Happy Fall!

We are so thankful to have such wonderful 4-H’ers, volunteers and families in Lapeer 4-H! Thank you for a wonderful 2014-15 year and we look forward to another great year to provide educational opportunities and meaningful mentoring to our kids! In this newsletter, is a detailed Year In Review that was read at the Annual Council Meeting held this past Monday. Yes, it is lengthy, but is a good recording of the happenings in Lapeer County 4-H! Happy reading! - Kathy George

Calendar of Events
10/25—Beef Leaders Committee—Ed Tech
10/28—Annual Fair Board Meeting, 8pm Imlay City City Office
11/2—Nomination Forms Due
11/9—Goat Comm. Mtg, 6:30pm Small Meeting Room downstairs
11/9—Indoor Superintendents Comm. Mtg, 6pm Board Room
11/9—Livestock Committee, 7:30pm downstairs
11/16—Ambassador Court, 5:30pm Board room
11/16—Council, 7pm Board Room
11/18—Horse Leaders, 7pm Downstairs (moved to 3rd Wednesdays of the month)
11/28—Horse Banquet, 4pm-10pm
(Check with your committees if there will be meetings in December)
12/1—Club/Committee Enrollment Deadline
12/14—Year End Financials due for Administrative Leaders
1/11—Poultry Committee, 6:30pm Board Room
1/11—Livestock Committee, 7:30pm Downstairs
1/12—Mock Interviews Workshop
1/18—Council, 7pm Board Room
1/20—Horse Leaders, 7pm Downstairs
1/26—Interview Night
3/19—Spring Achievement

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Facebook: Lapeer County 4-H

REMINDER!
All Youth, Club and Adult Nomination forms are due Monday, November 2nd in the MSU Extension Office. You can find them on our website. Leaders were also given hard copies at Leader Update. If you have any questions or would like more copies, please call the office. Remember, youth nominations are just to nominate a youth, They will be contacted and will be given time to decide whether to apply or not-so please nominate!:

The Animal Science Youth Extension Events Calendar for 2015-2016 has been posted at the following web link: http://www.ans.msu.edu/extension/youth_events
Lapeer County 4-H 2014-15 Year In Review

Lapeer County offered a wide variety of youth development activities to the 452 members of the 41 4-H clubs, with the generous support of 136 new and returning adult leaders and 79 teen leaders. 3 New clubs formed in the 2014-15 year, while 2 disbanded. We’ve realized an increase in every area, with the exception of disbanding clubs which decreased from 3 in the previous to only 2 this year.

Lapeer County 4-H recognition: 17 project medals (over 100% increase over last year) were awarded, while 7 County (All Around) Awards were awarded, a 700% increase. Country Kids 4-H Club received both the club award for Community Service, 4-H Swine Department received the Fun and Social Club Award, while NBFLSC received the Educational Club Award. In state achievements, Grace Corbin represented Lapeer 4-H as the Junior Rabbit and Cavy Individual State Delegate, while Taylor Timko represented the same area as the Senior Delegate. In group state awards, Justin Campbell, Rebecca Glass and Amber Bennett (pictured right) represented NBFLSC and achieved the Michigan 4-H State Award in Group Presentations.

Lapeer 4-H also offered other opportunities to 4-H youth this year, Junior Agricultural Society member position to Alicia and Jamie Slack. 3 youth, Ashley Gibbs, Rachel Phillips and Jennifer Gibbs earned scholarships funded by 4-H Council to attend the 2015 4-H Capitol Experience, an annual 4-day conference that focuses on civic engagement and public policy. Kayla Aboukarroum and Elena Boxey were both awarded the Michigan 4-H Key Club Award, a top county 4-H honor. Council also funded the scholarship for National 4-H Congress, which is a leadership, citizenship and community service focused conference held in Atlanta, GA. This scholarship was presented to Ashley Gibbs.

Outstanding youth in Lapeer were recognized for their academic and 4-H involvement with a number of scholarships:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Scholarship Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brittany Haskins</td>
<td>$500 Council Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elena Boxey</td>
<td>$500 Council Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quentin Andrews</td>
<td>$1,000 Novotney Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Rayl</td>
<td>$1,000 Novotney Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alicia Slack</td>
<td>$500 Novotney Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hayley Albrecht</td>
<td>$500 Novotney Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curtis Campbell</td>
<td>$750 Dawn Childers Memorial Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justin Campbell</td>
<td>$750 Dawn Childers Memorial Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amanda Brandt</td>
<td>$750 Dawn Childers Memorial Scholarship</td>
</tr>
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<td>$6,250 Total</td>
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Adults and local organizations were also recognized this year for their exceptional support of Lapeer 4-H. Friend of 4-H Awards went to Ellen Thick for assistance with the Spring Auction Database, Gloria Harris of Lapeer Farm Bureau and Bobi Jablinskey for the Livestock Auction BBQ. The prestigious 4-H Leader of the Year was presented to Carlene and Larry Turrell. Bob and Carol Straight were awarded the Outstanding Lifetime Leader Award.

