### February 2016

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**Dairy Feeder Weigh-In**

**Saturday, March 12, 2016**  
**8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**  
**Isabella County Fairgrounds**

Animals cannot weigh over 250 lbs. and must be:

- One of the following breeds: Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, or Jersey
- Castrated & Dehorned

Each member can either:

- Weigh in a maximum of two feeders or,
- Within immediate families of more than one exhibitor: each member may weigh in one feeder, and one “family alternate” can be weighed in for the family. Only one feeder per exhibitor can be brought to fair when a family alternate has been weighed in.

It’s required that by Fair, every feeder must have a RFID tag (radio frequency identification) in their ear. If you have any questions, contact Angie Moss at (989) 621-3989.

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**Teen Representative Opportunity for 4-H Council**

If you are interested in being a teen representative on 4-H Council, please submit an application to the Extension Office. Teens must be enrolled in a teen leadership project. Click [here](#) for the application.

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**New This Fair Year - Still Exhibit Auction**

If you would like more information or have any questions, please contact Becki Crampton at [mnbcrampton@yahoo.com](mailto:mnbcrampton@yahoo.com). More details coming soon!

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**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 22 - April 24, 2016 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 would like more details.
CLUB CORNER

**Evergreen** - We had a fun January meeting as Michelle Neff from MSU Extension visited and did a personality test called Real Colors. Both adults and youth participated, and learned a lot about how we are all wired differently and how to communicate with people that have different personality traits. Come to the Rosebush United Methodist church on February 27 from 4:30-7 pm for our annual Spaghetti supper. Proceeds will be used towards fairground improvements.

**Pony Creek** – At our December meeting, the club brought items/gifts for the two adopt a families. Activities included our regular meeting, wrapping the items for the adopt a families, a potluck dinner and making melted crayon colored glass Christmas ornaments. Throughout the winter months we continue to collect pop cans as the club fundraiser.

**Trail Blazers** - In January, we made valentines and oatmeal raisin cookies for the Grandmas and Grandpas at Horizon Senior Living in Clare.

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**Fair Trophy Sponsors Needed**

There is a need for fair trophy sponsors for several project areas.

- 3 Horse - $18.00 each
- Personal Development - $100.00
- 2 Best of Breed Rabbit - $13.00 each
- Outstanding Photography - $8.00 each

If you or someone you know is interested in sponsoring a trophy, contact Eva Loudenslager at loudenslagereva@yahoo.com.

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**Broiler Chick Orders**

Time to order your broiler chicks! Orders need to be placed at the Extension office by April 29. Approximate cost per bird including shipping is $1.71 each if we are able to order 100 birds. Call the Extension office for order forms. If you have any questions, call Darlene at 828-4618 or Wanda at 828-5833.

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**4-H Camp House For Rent**

4-H Camp Association is looking for a renter for the house located at the 4-H Camp. The house is a 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom, with a 1 car attached garage, and will be available to rent in March.

If you have any questions, please call Don Kistler at (989) 621-0447.

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**Bird Biosecurity Training**

February 16, 2016
7:00 p.m.
Isabella County Building, Room 320

Learn practical methods to help prevent the spread of poultry disease such as Avian Influenza (HPAI). The objectives of this workshop are:

- Discuss disease transmission & prevention
- Provide proven biosecurity measures producers can implement
- Provide information about HPAI

This workshop will also be offered through Zoom technology. Producers, back yard poultry enthusiasts, 4-H members, volunteers, and anyone who is interested in learning more about poultry biosecurity is encouraged to attend. Register at: events.anr.msu.edu/APHIS

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**4-H Goat Expo**

Saturday, April 16, 2016
All exhibitors must be aged 9 to 19. To register or for more information: http://events.anr.msu.edu/goatexpo

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**Small Animal News**

The next Small Animal Association meeting will be Thursday, February 18, at 7:00 pm, at the Isabella County Building, Room 320.
2016 4-H Exploration Days
June 22-24, 2016
MSU

4-H Exploration Days is an annual state youth conference held on the campus of MSU that is open to all youth ages 11-19 by January 1. This event is meant to be a learning experience that will instill self-esteem, decision-making skills, independent thinking and leadership skills. The full time participant fee is $165 which includes meals, lodging, and a t-shirt. 4-H Council will pay half the fee for full time registration.

Registration begins on March 15 and sessions fill up very fast, so turn in your registration forms as soon as possible to the Extension office.

For a registration book or for more information check out the Exploration Days website at: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/info/4_h_exploration_days

Exploration Days FAQ

Q: What if I cannot afford the cost, but want to attend?
A: 4-H Council offers scholarships for half of the cost for a full time registration, and an additional may be applied for through our office, on a first come first serve basis.

