

CHANNEL 4-H NEWS

MSU Extension - Isabella County

January 2010

4-H WinterFest

Saturday, February 6 - Sunday, February 7, 2010

For youth ages 9 to 12 years old

\$15 fee

Kettunen Center, Tustin

This year's 4-H Winterfest will include lots of fun along with hands-on learning activities that will expose participants to different and exciting 4-H activities. A few of the workshops that are being offered are Valentine Themed Stamping Projects, Pigs From the Inside Out, Cake Decorating, Crafts, Sewing, and much more.

Contact the Extension office by January 22 to register for this workshop.

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4-H Day at the Breslin Center

Saturday, January 9, 2010

2 pm

Ohio State vs. Michigan State

FREE to 4-H members, volunteers, and their families

MSU Breslin Center, East Lansing



Everyone is invited to attend the fifth annual celebration of MSU Extension CYFC/4-H Youth Development at the Lady Spartan's Women's basketball game as they take on Ohio State. This is a Big Ten game which will be televised by CBS! It's going to be exciting to "see a sea" of 4-H members, volunteers, and families beaming with pride, in the stands AND ON TV!

Please contact the Extension office now to reserve your tickets!

Save These Dates

4-H Exploration Days - June 23, 24, 25

4-H Summer Camp - July 6, 7, 8

4-H Cloverbud Day Camp - July 12, 13, 14

Isabella County Youth & Farm Fair - August 8 - 14



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

CLUB CORNER

Barn Yard Kids - Members made stockings, went bowling, and discussed fundraising at their December meeting.

Country Kids Livestock - In December, the Country Kids Livestock 4-H club was busy doing community service projects. The 1st project was their annual visit to the Coleman Senior Citizens Center. The members decorated the hall, frosted Christmas cookies, and played Bingo with the Seniors. Everyone enjoyed the evening. The 2nd project was a bottle drive to raise money for the 4-H foodstand.

Evergreen - At their December meeting the members each brought in cookies and trays were made up for the Rosebush Manor residents. The members then enjoyed what was left. We also made wreaths from pine boughs and cinnamon ornaments that we were able to take home.

Lincoln Center - In November, 4H members collected pop cans in Shepherd. The \$310.00 raised was donated to the 4H Council to support the 4H foodstand renovations. At their December Christmas party, members enjoyed tacos and decorated Christmas cookies. They also played a game and made Christmas cards. The members and their families are set to volunteer during the Toys for Tots distribution day on December 19th. Their next meeting is scheduled for the month of February.

Pine River - At their December meeting they had a Christmas Party and exchanged gifts. They decided to donate 50 dollars to the Blanchard Church of God food pantry for the items that they needed and they talked about a spring fundraiser. In January they will be going to the MSU basketball game and then planning for their Valentine's Dinner in February.

Pony Creek - At the December meeting the club had a Christmas party. Everyone brought finger food and a toy for the toys for tots program. They also started selling candy bars to raise money for the 4-H foodstand.

Save Your Holiday Cards

The W.E.S.T. 4-H Club will be collecting old Holiday cards to donate to the St. Jude's Ranch for Children, an organization for abused, abandoned, and neglected children. They remove the fronts and make new cards sold in packs of 10. Please drop off your cards at the Extension office now through February 1, 2010.

Rabbit Showmanship Clinic

Saturday, February 6
10 am - 12 pm
Isabella County Building, room 320

All rabbit members are invited! We will help you review rabbit showmanship just in time for the February Isabella County Rabbit and Cavy Show. We will provide rabbits for you to use; please do NOT bring your rabbit.

Register to the Extension office by January 29.

"So You Wanna Rabbit Workshop"

Saturday, January 16
10 am
Isabella County Building, room 320

This workshop is for **first year** rabbit members only. If you are interested in showing a rabbit, or think you might be, this workshop is for you! We will be discussing rabbit care, breeds, and showmanship. Parents are encouraged to attend with their kids. Workshop will last for about one hour.

To sign up for this workshop please call the Extension office (or email Nonie, grossn@msu.edu) by January 8.

The 2010 Isabella County 4-H Leader Directory is now available at the Extension office. If you would like one, please call or stop in the office.

