4-H NEWSLETTER
November/December 2013

Lapeer County MSU Extension
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Web Page:  http://www.msue.msu.edu/lapeer

4-H is a community of young people...across America...and the world who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.

4-H VISION
MICHIGAN 4-H MOBILIZES VOLUNTEERS AND COMMUNITIES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF YOUTH.

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

Dear Lapeer 4-H Family,

On behalf of the 4-H Staff, we are wishing all of our Lapeer 4-H family a wonderful holiday season! There is a lot of important information in this newsletter, including due dates, deadlines and new 2014 event dates. If you have any questions or suggestions as to what you would like to see in the monthly newsletter, let me know!

Happy Holidays,

Kathy George

Please see below for a list of all the Lapeer 4-H calendar and deadlines:

Club/Committee Enrollment Forms Due December 2nd
Auction Concession and Bake Sale Application Deadline December 15th
Next Year:
ALL County Awards Deadline January 3rd
Mock Interview Workshop January 14th
Interview Night January 27th
Spring Achievement, N. Branch March 22nd
4-H Celebrity & Spring Auction April 4-5th
Club/Committee Enrollment and Year End Financial Report
Thank you to everyone who came in and submitted year-end financial reports and enrollments! We still have a good number of clubs/committees needing to still come in. Please call the office to let us know when you are available by December 2nd. If year-end financials are not turned in by December 2nd, your club/committee will be in jeopardy of disbanding. A new charter and EIN will need to be processed, which is time consuming and you will not be able to hold meetings or do any activities until it is processed. Please make every effort to call the office and let us know when you can come in, as we will not be calling leaders to set up these times.

New Clubs
We are looking for 4-H youth interested in joining our Fly Fishing/Conservation Club – have you ever wanted to learn this style of fishing? If you are interested in finding out more about this club, call the 4-H Office at 810-667-0343 or email MSUE44@msu.edu.

A new Dog Agility Club is forming! Would you like to teach your dog new tricks? You can even compete in Dog Agility competitions with your pooch! This is a great way to get you and your dog exercise and have fun together! Call the office for more details or to check out a meeting.

If you have a specific interest, and would like to start your own club, we can make it easy and get you started! Just call the office or come in to find out more! I would also like to start a Lego Robotics Club and/or an Engineering Club, so if you or someone you know has interest in those areas, please let me know. We have access to a great new program called “TechXCite Engineering” where youth learn engineering concepts through a variety of hands on learning experiences, such as “Solar Energy” by building their own solar cars. This is a free program through Duke University and all supplies (even the solar cars) are provided at no cost to 4-H’ers. Please click on the following link to find out more: http://techxcite.pratt.duke.edu/

New Lapeer County 4-H Brochures
We have new Lapeer County 4-H brochures! If you would like a few to hand out to those asking about 4-H please see attachment to this newsletter to print copies or let us know and we will have some for you to pick up in the office. It’s an easy way for people to see what we have to offer and can contact club leaders directly.

Nominations Are In!
We received some great nominations for some very deserving youth, leaders, and community supporters. The counts are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nomination</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jr. Ambassador Court</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sr. Ambassador Court</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capitol Experience</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CWF</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-H National Congress</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Club</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE complete the applications that were just sent out in the mail for the youth awards. The effort you put in now acknowledging all of the great things you’ve done in 4-H will benefit you in many ways in the future, and hopefully will be recognized with one of the above awards! Applications must be submitted by JANUARY 3rd IN THE MSU EXTENSION OFFICE BY 5 PM or postmarked by January 3rd!!!
“Mock” Interview Night is January 14th at 6:30pm to practice and ask questions. The Interview Night (the one that counts) is January 27th at 6:30pm. Look nice and bring your “A” game! If you have any questions, please call us at 810-667-0343.

Good luck with completing your applications, and Leaders and Parents - please encourage our youth to complete the application process. These are a great start to building a state awards book, which can lead to state recognition at Exploration Days as well as college scholarships.