Q: Do I need a deposit when I turn in my application to the Extension Office?
A: Yes. $80 for youth and adults, $90 for non-4-H youth.

Q: If I end up cancelling, do I get my deposit back?
A: Yes, through May 4, 2016. After that date, no.

Q: When does the booklets/information become available?
A: End of January or Early February.

Q: What types of sessions and workshops will be offered?

Q: How is it determined who gets into sessions?
A: It is determined by when the registrations get turned into the Extension office. They are numbered chronologically upon the order they are turned in, and submitted online in that EXACT order as soon as the registration process opens.

Q: How will I continue to receive information about this event?
A: The 4-H Newsletter will continue to have reminders and updated information for you. You may also access information on the MSU Extension website: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/info/4_h_exploration_days
4-H WORKSHOPS

Registration fee for the below workshops is paid by the Isabella County 4-H Program Council for all enrolled teen (ages 13 and up) and adult 4-H volunteers. To register, contact the MSU Extension office at 317-4079.

4-H Veterinary Science Teen and Adult Leaders Workshop
February 19 - 20, 2016 at Kettunen Center

Explore animal systems and learn about animal health for a broad array of animals species. Come prepared to learn from others, share information and experiences, ask questions and quiz veterinarians about their careers. You will also participate in hands-on demonstrations that will teach attendees how to help members recognize healthy, sick, and/or injured animals. Meet other youth and leaders who have developed outstanding veterinary science projects and gain ideas to help others start their own vet science projects. New resources will be provided to all attendees. Open to adult and teen volunteers ages 13 (as of Jan. 1) and older. msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_veterinary_science_teen_and_adult_leaders_workshop_1

4-H Beef, Sheep and Swine Teen and Adult Leaders Workshop
February 20 - 21, 2016 at Kettunen Center

This workshop is designed for both teen and adult leaders who are involved with beef cattle, sheep and swine projects. Topics include animal health, management, care and nutrition. In addition, breakout sessions will include livestock and meat evaluation, animal management and more. Interaction with leaders from different counties is encouraged for exchanging of ideas and programs and connecting with other volunteers in the same project areas. The workshop will also offer ways to enhance communication and teaching skills as well as learn about the many opportunities available for those interested in the beef, sheep and swine industries. Resources will be available for all attendees. Open to adult and teen volunteers ages 13 (as of Jan. 1) and older. msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_beef_sheep_and_swine_teen_and_adult_leaders_workshop_1

4-H Horse Teen and Adult Leaders’ Conference
Feb. 26-28, 2016 at Kettunen Center (14901 4-H Drive, Tustin)

This workshop is designed for BOTH youth and adult leaders who are involved with county 4-H Horse Programs. Topics include horse judging, equine first aid, dissection, veterinary care, equine massage, saddle fit, American Horsemen’s Challenge, judges’ roundtable, and information to assist leaders in youth development, leadership skills for youth, youth activities, and opportunities beyond a county program. Interaction with leaders from different counties is encouraged, for exchanging of ideas and programs and meeting other volunteers in the same interest area. For more information: http://events.anr.msu.edu/4HHorseLeaders/

Teens as Teachers Workshop
March 12 - 13, 2016 at Kettunen Center

At the Teens as Teachers workshop, teen leaders will gain facilitation and leadership skills that will prepare them to teach a hands-on lesson. Each teen attending the training will be expected to identify and reach a local audience in their community with the hands-on activity they learn at the Teens as Teachers training. Teens will work together to prepare, implement, evaluate and report on the progress of their local implementation of the activity. Training and all teaching supplies will be provided.

For a complete list of upcoming workshops, visit: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/topic/events/4_h
4-H Workshops

February 5-6: 4-H MQHA Horse Judging Workshop & Mini Contest
M SU Pavilion, East Lansing

February 6-7, 2016: 4-H W interfest
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/4_h_winterfest16
Kettunen Center, Tustin

February 11: Finding the Balance: Strategies for Using Digital Technology....
http://events.anr.msu.edu/DigitalTech2
Your computer

February 13-14: Junior Master Gardener Workshop
http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=4HJRMG
Kettunen Center, Tustin

February 19-20: 4-H Veterinary Science Teen & Adult Leaders Workshop
http://bit.ly/1Ga1bOO
Kettunen Center, Tustin

February 20-21: 4-H Beef, Sheep & Swine Teen & Adult Leaders Workshop
http://bit.ly/1JS8BOv
Kettunen Center, Tustin