Isabella County 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show

Saturday, February 27, 2010

Enter day of show: Rabbits & Educational Exhibits by 8 am, Cavies by 1 pm
West Intermediate School, Mt. Pleasant

This is an excellent opportunity for rabbit and cavy members to brush up on their showmanship skills. We understand many members do not have their animals yet. Please do not let that stop you from participating in this beneficial event. We have a program called "borrow a bunny." All you need to do is contact us to let us know the breed of rabbit you usually show (or plan to show at the fair) and we will track something down for you to use. All you have to do is come dressed in your showmanship "uniform" of a long sleeved white shirt with black pants and register for the appropriate class.



There will be breed identification and skill-a-thon competitions and the Educational Exhibit class. Evaluations are done and awards are given. The educational exhibit can be exhibited at the fair. We also will have an excellent silent auction with high quality animals available for purchase and a raffle with varied items. It would be very helpful to have items donated for this raffle. We will accept items from members, families, clubs, and any businesses that you may ask. If you would be willing to ask a business for a donation, please call to let us know so we do not ask the same businesses.

Anyone willing to help with our show is more than welcome! We need a lot of volunteers to help things run smoothly and efficiently. Set up is scheduled to take place from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm Friday night (2/26) and we generally begin cleaning up as the show is winding down around 4:00 pm Saturday. There are many different tasks that can be done during the hours of 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Saturday as well. Even if you are only available for an hour or two, please consider assisting us. The hours you spend do count for community service.

Even though May 1 (deadline for owning your small animal for fair) sounds a long way off, you should seriously consider using this show as an opportunity for making contact with local breeders about your choice of animal. Some of them have limited numbers of animals for sale as the deadline approaches. At least come and decide what breed you want to take to fair. Then make arrangements to stay in contact with a breeder so you are completely prepared for May 1. If you have any questions, please contact Angie Coldwell (828-6229), show secretary or Tammy Brecht (828-6394), show superintendent.

Essay Contest

We are pleased to announce the 2010 Isabella County CHARACTER COUNTS! Essay Contest for 7-9th graders. Students are asked to write about a person of character. The contest allows students to identify people who behave in ways worth following, spend time thinking about ethical concepts, enhance writing skills, and maybe even receive recognition for themselves and their school. **Winning essays will be published in an upcoming edition of the Morning Sun!** Furthermore, in order to acknowledge the efforts of more students, we will also recognize all students whose essays scored in the **top 25% of essays submitted**. Deadline to enter is March 2.

More information, including links to the application and student information page for this local contest can be found at: <http://www.isabellacounty.org/msue/character/index.html>.

Attention Teens!

Are You Interested In Serving as a Teen Superintendent?

Applications are being accepted for teen superintendents. You may pick up applications at the Extension office or visit our web site and look under 4-H forms. Applications need to be completed and returned to the Extension office by Monday, January 11, 2010.

Prospective Teen Superintendents will be interviewed by the Superintendent of the project area they are interested in being a Teen Superintendent in. Teen superintendents must have taken the project they are interested in for at least 2 years. Applicants must be enrolled in the Teen Leadership Project and be a teen leader in the project that they would like to be a teen superintendent in. Responsibilities may include assisting with instructional demonstrations, workshops, or clinics; assist in preparation and set up before fair and tear down after fair; and attend pre and post fair meeting. If you have questions, please call the Extension office.

Host Families Needed

Now is the time to start thinking about being a host family during the coming summer. It takes time to complete paperwork so don't wait! Host families need to be identified by the first of May if at all possible.

Host family requirements vary according to the program. Most opportunities are for one month and require the family to have a youth of the same gender and approximate age as the exchange delegate.

Our 4-H members have several opportunities to travel to other countries also. Japan, Poland, Belize, Australia, Finland are just some of the countries youth can visit. Hosts are needed this year for delegates from Belize, Japan, and Costa Rica.

If you would like more information about all the opportunities 4-H offers for kids and adults to learn more about our global community visit the following website: web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/culture.html Please contact Vera at the Extension office if you have any questions or if you would like more information.

