December 2014

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**Beef Weigh-In**

Saturday, December 13
9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Isabella County Fairgrounds

All beef project members must bring their market beef animals to the fairgrounds to be weighed and tagged. Each member may weigh-in 2 animals.

**4-H Day at the Breslin Center with the Lady Spartans**

Sunday, January 18, 2015
2:00 p.m.
FREE to 4-H members, volunteers, and families
MSU Breslin Center, East Lansing

You ALL are invited to attend the ninth annual celebration of MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development at the Spartan Women’s basketball game as they take on the Iowa Hawkeyes!

Contact the Extension office now to reserve your FREE tickets!

**Shooting Sports Instructors Needed**

We are looking for volunteer leaders to become certified as 4-H Shooting Sports instructors in archery, rifle, and shotgun. You will need to attend the April 24 - April 26, 2015 workshop at Kettunen Center in Tustin. At the workshop you will learn safe and proper use of guns and archery equipment that you can teach the youth.

Please call the Extension office if you are interested or have any questions.

**Fairboard Meeting Time Change**

At the November Fairboard meeting, it was decided to change the start time for the regular monthly meeting to 7:30 pm.

The Fairboard meets the second Wednesday of each month.
CLUB CORNER

Bowen Busy Bees - We met in early October to distribute a fund raiser then again in late October to collect. At the collection we discussed making ornaments for the Rosebush Manor tree decorating. The ornaments will be made at our next meeting and a time will be set to decorate. We also discussed some community service and club activity options to follow up on.

Evergreen - At our November meeting, members met early and made decorations for the Christmas tree decorating contest at Rosebush Manor. We discussed further the plans for the Spaghetti supper, which will be held in February 2015. We reviewed and voted on our By-Laws. We are volunteering at the Rosebush Manor on November 23 to make the residents and their families a traditional Thanksgiving dinner.

Pony Creek – At our November meeting we completed 4-H enrollment forms. Members also decorated and signed cards for the troops. We started a Thirty One fundraiser in time for the holidays. In December we will be decorating Christmas cookies for local nursing homes, having a club Christmas party and collecting items for Gods Helping Hands/local food pantry.

Attention Teens! Are You Interested in Serving as a Teen Superintendent?
Applications are being accepted for teen superintendents. You may pick up applications at the Extension office or visit our website:  http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/isabella/isabella_county_4_h

Prospective Teen Superintendents will be interviewed by the Superintendent of the project area they are interested in being a Teen Superintendent in. Teen superintendents must have taken the project they are interested in for at least 2 years. Applicants must be enrolled in the Teen Leadership Project (Teen Leader App:  http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/isabella/isabella_county_4_h) and be a teen leader in the project that they would like to be a teen superintendent in.

Responsibilities may include assisting with instructional demonstrations, workshops, or clinics; assist in preparation and set up before fair and tear down after fair; and attend pre and post fair meeting.

Applications need to be returned to the Extension office by Monday, January 5, 2015.

Small Animal News
- The Small Animal Association is sponsoring a Max & Emily’s cheesecake sale; check with any superintendent about ordering. Delivery will be before Christmas. For information contact Angie Coldwell: 828-6229.

- The long form project record booklets will be updated over the next couple of months; we will make them available as soon as possible. They will replace the current forms we have used for many years.

- If you participated in the small animal auction during fair and have not picked up your check, they are being held at the Extension Office; pick yours up as soon as possible.

- The Small Animal Association will not meet in December. Our next regularly scheduled meeting is January 15, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.
State 4-H Awards Program
**New This Year - February 1 deadline!**

The State 4-H Awards program, the highest honor bestowed on Michigan 4-H youth, is for 4-H youth aged 13 and up who have at least three years of 4-H experience. Youth compete in 19 different award areas showcasing their knowledge, skills and experiences.

