Interested in Livestock Judging?

If you are 9-18 years old and a Livingston County 4-H member interested in Livestock Judging, you may be interested in the Livestock Judging team.

The member/parent orientation to find out more about judging and to meet the coaches will be on Tuesday, February 10th at 7:00 pm.

MSUE Conference Room
2300 E. Grand River Ave. Howell

Please RSVP to (517) 546-3950 by February 10th

Youth Hunt Coming Soon!
February 7th at noon

Livingston County Pheasants Forever is looking for youth ages 12-16 to join their upcoming Youth Hunt. All participants MUST have hunter’s safety certification, his/her own shotgun and a parent/guardian to be with them in the field.

The Youth Hunt will be held at the Variety Game Farm located at 11585 Dunham Rd. in Hartland. The cost is $10.00 – shells and a lunch will be provided. (You should bring your payment with you and make checks payable to Livingston County Pheasants Forever 465). To get more information or to register please send your name and email address to Jim Witt at lcpf465@yahoo.com. There are only 20 slots available, so sign up soon!
Saturday, April 25, 2015

Countywide 4-H Project Day
9:00am – 12:00pm
Hartland Village Elementary

Calling all 4-H Project Leaders! Ranger’s 4-H Club is sponsoring a countywide 4-H project day at the Hartland Village Elementary cafeteria from 9am – 12pm on April 25 and they would like other clubs to join them.

The intent is to give 4-H members an opportunity to try projects that may not be offered in their club, as well as to meet other 4-H members from throughout the county.

We have space for about 12-15 leaders, with electricity readily available at 3-4 of the stations. The project should be something members can either complete in the three hour period we have scheduled, or simple enough to finish on their own at home.

The day is designed to allow 4-H members wander around to see what interests them, and then go to the different stations to work on projects. Families will also be asked to bring a snack to share.

If your club/leaders are interested in offering a project or mini workshop please contact Judy Paulsen at rangers.judy@gmail.com by March 1st with the following information:

- Project being offered
- Names and contact information of volunteers leading the project
- If the leader is charging a fee for materials (and how much)
- If members are to bring their own materials please send a very specific list of those materials (including things

4-H Promotion at Kensington Farm Center’s Spring Festival

April 25th and 26th (12pm—4pm)

Kaitlyn Shcmidt was able to get us some tables for 4-H promotion using interactive exhibits at Kensington Farm Center’s annual Spring Festival!

The target audience is families with little to no knowledge of farming, so they’ve invited 4-H to set up interactive tables aimed toward general education and promotion of agriculture. We have as many as 10 other tables we can reserve (more if needed) out in two 20x20 tents in the middle yard of the farm center.

4-Leaf Friends has already reserved 2 tables. The Farm Center will have pony rides, sheep shearing demonstrations, herding demonstrations, and hayrides. We’re looking for some other 4-H clubs to help set up interactive, agriculturally-based activity tables perhaps with games and prizes, to fill the rest of our space. The Spring Festival is the same day as our countywide activity day, so we’re thinking a club could host the same project and send one small group to Hartland and another small group to Kensington. That way, the prep time would be the same. Clubs can rotate or sign up for just a few hours.

This is a great opportunity for us to promote 4-H to the public and offer some fun, educational activities at the same time! To reserve a table, contact Sarah at mckin166@msu.edu or call 517-546-3950.
Farm Help Needed...

My name is Greg Flake and we have a hobby farm in Brighton. We raise rabbits and sheep at our place, while my wife and I maintain full time jobs and there is always more to do then we have time for.

What we are looking for is a reliable individual that can work a couple of days during the week for an hour or so for feeding, as well as a few hours on the weekend for stall / barn cleaning, hay moving etc.

Additionally, with the responsibility of our animals a priority, travel and vacation is also a challenge and we would also like to have somebody that can care for our animals for a long weekend or two.

Typically, we have between 20 to 50 rabbits depending on the season. Always higher during the warmer times of the year. With respect to our sheep, we raise both wool and hair sheep with approximately 17 ewes and several rams. Our hair sheep are primarily Katahdin's and the rams are very docile.

On a weekly basis; I think we would have about 6 - 8 hours of work normally and more during the warmer season with projects and such. My wife and I were thinking that $9 per hour seems right, however, we are open to recommendations.

Our farm is located off of Hacker Road between Brighton and Hartland and my cell phone number is 248-930-9516.
2015 4-H Spring Achievement

April 17, 2015
5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Hartland Educational Support Service Center

4-H members ages 5 - 18 are eligible to Participate. The event will showcase clothing and textile projects including:

- sewing, knitting, crochet
- buymanship,
- quilting, counted cross stitch, needlework,
- macramé, tye-dye, home decorating articles,
- accessories, felting, toys,
- recycle items using fabric,
- & other crafts using fiber
PORK QUALITY ASSURANCE (PQA)

Monday, March 23
6-8PM

Livingston Educational Services Agency (LESA)
1425 W. Grand River, Howell

If you are planning showing swine at the Fowlerville Fair in 2015, you must complete the PQA certification.

