4-H NEWSLETTER
Spring 2013

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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,

I want to thank all of you for the warm welcome I’ve received in the past few weeks as your new Program Coordinator! I’m looking forward to meeting more of you and would like to come to some club meetings to see all of you in action! If you have time in the next few months to have me come out to learn more about your club, email me at george92@anr.msu.edu with date and time. In the meantime, if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions I would love to hear them. Jean and I hope you find this newsletter helpful, but if you need additional information, please call us at 810-667-0343.

Sincerely Yours,
Kathy George

In this newsletter, we have many activities and opportunities coming up along with their deadlines which are fast approaching! Please see below for a list of all the Lapeer 4-H calendar and deadlines:

State Awards Applications Due March 1
Mark of Excellence Essay Due March 1
Grape Jelly Preserves Class March 2
Spring Achievement Registration March 4
Spring Achieve. Cover Contest March 4
Art on the Town Reception March 8
Art on the Town March 8-Apr 8
Spring Achievement Set Up March 15
Air Rifle Postal Match March 15
Spring Achievement March 16
Capitol Experience March 17-20
Lapeer Area Rabbit Raisers March 23
Online 4-H Auction March 29-Apr 11
4-H Celebrity Auction April 12
4-H Spring Auction April 13
State Meats Judging April 19
Thumb Beef Jackpot Show April 26-27
Participation Fee Grant App. Due May 1
Swine Weigh In May 4
Sheep Weigh In May 11
MSU Exploration Days June 19-21
Citizenship Wash. Focus Trip June 22-29
Helping Hooves PEP Club April 11
4-H Day Camp July 15 & 16
4-H Overnight Camp July 17-20
Eastern Michigan State Fair 1st wk of Aug
State Award Winners!

Michigan 4-H Youth Awarded College Scholarship Winners from Lapeer County - Congratulations!
2012-2013 MI Rabbit and Cavy 4-H Scholarship Winner – Lapeer County: Taylor Timko

MSU Pre-College Program Scholarship: Ellen Papineau for Exploration Days

2013 State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show January 26 held at MState University
Overall State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show Winners: Cavy - Reserve In Show: Silkie – CJ Moore
Breed Winners: Best of Opposite Sex, American Fuzzy Lop – Emma Bloss
Best of Breed, Silver Fox – Noah Schumitsch
Cavy Winners: American – CJ Moore
Coronet - CJ Moore
Peruvian - CJ Moore
Silkie - CJ Moore

Great Job Everyone!!

Spring Achievement/Style Revue

With January behind us so are the County Award Interviews, and now we await the announcements of the winners at our annual Spring Achievement/Style Revue so please mark your calendars and……

Come join us at Spring Achievement on Saturday, March 16, 2013 and help congratulate these young people for their accomplishments. Once again we will be holding our festivities at the North Branch American Legion Hall and North Branch Methodist Church.

Come show off your talent as you bring in projects for evaluation and display, set up your club display to the theme of “Plant a Seed and Watch it Grow,” meet other 4-H members and families and have your club recognized during the evening program. We hope to see you there!!

Reminder: Registrations and Designs for the Program Cover contest are due in the office Monday, March 4th.

Help Needed!
We are in need of judges and clerks. Judges should not know the youth whom they are judging. If you know anyone who has an expertise in the Spring Achievement projects areas, please call the office. If you would like to help set up, we will be doing so on Friday, March 15th between 6-8pm at the hall. We are asking all families to stay after program is finished to assist with returning chairs and tables to original places.
4-H Auction/Art on The Town

4-H Spring Auction – April 12-13, 2013
Plans for the 4-H Spring Auction & Celebrity Auction are well underway. Last year we were able to present the 4-H Council $33,500 toward this year’s budget, to support our youth.

YOUR HELP TO MAKE THIS YEAR’S AUCTION A SUCCESS IS NEEDED
Even a few hours of your time will make a difference. Also, IT CAN BE FUN!

CLUB BASKETS OR OTHER CREATIVE ITEM
– These donations get a lot of attention and active bidding. Our bidder always look for the 4-H Club’s donations. All items may be dropped off at the Center Building Friday, April 12, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. 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 12, and all day on April 13. These items are always good sellers! Wendy Tanis organizes and manages the sale. Baked goods are needed, certainly sweet things, but not all need to be baked or sweet. Call Wendy (989-761-7763) if you have an idea but are not sure about it. Items should be taken to the Lapeer Center Building on Friday, April 12, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. or Saturday morning, April 13. AGAIN THIS YEAR!!! Names of those who donate to the bake sale will be entered in a drawing to win a restaurant meal for two!