To apply, youth submit the State 4-H Awards application to State4HAwards@anr.msu.edu by February 1. Applications are carefully reviewed by selection committees. Delegates are invited to participate in either an advanced leadership development program (juniors) or competitive interviews (seniors) during 4-H Exploration Days. State 4-H Award winners are announced at the 4-H Recognition Program, during 4-H Exploration Days. Complete instructions (including an overview and a webinar) and the application, are on the “4-H Awards and Recognition Program” web page at: http://4h.msue.msu.edu/awards_scholarships/4-h_recognition_program.

4-H Mark of Excellence Award

4-H’ers who are 11 or 12 years old (by January 1) may participate in a 4-H essay contest. 4-H members will have the opportunity to share their 4-H experiences with other 4-H youth in their county and across the state. Interested 4-H’ers will write an essay focusing on the theme “Because of 4-H, I Can...”. Entry deadline is February 1. Each county may select up to two representatives to be recognized during the State Awards Celebration at MSU in June during 4-H Exploration Days. Participation in 4-H Exploration Days is not required but is strongly encouraged.

For more information you can contact Monica Borgman at the MSU Extension Office at 989-317-4079 or borgman5@anr.msu.edu

Michigan 4-H Youth Conservation Council (M4HYCC)

Applications to be a part of the M4HYCC are going to be posted on their website sometime in December. Dates for 2015 program are being set right now.

The Michigan 4-H Youth Conservation Council (M4HYCC) offers:
- A leadership and confidence-building opportunity for youth ages 13 to 19.
- Acquisition of important life skills, experiences, knowledge and understanding of current environmental issues.
- A chance to explore solutions to environmental issues and provide “youth voice” in state government public policy-making.
- Exposure to a number of career possibilities and mentoring from caring adults.
- Life-long benefits for teens as future community leaders and stewards of Michigan’s natural resources.

The program selects up to 25 youth from around the state in the fall of each year. The youth that apply for M4-HYCC typically have an interest in natural resources, environmental problems, outdoor recreation and/or politics. http://4h.msue.msu.edu/programs/environmental_outdoor_education/4h_youth_conservation_council

Michigan 4-H State Youth Leadership Council (SLYC)

Are you interested in serving on the Michigan 4-H State Youth Leadership Council (SLYC)? Applications are due December 15! You are qualified to apply if you are a 4-H participant and age 15-19 by January 1. You must be currently enrolled in a 4-H program, in good standing in your local 4-H club, and have completed the previous year of 4-H work. Applicants should have an interest in leadership and able to commit time to the completion of SLYC activities.

For more information or to apply, visit: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2015SYLC
Notice from Livestock Producers

Out-Of-County Resident Participation
Out-of-county individuals may join an already existing club in Isabella County and must abide by the policies set by that club and the Isabella County 4-H Program Council.

Clubs organized and established in another county may not participate in the Isabella County 4-H program.

In order to sell livestock at the fair, 4-H and FFA members must be a resident of Isabella County. If they are not a resident, they cannot have sold market livestock previously at the county fair in the county of their residence, and must be enrolled in an Isabella County 4-H club. They must also contact the president of the rules committee of Livestock Producers for approval.

Also, while 4-H is open to out of county resident participation, the Isabella County Youth and Farm Fair and Livestock Producers have rules and regulations that must be followed in order for 4-H youth to participate and sell livestock at the fair. Fair rules and regulations vary from county to county so it is important to read the general rules and 4H and FFA Market Livestock rules and regulations specific to the Isabella County Fair for Youth. These can be found in the fair book.

Pig Tagging
Changes are in store this year for pig tagging. We will get the changes out to leaders, families and members as soon as we get more information.

Japan Summer Outbound Exchange
Michigan youth can travel to Japan for either 4 or 8 weeks in the summer. Our summer 2015 travel dates are:
- July 8 - August 6, 2015 for the 4-week Homestay Program
- June 10 - August 6, 2015 for the 8-week Nihongo Program.

Note that your child will receive a discount on travel to Japan if your family is able to host a Japanese student in Michigan. Also, the host brother/sister who stays with you in Michigan may be able to host your child in Japan. Our program has supported many international friendships. Applications for 2015 Summer Travel to Japan are due December 15, 2014.

