Monroe County,
Michigan State University
and
Monroe County
Conservation District

This publication is provided to
assist you in receiving the
information necessary to en-
hance the quality of life for
you and your family.

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YOUTH LEADERSHIP BOARD

Many Clubs and Organizations are electing officers to lead them through the 2013 Program Year. Congratulations to the youth who have been newly appointed to lead the Youth Leadership Board. This is the organization that will be providing the leadership for the Officers Training on February 6th, and who will be in charge of activities such as the fair dance and Clover Days.

These members represent all of the organizations and the 4-H Council. Participation on this board allows them to learn and teach parliamentary procedure to their organizations, to become more aware of the many opportunities that are available to Monroe County 4-H members and in turn share these opportunities with members across the county. Congratulations to all of the organization president, who will be part of the new board.

Junior Livestock – Elliot Wollom
Small Animal – Tabatha Lajiness
Teen Ambassadors – Samantha Beaudrie
Junior Superintendents – Evan Hackett
Shooting Sports Association – Jake Williams
Council - Tricia Fazekas
   Emily Kittendorf
   Melissa Woelmer
   Alexis Garbo
   Scott Paddy
   Stacey Woggon
King – Nick Beaudrie
Queen – Katie Seitz
Princess – Claudia Paddy
Prince – Zane Piedmonte-Lang

Rick Rozanski, Council President announced the recipient of the 2012 Presidents Award for the YLB. This year the award was presented to Katie Seitz for her outstanding leadership in the programs and for her work with the 2012 Clover Days Program.

For more information, visit our website at www.msue.msu.edu/monroe

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MONROE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

50th Annual Meeting and Pancake Supper
Thursday, January 24, 2013
Pancake supper with continuous serving from 6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.
7:00 meeting includes election of two directors, the district’s year in review
Friends of Conservation Award and entertainment
Location:
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Community Center, 1920 Lewis Avenue, Ida
Suggested donation: $8.00 for ages 12 and over
Children 11 and under eat free.

Discover Monroe County’s deep agricultural roots and the role Michigan farmers played in the War of 1812 in an interactive program with River Raisin National Battlefield Park’s Chief of Interpretation, Education and Operations, Daniel Downing and Major Muskrat!

River Raisin National Battlefield Park holds many stories of valor and sacrifice. The Battles were the largest ever to be fought on Michigan soil and resulted in the largest number of United States combat casualties in any single battle during the entire War of 1812.

The Battles of the River Raisin were waged on the original French Ribbon farms of historic Frenchtown and surrounding farms.

The Battlefield is an enduring reminder of the great sacrifice that has been and continues to be required to defend our freedom and democratic form of government.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its program and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA’s TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
FAMILY DECISION MAKING TIPS

Learn to avoid situations that effect unproductive family decisions.

Family life can be fun, rewarding and complicated. Some of the more emotional discussions that families deal with revolve around problem solving and conflict resolution. The following are some tips to help with family decision making:

1. Avoid discussing an issue or problem at an inappropriate time. Problem solving tends to be difficult when people are angry or tired.
2. Do not begin the decision making process with a closed mind. You may be surprised at the creative solutions your family comes up with.
3. Be sure to actively listen to other people’s viewpoints and feelings. Right or wrong, feelings are real.
4. Clarify imprecise understandings or assumptions. Be gentle.
5. Don’t let anger become a barrier to progress. Getting angry, criticizing, calling names, blaming, using sarcasm or other aggressive behavior doesn’t help. If you are angry, take a break.
6. Don’t give in. Saying, “I guess you’re right” with a big sigh, or being submissive in order to avoid conflict is not problem solving, its avoidance.
7. Be realistic. Try to clearly attach decisions to resources such as time, energy and money.
8. Avoid ultimatums. When one person gives ultimatums, they threaten other people into submitting to what they want. For example, “You’ll do it or I’ll divorce you!”
9. Be respectful. Refusing to regard individual differences in personalities, goals, values, emotional investments and life styles does not encourage teamwork.
10. Communicate directly. Using a middle person to communicate with another family member can cause even more emotions to flare and can lead to misunderstandings.
11. Follow the Golden Rule. If you don’t take an active interest in decisions that concern other members of the family which could benefit by your involvement, don’t be hurt when others are disinterested in your problems.
12. Establish suitable boundaries around family decision making. Example of this might be who will be involved in the process; immediate family, extended family, inlaws.

By becoming aware of these tips, families may be able to communicate effectively without anger and hurt. They will be able to create a plan that is agreeable to all involved and successfully resolve family issues.

