DISEASES**

*POSTED NOV. 12TH, 2013 BY RALPH PEARCE*

Researchers are gaining the upper hand in a battle that is much more complex than anyone expected

When it comes to production problems in soybeans, growers have grown used to hearing that with soybean cyst nematode, once you’ve got it, it’s in your fields to stay. Only diverse rotations and SCN-resistant varieties can reduce the damage to future crops. But nematodes are far from the only threat. Surveys in the U.S. have estimated the lost yield due to seedling diseases in American soybean fields at 37 million bushels a year.

There are at least four different seedling diseases in this complex, including phytophthora, pythium, fusarium and rhizoctonia. But it’s the first two that are the focus of research now being conducted in the U.S.

Times are changing for in-depth disease research, so the battle with seedling diseases can benefit from more detailed surveys as well as from new technological tools to help determine the presence of different species of phytophthora and pythium.

Martin Chilvers, an assistant professor at Michigan State University, is part of a team of researchers across 12 soybean-growing states and Ontario, looking to build a more detailed analysis of the disease pathogens involved, including what effect they can have on soybean seedlings and roots.

The funding in the U.S. comes from the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture, with matching funds from the United Soybean Board and the North Central Soybean Research Program, while Canadian research was funded primarily by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada through the Agricultural Adaptation Council and the Grain Farmers of Ontario.

“Up until now, we haven’t had a national survey to figure out what species are out there, and we haven’t really had the molecular tools that we have now, either,” says Chilvers, who is originally from Australia and has studied disease pathogens around the world. “We now have a pretty good snapshot of what pythium species are actually out there and in soybeans in particular. With the isolates that we’ve collected, we’re now trying to determine which ones are pathogenic and are truly causing disease.”

It’s one thing to isolate an organism in the soil environment, and to determine whether it is infecting a plant or is associated with the disease in seedlings. It’s quite another to prove that it’s the cause of the disease. And that’s what Chilvers and others in the U.S. Midwest and Ontario are trying to understand.
As with any research into plant diseases, the more they can understand about the species that are present, including their activity and their disease transmission capabilities, the more researchers can target suitable responses, be it improved seed treatments or fungicide applications, or passing along the information to plant breeders for enhanced germplasm and improved varieties.

There’s also the notion that phytophthora and pythium, like soybean cyst nematode, have been a part of the soybean disease landscape in the Midwest and in Ontario for years, if not decades. And with pythium in particular, a surprise turned up when scientists tallied the number of different species that were collected in this regional survey.

In 2011, 55 species of pythium were identified, plus 40 more in 2012. The same survey identified only two phytophthora species in 2011 and two more in 2012.

What also turned up in the research was the possibility that environmental conditions including temperature, precipitation and soil texture might play a role in this developing story.

“The study has opened our eyes to the number of pythium species that are out there,” says Chilvers, acknowledging the importance of phytophthora, which is already recognized as a significant cause of disease. “But with pythium, it’s much more difficult for these seedling diseases, in terms of identification. If you bring in a diseased seedling, it’s very difficult for me to tell you exactly what’s causing that disease because the symptoms on the plant are hard to distinguish. You often can’t differentiate pythium, phytophthora, fusarium and rhizoctonia from each other — they just produce very similar symptoms.”

In addition to identifying the species, Chilvers and the other researchers are trying to develop molecular tools to speed the identification process. That way, growers will be able to get quicker diagnosis, with improved identification leading to more precise recommendations to combat the disease, including better targeted fungicide seed treatments.

The benefit of this type of research also includes the long-term potential to build some sort of diagnostic tool that helps a plant breeder incorporate this information for the purpose of improving new or existing germplasm. Chilvers is quick to point out that although he can come up with newer diagnostic tools based on his work to identify the specific causes, incorporating this information into new soybean varieties is not an overnight development.

“There’s a difficult process, where incorporating different resistance genes is concerned, but they’re going to be able to combine different resistances much more quickly than what they have in the past,” says Chilvers.

Here in Canada
From Albert Tenuta’s perspective, the seedling disease complex is second only to soybean cyst nematodes in Canada. “We’re seeing the same thing in Ontario,” says Tenuta, the field crops pathologist for Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF). “We’re seeing shifts in populations, particularly when you look at pythium.”

Tenuta says disease watchers are also seeing pythium species with more diversity, and some are becoming better able to adapt to the changing environmental conditions. That’s a concern because, while pythium is usually considered a cool-weather, early-spring problem, there’s evidence that some pythium species can tolerate warmer temperatures and hurt crops further into the season.

The impact of that shift cannot be ignored, and Tenuta adds that these trends are occurring in the U.S. just as they are in Ontario, which is why he’s helping out in the survey and is part of the process of developing a regional distribution map of the pathogens that are out there. That makes it much more beneficial for public and private breeding programs as well, because there is now the capacity to target genetics to the specific issues profiled in various regions. If Ontario finds that there’s a unique situation with pythium or phytophthora, there is the opportunity to breed varieties for those specific needs in the different regions.

“It’s a challenge, because we’ve been breeding soybeans for how long?” says Tenuta. “And other than phytophthora, where we have good race resistance and race-specific resistance as well as partial resistance, when we think of fusarium, rhizoctonia and pythium, we don’t have the same level of genetic resistance or tolerance in a commercial variety. So we’re dependent on things such as seed treatments and management to reduce the risk to producers from these diseases. The result is that we’re seeing more of what I call...
‘nibbling’ — a little bit more every year of these diseases. And some years more so than others, a lot of it will depend on the environmental conditions early on in the spring.”

