The Mission of the Berrien County 4-H Youth Development Program is to provide personal growth opportunities for youth in Berrien County through educational programs and activities which utilize quality volunteers, trained staff, and community partners.

Our Vision is to make a positive difference in the lives of Berrien County youth.

Inside this issue:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4-H Leaders Council Elections, CWF</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MI 4-H Volunteer Forum</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helpful Hints</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-H Club Officer Training</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Countywide Projects</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-H Recognition</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-H Leaders Council Ballot</td>
<td>8-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-H Calendar</td>
<td>10-11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4-H LEADERS COUNCIL NEWS

It is time for the 2012 Leaders Council Election. As in the past, we have enclosed a ballot with this newsletter. Every registered adult leader is encouraged to cast a vote using the Adult ballot and all teens (4-H age of 12-19) are to use the Teen ballot. Room for write-in candidates have been provided on both ballots.

Adults are to vote for three adults. The three leaders receiving the highest number of votes will fill the three, 3-year terms.

Teen members vote for one teen. The teen that receives the most votes will serve a 2-year term. Return the ballot to the MSU Extension Office by 5:00 p.m. on November 21, 2012. There are many ways to cast your vote:

Mail: MSU Extension
1737 Hillandale Road
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Fax: 269-944-4128

Email: emckee@anr.msu.edu

In Person at 4-H Recognition

Room for write-in candidates have been provided on both ballots.

If you use e-mail, put "election" in the subject line, and then list your choices in the text portion of the message. All votes will be counted during the November Leaders Council meeting. Ballots are included with this newsletter!

REMINDERS FOR 4-H CLUB COORDINATORS

Thank you to all the Club Coordinator who attended 2012 Update. If you were unable to attend, please contact Elaine regarding important information for your club. If you have not yet turned in your year-end paperwork, please do so by November 1, 2012!

DATES TO REMEMBER:

♦ Re-enrollment forms and Participation Fees are due to the MSUE Office by December 31, 2012.

♦ You may add NEW members any time up to June 1, 2013.

♦ Clubs need to turn in minutes from your club business meetings, also. Minutes may be handwritten or typed, but we must have them on file at the MSUE Office.

Thank you for doing your part to adhere to these deadlines and requirements.

CITIZENSHIP WASHINGTON FOCUS

CWF is a civic education and leadership program organized by National 4-H Council and held at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland every summer for high school youth. 4-H delegates from across the country broaden their appreciation and respect for themselves and others in the world through civic workshops, committees, field trips and social events. Participants learn and practice skills intended to make them better citizens and successful individuals. Nearly 1700 youth attended CWF in 2008, exhibiting the following measurable outcomes:

♦ Strengthened communication, leadership and citizenship skills.

♦ Increased understanding of civic and social responsibilities as they relate to the development of better citizens and leaders.

♦ Improved respect, networking and camaraderie with other youth from diverse backgrounds.

Interested 4-H members age 15-19 should request an application from the MSU Extension office by calling 269-944-4126. Application Deadline is November 16.
Leaders by Choice....

JOIN THE REVOLUTION OF RESPONSIBILITY

Michigan 4-H Volunteer Forum
Saturday, November 10, 2012
Michigan State University

Michele Payn-Knoper
Keynote Speaker
A champion of MSU and a former Hillsdale County 4-H member, Michele provides a voice for Positive Youth Development! Energizing 4-H volunteers and staff to be advocates. Michele’s enthusiasm encourages people to embrace why Positive Youth Development matters for our communities. She will energize the Michigan 4-H Volunteer Forum as our inaugural keynote speaker. Michele is the Founder of Cause Matters Corp. Michele’s story has been featured as a Spartan Saga too at:
http://spartansagas.msu.edu/spotlight/1015/

The 2012 4-H Volunteer Forum will showcase Michigan 4-H! 4-H teen and adult leaders will attend hands-on workshops, learn from each other and staff, network, take home resources, leaving renewed and refreshed about MSUE 4-H! Join The Revolution of Responsibility and join us on November 10th!

Forum Registration & Program Information
available by August 1st.
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.
Ten tips for running effective meetings with youth

MEETINGS FOR AND WITH YOUTH CAN BE A WONDERFUL LEARNING EXPERIENCE WHEN CONDUCTED PROPERLY. FOLLOW THESE TIPS FOR SUCCESS AT YOUR NEXT MEETING.

by Jackelyn Martin, Michigan State University Extension

Consider using these tips at your next meeting:

⇒ **Set ground rules** Establish agreed upon policies for expected behavior during the meeting. It’s most effective when these are established during a meeting and agreed-upon by the entire group. Keep these posted in a visible location during all proceeding meetings.