To contact an expert in your area, visit people.msue.msu.edu, or call 888-MSUE4MI (888-678-3464).

PLANNING AND PAYING FOR HIGHER EDUCATION COST

The rising cost of higher education is out pacing inflation and families need to plan accordingly.

The rising cost of higher education is out pacing inflation by an average of about 4%. In the past year, tuition has risen by approximately 6% in most cases. Many families are struggling to find what may be the best way to pay for college.

Applying for financial aid is usually the first step that individuals will make to help with the cost. There are four basic types of aid that can be received: work study, grants, loans (federal and private) and scholarships. This is done by filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA form). The form is filled out in January/February before the student’s fall classes and determines what financial aid one is eligible for. What determines the eligibility is need based. Student resources, parent’s resources (if student is considered a dependent) and academic status (full time, part time) are used in the calculation.

Once the FAFSA form is completed it will create the Expected Family Contribution (EFC). The EFC is not the amount of money the family will have to pay for college nor is it the amount of federal student aid one will receive. It is a number used by the school to calculate the amount of federal student aid the student is eligible to receive. The school will send a financial aid award letter in the spring. This will then assist in calculating what will be needed to cover cost of attending school for a year.

If there is time, specific colleges saving tools are available. Many states have 529 plans. The benefits of these plans are: withdrawals are not taxable, earnings are tax deferred, contributions are considered gifts, and funds can be transferred between siblings and doesn’t impact American Opportunity, HOPE and Lifetime Learning Education Tax Credits. Coverdell Educational Savings Account is
another savings vehicle for college. It works similar to a Roth IRA but strictly for education.

There are a few creative solutions that families may consider. Relatives are helping through estate planning strategies such as gifting or paying tuition directly to the university (no gift taxes). Parents and students are sharing on the contribution to school by using funds freed up by the student no longer living in the household and/or cutting back on expenses.

For more information on planning for higher education and personal finances go to: http://www.extension.org/personal_finance

To contact an expert in your area, visit people.msue.msu.edu, or call 888-MSUE4MI (888-678-3464).

QUALITIES OF A STRONG FAMILY

During the past 35 years researchers at University of Nebraska-Lincoln, University of Alabama-Tuscaloosa, and the University of Minnesota-St. Paul studied families in the United States and around the world to learn what the indicators of a strong family are. From this body of work six characteristics have emerged: commitment, spiritual wellness, effective communication, appreciation, time together, and the ability to deal with stress, conflict and crisis.

The family that characterizes commitment is dedicated to seeing that each member reaches their potential. They may do this by….

1. Commitment – The family as a whole is committed to seeing that each member reaches their potential.
2. Spiritual Wellness - This is a healthy way of living that feeds the body, mind, and spirit.
3. Effective Communication - Families learn to communicate directly and to be consistent with verbal and nonverbal behavior.
4. Appreciation - Family members recognize the beautiful, positive aspects of others and let them know that these qualities are valued.
5. Time Together - Strong families spend meaningful time with each other and they do it frequently.
6. Ability to Deal with Stress, Conflict and Crisis - All the previous strengths combine, create an inner core of power for families to reduce stress and prevent conflict and crisis. Strong families survive and even grow in face of adversity.

To assess your current family’s strengths, you can complete the Family Strengths Inventory offered by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension.

For more information on this topic go to: http://www.extension.unl.edu/web/child/strongfamilies

SAVE MONEY AND ENERGY—PROGRAMMABLE THERMOSTAT

Save about $180 a year by using programmable thermostat.

Using a programmable thermostat can help you save on heating and cooling costs in your home. The average household spends more than $2,200 a year on energy bills - nearly half of which goes to heating and cooling. Homeowners can save about $180 a year by properly setting their programmable thermostats and maintaining those settings. The amount of energy it will save will depend on things like the setback duration, and number of degrees.

For heating, you can try the “6-8” thermostat setting method. Set your thermostat at 68 degrees Fahrenheit. This temperature is considered an optimum energy conserving setting for most homes. When you’re away or sleeping for 6-8 hours, reduce the thermostat setting by 6-8 degrees. Whether turning the thermostat back manually, or by using an automatic setback thermostat, you will save energy and allow yourself reduced heating bills.

When deciding what unit will work best for you, think about ease of programming the thermostat and your home schedule. While a properly set programmable thermostat will allow you to set it and leave it, if it is difficult for the user to set/reset or is set improperly, it can actually end up costing more in energy cost. Make sure to select a thermostat that you understand and can properly adjust to the household lifestyle.
Programmable thermostats come with customized preset options for seven-day schedules and variations on five day schedules with alternate weekend programs. These thermostats also can be purchased with options that include digital displays, phone or voice programming, vacation features, hold features and heating and cooling systems malfunction indicators. Think about your lifestyles needs and choose the thermostat that offers you the most convenience for your budget.

