Involvement in 4-H can help kids 
EXPLORE 
new ideas,
EXPERIENCE 
new opportunities, 
build friendships, and 
learn skills designed 
to help them 
ACHIEVE.

Kalamazoo County
MSU Extension
3299 Gull Rd.
Wing 2, Rm. 410
Mailing Address:
PO Box 42
Nazareth, MI 49074-0042
www.msue.msu.edu/kalamazoo
Fax: 269-384-8035

Veronica Bolhuis
Program Coordinator
Traditional 4-H Youth Programs
Phone: 269-383-8867
Email: bolhuisv@anr.msu.edu

Evan Granito
Program Coordinator
Urban 4-H Youth Programs
Phone: 269-383-8878

January - February Family Newsletter

Leaders Banquet

Thursday, January 30th
Niko’s Landing
5852 King Highway, Comstock
Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Leader’s Banquet is a chance for 4-H to say THANK YOU to all of our dedicated leaders! Please mark your calendar now to join in the celebration! We will be recognizing the following 4-H Leaders at this year’s Leader’s Banquet. Please check to see if we have your years of completed service correct or if you have been missed. Contact the 4-H staff with any corrections. Leader’s Banquet is provided at no charge by Leaders Council to all registered leaders of Kalamazoo County 4-H.

Thank You

1st Year
John Bruinwood
Kim Bruinwood
Susan Compton
Sarah Hoagg
David Juday
Michele Richards
Deanna Rothe
Doug Staunton
Tammy Wasserman
Mark Wasserman

5th Year
Tammi Mallos
Andrea McCubbin
Kalee Wolthuis

10th Year
Pam Beilby-Miller
Ann Hollister
Tammy Skinner
Barb Vizard
Lisa Zichterman

20th Year
Bobbie McMillan

30th Year
Kathleen Buckham

35 Years
Jerry DeYoung
Mary DeYoung

40 Years
Jane Lloyd
NEWS FROM URBAN 4-H

Photography and Gardening SPIN clubs have both wrapped up at the Kazoo School, and a new Filmmaking club is well under way. This group will be making a short film to submit to the White House Student Film Festival, the finalists of which are invited to watch their film at the white house, alongside the president himself! We wish them luck on their endeavor, and let’s hope to see Kalamazoo County 4-H on the big screen this spring!

Our partnership with the Kalamazoo County Land Bank recently culminated in an event for 120 urban youths and around 30 4-H members, where participants planted native perennial plants in pots and learned about the importance of these plants for Michigan’s ecosystem. The plants are being kept in the Riverview greenhouse for the winter, until they are planted outside to help restore the landscape and beautify the area for the community. We encourage any 4-H members with a passion for agriculture and landscape design to come out this spring and help us make our city beautiful!

Group development continues on the Northside of Kalamazoo, with potential new clubs forming at the Northside Association for Community Development, and old clubs becoming active again throughout the city. As always, we welcome any new or returning members to the 4-H program, and hope to see them all at the County Fair, Exploration Days, State Awards, and other events that will continue making the 4-H program so special throughout 2014.

Remember to keep checking our blog and twitter for more updates, and have a happy holiday season!

Evan

NEW WEBSITE FOR KALAMAZOO COUNTY
MSU EXTENSION 4-H

Our new website is now up and running! You can find it at http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/kalamazoo/kalamazoo_county_4_h.

Please bookmark this site and delete the older page that is probably bookmarked as the Kalamazoo County Portal page.
Come Experience CAPITOL EXPERIENCE

4-H Capitol Experience is a 4-day conference held in Lansing that focuses on civic engagement and public policy. The program is open to ALL high school students in Michigan. Each year, 75 to 100 students take action on issues that matter to them and learn how they can have an influence on state government and laws. After choosing a current issue area, participants interact with legislators, tour Michigan’s Capitol, meet with state agency staff, lobbyists and other state-level experts, discover how policy is made, and explore various careers in public policy. At the end of the conference, the teens leave with an understanding of the impact that their voice can have on policy and their communities — now and in the future. The cost for the program is $310 for 4-H members, $320 for non 4-H members. Register online by February 7 at [http://events.anr.msu.edu/4hcapex](http://events.anr.msu.edu/4hcapex) More information is available on the web at [http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/4-h_capitol_experience](http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/4-h_capitol_experience)

4-H Teen Leadership & Community Change Conference
January 25-26, 2014
Kettunen Center

Be part of a movement that has YOUTH leading the way. The 4-H Teen Leadership & Community Change Conference is just around the corner, January 25-26, 2014 at the Kettunen Center in Tustin Michigan. This 4-H conference brings together the BEST of Michigan 4-H Leadership, Citizenship, Service and International programs. Youth (ages 12 and up) and adult 4-H volunteers and educators should make plans to attend this unforgettable fun Kettunen Center Volunteer Workshop featuring 23 incredible breakout sessions and activities planned and led by 4-H staff, volunteers and teens!

