Good afternoon,

There are so many events going on right now so please take the time to look through them and see if there are any you are interested in. Some highlights are:

4-H Alumni and Friends Dinner: for all Ionia County 4-H alumni, families, and supporters. This is being held April 23.

Ionia County 4-H Bake Off: save the date for May 7th.

Exploration Days registration is going on for the next couple weeks, this is a great event for youth to attend.

Fair is in a little over 3 months. It’s coming up fast so start practicing and working hard (even though you should have been all year).

Leaders, please invite me to your meetings if you haven’t already. I hope to attend one meeting for each club before the Fair. This is a great way for me to meet everyone and see how club’s are run.

This month is full of events but also full of conferences. I have two conferences I will be attending in April which will cause me to be out of the office and the events will change my hours quite a bit. If you would like to meet with me please call to make an appointment first.

Thank you!
Haley McLean

Record Books

All of the record books have been updated. I am working on getting them onto the MSU Extension Ionia County 4-H website. You may also come to the office to have them printed. Leaders or individual families may contact me to get them.

Spring Leader Meeting

The meeting will be held at the Ionia Free Fair Administration building on April 21 at 7pm. Each club MUST have a leader or representative present. We will be going over very important information and changes. Anyone is welcome, please call or email me to let me know you are coming.
4-H Foundation Match Campaign

Every one dollar you donate to the Ionia County 4-H Endowment fund becomes two dollars to the fund. A hundred-dollar donation becomes two hundred dollars! What a deal for our county 4-H! Some big time 4-H supporters across Michigan are matching the donations that county 4-H programs raise.

This fund once it is created will last forever and every year in the future Ionia County 4-H will receive the interest on this fund and it will be used to fund 4-H program expenses and help our 4-H members and leaders.

Currently we have raised just under $20,000 which gives us about $40,000 once we add in the match funds we will receive. Our goal is to raise $50,000 locally and receive $50,000 match from state 4-H supporters to give us a total fund of $100,000. Our money will be held by the Michigan 4-H Foundation and is managed to receive maximum interest and will be controlled by Ionia County 4-H Advisory Council.

Please consider making a donation to the Ionia County Endowment fund and help harvest those matching funds. You can donate:
- money from a club bake sale
- as a leader make a donation
- as a former 4-H member to support 4-H
- when you sell your animal or milk at the fair

Give today. Invest in 4-H and in the youth of Ionia County!

4-H Exploration Days at MSU

Consider attending Exploration Days this year. It is a great event held at MSU for 4-H members 11-19. There are sessions for everyone’s interests and great food and events. You are also able to meet other 4-H members from all over the state. I attended last year and had a lot of fun, Youth enjoy the many sessions there are and the free time they have to go to the dairy store, MSU campus store, the pool, wandering around campus, or just hanging out with friends. Any youth that is considering attending MSU or any college/university should strongly think about attending in order to get a glimpse of what it is like to live at college (don’t worry parents, there are plenty of chaperones). Registration books are ready to be picked up in the office and available online. Registration forms and fees ($80) are due to the office by April 26 so you still have time to register! The sooner you get your session choices in, the better though!

Facebook Pages

I do provide updates and information on the Ionia County 4H page. Please LIKE the page if you have not done so already. Also, if you have any videos, news articles, or pictures of the fair please share them on the page. We had great exposure during the fair and I was not able to keep up with everything that was done.

We have also created an Ionia County 4-H Alumni page in order to share information and memories and to reconnect with old 4-H friends. If you are an alumni of Ionia County 4-H please add that page.

Horse Camp

This is an event for all Ionia County 4-H horse members. The camp is held April 29 -May 1st at the Ionia County Fairgrounds. Registration is due before April 15. You can register at: http://goo.gl/forms/6X3HwIfzSl If you have any questions, please contact your horse leader or Abbey Miller.
Passing on the Gift Dinner

The dinner is held at the Ionia ISD on April 12th from 5:30-7:30pm. World Wide Kids 4-H Club sponsors the event so all money that is raised is donated to Heifer International, Nyaka Schools, and IM Kids 3rd Meal. There are homemade soup and rolls for the cost of a donation.

Bake Off

The 2016 Youth Bake Off is Saturday, May 7th at the Ionia MSU Extension office. This is open to all youth ages 5-19. Each age group must enter a different type of food or baked good. For more information contact the office for the registration form. Youth must register by April 29th.