For more information visit: http://4h.msue.msu.edu/resources/japan_summer_outbound_exchange_1

Isabella County Sportsman’s Club - Winter Trap League
The Isabella County Sportsman’s Club is starting a 12 week winter Trap league on Saturday, January 3. The league is open to all 4-H members, other youth and adults. You do not have to shoot every week. You could shoot as little as once per month. You can sign up as part of a team or as an individual. There will be a handicapping system in place to give everyone a chance to compete. The cost of the league will be $75.00. This includes 300 rounds of trap and a league fee. You must register and pay in full prior to the first week of the league.

Please contact Rich Nestle at (989) 506-2493 or Dick Nethers at (989) 433-5868 for more information or to register. For more information: www.isabellacountysportsmansclub.com
Animal Science 2014 - 2015 Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 4-7</td>
<td>MJLS Winter Classic Beef Show</td>
<td>MSU Pavilion</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 2-4</td>
<td>MI Sheep Breeders Convention</td>
<td>Lansing</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 30-31</td>
<td>Green &amp; White Youth Event &amp; Open Hog Show</td>
<td>MSU Pavilion</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 31</td>
<td>State 4-H Rabbit &amp; Cavy Show</td>
<td>MSU Pavilion</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 6</td>
<td>Michigan Dairy Ambassador Program - GLDC</td>
<td>Bavarian Inn, Frankenmuth</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 6-7</td>
<td>4-H Horse Judging Workshop &amp; Mini Contest</td>
<td>MSU Pavilion</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 7</td>
<td>4-H/MQHA Benefit Clinic &amp; Tack Sale</td>
<td>MSU Pavilion</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 20-22</td>
<td>MSU Spartan Stampede Rodeo</td>
<td>MSU Pavilion</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 27-28</td>
<td>4-H Veterinary Science Leaders Workshop</td>
<td>Kettunen Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 28-March 1</td>
<td>4-H Beef, Sheep, &amp; Swine Leaders Workshop</td>
<td>Kettunen Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 7-14</td>
<td>Ag and Natural Resources Week</td>
<td>MSU</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 7</td>
<td>Spring Galaxy 4-H Horse Program Committee</td>
<td>MSU, Anthony Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 13-15</td>
<td>MI Horse Expo</td>
<td>MSU Pavilion</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 27-29</td>
<td>4-H Dairy Conference</td>
<td>Kettunen Center, Tustin</td>
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For a complete schedule of events, visit: [http://www.ans.msu.edu/youth_extension_programs/youth_events](http://www.ans.msu.edu/youth_extension_programs/youth_events)

4-H Capitol Experience
March 22-25, 2015

Preparing for Active Citizenship

4-H Capitol Experience is an annual 4-day conference that focuses on civic engagement and public policy. Up to 100 teens from around the state converge on Lansing to experience state government in action and learn how they can influence policy issues. Participants interact with legislators, state agency staff, lobbyists and other resource people to learn how policy is made.

Attendees will:
- Understand the responsibilities of a citizen
- Explore different aspects of a policy issue that may affect individuals and communities
- Explore various careers in public policy
- Attend bill writing session
- Have an in-depth meeting with someone in (or involved with) state government

Simulations and activities are incorporated to reinforce and apply what is learned about government. Teens leave the conference with the charge to share what they have learned and get involved with other leadership and civic engagement activities in their communities!

If you turn 14 by January 1, and you are interested in impacting public policy and seeing how government works, you’ll want to go to 4-H Capitol Experience.

Cost for 2015 Capitol Experience is $310 for 4-H members, $320 non 4-H members. (Scholarships available from 4-H Council) The deadline to register is February 2, 2015.

Contact the Extension office if you would like more information.
What is your fondest 4-H and/or FFA memory?

If asked this question I could list tons of memories, but beyond the banners and trophies I remember the people.