⇒ **Recite pledges** In 4-H, youth recite the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance followed by the 4-H pledge. Reciting the pledges at each meeting instills a sense of belonging within the organization and amongst each other.

⇒ **Utilize club officer roles** Nominating and electing youth to leadership roles as officers of the organization provides experience in formal leadership roles. Additionally, youth serving as officers increases their self-confidence and further invests them in the organization. Consult Michigan 4-H Youth Development’s Helping You Help Officers and Committees for more information on typical officer roles used in 4-H.

⇒ **Establish a meeting agenda** Business is addressed most effectively when an agenda is used. Consider setting a time limit for the business portion of the meeting or on individual discussion topics in order to keep meetings from running too late.

⇒ **Have fun** Include icebreakers and team builders to incorporate elements of fun and familiarize youth with each other. If adults are participating in the meeting, encourage them to participate in the activities as well. This equalizes youth and adults, and establishes shared respect for both parties.

⇒ **Foster learning** Plan educational programs, demonstrations or activities in order to infuse “learning” into club meetings. Invite experts, guest speakers or suggest meeting attendees share relevant information that they may be knowledgeable about through demonstrations. It can be difficult to instill the importance of attending the meeting when business is always the only focus. Provide opportunities for attendees to enhance their skill level or expertise.

⇒ **Involve youth in planning** Meet with youth officers or teen leaders in advance of the meeting to prepare. Always involve youth in the agenda writing process and resist the temptation to simply hand an agenda over to youth. Involving youth in the process assures that they understand the topics to be discussed and are invested in discussion to follow.

⇒ **Follow-up** Appoint a youth member (a wonderful role for the Vice President) to follow-up with any individuals who have volunteered to work on something before the next meeting. Committees that forget to meet only stall the work of the entire group. Also, assure presenters or guest speakers are well prepared for their presentation date.

⇒ **Use a fair system for decision making** This is often in the form of parliamentary procedure or Roberts Rules of Order, but a group can also choose to use consensus-building strategies. Make sure all group members’ voices are heard. This may involve pausing a meeting to assure that decisions are being made with consideration to all points of view. In a mixed meeting with both youth and adults, taking time to hear youth opinions and concerns is especially important. Adults may too quickly voice their opinions and discourage youth from speaking up.

⇒ **Celebrate successes** Appropriate recognition reinforces successes and provides affirmation for individuals working on a project. Visit the Michigan 4-H Recognition Handbook for ideas for appropriate recognition for clubs and groups.
Newly elected club officers, and teen leaders are encouraged to attend one of these sessions. Members will develop their skills by:

1. Learning the role of all club officers.
2. Learning how a general business meeting is facilitated and the roles of the audience and members.
3. Participating in a mock meeting.
4. Learning the role and responsibilities of a teen leader.

All members who are interested need to register by October 29, 2012. Please call the MSUE Office at 269-944-4126 or e-mail Elaine McKee at: emckee@anr.msu.edu

MSU is an affirmative action, equal-opportunity employer. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.
STUFFED ANIMALS
WHAT: Sew a cute & cuddly stuffed animal!
WHO: Any member with sewing experience ages 9 and up.
WHEN: Saturday, November 3 & 10, 2012, 9:00 am-12:00 p.m.
WHERE: MSU Extension Office on Hillandale Road in Benton Harbor.
COST: FREE—project costs are being covered by our county Participation Fee Fund.
TO BRING: Sewing machine and scissors
DEADLINE: A maximum of 10 members may be accommodated.
Please register to the MSU Extension Office at 269-944-4126, October 26, 2012

PERSONALIZATION
WHAT: Join the fun while learning new techniques for the personalization project
WHO: All members 14 yrs old and up are welcome.
WHEN: Sunday, November 11, 2012 – 1:00pm-4:00pm
WHERE: MSU Extension Office on Hillandale Road in Benton Harbor.
COST: FREE—project costs are being covered by our county Participation Fee Fund. Just bring your creativity and imagination!
DEADLINE: Register with the MSU Extension Office at 269-944-4126, by November 7, 2012.

