QUALITY OF LIFE AWARD

Four Monroe County 4-H Members were recognized at the recent Michigan Week Recognition Program held at the Monroe Bank and Trust Building in Monroe. The 4-H’ers and their families gathered with other volunteers and guests who were being recognized for the efforts they have made to make Monroe County a better place to live.

4-H members being recognized were Emily Kittendorf of County Kids 4-H Club – Emily has been on Council, is the President of Junior Livestock Board, and is always willing to volunteer and help wherever she can.

Carter Paddy is a member of Farm Friends Forever and is certainly a community volunteer – he has been on council, is vice-president of Small Animal Board and on the Junior Livestock Board.

Alexi Garbo was also recognized with a Quality of Life Award. Alexi serves as President of the Small Animal Board and has been on the 4H Council she will be representing Monroe County in State Awards.

Charlie Martin was also recognized for the service to the community and to 4H, although he did not attend as he had exams that day. He is also a member of the Country Kids and on the Junior Livestock Board.

Congratulations to these wonderful examples of what 4-H is all about!
INSECTICIDES FOUND IN NURSERY PLANTS

Backyard gardeners who plant bee-friendly plants and flowers, may actually be killing bees. A report released by Friends of the Earth showed that plants purchased at large retailers can contain insecticides toxic to bees and other insects. Friends of the Earth tested a small sample of 13 plants and seven of the samples contained neonicotinoid insecticides. While the finding is not a definitive study, it points out that neonicotinoids are found in garden plants purchased at big box retailers. The purchases were made at retailers in San Francisco, Washington D.C. and the Twin Cities.

Researchers say neonicotinoids are now the most widely used insecticides on the market. They are a class of insecticides chemically related to nicotine. They came on the market in the 1990s as a new class of insecticides effective against insects, but much less toxic to humans than other kinds of insecticide.

Neonicotinoids are neuro-active, meaning they work by blocking connections in the insect’s brain. They are also systemic in plants; rather than being sprayed on the surface of a plant, they are applied to seeds or soil and the chemicals are then absorbed by the plants as they grow. So the insecticide is in the leaves, flowers and pollen. If a bug takes a bite of a plant, it gets a dose of insecticide.

Because bees have one of the largest brains in the insect world, they have more neuro-transmitters and are more susceptible to this particular kind of insecticide. Bees fly around gathering pollen to bring back to the hive and research is finding that even very low doses of neonicotinoids disrupt their ability to remember where the hive is, or how to find a food source.

Two retailers were contacted whose plants were included in the research, Lowe’s and Home Depot. Lowe’s didn’t immediately respond.

Home Depot spokesman Stephen Holmes sent this response: ”We haven’t reviewed the study yet, but we certainly appreciate the importance of the bee population and will be reaching out to the study groups to learn more about their findings and methodology.”

Concern about neonicotinoid insecticides is not new. Beekeepers believe the insecticide is a factor in a larger problem known as colony collapse, where millions of honey bees die in hives, as I reported earlier this year. In Europe some of the neonicotinoid insecticides are banned for two years because of the impact on bees.

The insecticide is also widely used in urban landscapes, and at a much higher rate than farmers are allowed to use. University of Minnesota researcher Vera Krischik, has been studying the effect of neonicotinoid insecticides on bees. Her findings show that a flower in a backyard could legally contain 200 times more insecticide than soybeans in a farm field. She found those flowers killed bees – sometimes right on the spot.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is doing a standard registration review of neonicotinoids, but that won’t happen for several years. Earlier this year beekeepers, including one from Minnesota, sued the EPA to force an expedited review and restrictions on the use of neonicotinoids. There’s also legislation called Save America’s Pollinators Act that’s been introduced in Congress.

The Friends of the Earth group says this report isn’t definitive science, but is intended to educate consumers. They want gardeners to be aware that the plants they buy might already contain an insecticide. They suggest people grow their own plants from seed, or ask retailers for plants that are not treated with neonicotinoid insecticides.

Michigan Public Radio Article – August 2013
By Dan Gunderson
According to the September 2013 Consumer Price Index, overall food inflation for groceries for 2014 will be above the historical average at three to four percent.

