Berrien County MSU Extension
1737 Hillandale Road
Benton Harbor, MI 49022-9630
Telephone: 269-944-4126
Fax: 269-944-4128
Website: www.msue.msu.edu/berrien
Office Hours:
8:30 a.m.—Noon & 1:00—5:00 p.m.
Monday thru Friday

Happy New Year to all of our friends in Berrien County 4-H!

Please take time to notice some of the changes to our contact information and ways to reach program staff that are in effect as of January 1, 2012.

⇒ Phone number: 269-944-4126 will be the only number that you can reach the MSU Extension office. This number should be used for general 4-H questions. The trunk lines that some of you may have used will no longer be in service. If you need to reach Elaine McKee directly, the number is 269-944-0223.

⇒ Fax number: We are now able to receive faxes directly to our office at 269-944-4128.

⇒ Email: Elaine can no longer be reached at emckee@berriencounty.org. Please be sure to change your contact list to emckee@anr.msu.edu

⇒ Facebook: Be sure to like Berrien County 4-H Youth Program to stay informed of 4-H opportunities and events!

This information is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply endorsement by MSU Extension or bias against those not mentioned.

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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.

Your 4-H Youth Development Staff

Elaine McKee
4-H Program Coordinator
emckee@anr.msu.edu
Leaders Council Election

Congratulations to our newly elected representatives for Leaders Council—Margie Jim of Countrysiders 4-H Club, Tammy Kettlehut of Great Expectations 4-H Club, and Tim Sieler of Galien Chanters 4-H Club. The Teen representatives elected were Miranda Bachman of Countrysiders 4-H Club, and Allie Woods of Redbud Country Goat, Teen Service and Working Wiggles 4-H Clubs.

Fall Fundraiser

Thank you to all clubs and members who participated in this year's fundraiser! A total of $8,384.00 was distributed to 4-H Leaders Council and the 24 clubs that participated. If you missed the fall fundraiser, be sure to look for details regarding the Spring Fundraiser coming soon! Your support helps create opportunities for our members and leaders to Make the Best Better!

REMINDEERS FOR 4-H CLUB COORDINATORS

Thank you to all the clubs that have turned in their re-enrollment forms.

♦ You may add NEW members any time up to June 1, 2012.
♦ Please encourage your club members to participate in Spring Achievement 2012. There are many opportunities for recognition and service!
♦ Senior Plaque nomination forms and club award applications are due February 15, 2012.
♦ Be sure to encourage your members to take advantage of our new countywide projects!

SPRING ACHIEVEMENT 2012—April 20-22, 2012

THE ORCHARDS MALL

Be sure to participate in this year's Spring Achievement! There is something for everyone to participate in while showcasing your 4-H skills and talents!

♦ Get recognition for 4-H projects that were finished after SA 2011
♦ Demonstrate the skills you are learning in 4-H
♦ Improve your public speaking skills by doing a project or equipment demonstration
♦ Showcase your 4-H animal project
♦ Show off your talents at the 2nd Annual 4-H talent show
♦ Be entered in a drawing to win fabulous 4-H prizes!
♦ Practice your job interviewing skills during project evaluations
♦ Participate in a community service project

If you have questions about what you can do at this year's Spring Achievement, please contact Tracie Faulkner @ 269-605-9220 or t_faulker@hotmail.com, or Elaine McKee @ 269-944-4126 or emckee@anr.msu.edu
NOTES FROM WE CAN RIDE

♦ Rider applications are being accepted through February 15, 2012. Please contact Vicki O’Neil @ 269-695-6308 for more details.
♦ Mandatory Parent/Rider meeting will be March 14, 2012 at 6:30PM at Blossomland Learning Center
♦ Horse Testing and shot night will be March 28th, 5:30P.M. at Buchanan Westerners
♦ Volunteer training will be held on April 18th, 6:00 P.M. at Buchanan Westerners
♦ First ride night will be May 2, 2012.
♦ We are always in need of experienced horse leaders and of exceptional equines to help in our program, all sizes and shapes are needed.
♦ Vaccinations and Coggins testing are provided for horses that meet our requirements and volunteer for the season.

HORSE & PONY PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES— FOR ALL!