For more information on programmable thermostats and energy conservation ideas go to:

http://www.energysavers.gov
http://www.energystar.gov/
http://www.extension.org/home_energy

To contact an expert in your area, visit people.msue.msu.edu, or call 888-MSUE4MI (888-678-3464).

**Parenting Programs**

**Monroe County Winter 2013**

*Appropriate for parents and caregivers of all ages*

**Building Strong Adolescents**

Parenting - 9 to 16 years
Mondays-Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2012
Pre register by Jan. 18, 2013 by calling: 734-240-3179

**Effective Discipline**

Parenting - all ages
Tuesdays - March 12 and 19, 2013
Pre register by March 11, 2013 by calling: 734-263-5090 or 734-240-3179

**Nurturing Parenting Mini sessions**

Parenting - all ages
Pre register by Jan. 25, 2013 by calling 734-210-3179 or 734-289-5580

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ON THE CAPITOL STEPS

Registration for the 2013 4-H Capitol Experience has begun. Capitol Experience is an annual four day conference that focuses on civic engagement and public policy. More than 100 teens from around the state will converge in Lansing to experience state government in action.

This year the program will be held March 17-20 and will include visits to such locations as the Capitol Building, the Supreme Court, as well as State and Community agencies. The program is open to high school teens and adult chaperones.

The cost of the conference is $350 per person, which includes meals and lodging. Information is also available at Michigan State University 4-H Website.

Registrations are due February 6th.

RACING LEADERSHIP INTO THE FUTURE

On December 7th, the 65th Annual 4-H Leaders Recognition Program was again sponsored by Monroe Bank & Trust and was held at the 4-H Activity Center at the Fairgrounds. The hall was decorated with black and yellow and there were cars and checkered flags as decorations.

Monroe Bank & Trust President, Doug Chaffin, along with several officers and employees of the bank helped us celebrate. The fun extended beyond the banquet as leaders enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere and took the time to renew the many friendships that they have found in 4-H. Debbie Kraftchick took care of the entertainment as she called leaders and guests to race the cars down the pinewood derby track that was provided for us by the Cub Scouts.

Two hundred and sixty-three leaders were recognized with tenure awards of 5 or more years. Katie Seitz and Nick Beaudrie, 4-H Queen and King gave a salute to the leaders as they explained the affect that the program has had on them. Zane Piedmonte Lang, Monroe county 4-H Prince served the beverages and assisted with the drawing for candy sale prizes.

LEADERSHIP AWARDS

New members, new leaders and new ideas, have kept the 4-H program moving through another year. Tenured leaders have given us the base on which we have built our strong program. Monroe Bank & Trust gives us the opportunity to recognize each of these leaders, both new and tenured. Leadership awards were presented to four individuals this year. Each recipient has provided outstanding service to our program.

Lisa Marimpietri – Faithful Friends 4-H

Our first leadership award was presented to a leader who has already blazed a trail that will be difficult to follow. Serving as a leader, she is a tremendous supporter of the 4-H Program. She encourages her kids to step outside the box, and try their own wings. If there is something to be done, she will work to make it happen. She encourages her own kids and her club to participate to their fullest, to be more involved and take advantages of opportunities. Leadership comes in a variety of packages and the first recipient certainly believes in 4-H. She has certainly made a difference in the lives of many kids and in our 4-H program. Lisa is Community Leader and fair superintendent. She also went to Exploration Days for the first time this year.

Susan Hammons

Our second leadership award went to a lady who never ceases to amaze us. Some twenty years ago, Sue and Paul Marks had a vision of taking our livestock sale into the 20th Century.

Now we have the best run livestock sale in the state and probably in the world. Her dedication to the program and to the kids is unmatched. She has helped to train others to be a part of the program enjoys working with anyone – including both kids and adults – and is always coming up with fresh ideas. Very creative with everything she does, in fact you can talk her in to doing almost anything.

One of the best parts of her job is her cold office during fair week. She comes alive in that cold trailer – she sings, tells jokes and tries to get points on the board – which is the game that the Tech Crew does. It’s wild place inside the tech trailer.

Patience, understanding and willingness to not only explain, how, when and where, she will also take you under her wing to help you learn the process.

Congratulations Sue!
Debbie Kraftchick – Leader County Kids
The third leader that was recognized we could almost classify as a hoarder. She collects things that would appear to be trash to someone else and turns them into 4-H projects.

