December at a Glance:
December 3—Encouraging the Hearts of Volunteers Training, Fairgrounds Room C, 6:45
December 11—list of auction items due to Trish Bartholomew from each club
December 11—Rabbit agility
December 24 & 25 offices closed for the Christmas holiday
December 31 & January 1 offices closed for the New Year holiday

January at a Glance:
January 15—rabbit agility—Fairgrounds, Room B, 6:30 PM
January 18—Dog Council, Panera Bread, 7pm
January 19—Poultry meeting, Fairgrounds, Room B, 7:00 PM
January 20—Livestock Association Meeting, Room B, 7:00 PM
January 21—Horse Council, Room C, Dog project meeting, Room B, Fairgrounds, 7:00
January 22—Set up and drop off for 4-H Benefit Auction, Room A, Fairgrounds, 4:00 –8:00 PM
January 23—Benefit Auction, registration 9:00AM, auction begins at 10:00 AM
January 25—Leaders Council, Room B, Fairgrounds, 7:00 PM
Join us in The Show-Me State

June 25-July 2, 2016!!

The Kalamazoo County 4-H Interstate Exchange club is excited to be partnering with Jefferson County, Missouri (The Show-Me State). Jefferson County, Missouri is just south of St. Louis and has the perfect mash-up of the urban and rural experience.

They are close to a variety of attractions including: the St. Louis Arch, the St. Louis Zoo, Science Center- [http://www.slsc.org/](http://www.slsc.org/), St. Louis Muny - [http://muny.org/](http://muny.org/), and City Museum- [http://www.citymuseum.org/](http://www.citymuseum.org/). We also have Six Flags Theme Park, Grant’s Farm - [http://www.grantsfarm.com/](http://www.grantsfarm.com/), and major sports teams.

There are also awesome geological areas to explore including: Mera-mec Caverns- [https://www.visitmo.com/meramec-caverns.aspx](https://www.visitmo.com/meramec-caverns.aspx), Bon Terre Mine- [http://2dive.com/btm.htm](http://2dive.com/btm.htm), Elephant Rocks, and Johnson Shut Ins. Missouri is also called the cave state; they may take us on amazing cave experience or a riverboat cruise up the Mississippi River.

Jefferson County itself has several places of interest that we could visit including: I-55 Raceway, Mastodon State Park, Sandy Creek Covered Bridge and Nature Area and also opportunities for horseback riding, fun farmer’s markets, and local fairs and festivals.

Youth in Jefferson County, participate in a large variety of 4-H projects including: horsemanship, shooting sports, cinematography, robotics, beef, swine, GPS, and many more.

Our next meeting is January 6, 2016 at 6:30 in the Georgian Room at the Nazareth Complex, 3299 Gull Rd., Kalamazoo, MI. If you would like to join please feel free to come and find out what it’s all about.
The St. Louis Muny (outdoor theater)

City Museum

Elephant Rock State Park

Grant’s Farm

Johnson Shut-In

St. Louis Science Center
Mental Health First Aid

The Kalamazoo Youth Development Network and Kalamazoo Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services invite you to attend Mental Health First Aid 8-hour certification training. Mental Health First Aid is a groundbreaking public education program that helps the public identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders.

After taking this course you will be equipped with a five-step action plan which includes the skills, resources and knowledge to assist someone who would benefit from professional, peer support or social support.

Details for this one-day event:

Date: Friday, December 18, 2015
Time: 8:15 – 4:30 pm (lunch included)
Location: 418 W. Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo MI 49007
Conference Room A (located in the basement)
Cost: Covered by KYD Network

Youth Mental Health First Aid is designed to teach youth development professionals and other caring adults how to help an adolescent (age 12-18) who is experiencing a mental health or addictions challenge or is in crisis. Youth Mental Health First Aid is primarily designed for adults who regularly interact with young people.