**Spring Achievement**

Spring Achievement will be held once again in North Branch on March 22nd. We are looking for Judges, Clerks, Superintendents for many areas, so if you know someone with knowledge in one of the judging areas, please call the office so that we may invite them to participate. Areas in need of a superintendent are as follows:

- Photography
- Performing Arts and Demonstrations
- Conservation/Entomology
- Leisure Ed./Safety/Engineering

**Camp Counselor Training**

It's never too early to think summer camp, and plans will soon be underway. I will be sending out letters and notices via Facebook in January for all who may be interested in being part of camp staff, both teens and adults. So if you are between the ages of 13 & 14 and enjoy working with young kids, then being a junior camp counselor for our day camp (kids kindergarten and first grade) program might be a good fit for you. Come to our informational meeting in February to hear all about the opportunity. And for those of you who are 15 and older come join in the fun as a camp counselor for our overnight camp program (kids second thru sixth grade). And if any adult would like to help as camp staff either as a chaperone or session leader, please call or email me for more information. Notice will go out soon with date of informational meeting early February for teens and adults. Hope to see you there! — Jean Kreiner (kreiner@msu.edu)

**PEP**

Our fall session is complete and thanks to all who volunteered their time and/or horses! We couldn't have had such a successful program without all your help. We celebrated the end of our fall session with our annual Potluck Banquet on Nov. 5th and are already making plans for the spring sessions. If you are a teen 14 years and older, you may be a volunteer for this excellent program, and we can always use adult volunteers as well. No horse experience is needed, just the willingness to attend once a week for 7 weeks. The payoff? Lots of smiles and appreciation from youth and their parents as they get this opportunity to ride and learn all about horses. Contact me via phone or email if interested in learning more about this amazing opportunity!

— Jean Kreiner (kreiner@msu.edu)
**Lapeer County 4-H Mini Grants Available!!!!**

4-H Council would like to remind everyone that there are funds available to clubs and committees to purchase supplies for new programs or activities. It needs to be educational and either an entirely new project or a new aspect of a current program. If you are interested, please attend a Council Meeting on 3rd Mondays at 7:00 pm to submit a request for this mini-grant. We also have options of the grant disbursement so that you will NOT have to pay out of pocket and then request reimbursement.

**Waiver Forms**

If youth enrollments are being turned in at the 4-H Office with a request for a Participation Fee scholarship, then a completed Participation Fee Waiver Form, signed by parent, **must accompany it**. Enrollments on scholarship will not be accepted in the office without the waiver. If you are a leader and need more waivers, please call Brenda and one can either be emailed to you or ready for you to pick up at office.

**Fair Dates**

As most of you may have already heard, the fair dates have changed to July 29 – August 2, 2014. This new date is expected to stay the same for a few years, at least, according to the Fair Board.

**BBQ Coordinator**

We would like to give a whole-hearted thank you to **Bobbi Jablinskey** for her years of service providing amazing Buyers Lunch at the Livestock Auction. By providing a nice meal, which adds a really nice opportunity for us to socialize and get to know our buyers, Bobbi has made a difference in the lives of many 4-H’ers by adding value to the auction. You are a great cook, and we will miss you! 😊

We are looking for volunteers to help with next year’s BBQ, so if you would like to be a part of the action, email me at [george92@msu.edu](mailto:george92@msu.edu).

**Milk Marketing Tour**

MMPA/4-H Milk Marketing Tour is two days of dairy & milk marketing tours, presentations and activities. 2014 dates are yet to be announced, but we will not be putting the Milk Marketing Tour in our Interview Process this year. This opportunity is now free for 4-H youth on a first come, first served basis. Dates and registration information will be posted in an upcoming newsletter.

**Exploration Days Dates Announced!**

The next Exploration Days will be held June 18-20th on MSU campus. Please visit the following site for more information: [http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/4-h_exploration_days](http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/4-h_exploration_days)

**IPM seminar – Integrated Pest Management Seminar**

Please click on the following link for the program flyer: at [https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/62649990/IPM%20Academy%202014%20brochure.pdf](https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/62649990/IPM%20Academy%202014%20brochure.pdf)
**4-H Spring Auction – April 4-5, 2013!**

Plans for the 4-H Spring Auction & Celebrity Auction are well underway. Last year we were able to present the 4-H Council $33,000 toward this year’s budget, 82% of which supports Youth Activities, 4% - Council Administration and Support, and 14% Fundraising. This event provides the majority of funds needed to sustain the 4-H Youth Program in our county.

**Lunch Concession – DO YOU WANT TO RUN IT THIS YEAR?** Since there is more than one club who would like to manage the Spring Auction’s Lunch Concessions, we have opened it up to all clubs to complete an application sent out earlier to club leaders to apply to manage this portion of the event. This is a fundraiser for your club and you will be able to keep 100% of the profits. It’s a lot of work and your club must purchase all of the supplies/food upfront as well as run the kitchen independently. If your club is up to the challenge, please complete the application and submit into the MSU Office by December 15th. All applications will be reviewed by the Auction Committee and one club will be chosen by random draw to manage this fundraiser. This is a 2 year commitment.