4-H Capitol Experience

March 21-24, 2010

4-H Capitol Experience is an annual 4-day conference that focuses on civic engagement and public policy. High school students who are at least 14 years of age that are interested in gaining skills and knowledge to develop their leadership, citizenship, and community service skills are invited to attend. Teens will:

Discover how to be actively involved in influencing policy decisions, understand the responsibilities of a citizen, explore different aspects of a policy issue that may affect individuals and communities, learn about the policy process at the state level, bill writing session, network with teens from around the state

Applications are due at the Extension office by February 5. Rate: \$275 Adults and current 4-H members; \$285 Non 4-H members. Scholarships available from 4-H Council. For more information go to: web1.msue.msu.edu/msue/cyf/youth/capexp.html

Equine Activities

There are several activities occurring on the weekend of February 5-6, 2010 – of interest to Equine enthusiasts. Please take a minute to visit the Animal Science Youth Extension Programs web site (Upcoming Events page) for details about the following: <http://www.canr.msu.edu/anscikids/>

Feb 5-6 – MQHA/MI 4-H Horse Judging Workshop – Registration is due January 26. A great opportunity for youth or adults to gain experience in Horse Judging. Friday evening will be an oral reasons clinic and Saturday a.m. will be a practice contest. Open to youth 9 and up and Adults. This is an approved clinic for MI 4-H Horse Judges.

Feb 6 – MI 4-H Horse Program Benefit clinic featuring Christie Showerman. Perfecting the Patterns: Focusing on Showmanship and Horsemanship. Tickets for the clinic are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. A limited number of youth riders will be needed for the clinic. Application for riders is available on the web site as well. This is an approved clinic for MI 4-H Horse Judges.

Feb 6 - NEW THIS YEAR!!!! State 4-H Equine Public Speaking and Demonstration Contest -- The purpose of this event is to offer 4-H members an opportunity to develop public speaking and demonstration skills and an opportunity to qualify for national contests. Registration is due in the Extension office by January 15.

Horse Clinics & Informational Sessions

Saturday, January 16, 2010
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

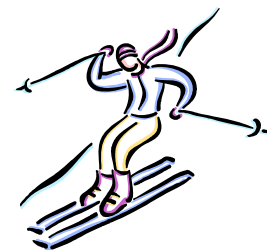
NEW THIS YEAR! The MSU Horsemen's Association will be holding a day of informational sessions and clinics. Sessions for young people interested in attending MSU, as well as clinics on Western Horsemanship (conducted by MSUET Coach Leesa Massman and team members) and Dressage will also be held. This is a great way to introduce 4-H and MIHA members to the possibilities of continuing their interest in horses in college. Seminars will be held by an admissions officer, the MSU Horsemen's Association, Dressage Club, Polo Club and MSU Equestrian Team.

For complete details on the event and clinics, please visit: <https://www.msu.edu/~msuha/>

4-H Ski Day

Sunday, February 21
10 am - 4 pm
Apple Mountain, Freeland

The annual Apple Mountain 4-H Ski day draws 4-H youth and their families from various 4-H clubs throughout Michigan. Ski and snowboard packages are available beginning at \$28; all packages include a lift ticket, rental pass, and a complimentary lesson. In order to receive this special pricing, pre-registration is required.



The registration form can be found at <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/member/cool.html> under "Events". Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Kathryn Schofield directly at 888-781-6789, ext. 202.

Clare County Rabbit Show

Saturday, February 13
9 am (register by 8am)
Farwell High School

This is a trophy and ribbon show. No premiums will be awarded. Entry fee of \$2.50 per rabbit or cavy showmanship \$2.50. No refund of entry fees if you do not show your rabbits.

For more information contact Carol Forkum (show superintendent) at 588-9257 or cforkum@yahoo.com.

Take Me Fishing Family Fun Day

Saturday, January 30, 2010
10 am - 4 pm
Kettunen Center



Learn all about the lake environment through the ice! We'll be ice fishing with local experts, identifying local fishes, performing water tests, and examining the quality of plant and animal life of Center Lake in winter. Other sessions will include fly tying with a professional river fishing guide, a presentation on salmon fishing, casting instruction, snow science and creating fish prints on a t-shirt you bring or a tote bag you can purchase here for \$3.00.

All instruction, equipment, bait and a hot buffet lunch are included in the \$6.50 per person cost. The day is designed for school-age children and their parents. Call the Kettunen Center at (231) 829-3421 or email kross@kettunencenter.org. Pre registration is required by January 26th.



