

CHANNEL 4-H NEWS



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

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Dairy Feeder Weigh-In

Saturday, March 29

9:00 - 11:30 am

Isabella County Fairgrounds

Members may weigh in two dairy feeders. Animals must be:

- one of the five breeds (Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein, or Jersey)
- 250 lbs. or less
- castrated & dehorned

It's required that by Fair, every feeder must have a RFID tag (radio frequency identification) in their ear. If you have any questions, contact Joe Bryant at (989) 828-6901.

2008 4-H Exploration Days

June 18-20

Michigan State University

4-H Exploration Days is an annual state youth conference held on the campus of MSU that is open to all youth ages 11-19. This event is meant to be a learning experience that will instill self-esteem, decision-making skills, independent thinking and leadership skills. The full time participant fee is \$165 which includes meals, lodging, and a t-shirt. 4-H Council will pay 1/2 the fee for full time registration.

Sessions fill up fast, so the sooner you get your registration form in the better your chances are of getting what you want. Choose from over 200 sessions such as: adventure education, food, nutrition & fitness, animal science, arts and more. Call the Extension office for more information or you can visit the Exploration Days website at: web1.msue.msu.edu/4h/expodays.html

Registration deadline is May 2.

CLUB CORNER

Rural Routers - In January they had a regular meeting. They discussed upcoming events and shared about the events they did in December with the Shepherd Tri-Township Fire Department. Also discussed the dinner for the McDonald family. Each family made something for the dinner. They made valentines for vets and soldiers. In February they went tubing at snowsnake.

Horse Camp 2008

May 17-18
\$10 per person
Coldwater Lake 4-H Camp

Registration: Saturday, 9 - 10 am

Check out: Sunday, 4 - 5 pm

For every 4-H'er who wants to have fun and learn more about the wild worlds of horses.

For more information contact Wendy Albrecht at 989-824-1107.

Aerospace Workshop

Saturday, March 8
10 am - 12 pm
Isabella County Building, Room 320

For any 4-H member who is interested in learning more about the Aerospace project area, plan to attend this informational meeting/workshop.

For more information contact Jim Coldwell (Aerospace Project Resource Leader) at 828-6229.

Please call the Extension office to register.

Attention Poultry Members

Time to order your broiler chicks! Orders need to be placed at the Extension office by April 30. Approximate cost per bird including shipping is \$1 if we are able to order 100 birds. Call the Extension office for order forms. If you have any questions call Darlene at 828-4618 or Wanda at 828-5833.

4-H Woodburning Class

April 5
9 am - 12 noon
\$5 cost (payable at the door)
Isabella County Building, room 320

Please call the Extension office to register. You can bring a small picture that you would like to try. Your finished project will be put on a cutting board that can you can hang.

Swine Project Members - New Fair Requirement!

All Swine project members are required to attend a Pork Quality Assurance (PQA) meeting in order to exhibit your animal at the 2008 Isabella County Fair.

Isabella County will be hosting a PQA meeting on Tuesday, April 15 in room 320 of the County Building at 7 pm and on May 19, at 7 pm, at Winding Brook Conference Center in Shepherd. Please call the Extension office to register for one of these meetings.

Poultry Clinic

Saturday, April 12
9:00 am - 4:30 pm
Anthony Hall, East Lansing



This is a great opportunity to meet and discuss your poultry project with youth and experts across Michigan and Ohio. Experts from both states are ready to teach fun, hands on sessions cover topics such as: Incubation, Avian anatomy (very hands on), Eggs – hen house to kitchen, Incubation, Exhibition, & Market birds. No charge to attend and lunch will be provided. Call the Extension office to sign up.

VETAVISIT 2008

Saturday, March 29
9 am - 4 pm
Michigan State University

Vetavisit 2008, the MSU College of Veterinary Medicine's annual open house, will be held on Saturday, March 29, 2008 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Allow several hours to tour--there is a lot to see and do. Allow even more time if you plan on attending an educational seminar (for students interested in a career in veterinary medicine). The exhibits and displays are age-appropriate for all ages.

Free admission, no need to register, this is a self-guided tour.

You can get an idea of what is offered at Vetavisit by going to our old site:

<http://www.vetavisit.com/>

4-H Camp Counselors

Applications are being accepted for 4-H Camp Counselors for the following camps this summer:

Summer Camp (9-13 yr olds)
June 30, July 1, & 2

Cloverbud Day Camp (5-8 yr olds)
July 8, 9, & 10

Applications are online at:
www.isabellacounty.org/dept/msue/forms.html

State Rabbit & Cavy Show Results

Congratulations to the following youth for placing at the State Rabbit & Cavy Show:

Andrew Brecht - Best of Breed - Silver Fox
- Best Opposite Sex - Silver Fox
Timothy Brecht - Best Opposite Sex - Dutch
Alissa Coldwell - Best of Breed - Himalayan
- Best Opposite Sex - Himalayan

Livestock Judging Contest

Saturday, April 26
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

This is a great educational event for young agricultural youth to demonstrate their knowledge of various livestock and win outstanding prizes.

Call the Extension office for entry forms and additional information.

Warm-Up Horse Show

Sunday, March 30
8:30 am - show begins
\$35/stall
\$8/class
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

Have you ever wondered why you placed the way you did at a horse show? Wouldn't it be nice to have time for more feedback from the judge? Don't you wish you knew what you need to work on to be more successful? Now you can! MSU 4-H Horse Programs presents "It's OK To Bring That Hairy Horse" a warm-up horse show with judge's feedback. No ribbons or points will be awarded for class placings, the feedback is your reward!

