2017 MSU Extension Exploration Days—Journey to Success

Youth won’t want to miss out on this exciting adventure for 11-19 year olds!

The registration books can be found at http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/4_h_exploration_days/registration_information and hard copies are available at the office or from club leaders. All of the forms that need to be completed are included in the registration booklet. Please remember to sign up early for the best opportunity to get the classes that interest you the most. Many classes fill up early so don’t delay! It’s going to be an exciting time for youth to attend classes at MSU, develop new friends and skills while having a great time with our county delegation! Youth will be able to enjoy the Detroit Circus at the Wharton Center, swimming in the Olympic size pool, MSU dairy ice cream and a variety of other activities while on campus. We will be entering registrations starting on March 14th. The registration deadline is May 1, 2017—but waiting until the last minute limits the choices of classes that are available. Exploration Days orientation will be at 6:30 PM, May 31, 2017 at the fairgrounds.

True Leaders in Service

This April, National 4-H is launching an annual True Leaders in Service initiative in honor of National Volunteer Appreciation Month. True Leaders in Service, a month-long community service activation, will officially kick-off the first day of April, and culminate with the National 4-H Day of Service on Saturday, April 29. Thousands of 4-H’ers will venture out into their communities to do what 4-H’ers do best: they will lead in service to tackle community challenges and help meet the needs of others. What can you and your community club/project do to benefit our community?

Join the movement. Sign up today to take part in True Leaders in Service. To learn more and to register your community service event see the following link—http://4-h.org/get-involved/true-leaders-in-service/.
**RABBIT PROJECT NEWS**

The Central MI Rabbit Breeders Association is coming into Kalamazoo. They are sponsoring two shows at the Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds. The dates are Sunday, April 2, 2017 and Saturday, October 21, 2017. Entries are taken the day of the show. This would be a great opportunity for youth to show their bunnies before and after the fair.

If you have any questions, please email Janelle Gray at grays3galsandaguy@gmail.com or Roxanne O'Neil at roxanne.oneil@gmail.com or 269-317-1925.

**Countywide Rabbit Project meetings are held at 7:00 pm in Room B at the fairgrounds.**

March 28, 2017
April 18, 2017
June 3, 2017 - Mandatory Breed check in and Fit-n-Show
July 8, 2017 - Market Rabbit check in
August 3, 2017 - Mandatory Livestock meeting & Barn set up

**Rabbit Agility Meetings are held at 6:30 pm in Room B at the fairgrounds.**

March 24, 2017
April 28, 2017
May 19, 2017
June 9, 2017
June 23, 2017
July 28, 2017
August 4, 2017

**Feeder Calf Project News**

We will be having a meeting on Wednesday, March 22, at 7:00 pm at the fairgrounds. We will be having Nate Jager from Hopkins Elevator talk about how to feed your calf from bottle to market steer. Please get pictures of your calves posted on the Kalamazoo County 4-H Feeder Calf Facebook site by May 1.

Please contact Greg or Sara if you have questions!
Kalamazoo County Project News

Kalamazoo County Leader’s Council Scholarship

The Kalamazoo County 4-H Leaders Council Senior and Upper-classmen Scholarship deadline is April 14, 2017 at 5:00 PM to the 4-H office. Applications are available at www.msue.msu.edu/kalamazoo or at the 4-H office. Your Member Record Book must be handed in with your application. Applicants will be selected based upon their Member Record Book, statement of your reason for attending college and an interview. Senior interviews will be held on April 24th. If you need help completing your Member Record Book, please contact the 4-H staff.

Save the Date:

4-H Day with the Kalamazoo Growlers

July 28, 2017

Game begins at 7:05

Pre-game activities start at 5:30 PM

The Kalamazoo Growlers will be playing the Battle Creek Bombers.

More information will be coming out in the May and June newsletters.
Poultry Project News

March is CHICK TIME!!! The breed chicks that are on order at McMurray Hatchery are scheduled to ARRIVE the week of March 6th. They will be delivered to Jackie's house and will need to be picked up there. Jackie will call each of the families as soon as the chicks are here. Make sure that your brooder is ready and you have a WARM box for transporting them!

TURKEY POULTS are also coming on March 28th---BE READY TO PICK THEM UP AT THE FEEDBAG IN RICHLAND.