She has taught at the Mini-Expo, was part of the Leader Learning Fair, is part of the Fair Advisory Board, really pushes State Awards, and always finds the positive in everyone.

Probably the trait that stands out most, is her willingness to work with everyone, and is always encouraging others, “to make the best – better”. She is always thanking everyone for the work they do, but seldom takes any credit for herself. The line we hear most often is “oh, I can do that” and then it is done.

She probably has the largest data base of 4-H leaders on her computer of anyone in the state, so if you have a message that needs to get out to the masses – just email Debbie Kraftchick.

Congratulations Debbie – we appreciate all of the roles you play and the support you bring to the program.

Wendy Rozanski
Sheep and crafts are her projects, but kids are the name of the game. Wendy serves as a 4-H superintendent and also serves on the Dundee District Executive Committee, She cooks the JLA banquet, planned and presented the best Mini-Expo in 2012 and is working to top it in 2013. She partnered with Terri Lennard and they just completed a very successful Spaghetti Dinner and Auction. We also talked her into going to Exploration Days this year and helping on the State Awards program. She understands the term “team work” and in the process encourages their kids, the families in their club and all of the people they touch to be become members of the 4-H Team.

In 2012, she took on more responsibilities in the Tech Trailer, and worked at both garage sales to raise money for our fair ribbons. One project that is entirely hers is the champion banners for showmanship and large Livestock Champions. What a great savings for fireboard and what a privilege for our youth to get a handcrafted banner.

The list of leadership activities have only been this year – and many she has been doing as long as she has been involved. Our 4-H youth certainly benefit for the support and expertise that she provides.

Congratulations –Wendy Rozanski and thank you for everything you do for the program.

LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Greenstone – Farm Credit Services
Each year the 4-H Council presents three Meritorious Service Awards. Two awards are given to individuals and the third award is presented to a business that has provided support to 4-H.
This year we recognized the Greenstone Farm Credit Services – Richard Wilson and Ashlee Minnick. Green Stone has been supportive of the 4-H programs forever. Back in the 70’s the 4-H office was down at Detroit Stoker on the east side of Monroe. Rather than make Junior Livestock members come to the office for night meeting – they held their meetings at the Farm Credit Services office on Telegraph.

In more recent years Greenstone has become huge supporters of our Junior Livestock Sale, provided paper products for our fund raising and banquets, worked with us on judging events, and have just been a wonderful advocate of our youth and our program. On behalf of the Monroe County 4-H Program, Richard and Ashley were presented with a plaque.
Butch and Denise Williams
Next we recognized a couple that wears multiple hats in our organization. They understand what 4-H brings to the family and to the community.

First we provided a few clues….
Middle Manager
Council Member
Involved with the Slow Spokes
Dorm chaperones
Shooting Sports Association
Tremendous Volunteers
Fantastic Parents
Community Leaders of two Clubs

The Williams really got involved when their daughters joined Teen Ambassadors. We knew then we had tremendous couple that would impact our program.

Butch came up with the idea that we needed a shooting sports program, and you know where we went from there. We don’t know for sure – but again our archery, pellet and shot gun program has got to be one of the largest in the State.

At the same time we added shooting sports as a fair class and the rest is history. But we need to look at the big picture. Butch and Denise are both superintendents – They serve as our dorm Chaperones, he has just been elected to be Vice President of the Council in 2013, Denise is a Middle Manager, they just recently adopted two young boys and they are foster parents for sisters – a three year old and three month old plus they have their son, Jake, who is extremely active in 4-H and Sports.

Not only that they both work full time and Denise teaches classes for the Foster Parent program while the rest of us complain that we don’t have time to get things done. They are guaranteeing that the 4-H Program will be here for at least another 18 years so their kids enjoy the benefits.

Butch has also spent time working in the Activity Center – the mantel on the fireplace is his creation as well. Not only are they giving of themselves to make the 4-H land a better place. They are reaching out to kids to insure that they have a better life.

Sherri Iacoangeli
We would now like to take the opportunity to recognize Sherri who is constantly giving to the program, to kids, and to the community.

Sherri likes to stay very behind the scenes – but always come through for the kids and 4-H. You can find her as part of the garage sales, Small Animal Association, Spaghetti Dinner, she is a bargain hunter and 4-H always benefits.

As a Small Animal Superintendent she has put all of her skills in place to make “old MacDonald’s Nursery” a fun place for the young kids and even the adults who visit during fair.

