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Michigan Poultry Exhibition and Swap Meet Ban Lifted

Last month, the ban was lifted on Poultry shows. Please note that there are several caveats to this decision, and the state vet’s office retains the right to cancel shows again in the future. This does NOT mean that our 4-H poultry families should relax their biosecurity measures.

In addition, we are partnering with USDA/APHIS and hosting a biosecurity training in Isabella County. There will be a training in Mt. Pleasant on February 16, at 7:00 p.m. at the Isabella County Building, room 320. For those unable to attend a session in person, a live virtual connection will be available, with an opportunity for questions and answers with the training instructors.

The trainings are free of charge. Register at: events.anr.msu.edu/APHIS

Welcome Message From Kristi Schreiber

Hello, I would like to introduce myself, my name is Kristi Schreiber. I am very pleased and excited to meet and work with you as your new 4-H Program Coordinator for Isabella County! My husband Michael and I reside in Isabella County, sharing our home with five dogs to which we give lots of love and attention! We have four adult children and four grandchildren.

I am a former Mt. Pleasant native, having graduated from Mt. Pleasant High School. I then graduated from CMU, obtaining degrees in Family and Consumer Sciences, as well as History. I recently retired from teaching at the high school level after 30 years! Since I am too young to officially “retire”, when this opportunity appeared, to go back to my “grass roots” education of hearth, home, kids and animals, I jumped at it!

I am passionate about showing my beautiful dogs. The breed is Belgian Tervuren (think long haired Malinois, or a cross between a German Shepherd and a Collie!), I show in Conformation, Agility, and just started Herding and Obedience. My other passions are gardening, reading and cooking.

I look forward to meeting all of you, and serving this community! May you all have health, happiness and success in 2016!
CLUB CORNER

Aim High - We made Christmas cards for Commission on Aging and had holiday treats. We Skyped with one of our long-time 4-H families that had just moved to Arkansas, and a few of our members shared information about the dog project area. Events and workshops at MSU and Kettunen Center that are scheduled for January and February were discussed.

Country Kids Livestock - In December, our club gave the gift of time as we enjoyed our annual Christmas community service project at the Coleman Senior Center. Members decorated the Senior dining hall and decorated Christmas cookies with the residents. The second part of the evening was spent playing Bingo and enjoying fellowship with the residents who attended. We have been doing this for several years and it has become a favorite of the 4-H members and residents alike. Also in December, a group of our members went Christmas shopping to buy gifts for a family we adopted. From the money the members raised last year, we provided clothes, toys, cooking supplies, and gift cards for a family of four.

Evergreen - Our club participated in laying of wreaths on veterans graves on December 12th at the Isabella Twp. Cemetery. We are selling spaghetti dinner tickets, see an Evergreen member to purchase – this will be on February 27th. At our December meeting, members brought cookies and we assembled cookie platters that were given to Rosebush Manor residents, and we also brought in items to put together 7 boxes for soldiers – which were shipped overseas.

Farm Hands - At the Farm Hands 4H Club meeting this month we voted on t-shirt colors and designs, our shirts will be decided at the next January meeting. Our club also went over upcoming events that concerns the kids in our club such as Beef Weigh In. We discussed the possibility of adopting a family this Christmas as a club, each family in the club would bring a specific item to give to the family for Christmas time. We are also planning upcoming donations for the next couple months, the ideas of canned food drives, snowmen drives, and many more donation ideas are being discussed.

Livestock Producers Meeting
Monday, January 11, 2016
7 p.m.
Isabella County Building, Room 320

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 information.

4-H Mark of Excellence Award
4-H’ers who are 11 or 12 years old are eligible to apply for the 4-H Mark of Excellence Award. To apply, a 4-H member needs to write an essay on the theme, “Because of 4-H, I can . . . .”

Counties select their representatives, and submit their names and essays to the State 4-H Awards Committee. For more information and instructions, see the Overview and Instructions link (http://bit.ly/1QqI0uj) on the Michigan 4-H web site (http://bit.ly/1IhcGcC).

Deadline for submission is February 1.