Participants must register by January 15, 2014. The cost is just $62 for 4-H members and $105.25 for non-members. Registration fees include lodging, meals and resources. Feast your eyes on the complete conference schedule, activities, and breakout session descriptions, and register to attend the conference, by going to [http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=4HTeenLeader14](http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=4HTeenLeader14)

SAVE THE NEW DATE!!!
4-H Day at the Breslin – Women’s Basketball event!

February 2nd, 2014! MSU Lady Spartans will host the Purdue Lady Boilmakers. Ticket information & other details will follow as they become available
Attend 4-H Exploration Days, June 18–20, 2014 at Michigan State University.

There’s always lots to do and see at 4-H Exploration Days! Have fun, learn new things and make new friends on the beautiful MSU campus! Choose from 200 action-packed learning sessions, including:

- Animal Science
- Careers & Entrepreneurship
- Communication
- Environmental Education
- Food, Nutrition & Fitness
- Science, Engineering & Technology
- Visual & Performing Arts & more!

Come join the fun!

4-H Exploration Days registrations are due to your local MSU Extension office by April 29, 2014. Ask your local MSU Extension office for a copy of the registration book, or get it from our website at: http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/4_h_exploration_days

Entertainment

Science in the Movies — See the secret science behind movie stunts and special effects! The show will include stunt performances and audience interaction.

4-H Tractor Operator Program in St. Joseph County

Michigan State University Extension and the St. Joseph County 4-H Program will be offering the 2014 Tractor Operator Program through 4-H Youth Development. Successful completion of the 4-H Tractor Operator Program provides a certificate of training from the US Department of Labor required for operation of a 20 PTO HP or greater, garden or agricultural tractor, by 14 and 15 year old youth employed on property not owned, leased or operated by a parent or legal guardian. Certification is also utilized by youth who exhibit and participate in local contests, parades and festival activities.

The nine-week course will be taught on Saturdays, 9 am - noon, January 18 thru March 15, 2014. This schedule includes educational sessions, some driving practice, written and driving tests, and graduation. We require a minimum of 24 hours of instruction and participants must be 14 years of age by the date of the driving test to be eligible for federal certification.

Sessions will be held at Filmore Equipment, Inc., 16700 Heimbach Road, in Three Rivers, Michigan. Cost is $40.00 per person (partial scholarships may be available for currently registered Michigan 4-H members.) Registration is required by January 6, 2014, through the St. Joseph County MSU Extension office, 612 East Main Street, Centerville, MI. 49032. Questions may be directed to Eva Beeker, 4-H Program Coordinator, at 269-467-5512, or at beekere@anr.msu.edu. The program must have at least six participants registered to be held, with a maximum of 20.

The 4-H Tractor Operator Program is a major investment of time, but one of the most valuable experiences we offer that teaches young people safety and job skills to last a lifetime.
Leaders Council Annual 4-H Auction

The Auction committee came to November’s meeting with three ideas to boost enthusiasm for this event. Listed below are the details for the choice that the council voted upon for this year’s Leaders Council Auction.

Date: **Saturday February 22, 2014**  
Auction Start time: **10:00 am – until all items sold**  
Hosted at: **Scott’s Community Center**  
Each family is responsible for donating an item **worth $25.00** for auction as in the past.

This year clubs will display all of the donated items on a table(s) marked specifically for their club. Your club will come up with a theme for your table(s), your items donated and your decorations to advertise your club.

**Example 1** – Your club can come up with an entire theme (John Deere) and have everything on the table be related to that theme.

**Example 2** - Your club members may obtain donations and build baskets around themes that correspond with the donations.

**Example 3** - You can work in smaller groups within your club and choose multiple themes. The small groups obtain the items and put together multiple baskets to be sold.

Each club should decorate their table advertising the club (can be theme oriented)

Each club will need two members and an adult at the auction for the entire event. These people will carry and display items up for bid, tend to buyers, and clean up. You may work in shifts if that is what works best for your club.