**CLUB BASKETS –** These baskets get a lot of attention and active bidding, often representing the club’s focus and always creative. Clubs may design baskets based on their projects or a certain theme such as “movie night”, “camping”, “baby”, “sports”, etc. We have some baskets in the office you may use if needed. All baskets may be dropped off at the Center Building Friday, April 4, 10am – 7pm. Any questions contact the office and ask for Kathy or Jean. Top 3 baskets will get a cash award.

**BAKE SALE –** The bake sale takes place at the Celebrity Auction on the night of April 4, and all day on April 5. These items are always good sellers! We are working on who organizes and manages the sale for this year. Donated baked goods are needed! All donated Items should be taken to the Lapeer Center Building on Friday night, April 4, or Saturday morning, April 5.

**VOLUNTEERS –** Your help to make this year’s auction a success is needed, and there are many ways in which you can participate. Even a few hours of your time will make a difference – and be sincerely appreciated. Also, IT CAN BE FUN! Visiting merchants beginning in January; Telephoning; Helping get bulk mailings out; Working at the Auction for 2-3 hours; Friday, April 4 – Set-up, Saturday, April 5 – Greeting, Registration, Clerking, Silent Auction circulating and closing tables, Live Auction circulating. Please let me know if you can volunteer this year!

**DONATIONS –** Please think about what you might donate. Do you have a farm product? What about something from your workplace? Do you have a craft? Do you know someone else who might have something to donate: merchandise, foods, unique services? Local gift cards or services are always in demand.

PLEASE HELP US THIS YEAR. It takes a lot of people to make the Auction work. Think about bringing a friend, maybe someone who is not yet involved in 4-H. Remember, when you help us, you help your club! Please call me at 667-0343 to let me know you are interested in volunteering or if you have any questions.

Tiffanie Osburn
4-H Fundraising Coordinator
Would you like to post something in our newsletter?
We are currently reorganizing our newsletter layout into a monthly newsletter and will be offering a section for our 4-H families to send me things to put in our newsletters, such as animals for adoptions, employment opportunities, items for sale, etc. If you would like to submit something, please email me at george92@msu.edu by the 15th of the month.

Toot Your Own Horn!!
In upcoming newsletters, there will be a section for showing what an amazing club you have (or an individual 4-H'er’s achievements), as well as what you’re doing at meetings, events and in the community. Please email me at george92@msu.edu by the 15th of the month. Go ahead, you know you’re awesome, tell us about it!

Monthly Ongoing Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meeting Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Wednesday</td>
<td>Fair Board – held at Imlay City Hall, 7 pm – during winter months, moves to fairgrounds during the summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Monday</td>
<td>4-H Fair Board Meeting-MSU Extension, 7:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Monday</td>
<td>Livestock Developmental Committee – MSU Extension, 7:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Dog Leaders Developmental Committee – MSU Extension</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Monday</td>
<td>4-H Council – MSU Extension, 7 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Sheep Leaders Developmental Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th Wednesday</td>
<td>Horse Leaders Developmental Committee – MSU Extension, 7 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Rabbit Leaders Developmental Committee; call Glenda Weiss 989-795-2730</td>
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<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Goat Leaders Developmental Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Swine Leaders Developmental Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>Poultry Leaders Developmental Committee-MSU Extension, 7 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Beef Leaders Developmental Committee</td>
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County Developmental Committee meetings are usually cancelled in December and August and may be cancelled at other times…please call ahead to confirm. If Lapeer Community Schools are cancelled due to weather, any meeting held at the MSU Extension is cancelled.

Lapeer County MSU Extension Staff

- Kathy George, Program Coordinator, 4-H Youth Development
- Jean Kreiner, Program Aide, 4-H Youth Development
- Tiffanie Osburn, Fundraising Coordinator
- Brenda Patrick, Office Manager/4-H Secretary
- Tina House, Receptionist/F&CS and Ag Secretary

- Phil Kaatz, Extension Educator, Forages/Field Crops
- Chris Venema, Extension Educator, Food Safety, Financial Literacy & Housing
- Sarah Carpenter, Program Instructor, Health & Nutrition

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