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.
**Small Animal News**

- Last month, the ban was lifted on poultry shows. Please note that there are several caveats to this decision, and the state vet’s office retains the right to cancel shows again in the future. This does NOT mean that our 4-H poultry families should relax their biosecurity measures.

- All Small Animal Superintendents are encouraged to attend our Thursday, January 21, meeting at 7:00 p.m. so we can update the 2016 Fair Book. All Small Animal members/parents are also welcome to attend.

- If you have been a Small Animal Teen Leader for 2 years and would like to be a Teen Superintendent during fair week, please turn in your form to the Extension office by January 11.

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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 and 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, 4-H 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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**2016 4-H Goat Expo**

Saturday, April 16, 2016

Cost: $5 per participant, $3 per contest

All exhibitors must be aged 9 to 19 as of January 1, 2016. Some of the contests are: Quiz Bowl, Breed Judging, Skill-a-thon, Creative Writing, Educational Posters, Arts and Crafts and much more!

To register or for more information: http://events.anr.msu.edu/goatexpo

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**2016 4-H Calendars**

There still are 4-H calendars available at the office, in case you have not yet received one. Stop by and get one!

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**Scholarship Opportunities**

The Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation offers several competitive scholarships in which the criteria includes participation in a youth organization such as 4-H. Scholarship applications are available at www.mpacf.org. They have three different applications this year; one for our music scholarships, one for graduating seniors and one for those already in college or returning to education.

Here are links to a few that are agricultural based:


Contact Jessicca Sommer at the Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation for more information - (989) 773-7322 or jsommer@mpacf.org.
Christmas Tree Decorating Contest Winners
Rosebush Manor would like to congratulate Barn Yard Kids 4-H Club for being the first place winners of our annual Christmas Tree Contest and Town & Country Maple Leaves 4-H Club for taking second place.

A special thank you to all the 4-H clubs that participated. All the trees were very creative and beautiful! The residents and families have really enjoyed all the Christmas Trees.

4-H Capitol Experience
March 20-23, 2016

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.

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 2016 Capitol Experience is $315 for 4-H members, $325 non 4-H members.  (Scholarships available from 4-H Council)  The deadline to register is February 2, 2016.

For more information visit:  http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/4-h_capitol_experience

Animal Science 2015-16 Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 8-10</td>
<td>MI Sheep Breeders Convention</td>
<td>Lansing</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 8-10</td>
<td>MI 4-H Horse Judges &amp; Show Superintendents</td>
<td>Kettunen Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 29-31</td>
<td>Green &amp; White Youth Event &amp; Open Hog Show</td>
<td>MSU Pavilion</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 30</td>
<td>State 4-H Rabbit &amp; Cavy Show</td>
<td>MSU Pavilion</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 5</td>
<td>Michigan Dairy Ambassador Program - GLDC</td>
<td>Soaring Eagle Casino</td>
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<td>February 5-6</td>
<td>4-H Horse Judging Workshop &amp; Mini Contest</td>
<td>MSU Pavilion</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 6</td>
<td>MQHA Tack Sale</td>
<td>MSU Pavilion</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 19-21</td>
<td>MSU Spartan Stampede Rodeo</td>
<td>MSU Pavilion</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 19-20</td>
<td>4-H Veterinary Science Leaders Workshop</td>
<td>Kettunen Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 20-21</td>
<td>4-H Beef, Sheep, &amp; Swine Leaders Workshop</td>
<td>Kettunen Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 26-28</td>
<td>4-H Teen &amp; Adult Horse Leaders Workshop</td>
<td>Kettunen Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 5-13</td>
<td>Ag &amp; Natural Resources Week</td>
<td>MSU</td>
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For a complete schedule of events, visit: http://www.ans.msu.edu/youth_extension_programs/youth_events
MICHIGAN 4-H STATE AWARDS PROGRAM

Personal Development Opportunity for Michigan 4-H Members

The Michigan 4-H State Awards Program is an opportunity for 4-H members ages 11-19 to receive recognition for their engagement in rich learning experiences that result in outstanding knowledge and life-skill development. After participating in the State 4-H Awards Program youth will:

- Learn to better communicate and represent their accomplishments on professional applications such as scholarships, college-entrance applications, resumes and cover letters for employment.
- Have more experience and be better able to communicate during job interviews.
- Build long-lasting friendships and establish connections with industry and academic leaders.
- Be encouraged to set new goals, continue building skills and assets, and broaden interests.