She also is always one of our presenters at the popular Ag Awareness Day.
One of the notable things she has done is her duck tale. We don’t know how many people heard about the ducks that lived in the Raisin River – but considered the fairgrounds their home. Close to 20 ducks would decide to come home on a daily basis – so they would waddle across M-50 single file. One reason that Warren didn’t like them – they seemed to make a mess on the fairgrounds – because there weren’t any 4-H members there to clean-up after them. Our 4-H Leader decided to save the ducks by re-locating them to Calder’s Farm. She herded them into a trailer and away they went.

Sherri Iacoangeli is always trying to figure out how to make the best better. Her concern runs deep – Sherri we just want you to understand that we certainly appreciate everything that you do.

LEADERSHIP AWARDS

The Alumni Award is given to individuals who have set and achieved goals, who are utilizing the skills that they have learned in 4-H and who are making an impact on their lives and the lives of those around them.

The 2012 Alumni Awards were presented this year to two people who have made a special effort to make 4-H a part of their lives and a place for youth to experience the program that they enjoyed. Both are serving the Monroe County 4-H Program in a variety of roles which not only provides those opportunities to be leaders, but makes them outstanding role models for today’s youth. They are both very vital to the successful operation of our program.

Janice Doederlein

The first award recognized an alumnus who is certainly an active part of the 4-H Program. As a kid – she thought she could and should do everything that was offered in the program – which also included the bike trip. She is making sure her children enjoy the program, and is working to create lasting memories for all that she touches. As superintendent, she continues to be a mentor to our youth. With exceptional organizational skills, she is also a techie, which combines to make her an excellent resource person for the whole program. All of the kids she touches have the same enthusiasm and love of the program that she has. She gets things done ahead of time and does not accept procrastination 101 which most of us teach. Her willingness to help where ever possible has made her very visible to everyone in the 4-H program. Now she is always trying to figure out how we can make the program run better, how to make things work, or what she can do – “to Make the Best, Better!!

Congratulations to Janice Doederlein!

I really enjoy recognizing the volunteers who I have had the opportunity to see grow through the program. And there is nothing that pleases me more than to have “kids” return in a leader role – that tells me that we did something right!

Mark Mathe

Our second Alumni also grew up in the 4-H program, naturally or he won’t be an Alumni. He tries to provide opportunities for the kids that he encourages to be a part of the program. He is full of enthusiasm and always has a smile – that goes a long way to make everyone love him.

He is also a vital part of the 4-H Council. He has been serving this year as an advisor and that is where he really shines. He is old enough that the kids will listen but young enough that they are comfortable. He did the bike trip and State Awards as a member, and he did start collecting urine as a junior superintendent. He is now a superintendent in the produce area, assists his wife with work on the dairy board and this past summer served as chairman of the Activity Center.

If you need a job done – just call on Mark – He will round up the volunteers and members or otherwise will do it himself.

Congratulations to Mark Mathe!
MINI-EXPO

Don’t forget that the Popular Mini-Expo is coming up this spring. Set aside the date of March 16th for this fun event.

As this copy of the Network goes to press the workshops are in the planning stages, but by late-January flyers will be available to register.

Classes fill up fast so if you want a flyer mailed to you, hot off of the press please call the 4-H office. The flyer will also be on line – so watch the county website to get your registration form.

Projects will include crafts, foods, communications, and many other choices.

RABBIT SHOW

The State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show will be held on January 26, 2013, at the MSU Pavilion. Copies of the Catalog are available at the office.

You do not pre-register for this show, but instead arrive on campus, with your animals between 6:30 and 9:00 a.m. on Saturday morning.

Our top showman in the cavy and rabbit division from our fair – will have the opportunity to compete for the Gold Clover Award.

To register for this contest the members must submit and application by January 4th

More information my be obtained at http://web:.msue.edu/cyf/youth/aniscipr.htm#Rabbits

OFFICER TRAINING

As clubs and organizations elect new officers they are encouraged to attend our annual officer training program. This year the training will be held on Wednesday, February 6th from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm in the Extension Learning Center.

Officers will learn about their job, how to accept responsibilities and also how to involve other members in decision making. The workshop will also include leadership styles, team building, brainstorming and what are the fiscal and financial responsibilities of the club and its officers. Refreshments will also be served.

This will be a fast moving, fun workshop that will give the club officers the information they need to run a good club meeting, make decisions and increase interest.

Please call the 4-H Office to make reservations for your kids. 734-240-3174

COMMUNICATIONS DAY

REAACT is planning a Communications Day, which this year will be held on February 9th - at the Extension Office, South meeting room.

All topics must relate to the environment this year.

Contests will be held for Extemporaneous, Public Speaking, Photography, Interviews, Demonstrations, Recyclable Art, Painting and Drawing and a Food Item with healthy benefits.