*Posted on May 5, 2014 by Jeannie Nichols, Michigan State University Extension*

Be prepared for increased grocery bills as the year goes on. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) the retail food prices rose 0.4 percent in February and again in March. This is the largest increase since September 2011. The BLS also reported that the prices consumers paid for meat, poultry, fish and eggs, as well as for fruits and vegetables, saw a particularly steep incline from January to February 2014, rising 1.2 percent and 1.1 percent respectively. Unfortunately, this isn’t the end of rising food prices.

There is more than one reason for these increased grocery prices. One reason that produce has become drastically more expensive is because a drought has devastated the nation’s growing fields. A second reason is because different diseases are affecting both animals and fruits, raising the prices animal producers have to pay to feed their livestock. Finally, rising exports have thinned U.S. supplies, making it more difficult to stock the grocery stores.

It is important to carefully handle food so that we throw out very little, if any, and let none of it spoil. This is where food safety comes in. Michigan State University Extension offers these food safety tips to help you not only save food, but save money as well:

- Use a list when shopping. Always place meat, poultry and fish in plastic bags to avoid juices from leaking or dripping onto other food. Meat should also be stored in a bowl or on a platter in the bottom of the refrigerator so that the juices don’t leak onto other foods.
- Use separate coolers or insulated bags with ice in them when transporting your food home from the market, one for the raw meat and one for produce, milk, juice, etc.
- Purchase whole pieces of meat, poultry, fruit and vegetables and cut it up yourself. Always sanitize surfaces, like cutting boards, counter tops and knives that the raw meat or poultry have touched, to prevent cross-contamination. Sanitize using one teaspoon of regular chlorine bleach to one quart of warm water.
- When you bring produce home take care of it immediately. Know what produce should be kept in the refrigerator and what can be left at room temperature, as well as what needs to be in airtight containers. Refer to the MI Fresh bulletins to learn about how to handle all kinds of produce. Your refrigerator should be 40 degrees Fahrenheit or lower.
- Take care of what you buy. If you aren’t going to use up fresh produce in a timely manner then freeze it for later use. Refer to MI Fresh bulletins to see how to freeze or can various produce. Produce is best when it is optimal quality, not when it is starting to wither and loose moisture.
- Plan meals with what you have in your refrigerator so that you aren’t throwing out food that could be used to make a casserole or soup.
- Store food in airtight containers in the freezer.
- Keep a list of food in your freezer so food doesn’t get lost at the bottom.

Knowing we will continue to pay higher prices for our groceries gives us good incentive to be very careful with the food that we do buy.

*This article was published by Michigan State University Extension. For more information, visit http://www.msue.msu.edu. To contact an expert in your area, visit http://expert.msue.msu.edu, or call 888-MSUE4MI (888-678-3464).*
ENCOURAGING POSITIVE TEEN RELATIONSHIPS

Teens can encourage each other to care about people, meet high standards, and participate in positive activities.

As my sons were growing up, we had a neighbor who was about five years younger than our boys. He loved hanging around with the guys. He worshiped the ground they walked on and felt pretty special to be in their company. With that in mind, I had to remind my sons, regularly, that they were role models to Drew. What they said and did made an impression on him. Opportunities like this provided us many discussions about how they can have a positive effect on others by the decisions they made when around other kids.

One of the important aspects of healthy teen development is positive peer influence. Positive peer influence refers to kids as being good role models for other kids. Teens by words and behavior can encourage each other to care about people, meet high standards, and participate in positive activities. Like a successful football team that cooperates to achieve mutual goals, responsible teen behaviors is supported and encouraged by a team of trustworthy, capable friends.

Teens who become involved with a positive friend also gain opportunities to develop “interpersonal competence.” “Interpersonal competence” involves having the skills to get along with and appreciate others. Like football players who need a team to test their abilities, teens need friends to help them gain knowledge about themselves and to learn about the uniqueness of others. A variety of friendship experiences teach teens how to build successful relationships, handle conflict and contribute to the lives of others. Teens are bound to experience many joys and challenges among friends, but parents can play an important role in understanding their positive and negative experiences. Although parents cannot choose a teen’s friends, parents can help teens understand the values and skills that will help them form positive relationships.

The best relationships for teens are those based on mutual respect and caring. What teens need most from parents is nonjudgmental guidance on how to build and maintain friendships.

Parents should teach teens that real friendships involve two people who understand and respect each other, care and take responsibility for each other, expect good from each other, and solve problems together without blame or manipulation. Such guidance will help young people commit to those friends who share their values. Teens also should learn that a relationship is harmful if one partner uses emotional or physical power to control or put down other.