To Register for this training:

Please email Shantel Labon at slabon@kazoocmh.org

Any questions or concerns, please contact Julie Helmer at jhelmer@kazoocmh.org

More information on the program can be found at: www.kazoocmh.org/MentalHealthFirstAid

Parking: Please park in the lot that is located on the corner of W. Kalamazoo and Cooley (it is a dead end street) which is located to the West of the building. There is a building with a big blue mural on the side of it in the lot where you should park.
The online application for the Michigan 4-H Youth Conservation Council is officially open! Youth can access the application via this link: [http://events.anr.msu.edu/M4HYCC16/](http://events.anr.msu.edu/M4HYCC16/) anytime between **now and December 15, 2015**. Between the 15th and the 30th of December (after applications are submitted) youth will be contacted by one of the M4-HYCC steering committee members for a phone interview. 2016 Council member will be announced no later than Jan. 1, 2016. If accepted, we'll send an invoice via e-mail and youth participation fee can be paid via check or credit card.

The Michigan 4-H Youth Conservation Council (M4HYCC) offers:

- A leadership and confidence-building opportunity for youth ages 13 to 19.
- Acquisition of important life skills, experiences, knowledge and understanding of current environmental issues.
- A chance to explore solutions to environmental issues and provide “youth voice” in state government public policy-making.
- Exposure to a number of career possibilities and mentoring from caring adults.
- Life-long benefits for teens as future community leaders and stewards of Michigan’s natural resources.
- New friendships with others from across Michigan.

The program selects up to 25 youth from around the state in the fall of each year. The youth that apply for M4-HYCC typically have an interest in natural resources, environmental problems, outdoor recreation and/or politics. Check out the Council’s facebook page for photos and updates ([https://www.facebook.com/m4hycc/](https://www.facebook.com/m4hycc/))!

2016 meeting weekend dates are the following:

- Jan. 9-10 (Greenville)
- Feb. 6-7 (Greenville)
- March 12-13 (Greenville)
- April TBD (Lansing)
MICHIGAN 4-H DAY AT THE BRESLIN CENTER

Join us as Spartan Women’s Basketball Team takes on Iowa Hawkeyes Women’s Basketball Team
Saturday, January 16th, 2016

TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd.
You’re ALL invited to attend the eleventh annual celebration of MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development at the Spartan Women’s basketball game at 4:30 p.m., Saturday, January 16th, 2016. Last year over 5,100 MSUE staff, 4-H volunteers, members and their families attended this exciting opportunity at the MSU Breslin Student Events Center.

Ticket Price: FREE for MSUE 4-H youth and their families, 4-H volunteers and MSU Extension staff and their families!

Date: Saturday, January 16th, 2016

Time: Game begins at 4:30 p.m. Gate D will open at 3:00 and is the gate you need to enter whether you are picking up tickets or if you already have your tickets. Tickets being held for pick-up will be at the 4-H Registration Table inside Gate D. (DO NOT go to the Breslin Center “will call” entrance).

Did You Know?

Did you know the first MSU basketball coach was Charles Bemies?

Did you know the MSU Spartans have played teams such as the Battle Creek YMCA, Saginaw Bank Clerks and Michigan School for the Deaf?

Did you know Tom Izzo graduated from Northern Michigan University?

Did you know that Francis Lankey wrote the lyrics to the original fight song when the Spartans were known as the Aggies?

Did you know that MSU has had 6 official name changes since 1855.

Did you know MSU was the first institution of higher learning in the United States to teach scientific agriculture?
DETROIT
BASKETBALL

MICHIGAN 4-H NIGHT
AT THE PALACE OF AUBURN HILLS

SAT, MARCH 19
vs. BROOKLYN NETS • 7:30PM

Please join Michigan 4-H and the Detroit Pistons as the Pistons take on the Brooklyn Nets! Join us for the pre-game Leadership Program from 1PM to 2:45PM. Everyone receives a special discount, opportunity to shoot a free throw on the court and a Pistons giveaway for coming out! Plus a portion of the proceeds go back to benefit 4-H! There will be a special raffle for 30 individuals to win a meet n greet with a Pistons Legend!

EXCLUSIVE TICKET PRICING:

LOWER-LEVEL: $30 (Face Value $50)
UPPER-LEVEL: $15 (Face Value $30)

1:00-2:45PM- Pre-Game Leadership Program
Feel free to stay around for activities in the North Pavilion or leave and come back for the game later!
Doors Open: 6PM to watch pre-game warm-ups and game time 7:30!