Posted on November 13, 2014 by Suzanne Pish, Michigan State University Extension

Recently, my family spent the weekend at the North American Livestock Expo (NAILE) in Louisville, Ky. NAILE is a large livestock show where youth and adults from all over the United States come to show their livestock. My family participated in the youth Ayrshire dairy show. Simultaneously happening was the youth swine (pig) show, where a local youth from Michigan made the top five in the senior swine showmanship. Showmanship is the competition that the judge is judging the youth and their showing abilities, not the animal. During the competition the judge gave an envelope with a question for the top five youth to answer on the microphone in front of the audience. The question that caught my attention was “What is your fondest 4-H and/or Future Farmers of America (FFA) memory?”

If I were asked that question I could list tons of memories; winning Michigan State Dairy judging competition, competing at the National FFA convention or winning my showmanship sweepstakes competition at my local 4-H fair. But beyond the banners and trophies I remember the people. My local 4-H leaders have continued to be friends into adulthood and now are mentors to my own children who have started their 4-H career. I remember the life skills that I learned as a 4-H member such as: Responsibility, dedication, sportsmanship and public speaking. The biggest and fondest memory for me was spending time with my family. We would spend hours walking and getting our cows ready for the State Dairy Days, 4-H fair and state fair. We had so much fun doing those things together and the memories and friends that we made have lasted a lifetime.

Now that my children are old enough to show at the livestock youth shows and to join 4-H we have continued the tradition of traveling to various shows and making memories. The most recent show at NAILE, nobody won a banner, but – getting lost, going to eat, seeing friends, laughing and shopping are the memories that I will remember. Nobody remembers what you did or what you said, but they will remember how you made them feel! Spending quality time as a family is so very important during these precious years with your children.

For more information about Michigan 4-H youth programs or other programs that Michigan State University Extension has to offer.

Be sure to check out Part 2 of this article, Have youth livestock shows turned to be competitive and unethical practices being used?
Attention…

Are you looking for a special event for 8- to 12-year-old youth? Well, here it is!

What: 4-H Winterfest

When: January 31-February 1, 2015

Where: Kettunen Center (http://bit.ly/1u2HF49)

4-H Winterfest is a hands-on educational program at which younger 4-H’ers spend two days in hands-on learning about many different project areas (ranging from crafts to shooting sports) while meeting youth from around the state. This event offers youth an opportunity to experience Kettunen Center in an overnight camp setting, learn new skills, make new friends and spend time outdoors! More information about this event will be available soon at: http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/4_h_winterfest15

4-H Workshops

2015

January 17-18: 4-H Youth Leadership & Global Citizenship Spectacular
http://bit.ly/1xz6eX2
Kettunen Center, Tustin

January 31-February 1: 4-H Winterfest
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/4_h_winterfest15
Kettunen Center, Tustin

February 27-28: 4-H Veterinary Science Teen & Adult Leaders Workshop
Kettunen Center, Tustin

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

Other 4-H Events

January 18: 4-H Day at the Breslin
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_day_at_the_breslin_lady_spartans_vs_iowa
Breslin Center, MSU, East Lansing

January 30-31: Green & White Swine Youth Education Fair & Open Hog Show
http://www.ans.msu.edu/youth_extension_programs/youth_events
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

January 31: State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/4_h_rabbit_and_cavy_show
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

February 6-7: 4-H Horse Judging Workshop & Mini Contest
Contact Taylor Fabus (tenlenta@msu.edu)
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

February 7: 4-H/MQHA Benefit Clinic and Tack Sale
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

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

March 13-15: Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference
Contact Melissa Elischer (elischer@msu.edu)
Kettunen Center, Tustin

For the most up-to-date events listing, go to http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events
4-H Day at the Breslin With the Lady Spartans

Join other 4-H youth, 4-H volunteers, 4-H families, and MSU Extension (http://msue.anr.msu.edu) staff members and their families on Sunday, January 18, 2015, at the tenth, annual celebration of Michigan 4-H Youth Development (http://4h.msue.msu.edu) at the Spartan women’s basketball (http://bit.ly/19g2cB) game. This year, the Lady Spartans will host the Iowa Hawkeyes. As usual, the game will be held at the Breslin Student Events Center (http://www.breslincenter.com) on MSU's campus (http://maps.msu.edu). Gate D will open for 4-H and MSU Extension guests at 12:30 pm, while the game begins at 2pm.