VOLUNTEERS – Telephoning; Helping get bulk mailings out; Working at the Auction for 2-3 hours; Friday, April 12 – Set-up; Saturday, April 13 – Greeting, Registration, Clerking, Silent Auction circulating and closing tables, Live Auction circulating.

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, services? Practical items 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.

THANK YOU FOR READING! PLEASE CALL ME AT 667-0343 TO LET ME KNOW YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING OR WITH ANY QUESTIONS. - Claudia Ferguson, 4-H Auction Coordinator

Art on The Town in Downtown Lapeer
March 8th-April 8th, 2013
More than 30 local, state and national artists will be exhibiting their art in downtown Lapeer businesses during this event, creating a very exciting broad spectrum of media, e.g. painting, metal sculpture, jewelry, photography, mosaics, basketry, ceramic, and mixed media. The hosting businesses are donating exhibit space, and artists are donating their work to 4-H to be auctioned at the 27th Annual Lapeer County 4-H Spring Auction on April 13.

Please join us at the kick-off reception on March 8th at Gallery 194 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm. Light refreshments and music. Many businesses are planning to stay open so that people can visit and see the art. Bring your family and friends, and if you are a club leader, think of making a trip to downtown with your club. All of this to benefit our 4-H kids!
**STATE AWARDS**

If you are working on your State Award applications and/or Mark of Excellence Essay Awards, the deadline is fast approaching – **MARCH 1st**! Don’t delay, your opportunity shall slip away!!

The Michigan State 4-H Awards Program is an opportunity for 4-H’ers aged 13 and up, with three or more years of experience in 4-H, to meet new friends, gain leadership skills, increase their interviewing skills, improve their writing skills, build their self-esteem and compete for recognition in more than 30 different project areas.

The Michigan State 4-H Awards Program includes county-, regional- and state-level competition. Awards program participants submit completed individual or group awards application forms to their county MSU Extension staff **by March 1**. The applications are evaluated on the county level and submitted for regional competition. Regional winners are selected by early April. Regional winners can compete for state-level honors in one project area.

Regional awards & essay delegates attend MSU Exploration Days June 19-21, 2013. Contact Kathy or Jean if you’re interested so we can help you through the process.

**Mark of Excellence Award**

Ages 11-12 can participate in the Mark of Excellence essay contest. Write a 500 word essay on “Because of 4-H I can………..”

Award forms and essays are due to the county office by **March 1**.

**MSU Exploration Days**

MSU Exploration Days is an amazing opportunity for 4-H to explore the campus and attend special sessions tailored for 4-Hers. The registration fee will remain at $165 for a 3-day, 2-night MSU pre-college program full of experiential learning and personal growth opportunities! For complete information go to: http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/4_h_exploration_days

Registration begins on March 19th in the Lapeer MSU Extension Office. Please call Brenda for more details at 810-667-0343. The registration book and forms can be found online starting February 22, 2013 at: http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/registration_book

A summary list of the 2013 sessions in order of session type can be found at the following link: http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/session_information

**Spring Animal Science Events**

The event catalogs for Goat Expo, Rabbit & Cavy Expo, and Poultry Palooza are now available on the Michigan 4-H Website (http://4h.msue.msu.edu) under their respective specie pages. Also note that at the Goat Expo and the Poultry Palooza there are opportunities for youth in the food science project area. This may be a great opportunity for you to participate in a state level event! For more information contact the office at 810-667-0343.
Shooting Sports Clubs
The announcement and registration details for the Michigan 4-H 3-Position Air Rifle Postal Match are available on the 4-H Shooting Sports website:
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/shooting_sports

Registration deadline is March 15th.

Animal Project Snapshots
Along with project “Snapshots” for the dog, dairy goat, poultry, and rabbit, MSU Extension is now offering “Photography” and “Horse and Ponies”. These snapshot sheets focus on what youth will learn in the specific project. Each sheet highlights content youth can explore from the Skills for Life curriculum (which qualifies as science ready), specific life skills, citizenship/leadership skills, science skills, and communication skills. Additionally, a comprehensive list of resources from Michigan 4-H, National 4-H, and breed associations/groups is provided.