The next project meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 21st at 7:00 pm IN ROOM B at the Expo Center. See you there!

Beef Project News

Beef & Dairy Beef exhibitors mark your calendars for our 2017 meeting dates!
March 23rd, 7:00 pm, Room B at the Fairgrounds May 18th, 7:00 pm, Room A at the Fairgrounds July 20th (Fit & Show), 6pm, Myers Farms

During our meetings we plan to go over Beef Quality Assurance, project guidelines, notebook requirements and much more!

We look forward to seeing returning faces and meet any new members. Questions feel free to contact Scott Myers (269) 873-5856 or Shelby Gibson (269)743-9669. Find our group on Facebook at "Kalamazoo County 4-H Beef & Dairy Beef Project"
https://www.facebook.com/groups/188605504879793/
Workshop Opportunities

Fun facts about Michigan cherry production

- Michigan ranks No. 1 in the production of Montmorency tart cherries, and No. 4 in sweet cherries. 94% of Montmorency cherries are grown in the U.S.A.
- Michigan has about 35,000 acres of cherry trees, which account for 75% of all the tart cherries grown in the United States.
- Traverse City is the "Cherry Capital" of the world, with an annual National Cherry Festival which takes place this year from July 1-8.
- Research indicates that Montmorency tart cherry juice may help improve the quality and duration of sleep.
- Cherries contain beta carotene, vitamin C, potassium, magnesium, iron and fiber.
- For more information and recipes see this website at http://www.choosecherries.com/

Have Fun Living Healthy!

FREE Family Event—ALL Ages welcome!

Who is ready to be healthy? Here is your chance! Learn about different healthy snacks and activities YOU can do at home or with your friends! Join us for lots of fun, laughter, and healthy living learning.

When:
April 29, 2017
9:00 AM—12:00 PM

Where:
Doyle Center, Sturgis, MI
310 N Franks Ave,
Sturgis, MI 49091

Activities include:
- Smoothie Challenge
- Obstacle Course
- 4-H Yoga for Kid
- Dance Party Challenge
- Basketball Challenge
- Jr. Snack Challenge
- Human Hungry Hippos Game
- Zumba
- Relay Race
- Cardio Drumming and MORE!!!

4-H Walmart Youth Voice: Youth Choice Program
Kalamazoo County 4-H Benefit Auction Successful!

Thank you to the many families, businesses and community clubs who donated to the 23rd Annual Benefit Auction, and to those who came out to support the program by way of purchasing the items and volunteering the morning of the auction. We would also like to give thanks to the auction committee (chair was Chris Chase) for helping make this a successful event. Your hard work paid off!!!!!

There were many gift baskets, gift certificates and other items that helped raise over $6,000 towards 4-H programming. These funds will be used to support programs such as youth attending MSU Exploration Days, scholarship opportunities, trainings held at the Kettunen center, educational programming and fall achievement awards.

4-H Great Lake and Natural Resources Camp

4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources camp is now accepting applications! Camp will be held July 30-August 5, 2017 and is open to youth ages 13-15.

New this year! We will be doing an online application process. The link can be found on the camp’s website under “Cost and How to Apply”

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/4_h_great_lakes_natural_resources_camp/cost_and_how_to_apply

The 2017 camper fee is $375 for Michigan 4-H members and $385 for Michigan youth who are nonmembers. The fee includes meals and snacks, lodging, a T-shirt, and program and activity fees. Camp is held at Camp Chickagami (http://www.campchickagami.org/) in Presque Isle.
4-H Day! Saturday, June 3, 2017

Attention 4-H Members, Volunteers, & Families:
Come celebrate 4-H at Michigan’s Adventure!

Admission $25.00 per person, includes UNLIMITED use of the amusement park and waterpark (with the exception of RipCord) on Saturday, June 3. Children 2 years of age and younger are free. 4-H Day Meal Tickets will be available for only $5.00 each! Meal consists of a Hot Dog, Macaroni Salad, Chips and a Soft Drink and will be served at Mary Lynn’s Group Catering Pavilions from 2:00 – 3:00 pm. Purchase meal tickets when you purchase your admission tickets on June 3.