Applications due February 1st

Recognition Areas

- Beef Science
- Biological Science
- Birds and Poultry Science
- Civic Engagement
- Communications and Expressive Arts
- Companion Animal Science
- Consumer and Family Science
- Dairy Science
- Environmental and Earth Science
- Equine Science
- Goat Science
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Leadership and Personal Development
- Plant Science
- Rabbit and Cavy Science
- Sheep Science
- Swine Science
- Technology and Engineering
- Group Award

Age Categories

- Mark of Excellence Essay Contest—11-12 year old 4-H members
- Junior State Award—13-15 year old 4-H members
- Senior State Award—16-19 year old 4-H members
- Group Award—13-19 year old 4-H members

The application process and selection for the Michigan 4-H State Awards program is determined by the age of the 4-H member. Recognition may include certificates, plaques, and cash prizes for junior and senior award winners. Get more information at the link below.

http://4h.msue.msu.edu/awards_scholarships/4-h_recognition_program

4-H members will learn to communicate their experiences into a professional application that includes documenting how 4-H has helped them:

- Learn and apply life skills
- Practice leadership and service
- Tell their 4-H Story

Contact your local MSU Extension office for additional information.
4-H Workshops

January 9-10, 2016: Michigan 4-H Horse Judges & Show Superintendents Conference
http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=4H_HorseConf2016
Kettunen Center, Tustin

January 13: Michigan 4-H Embryology Program Coordinator and Volunteer Training
http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=Embryology
Michigan State University Federal Credit Union, East Lansing

January 15-18: National Youth Summit on Agri-Science
National 4-H Conference Center, Chevy Chase, Maryland

January 30-31: 4-H Youth Leadership & Global Citizenship Spectacular
http://bit.ly/1Xc493o
Kettunen Center, Tustin

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

February 6-7: 4-H Winterfest
http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=winterfest16
Kettunen Center, Tustin

February 13-14: Junior Master Gardener Workshop
Contact Dixie Sandborn (dixie@msu.edu)
Kettunen Center, Tustin

February 19-20: 4-H Veterinary Science Teen & Adult Leaders Workshop
http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=4HBeefSheepSwineandVetScience
Kettunen Center, Tustin

Other 4-H Events

January 12, 2016: Student & Counselor Day
http://conta.cc/1XemCYt
The Lansing Center, Lansing

January 16, 2016: 4-H Day at the Breslin
Breslin Center, M SU, East Lansing

January 29-31: Green & White Youth Event & Open Hog Show
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

January 30: 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/4_h_rabbit_and_cavy_show
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

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

Learn How to Keep Your Bird Flock Healthy and Safe!

Offered at various locations across the state, the workshops will provide information about avian influenza, disease transmission and prevention, and proven biosecurity measures that bird owners can implement. Poultry producers, owners of backyard flocks, 4-H members and volunteers, as well as anyone interested in poultry and biosecurity, are encouraged to attend.

Find more information about training dates and locations, as well as virtual connection options, on the web (http://bit.ly/1Q3euH).

Fairs are an important part of life for many 4-H’ers, but how did fairs begin? Who had the idea for a show of such sweeping proportions? Where, when and why did they start?

According to the International Association of Fairs and Expositions’ (IAFE) [web article](http://bit.ly/1DXFBnY) History of Fairs (International Association, 2015), these events may have been held as early as 500 BC in the eastern Mediterranean. The IAFE bases this notion on the following quotation from Ezekiel 27:12: “Tarshish was thy merchant by reason of the multitude of the kinds of riches . . . they traded in thy fairs.” These “periodic gatherings” brought together individuals involved in business, trade and production of commodities. As time marched on, such events spread into western Europe. Finally, entertainment was added to these get-togethers.