Rodeo at the Ionia Free Fair

Greenstone has graciously offered to sponsor the rodeo again this year so that 4-H members can get their tickets for free. In May 4-H members will be able to pick up their tickets to the rodeo from the Greenstone office.

Inaugural Ionia County 4-H Alumni & Friends Dinner

When: April 23 from 4-8 p.m.

Where: Floral Building at the Ionia Fairgrounds

Why: Reminisce about 4-H in the past and help 4-H for the future.

Cost: Donation based, proceeds to benefit the Ionia County 4-H Endowment.

RSVP: To Haley McLean by April 12 at 616-527-5357 or mcleanha@anr.msu.edu

Catered by: Farmer’s Wife Catering
Sponsored by: Ionia County 4-H Advisory Council

Help launch the Ionia County 4-H Alumni Association!

We need your help! Please submit your 4-H photos to Haley by April 8 to be included in a 4-H slideshow.
Upcoming State 4-H Events

4-H Workshops

June 3-5: 4-H Companion Animal Spring Camp
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/michigan_4_h_companion_animal_camp_1
Camp Tuhsmeheta, Greenville

Other 4-H Events

May 12: World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute
http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=A3839AEE24EEB4CE
Michigan State University

May 20-21: State 4-H Poultry Show
http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=5D42DB572A7DF7AC
Eaton County Fairgrounds, Charlotte

June 11: 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Expo
http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=E1913089101FF254
Anthony Hall, MSU, East Lansing

June 15-16: 4-H MMPA Dairy Tour
Contact Melissa Elischer (elischer@anr.msu.edu)
Michigan Milk Producers Association Headquarters, Novi

June 17-19: State 4-H Trail Ride
Whiskey Creek Campground, Custer

June 22-24: 4-H Exploration Days
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/info/4_h_exploration_days
MSU, East Lansing

June 25: State 4-H Goat Show
Contact Katie Ockert (ockertka@anr.msu.edu)
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

June 26-July 2: 2016 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships http://4h.unl.edu/4hshootingsportsnationalchampionships
Heartland Public Shooting Park, Grand Island, Nebraska

June 27-July 1: 4-H Animal & Veterinary Science Camp
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/info/4_h_animal_veterinary_science_camp
MSU, East Lansing

June 27-July 1: 4-H Renewable Energy Camp
http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=4Hrenewableenergycamp
Michigan State University

July 14: State 4-H/FFA Livestock Judging Contest
http://bit.ly/1qnhDvu
Anthony Hall, MSU, East Lansing

For the most up-to-date events listing, go to http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events
Attention 4-H Members, Volunteers, & Families:
Come celebrate 4-H at Michigan's Adventure!

Admission $10.00 per person. Includes UNLIMITED use of the amusement park and waterpark (with the exception of R/Cars on Saturday, June 4). Children 2 years of age and younger are free.

4-H Day Meal Tickets will be available for only $10.00 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 10:00 – 3:00 p.m. Purchase meal tickets when you purchase your admission tickets on June 4.

Reservations are required for admission and meal tickets by June 1, 2016. Contact the Group Sales Office directly at 231-766-9959, youthsales@midadventure.com or visit www.midadventure.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. View a club shirt or you can be recognized as an honored guest.

There is a fee for parking standard and oversized vehicles.

Parking is free for buses.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

Michigan 4-H Day
at Comerica Park
Sunday April 24th

Game starts at 1:08 p.m.

Join fellow 4-H'ers from across Michigan as we watch the Detroit Tigers take on the Cleveland Indians at Comerica Park, 2300 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI.

Game Day Packages (includes ticket and a Detroit Tigers T-shirt which includes the 4-H Emblem)

- Upper Reserved = $25.00
- Upper Box Infield Package = $34.00
- Lower Baseline = $40.00

Purchase tickets at http://www.tigers.com/4h. For groups of 15 or more please contact Jeremy at Jeremy.hostetter@detroittigers.com or phone (313) 471-2236

For further information contact: Glenda Weiss weissle@anr.msu.edu or 734-729-3632 Ext. 101.

Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to color, race, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.
STATE 4-H GOAT EXPO

Contests:
- Quiz Bowl
- Breed Judging
- Skill-A-Thon
- Illustrated talk
- Problem Solving
- Creative Writing
- Educational Posters
- Cooking & Foods
- Arts & Crafts

Cost:
$5 per participant, $3 per contest

Age Requirements:
All exhibitors must be aged 9 to 18 as of January 1, 2016. Want to become a 4-H member? Contact your county MSU Extension Office today!