Please call the office by February 1st to register.

The program will start at 10:00am

Awards will be given in each age group. Call 734-240-3174 to register.

2013 FAIR THEME

The fair board would like to have suggestions for Fair Themes by February 1st, if possible.

Each Club can submit one suggestion. The themes can be submitted directly to the Fair Association, or they may be sent to the Extension Office. Make sure you include the club name and a contact person with your theme idea.

The club that submits the winning theme will receive $50.00.

As you think about themes remember it must be something that we can illustrate on a pin, with a float, and on the brochure.
The fair this year is scheduled for July 28 – August 3rd. Opening day will be Sunday, and the fair will close on Saturday with the 4-H Dance. The annual parade will again begin at 1:00 p.m. in downtown Monroe.
The entry deadline for members this year will be Monday, June 17th. Community Leaders will have the responsibility of turning in all completed entries. Forms will be accepted at the 4-H Activity Center from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on June 17th.

Livestock
There are no major changes in the Livestock area this year.
The swine show will be a terminal show. All hogs that are exhibited will be shipped, even if they are not sold in the sale.

General Livestock Rules
Don’t forget all sheep must be sheared and show ready, when they arrive at fair. No clippers will be allowed on the fairgrounds.

Small Animals
Rabbits - Must be permanently tattooed with a pierced tattoo. No exceptions will be made to this rule. All rabbits must have a permanent ear tattoo at least one week prior to the fair. Rabbits will be tattooed at the Fitting and Showing Clinic on June 10th.
Master Stockman – Small Animal – must show a small animal to compete in the category – a member must compete in five divisions to be eligible for an award.
  · Members will be required to attend one small animal workshop in order to exhibit at the fair
  · In order to participate in Showmanship the animal must have been exhibited in the show, animal must be owned by the member, and the member must have attended a Small Animal workshop in 2013.
  · A member participating in the Master Stockman contest must show at fair the species that they are competing in for the contest.
  · Minimum weights for this year’s fair
    o Market Rabbits – 3 pounds
    o Roaster Rabbits – 5 pounds
    o Broiler Chickens – 3 pounds
    o Roaster Chicken – 8 pounds
    o Ducks – 4 pounds
    o Geese – 8 pounds
    o Turkeys – 15 to 40 pounds
  · No coloring or altering of an animal – either being exhibited or being used in any contest

Craft Buildings
New Divisions –
  · Healthy Cooking – Make a food recipe with healthy benefits or rework an old recipe to be Healthier – Be Prepared to explain the health benefits to the Judge
  · Pillows – May be made from a material of members choice except fleece. Judging will be based on creativity, originality and level of difficulty.
  · Woodworking Kits – Project will start with a wood kit – where the project is pre-cut and the member must assemble and create a finish on the wood.
  · EXPLORERS ONLY – Ribbon Bulletin Boards – these will be bulletin boards that will be a fabric front and have ribbons attached to the board to display – ( will be taught at Mini – Expo)

Educational Building
Club and Club Table settings have been eliminated -
New areas will include:
  · Foil Sculpture – must include a journal with the following information –
    o How long it took to create
    o How much foil and other material was used
o Must be 3D foil sculpture only
o Must include a Short story explaining your sculpture and why you chose it

(This will be taught at Mini-Expo)

- Puzzles – must be 500 or more pieces
  - Can be done by a group or individual
  - Journal needs to be included - total time spent, who helped, date puzzle was started and finished, why you chose this puzzle (did you buy it or was it a gift?)
  - Must frame the puzzle
  - Completed project will include framed puzzle, journal, box top flattened and secured to back of the puzzle

- Journalism – a member will select two of the following
  - Feature Story
  - Personality Profile
  - Photograph
  - Column
  - How to piece – giving instructions
  - Up-coming event
  - Story on past event
  - Layout diagram

(This will be taught at Mini-Expo)

Horticulture –
- Soybeans must have roots included and be free from soil and dirt
- Artistic Seed Design – Must be ready to hang – If not able to hang it will not be accepted
- Hanging Baskets and Patio Pots will now accept projects from all age groups
- New Division – Yard Art - Must be agriculture, Horticulture, or Floriculture related
  - Must be able to sit or stand on the ground
  - No taller than 4 feet high from the ground up
  - Must be in good taste and suitable for 4-H
  - Will be brought in on Thursday

