Welcome Leslie Donovan to Livingston County 4-H
There is a new face in the Livingston County MSU Extension Office. Leslie Donovan has just started as the 4-H Program Coordinator. Leslie comes from a strong background in agriculture, 4-H, and FFA. She grew up on a cash crop farm in St. Louis, Michigan with her family raising sugar beets, corn, beans, and wheat. She graduated from Michigan State University in the College of Agriculture & Natural Resources with a degree in Agricultural Communications. Leslie grew up in 4-H and has been very active in agricultural programs across the state, such as Michigan Farm Bureau and served as the Michigan FFA State Officer.
Leslie is very excited to be back in the agricultural field, which she loves so much. She is looking forward to meeting all the Livingston County 4-H members and families. Leslie and her husband, Brian, live in Fowlerville with their two daughters; Pazlee and Viola.

**Fabric Donations Needed**
The Clothing and Textile Committee is having a dog toy community service project at the 2013 Spring Achievement on April 28. If you have any fabric materials – (cotton, old towels, sheets, fleece, flannel, etc.) you would like to donate there will be a box located at the MSU Extension office, or you can bring it to Spring Achievement. It would be really helpful if the fabric was pre-cut into strips of 3 inch x width of fabric. The 4-H members will use the donated material to make the dog toys. The 4-H members participating will be able to take one toy home for their pet and donate the others to the Livingston County Humane Society. **Donations are needed by Monday, April 22nd.** Thank you!

**Are your members receiving the newsletter?**
If you know of any members who would like to receive the newsletter via email, please ask them to contact the MSU Extension office.

**4-H Polish Hosting Opportunity**
Dzien dobry (Hello in Polish) Everyone! 2013 is the year Michigan hosts youth from Poland. For 2013 approximately 20 youth, ages 15 to 17 years old, and two adult chaperones from Poland will be arriving in Michigan on June 18th and host families will be needed for all. They will attend 4-H Exploration Days and will meet their host families at a determined time during the event. They will visit for four weeks and depart in mid July.

This is a wonderful opportunity to open your home and heart to a Polish guest. This will be an experience of a lifetime for the Polish youth, and our 4-H members will develop an international new friendship as well. 4-H youth become global citizens as they learn about another culture and educate the youth from Poland all about 4-H, Michigan and the United States. Furthermore, the hosting youth can choose to visit Poland on a return exchange in 2014. **Host family applications are due April 1st, so contact the Extension office soon! You may also contact** the 4-H Polish Exchange Coordinator, Insa Raymond at 517-439-9301 or at raymon65@anr.msu.edu.
UPCOMING WORKSHOPS/EVENTS/MEETINGS

2013 Oakland County Tack Sale
Saturday, March 23
9:00am – 3:00pm
Oakland County Fairgrounds - Activity Center
Come and add the finishing touches for this Spring and Summer. New and used tack will be for sale from many vendors including: Carrie's Consignments and Tack Place, Carol Becker/ Unicorn Farms, Rose Oaks Equine Adventurers, SBP Equine Products/Johnson's Saddlery Repair, Joanne English, Twillingate 4-H Club, Mary Ann Sharp- Double J's Used Show Clothes, Amy Wertenberger Hunt Fronts, Limited Editions-Vera Thornton, Gail Vermett, Moores Horse Company, Jim's Quality Saddle, BBY LLC, Bits & Bridles 4H Club, Kim Troutt, Rapid Ray's Tack & More, Kim Hawks, Arizona Saddlery, FSA Minis/Lillian Kateman, Theresa Schmid, and more will be waiting to see you. Cost: $1 Admission. Time: 9:00am-3:00pm. The tack sale will take place at the Oakland County Fairgrounds Activity Center located at 12451 Andersonville Road, Davisburg, MI 48350.

Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference Workshop 116
April 19-21
Kettunen Center
If you’d like to know more about the dairy industry, sign up to attend this conference. You’ll learn about dairy management topics including dairy cattle nutrition, health, reproduction and cattle evaluation. Practice for state dairy management contests such as the skill-a-thon and quiz bowls that will focus on dairy cattle health. You’ll also tour area farms. Open to youth ages 13 to 19 as of January 1, 2013. Please contact Gloria Ellerhorst, Michigan 4-H Youth Development, at 517-353-2922 if you have any questions.