Order Tickets at pistons.com/4H

Offer cannot be redeemed at The Palace Ticket Store. For additional information, please contact Nicole Laidlaw: 248.375.4065/ nlaidlaw@palacenet.com

Child’s Name and Age: ________________________________

Name: ____________________________________________

Address: _________________________________________

City / ST / ZIP: __________________________

Phone: (____)___________ T-Shirt Size
S M L XL

E-mail: ___________________________________________

Select Method of Payment: Check VISA MC Disc AmEx

Credit Card #: ________ Exp.: ________

MAIL TO:
The Palace of Auburn Hills
Attn: Nicole Laidlaw
6 Championship Drive
Auburn Hills, MI 48326

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:
4H

Detroit Pistons

LEVEL # OF TIX X PRICE TOTAL
100-LEVEL _____ X $30 = _______
200-LEVEL _____ X $15 = _______

GRAND TOTAL = _______

Please remember all tickets are subject to availability and handled on a first-come, first-served basis. All prices on orders received after the indicated deadline are subject to change. Refunds or exchanges will not be issued. Tickets purchased prior to 10 days of the selected game date will be mailed to the address provided. Tickets purchased after will be left at Will Call.
Kalamazoo County 4-H Rabbit Project

Are you getting ready for winter? It won't be long before the snow flies. Be sure to get those cages and hutches covered and ready to go before its too late. It is very important to keep them out of the wind and swap the water bottles for bowls that you can easily remove the ice from.

Several 4-H members in the Rabbit Project recently attended the ARBA Rabbit show in Mason. They had a great time and learned alot. If you like to attend a rabbit show to see what it is all about, there are two opportunities coming up.

- November 21st in Frankenmuth is a 4-H show
- January 30th is a 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show

Both would be great opportunities to practice your showmanship skills. There will be no County meeting in December.

Rabbit Agility meetings: Dec 18, Jan 15, Feb 19, Mar 25, April 15, May 20, June 10, July 5. All meetings at the fairgrounds with start time of 6:30 pm.

As always if you have any question, please contact either of your Rabbit Superintendents.

Rabbit Superintendents
Janelle Gray 269-254-2411
Roxanne O’Neil 269-317-1925

Did You Know?

Did you know the world’s largest rabbit weighed 50 lbs and is insured for 1.6 million dollars. Darius is currently living in the UK with his owner. He even has his own body guard.

Did you know is estimated that over 2 million households in America own a pet rabbit.

Did you know that rabbits are natural runners and reach speeds of up to 30 to 40 mph.
**4-H Workshops**

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  

December 10: This Is Your Brain Online: The Impact of Digital Technology . . . .  
http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=BeSAFETechWebinar  
Online  

http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=BeSAFEMindWebinar  
Online  

January 8–10, 2016: Michigan 4-H Horse Judges & Show Superintendents Conference  
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/4_h_horse_judges_and_show_managers_conference  
Kettunen Center, Tustin  

January 13: Michigan 4-H Embryology Program Coordinator and Volunteer Training  
http://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?folder=Embryology  
Michigan State University Federal Credit Union, East Lansing  

January 30–31: 4-H Youth Leadership & Global Citizenship Spectacular  
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/4_h_youth_leadership_global_citizenship_spectacular  
Kettunen Center, Tustin  

February 5–6: 4-H Horse Judging Workshop & Mini Contest  
Contact Taylor Fabus (tenlenta@msu.edu)  
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing  

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

February 19–20: 4-H Veterinary Science Teen & Adult Leaders Workshop  
http://bit.ly/1GalbO0  
Kettunen Center, Tustin  

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

February 26–28: Teen & Adult 4-H Horse Leaders Workshop  
Contact Taylor Fabus (tenlenta@msu.edu)  
Kettunen Center, Tustin  

**Other 4-H Events**

January 10, 2016: 4-H Day at the Breslin  
Contact Gail Hebert (hebertg@msu.edu)  
Breslin Center, MSU, East Lansing  

January 29–31: Green & White Youth Event & Open Hog Show  
Contact Carla McLachlan (mclachl2@msu.edu)  
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

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*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.
Our 4-H Members Are Doing Great Things – Let’s Recognize Them!!!