February 26-28: Teen & Adult 4-H Horse Leaders Workshop
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/teen_adult_4_h_horse_leaders_conference
Kettunen Center, Tustin

March 11-13: Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/Michigan_4-H_Dairy_Conference
Beechpoint Christian Camp, Allegan

March 12-13: 4-H Robotics Workshop
http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=4H Robotics16
Kettunen Center, Tustin

Other 4-H Events

March 10: 4-Hairy Horse Benefit Show
Contact Taylor Fabus (tenlenta@msu.edu)
M SU Pavilion, East Lansing

March 19: 4-H Day at the Palace & Leadership Workshop
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4-h_day_at_the_palace_and_leadership_workshop
The Palace of Auburn Hills, Michigan

March 20-23: 4-H Capitol Experience
http://events.anr.msu.edu/4hcapex
Lansing

For the most up-to-date events listing, go to http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events
4-H Animal and Veterinary Science Camp

Michigan 4-H Animal and Veterinary Science Camp is for youth who are interested in exploring animal and veterinary science-related projects and activities. This five-day precollege program is offered in partnership with Michigan 4-H Youth Development (http://4h.msue.msu.edu), Michigan State University (M SU) Department of Animal Science (http://www.ans.msu.edu) and MSU College of Veterinary Medicine (http://cvm.msu.edu).

At this fun and interactive camp, participants will:
- Engage in numerous hands-on learning activities, ask questions and problem solve.
- Gain animal-handling experience.
- Have the opportunity to visit and explore MSU farms and facilities.
- Work their way through a veterinary science case study as a team and create a presentation to be critiqued by veterinarians.
- Explore various animal-related career fields while reflecting on their experiences and community programs.

Who: Participants must be ages 13 to 16 as of January 1, 2016.
When: June 27 to July 1, 2016
Where: Michigan State University (http://maps.msu.edu)

Application
Young people interested in applying for this camp need to complete the 2016 Michigan 4-H Animal and Veterinary Science Camp application packet (bit.ly/1SOvdBQ) and send it by April 1, 2016 to:

Julie Thelen
4-H Animal & Veterinary Science Camp
Anthony Hall 1287G
474 South Shaw Lane
East Lansing, MI 48824-1039

Campers will be selected on the basis of their applications. Space is limited.

Cost
The cost – which includes all meals, transportation to field trips, lodging and materials – is $350.

More Information
Additional information is available from:
- The camp website (bit.ly/3mYPwQY)
- A promotional flyer (bit.ly/1mYPBnG)
- The camp handbook (bit.ly/1SkI7Zm)
- Julie Thelen (thelenju@anr.msu.edu), 4-H Livestock and Veterinary Science Educator

Poultry Enthusiasts Are Encouraged to Sign up for MSU Extension News

Although the cancellation of poultry shows was recently lifted, another outbreak of avian influenza could lead to the ban’s reinstatement. MSU Extension encourages poultry enthusiasts to subscribe to the MSU Extension Poultry News digest to ensure you have the most up-to-date information on avian influenza and state poultry show activity.

MSU Extension News digests are electronic newsletters of recent articles and events published on the MSU Extension web site. They are available in a number of interest areas, including poultry and other 4-H topics. Generally delivered once a month, the newsletters are a key communication tool when emergent issues arise. Ensure you receive this information as soon as it is available by subscribing to the MSU Extension Poultry News digest. Simply text “MSUE” to 22828 or visit http://msue.anr.msu.edu and click on “Newsletter Sign-Up.”
2016 National 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest
Sponsored by: The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc.

2016 Essay Topic: “Bees and Pollination. How Important is it?”
Beekeeping has had its five minutes of fame for the past five years. Now more than ever, people are asking “What will happen if the bees are gone?” Your paper should research and help answer this question.

Survey your community to see what is being done. Include your state in your survey to see if there are any programs they are using for pollination or any other program that could aid the honey bee.

The scope of the research is an essential judging criterion, accounting for 40% of your score. The number of sources consulted, the authority of the sources, and the variety of the sources are all evaluated.

Personal interviews with beekeepers and others familiar with the subject are valued sources of information and should be documented. Sources, which are not cited in the endnotes, should be listed in a “Resources” or “Bibliography” list.

Note that “honey bee” is properly spelled as two words, even though many otherwise authoritative references spell it as one word.