Find out more...
For more information contact your county MSU Extension office or call Katie Ockert at (517)-432-6270.
Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested on your registration form.

To Register visit
http://events.anr.msu.edu/goatexpo/

Michigan State University Extension

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

Michigan 4-H Program
Saturday, April 23, 2016
4:00 p.m. Game Time

Tickets: $10.50/person
(add $4.00 for hot dog/soda voucher if desired)

Game Details
The Michigan 4-H Program will have a WILL CALL table available outside of the Whitecaps stadium in the South Lot for ticket pick-up. Please make checks payable to the West Michigan Whitecaps.

Ticket Order Form
Name:__________
Phone:__________

# of Tickets: __________ @ $10.50 = __________
# of Hot Dog/Soda Vouchers: __________ @ $4.00 = __________

Please return this form with payment to Kristi Ayers – 775 Ball Avenue, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
For more information regarding your group outing please call Kristi at (616) 632-7888
or Dave Knack, with the Whitecaps, at 616-426-3673
*Children 2 and under are free
STATE 4-H COMPANION ANIMAL CAMP

- Bring your dog for fun sessions!
- Awesome sessions for you and your dog!
- Various lodging options are available!

NOTE: Camp registration must be postmarked by May 7, 2016!

Camp Accommodation Costs
(includes meals):
- RV Camper Accommodations: $50.00 per person
- Lodge Accommodations: $50.00 per person
- Tent Accommodations: $60.00 per person

Age Requirements:
All campers must be aged 9 to 19 as of January 1, 2016. 5 to 8 year old campers are welcome with parent chaperones only in camper and tent spaces.

Want to become a 4-H member? Contact your county 4-H Extension Office today!

Find out more...
For more information contact your county 4-H Extension office or call Katie Criswell at (517) 432-4370. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested on your registration form.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

June 3-5, 2016
Camp Tushmehta
10060 Lincoln Lake Road Northeast
Greenville, MI 48838

The Michigan 4-H Companion Animal Camp is sponsored by Michigan 4-H Youth Development Programs, Michigan State University Extension.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

2016 JAPAN HOSTING
Host an international youth delegate and bring the richness of the world to your home!

How a Japanese Youth in Summer 2016 through States 4-H International!

It’s like having a sister I always wanted and a best friend!

This is A 4-H Host Family

HOSTING PERIOD: 4 weeks - July 24 to August 20, 2016
- Japanese delegates are 13-16 years old (most are 13-14) or adult chaperones
- Youth have limited English language skills, and host families should be prepared to communicate effectively
- HOST FAMILY REQUIREMENTS
  - You must have a child of the same gender and within 3 years of the hosted youth
  - Families without children of the appropriate age may host an adult chaperone
  - No special activities need to be planned, these youth want to experience American culture, make new friends, and improve their English by staying with your family
  - Volunteer to participate in the program
  - Delegates can attend summer camps (we cover cost) with your children
  - You don’t need previous involvement with 4-H in order to host

For more information, visit http://bit.ly/1wCmKvH or contact Michigan Coordinator: D’Ann Robers - drobers@msu.edu - 231-753-4789

Please note: host family selection is dependent on completion of all applications, vetting process, space and student availability and any necessary compatibility.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

June 27 - July 1, 2016
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

APPLY!
Camp is open to all youth ages 15 to 19 (as of January 1, 2016). Applications can be completed online at http://bit.ly/1PflopW

LOW COST!
The cost to attend this five-day camp is just $150 ($100 for youth who are A and 4-H members) and includes all meals, transportation to field trips, lodging and materials.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

4-H Renewable Energy Camp
East Lansing, Michigan

Apply today to apply for the event is Friday, May 13, 2016.
To apply, visit http://events.msu.edu/healthsciencecamp/

Find out more...
Visit the application site for additional details, including the event handbook. For more information, contact your county MSU Extension office (directory at msein.msu.edu) or contact Michelle Heff at 517-355-7050 or mheff@msu.edu.
YOU ARE WANTED

To become a member of the:

4-H Service Club

• Community Service
  Farm Power Show Breakfast
  Renucci House Meals
  Fall Festival, Chili cookoff
  4-H Dance at the Fair
  Adopt a family, Christmas
  4-H Celebration Banquet
  Community Euchre Party

• 4-H Food booth
  Cleaning & maintenance of building

• State to State Exchange (host & travel)

Contact: Shawndra Smith 269-838-3065
Cynthia Cole 616-240-2354

Meetings are the 3rd Monday night of each month at GreenStone Farm Credit Services lower level.