Reservations are required for admission and meal tickets by May 31, 2017. Contact the Group Sales Office directly at 231.766.9959, youthsales@mladventure.com or visit www.mladventure.com/specialevents.

Michigan’s Adventure accepts cash, money orders, VISA, MasterCard, Discover and American Express. Checks are not accepted.

Members will be asked to present a card or something representing 4-H membership. Wear a club shirt so you can be recognized as an honored guest!

There is a fee for parking standard and oversized vehicles. Full-size busses park for free.

For More Information
- Visit www.mladventure.com
- Make your reservation
- Read the helpful Trip Tips
- See a complete listing of rides and attractions
- Contact Michigan’s Adventure Group Sales Representative at 231.766.9959 or via email at youthsales@mladventure.com

Amusement Park Hours - 11:00 am - 7:00 pm • Waterpark Hours - 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm

WildWater Adventure is open on scheduled days when the temperature is 65 degrees or higher.

4-H Workshops

March 4: Spring Galaxy 4-H Horse Program Committee
Contact Taylor Fabus (tenlenta@msu.edu)
Anthony Hall, MSU, East Lansing

Youth Business Guide to Success . . . Training
https://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=7BB37C00B1B518BF
Delta County MSU Extension Office, Escanaba

March 11-12: Challenge U 4-H Funfest
https://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=45166123621BDFEE
Kettunen Center, Tustin

March 17-19: Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference
https://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=62F0A083A0F38132
Kettunen Center, Tustin

March 18-19: 4-H Robotics Workshop
https://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=CFBB42F26791A2C6
Kettunen Center, Tustin

March 20: Youth Business Guide to Success . . . Training
https://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=7BB37C00B1B518BF
Ottawa County MSU Extension Office, West Olive

https://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=7BB37C00B1B518BF
Lapeer County MSU Extension Office, Lapeer

March 25: Youth Business Guide to Success . . . Training
https://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=7BB37C00B1B518BF
Menominee County MSU Extension Office, Stephenson

Other 4-H Events

March 19-22: 4-H Capitol Experience
https://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=087C25CC2694CBDE
Okemos Conference Center, Okemos

March 26: Michigan 4-H & FFA Horse Judging Contest
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/michigan_4_h_ffa_horse_judging_contest
MSU Pavilion, Lansing

April 8: Norma Agnew Memorial 4-H Hairy Horse Show
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/norma_agnew_memorial_4_h_hairy_horse_show
MSU Pavilion, Lansing

April 15: State 4-H Goat Expo
https://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=6549761B2168714F
Anthony Hall, MSU, East Lansing

For the most up-to-date events listing, go to http://msue.anr.msu.edu/topic/events/4_h
2017 Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference

The purposes of this annual teen and adult leader workshop are to:

- Provide Michigan 4-H (http://msue.anr.msu.edu/topic/info/4_h) youth and volunteers from across the state with the opportunity to learn about Michigan agriculture
- Increase attendees’ knowledge about the Michigan dairy industry
- Develop participants’ self esteem, self awareness and leadership skills
- Help those attending to become more knowledgeable about the many issues affecting agriculture now and in the future.
- Inspire conference participants to bring new programming and ideas back to their 4-H clubs and county programs

The weekend will include many hands-on activities led by MSU Extension (http://bit.ly/1sdvYus) staff and MSU (http://msu.edu) faculty and students.

Who Should Attend?
This training is for Michigan 4-H’ers who are 13 to 19 years old, as of January 1, 2017, and volunteers who are interested in dairy cattle and dairy cattle reproduction science.

Where Will the Conference Be Held?
Kettunen Center (http://kettunencenter.org), Tustin

When Is the Conference? March 17 to 19, 2017

Theme
This year’s theme is “Reproductive Science With Dairy Cattle”

How Can Someone Register?
Registration for the conference is available on the Michigan 4-H web site (http://bit.ly/2lk3jJ). If a registrant’s county is offering scholarships, it is important to check with the county (http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county) before registering.

What Is the Cost of the Conference?
The registration fee, which includes meals, lodging and resources, is $95 for 4-H members and volunteers and $191 for non-4-H members and volunteers.

More information is available from:
- Melissa Elischer (elischer@anr.msu.edu)
- Your local MSU Extension county 4-H staff (http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county)