Did you know you can participate in the horse & pony project without owning a horse! Check out these 4-H opportunities to see how you can get involved!
⇒ Horse Bowl: Quiz Bowl style matches - meets every Friday night from 7-9pm at the MSU Extension office. The county contest will be held Saturday, January 28th @ 2pm. Contact Tammy Kettlehut @ t_kettlehut@yahoo.com for details, or like the Berrien County Horse Bowl page on Facebook.
⇒ Horse Hipology: Skillathon style contest - meets every Sunday at Derbyshire Farm at 1:30pm. Contact Lucinda Henderson @ 269-930-9808 for more details.
⇒ Horse Judging: Learn how to evaluate equine, give reasons, and increase your public speaking skills. Please contact Tom Rossman @ 269-469-2171 for more details.

4-H TEEN SERVICE CLUB IS IN FULL SWING!

Teen club has been working hard at planning some fun activities for all!
⇒ March 17th from 12:00–4:00pm we will be making fishing flies and lures to wear. All costs associated with this project will be covered by 4-H Teen Club. Please contact Kandus Kruger-Passig @ 269-687-8136 to register by March 12, 2012.
⇒ Look for details coming soon for a countywide roller skating party!
⇒ Upcoming meetings– March 23rd & April 27th– location to be determined.

Remember, all 4-H’ers 12 years old and older are eligible to be members!

BERRIEN COUNTY YOUTH FAIR

♦ Feb. 1 is Market Beef Registration Deadline.
♦ Feb. 11 is the Beef Weigh in.
♦ March 1 is Swine Carcass Registration Deadline.
♦ Jan. 21 is ticket sale day for Justin Moore and Bret Michaels. And of course Tractor Pull, Bullmania and Motor Cross. They go on sale 9 a.m. in the office, 10 a.m. on line.
All of these sessions will take place at the MSU Extension Office on Hillandale Road in Benton Harbor.

4-H Resume’ and Portfolio Project

How do you explain your 4-H experience on job, school and scholarship applications? Is your 4-H involvement documented to share with others?

Through hands-on lessons, we will teach 4-H members how to explain their 4-H experience in terms of life and employability skills learned through 4-H projects. 4-H members will utilize Career Cruising Online Software to explore careers and post-secondary training in areas of job/career interest(s). This project will culminate with the creation of a 4-H resume’ and portfolio to then be evaluated and displayed at the annual 4-H Spring Achievement Program set for April, 2012. 4-H members will then be able to add to their portfolio in the future.

⇒ Grade Level: 4-H members must be in at least 9th grade to participate.
⇒ Minimum # of participants: 10    Maximum # of participants: 30
⇒ When: Sunday, February 19, March 4, and March 18; 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
⇒ Attendance at all 3 sessions is required to receive project completion and be eligible to exhibit project at 4-H Spring Achievement.

Parents/guardians are strongly encouraged to attend and participate along side their 4-H member(s).

Build a Custom Fishing Rod!

Construct your very own six foot fishing rod with handles and custom wrap guides. Finished rods will be much better quality than store bought!

⇒ Dates: March 3rd, March 10th & March 17th
⇒ Time: 12:00–4:00 p.m. each session. Be prepared to invest 6 - 8 hours of labor.
⇒ Age: 9 & up
⇒ Registration Deadline: February 27th– project limited to 10 members.

Swedish Weaving

Learn the old art of Swedish Weaving. You will use yarn to create your design on monk’s cloth during the first session. Then you will add a piece of colorful fabric to complete a 14x14” pillow during the second session.

⇒ Dates: February 11th & February 18th
⇒ Time: 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. each session.
⇒ Age:12 & up
⇒ Registration Deadline: Feb 9th– project limited to 14 members.
State 4-H
Rabbit & Cavy Show

January 28, 2012
MSU Pavilion
On-site registration begins at 6:30 a.m., $2.75 per class

Open to all Michigan 4-H members 9-19 years of age (as of January 1, 2012).

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!

The Michigan 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show is sponsored by Michigan 4-H Youth Development Programs. 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

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

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Berrien County Tack Swap Meet
February 18, 2012
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Berrien Springs Middle School Gymnasium
One Sylvester Avenue, Berrien Springs (Behind the High School)
Sponsored by the Berrien County 4-H Horse Leaders Association

ADMISSION:
$1.00 per Person
Children 5 & under Free

DOOR PRIZES!
(Must be present to win)

DEALERS ARE WELCOME!

LUNCH NEAR BY!

Table Rental: $15.00 each at the door, does not include Admissions
Early registration, before January 21, 2012 - 2 tables for $25.00!
(Set-up at 11:30 a.m.; Doors open at 1:00 p.m.) All clean-up must be done by 5pml

NO EARLY SALES!

To reserve a table(s) please return the bottom of this form with payment to Berrien County
4-H Horse Leaders Association by January 21, 2012. Please be sure to mail your registration
by the deadline! There may or may not be extra tables the day of the sale.