Spring Achievement 2013
Friday, April 26 - 5:30-9:00pm
Hartland Education Support Service Center
(the old Hartland High School on M59)
All 4-H members 5-18 years old are eligible to participate! Pre-registration is needed. Registration forms are available at the Extension office and on the county website www.co.livingston.mi.us/msuextension/4H/. All projects will be evaluated. Wearable items must be worn for evaluation and in the style show. Check out the Resource Library at the MSU Extension office. There are over fifty new Clothing & Textile related books in the library this year. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m., Evaluation at 5:45 p.m., Cloverbud (Novice) evaluation at 6:30 p.m. and the Style Show Begins at 7:30 p.m. Return completed forms to the MSU Extension Office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 19, 2013.
4-H Club 101 Workshop  
Wednesday, April 24  
MSU Federal Credit Union, E. Lansing  
4-H Club 101 workshop is now open for registration. This workshop is being brought to you by the CYI Capacity Building Work Team. The 4-H Club 101 is being offered on Wednesday, April 24th at the MSUFCU – Farm Lane Branch; 4825 E. Mt. Hope, East Lansing. The cost for this full-day workshop is $40 and the registration **deadline is April 17th**. The registration fee will cover extensive resources, morning snacks, lunch, etc.

The audience for this workshop includes: program coordinators, educators, and key volunteers. Whether you are new to 4-H Club programming or are experienced there will be discussion and resources to expand your programming. The registration information is available at [http://events.anr.msu.edu/4H_Club_101_April_2013/](http://events.anr.msu.edu/4H_Club_101_April_2013/)

If you have questions or comments, please contact Sheila Urban Smith, Program Leader 4-H Youth Development at 517-432-7612. Looking forward to engaging you at this exciting April 24th training!

4-H Outdoor Adventure Challenge Leader Training  
May 17-19  
MSU Campus  
The 4-H Outdoor Adventure Challenge uses the biggest classroom available — the outdoors — to lead young people in activities that are both physically and mentally stressful. Through 4-H Outdoor Adventure Challenge, participants learn canoeing, kayaking, backpacking, hiking, outdoor survival and safety skills. Most importantly, they learn to communicate with other group members to plan, organize and conduct their own activities in the outdoors. The program teaches youth the skills necessary to deal with stressful situations which may occur in any setting in their lives. It also gives young people a greater sensitivity, understanding and appreciation for both themselves and the outdoors.  

**Training Requirements**  
The multi-session 4-H Outdoor Adventure Challenge Leader Training Series is designed to train adults interested in using the outdoors to help develop life skills in young people.  

New for 2013, the 4-H Outdoor Adventure Challenge (OAC) Leader Training has been restructured so that trainees no longer have to complete a minimum of five different trainings before they begin to work with a 4-H club! The new structure involves three different levels. 2013 trainees will be able to start doing 4-H Outdoor Adventure Challenge activities with 4-H’ers as soon as they meet the requirements of each individual training segment. 

Enrollment and $100 entry fee for Level 1 are **due by May 3rd**.
The promotional brochure, enrollment form, and more details about the new training levels and fee structure are all available online at http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/outdoor_adventure_challenge

**4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp**

**July 28 – August 3**

**Presque Isle, MI**

4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp is an annual three-time national award-winning camp that mixes summer camp fun and hands-on science education. The camp will be held July 28 to August 3 on the northern shores of Lake Huron at Camp Chickagami in Presque Isle. This Michigan State University (MSU) pre-college program is for teens aged 13 to 15 or those who’ll enter eighth through tenth grade in the fall. Registration is now open. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis through May 1. Space is limited to 70 campers so early application is encouraged.

During this enriching Michigan State University Extension educational program, campers will increase their science literacy and stewardship as they learn from natural resource experts in fields such as Great Lakes coastal and fisheries management, limnology, wildlife, forestry, geography, geology and environmental education. The hands-on learning includes exciting natural resources recreation activities such as kayaking, snorkeling, sailing, fossil hunting, archery, photography, and evenings around a campfire. First-time campers also go charter fishing and learn to fillet their catch. Not only does the camp get kids outside enjoying nature and learning to be good environmental stewards, the sessions incorporate four of the five Michigan Department of Education science curriculum standards in earth science and three of the five standards in biology.

The Michigan residence fee is $335 for 4-H members and $345 for nonmembers. The fee includes meals, snacks, lodging, a T-shirt, and program and activity costs. For more information and to apply for the camp, visit http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/glnrc or contact Judy Ratkos at ratkos@msu.edu or by phone at 517-432-7613.

**Meeting & Event Calendar Web Links**

MSU Pavilion calendar
www.ans.msu.edu/ans/pavilion

Kettunen calendar
kettunencenter.org

Livingston County 4-H calendar
http://co.livingston.mi.us/calendar/calendar.php?calendar=3