Rules Overview: (failure to meet any one of the requirements will result in a disqualification)
• Students interested in writing an essay, should contact their local 4-H offices for contest details. The state selection must be done through the 4-H system.
• Preparation for National Judging: Typewritten or computer-generated double-spaced, 12pt. Times or similar type style, on one side of white paper following standard manuscript format.
• Must submit an essay, 750 to 1000 words, on the essay topic
• Essays will be judged on (a) scope of research- 40%; (b) accuracy- 30%; (c) creativity- 10%; (d) conciseness- 10%; and (e) logical development of the topic- 10%
• All factual statements must be referenced with bibliographical-style endnotes.
• A brief biographical sketch of the essayist, including birthdate, gender, complete mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone number, must accompany the essay.
• Each state may submit ONE entry only.
• Deadline for National submission is: March 4, 2016.
• Final judging and selection of the National Winner will be made by the Foundation’s Essay Committee, whose decision is final.
• National winners will be announced by the week of May 2nd, 2016.
• All National entries become the property of the Foundation and may be published or used as it sees fit. No essays will be returned.
• Send the winning state entries with the subject title: “4-H State Winning Entry from XXX State” to: reginarobuck@abfnet.org.

Eligibility: Contest is open to active 4-H Club members only. 4-H’ers who have previously placed first, second, or third at the National level are NOT eligibility; but other state winners are eligible to re-enter. Students must write on the designated subject only. There will be NO exceptions.

Awards: First Prize: $750.00 Second Prize: $500.00 Third Prize: $250.00

The National winners’ essays will appear in an issue of the American Beekeeping Federation’s Newsletter.

*Each State Winner, including the National winners, receives an appropriate book about honey bees, beekeeping, or honey.

If you have any questions, please contact Regina K. Robuck, Executive Director, Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees at 404.760.2887 or reginarobuck@abfnet.org.
Evergreen 4-H Club
Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Sat. Feb. 27th, 2016
Serving 4:30 – 7 p.m.
Rosebush United Methodist Church
3805 School Rd., Rosebush

Adults: $8
Children (6-12): $5
5 & under free
Maximum $25 per family

Enjoy an evening of warm hospitality while supporting Evergreen 4-H Club in raising funds to help offset costs of making improvements to the fairground buildings, providing Thanksgiving Dinner to Rosebush Manor residents and their families, and other community oriented events.

All you can eat!
- Spaghetti - both meat & meatless sauce
- Salad
- Garlic bread
- Cake
- Coffee, lemonade & water

Tickets available from Evergreen 4-H Club members, Isabella County Extension Office or by calling Kara Lynch @ 989-330-0789 or Jayme Martin 989-330-1139. Tickets also available at the door.
MICHIGAN 4-H ROBOTICS WORKSHOP

When and where:
March 12-13, 2016
4-H Kettunen Center, Tustin, MI

Who:
4-H members age 13-19 (as of January 1) and volunteers interested in robotics (sign up for a specific track: LEGO Mindstorms EV3, VEX Robotics, Underwater ROVs (Remotely Operated Vehicles), and Junk Drawer Robotics, see agenda for descriptions). Each track is limited to 10 participants.

Cost:
- 4-H Members and Volunteers—$72.00
- Non 4-H Members and Volunteers—$128.00
- Registration fee includes meals, lodging and resources.
- Not a 4-H member? Contact your county MSU Extension office today!

Registration information:
- The deadline to register for this event is February 28, 2016.
- To register, visit http://events.anr.msu.edu/4HRobotics16

Find out more...
Visit the registration site for additional details, including the event handbook.

For more information, contact your county MSU Extension office or contact Jan Brinn at 269-673-0370 or brinn@anr.msu.edu or Kristy Oosterhouse at 517-543-2310 or oosterh6@anr.msu.edu.

Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested on your registration form.

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**SAVE THE DATES**

**Dairy Feeder Weigh-In**  
March 12, 2016

**4-H Exploration Days**  
June 22-24, 2016

**Camp Counselor Training & Camp Set-Up**  
July 5, 2016

**4-H Summer (overnight) Camp**  
July 6 & 7, 2016

**4-H Cloverbud Camp**  
July 12 & 13, 2016

**Isabella County Youth & Farm Fair**  
July 24-30, 2016 (Fair Entry Day - July 23)

**2015 Isabella County Plat Books**
NEW 2015 Isabella County Plat Books are now available for $25 each at the MSU Extension office.

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**Isabella County 4-H Calendar**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Livestock Producers @ MSUE</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>OFFICE CLOSED</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Bird Biosecurity Training @ MSUE</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Shooting Sports Committee @ MSUE</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Small Animal Association @ MSUE</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>4-H Council @ MSUE</td>
<td>7 PM</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."

Kristi Schreiber, 4-H Program Coordinator  
schrei61@anr.msu.edu

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