For more information, contact:
Kendra Truhn
269-545-3575
KTruhn@meridian.title.com

Pam McCalebb
269-362-3252
we_luv_paints@yahoo.com

BERRIEN COUNTY 4-H HORSE LEADERS ASSOCIATION IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY LOST ITEMS

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Berrien County 4-H Horse Leaders Swap Meet

_____________________________________________________
Name:

_____________________________________________________
Address:

Daytime Phone: ___________________ Evening Phone: ___________________

E-mail Address: ________________________

Number of 8'X6' spaces needed: _____@ $15.00 each = $________ Will you need a table? Y/N

Early registration by January 21st - 2 tables for $25.00 = $____________

Payment Must Accompany Form - NO REFUNDS

Mail to: Swap Meet, c/o Pam McCalebb, 114 S Detroit St., Buchanan, MI 49107
2nd Annual 4-H Talent Show!

Take the spotlight at 4-H Spring Achievement!

Individual and group performances welcome.

Saturday, April 21, 2012
6:00 p.m.

Complete and return the registration on the back of this flyer by February 17, 2012
or contact the MSUE Office at 269-944-4126

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4-H Talent Show Application

Deadline: February 17, 2012

4-H talent will be in the spotlight at 4-H Spring Achievement—Saturday, April 21, 2012, from 6-8pm. Performing groups and individuals—4-H’ers will be selected through auditions (song, dance, skits, etc.). Those interested must complete the information below and agree to participate in the talent preview on Sunday, March 11, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at the MSUE Office on Hillandale Rd.

Contact person to receive performance details on behalf of the performer(s):

Name: ______________________________ Email: ______________________________

Address: ________________________________________________________________

Street       City       Zip

Phone: Day: (____) __________ Evening: (____) __________ Cell: (____) __________

Performer(s) Information (Please circle all that apply)

Soloist performance       Soloist name/age: ________________________________________

Group performance:

Number in group/age ranges: ____   Name of group: ______________________________

Names of all performers: ______________________________________________________

Title or type of performance: _________________________       Length: ________________

Brief description of performance: ________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

Equipment needs: ______________________________________________________________

Please indicate what equipment you will bring: ______________________________________

Other information you would like to share about your group: __________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________

Parent Signature: ______________________________________________________________

Return to: Berrien County MSU Extension Office

1737 Hillandale Road

Benton Harbor, MI 49022-9630

Phone: (269) 944-4126

Fax: (269) 944-4128

E-mail: emckee@anr.msu.edu
Experience Michigan Government in Action

4-H Capitol Experience!

March 18–21, 2012, in Lansing, Michigan
(http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/4_h_capitol_experience)

Learn first-hand how our state government works.
☆ Meet the people who play a role in government and policy making.
☆ Take an in-depth look at current public policy issues and how state government deals with those issues.
☆ Spend a morning with a lobbyist, lawyer or news reporter, or work in a legislator's office.

Join more than 100 other 4-H members and leaders from across Michigan at 4-H Capitol Experience! Besides learning many new things, you'll have lots of fun and make new friends.

Contact your county Michigan State University Extension office for more information. Applications are due in your county office by February 3, 2012.

The 2012 4-H Capitol Experience is generously supported by the Dow Chemical Company Foundation.

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4-H Exploration Days @ Michigan State University

JOIN THE REVOLUTION OF RESPONSIBILITY

Invest in yourself and your future... attend 4-H Exploration Days on June 20–22, 2012 at Michigan State University!

4-H Exploration Days is an annual MSU Pre-College Program that attracts about 2500 participants from all 83 Michigan counties.

There's always lots to do and see at 4-H Exploration Days! Have fun, learn new things and make new friends on the beautiful MSU campus! Choose from nearly 200 action-packed learning sessions, including:
* Adventure Education
* Animal Science
* Careers & Entrepreneurship
* Environmental & Outdoor Education
* Food, Nutrition & Fitness
* Leadership and more!
* Visual & Performing Arts

Come join the fun!

4-H Exploration Days registrations are due to your county MSU Extension office by April 30, 2012. Ask your county MSU Extension office for a copy of the registration book, or get it from our Web site at: http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/4_h_exploration_days

Entertainment

Judson Laipply, creator and performer of The Evolution of Dance and an award-winning speaker and inspirational comedian, is coming to 4-H Exploration Days 2012!

Michigan State University Extension Children & Youth Institute

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SPRING BREAK  SPRING BREAK  SPRING BREAK
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.