You will need to have the **list** of baskets or **list** of items to Veronica by Feb 1, 2014 for advertising. **(No items dropped off at this time)**

Each club should plan to **set up and decorate** their table space with items on **Friday, Feb. 21, from 4 - 6pm.**

The committee is in need of your help. We are looking for an auctioneer with equipment and clerks to handle the business transactions. Please contact Veronica if you have any leads. We are hoping to boost enthusiasm for this event, and hope that you and your club get excited about working together on your themes and items. Please be sure to educate your club members and parents as to the reason for this event so they understand the importance.

**BE CREATIVE AND HAVE FUN!**
Member Record Book Redesign

For many years we have had two separate Member record books for youth to use in keeping track of their 4-H and community projects. This year after much discussion with several leaders and parents, we decided to combine the two into one so that the same forms would be used by each age group. As you look through the booklet you will notice that the awards forms are different for each age group. Please make sure that if your child is applying for an award that they are using the proper form. Also, you will notice that some of the questions on the project record sheet are for a specific age. Your child will not be required to fill out the questions that are not in their age category.

Many times parents and youth ask “Why should I fill out the Member Record book, it looks like a lot of work?” There are several reasons that we believe are important for youth to complete this project:

* **Life skills** – it is important in any job to keep records, by teaching youth how to be a good record keeper they can take those skills into adulthood and be successful in their college life and work life.

* **Setting goals** and then having a plan on how to meet those goals is an important part of their personal and educational goals. By having a record of those goals they are more likely to meet them. Start your project record in the fall/winter when you start your project, set your goals and the deadline that you want to meet it by.

* **The member record book will become a wise use of your resources** – it may not seem important when they are 9 or 10 years old, but as a junior or senior in high school it becomes an invaluable tool to use. It will be full of information about community service, public speaking, etc. that will be used by youth to fill out college applications and scholarship information. I can’t tell you the number of youth and their parents have said how helpful it is (or on the flip side – say they wish that they would have taken the time to complete it).

* It also **develops** several other life skills such as communication, self-discipline, self-responsibility, marketable skills and leadership.

* On top of all the life skills the Member Record Book builds on, it is also the only way that you can **apply for awards**, MANY that are cash awards, trips and the Leaders Council Scholarships that are offered every year. Here are just a few:
  * Fall Achievement awards – many range from $10.00 - $50.00 depending on the sponsor
  * Yearly trips that range from $50.00 per person to $1300.00 per person
  * Senior and upperclassman scholarship in the amount of $250.00

If you are interested in learning more about record keeping and working on your books, plan on attending the workshop on **April 17th at the Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds at 6pm.**
Exploring Entrepreneurship - January 2014

What is an entrepreneur? What does it take to turn an idea into a business opportunity? Together we will learn what it takes to start and run a business from the ground up. I am looking for five to ten youth interested in starting their own business. Meeting times and location to be determined. Please contact me via email at cheraboo@gmail.com. You can also call or text Cheryl Booth at (269) 377-6211.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Kalamazoo County 4-H Youth Development - https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Kalamazoo-County-4-H-Youth-Program/122047197873078?fref=ts

Kalamazoo County 4-H Twitter at https://twitter.com/KzooCounty4H

Kalamazoo County 4-H Blogspot at http://kzoocounty4h.blogspot.com/


Kalamazoo County Dairy Project link - https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/359337366181/

Kalamazoo County Rabbit Project - https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/195384267151802/

Kalamazoo County Dog Project - https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/147649262038773/

Kalamazoo County Teen Club - https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/188725345004/

Kalamazoo County Feeder Calf Club - https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/264639983534/

Alamo Achievers 4-H club - https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/495459130465211/

Augusta United 4-H Club - https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/AugustaUnited/

2013 - 2014 BIRTHDAY CAKE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>September 2013</th>
<th>October 2013</th>
<th>November 2013</th>
<th>December 2013</th>
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<tr>
<td>Scotts</td>
<td>Augusta</td>
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<td>Tri-United</td>
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Cakes should be delivered to Woodside at Friendship Village (1300 North Drake). Please furnish two 9” X 13” or three 8” cakes. Cakes should be delivered between 8:00 am and noon on the first Wednesday of the month or the day before from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. Cakes should be decorated but NO writing. Leave your name, address and club name when dropping off cakes. Contact Lynda Doorlag (381-8837, ext. 466).
POULTRY PROJECT

Now that the holidays are over, it is time to start planning for spring. If you would like to add to the order for breed chicks at McMurray Hatchery, please call Jackie @ 629-9664. I can add to the order, but the selection may be somewhat limited. The chicks should be arriving the week of March 3rd. The next Poultry Project meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, January 21st @ 7pm in Rm B at the fairgrounds. Ann will have sign up sheets available to place your order for your market chicks or you may call her @685-2301.

