



Otsego County

4-H Family News

February 2015

Welcome...

January 16, 2015,

Greetings 4-H members and volunteers,

I would like to take opportunity to welcome everyone to our new Otsego County 4-H newsletter!

I am very excited that we will be able to bring you current county information as well as MSU information for happenings and events throughout the state.

Our newsletter will provide information of events happening in our county, articles from MSU and 4-H members and volunteers, and happenings within our county clubs. We will also tell you about the Otsego County 4-H council and some of the events they provide such as the Father/Daughter dance and Spring Extravaganza.

With that said, I would like to extend an invitation to all the youth to write us about the things you are doing. Does your club have a club reporter that can write about the things your club is doing? Is your club having a fundraiser that the 4-H community can support? What fun things does your club have planned?

Some of our youth have attended and will be attending the 4-H Kettunen Center located in Tustin, MI. For those that don't know where that is located, it's very close, just south of Cadillac. What did you learn, what did you do? Did you meet new people and make some new friends? Tell us about your experience.

Volunteers, this invitation includes you because without you it would be impossible to bring all the cool stuff to our clubs and county! Is there an article you have read that would be interesting to our 4-H community, any ideas for the newsletter? Events that members and adults might be interested in?

We would like your ideas for our new newsletter. Do you have some pictures you would like to submit? What would you like to see in our newsletter?

So come on, join the fun! You can submit your articles or pictures to me at david72@anr.msu.edu or to Patti Peter, our newsletter editor, at randppeter@gmail.com. Articles can be written in word or pdf format. Pictures should be sharp and in jpeg form. Please be aware that all articles and pictures are subject to approval.

Happy reading,

Dev Davis 4-H Program Coordinator

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OF RESPONSIBILITY

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STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Attention...

Become a 4-H volunteer!

Michigan 4-H has a goal of recruiting 8,000 new volunteers in the 2014-2015 program year. Would you or someone you know make a great 4-H volunteer? There are many ways to get involved: help at camp, teach a workshop, lead a club, chaperone an event, lend your professional skills, help at the fair and more!

Contact the county MSU Extension office at <http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county> to learn more about becoming a 4-H volunteer today. By giving your time, you'll help youth achieve big dreams and prepare for the future. After all, life's little questions aren't meant to be answered alone.

4-H Workshops

February 6-7: 4-H Horse Judging Workshop & Mini Contest
<http://www.ans.msu.edu/uploads/files/Flyer.pdf>
 MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

February 27-28: 4-H Veterinary Science Teen & Adult Leaders Workshop
<http://bit.ly/1sujltU>
 Kettunen Center, Tustin

February 28-March 1: 4-H Beef Sheep & Swine Teen & Adult Leaders Workshop
<http://bit.ly/1vRGKEf>
 Kettunen Center, Tustin

March 13-15: Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/michigan_4_h_dairy_conference2
 Kettunen Center, Tustin

April 24-26: Michigan 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Certification Workshop
<http://bit.ly/1IuBQ6S>
 Kettunen Center, Tustin

Other 4-H Events

February 6-7: 4-H/MQHA Benefit Clinic and Tack Sale
http://www.ans.msu.edu/uploads/files/4HMQHA_Clinic_FlyerOct16.pdf
 MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

February 13-16: 4-H Healthy Living Youth Summit
<http://www.nationalyouthsummit.org/healthy-living-conference>
 Washington, DC

March 7: Spring Galaxy Meeting: 4-H Horse Program Committee
 Contact Taylor Fabus (tenlenta@msu.edu)
 Anthony Hall, MSU, East Lansing

March 22-25: 4-H Capitol Experience
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/4-h_capitol_experience
 Lansing

March 29: 4-H Hairy Horse Benefit Show
 Contact Karen Waite (kwaite@msu.edu)
 MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

April 11-16: National 4-H Conference
<http://www.4-h.org/4-h-conference/about>
 Washington, DC

For the most up-to-date events listing, go to <http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events>
 For the most up-to-date events listing, go to [http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/sign4-HGoatScienceTeen & Adult Volunteer Workshop](http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/sign4-HGoatScienceTeen&AdultVolunteerWorkshop)
<http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=4Hgoats14>

STATEWIDE NEWS AREA

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Community Service & Learning

Want to make a difference in your community?

Through its pledge of “hands to larger service,” 4-H has historically given back to the community by encouraging young people and adults to volunteer. In 4-H, service is commonly defined as the voluntary action of an individual or a group of individuals without pay. Service to the community – through food drives, raking the yard of an elderly neighbor, adopt-a-highway programs, teens teaching younger youth, teens mentoring children, or youth determining community needs and helping solve community problems – helps young people learn caring, leadership and citizenship.

“Every year millions of Americans volunteer at more than one million non-profit organizations throughout the United States.”

(Volunteering: 101 Ways You Can Improve the World and Your Life, by Douglas M. Lawson. Alti Publishing, 1998)

Why is it important for all of us to be involved in service?