You cannot show your pig at Fair without PQA.

See the side panel for age requirements —>

If you would like more information, or to use the online certification, visit: www.pork.org

Ages 8-11 (Beginner) must attend a class offered in person.

Ages 12-14 (Intermediate) &
15-19 (Advanced) can certify/recertify for one year by attending an approved Youth PQA Plus Education program
OR
Can certify by completing and passing the examination at the appropriate age level. To certify by examination, a minimum of 70% of questions must be correctly answered.
The rooster pictured here was rescued late last week on Bishop Lake Road just east of the entrance to the beach area. Maybe a passerby might have seen him in the middle of the road and moved him off the road. He does not seem to have any injuries. He was extremely cold, a bit thin and very lethargic, but is doing much better now. He is quite docile, friendly, and quiet.

If any of you know who he belongs to or are interested in providing a home for him, please contact Linda, a wildlife clinic volunteer at the Howell Nature Center, at lbrandt@med.umich.edu.
2015 4-H Exploration Days – Explore the Possibilities

Each year, about 2,500 youth and chaperones from across Michigan attend this fun MSU precollege program. Designed for 11- to 19-year-old young people, 4-H Exploration Days includes:

- More than 200 session choices held on and off campus. Participants choose one or two for their three-day stay. Sessions include everything from animal and veterinary science to visual arts and crafts, from business and entrepreneurship to shooting sports and everything in between such as food, nutrition and fitness, international languages and cultures and money management
- Living in a Michigan State University dorm and eating in the cafeteria, just like MSU students do.
- Sessions taught by people who know their stuff, including MSU faculty members, 4-H volunteers and staff members, and other experts.
- Fun activities such as swimming, skating, souvenir shopping, exploring, bowling, basketball, even a great dance Thursday night.

Who: Participants must be age 11 by January 1. Session age requirements are also based on age as of January 1.

When: June 24 to 26, 2015

Where: Michigan State University campus (http://maps.msu.edu), East Lansing

Cost
The 2015 cost (that includes meals, a shared dorm room, sessions and a t-shirt) is $165 per young person (and an additional $10 4-H participation fee for youth not yet enrolled in 4-H). You may wish to check with your county MSU Extension office to see if scholarship funds are available. Volunteer instructors, session helpers and county conference assistants (CCAs) attend the event at no cost. County-based MSU Extension staff who serve as session instructors or CCAs receive full scholarships and county staff who serve as session helpers receive $80 scholarships.

Registration will open March 17, 2015. Registration deadlines (usually the end of April) vary by county. So check with your county MSU Extension office (http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county). Don’t wait until the deadline because popular sessions fill up fast! All participants must submit their forms and payments to the county MSU Extension office (forms are at the back of the registration book). County 4-H staff process registrations and payments with the State MSU Extension 4-H office. County 4-H staff manage the recruitment, chaperone and orientation process.

More Information
Some of the ways to find out more about 4-H Exploration Days are:

- The 4-H Exploration Days web site (http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/4-h_exploration_days)
- The event’s video and podcast previews (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VIFDetehGeA)
- The 4-H staff in your county MSU Extension office (http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county)
4-H Capitol Experience

Preparing for Active Citizenship

County Scholarships Are AVAILABLE

4-H Capitol Experience ([http://bit.ly/12IMMg8](http://bit.ly/12IMMg8)) is an annual four-day conference that focuses on civic engagement and public policy. Up to 100 teens from around the state meet in Lansing, Michigan to:

- Experience state government in action.
- Explore different aspects of a policy issue that may affect individuals and their communities.
- Understand a citizen’s responsibilities and learn how they can influence policy issues.
- Interact with legislators, state agency staff, lobbyists and other resource people, and learn how policy is made, including attending a bill-writing session.
- Explore various careers in public policy

Quick Facts

When? Sunday, March 22, 2015 (3 pm) to Wednesday, March 25, 2015 (12:30 pm). **Registration deadline is February 16, 2015**

How? Each teen or adult participant-chaperone will need to apply online. Participants who attended in previous years will be considered based on space available. Additional registration forms (Parent Permission Form and Media and Medical Release) will be due in February 2015. Contact your county MSU Extension office for more details.

$310 Adults & current 4-H members

$320 Non-4-H members

The registration fee includes all meals, lodging & material fees.