This year's theme for the 4-H Day at the Breslin With the Lady Spartans (http://bit.ly/1uvKSMk) is “Join the Club!” Tickets are free to 4-H youth and their families, 4-H volunteers, and MSU Extension staff and their families. Contact your county 4-H office (http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county) to obtain your free tickets. Just let your 4-H leader or your county Extension office know you (and how many of your family members) want to attend.

Other extras at the game include:
- Joining fellow 4-H'ers in saying the 4-H pledge.
- Exploring the wide range of 4-H programming with games and activities on the concourse. These activities range from educational displays about science and robotics to a full-size, spin-the-wheel game about the life skills youth learn in 4-H.
- Getting your picture taken with Sparty.

Transportation may be coordinated through your county Extension office. Contact them for details. Parking is free for school buses; all other buses are $20, while the cost for cars is $5. Be sure to show your MSU Extension and 4-H pride by wearing your green and white 4-H or MSU Extension apparel.

At last year’s 4-H Day at the Breslin, 4-H and Extension fans helped swell the crowd to more than 6,400. This proved to be one of the Lady Spartan's largest crowds of the season. One 4-H volunteer, whose club members eagerly anticipate this event, says, This is a terrific, low-cost opportunity for my 4-H club to bond, while seeing a highly ranked team play in a first-class setting.

Gail Hebert, who helps coordinate 4-H Day at the Breslin, says the event “...is a great way to celebrate 4-H and offer fans an inside look at all the wonderful things it stands for. Watching a nationally recognized sports team is icing on the cake.”

For more information, contact the MSU Extension Office.
STATE 4-H RABBIT & CAVY SHOW

Classes:
Rabbit and Cavy breed classes ONLY. Judging by ARBA Standards (breed, fur, meat). No showmanship classes offered.

Other events during the show:
» Breed ID
» Educational Posters and Displays
» Club Informational Booths
» Supply Vendors
» Scholarship Auction
» Gold Clover Rabbit and Cavy Showmanship Award Contests

Cost:
$3.00 per class

Who can participate:
Open to all Michigan 4-H members 9-19 years of age (as of January 1, 2015). A non-competitive Cloverbud division for 5-8 years of age is also available.

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

Find out more...
For more information and event catalog, contact your local MSU Extension office or visit the website at: http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/4_h_rabbit_and_cavy_show

January 31, 2015
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing, MI
On-site registration begins at 6:30 a.m.

The Michigan 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show is sponsored by Michigan 4-H Youth Development Programs, Michigan State University Extension.
SAVE THE DATES

Beef Weigh-In
December 13, 2014

4-H Day at Breslin
January 18, 2015

4-H Winterfest
January 31 - February 1, 2015

PQA Training
March 18, 2015

4-H Exploration Days
June 24-26, 2015

Isabella County Youth & Farm Fair
July 19 - 25, 2015

In 2014, we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Smith-Lever Act, which established the Cooperative Extension Service, a state-by-state national network of educators who extend university-based research and knowledge to the people.

Isabella County 4-H Calendar

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<tr>
<th>December 10</th>
<th>Shooting Sports Committee @ MSUE</th>
<th>6:30 pm</th>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Beef Weigh-In @ Fairgrounds</td>
<td>9:30 am - 11 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>OFFICED CLOSED - Afternoon Only</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 &amp; 25</td>
<td>OFFICE CLOSED</td>
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<tr>
<td>31 &amp; Jan 1</td>
<td>OFFICE CLOSED</td>
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"Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the MSU Extension office at (989) 317-4079 at least 5 days prior to the scheduled event to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements. Requests received after this time will be met when possible."

Monica Borgman, 4-H Program Coordinator
borgman5@anr.msu.edu

Nonie Gross, Secretary I
Paul Gross, Extension Educator
Belinda Laughlin, Master Gardener Coordinator
Kara Lynch, Extension Educator
Sabrina McGee, SNAP-ED PI