Our U.S. society is based on the idea that we are all responsible for the well-being of our community, country and world. Even before the founding of our country, the willingness to serve was evident in the hearts of many. Later the Great Depression brought out opportunities for service throughout the nation, and the forming of the Peace Corps in 1960 by President John F. Kennedy further reinforced the eagerness of citizens to get involved in helping others. While the people served certainly benefit from community service, the volunteers who engage in serving others benefit positively in many ways. Michigan 4-H Youth Development continues in that tradition by involving young people in a variety of community service-learning projects and programs.

What youth gain from community service learning

By giving back to their communities, young people can:

- Learn the value of helping others.
- Develop leadership, communication, organizational skills and a sense of empowerment.
- Learn how important the connection is between subject matter and life in the community.
- Learn how to cooperate with one another and work as a team with diverse groups of people including adults, peers and others with different backgrounds and experiences.
- Succeed in an area different from academics, athletics or popularity.
- Build self-esteem from the positive results of their service.
- Develop problem-solving and decision-making skills by applying their knowledge to real-world situations.
- Develop a sense of being responsible for their community and a sense that citizenship requires them to actively participate in their community.
- Receive recognition for their efforts and possibly college scholarships.
- Experience the world of work.

Not only do young people gain by being involved in community service, the clubs and groups that they are in also experience benefits from planning and carrying out service projects.

What clubs gain from community service learning

Carrying out service activities can strengthen a club or group because it:

- Boosts member commitment and involvement by giving members meaningful activities.
- Can involve families and youth in a joint activity.
- Fulfills the “hands to larger service” part of the 4-H pledge.
- Builds unity among members, allowing them to function better as a team.
- Allows members to get to know one another better as they work together on a common goal.
- Helps youth become invested in their club and community.
- Shows the community how youth can be resources and how they can get things done.



Proud Michigan
4-H Parent



Proud Michigan
4-H Mentor

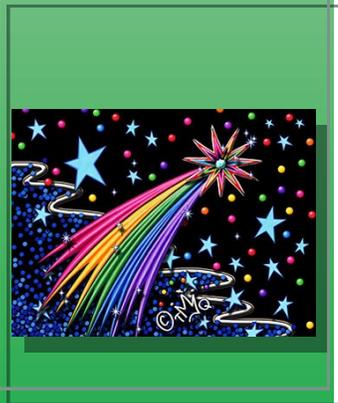


Proud Michigan
4-H Member

COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Attention...
4-H EVENT!!
Father/Daughter
Dance
March 14, 2015
Theme: Dancing
with the Stars

Council Meeting	February 17, 2015
Father/Daughter Dance	March 14, 2015



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Vet Science

Holiday breaks are a great time for family gatherings and appreciation of the gifts we are given. If you happen to have some free time over the break, consider taking time to learn more about the [4-H veterinary science](#) project area.

The 4-H veterinary science project allows youth to learn about animal health and its effect on public health. A specific example is learning the value of scientific research and its influence on animals and their health. Another example is youth gaining knowledge of how animal production methods differ. Beyond the science studied in this project area, youth [build life skills](#) such as problem solving and critical thinking, which will help them better evaluate animal health, as well as be beneficial to their overall development. One helpful resource to get you started in this project area is the [Michigan 4-H Veterinary Science Snapshot](#), which covers what 4-H'ers can learn from a 4-H veterinary science project, ways to get involved and resources for learning more.

Inspired and ready to keep learning? Consider starting a [veterinary science project](#) that will allow youth to continue learning more about the animals already around. Animal case studies provide a great way to launch the learning process. For example, learning about [zoonotic diseases](#) can help you prevent illness for both youth and pets. The [Be A "Zoonotic" Disease Detective](#) bulletin walks youth through two case studies to assist in becoming more aware of health concerns while also learning more about zoonotic diseases. Another opportunity is to begin a research project. Just like a science fair project, researching veterinary science related topics and carefully planning a project can be a great learning experience. Fresh out of ideas, consider searching the web for ideas to complete a [veterinary science research project](#).



Active Otsego County 4-H Clubs

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Country Buddies - Community Club
Stephanie Keck-Fahler (989)732-8187

Critters & Clovers - Community Club
Tricia Young (989) 614-0306

Farmyard Friends - Community Club
Christi Pratt (989) 858-3961

Junior Master Gardeners - Horticulture

The Mane Event - Horse Club
Suzie Davis (989) 619-5578

Rockin' Riders - Horse & Livestock Club
Jill Koss (231) 548-4580

Trailblazers - Horse Club
Jane Rau (989) 731-0149

For additional information call
MSUE Office: 989-731-0272



I pledge...

my *head* to clearer thinking,
my *heart* to greater loyalty,
my *hands* to larger service, and
my *health* to better living for
my *club*, my *community*,
my *country*, and my *world*.



Editor: Patti Peter
Co Editor: Taylor Peter

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4-H Family News