Michigan State University Extension offers a Program called “Building Strong Adolescents” that provides parents and caregiver tips and tools on caring for pre-teens and teens. For a class near you go to: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events. This fall this course will be offered as an online course. Stay tuned!

FREE TESTING

Pressure Canning testing is now available for free.

Feel free to either call for an appointment to have yours tested or you may drop off the canner lid and gauge and we will call you once it has been tested.

Go to http://nchfp.uga.edu/ for up to date food preservation information.

Also we have “So Easy to Preserve” food preservation books available at the MSU Extension Monroe County office for $30.00 plus tax.
MSUE RESOURCES

Toll-free Lawn & Garden Hotline  
888-678-3464  
Monday – Friday  
9-12 noon and 1-4:00 pm  
Staffed by advanced MSUE Master Gardeners

Ask an Expert  
Widget on Gardening in MI  
(www.migarden.msu.edu)  
Staffed by MSUE MGs and staff  
Accessible 24 hours / day

Gardening in Michigan Website  
www.migarden.msu.edu  
Resources:  
Videos  
Internet gardening programs  
Tip sheets  
MSUE Home Gardening News  
Upcoming programs

Soil Test Self-Mailer / Interpretation Website  
Self-Mailer: http://bookstore.msue.msu.edu/  
Interpretation Website: http://www.msusoiltest.com/

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.
STUDENT LOANS DEBT EFFECTING HOME PURCHASING

Due to large student loan payments many young adults are waiting longer to purchase their first home.

More and more has been reported on the soaring amount of student loan debt. Student loans are now the second largest debt of households following mortgages. It is known that education beyond high school is vitally important but the cost of higher education is affecting young adults in other ways.

The New York Federal Reserve did a report on trends of borrowing for homes based on the average age this purchase is typically made in the U.S. They began by gathering information of what the average student loan debt was for a 25 year old in 2003 versus 2012. What they found was that in 2003, 25 percent of twenty five years olds had student loans, where as in 2012, it had increased to 43 percent. The bigger issue was that the amount owed grew 91 percent between 2003 and 2012. Consequently, student loan non-payment has also increased during this period of time.

National Association of Realtors reports that the median age of first home purchase is 30 years of age. Using the same time period of between 2003 and 2012, they found that from 2003 through 2008 those with student loans debts were purchasing their first home at a higher rate than those without student loans. When the recession hit, this changed. By 2012, the home ownership rate has flipped and the home ownership rate for those with student loan debt is less than those who do not have student loan debt.

Michigan State University Extension is a HUD and MSHDA (Michigan State Housing Development Agency) certified agency and provides home ownership education for over 23 years. One of the biggest challenges that potential first time homeowners are currently having is qualifying for a mortgage due to debt to income ratios being too high. Too often this is caused by their student loan debts and in many cases they are in a long term repayment plan. Until they can increase their earnings to either improve their debt to income ratio or accelerate paying off their student loans, owning a home will be difficult or in some situations out of reach.

MSU Extension offers financial management and home ownership education classes. For more information of classes in your area, go to either http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events or www.mimoneyhealth.org.

HEADS UP!

Our county email (msue58@msu.edu) Has changed.
Our new email is msue.monroe@county.msu.edu
MOTHER TO MOTHER TESTIMONIALS

I am a mother of two and my family and I were blessed to be introduced to the Mother to Mother program through WIC. At first I didn't really understand how this program would help us, but as my pregnancies came and gone and I started to breastfeed my babies, this program has been an added help and support to my already set mind and determination for successfully breastfeeding my children.

I met my breastfeeding peer, Winnie, only a couple days of being home after having my first child, my daughter. Winnie has since become part of our family. With both of my children I struggled with soreness, blistering, engorgement, and mastitis. Winnie through the Mother to Mother program gave me added support and encouragement for whatever decision I needed to make, as well as advice to get through the hard times in breastfeeding. With my husband and Winnie by my side I am blessed to share that both of my children, my daughter who is almost three now and my son who is one, were/are breastfed. My daughter was breastfed for 14 months and my son is still going strong with breastfeeding. Having the opportunities from the Mother to Mother program to support, encourage, come along side, answer my questions, invest their time and resources were such a blessing to our family while breastfeeding. When Winnie and I first met, she, within minutes was able to help me figure out why I was having pain and blistering while breastfeeding my daughter and offer different options I had to adjust to help me be more comfortable and my daughter receive all my milk. This was huge to me! This very "intimate" setting was what brought trust to this "new" mom and much needed understanding and support for the "tired and overwhelmed" mom.

