Good afternoon,

I hope the beginning of the school year has been good to all of you! There are some great opportunities coming up that are mentioned in this newsletter so, as always, please read!

If you have any questions or issues you are always welcome to contact me or come in and visit. It gets lonely in this office :) Always call or email first, though!

October 2-8 is National 4-H week! Help spread the word about 4-H through social media. There are many different images and tools you can use at: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/resources/show_how_youre_4hgrown_during_national_4_h_week

October 5-17 is the TSC Clover Campaign. Please consider setting up a table for your club and promoting 4-H. Also, each Ionia County 4-H received a portion of the money for each clover purchased ($1 a piece). This money is used to help send youth to workshops and other events!

My schedule has changed now that I am taking classes. I only work 5.5 hours on Mondays and Tuesdays and the times can vary depending on meetings and other events. I know this will make it harder to get in contact with me but I return phone calls and emails as soon as I possibly can. I will also be gone the week of October 10-14 so please be more patient that week with my responses, with that being said, I will still be checking emails and returning phone calls that week.

Thank you!
Haley McLean

Chance is sporting the Sweepstakes shirt from this year!
MAKE THE MATCH FOR IONIA COUNTY 4-H

www.mi4hfdtn.org/countymatch

Ionía 4-H Endowment Match Campaign
The Ionía 4-H Endowment is an investment with the Michigan 4-H Foundation which benefits our county will help ensure that Ionía County 4-H will always be strong. This fund will last forever and each year Ionía County 4-H will receive the interest to be used to fund 4-H program expenses and help our 4-H members and leaders.

We have just 2 years left to raise the remaining $20,000 to meet our goal of $50,000 by June 30, 2018. In addition, every donation to the fund is matched 1:1, to have a total fund of $100,000.

4-H clubs and families can help contribute to this fund in several ways:

- Make a club donation. Consider a holding a fundraiser (bake sale, car wash, etc.) and donating the profits to the fund.
- Members may consider donating a percentage of their animal or milk sale proceeds.
- Make a family donation – every donation helps!

Please help Make the Match! Invest in 4-H and in the youth of Ionía County! Learn more or donate now at www.mi4hfdtn.org/countymatch!

Re-Enrollments

You are now able to re-enroll on 4-H online. Remember all previous members must have this along with their $10 participation fee or scholarship form turned into the office by December 1. This date will not be extended this year! The re-enrollment process on 4-H online is the same as last year but for complete instructions email me or visit the Ionía County 4-H website. You may contact me or your leader with any questions.

Facebook Pages

I do provide updates and information on the Ionía County 4-H 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 Ionía 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 Ionía County 4-H please add that page.

4-H Citizen Washington Focus Registration Now Open

4-H Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) is an opportunity for 4-H youth (age 14-19) to spend an entire week in Washington, DC; including an overnight stop in Gettysburg, PA to tour the battlefields and museum. The Michigan delegation takes a charter bus for travel to and from D.C. as well as travel while in Washington D.C. The group stays at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, MD for the week.

For 2017, CWF dates are June 24-July 1. The cost for the trip this year will be $1,380.00 which includes transportation, all lodging, and most meals.

Ionía County Plat Books

2013 Plat books on sale for a discounted price of $10!
2016 Plat books are on sale for $25
Visit Ionía County MSU Extension office, Greenstone, Farm Services Agency, or Register of Deeds to pick one up!

State Fair Winners

Congratulations to Ionía County’s Laura Coon and Bryant Janetzke for receiving $1000 scholarships at the Michigan State Fair this year! Bryant received his in the rabbit department and Laura received hers in the goat department. Scholarships are offered every year in the animal and still exhibit departments. Both for $1000 for first place winners and $500 for second place winners in each department.
County Awards

County Award applications are due Friday, October 14th by 5pm so you still have plenty of time to apply! If you are interested in this opportunity please contact me as soon as possible! I can provide you with the qualifications and applications. All youth must be at least 13 years old in order apply.

If you would like any help with the application please let me know! I am willing to sit down with anyone this week and help them out.

All applications must be typed and turned in on time! I will not accept any late applications.

Save the Date: Ionia County 4-H Celebration Banquet will be Thursday, November 10th!

Ionia County 4-H Teen Advisory Council

We are looking for new members for the Ionia County 4-H Teen Advisory Council to help make decisions regarding our program. This year they helped with the scavenger hunt, advised about sweepstakes, and making a plan for the sportsmanship awards. I very much value the opinion of this group and would like more teens to step up and help out! Please contact me if you are interested.

Animal Welfare

There are so many posts and articles about animals being mistreated on Facebook lately. Usually mine are about dogs because I “like” so many dog pages but there are ones out there about all animals. With our program dealing so much with youth working with animals this is definitely something that should be addressed. Parents and leaders please talk to your youth about how to properly care for your animals and focusing on their welfare; not just how to train and show. Maybe if youth are better educated on how to treat animals and respect them we will stop having the issues of animal abuse. Here is a great link to a series of articles about animal welfare, please share with your youth: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/animal_welfare_for_youth_part_1_what_is_animal_welfare

New Clubs

Let’s focus on growing this program and making it better. I’m looking for more clubs so we can offer more opportunities to our youth in different projects. There are many more projects we can offer to our youth that we aren’t right now such as robotics, shootings sports, etc. If you are interested in starting a club please contact me and we can start the process!
Upcoming State 4-H Events

4-H Workshops

October 5-6: Connecting Entrepreneurial Communities Conference
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/info/cec
Port Huron

October 8-9: 4-H Regional Shooting Sports Air Pistol Training
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_regional_shooting_sports_air_pistol_training
Demmer Center, Lansing

October 15-16: Michigan 4-H Goat Workshop
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/michigan_4_h_goat_workshop
Kettunen Center, Tustin

October 29-30: 4-H Visual Arts, Crafts, Sewing & Textiles Workshop
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_visual_arts_crafts_sewing_and_textiles_workshop_1
Kettunen Center, Tustin

November 19-20: 4-H Advisory Group Retreat
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_advisory_group_retreat_1
Kettunen Center, Tustin

November 25-29: National 4-H Congress
https://www.facebook.com/National4HCongress
Atlanta, Georgia

2017

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
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_veterinary_science_teen_and_adult_leaders_workshop
Kettunen Center, Tustin

February 18-19: 4-H Beef, Sheep & Swine Teen & Adult Leaders Workshop
Kettunen Center, Tustin

Other 4-H Events

October 2-8: National 4-H Week
Nationally

October 5: 4-H National Youth Science Day
http://4-h.org/parents/national-youth-science-day
Nationally

2017

January 28: 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_rabbit_and_cavy_show
MSU Pavilion, Lansing

For the most up-to-date events listing, go to
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events

Contact Nicole Laidlaw at 248.375.4065 or nlaidlaw@palacenet.com

PURCHASE TICKETS AT PISTONS.COM/4H

MICHIGAN 4H NIGHT
AT THE PALACE OF AUBURN HILLS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5
vs. DENVER NUGGETS • 7:00 PM

Please join Michigan 4-H and the Detroit Pistons as the Pistons take on the Denver Nuggets! Everyone receives a special discount, opportunity to shoot a free throw on the court and a Pistons jersey! Plus a portion of the proceeds go back to benefit 4-H! There will be a special ceremony for 20 youth to high 8-16 players as they sit out of the locker room to start the game.

Show your 4-H Pride and wear your club shirt!