MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT COORDINATOR

Hello from Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) District 14, which serves Alpena, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet, Montmorency, Otsego, and Presque Isle Counties. We want to thank Emmet County for another year of partnership. Together we offer dynamic and diverse educational events and programs to people right here in our communities. MSUE is the outreach and engagement arm of Michigan State University and brings the latest research from campus directly to you. We believe education and innovative solutions can help address many of today’s complex issues. We look forward to our continued service to Emmet County and the State.

The following pages highlight local impacts made possibly by Michigan State University Extension staff through educational programs within the last year. I also want to highlight our Ask an Expert service which is available online through our website (msue.anr.msu.edu) 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. Our MSUE Emmet County office staff can also help you use this service. This online tool is used by many Land Grant Universities across the country and allows people to ask Extension and University Faculty questions regarding many topics. The majority of questions asked in Michigan are related to plants and pests, especially during the summer months. When questions are submitted, they are then routed to staff with the appropriate expertise and science based answers are provided. You can see from the chart below that our MSUE District 14 has made good use of this service. Please check out Ask an Expert for yourself. Thank you to Gwyn Shelle of MSUE for this Ask an Expert data.

Lisa Anderson PhD
District Coordinator, District 14

MSU EXTENSION’S EXPANDED DIGITAL REACH

Through combined face-to-face trainings, online webinars, social media, website interaction and electronic newsletters, MSU Extension has made more than 8.8 million connections. More than 149,000 adults* and 203,000 youth participated in MSU Extension programming in the 2015-16 programming year.

More than 3.7 million people viewed more than 7.2 million pages on the MSU Extension website. Of those, more than 760,000 were Michigan residents.

MSU Extension remains one of the most visited Cooperative Extension System education websites in the country.

MSU Extension also distributes a series of electronic newsletters that cater to residents’ unique interests. Last year, nearly 1.3 million newsletters covering 90 topic areas were distributed to about 16,900 email addresses. You can sign up for these informative newsletters by visiting msue.msu.edu and clicking on “Newsletter Sign Up” texting MSUE to 22828.

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Emmet County 4-H

When you support MSU Extension 4-H programs, youth participants learn life skills that prepare them for the workforce – especially for highly sought after jobs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Extension programs help children develop early literacy skills that support school readiness. They learn leadership and decision-making skills in 4-H that increase their likelihood of becoming civically active. 4-H’ers also demonstrate reduced high-risk behaviors such as drug use and alcohol abuse, and they learn to complete tasks, solve problems and seek any help they might need from peers and adults. 4-H involvement also helps participants avoid or reduce involvement with the court system. This helps ensure more young people succeed in school, attend college and contribute to their communities. More successful young people in communities results in greater tax revenues and consumer spending and increases the likelihood that young people will stay in, or return to, their communities.

Growing True Leaders

With innovative ideas, exuberant energy and the ability to look beyond preconceived obstacles, youth have the capacity to change the world. However, many lack the skills and confidence to empower these assets into motion. They need experiences and training that help them to feel ready and capable to lead.

Michigan 4-H helps to prepare current and future leaders by offering numerous opportunities for leadership development. From the club experience to statewide youth councils, all youth have the chance to serve in a leadership role. Those experiences and various leadership trainings provide youth with skills to last a lifetime and empower them to stand up today as true leaders in their families, schools and communities.

In the past year:

- 25 youth served on the Michigan 4-H Youth Leadership Council, two of which are Emmet County 4-H members;
- 32 youth were trained as teen leaders in the 4-H Ag Innovators Experience. These youth cultivated important leadership skills as they delivered programming to 1,200 of their peers;
- 24 Emmet County youth received leadership training through the officer mentoring program. Youth spend a year shadowing adult officers in the Market Livestock Association to learn about parliamentary procedure, committee operations, financial accountability and decision making, they serve as junior barn superintendents during fairweek and represent the 120+ youth members of the association at membership and executive board meetings.
The Emmet County 4-H Program currently has an enrollment of 516 youth in 18 traditional 4-H clubs and 4 county committees. These clubs and committees are supported by 83 adult and 32 youth volunteers.

Our 2017 national recruitment campaign is titled “4-H Grows Here”. Through that campaign, we will be working on volunteer recruitment, the development of 4-H clubs in the northern part of the county, creation of a 4-H alumni data base and an increased enrollment of our 4-H members.

Fall Awards Night is the recognition component of the county program. The Halloween themed event is held each fall for all 4-H families. Membership pins and certificates are presented to youth and adults, prizes are awarded for costume contests (for all ages) and a potluck dinner is shared. The highlight of the evening is the ‘Leader of the Year’ award which is presented to an adult volunteer, who has been nominated by their peers for their outstanding contributions to the 4-H program that year.

At the annual awards banquet, the 2016 4-H Key Club award was presented to Kortney Heckman of Petoskey. The Key Club Award is the highest award a 4-H member can receive at the county level.

At the 2017 convention for the Michigan Association of Fairs and Exhibitions (MAFE), Emmet County volunteer Tammy Fettig received the Volunteer of the Year award for her work in the Emmet County 4-H program and the county fair over the last 25 years. As a livestock club leader and current co-chair of the 2-county association, she’s involved in every aspect of the livestock exhibition at fair - from animal arrival on Sunday, to seven days later when the processor trucks arrive and every day in between. She organizes animal arrival, all pre-fair testing and movement permits, record book judging, show day schedules, member awards and currently chairs the hauling committee. Tammy oversees the animal weigh-in, the show day schedules, auction day set up, designed and secured funding for all livestock awards, serves as photographer during the shows and makes sure that all award winners are featured in the local paper. At the membership meeting following the fair, she reports on the dressing percentages of each animal as a continued reminder to the youth that their project education never ends. She goes above and beyond the role of volunteer, putting in numerous teaching members about animal selection, nutrition, housing, grooming and showmanship, she brings new ideas and opportunities to each club and county meeting and plans her club calendar to include a year’s worth of fun and learning.
The annual 4-H Achievement Days program was held on April 28-29 at the Emmet County Community Center. The 2-day event is designed to give 4-H members and interview-type experience and allows them the opportunity to share what they have learned and accomplished in 4-H.

This year, over 300 members met with evaluators in the areas of personal appearance, junior leadership, visual arts and crafts, market livestock (beef, sheep, swine, veal and dairy), horsemanship, animal husbandry (rabbits, poultry and pocket pets), woodworking, dog care, and more.

During the evening awards program, personal appearance members participated in a dress revue fashion show and scholarships were presented to members who received the top honors from the interview process.

This year, twelve scholarships, sponsored by community organizations and businesses were awarded. Members used their scholarships to attend 4-H Exploration Days in June at MSU.

Receiving Exploration Days scholarships were:
(back row) Katie Kurburski, Alexa Holmes, Rosemary Hoffman, Mary Fran Forton, Graci Standish, Allison Shaw, Eleanor Jones and Peter Kurburski.

4-H Summer Events:

4-H Exploration Days is held on the campus of Michigan State University each June, and provides youth age 11-19 the opportunity to experience life on a college campus. The 4-day event gives over 2,400 4-H members a chance to live in a college setting, learn personal responsibility for managing their class schedules and getting themselves where they need to be.

Members can choose from over 200 classes when they register for this event. Registration begins in mid-March and over 1,000 youth signed up on that first day.

This year, 28 youths and adults attended from Emmet County, as part of a 56 member delegation from Emmet and Charlevoix counties. Participants traveled by bus to campus, stayed in the dorms, participated in classes and workshops and attended the state 4-H awards ceremony.

The event is designed as a pre-college experience, and youth who enter the 8th - 10th grades in the fall following their involvement at Exploration Days are eligible to apply for a $2,000.00 scholarship, which will be applied toward the student’s first year at MSU as a degree-seeking student.

In the spring of 2017, Emmet County 4-H’er Ellie Jones was selected as one of 50 recipients of the pre-college scholarship. Ellie plans to attend MSU in the fall of 2021.

“Exploration Days is one of my favorite things about being in 4-H. It’s so much fun! I’ve learned that I can be responsible for getting myself up in the morning and find my way to my classes - some are all over campus! I can’t wait for next year so I can see the friends I made from other counties this year. I was able to take some great classes and learned lots of great things that I shared with my club members back home. When I get too old to go as a member, I hope I can go as a chaperone!”

- Mariette Schantz
4-H youth, 1st time Exploration Days attendee and future chaperone
How do we grow true leaders?

Here are just a few of the many delivery methods utilized in the our county 4-H Youth Development Program

4-H Clubs:

4-H members participate in a variety of projects through their 4-H club. Our list of projects currently include: Livestock, Horsemanship, Visual Arts and Crafts, Animal Science, Community Service, Gardening, Food Preservation, Folk patterns, Citizenship, Leadership, Character Education, Personal Appearance, Shooting Sports, Financial Literacy and Outdoor Education. By engaging in individual projects, 4-H members learn responsibility, time management skills, how to meet a deadline, financial accountability and resiliency.

4-H Summer Camps:

Great Lakes Natural Resources Camp is a week-long camp held at Camp Chickami for youth aged 13-15. The camp provides hands-on learning in science exploration, leadership, careers and recreation related to Michigan’s Great Lakes and natural resources. Michigan teens participate in science sessions related to local woodlands and wildlife, invasive species, wetlands, watersheds, fisheries and more.

Michigan 4-H Renewable Energy Camp is a five-day science exploration camp held at Michigan State University for youth ages 13-19. Campers explore ideas, research and opportunities in the field of energy as it relates to natural resources and agriculture. 4-H Renewable Energy campers stay in a campus dorm and experience campus life, enjoying a mix of recreational opportunities and learning experiences that include tours of campus labs, area bio-energy and agriculture production facilities.
Michigan 4-H Animal and Veterinary Science Camp is for youth (aged 13-16) who are interested in exploring animal and veterinary science related projects and activities. This five-day pre-college program held at Michigan State University is a partnership with the Michigan 4-H, MSU Department of Animal Science and MSU College of Veterinary Medicine. Youth explore fields relating to animal and veterinary medicine, and participate in numerous hands-on learning activities. Participants gain animal handling experience and have the opportunity to visit and explore MSU farms and facilities. Throughout the week, teens work their way through a veterinary science case study as a team and create a presentation to be critiqued by veterinarians. This is a fun and interactive camp that allows youth to conduct activities, ask questions and problem-solve. Additionally, this camp helps youth explore the many animal-related career fields while reflecting on their experiences and community programs.

**4-H Summer Clinics:**

Each year the 2-county livestock association and the 2-county horse council plan educational animal science events for their membership. This year, the livestock group sponsored workshops and clinics in the areas of animal selection, nutrition, emergency first aid, record keeping, communication skills, character education, animal showmanship, and preparing for the fair. Over 200 young people attended these clinics held at the Emmet County Fairgrounds.

The horse council sponsored horse shows and clinics for their membership as well. Clinics covered horsemanship and riding skills, sportsmanship, horse health, hoof trimming, equipment for various riding styles and career exploration. Horse members from all over northern Michigan attended the monthly horse shows and each local clinic had between 30-50 members in attendance. All of these horse events were held at the county fairgrounds.
Ensuring Safe and Secure Food

When you support MSU Extension’s efforts to enhance residents’ access to an adequate supply of safe and affordable food, we are able to provide program participants with the skills necessary to focus on food safety measures in the field and at harvest, learn proper food preparation and food preservation techniques, and bring community partners together to strengthen access to healthy food supplies. This leads to a healthy population, which in turn helps keep health care costs in check and our communities viable.

Classes Presented in Emmet County

- Canning class with the Little Travers Bay Bands of Odawa Indians (LTBB) Elders- traditional hominy (pressure canned), 6 participants (new partnership)
- Canning class with Crooked Tree Arts Center, 10 participants (new partnership)
- Two 8-hour ServSafe classes, 13 participants (all passing with 75% or better score)
- Cottage Food Law (one class with Wendy Wieland)
- Two food preservation workshops with LTBB summer youth program- canning strawberry jam and freezing corn, 20 participants (new partnership)

Michelle Jarvie
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Encouraging healthy behaviors helps reduce food and health care costs by helping prevent chronic health conditions and providing safe environments throughout a person’s life span.

MSU Extension’s Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs (SNAP-Ed) include Cooking Matters, Eat Healthy, Be Active, Jump Into Foods and Fitness, Healthy Harvest, Healthy Eating Adds Up and Show Me Nutrition, teach Bridge Card eligible adults and children:

- How to make the most of their food dollars;
- Life skills such as menu planning;
- How to understanding recipes;
- Food preparation and food safety;

Between June 2016 and June 2017, MSU Extension SNAP-Ed programs were presented to 219 adults and youth in Emmet County!

- Ottawa Elementary GreatStart Readiness Program
- Pellston Elementary K-5th grade
- Taylor School Cognitively Impaired teen and adult classes

Nutritional activities at the Taylor School for the Cognitively Impaired
Petoskey Area Public Schools food service director, Beth Kavanaugh, spent ten hours with Denise Aungst as her coach to assess and enhance the healthy messaging of all Petoskey Public School buildings, St. Francis and Alanson schools through the Michigan Department of Education.

A grant of $250 per building was awarded to each school in an effort to make the healthy choice the easy choice and support students in their efforts to eat healthy. Smarter School Lunchrooms was a compliment to the Building Healthy Communities grant and Try It Tuesday efforts already in place. MSU Extension was grateful to add resources to strengthen these efforts.

**Teaching valuable healthy-eating skills**

MSU Extension serves 2200 children and families weekly in Northern Michigan through a partnership with Manna Food Project and project manager, Ruth Milks. As part of the backpack programs of food distributed for the weekends, children and families receive recipes, resources and information to make a healthier choice an easier choice.