In the U.S., fairs grew from one man’s entrepreneurial idea. In 1784, a wealthy 26-year-old New York businessman, agriculturalist and banker, Elkanah Watson, purchased two merino sheep. As a far-sighted entrepreneur, Watson saw the potential in breeding sheep whose wool was of a higher quality than that which could be obtained locally. This was especially true since the Revolutionary War had ended a year earlier and, at that time, “… many people in the United States were trying to rely less on England and English goods . . . .” (Michigan State 4-H Rabbit Fitting and Showing Curriculum Subcommittee, 2009, p. 17).

First, however, Watson had to excite his neighbors’ interest in his sheep. To do so, in 1807, he invited his neighbors to “meet him and the sheep” at Park Square in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, where he tied the sheep to a tree and gave a presentation (Oliver, 2011). Watson and his sheep received the enthusiastic reception for which he had hoped. In 1810 and 1811, this led Watson to (1) create an event, the Berkshire Cattle Show, at which animals were exhibited and prizes were paid for the best animals exhibited, and (2) organize the Berkshire Agricultural Society ([Us-education.net, 2011](http://us-education.net/244-berkshire-agricultural-society.html)). Watson continued helping communities organize their own agricultural societies and shows, thus earning himself the title, “Father of US agricultural fairs” (International Association, 2015).

Further, by the end of the nineteenth century, almost every state had one or more fairs or exhibitions. The “History of Fairs declares that the “core elements of those agricultural society events of the early 1800s – those early fairs – are at the heart” of today’s agricultural fairs, which now number more than 3,200 annually.

More information is available from:
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 30, 2016
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.
MICHIKAN 4-H NIGHT
AT THE PALACE OF AUBURN HILLS

SAT, MARCH 19
vs. BROOKLYN NETS • 7:30PM

Please join Michigan 4-H and the Detroit Pistons as the Pistons take on the Brooklyn Nets! Join us for the pre-game Leadership Program from 1PM to 2:45PM. Everyone receives a special discount, opportunity to shoot a free throw on the court and a Pistons giveaway for coming out! Plus, a portion of the proceeds go back to benefit 4-H! There will be a special raffle for 30 individuals to win a meet n’ greet with a Pistons Legend!

EXCLUSIVE TICKET PRICING:

LOWER-LEVEL: $30 (Face Value $50)
UPPER-LEVEL: $15 (Face Value $30)

1:00-2:45 PM - Pre-Game Leadership Program
Feel free to stay around for activities in the North Pavilion or leave and come back for the game later!
Doors Open: 6PM to watch pre-game warm-ups and game time 7:30!

Order Tickets at pistons.com/4H

Offer cannot be redeemed at The Palace Ticket Store. For additional information, please contact
Nicole Laidlaw: 248.375.4065/ nlaidlaw@palacenet.com

Child’s Name and Age: ____________________________________

Name: __________________________________________________

Address: ________________________________________________

City / ST / ZIP: __________________________________________

Phone: (____)__________________ T-Shirt Size
        S     M     L     XL

E-mail: _________________________________________________

Select Method of Payment: Check VISA MC Disc AmEx

Credit Card #_________________________ Exp: ________

MAIL TO:
The Palace of Auburn Hills
Attn: Nicole Laidlaw
6 Championship Drive
Auburn Hills, MI 48326

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:
Detroit Pistons

LEVEL    # OF TIX  X  PRICE  TOTAL
100-LEVEL _____  X  $30  =  _______

200-LEVEL _____  X  $15  =  _______

GRAND TOTAL  =  _______

Please remember all tickets are subject to availability and handled on a first-come, first-served basis. All prices on orders received after the indicated deadline are subject to change. Refunds or exchanges will not be issued. Tickets purchased prior to 10 days of the selected game date will be mailed to the address provided. Tickets purchased after will be held at Will Call.
SAVE THE DATES

4-H Day at the Breslin Center
January 16, 2016

Dairy Feeder Weigh-In
March 12, 2016

Succession Planning for Volunteers Workshop
March 22, 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.

Isabella County 4-H Calendar

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 6</td>
<td>Shooting Sports Committee @ MSUE</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Livestock Producers @ MSUE</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>OFFICE CLOSED</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Small Animal Association @ MSUE</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</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 I
Paul Gross, Extension Educator
Belinda Laughlin, Master Gardener Coordinator
Kara Lynch, Extension Educator
Sabrina McGee, SNAP-ED PI