2017 is here! Welcome to the New Year.
Be on the look out for some NEW 4-H opportunities this year. Just a reminder to get yourself enrolled for the new year on 4-H Online, if you need help or instructions on how to do so please ask me for help (sovish@anr.msu.edu). Only 4-H Members (Cloverbuds—Age 19) and registered 4-H Volunteers need to be enrolled online.

Thank you!
If you need assistance with anything 4-H related please call the main office phone. (810)244-8500.

Sincerely,
4-H Program Coordinators
Kristina Jimmerson      Heidi Mudel      Jen Skirnicka
810-244-8532       810-244-8510       810-244-8533
jimmers3@anr.msu.edu      sovish@anr.msu.edu      skornic4@.anr.msu.edu

Attention Swine Exhibitor from Genesee County Swine Superintendent

There has been confirmed outbreaks of the PED virus in Illinois, Iowa, and South Carolina. In light of the winter shows as well as exhibitors going farm to farm to seek out their pigs for their fair projects, please keep in mind to follow all proper biosecurity measures! This would also be a good time to brush up on those proper measures by renewing your PQA online! Please do not be complacent simply because these outbreaks are not in Michigan!! Many show pigs come from these farms in Illinois and Iowa. Please be on alert and follow every biosecurity measure possible!
STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4-H Workshops

February 4-5: 4-H Winterfest
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_winterfest_2
Kettunen Center, Tustin

February 17-18: 4-H Veterinary Science Teen & Adult Leaders Workshop
https://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=E6B7FF2B7A78D0A4
Kettunen Center, Tustin

February 18-19: 4-H Beef, Sheep & Swine Teen & Adult Leaders Workshop
https://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=E6B7FF2B7A78D0A4
Kettunen Center, Tustin

February 22: Michigan 4-H Embryology Staff, Teacher and Volunteer Training
https://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=B4D2D654CB6AAA94
MSU Federal Credit Union, East Lansing

February 25: Teen & Adult 4-H Horse Leaders’ Conference
http://www.ans.msu.edu/extension/horse_youth_programs
Anthony Hall, MSU, East Lansing

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

March 17-19: Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference
Contact Melissa Elischer (elischa@msu.edu)
Kettunen Center, Tustin

Other 4-H Events

February 3-4: 4-H/MQHA Clinic Weekend
http://www.ans.msu.edu/extension/horse_youth_programs
MSU Pavilion, Lansing

February 17-20: National Youth Summit on Healthy Living
http://4hcenter.org/tours-programsnational-youth-summit-series/#healthy-living
National 4-H Conference Center, Chevy Chase, Maryland

February 18: Michigan 4-H Night With the Griffins
Contact Tarin Minkel (minkeltj@anr.msu.edu)
Van Andel Arena, Grand Rapids

March 19-22: 4-H Capitol Experience
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_capitol_experience_3
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

For the most up-to-date events listing, go to http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events
Will You Put the “U” in the Challenge U 4-H FunFest?

The 2017 Challenge U 4-H FunFest is another special workshop for younger (aged 9 to 13) Michigan 4-H (http://msue.anr.msu.edu/topic/info/4_h)’ers. At this event, participants will:

- Spend two action-packed days – in sessions they choose, led by experts – learning the secrets of healthy living and food science. The hands-on sessions from which to choose will include:
  - What to eat and when to increase energy
  - Becoming a junior chef
  - Relaxation tips and tricks
  - Indoor and outdoor cooking
  - Healthy money habits
  - Food preservation
  - Dancing and more.

Through such 4-H projects, young people both enjoy hands-on activities and develop life skills (http://bit.ly/1PVDmlX). For example, by allowing 4-H’ers to choose the sessions in which they want to participate, they learn decision-making skills and independence. At the 2017 Challenge U 4-H FunFest, youth will also learn communication, cooperation and teamwork. All in all, participants learn to make “the best (themselves) better.”