**Registration deadline:** February 16, 2015

Register at [events.anr.msu.edu](http://events.anr.msu.edu)

Scholarships are available
2015 National 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest

http://preservationofhoneybees.org/essays

2015 Essay Topic: “Planting for Bees from Backyards & Up”

Beekeeping has become difficult due to a lack of native plants for forage. In this essay, you will be required to discuss ways that habitats can be modified to become “bee friendly”. Does your community allow roadsides and open land to grow wildflowers and encourage native planting of bee friendly plants?

Survey your community to see what is being done to help honeybees. Include your state in your survey to see if there is a wildflower planting program available or any other program that could aid the honey bee.

The scope of the research is an essential judging criterion, accounting for 40% of your score. The number of sources consulted, the authority of the sources, and the variety of the sources are all evaluated.

Personal interviews with beekeepers and others familiar with the subject are valued sources of information and should be documented. Sources, which are not cited in the endnotes, should be listed in a “Resources” or “Bibliography” list.

Note that “honey bee” is properly spelled as two words, even though many otherwise authoritative references spell it as one word.

Michigan entries are due by February 15th to baumg75@anr.msu.edu. Final judging and selection of the National Winner will be made by the Foundation’s Essay Committee, whose decision is final.

Eligibility:
Contest is open to active 4-H Club members only. 4-H’ers who have previously placed first, second, or third at the National level are NOT eligible; but other state winners are eligible to re-enter. Students must write on the designated subject only. There will be NO exceptions.

Awards:
First Prize: $750.00
Second Prize: $500.00
Third Prize: $250.00

Each State Winner, including the National winners, receives an appropriate book about honey bees, beekeeping, or honey.
Environmental & Outdoor Education Workshops

Sponsored by: Michigan State University Extension 4-H

Come explore & discover how to incorporate environmental education (EE) into your lessons and activities with youth. The opportunities & challenges will inspire you to be a difference maker in our changing world.

This workshop is a hands-on, experiential format. You will be a participant; not a recipient. However, you will leave with more knowledge & valuable resource materials that will help you teach youth to help make our world a better place to live! A small meal and beverages are included!

WHO: K-12 teachers, 4-H Volunteers, Youth Leaders

TIME: 5:30 – 9:00

COST: $20.00 (some scholarships are available-check with your local 4-H council for scholarships)

Presenter: Nick Baumgart, Extension Educator, Environmental/Outdoor Education & Shooting Sports

For information contact Nick Baumgart @ 906-774-0363 or baumga75@anr.msu.edu

LOCATIONS:
March 9, 2015
Grand Traverse County Civic Center

March 10, 2015
Kalamazoo County @ Kellogg Bird Sanctuary

March 11, 2015
Oakland County @ Tollgate Education Center

March 12, 2015
Saginaw County MSUE Office

March 13, 2015
Presque Isle County Industrial Arts Institute in Onaway

Registration Deadline is March 2nd
Showmanship Clinic & Competition
Presented by 4-H Puppy Patrol & Canine All-Stars

Who: 4-H members, ages 9-18

What: Showmanship Clinic and Competition (Novice, Open, & Champion)

Where: Competitive Dog Sports (inside Pet Supplies Plus)
11525 S. Saginaw Rd., Grand Blanc

When: February 14, 2015
10am-11:30am and/or
12:45pm-2:15pm

Why: To learn and enhance your showmanship skills (e.g., stacking, patterns, presentation of your dog, and attire with inside tips from the instructors who are also judges.)

How: Each class will finish with a competition for each level (novice, open, and champion) with 1st-3rd placements. 1st-2nd place winners will go on to best of show for each session (am and pm). You may choose to compete or not. This competition can count toward your title.

What to Bring:
Casual 4-H attire permitted including jeans, but modesty must be observed. Proof of rabies and DHLPP vaccinations required with pre-registration and/or registration. Please have vaccination records available the day of the clinic even if you included them with pre-registration. Collar and leash or showmanship leash. Kennel, treats, water, and bowl for your canine partner. $ for food, beverages, and baked goods.

Mail pre-registration, payment (checks payable to Canine All-Stars), and vaccination records to:
Terry Harrison
410 Timberwood Trl.
Ortonville, MI 48462

What are the Costs:
$10 – working spot (with canine partner)
$6 – audit spot (without canine partner)
$2 – 4-H Dog Junior Showmanship Manual (14 available on a 1st-come, 1st-serve basis)

Pre-Registration Only
Classes are limited to 8 working participants (with canine partner) with each instructor for a total of 36 working spots for the day.
Non pre-registered participants will be allowed on day of clinic ONLY if there are spots available.
Contact Terry Harrison at (248) 860-1396 with any questions or to determine if working spots are still available.
2015 is finally here.

Why not start off the New Year by registering your students to use their scientific skills to “Feed the World”?  

World hunger has been an ongoing problem for years; let’s not let that continue in 2015. You can engage the power of today’s youth to build a better future by signing up for the 2015 Clean Tech Competition, a worldwide student challenge.