Communications
- Essay topics for 2013
  - Explorer – “Why did you join 4-H?”
  - 9-11 years old – “Why did you join 4-H?”
  - 12-14 years old – “How has 4-H made you a more responsible Youth?”
  - 15 and older – “How has 4-H help prepare you for adulthood?”
- PowerPoint Presentation Topics
  - All divisions will use the topic – Explain what is your favorite 4-H project and why
  - Public Service Announcement –
  - Members will be judged on content of 60 second message and verbal presentation
  - Name and contact information should also be included with entry

- 4-H Club or Organization Presentation (replacing club displays)
  - Will do a presentation on the free stage on Thursday during fair
  - 10% of the club must participate (minimum of 2 must present)
  - Club must submit any of the following poster, scrapbook, officer record or anything else that is suitable on Thursday prior to fair
    - Youth only to present – can be used as a club recruitment

Horse
- No changes
**CANDY SALE**

The clubs came through again and we had a great candy sale. Gary Koppelman, candy chairman, did a drawing at the Leader Banquet for prizes. If you sold a box of candy your name was put in – if you sold 16 boxes of candy – your name was put in 16 times.

Prizes are for the 2013 Monroe County Fair. Winners will need to see Gary on Thursday of project check-in to claim your prize.

Concession Prizes – will be a prize for one of the concessions on the grounds
Grandstand – you will get a pass to a grandstand show
Midway – you will get a pass to the Midway
Concert ticket – you will get a pass to the Monday night concert

**Concession**
Katrina Lomas
Megan Bratt
Hannah Neddo
Alison Riley
Megan Bomia
Camryn Mills
Bethany Stump
Sarah Liedel
Cadey Cole
Bailey Richardson
Graycen McKee
Zachary Ohs
Sophie Grider
Nathan Kubik
Dalton Guilford
Barrett Hershberger
Hailey Lambert
Logan Houpt
Sarah Wachowicz
Logan Grey

**Grandstand**
Brandie Wallace
Hanna Reed
Mariah McCollum
Mike Thornton Debdt
Bethany Stump
Bethany Stump
Wyatt Fetterly
Stoney Buell
Barb Vagt
Steven Rinaldi
Ashiana Powell
Shelby Potter
Sarah Houpt
Hannah Vincent
Trinity Hoffman
Collin Bogoski
Shelby Bruckner
Sarah Bruckner
Kaylee Stick
Mary Hawes

**Midway**
Mitchell Emerson
Jessica Dehner
Noah Nelson
Eric Creque
Dalton Guilford

**Concert**
Batelyn Britton
Alyah Johnston
Madison Fackelman
Samantha Smith
Spencer Dusseau

**BY INVITATION ONLY**

The Monroe County 4-H program is awarding a Silver Ribbon Award. The Silver Ribbon Award entitles the exhibitor to demonstrate or speak publicly about their project on Thursday, August 1, 2013 at the Band Shell between the hours of noon–4:00 p.m. exact time will be assigned during fair week.

Silver Ribbon Award winners will be selected by each General and Assistant Superintendent representing their areas. There will be approximately 5 awards in each area (Educational, Craft, Horticulture, Communications, Large Livestock, Small Animal, and Horse and Pony).

The Silver Ribbon Award may be awarded to exhibitors at County Share the Fun and/or Monroe County Fair. Each exhibitor will be given 15 minutes for their presentation that includes set up and clean up time.

This class is By Invitation Only and cannot be registered for. Participants will not receive their ribbon till after the presentation.
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR 2013 INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT ACADEMY!

IPMA13 will take place February 19-20 at the Okemos Conference Center in Okemos, Michigan

Michigan State University Extension is pleased to announce the second annual Integrated Pest Management Academy (IPMA13). IPMA13 will address the weather challenges of the 2012 production season with the help of Dr. Jonathan Comstock from the Department of Horticulture at Cornell University. Dr. Comstock will address shifting weather patterns and the related impacts affecting agricultural producers. Dr. Comstock is a climate change expert and is co-author of both the Agriculture and Ecosystems chapters in the recent NY ClimAID Report, which looks at climate change vulnerabilities and adaptation strategies. Michigan State University experts will also be on hand to discuss irrigation, frost protection and changing weather patterns in Michigan.

On the second day of the event participants will opt into two, half-day sessions on the topics of their choice. Morning sessions include Apple and Cherry IPM, Deciduous Tree IPM, Scouting Techniques for Field Crops and Forages, and Vegetable IPM. Afternoon sessions include Check it Out; MSU Resources for Hops, Saskatoons and Chestnuts, Conifer IPM, Emerging Issued in Field Crop Pesticide Resistance, IPM in Small Fruit Crops, and Vegetable IPM. For more information on what these sessions include please visit http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=IPMAacademy2013

Participants will receive a notebook with program material and a complimentary IPM-related MSU bulletin. Michigan pesticide recertification credits will be available. The cost of this event is $225; please note that snacks, lunch and parking are included. Lodging is not included but special rates are available. Registration is open December 3 through February 12, but space is limited so to learn more and register today http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=IPMAacademy2013 For more information, or to request a paper registration form, please contact Erin Lizotte at taylo548@msu.edu or call 231-944-6504.