You can find these resources at the following links:
- Dog:
  http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/resources/4_h_dog_project_snapshot_sheet_4h1610
- Goat:
  http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/resources/4_h_goat_project_snapshot_sheet_4h1611
- Poultry:
  http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/resources/4_h_poultry_project_snapshot_sheet_4h1612
- Rabbits:
  http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/resources/4_h_rabbit_project_snapshot_sheet_4h1613
- Photography:
  http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/visual_arts
- Horses and Ponies:
  http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/horses_ponies

Lapeer Area Rabbit Raisers – LARR
On March 23, the Lapeer Area Rabbit Raisers show will be held at the Center Building, with the entry deadline of 8:00am; show begins at 9:00am. The Rabbit department is having a bake sale and will offer a food booth.

Do you like being on stage??!!
Youth MC’s needed!
The state awards committee is looking for youth to serve as MC’s for the state awards program held during Exploration Days.

The youths need to be recent state award winners and be nominated by their county staff. If you are interested, call Lapeer MSU Extension office at 810-667-0343.

Thumb Beef Jackpot Show!
Lapeer 4-H will be hosting the Thumb Beef Jackpot Show this year and will be held at the Imlay City Fairgrounds on April 26th and 27th. This is open to all 4-H and FFA members. Information and registrations will be sent out to all Lapeer County Beef Club members by mail. For more information, please contact your 4-H Beef Leaders.
Scholarship/Grant Opportunities

**Participation Fee Grant**

Next deadline date for the participation fee grant is **May 1st 2013**. If you are looking for some new educational resources or planning a new educational event for late spring, summer or even early fall, now is the time to put in your grant application. Contact the office for an application or if you have any questions.

**Global Youth Service Day April 26-28, 2013**

This annual event, held on April 26, 27, and 28, 2013, encourages young people to address the world’s most critical issues through service. In 2012, more than **1,000 youth** and **500 adults** volunteered more than **400 hours** in Michigan for GYSD. Those volunteers impacted more than **8,000 individuals**. For more information, visit [www.GYSD.org](http://www.GYSD.org). Mini-grants are available for projects, but hurry, deadline is **March 4th**!

**Kohl’s Cares Scholarship Program**

Nominate a young volunteer, age 6-18, who has made a difference in your community. Top winners each receive $10,000 for higher education. Nominations are accepted February 1-March 15, 2013. Please visit the following website for more details:


**2013 International Exchange Opportunities**

Dzien dobry (Hello in Polish) Everyone! Teens, ages 14 to 19 as of January 1, 2013, from around Michigan are invited to host students traveling here from Poland from mid June to mid July 2013. This hosting opportunity is coordinated by Michigan State University Extension, 4-H Youth Development Global and Cultural Programs. Global and Cultural programs help young people explore, appreciate and value what people next door, across town and around the world have in common and what makes them unique. Youth who host students this summer will have the chance to make life long international friends and have the opportunity to travel to Poland in 2014.

For a host family application or more information contact Lapeer County 4-H MSU Extension Office at 810-667-0343. Applications are due by April 1, 2013. For more information on all of the MSU International Exchange Programs available, please visit:

http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/international_exchange_programs
MONTHLY ONGOING MEETINGS

1st Wednesday  Fair Board – held at Imlay City Hall, 7pm – during winter months, moves to fairgrounds during the summer
2nd Monday      4-H Fair Board Meeting-MSU Extension, 7:00pm
2nd Monday      Livestock Developmental Committee – MSU Extension, 7:30pm
TBA             Dog Leaders Developmental Committee – MSU Extension
3rd Monday      4-H Council – MSU Extension, 7pm
TBA             Sheep Council Developmental Committee
4th Wednesday   Horse Leaders Developmental Committee – MSU Extension, 7pm
TBA             Rabbit Leaders Developmental Committee; call Glenda Weiss 989-795-2730
TBA             Goat Leaders Developmental Committee
TBA             Swine Leaders Developmental Committee
Quarterly       Poultry Leaders Developmental Committee-MSU Extension, 7pm
TBA             Beef Leaders Developmental Committee

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.