The Clean Tech Competition:

- Is a **global, real-world, research and design challenge** for students ages 15-18
- Provides an ideal **project based learning** opportunity, both inside and outside the classroom
- Is a platform for students to explore ideas, present solutions, and make a positive difference
- Has **no entry fee**.
- Awards include **top prize of $10,000** for your team and **$1,000 for your school/organization**
- Connects finalist teams with a STEM Advisor to create a prototype of their solution and present to a live panel of judges

Register now for tips and guidance from competition administrators!
Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference

Date: March 13, 2015 - March 15, 2015
Location: Kettunen Center, 14901 4-H Drive, Tustin, MI, 49688

Do you have an interest in learning more about the dairy industry in Michigan? Whether you’ve just started learning about dairy cows or grew up on a dairy farm, this is the conference for you! You’ll learn about real-world dairy management topics, like nutrition, reproduction, welfare, health, and dairy cattle evaluation. You will also have a chance to practice for the state dairy skill-a-thon and quiz bowl contests and tour a nearby farm. Experts from the dairy industry and Michigan State University will lead educational, hands-on sessions about dairy management to bring the learning to life! This conference is open to youth ages 11-18 as of Jan. 1, 2015.

Conference Objective:
The purpose of our program is to provide 4-H’ers with the opportunity to learn about Michigan agriculture, to increase their knowledge of the dairy industry in Michigan, to develop their self-esteem, self-awareness, and leadership skills, and to help them become more knowledgeable about the many issues affecting agriculture now and in the future. The weekend will include many hands-on activities led by MSU Extension staff and MSU faculty and students.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions.

For registration, go to http://events.anr.msu.edu/4hdairyconf15/. Once registrations have been entered, workshop attendees who have not paid online with a credit card are still expected to send their payment to their county MSU Extension office or ANR Events Management at 446 W. Circle Dr. East Lansing, MI 48824, with a copy of their registration receipt. All fees must be prepaid prior to attendance at the conference or be subject to cancellation. When county staff login to register other individuals, they will select the type of participant from the roster and register the person in the system. Registrations must be entered into the MSU Extension Event registration System no later than 11:59 pm on March 4th, 2015 at which time registration will be closed.

You can access the program announcement online at the MSUE Event Management System or on Michigan’s 4-H Youth Development webpage at either http://events.anr.msu.edu/4hdairyconf15/ which is also the same place to register; or at Michigan 4-H Youth Development website http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/4_h_volunteer_training_workshop_schedule.
**STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

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### 4-H Workshops

**March 9: Environmental & Outdoor Education Workshop**  
Contact Nick Baumgart (baumga75@anr.msu.edu)  
Grand Traverse County Civic Center, Traverse City

**March 10: Environmental & Outdoor Education Workshop**  
Contact Nick Baumgart (baumga75@anr.msu.edu)  
Kellogg Bird Sanctuary, Augusta

**March 11: Environmental & Outdoor Education Workshop**  
Contact Nick Baumgart (baumga75@anr.msu.edu)  
Tollgate Education Conference Center, Novi

**March 12: Environmental & Outdoor Education Workshop**  
Contact Nick Baumgart (baumga75@anr.msu.edu)  
Saginaw County MSU Extension Office, Saginaw

**March 13: Environmental & Outdoor Education Workshop**  
Contact Nick Baumgart (baumga75@anr.msu.edu)  
Industrial Arts Institute, Onaway

**March 16: Environmental & Outdoor Education Workshop**  
Contact Nick Baumgart (baumga75@anr.msu.edu)  
Luce County MSU Extension Office, Newberry

**March 23: Environmental & Outdoor Education Workshop**  
Contact Nick Baumgart (baumga75@anr.msu.edu)  
Moosewood Nature Center, Marquette

**March 30: Environmental & Outdoor Education Workshop**  
Contact Nick Baumgart (baumga75@anr.msu.edu)  
Lindquist Center, Gogebic Community College, Ironwood

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### Other 4-H Events

**March 6-24: Michigan Envirothon Regional Competitions**  
http://conta.cc/1AVTkY5  
Statewide

**March 7: Spring Galaxy Meeting: 4-H Horse Program Committee**  
Contact Taylor Fabus (tenlenta@msu.edu)  
Anthony Hall, MSU, East Lansing

**March 13-15: Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference**  
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/michigan_4_h_dairy_conference2  
Kettunen Center, Tustin

**March 22-25: 4-H Capitol Experience**  
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/4-h_capitol_experience  
Lansing

**March 29: 4-H Hairy Horse Benefit Show**  
Contact Karen Waite (kwaite@msu.edu)  
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

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For an up-to-date events listing, go to [http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events](http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events)