Along with that, Winnie was there for me, despite all her other moms, she still made each mom a priority. She was there for me every time I called; whether to answer a question I had, to sympathize with me when I would share that I had mastitis the first, second and third time with just my daughter and then twice with my son. She helped me with my engorgement and getting me a pump that has been my breastfeeding best friend.

I am so thankful to have had and still have all the blessings the Mother to Mother program offers and the relationship that developed between peer and mother. Some of the hardest times that my husband and I share and can look back on, Winnie was there. With both my children their was at least one night when its the middle of the night, I’m tired and struggling to breastfeed through the pain and soreness, amongst the other issues I mentioned. My husband, who lovingly tired to sympathize and offer help but would result to "Call Winnie." So from my family we thank you Mother to Mother for the blessing you are and the help, support, encouragement and investment you give to the mothers but also to the precious little ones who receive the greatest impact from it all. I hope all moms who plan, desire or are not sure on breastfeeding, would have and take the opportunity to be apart of the Mother to Mother program. And that moms who have had received the blessings from the program will share their stories and help other moms have the opportunity of being apart of the same program.

When my wife and sister-in-law were both expecting in late 2012, the Mother to Mother Program was referred to us through WIC Monroe County. It was pivotal throughout their breastfeeding experience.

The program was very informative and provided patient, personal input and assistance, before and after birth. It was helpful in preparing and mentoring us for the expected and the unexpected. It also provided us with breast pump equipment and accessories. Follow-up with specific challenges and obstacles was satisfactorily scheduled with home visits by Winnie Webb, who was outstanding as a source of information and experience.

When my wife first started breastfeeding, the steady milk-stream would overwhelm our daughter and she would unlatch. Winnie was able to successfully assist in adjusting the position of baby’s body, latching her mouth properly, and compression of the breast.

As my daughter got older, she stopped waking up at night to nurse. After being weighed by Winnie, it was comforting to hear her reveal that the baby’s weight was sufficient so as to not require a nightly feeding.
Early-on, when my sister in law began to breastfeed her son in the hospital, her milk production was weak and still had not fully developed. The staff had suggested that this first time mom use infant formula for her son. After inquiring of Winnie, (the prospect of nursing another's baby) she said that other mothers were able to complete the nursing for a mother that could not. As a result, my wife would take over (her nephew) breastfeeding session until new moms milk production increased.

This was my first experience with a breastfeeding "coach." It was enlightening to observe the helpful input and the actual successful result soon follow and to see that my daughter is healthy and has breastfed for 13 months.

My sister in law has been breastfeeding her son now for 13 months problem-free. My wife and I are expecting another child in May, 2014.

We are looking forward to the privilege of working with Winnie again.

We are all very thankful and greatly appreciative to the invaluable services of the Mother to Mother Program and will continue to recommend others to it, especially Winnie Webb.

Very sincerely, A grateful new dad.

MONROE COUNTY HOMEMAKERS OF EXTENSION

May 20, 2014

Flower Cards are now $25.00. They are available at Deb’s Flower Shop, located on S. Dixie Highway in the old Treadmill storefront.

Election of officers was held. New officers taking over in the fall are: President Betty L. Curley, Vice-President Maggie Lee, Secretary Cindy Goode, Treasurer Barbara Zieski.

Fair – Maggie Lee and Darlene Liedel will put the new cookbook together for the Fair. All Recipes are needed by early June.

Lesson this month was given by Maggie Lee of Fellowship Friends. The topic was Exercising with Arthritis.

The next meeting is to be held on Tuesday, June 17th.

New members are always welcome. Please contact Betty Curley at 734 241-6238.

Respectfully, Betty Curley
**FISHING DERBY**

The Monroe County Parks and Recreation will be sponsoring its annual FREE KIDS FISHING DERBY.

This year it will be held on June 8th—beginning at 9:00 a.m. at Waterloo Park—on Mulhollon Drive in Monroe. Because it is a free fishing weekend, parents will be able to fish too!

Prizes will be awarded and a free lunch is served to everyone in attendance.

The REAACT Club is hosting the event this year. To participate, and be eligible for a prize the youth must be 19 or younger, although everyone can fish.

Adults will not be eligible for prizes. An adult must be present with each child. Participants must bring their own equipment.

Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. and lunch and prizes will begin at noon.

**EXPLORATION DAYS**

Again Monroe has the largest delegation at Exploration Days! In fact we are the only county with over 100 delegates, 155 to be exact. Half of our delegation will again be arriving on bikes.

Thanks to all of the adults and leaders who have stepped to the plate to help get the members entered into the system and notified of the options.

We wish all of our State Award Delegates the best of luck as they complete the process.

**FAIR ENROLLMENTS**

School may not be over, but you **MUST think FAIR** already. Your Community Leader has received all of the materials for members to complete in order for them to exhibit at the 2014 fair. Members should complete all of the paperwork and return it to their leaders, no later than Sunday, June 15th.

It is the **responsibility of the Community Leader to submit all registrations from their club.** If you have questions, please call the Extension Office, the Fair Superintendent that works with the areas in question, or your Community Leader.

Remember - **Use the back pages from the premium catalog - THE PAGES WITH THE CLOVERS.**

**Explorers classes can be found throughout the catalog. Explorer classes will always be number one – Remember – Explorers do not get premiums or graded.**

The Animal Certification sheets will need to be completed by the member and the parent when the animals are brought to fair. A separate document will be completed for each species.

**FITTING AND SHOWING CLINIC**

The full schedule for the fitting and showing clinic was found in the May Network. The Clinic is scheduled for June 9th beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the fairgrounds.

Species covered will be: Sheep, Swine, Beef, Goats, Poultry, Rabbits, Dogs, Cats, Cavies and Pocket Pets

Bulletins and forms will be available.

Rabbit tattooing will also be available for a $1.00 a rabbit- all rabbits must be permanently tattooed to show at the fair.

Don’t forget to bring items for the yard sale, you can donate all of the proceeds to the JLA or SAA or only donate 20% of the sale. Livestock related items, show clothes, tack boxes, anything that other livestock members may find useful.

**Rabbit tattooing – 6:00**

Swine — Rabbits - 6:30

Sheep- Poultry - 7:00

Beef- Cavies and Pocket Pets - 7:30

Goats – 7:00

Dairy – 7:00

Dogs and Cats – 7:30
**4-H OLYMPICS**

The popular Clover Days program will be held July 9th at the fairgrounds. The program is designed for members from 7-11 years old and will end with a family dinner on Friday evening.

The cost of the event is $5.00 for each day and family members coming to the dinner will be $2.00 each.

The program will start on Wednesday at 10:00 am and go till 2:00 and will include lunch. The same time frame will be for Thursday. Friday the campers will arrive at 2:00 and the program will conclude at 7:30.

Crafts, activities and fun times are being planned by the Youth Leadership Board for this popular event.

*Reservations are required!*

Please call or email the office to receive a flyer and registration form. No reservations taken after July 1st.

**THE FAIR IS CLOSER THAN YOU THINK!**
Growers are catching up with field operations and planting. Cole crop pest activity continues to increase, so now is the time to scout cabbage, broccoli and cauliflower – young plantings are more at risk.

Posted on May 21, 2014 by Lina Rodriguez Salamanca, Michigan State University Extension

Weather

In the past week, rainfall recorded in Southeast Michigan averaged 0.86 inches. Moisture in the field delayed some transplanting last week, but dry days allowed for field operations to resume. Air temperatures in the Southeast have ranged from 34 to 78 degrees Fahrenheit with an average of 53 F.

Based on the average of the southeastMichigan State University Enviro-weatherstations, we currently have reached 240 growing degree days (GDD) base 50 F (GDD50), which is behind 120 GDDs for the last five-year average.
Regional rainfall summary for the Southeast Michigan, according to MSU Enviro-weather

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enviro-weather station</th>
<th>GDD42</th>
<th>GDD45</th>
<th>GDD50</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Petersburg</td>
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<td>Commerce Township</td>
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<td>Hudson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average for region</td>
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Weather outlook
Air temperatures are expected to warm-up some over the weekend. Temperatures are forecasted to range from 48 to 79 F for the next week, with the potential for drier conditions in the next four days.