PUMPKIN & WATERMELON WORKSHOP

Pumpkin and watermelon are two crops gaining importance in Michigan. To assist current and potential growers, Michigan State University Extension will be offering a day-long workshop on their production. The workshop will cover production basics as well as diseases, insects, varieties, marketing and food safety practices. The workshop will be held in Camden, Michigan January 24, 2013 at the Camden Missionary Church Outreach Center, 611 West Bell Street. The cost is $60 per person and includes refreshments, lunch and a notebook. Those interested must be registered by January 11, 2013. A flyer with registration information and directions can be obtained by going to: http://agbioresearch.msu.edu/swmrec/ and clicking on News/Events. You may also contact Dr. Ron Goldy at 269-944-1477-207 or goldy@anr.msu.edu.
# JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2013

## 4-H

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January</th>
<th>February</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1/1/13</strong></td>
<td><strong>2/4/13</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HAPPY NEW YEAR!</strong></td>
<td><strong>4-H Council Committees</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OFFICE CLOSED</strong></td>
<td><strong>6:30 pm</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1/3/13</strong> Fair Advisory Board Dinner</td>
<td><strong>7:30 pm</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Applebees' - Dundee</strong></td>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>6:00 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>7:00 pm</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1/7/13</strong> 4-H Council New Member Orientation</td>
<td><strong>2/6/13</strong> Officers Training</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4-H Council Meeting</strong></td>
<td><strong>7:00 pm</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
<td><strong>10:00 am</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>7:30 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1/9/13</strong> State Award Meeting</td>
<td><strong>2/2/13</strong> CSI</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
<td><strong>6:00 pm</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>7:00 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fair Office</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1/14/13</strong> Horse &amp; Pony</td>
<td><strong>2/26/13</strong> Middle Managers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
<td><strong>7:00 pm</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>7:00 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1/16/13</strong> Shooting Sports Association</td>
<td><strong>2/27/13</strong> Teen Ambassadors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
<td><strong>7:00 pm</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>7:00 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1/16/13</strong> Junior Livestock Association</td>
<td><strong>January</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
<td><strong>10:00 am</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>7:30 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>February</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1/17/13</strong> REAACT</td>
<td><strong>2/19/13</strong> MCMGA Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
<td><strong>10:00 am</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>7:00 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1/21/13</strong> MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY</td>
<td><strong>February</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>OFFICE CLOSED</strong></td>
<td><strong>1/19/13</strong> MCMGA Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1/24/13</strong> Fair Advisory Board</td>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
<td><strong>10:00 am</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>7:00 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>2/2/13</strong> MCMGA Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1/28/13</strong> Youth Leadership Board</td>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
<td><strong>10:00 am</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>6:00 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1/28/13</strong> Small Animal Association</td>
<td><strong>February</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
<td><strong>10:00 am</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>7:30 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1/29/13</strong> CSI</td>
<td><strong>2/2/13</strong> MCMGA Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
<td><strong>10:00 am</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1/29/13</strong> Middle Managers</td>
<td><strong>February</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1/30/13</strong> Teen Ambassadors</td>
<td><strong>February</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
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<td><strong>7:00 pm</strong></td>
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## HORTICULTURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1/19/13</strong> MCMGA Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
<td><strong>February</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>10:00 am</strong></td>
<td><strong>Extension Learning Center</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Be My Valentine</strong></td>
<td><strong>February</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>January</strong></td>
<td><strong>February</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>February</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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>Position</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JUDITH S. SEE</td>
<td>4-H Program Coordinator</td>
<td>240-3174</td>
<td><a href="mailto:seej@anr.msu.edu">seej@anr.msu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATT SHANE</td>
<td>District Coordinator</td>
<td>517-264-5308</td>
<td><a href="mailto:shanemat@anr.msu.edu">shanemat@anr.msu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PATTI WARTINGER</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>240-3184</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wating3@anr.msu.edu">wating3@anr.msu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WINNIE WEBB</td>
<td>Breastfeeding Peer</td>
<td>240-3178</td>
<td><a href="mailto:webbw@anr.msu.edu">webbw@anr.msu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

HAPPY NEW YEAR!