4-H youth voted on Teen Council members during fair this year. Ashley and Jennifer Gibbs, Cecilia Linck and Jessica Childs all earned a seat on Council for the 2015-16 year. Ashley and Jennifer Gibbs, Elena Boxey and Liz Schumitsch served well on the 2014-15 Council.
The 2015 4-H Spring and Celebrity Auction’s total revenue was $40,455 netting $27,679. The crowds were smaller than the previous year with 198 bidders (with 56 or 28% new bidders) at the Spring Auction on Saturday. The Celebrity Auction also did well and had an increase in bidders from 40 in ’14 to 54 in 2015. Items sold well with an increase in profit for the second year in a row from $6,291 in ’14 to $6,575 in ’15. Tiffanie Osburn, Fundraising Coordinator, stepped down from her position during the summer for a full time position in the military. We appreciate everything she contributed and will miss her and her positive energy very much.

At the 2015 Spring Achievement/Style Revue, 4-H’ers entered 673 projects (380 in ’14), with 444 (279 in ’14) that were actually brought to the judging that day. Also, Council awarded 10 4-H educational gift certificates for participation in Spring Achievement.

At fair, the number of indoor projects decreased from the previous year, with 429 total judged in 2014 and 352 judged in 2015, or 77 less projects, a 22% decrease.

Young Livestock spent their first year with a variety of activities and learning opportunities, including: attending LeadersMeet and greet dinner - May 24, participated in 4-H Spokesperson Workshop - July 13, meeting with Blue Water Printing to learn about graphic design - June 15, revamped existing auction buyer brochure and distributed to buyers before the auction, sold ads to local processors that were included in the buyer brochure, greeted and waited tables at Lapeer County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting - Sept. 10, and performed the following tasks at fair:
- Put up Grand Champion signs in the Grand Champion pens
- Hosted county-wide exhibitor meeting and ice cream social on Monday
- Greeted and escorted buyers before and during the livestock auction

The Ambassador Court was very successful this year. Tiffany Weiss once again held the role as adult leader and mentor to the court consisting of (pictured right): Emma Bloss and Josie Kane as the two Jr. Ambassadors and Kayla Aboukarroum, Gracie Corbin, Theresa Austin, and Rachel Phillips as the four Senior Ambassadors. One accomplishment of the Ambassador Court Program this year was to ask the Fair Board to assume the responsibility of doing all of the announcements during the week at fair. This would also provide an opportunity to improve their marketing and speaking skills. The Fair Board agreed and the Ambassador Court did a wonderful job at their new fair job. Members of the court also attended parades and meet the teacher nights at schools to help promote 4-H and attract new members. The members of the court were enthusiastic and served as the great role models for younger members.

Due to lack of horses and volunteers sadly PEP held no riding sessions. However, PEP started meeting as an indoor club and members enjoyed having items to show at Spring Achievement. Through surveys and conversations PEP is being evaluated and hope for new things in near future. They are still looking for volunteers age 14 and up as well as volunteer horses.

Renaissance Festival Lapeer County 4-H Camp was a huge success. Fun was had by all from campers to counselors to adult staff and visitors. Day camp consisted of 20 campers and 12 counselors. Overnight Camp consisted of 60 campers, 12 teen counselors and 12 adult camp staff. They had actors from the Renaissance festival and jugglers join campers for supper, lead in games from the renaissance era, as well as demonstrate their juggling and sword fighting skills.
Our Amazing 4-H’ers in Action....

Clockwise: Livestock Auction; Build a Bird Contest; Market Goat Winner, Audrey Johnston; Girls at the Dairy Store during Expo Days; Pocket Pet Hedgehog at fair; Goat Showmanship Clinic; Laura and Natalie Rood at Performing Arts Workshop
COUNTY NEWS...

2016 Auction is coming...
The Auction’s Concession stand will be open for bids this year from clubs. Proposal form must be completed by December 15, 2015. Don’t forget about the club baskets! Start now with deciding the theme and collecting (or fundraising for) the items. They were a huge hit last year and portions of the sale went back to the clubs...a win-win!

Year End Paperwork —No need to come in...
We will be holding one day in which to schedule your Year End Paperwork appointments, if you would like to meet with us personally, November 12th from 10am—7pm. If you do not have questions regarding your year end paperwork, you may mail, fax, scan/email it in. We will contact you with questions after we review the paperwork, if necessary. All completed paperwork is due in by Monday, December 1st. We still have a few clubs, who have NOT picked up their year end paperwork that was available at Leader Updates. If you plan to continue your club, you will need to pick them up and complete all forms by the deadline.

Lapeer County 4-H Endowment Campaign
Please remember that Lapeer County 4-H is in the middle of an Endowment campaign in order to raise $50,000 (we are almost to $11,000). If this goal reached, it will be matched 1:1, creating a $100,000 endowment from which the county will have an annual permanent income for programming. Please consider fundraising in your clubs by doing car washes, Family Farm and Home Hot Dog Sales, bake sales, pop can drives, etc. to contribute to the future of Lapeer 4-H. This endowment can also grow largely through legacy and estate gifts.

We are challenging all clubs to raise funds at least annually (until 2018) through donation requests or other fundraisers to support our future. We will keep a running tally per club in the monthly newsletter! Please contact the office for more information or forms that need to be completed along with the check made out to Michigan 4-H Foundation.