Vegetable crops
Cole crop (cabbage, broccoli, cauliflowers, turnips, kale and radishes) planting has been completed. Cabbage plantings range from five to eight leaves. Plants continue to recover from the previous hail damage, but edema symptoms were observed in most plantings. Early planted broccoli has started to form curds, most likely due to weather stress, and ultimately may impact the yields.

Flea beetles continue to be active, especially in small operations or fields that were planted to cole crops last year. No cabbage maggot damage has been observed. Diamondback moth and imported cabbageworm moths were observed in several cabbage and broccoli fields in low numbers. No eggs were observed, but scouting should continue in the following two weeks to detect caterpillars. Inspect whole plant samplings in an “X” or “W” transect throughout the field. Insecticide application is not recommend at this time. Determine when an insecticide treatment is needed using thresholds by crop and stage. For additional information, read “Cole crop insect management” from Michigan State University Extension.

Flea beetle in cabbage foliage. Photo credit: Lina Rodriguez Salamanca, MSU Extension
Sweet corn plants are 2-5 inches tall with the larger ones under row covers. No seed corn maggot damage has been observed in the area. Snap beans, green beans and peas are 2 and 4 inches tall and continue to grow. Carrots, cucumber, squash and watermelon planting is ongoing.

Potato planting continues while tomato and pepper transplanting has started; first plantings of the year were completed early this week and planting will continue. Tomatoes in high tunnels continue to grow and early planted ones are flowering and bearing half-inch fruit.

For more information on commercial vegetable production, contact Lina Rodriguez Salamanca at 517 264 5310 or rodri408@anr.msu.edu.

This article was published by Michigan State University Extension. For more information, visit http://www.msue.msu.edu. To contact an expert in your area, visit http://expert.msue.msu.edu, or call 888-MSUE4MI (888-678-3464).

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**35TH ANNUAL AG EXPO, JULY 22-24 AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**

posted on May 12, 2014 8:13am

**CONTACT: MARIAH MONTENEGRO, MONTENE1@ANR.MSU.EDU**

517-884-7080

EAST LANSING, Mich.—Ag Expo, the state’s largest outdoor farm show, returns to Michigan State University July 22-24. The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR) has lined up another show for the agricultural community and anyone else who is interested in learning about Michigan’s agriculture industry.

As in years past, the 35th annual Ag Expo will showcase a wide variety of educational and commercial activities, including nearly 200 exhibits featuring products and services that provide Michigan agricultural producers with new knowledge and opportunities to have another successful year.

Ag Expo is known for being Michigan’s supreme source for the latest technology in agricultural production. The show will also offer research findings from CANR faculty members, and a full schedule of educational demonstrations dedicated to providing Michigan farmers with the knowledge and skills necessary to manage successful farms.

“We really try to make this event something special, and I think the agricultural community really embraces that,” said CANR Dean Fred Poston. “People come to Ag Expo from all over the state. It’s an exciting opportunity for our college, MSU Extension and Ag-BioResearch to join together to benefit the public and learn from one another as well.”

Ag Expo visitors can view demonstrations related to equine pastures, sprayers, drones and biodiesel processing. A mortality composting demonstration will take place on Wednesday and there will be an air quality demonstration on Thursday. The CANR tent will provide hands-on learning for youth, including daily presentations on topics such as what you need to know about the Affordable Care Act, the 2014 Farm Bill and Smart Gardening.

The event runs from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. July 22 and 23, and 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 24. Admission to the grounds and parking at Farm Lane and Mt. Hope Road are free.

For more information on Ag Expo, call 800-366-7055 or visit www.agexpo.msu.edu.

The MSU College of Agriculture and Natural Resources sponsors Ag Expo.
## JUNE / JULY