- Enjoy some fun in the great outdoors
- Have an overnight workshop experience
- Meet other 4-H’ers from around the state

Who

Youth 9 to 13 years old as of January 1, 2017 and chaperones

When

March 11 to 12, 2017 (begins 9:30 to 10:30 Saturday morning and ends at 11:30 Sunday morning, before lunch)

Where

Kettunen Center (http://www.kettunencenter.org) in Tustin

How

The Challenge U 4-H FunFest schedule and registration is available on the web (http://bit.ly/2joxVkS). The registration fee ($70 for 4-H members and volunteers or $119 for non-4-H members and volunteers) includes overnight housing, meals and all session supplies.

If you need more details than are available on the registration site given above, you can obtain additional information from:

- Your local MSU Extension county 4-H staff (http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county)
- Michelle Neff (by email at hydemich@msu.edu or by telephone at 989-539-7805)
Meetings held at MSU Extension
605 N. Saginaw St. Suite 1A Flint MI 48502

- February 8—GCHLA Regular Meeting 6:30pm
- February 16—Dog Committee meetings 6:00pm
- February 20—Rabbit Committee Meeting 6:00pm
- February 22—Endowment Committee
  - Elections for a new secretary will be held
- March 13—Youth Livestock 7:00pm
- Livestock Committee 7:30pm

Upcoming Genesee County 4-H Events

- **Genesee County 4-H Dog Classes** resume February 7, 2017 from 6pm-7:30pm. Our new meeting location for classes is the Clio Tractor Supply Company 4058 W Vienna Rd, Clio, MI 48420. Please note the change in day of the week. If you have not been to dog class within the past semester, you must get class details and register with Jen at 810-244-8533 or skornic4@anr.msu.edu

- February 11—**Goat Winter Games** 11:30am Davison Little Ceasers: Open to all Genesee County 4-H member. The Ever popular Winter Games is back! Test your knowlege and find out what you need to study! We will be forming teams for Goat Expo at MSU so if you are intrested in that make sure you get involved and get ready to com-mit! If you cant make it and want to be on a team let a Committeemember know!
  We will be voting on a Tent Theme bring your idea!
  Also back is the tee shirt design contest!!
  Be the one to design this years Goat Kid Tee Shirt!! Give it a theme and you could very well be getting to plan both!!! Bring your design with you for everyone to vote on!!!!
  Please RSVP to Stephany Arnould by Friday February 10th so we know how much pizza to order!

- March 4—**Winter Bake Off** at MSU Extension office. Open to youth 5-19 and adults 20 and over. $5 registration fee. For Registration forms contact Heidi sovish@anr.msu.edu or visit https://www.facebook.com/groups/298466341527/
Genesee County News

Science Saturday—February 18
Junk Drawer Robotics
10am at the Genesee County MSU Extension Office. Open to youth 5-12 yrs old. If you would like to attend please RSVP to Heidi at 810-244-8510 or sovish@anr.msu.edu by Feb 15. Class must have 5 participants to be held.

Science Saturday—March 18
The Great Egg Drop
10am at the Genesee County MSU Extension Office. Open to youth 5-12 yrs old. If you would like to attend please RSVP to Heidi at 810-244-8510 or sovish@anr.msu.edu by March 15. Class must have 5 participants to be held.

Genesee Shiawassee Camp Counselor Training
Do you have a youth that is 13 or old that would like to be a camp counselor. Genesee/ Shiawassee is holding the annual camp counselor trainings. If you are interested please contact Heidi at 810-244-8510 for an application or more details. First training is February 21 6-8pm at the Shiawassee County Fair Grounds. 4-H camp takes place June 23-26.

Annual Genesee County Endowment Auction  April 8
If you have received a scholarship from the Endowment Committee between April 2016-April 2017 please consider donating items to the auction. Remember this is the only fundraiser this committee does yearly to support Genesee Country Financial Scholarships for youth and adults.

Exploration Days
Open to youth 11 and older. If you are interested in receiving more information or registration books please contact Heidi or visit the website: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/info/4_h_exploration_days
Registration will open Mid-March.