4HOnline Database System Notice...
Beginning Wednesday, September 30, 4HOnline will no longer support Internet Explorer 10 and older versions due to security concerns. This means you will NOT be able to access 4HOnline with Internet Explorer. You will need to use Chrome or Firefox, both of these are free to download on your PC.

Performing Arts, Speeches and Demonstrations...Skills to use throughout your life!
In recent years, our number of projects entered in this category has been decreasing. Are you hesitant to do public speaking? This is the biggest fear for the majority of the populations, so why not try to improve on this, so you can feel more comfortable in this area??

What you may not know, is that anyone in 4-H, can do an animal project AS WELL AS any indoor project at fair! Ideas for Demos are: Animal care (i.e. dog grooming), preparing No Bake Cookies, French Braiding, Flower Arranging, fixing things around the house—pretty much anything that interests you! Speech examples are: Why I Like 4-H, Benefits of Recycling, How to Make Maple Syrup. Performing Arts could be dancing, reciting a poem, skits, playing an instrument, singing, etc. Do you know you can earn ribbons and in some areas a Plaque from Lapeer Farm Bureau?! Give it a try and if you have any questions or need more ideas, Call Cindy Headrick, Superintendent at 810-441-2489. She is planning another workshop with other professionals to offer their guidance and give you a chance to perform in front of a small audience. TRY SOMETHING NEW!
STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4-H Workshops

November 5: North Central Region 4-H Volunteer E-Forum
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/north_central_region_4_h_volunteer_e_forum
Online

November 10: North Central Region 4-H Volunteer E-Forum
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/north_central_region_4_h_volunteer_e_forum
Online

December 3: North Central Region 4-H Volunteer E-Forum
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/north_central_region_4_h_volunteer_e_forum
Online

December 8: North Central Region 4-H Volunteer E-Forum
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/north_central_region_4_h_volunteer_e_forum
Online

January 30-31, 2016: 4-H Youth Leadership & Global Citizenship Spectacular
http://bit.ly/1Xc491o
Kettunen Center, Tustin

February 6-7, 2016: 4-H Winterfest
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/4_h_winterfest16
Kettunen Center, Tustin

Kettunen Center, Tustin

February 20-21: 4-H Beef, Sheep & Swine Teen & Adult Leaders Workshop
http://bit.ly/1JS8BOv
Kettunen Center, Tustin

March 11-13: Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/Michigan_4-H_Dairy_Conference
Beechpoint Christian Camp, Allegan

Other 4-H Events

November 27-December 1: National 4-H Congress
http://national4-hcongress.com
Hyatt Regency, Atlanta, Georgia

January 30, 2016: 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

Help
MSU Extension
Sharpen Its Focus!
Michigan State University Extension has long been a source of information and education for Michigan residents. To help define the needs and priorities of those residents, MSU Extension professionals throughout the state are asking Michigan citizens to help them determine where they should place their future emphasis through a short online survey.

Michigan 4-H parents, alums and volunteers (anyone over the age of 18) are encouraged to take the survey, located at (http://bit.ly/1QtlhL6). Although not collected in the survey, input from youth will be solicited through a series of face-to-face meetings.
School Gardens: The New “In” Thing for Schools

School gardens are making headlines as they become the new “in” thing for schools. While school gardens were once thought of as an “extra” busy activity and only for schools in warm climates, today they are in the mainstream, as research is demonstrating that, among other things:

- Schools are using gardens in creative ways to improve academic test scores in science, math, social studies and art (http://bit.ly/IVSOrF5).
- Other benefits that school gardens provide to students include:
  - Improved classroom behavior
  - Valuable life skills such as higher-level conflict resolution, problem solving and thinking
- School gardens are reportedly helping combat childhood obesity (http://bit.ly/ljoJcks).
- School garden programs have a positive effect not only on students, but also on school staff, families and communities (http://bit.ly/lhEA1uo).

Michigan 4-H (http://4m.msue.msu.edu) and the Michigan 4-H Children’s Garden (http://4hgarden.complex.com) are eager to embrace this innovative trend, and to work with county Extension staff, schools and partners to:

- Share the research behind this growing movement
- Inform others about tried and true best practices, and
- Introduce exciting new programs.

One of these new programs is Texas A & M University’s (http://www.tamu.edu) Learn, Grow, Eat & Go! (LGEG) (http://jmgkids.us/lgeg) program. LGEG is the new research- and evidence-based curriculum project of the International Junior Master Gardener® Program (http://jmgkids.us). It is an interdisciplinary program that combines academic achievement, gardening, nutrient-dense food experiences, physical activity, and school and family engagement.

Join us at Kettunen Center (http://kettunencenter.org) from March 11 to 12, 2016 for a special, fun-filled, information-packed training for Extension staff, teachers and volunteers that features the Learn Grow Eat & Go curriculum to use in schools, afterschool programs, 4-H and partner programs. Find out more about this exciting new program and the training from your local 4-H staff (http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county) or Extension Specialist Dixie Sandborn (dixie@msu.edu).

Additional information about the benefits of school gardens is available from:
