2015 Livestock Showmanship Awards

If you haven’t been practicing your showmanship—now it the time to be working on it. At the July 22, 2015 Kalamazoo County Fair Council meeting, Kelly Leach, member of the Kalamazoo Farm Bureau was present. She announced that at their last board meeting a vote to award the top showman in each livestock project $100. They will also be receiving their trophies from each project along with a gift bag from Zoetis. Each winner will be required to write a thank you letter to the sponsor of their trophy, Kalamazoo Farm Bureau and Zoetis.

Thank you to all of the sponsors.

Welcome to MSUE—Kalamazoo County—New Staff member

Welcome to Kris Maddox-English, who has joined the MSU Extension Kalamazoo County office as an administrative assistant. She has furnished us a brief narrative of her life.

-Born and raised on a horse farm in Bay City, lived in MI her entire life, currently living in Richland with her 2 sons, Sam (17) and Ben (13), husband Patrick, dachshund Eri
-Attended WMU, receiving a Bachelor of science degree (Psychology, Biology)
-Have worked in the past as an office manager (Bravo Systems), technology lab specialist (Gull Lake Schools), digital imaging technician (Kalamazoo Color lab and LA Images), IPM scout (Pioneer seed) and other things
-Her interests include saltwater reef aquaria, FIRST Robotics, Gull Lake marching band, gardening, Detroit Red Wings and Tigers, anything my kids are interested in....

Please welcome her! Her e-mail address is kmmadd@anr.msu.edu
**STILL PROJECT JUDGING DAY**

Still exhibits need to be brought to **Main Expo Building** at the fairgrounds on **Saturday, August 8, 2015** beginning at **9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

**Remember your Project Record Sheet.** Project tags should be attached to your project. Each judge will have a sign that tells you what departments they are judging. Judges will have lunch from 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. Wait patiently in line until your turn. Parents because we are giving youth an opportunity to practice their communication skills, please stand back and do not participate in answering the judges questions.

Projects are judged in four areas:

1. Effort involved in the project
2. Knowledge
3. Presentation of the project
4. Verbal presentation

**NOTE:** Please take your project to the display area after it has been judged and place it in the correct project area!

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**4-H FOOD BOOTH LUNCH TICKETS**

$3.50 each

Choice of the following:

- One Hot Dog, chips, and a drink
- One Cheese dog, chips, and a drink
- One Chili dog, chips and a drink
- One Cheese & Chili Dog, chips, and a drink
- One Turkey Sub Sandwich, chips, and a drink
- One Tossed salad with Turkey and a drink
- One Walking Taco and a drink
- Two Pretzels with cheese and a drink
- Two Cheese Quesadillas and a drink

*Food Booth Tickets available for sale Saturday thru Tuesday ONLY. May be purchased at the 4-H Food Booth*
Mandatory Livestock Meeting Schedule:

- 6:00 PM Horse and Poultry
- 6:15 PM Beef/Dairy Steer
- 6:30 PM Rabbits
- 6:45 PM Sheep
- 7:00 PM Dairy/Dairy Feeders
- 7:15 Swine
- 7:30 PM Goats

**Still Exhibit Room Set Up/Take Down**

It takes the help of each 4-H club to prepare and cleanup the 4-H Still Exhibit Room at the Kalamazoo County Fair. The fairgrounds is located at 2900 Lake Street. The Educational Exhibit Room is the Main Expo Center. Adults and members are needed.

**SETUP** includes covering tables with paper, set up tables, securing large sheets of lattice with cement blocks, skirting tables, cleaning glass, assembling display units and general hauling (some of these items are very heavy and breakable) from bus garage. If you have a pickup truck, extra staple guns, screw drivers, scissors or cleaning supplies please bring them.

**SETUP**—Tuesday, August 4 at 4:00 pm

**TAKE DOWN** includes removing table covering, folding up and stacking tables, stacking lattice, hauling cement blocks, hauling showcases, desks, boxes, glass, cake covers etc. back to the 4-H bus garage. Strong bodies and many pickup trucks are needed.

**TAKE DOWN**: Sun., August 10, 2014 at 9:30 am

Cleanup cannot begin until the majority of 4-H projects have been removed. Members have until 9:30 am to pick up their projects.
Be the Best Exhibit at Your Fair!

When you are at the fair as an exhibitor, leader, parent or guest, be at your best! Exhibiting good sportsmanship is not always easy but it is always in style. Ways to exhibit good sportsmanship include displaying respect for:

- **Animals.** Practice good animal management, proper nutrition and health-care practices.
- **Opponents.** Appreciate and respect well-prepared competitors who challenge you to bring out your best.
- **The event.** Know and follow the rules; use skill and training to achieve positive results.
- **Others.** Be respectful to officials, judges, parents and leaders, even when you may be frustrated. Say “thank you,” after the day is complete.

Starting in 2015, Michigan 4-H Youth Development will select a Michigan 4-H Animal Science Sportsperson of the Year. Consider nominating an adult or young person who has exemplified the definition of good sportsmanship in the 4-H animal-science project areas by October 1. Find out more at [http://bit.ly/1HWjFn6](http://bit.ly/1HWjFn6).

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**STILL PROJECT AUCTION GUIDELINES**

The annual still project auction will be available this year to any 4-H member interested in selling their 4-H still project. Projects to be auctioned will be displayed in a separate section in the Still Exhibit Room. The bidding will be open all week, closing at 4 p.m. on Saturday. Bid cards will have a minimum $5.00 bid posted.

All auction items must be judged. 4-H’ers can let judges know if they would like their item to go into the still auction. Judges will approve auction quality for each item. The successful bidder would be phoned on Saturday. Buyers will have until Friday, August 21 to pick item up or the item will go on to the 2nd highest bidder. Checks would be made out to Leaders Council and then Leaders Council would write a check to the 4-H’er. 4-H’ers will be charged a percentage (2%) to help pay for new shelving for the still exhibit room.
Volunteer Opportunities during the Kalamazoo County Fair

We have a new and exciting way to sign up for set up, tear down and hosting in the still project room along with the 4-H Food Booth (the little red barn). The site is called Sign up Genius, links to the four specific sites are below. It takes many hands to have a successful fair for both 4-H youth and families along with fairgoers—we appreciate each person who takes the time to help make this a successful event.

The first link is www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0B4EABAD28A1F58-2015/ and is for hosting in the still project room. Each club is being asked to take a minimum of 4 shifts. Hopefully this will help families to be able to look at their schedules and people will be able to work around the food booth schedule and their children showing. This may mean that one volunteer is from one club and another from a different club on the same shift. What a great opportunity to meet a new friend, get new ideas, and share resources!

The second will be for either set up or tear down. If your club was assigned set up the link is www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0B4EABAD28A1F58-still/ and if you were assigned tear down www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0B4EABAD28A1F58-still1/28863913. When you click on the link above you will be able to see the clubs that were assigned to either set up or tear down.

The Sign Up Genius for the 4-H Food Booth was created based on the revised schedule that Andrea McCubbin (food booth committee coordinator) sent out to club leaders on 6/30/2015. If you have specific questions about the food booth please contact Andrea at 269-598-5231 (texts are good) or jamccubbin@aol.com.

The link to the food booth sign up is www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0B4EABAD28A1F58-kalamazoo.

The process of signing up is super simple and as you go in you will be able to see the slots that are still open. If you have questions about set up or tear down or hosting in the still project room please contact the 4-H office.

Purchasing 4-H Fair Passes

4-H families have the opportunity to purchase weekly passes and ride passes at a discounted rate—the form can be found on the fair website at http://www.kalcounty.com/parks/fair/pdf_files/4-HWeeklyPassPreOrder.pdf. Passes can be purchased any day from 8-5 at the parks office, during mandatory meeting or during still project judging.

Lego Brick Building Contest

Do your kids love building with Lego’s, have a great imagination and would love the opportunity to win a $100.00 Lego Set—Check out the link below for more information:

As we prepare for the 2015 Kalamazoo County Fair it is important to remember that sportsmanship is an important life skill that needs to be taught from an early age. Whether you win or lose it is important to treat others with kindness and compassion, help each other out, build each other up. When we think of the 4-H pledge there are several opportunities to enhance your sportsmanship:

Head – resiliency & problem solving
Heart-cooperation, social skills, conflict resolution, concern for others, empathy
Hands – teamwork, self-esteem
Health – character, managing feelings, and self-discipline

There are six pillars of character that are an important part of sportsmanship also – Trust, Respect, Responsibility, Citizenship, Fairness and Caring.

Here are several links to help both youth and adults learn and practice sportsmanship:

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/fair_season_and_sportmanship

http://www.4-h.org/4-H-Today/Learning-and-Teaching-By-Doing--Sportsmanship/

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/sportsmanship_in_4-h

http://cedar.unl.edu/documents/134893/388168/May2014spotlighton4h.pdf/95e804c2-b323-4a4a-bbbd-bf44d0664a06

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/striving_for_real_sportsmanship_in_a_reality_show_world

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/more_than_projects_at_the_county_fair

Good Sportsmanship

Be kind if you win and if you lose tell the other people that they did a good job!
Richland Community Club participates in the July 4th parade in Richland

4-H Open Horse Show

July 11 & 12th, 2015

Chicago Awards trip winners enjoy Chicago!!

Operation Homefront—Back to School Brigade, promoting literacy by handing out free books
Can you believe it., it is already time for fair. I hope you are as excited as we are. Here are some last minute reminders:

Don't forget to practice showmanship and groom your bunnies. A clean and well groomed bunny will go far with the judges.

Mandatory livestock meeting on August 6th at (insert time). We will also be cleaning and setting up the barn. Two check in times to bring in your rabbits: Saturday 5-7 and Sunday 9-12.

Pen fees will be $2 per pen this year to help with the cost of shavings. T-shirts will also be available for $10 and we will need to get a count for the lunch on show day, Monday. The cost for lunch per person will be $3. Please email me @ roxanne.oneil@gmail.com if you think you would like lunch.

We still need a theme for decorating the barn. If you have ideas, bring them with you to the meeting on August 6th. Let's see if we can't give the other barns a run for their money.

If you have any questions, contact your rabbit superintendents.

Roxanne O'Neil
Janelle Gray

Carcass Program

Here are the final reminders about our event:

1. You must have your animal at Pease by 5 pm **Monday, Aug 3**.

2. **You must be at the two meetings which comprise the event, Monday, Aug 3**, starting at 6 pm and **Wednesday, Aug 5**, beginning at 10 am.

At the Monday meeting, you will be looking at the live animals, then predicting their rankings. This is to help you develop your ability to correlate external judging criteria with actual internal characteristics. Wednesday, you take the written test(s) for the specie(s) you brought. You may also take the overall test, which covers all the species. Then the judge will present us with her results. We will be able to look at all the carcasses and have a chance to develop a sense of the variability between animals. Awards for animal placement are on Wednesday. Awards resulting from testing are presented during fair week.

If you have any questions, call Cindy at (269) 317-3462. Looking forward to seeing all of you and your animals at Pease Packing!
Goat Pack Trip—
July 2015
Held at Fort Custer
Recreation Center
in Augusta

Sheep News

The Sheep Fit and Show will be held on Sunday August 2, 2015 at 6:00 PM at Paul and Sue Harrisons, 1247 D Drive South, East Leroy, Mi 49051

Please bring a dish to pass, table service, and chairs, we will provide meat and drinks.
If you are entered in the carcass program, bring your lamb and we will take it to Peases for you.
Questions call Paul & Sue 269-441-1967 or Barb 269-679-5544
See you there!!

Poultry Project News

Here it comes---FAIR 2015. The next date marked on your calendar should be Thursday, Aug. 6 for the Mandatory Livestock Meeting. Be at the Poultry Barn at 6pm for all of the last minute fair news and sign up sheets for your poultry processing time. The market poultry will be processed on Friday, Aug. 7th---turkeys starting at 6am and chickens and ducks at 7am according to the time that you signed up for. Make sure that you get a good picture of you and your market project BEFORE Aug. 4th and email it to Veronica Bolhuis at the 4H office. then get 2-4x6 prints of the picture for your auction buyer.

I'm sure that everybody is working hard on their market journals and educational exhibits. Also, practice, practice, practice showmanship with your birds at home and bone up on your breed characteristics, biosecurity and Avian Influenza info.

We’re prepared to see AWESOME!
SAVE THE DATE

Michigan 4-H
Visual Arts, Crafts, Sewing & Textiles Workshop
October 17-18, 2015
4-H Kettunen Center in Tustin, MI

Look for future workshop announcement and registration at:
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/
events/4_h_visual_arts_crafts_sewing_textiles

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Kalamazoo County 4-H Scrapbooking Fundraiser

The Kalamazoo County 4-H Leaders Council will be holding a scrapbooking fundraiser on September 26th, 2015. Proceeds from the fundraiser will help to offset the cost of educational programming, fall achievement program, scholarships and so much more!

Help is needed in both the morning and the evening—contact Susan Compton if you are able to help!

Donations for giveaways and silent auction are welcome!

For more information and to register please see the information below.

Kalamazoo County 4-H Scrapbooking
Sept. 26th 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
9929 S. M-43 Highway
Delton, MI 49046
(269) 623-7310

Prizes!! Give Aways!! Silent Auction!!
$40.00 per person
Deadline for entry Sept. 12th
Call Scrapaloo to Reserve Your Spot and Specific Person You Would Like To Sit By!
Questions? Call Susan Compton at (269) 271-3424 or e-mail at skcomp@chartermi.net

Light breakfast, lunch, snack, dinner and beverages will be provided. Plan on joining us for a great day of fun, laughter and excitement.
# August 2015

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2015 National 4-H Dairy Conference;
University of Wisconsin – Madison Campus

The 2015 National 4-H Dairy Conference will be held in Madison, WI, September 27 - October 1, 2015 (http://national4hdairyconference.org/). Youth interested in attending the conference must meet the following criteria:

1) Participated at least 3 years in the 4-H dairy program, including the current year
2) Are in 10th – 12th grade and no older than 18 years as of January 1, 2015
3) Have not attended the national dairy conference before
4) Are not exhibiting animals at the World Dairy Expo
5) Are not competing in this year’s National 4-H Dairy Judging Contest

The cost to each delegate for this year’s conference is $400.00, which includes registration fees, transportation, lodging and meals at the event. The cost of meals while in transit is the responsibility of the delegate. This year’s conference includes visits to ABS Global, Hoard’s Dairyman, Nasco, Dairy Shrine Museum, and World Dairy Expo. There will be workshops about herd mating strategies, dairy foods evaluation, AI, marketing dairy products and much more. In addition, several recreation events, such as a barn dance and “Cowsino” night, are planned.

Space is limited for both delegates and adult chaperones for this conference. Opportunities do exist for adults to attend the conference as chaperones and drivers. Chaperones must be willing to fully participate in the program, discipline delegates as needed, and potentially provide transportation. Meals, lodging and registration fees will be provided to official chaperones of the Michigan delegation based on the minimum number of chaperones actually needed. All adults interested in attending the conference as a chaperone must complete the Michigan State University Extension Volunteer Screening Process (http://4h.msue.msu.edu/resources/msue_vol_selection_process).

Registration deadline, including all paperwork and conference fees, is due to the state office on Friday, August 14, 2015. Please contact the MSUE –Kalamazoo County office for registration form for each youth interested in participating along with a check for $400.00 per participant (payable to Michigan State University). If you are interested in acting as a chaperone, please fill out the registration form as well. Space is limited! Please be advised that there are no refunds once the registration has been processed. Once delegate and chaperone registrations are received, specific travel arrangements will be made. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Melissa Elischer
Michigan State University Extension
Extension Educator, 4-H Dairy Youth Programs
Join us as a **CITIZEN DIPLOMAT!**  **Michigan 4H** is recruiting **HOST FAMILIES** for **U.S. State Department Scholarship Students**.

Host a **high-school girl** from **August 2015 to June 2016**.

These eleven girls are all scholarship finalists with the US State Department’s FLEX (Future Leaders’ Exchange) Program – FLEX is a very prestigious scholarship program with a 2.4% acceptance rate. Without a host family, these girls will not be able to come to the USA to attend a year of high school.

**Ukraine**: Dariana, Olha, Stanislava, Tetyana, Valeriya, Vira, Kateryna

**Kazakhstan**: Kamila, Kuralay

**Georgia**: Anastasia

**Kyrgyzstan**: Aliia

Please help us offer Michigan hospitality to these hard-working students!

If you are new to hosting, here are answers to frequently asked questions:

**Can the student share a bedroom?** Yes! A shared room with a same gender host sibling is allowed.

**How is their English?** Excellent! They can take normal classes as U.S. high school student. From day one, host families can communicate clearly in English with these students.

**What about chores and behavior?** The exchange student is treated like a member of your family, and expects to participate in household chores and family rules the same as other family members.

**What about insurance?** The program provides student medical insurance; host families never incur medical costs. J-1 visa students are not allowed to drive cars.

**What about costs?** The host family’s financial obligation is to provide room and board (3 meals a day). All hosts for J-1 visa students are unpaid volunteers. The FLEX students’ scholarship does provide $700 for school and enrichment fees, and a $125 mo./personal allowance, so students can buy their own yearbooks, school photos, dance or football tickets, sports uniforms, clothing, field trip fees, art supplies, clothing, shoes, etc.. An itemized tax deduction for hosting is allowed.

**What about meetings?** Our host families are invited to a complimentary weekend retreat with our international program staff at Great Wolf Lodge and Waterpark in Traverse City. Our online orientation meeting is scheduled at your convenience. Exchange students and their teen siblings are invited to several optional 4H civic education programs in Michigan.

**What if I homeschool?** The student must be enrolled in a public high school, even if the host family is homeschooling. The students are entering grades 10, 11, or 12.

**I don’t have kids at home; can I still host?** There is no restriction on the type of family or individual who can host. **Michigan State University Extension programs are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.**

**How do you match students and host families?** Families select their own student based on our individual student files that include 50 pages of essays, letter to host family, interest inventory, teacher recommendations, 3 years of report cards, health history, etc. Our 4H staff assists in making a compatible selection for your family.

**What staff support is available during the stay?** During the placement term, 4H staff at the county, state, and national levels are available 24/7 for support.

**When and Where do they arrive? Do I need to drive to Detroit?** We make it easy: Students arrive directly to your closest local airport. Times for arrival in Aug./Sept. and departure in May/June are flexible.

Please feel free to contact Heather Gray with any questions or to receive more information. Thank you!

**Heather R. Gray**

4-H International Program Coordinator

MSU Extension Children and Youth Institute

[517] 355-2361 office phone

grayhea2@anr.msu.edu
4-H Workshops
September 27-October 1: National 4-H Dairy Conference, Madison, WI
http://national4hdairyconference.org

October 7-8: Connecting Entrepreneurial Communities, Houghton-Hancock
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/info/cec

October 17-18: 4-H Visual Arts, Crafts, Sewing & Textiles Workshop, Kettunen Center, Tustin
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_visual_arts_crafts_sewing_textiles

October 21-22: Connecting Entrepreneurial Communities, Sturgis
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/info/cec

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

February 19-20: 4-H Veterinary Science Teen & Adult Leaders Workshop
http://bit.ly/1Ga1bOO
Kettunen Center, Tustin

February 20-21: 4-H Beef, Sheep & Swine Teen & Adult Leaders Workshop, Kettunen Center, Tustin

http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/Michigan_4_H_Dairy_Conference

Other 4-H Events
October 4-10: National 4-H Week
http://www.4-h.org/?gclid=CKegl_vEgMYCFQ8paQodUqUAig_Nationwide

October 7: 4-H National Youth Science Day
http://www.4-h.org/4-h-national-youth-science-day_Nationwide

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

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
4-H National Youth Science Day: *Motion Commotion!*

Do you want to be part of the world’s largest, youth-led science experiment? If you would like to take part in a fun, hands-on science activity, then 4-H National Youth Science Day (NYSD) is for you.

On October 7, millions of young people will participate in Motion Commotion, this year’s NYSD experiment. Motion Commotion will combine a speeding car collision and a distracted driving demonstration in a simulated activity that investigates the physical and human factors of motion. With the help of physicists, engineers and safety analysts, the team created an experiment that uses science to evaluate stopping times and connects it with the dangers of distractions.

In this experiment, designed by an Oregon State University Cooperative Extension team, participants will learn about the science of motion (physics, speed and safety). You don’t have to be a teacher, science enthusiast or expert to be part of the fun. National 4-H (http://www.4-h.org) will provide everything necessary to make your 4-H NYSD event a success. The kit includes supplies, a facilitator’s guide to help you lead with confidence and participants will receive their very own experiment guide. This activity is designed for youth aged 10 and up.

Sound like fun? Then consider hosting a science blast with your favorite club or group of children. You can work with your local 4-H program coordinator (http://bit.ly/1u0f9E3) to find out about an event near you or you can host one of your own. (If you are unable to reach a local 4-H staff member, you may email 4hscience@anr.msu.edu for more information.) Register your event on the national site (http://www.4-h.org/4-h-national-youth-science-day) so that Michigan is represented.

Not sure that Motion Commotion will excite your group or think you are not ready to tackle this? More great science experiments are just a click away. Check out the guides and materials from past 4-H NYSD experiments (http://bit.ly/1HWfd7K).