INTRO TO 4-H ROBOTICS
WHAT: Learn the basics of 4-H Robotics
WHO: All members are welcome!
WHEN: Saturday, December 1, 2012, 10am-1pm
WHERE: MSU Extension Office on Hillandale Road in Benton Harbor.
COST: FREE—project costs are being covered by our county Participation Fee Fund. Refreshments will be provided. Come and have a good time while learning something new!
DEADLINE: Register with the MSU Extension Office at 269-944-4126, by November 26, 2012.

Remember- All projects completed as a countywide activity should be evaluated at Spring Achievement!
Berrien County 4-H Youth Development
Member & Leader Recognition

Please join us to celebrate 4-H youth development and volunteerism as we honor the accomplishments of our talented members and leaders at this year’s recognition.

WHEN: Sunday, November 4, 2012
Check-in @ 2:00 p.m. Program begins @ 2:30 p.m.

WHERE: Howard Performing Arts Center at Andrews University
Berrien Springs, Michigan

WHAT: Awards, Light hors d’oeuvres, and Refreshments. Our local Berrien County 4-H Foundation will also host the 5th annual 4-H silent auction.

COST: No charge to attendees. This program is provided by the Berrien County 4-H Leaders Council and 4-H Foundation, Inc.

RSVP: Please RSVP by returning the attached form by October 26, 2012.

ATTIRE: Dress is “4-H appropriate/business casual” . No jeans please, and be ready for pictures!

HELP: The Recognition Committee is in need of volunteers to help with set-up and teardown following the program. Can you help? Please call Roxy Cochran at 269-429-7205. Thank you!

2012 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT MEMBER & LEADER RECOGNITION RSVP

Your name: _______________________________ # of seats reserved: ________________

Please circle all that apply:

- Youth Member
- Parent
- Teen Leader
- Club Coordinator
- Project Leader
- Staff
- Other Guest
- Activity/Resource Leader
- Foundation Advisor or Director
- Past-Outstanding Leader

Additional names of those included in your reservation: ____________________________________

Reservations must be received by October 26, 2012.

Please mail, fax (269-944-4128), e-mail: emckee@anr.msu.edu, or deliver to:
Berrien County MSUE, 1737 Hillandale Road, Benton Harbor, MI 49022-9630
ADULT BALLOT
Vote for Three (3)

Debora Bachman
Countrysiders 4-H Club
Project: Clothing and Textiles

Christine Klug
Concord Ridgeriders 4-H Club
Project: Horse & Pony

Heidi Krueger
Galien Chanters 4-H Club
Project: Dance & Photography

Heather Nielson
Best Friends 4-H Club
Project: Dogs

Lori Richter
We Can Ride & Best Friends 4-H Clubs
Project: Dogs & Horse & Pony

Debbie Schmaltz
Boots & Saddles 4-H Club
Project: Horse & Pony, Fine Arts, Personalization

Deanna Sobralski
Baroda Bunnies 4-H Club
Project: Rabbits

Suzanne Tolsma
Baroda Bunnies 4-H Club
Project: Rabbits

Write In: _____________________________

TEEN BALLOT
Vote for One (1)

Alexis Tober
Countrysiders 4-H Club
Teen Service 4-H Club
Town & Country Paws & Pals 4-H Club

Write In: _____________________________

Write In: _____________________________
Did you complete your ballot?

There are 4 ways to cast your vote:

**Mail:** MSU Extension
1737 Hillandale Road
Benton Harbor, MI  49022

**Fax:** 269-944-4128

**Email:** emckee@anr.msu.edu

At 4-H Recognition-
November 4, 2012

If you use e-mail, put "election" in the subject line, and then list your choices in the text portion of the message.
# October 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National 4-H Week!</td>
<td>National 4-H Week!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Leader Training– 6:30 @ MSUE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-H Leaders Council Mtg– 7pm @ MSUE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# November 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-H Recognition</td>
<td>4-H Horse Leader Assoc Mtg– 7pm @ MSUE</td>
<td>Leader Training– 6:30 @ MSUE</td>
<td>10 Countywide project</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SA Board Mtg– 6pm @ MSUE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4-H Club Officer Trng– 6:30pm @ MSUE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>MSUE Office Closed</td>
<td>MSUE Office Closed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-H Leaders Council Mtg– 7pm @ MSUE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4-H Foundation Meeting– 4:30 @ MSUE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## December 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1 Robotics Countywide Project</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## January 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1 Happy New Year!</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FALL 2012 4-H SPOTLIGHT

See you at 4-H Recognition—November 4, 2012!

I pledge…
My HEAD to clearer thinking
My HEART to greater loyalty
My HANDS to larger service
My HEALTH to better living.

For my club, my community, my country and my world.