So in a year such as 2013, with a cool, wet spring, there was a substantial increase in pythium, phytophthora, rhizoctonia and fusarium seedling disease injury in Ontario in areas that are more prone to them, such as the heavy clay soils, or areas that had saturated soil conditions. And just as Chilvers cautions against making too many conclusions based on current research, Tenuta notes that under current conditions in Ontario, there is still considerable work to be done to determine the specific capabilities of the pathogens involved. Finding and identifying a species doesn’t mean it’s the cause of the disease.

“One of the evolutionary strategies of any of the best disease-causing pathogens is their ability to find a little niche or a little opening or a crack in our wall of protection,” Tenuta says. “And when they find that little crack, they’re able to then get in and start to do their thing.”

What Tenuta sees is the development of resistance by some pythium species against the current fungicide treatments that are based on metalaxyl. It isn’t that the products have lost their efficacy completely — they haven’t, says Tenuta. But using this information could lead to the incorporation of other seed treatment fungicides to compensate for these new developing soybean issues.

“Now, you’re going to see at least one, maybe two new products that are targeting the oomycetes for pythium and phytophthora,” adds Tenuta. “So by combining the two actives, you’re able to manage both groups of oomycetes that are maybe becoming less sensitive to the metalaxyl, but the new active in these new seed treatment fungicides can control them.”

Again, the word of caution is that these developments take time. It’s one thing to identify the species and how they can affect your soybean crop. That’s the stage at which Chilvers and Tenuta are working. But it’s another branch of science that figures out how a new seed treatment is developed, or how a new variety is bred. And typically, that process can take between five and 10 years. Stay tuned!

— Ralph Pearce is a production editor for Country Guide at St. Marys, Ont. This article appeared in the October 2013 edition of Soybean Guide (pages 24-26).
DECEMBER 2013 / JANUARY 2014

4-H

December

12/2/13  4-H Council  6:00 pm  12/3/13  Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class  11:30 am
  4-H Activity Center

12/10/13  Youth Leadership Board  6:00 pm  12/10/13  Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class  11:30 am
  4-H Activity Center

12/12/13  Fair Board Annual Meeting  7:00 pm  12/16/13  Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class  11:30 am
  4-H Activity Center

12/13/13  Leader Banquet  7:00 pm  12/17/13  MCHE Meeting  10:00 am
  4-H Activity Center

12/24-25/13  CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
  OFFICE CLOSED

12/30/13/  NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS
  OFFICE CLOSED

12/31/13/  NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS
  OFFICE CLOSED

January

1/1/14  NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS
  OFFICE CLOSED

1/6/14  4-H Council
  New Member Orientation  6:30 pm  1/7/14  Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class  11:30 am
  Council Meeting
  Extension Learning Center

1/7/14  2014 State Awards Meeting  7:00 pm  1/14/14  Arthur Lesow Community Center
  Extension Learning Center

1/16/14  REAACT  7:00 pm  1/21/14  Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class  11:30 am
  Extension Learning Center

1/16/14  Junior Livestock Association  7:00 pm  1/27/14  Arthur Lesow Community Center
  Extension Learning Center

1/19/14  Fair Advisory Board Meeting  6:00 pm
  Pepperoni Grill

1/27/14  Small Animal Association  7:00 pm
  Extension Learning Center

1/28/14  C.S.I.  7:00 pm
  Extension Learning Center

1/30/14  Teen Ambassadors  7:00 pm
  Extension Learning Center

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

December

12/3/13  Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class  11:30 am
  Arthur Lesow Community Center

12/10/13  Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class  11:30 am
  Arthur Lesow Community Center

12/16/13  Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class  11:30 am
  Arthur Lesow Community Center

12/24-25/13  CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
  OFFICE CLOSED

12/30/13/  NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS
  OFFICE CLOSED

12/31/13/  NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS
  OFFICE CLOSED

January

1/1/14  NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS
  OFFICE CLOSED

1/7/14  Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class  11:30 am
  Arthur Lesow Community Center

1/14/14  Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class  11:30 am
  Arthur Lesow Community Center

1/21/14  Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class  11:30 am
  Arthur Lesow Community Center

1/27/14  Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class  11:30 am
  Arthur Lesow Community Center
STAFF AND MSUE RESOURCES

The Monroe County MSU Extension office is open to the public on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 am—noon and 1:00—5:00 pm. The office staff may be accessed via the main phone line at 734-240-3170. Service is also available at the lobby counter during these hours. On Wednesday and Friday, staff may only be reached via their direct lines which are noted below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALLEN RUSSELL</td>
<td>240-3175</td>
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<tr>
<td>WINNIE WEBB</td>
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<td>Breastfeeding Peer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:webbw@anr.msu.edu">webbw@anr.msu.edu</a></td>
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</tbody>
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Though Extension has recently reorganized our structure, Extension professionals are still located in communities across the state and are still working to address Michigan’s most pressing needs through four broad-themed areas; greening Michigan, agriculture and agribusiness, children and youth, health and nutrition. If you would like to learn more about these program areas, you can read about them in a document called “Carrying Out the Land-Grant Mission” that can be found at www.msue.msu.edu To locate MSU Extension Staff across the state by name or area of expertise go to: http://people.msue.msu.edu