4-H ANIMAL OWNERSHIP DATES FOR FAIR 2013

- Angora Goats – May 31 – Ownership
- Beef – Feb. 2nd (1st Sat. in Feb.) – Ownership & weigh in at fairgrounds & nose printed, up to 5 per member.
- Dairy Goats – May 31 – Ownership for breeding stock.
- Market Goats – May 1 – Ownership. Must be weighed in at sheep weigh-in on ? to participate in Rate of Gain contest.
- Poultry – May 1 – Ownership - except meat pens, which must be appropriate market age for the species. Check with your leader or superintendent for details.
- Rabbits – May 15 – All meat pen does must be owned by May 1st and all meat pen rabbits must be born at exhibitor’s home. All other rabbits must be kindled & owned by May 15th.
- Sheep-Market Lambs – May 18 (3rd Sat. in May) – Weigh in at fairgrounds. Eartagged, up to 5 per member; 2 may be shown, 1 sold. May 15th – ownership date.
- Swine – May 4th (1st Sat. in May) – Weighed & eartagged at fairgrounds-up to 5 per member. Ownership by May 1st.

Must be enrolled in a Lapeer County 4-H club or be an FFA member by May 31 to qualify to enter 4-H classes at Fair.
Master Gardener Classes
The Master Gardener Volunteer Program welcomes anyone interested in learning about gardening, community service and working with other volunteers. No prior knowledge or experience in gardening required.

Classes held on Monday nights from 5-9pm, starting on February 25th and running through June 3rd. They will be held at the Capac Lions Club at 315 West Meier Avenue, Capac. To register, please visit: http://events.anr.msu.edu/w2013 capacmgp/

For more information, please call Lisa Sharrow at 810-329-3722 or email at bloomin@4wbi.com.

FREE Grape Jelly Preserves Class
MSU Extension’s Health and Nutrition Institute is offering a free class on how to preserve food on March 2 from 10:00am-12:00pm at Country Christian Church in North Branch. You will learn how to make your own grape jelly and bring some home to try on your own pb&j’s! Please call the office to register for this FREE event at 810-677-0343. Remember, you can enter this as a project in Spring Achievement!

Home Buyers Workshop
Thinking of purchasing a home? The homebuyer workshop is designed to provide basic information about the process and what is involved in the purchase of a home. Topics covered include: affordability, budgeting for home ownership, credit and credit reports, home selection, insurance, purchase agreements, the mortgage application process and closing. Schedule a one-on-one appointment at the MSU Extension office by calling Chris Venema @ 667-0341.

Healthy Cooking for Teens!
Also coming soon, MSU Extension is forming a new class in healthy food preparation for teens! Do you want to learn how to make cool, healthy snacks to impress your friends and family? Keep watching for the dates and location to be announced and if you have any ideas about what would be fun to make, let us know!

ServSafe Workshops
ServSafe workshops are designed to provide managers and front-line food employees with up-to-date information on food safety. This course meets the requirements for MDA approval as a manager food safety certification program. To register go to: event.anr.msu.edu, then search by date for the event you wish to attend. Or you may register at the Lapeer MSU Extension office. Classes are as follows:
8-hr Class: Tues., May 14 or Mon., Nov. 18
16-hr Class: March 11 & 18 or Aug. 12 & 13
Community Service and Leadership Opportunities

Helping Hooves PEP Club:
Starts its spring session Thursday, April 11, 2013 and runs for 6 weeks. If you enjoy helping others and being around horses then this is for you. PEP is a therapeutic horseback riding program for people with disabilities or special needs. Classes are once a week for six weeks. Volunteers for side walkers or lead walkers must be 14 years and older and also can use help of volunteer horses for the program.

Camp Counselors and Staff for Summer Camp Program:
We held first informational meeting on Feb. 1st but it’s not too late to be a part of camp. There are 2 camp programs offered: a 2 day, Day camp on Monday and Tuesday, July 15th and 16th and an Overnight Camp Wednesday through Saturday, July 17th – 20th held at Camp Lael here in Lapeer County.

Counselors for day camp program ages 13 & 14; overnight camp program counselors must be 15 years and older. Meet once a month for training now through time of camp. This is a great opportunity to learn and put into practice leadership and life skills. Next camp meeting, Friday, March 8th at 6:30pm at MSUE office.

Adult volunteers are also welcome to be a part of camp staff whether it is for day camp or the overnight camp.

For more information/questions regarding PEP or Camp, contact Jean at 810-667-0343 or email Kreiner@anr.msu.edu

Lapeer County MSU Extension Staff
- Kathy George, Program Coordinator, 4-H Youth Development
- Jean Kreiner, Program Aide, 4-H Youth Development
- Claudia Ferguson, Fundraiser 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 Graver, Program Instructor, Health & Nutrition

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