The program was recognized by the Michigan Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences and received an award for their newsletters. For a link to additional newsletters: [http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/info/making_healthy_choices](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/info/making_healthy_choices)

**Hoophouses For Health**

Our partnership with Michigan Farm Market Association and the Health Department of Northwest Michigan provides:

- $16 per month per family member beginning Sept. 2016 through December 2017
- Economic stimulus of approximately $13,056 in voucher distribution
- Redemption rate of greater than 85%
- The program grew in 2017 from 4 growers participating to 6 which includes 5 Emmet County farms: Pond Hill Farm, Bear Creek Organic, Dayspring, Coveyou, BlueStem Farm and Providence Farm.
- A total of 41 families in Emmet and Charlevoix counties received vouchers to use with these farmers at the Boyne City Farm Market each month (year round).
Providing education, technical assistance and support to food and agricultural professionals

During 2016, MSU Product Center staff counseled with 15 Emmet County farm and food businesses. During that same period, 62 individual counseling sessions resulted in over 85 hours of contact. Across the 10 county NW MI region, the Emmet County based Product Center Business Counselor help to businesses who had the following regional impacts:

- 38 jobs created
- 8 jobs retained
- 11 business start-ups
- $750,000 + - Owner investment
- $2.7 million - Total Capital Invested

Classes in partnership with NCMC

For the past 3 years, MSUE has been one of the collaborative partners that have been teaching and helping to facilitate classes held by Corporate and Community Education Department at North Central Michigan College. These are critical ways for local entrepreneurs to deepen their expertise in food and farming topics. Results have been:

- 70+ classes held
- 1,200+ students attended workshops, classes and other educational offerings
Bridging the gap between farm to fork

Small Farm Conference- MSUE staff assisted in the planning the 18th annual Northern Michigan Small Farms Conference at the Grand Traverse Resort, held on January 27 & 28, 2017. Of the 944 participants, 66 attendees were from Emmet County. Many staff members from MSU and MSU Extension participated by teaching workshop sessions, staffing educational booths or by supporting students from both Campus and Distance MSU programs in order for them to attend Michigan’s premier small farm conference.

Local Food Alliance- MSUE staff continues to work as a part of this Community Coalition that works to catalyze food system change and to create new and better markets for those working in local agriculture. 2016 success stories include:

Assisting Farm-to-School - efforts at Petoskey Public Schools include Food Service purchasing from local growers and their Elementary initiative called “Try it Tuesdays.”

- An expansion of Friendship Centers of Emmet County’s Farm-to-Senior program
- Continuing efforts to educate the public regarding the importance of buying local at events including Petoskey Business After Hours, Around the Table, and Petoskey’s State of the Community luncheon.
- Support of new and existing area Farmers’ Markets and vendors

Partnership with Groundwork - in order to maximize area initiatives and to help meet increasing demand from businesses wishing to source food locally, the Local Food Alliance partnered with Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities to develop a new staff position and a Petoskey-based office. MSUE staff played a pivotal role in the process, engaging community members, businesses, educational entities, who, with the support of the Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation and other local donors, created a position that would meet the needs of the “Northern Farms Foodshed.” MSUE staff works closely with Jen Schapp, Groundwork’s new Petoskey staff person.
When you support MSU Extension, participants learn how to implement best practices in good governance that keeps communities solvent, productive, and engaged; learn effective conflict management skills that help leaders and residents work collaboratively on complex issues; and engage youth leaders in decision-making. In the personal finance area, MSUE Extension helps youth and adults alike learn the skills they need to increase their savings, manage their spending, avoid predatory lending, and reduce mortgage defaults. All of these outcomes help lower the cost of governmental services and lead to personal and community stability, strong neighborhoods, and safe communities.

The Northern Michigan Counties Association is organized by MSUE Extension and incorporates commissioners from 34 counties in northern lower Michigan. The Association meets eight times per year to share information and learn from the experiences of others.

Building Strong Sovereign Nations: Anishinabek Leadership for Seven Generation: Good Governance Training is a leadership building program developed by MSU Extension in cooperation with leaders of Tribal Nations in Michigan and delivered annually in conjunction with the fall meeting of the United Tribes of Michigan, which was located at the Little River Casino Resort in Manistee, Michigan. The program is open to leaders from all Tribal Nations in Michigan and is also available to leadership and staff of individuals tribal nations. Onsite workshop are also available.

New County Commissioner Workshops were held at 7 locations in November and December of 2016. Participants included both new and experienced commissioners and other county officials, with 92% indicating that they found the program valuable for their professional (or personal) growth and development.

MSUE Tribal Extension Educator coordinated the spring LTBB constitutionally mandated Annual Community Meeting. This is a time for LTBB Citizens to engage with their elected and appointed official, participate in discussions, and to conduct official business as defined in the LTBB Constitution.
Extension Educators Serving Emmet County

### Staff Located in the Emmet County Office:

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### Additional MSU Extension Staff Serving Emmet County:

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