### 4-H

<table>
<thead>
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<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>6/1/14</strong></td>
<td><strong>7/10/14</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Slow Spokes Practice Ride II</td>
<td>Fair Advisory Board Extension Learning Center</td>
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<td>4-H Council Workbee</td>
<td>4-H Royalty Interviews 4-H Activity Center</td>
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<td>Meeting</td>
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<td>4-H Activity Center 7:30 pm</td>
<td>Superintendent Meeting 4-H Activity Center</td>
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<td>Exploration Days Meeting 4-H Activity Center</td>
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<td>(If you cannot attend please call and identify your roommate)</td>
<td>4-H Activity Center</td>
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<td><strong>7/22/14</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Poultry Pick-up</td>
<td>Dorm Mtg. (If you are staying at the fair) 4-H Activity Center</td>
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<td>Hackman’s, Temperance MI 1—3:00 pm</td>
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<td><strong>6/7/14</strong></td>
<td>Check-In Fair Projects 2:00—6:30 pm</td>
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<td>MANDATORY HORSE MEETING 4-H Activity Center</td>
<td>Fairgrounds</td>
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<td><strong>6/9/14</strong></td>
<td><strong>7/25/14</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fitting &amp; Showing Clinic</td>
<td>Judging of Crafts, Communications, &amp; Educational Exhibits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fairgrounds</td>
<td><strong>7/26/14</strong></td>
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<td><strong>6/10/14</strong></td>
<td>Livestock is entered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horse &amp; Pony Meeting 4-H Activity Center</td>
<td>Check premium catalog for times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6/14/14</strong></td>
<td><strong>7/27/14—8/2/14</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cat Workshop</td>
<td><strong>MONROE COUNTY FAIR</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-H Activity Center</td>
<td><strong>August</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6/15-17/14</strong></td>
<td><strong>8/4/14</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slow Spokes leave Maybee Co-op</td>
<td>Check-Out Crafts, Educational &amp; Horticulture Exhibits 2:00—6:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6/16/14</strong></td>
<td><strong>FAMILY &amp; CONSUMER SCIENCE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Enrollments Leaders Turn-in 4-H Activity Center</td>
<td><strong>June</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6/18-20/14</strong></td>
<td><strong>6/3/14</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPLORATION DAYS MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY</td>
<td>Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class Arthur Lesow Community Center 11:30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6/21/14</strong></td>
<td><strong>6/10/14</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-H Garage Sale</td>
<td>Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class Arthur Lesow Community Center 11:30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairgrounds</td>
<td><strong>6/17/14</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6/24/14</strong></td>
<td>MCHE Council Extension Learning Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6/25/14</strong></td>
<td><strong>6/27/14</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen Ambassadors</td>
<td>Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class Arthur Lesow Community Center 11:30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Office</td>
<td><strong>6/29/14</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6/26/14</strong></td>
<td>Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class Arthur Lesow Community Center 11:30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANDATORY HORSE MEETING 4-H Activity Center</td>
<td><strong>August</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6/28/14</strong></td>
<td><strong>8/4/14</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-H Council Workbee 8:00 am</td>
<td>Check-Out Crafts, Educational &amp; Horticulture Exhibits 2:00—6:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-H Activity Center</td>
<td><strong>FAMILY &amp; CONSUMER SCIENCE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6/30/14</strong></td>
<td><strong>June</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Leadership Board</td>
<td><strong>6/3/14</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everyone Welcome</td>
<td>Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class Arthur Lesow Community Center 11:30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extension Learning Center</td>
<td><strong>6/10/14</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July</strong></td>
<td>Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class Arthur Lesow Community Center 11:30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7/7/14</strong></td>
<td><strong>6/17/14</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-H Council</td>
<td>MCHE Council Extension Learning Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workbee</td>
<td><strong>6/27/14</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting</td>
<td>Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class Arthur Lesow Community Center 11:30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-H Activity Center 7:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>6/29/14</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7/8/14</strong></td>
<td>Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class Arthur Lesow Community Center 11:30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaning of large barns (JLA) 2:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>August</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Set-up of all exhibit areas 6:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>8/4/14</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairgrounds</td>
<td>Check-Out Crafts, Educational &amp; Horticulture Exhibits 2:00—6:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>7/9-11/14</strong></td>
<td><strong>FAMILY &amp; CONSUMER SCIENCE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clover Days 4-H Activity Center</td>
<td><strong>June</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td><strong>6/3/14</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7/10/14</strong></td>
<td>Nurturing Parenting Ongoing Class Arthur Lesow Community Center 11:30 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6/3/14</strong></td>
<td><strong>HORTICULTURE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7/26/14</strong></td>
<td><strong>6/21/14</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCMGA</td>
<td>MCMGA Extension Learning Center 10:00 am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Monroe County MSU Extension office is open to the public on Monday thru Friday from 9:00 am to Noon, and 1:00pm to 5:pm. The office staff may be accessed via the main phone line at 734-240-3170.

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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

HEADS UP!  
Our county email (msue58@msu.edu)  
Has been changed.  
Our new email is  
msue.monroe@county.msu.edu