Once again, here is the 2014 Poultry Project list of ordering and pickup dates for 2014 for the Market Project. As far as we know the pickup place will still be at the Feed Bag in Richland. Poultry members can sign up for chicks starting at the January meeting or by calling Ann Hollister at 269-685-2301.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORDER DATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>Feb 21</td>
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<td>Market Geese</td>
<td>March 28</td>
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<td>Heavy Duck</td>
<td>April 11</td>
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<td>Roaster</td>
<td>May 2</td>
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<td>Market Ducks</td>
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Ann Hollister - Poultry Co-Superintendent
Jackie Stasevich - Poultry Co-Superintendent

CAT PROJECT

If you are interested in cats, please consider coming to our first meeting for the 2013/2014 Fair season. We will be having a presentation and refreshments. The meeting will be held at the Kalamazoo County Expo Center, Room C on January 23, 2014. We would love to see you there. Owners of all cats are welcome. If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Hedges at 269-624-1184 or shandeb_49065@yahoo.com.

Happy Holidays!!!
SCOTTS BUSY YOUTH

We invite you to join us at the 6th Annual Sweetheart Dinner Dance on February 8th at the Scott’s Community Center starting at 6 pm.

The dinner will be pasta, salad, bread, dessert and will be served to you by teen 4-H members. There will be give-aways and an auction with proceeds to benefit LSA, then you can finish your night with dancing or watch the dancing while visiting with friends, neighbors and other 4-H’ers.

Cost is $10.00 and you can call Tricia Bartholomew at 269-626-0300 to obtain your ticket to a night of entertainment or show up that evening and pay at the door.

Pavilion Busy Clovers

Thank you to everyone in the Busy Clovers that provided baked goods and helped with the bake sale at Wing Stadium in December. We had a great day and it was very successful. Congratulations to the club members for your award for the officers notebooks. Thank you for your dedication and hard work. Happy New Year!! Looking forward to a great 2014 for the club and Kalamazoo County 4-H.

Susan Compton

Swine

Swine meeting will be Feb 24th at 7:00 in room B at the County Expo Center. There are new changes. Hope to see all of you there.

Your Supers

Beef/ Dairy Beef Members

Beef and Dairy Beef members: your Superintendent’s; Mike, Dave, and Dave, will be coming around to check tags and look at your projects on Sat. Jan. 25th. We will try to call you ahead of time to let you know when we will be there. If you have a time that you need us to be at your place call Mike and let him know. We will try to be as flexible as we can.
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<td>Item List for the Leader's Council Auction due to the 4-H office by 5 pm</td>
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- **January 2014**

**1**

*New Years Day - MSUE Office closed*

**8**

*Cakes - Tri-United*

**15**

*LSA, Room C, Fairgrounds. 7 pm State Awards Training, Room B, Fairgrounds. 7 pm Pre-register with 4H office*