Whether you’re a younger or older 4-H’er, if you’re doing great 4-H work, there are some very special ways to be recognized for it! Check out the awards listed below for examples. Then contact your local 4-H staff (http://bit.ly/INzQFET) to see which awards are available where you live.

4-H Mark of Excellence Award

4-H’ers who are 11 or 12 years old are eligible to apply for the 4-H Mark of Excellence Award. To apply, a 4-H member needs to write an essay on the theme, “Because of 4-H, I can . . . .” Counties select their representatives, and submit their names and essays to the State 4-H Awards Committee. For more information and instructions, see the Overview and Instructions link (http://bit.ly/IQqIouj) on the Michigan 4-H web site (http://bit.ly/IhcGcC). Deadline for submission is February 1.

Project Medals

Outstanding 11- to 13-year-old members are likely to be considered for one of these awards that celebrate excellence in a specific project area. With no statewide process for awarding project medals, each county establishes its own criteria and procedure.

State 4-H Awards Program

The State 4-H Awards program, the highest honor bestowed on Michigan 4-H youth, is for 4-H’ers aged 13 and up who have at least three years of 4-H experience. We encourage all young people who meet the requirements to apply for this program. Youth compete in 19 different recognition areas showcasing their knowledge, skills and experiences. To apply, youth submit the State 4-H Awards application, found on the 4-H web site (http://bit.ly/IhcGcC) to State4HAwards@anr.msu.edu by February 1. Applications are carefully reviewed by selection committees. Delegates, who are announced by March 15, are invited to participate either in an advanced leadership development program (juniors), competitive interviews (seniors) or presentations (groups) at the State 4-H Awards Assembly held during 4-H Exploration Days (http://bit.ly/IcFjEXH). State 4-H Award winners are announced at the 4-H Recognition Program, also held during 4-H Exploration Days at the prestigious Huntington Club (http://bit.ly/IloI4Tc) in Spartan Stadium (http://bit.ly/IkAPk9). Complete instructions (http://bit.ly/IQqIouj) and the application, are on the Michigan 4-H web site (http://bit.ly/IhcGcC).

Michigan 4-H Key Club Award

The 4-H Key Club Award is intended to be the top county 4-H honor and selections are made at the county level. To be eligible, a 4-H member must be 15 years old by the beginning of the project year. Other eligibility requirements are listed on the application, found at (http://4h.msue.msu.edu/uploads/files/Application.pdf)

Have You Heard About Michigan 4-H Workshops?

In Kettunen Center Workshops Enhance 4-H Experience for Youth and Volunteers (http://bit.ly/IQqXlPX), Melissa Elischer, Michigan 4-H youth dairy educator, discusses how important local 4-H group activities are “for youth to connect with peers and positive adult role models through common experiences.”

However, Melissa also points out that there is much more that Michigan 4-H’ers and 4-H volunteers can participate in. For example, Michigan 4-H also offers one-, two- and even three-day workshops that can "enhance the 4-H experience for youth and volunteers."

Read about the idea behind these workshops in Melissa’s article and then check out the upcoming workshops on the Michigan 4-H web site (http://bit.ly/1X2XLxw).

There just may be one waiting for you!

Have You Heard About Michigan 4-H Workshops?
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<td>Dog Council, Panera Bread, West Main St., 7pm</td>
<td>Countywide poultry meeting, Room B, Fairgrounds, 7pm</td>
<td>LSA, Room B, Fairgrounds, 7pm</td>
<td>Horse council, Room C, Dog Project meeting, Room B, Fairgrounds, 7pm</td>
<td>Leader’s Council Auction set up &amp; drop off, 4pm, - 8pm, fairgrounds, Room A</td>
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<td>Countywide feeder calf meeting, Room B, Fairgrounds, 7pm</td>
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