State Rabbit & Cavy Show

January 30, 2010
9 am - show begins (Onsite registration at 6:30 am)
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

Open to 4-H members ages 9-19. A non-competitive Cloverbud division for 5-8 years of age is also available. Cost per class is \$2.75. Rabbit and cavy breed classes ONLY. Judging is conducted by ARBA Standards (breed, fur, meat). No showmanship classes offered.

For more information contact the Extension office or visit the web site below:

<http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/aniscipr.html#Rabbits>

2010 Green & White Swine Youth Education Fair & Open Market Hog Show

January 29-30, 2010
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

Open to all youth ages 9 to 21 by January 1st. The 2010 Green & White Swine Youth Education and Open Market Hog Show will include classes for showmanship, skill-a-thon, essay and PowerPoint contest.

The Market Show is open to all residents aged 9 and over.

More information at:
www.canr.msu.edu/anscikids/

Congratulations to: Remington Vandaveer of the Bowen Busy Bees 4-H Club!!!

In August, Remington took first place at the State competition for Shooting Sports in the senior division of individual trap shooting. His perfect score was the only one among the 41 competitors. Lots of practice at the shooting range has paid off for Remington! Congratulations!

4-H WORKSHOPS

Registration fee for these workshops is paid by the Isabella County 4-H Program Council for all enrolled teen (age 13 and up) and adult 4-H volunteers. To register contact the MSU Extension office at 772-0911 ext. 302.

4-H Teen Citizenship, Leadership & Service Conference

January 23-24, 2010 – Kettunen Center

This exciting conference has teens from across the state converging on Kettunen Center to learn the leadership and civic engagement skills they need to make a difference in their communities. There will be sessions for both 4-H and non-4-H young people. Open to adults and teens aged 14 and up.

4-H Veterinary Science Teen & Adult Volunteer Workshop

February 26-27, 2010 – Kettunen Center

Explore animal systems and learn about animal health for a broad array of species by sharing information and experiences, asking questions and quizzing veterinarians about their skills. You can also participate in hands-on demonstrations that teach you how to help members recognize healthy, sick or injured animals. Meet 4-H'ers who have developed outstanding veterinary science projects and gain ideas to help others start their own vet science projects. Open to adult and teen volunteers aged 13 and up.

4-H Beef, Sheep & Swine Teen & Adult Volunteer Workshop

February 27-28, 2010 – Kettunen Center

If you're interested in 4-H beef cattle, sheep or swine projects, this workshop is for you. You'll learn about animal health, management, care and nutrition. In addition, you can sharpen your livestock judging and evaluation skills. By sharing ideas and interacting with others, you'll find ways to improve your county 4-H livestock program. The workshop also offers ways to enhance your communication and teaching skills, and learn about the many opportunities available for those interested in beef, sheep or swine projects. Open to adult and teens aged 13 and up.

4-H Environmental & Outdoor Education Volunteer Workshop

March 19-21, 2010 – Kettunen Center

Gain ideas, project resources and activities to help kids enjoy the outdoors and care for the environment. Sample a variety of interest areas within the 4-H environmental and outdoor education (EOE) program to share with your 4-H club or group. Sessions will feature GPS, wildlife, environmental stewardship, water testing, fisheries, outdoor adventure challenge recreation and leadership, energy, and forestry. Open to adult and teen volunteers aged 13 and up.

4-H Plant Science & Entomology Workshop

March 19-21, 2010 – Kettunen Center

This workshop offers a variety of plant- and insect-related activities. This is a very hands-on opportunity to explore many horticulture and entomology projects through games, crafts, science applications and career exploration. There's something for everyone, so come and join the fun! Open to adults and teens aged 13 and up.

4-H Youth Development
 Michigan State University Extension
 Isabella County
 200 N. Main St.
 Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Phone: (989) 772-0911 ext. 302
 Fax: (989) 773-1622
 E-mail: msue37@msu.edu
 Web: www.isabellacounty.org/dept/msue/index.html



Isabella County 4-H Calendar

January

1	OFFICE CLOSED	
5	Teen Horse Leaders @ MSUE	6:15 pm
5	Horse Leaders @ MSUE	7 pm
11	Barn Tour Committee @ MSUE	6:30 pm
13	Shooting Sports Committee @ MSUE	7 pm
18	OFFICE CLOSED	
21	Small Animal Association @ MSUE	7 pm
26	4-H Council @ MSUE	7 pm

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