**16**

*Horse Council, Room C, Fairgrounds, 7 pm*

**17**

*4H Horse Judges & Show Managers Conference - Kettunen Center*

**18**

*4H Horse Judges & Show Managers Conference - Kettunen Center*

**23**

*Countywide Cat Project meeting, Room C, Fairgrounds, 7 pm 24*

**25**

*4H Teen Leadership & Community Change Conference—Kettunen Center*

**26**

*4H Teen Leadership & Community Change Conference—Kettunen Center*

**27**

*Leader’s Council, Room C, Fairgrounds, 7 pm*

**28**

*Countywide Rabbit meeting, Room B, 7 pm, Fairgrounds*

**29**

*Annual Leader’s Banquet, 6:30 pm, Nikos Landing, Comstock*

**31**

*Item List for the Leader’s Council Auction due to the 4-H office by 5 pm*
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<td>4-H Day at the Breslin, 1:30 pm. Leave Fairgrounds @ 11 am</td>
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<td><strong>Cakes—Pavilion</strong></td>
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<td>Countywide Poultry meeting, Room B, Fairgrounds, 7 pm</td>
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<td><strong>Countywide Poultry meeting, Room B, Fairgrounds, 7 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Livestock Superintendents Association, Room C, Fairgrounds, 7 pm</strong></td>
<td>Horse Council, Room C, Fairgrounds, 7 pm</td>
<td>Drop Off Auction Items, 3 - 7 pm</td>
<td>Countywide Swine meeting, Room C, Rabbit Meeting, Room B, Fairgrounds, 7 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer Interviews, 6 pm &amp; Leader’s Council, 7 pm, Room C, Fairgrounds</td>
<td><strong>24 Volunteer Interviews, 6 pm &amp; Leader’s Council, 7 pm, Room C, Fairgrounds</strong></td>
<td><strong>Countywide Swine meeting, Room C, Rabbit Meeting, Room B, Fairgrounds 7 pm</strong></td>
<td>Fair Council, Room C, Fairgrounds, 7 pm</td>
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<td><strong>Feb 21/22 - Vet Science Workshop and Feb.22/23 Beef, Sheep &amp; Swine Workshop (both for teens and adults)</strong></td>
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Calendar of Events and Special Points of Interest

MSU 4-H Events  http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events

BE SAFE: Addressing Bullying in Out-of-School Settings.
January 16, 2014 Hannah Community Center, Lansing
Learn ways to use Be SAFE: Safe, Affirming and Fair Environments to create settings that are physically and emotionally safe for young people.

4-H Day at Breslin Lady Spartans vs. Purdue
February 2, 2014 MSU Campus, Breslin Center
9th Annual Celebration of MSU Extension 4-H Development Lady Spartans Basketball Event.

Exploring the Science of 4-H Projects
February 3, 2014 Webinar
The final session of the 2013-2014 North Central Regional Volunteer e-Forum will teach 4-H leaders how to find the science in any 4-H project or program.

MSU Pavilion  http://www.ans.msu.edu/events
4301 Farm Lane, East Lansing, MI. 48910
517-355-8383

MI Shepherds Weekend - 2014
January 3 - 5, 2014 Crowne Plaza Hotel - Lansing
Go to http://www.misheep.org.
Many events including young producer discussion meet, young shepherds innovation talks, many classes, banquet, trade show, warm & wooly competition, photo contest.

4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show
January 25, 2014 MSU Pavilion
This one-day event open to all Michigan 4-H members is held annually at MSU in East Lansing, MI. Free to public in the MSU Pavilion Exhibit Area.

Green & White Youth Event and Open Hog Show
January 24 - 25, 2014 MSU Pavilion
This event which includes showmanship, skillathon, essay and power point contest, is open to all Michigan youth who have reached their 9th birthday and are not yet 21 by January 1, 2014. The Market show is open to all youth 9 years and older.

4-H Horse Judging Workshop and Mini Contest
January 31 & February 1, 2014 MSU Pavilion
This is a great opportunity to work out youth judging teams, or to just get an idea of what a judging team is all about.

MSU Spartan Stampede Rodeo
February 14 - 16, 2014 MSU Pavilion
Ride on in to the MSU Pavilion for the 44th annual MSU Annual Stampede Rodeo, presented by the MSU Rodeo Club. Riders from the International Riders Rodeo Association will test their skills against some of the best livestock during the three rodeo event.

Kettunen Center
http://www.kettunencenter.org/calendar.html
231-829-3421 14901 4-H Drive, Tustin, MI. 49688

4-H Horse Judges and Show Managers Conference
January 18 - 19, 2014 Kettunen Center
Continuing education opportunities for horse judges, horse advisory committee members, horse show committee members, horse superintendents and open horse show managers.

4-H Teen Leadership & Community Change Conference
January 25 - 26, 2014 Kettunen Center
For youth 12 (as of January 1, 2014) and up from across the state to learn youth leadership and civic engagement skills.

4-H Winterfest
February 1, 2014 Kettunen Center
Hands-on winter educational program designed for youth ages 8 - 12 years old.

4-H Veterinary Science Teen and Adult Leaders Workshop
February 21 - 22, 2014 Kettunen Center
Explore animal systems and learn about animal health for a broad array of animal species.

4-H Beef, Sheep and Swine Teen and Adult Leaders Workshop
February 22 - 23, 2014 Kettunen Center
This workshop is designed for both youth and adult leaders who are involved with beef cattle, sheep and swine projects.
**Kalamazoo County MSU Extension**

Bringing Knowledge to Life!

**Our Mission**

Helping people improve their lives through an educational process that applies knowledge to critical issues, needs and opportunities.

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