Call the Extension office for a complete list of rules and for registration information.

Benefit Dinner

Mike Crampton has been a shooting sports line coach for the Shooting Sports program for several years. His wife Becci and daughter Micca are also involved with 4-H in a variety of project areas. Mike has recently been diagnosed with renal cell adenocarcinoma (cancer of the kidney) as well as complications with diverticulitis.

A benefit dinner with live and silent auctions will be held April 12th at the Coleman VFW hall. Proceeds will help with medical expenses. For more information please contact Lynn Brugger at 989-465-6979 or Craig & Joan Dow at 989-560-3644.

4-H Recreational Leadership

Workshop - Camp Counselors - this workshop is for you!

April 12 - 13

8:45 am - registration

\$50 per person

Cran-Hill Ranch, Rodney

The following sessions will be offered at this year's workshop:

- First Aid and CPR Certification - 8 hour class/\$25.00 session fee (limited space)
- Outdoor Cooking
- Band Aids and Boo Boo's
- What's It Really Like? Peer Mentoring for new Camp Counselors
- Crafts
- Large Group Games
- Activities for Getting to Know Your Campers
- Outside the Cabin Door - Environmental Education
- And More!

The registration deadline is March 19th.

Contact the Extension office to register or for more information.

4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp

July 27 - August 2

\$285 - partial scholarships available
Camp Chickagami, Presque Isle

This camp is open to all teens aged 13-15 by July 1, 2006. You do not need to be in 4-H to attend. At camp you will enjoy fishing, boating, hiking, exploring Great Lakes ecosystems, learn to appreciate and understand natural resources, and much more.



Entry deadline is May 1. Space is limited to 70 campers. For an application packet call the Extension office or visit:
www.web1.msue.msu.edu/4h/glnrc.html

West Michigan Lakeshore All Breed Heifer & Steer Show

May 18, 2008

Mason County Fairgrounds

US -10, Ludington, Michigan 49431

Rain or Shine

Camping & Refreshments Available

Please contact the Extension office if you would like more information.

4-H Livestock Camp

June 23-25

Branch County 4-H Fairgrounds, Coldwater

This camp offers intensive hands-on sessions on beef and dairy cattle, dogs, draft horses, feeder/starter calves, goats, horses, rabbits, poultry, sheep, swine, large animals sweepstake session, and llamas. Each specie session will provide participants with the opportunity to learn more about animal selection, proper feeding and care, fitting, showing, and project related ethics. Participants will also have the opportunity to learn the newest livestock-related technology, plus test their skills in a computer lab with interactive CD's covering the species of their choice.

Cost is \$100.00 per person plus \$15.00 per night camp site (if using electricity and water, free if not), dorms are available. 4-H'ers must be 10 and for the horse and beef session, participants must have exhibited the species at least once previously at a county fair in order to attend camp. Participants must bring their own livestock with them to camp.

Call the Extension office to register by May 2.

Sheep & Swine Lists

Lists are now available of possible sources for sheep and swine projects for youth at the Extension office or at the Animal Science Youth Program web site: www.canr.msu.edu/anscikids/ It may be found in either the "Upcoming Events" or "Livestock Programs" page.

Sew, Crochet, and Counted Crossstitch

Amy Dawson, a past Gratiot County 4-H'er, is living in Mt. Pleasant and would love to work with 4-H members in sewing, crocheting, and counted crossstitch.

If you have club members interested in learning these skills, please call the Extension office and we will notify Amy. If there is a club that would like to have Amy as a leader in their group, let us know!

4-H Japanese Exchange

Please go to www.isabellacounty.org/dept/msue to see the list and descriptions of the Japanese youth who will be in Michigan this summer for a one month homestay.

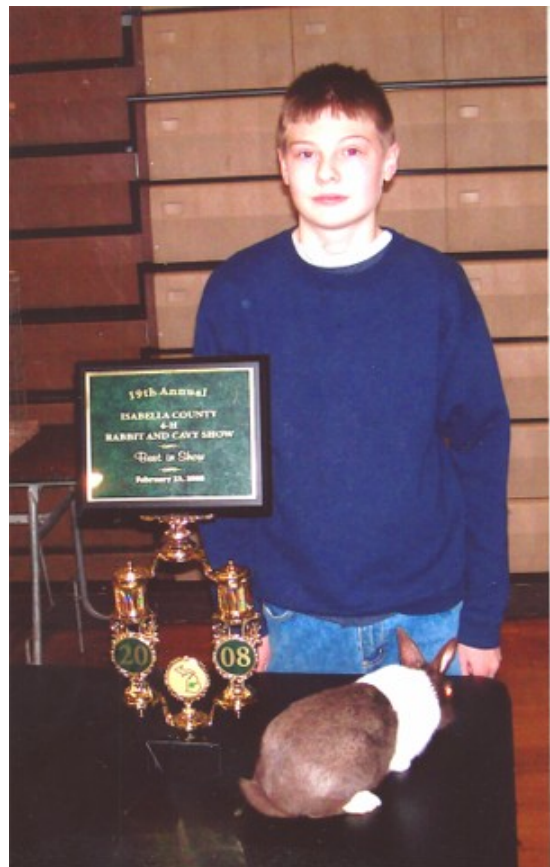
Host families (with a youth of the same gender and age) are needed from July 26 through August 22. There are no meetings or required activities during the month. The Japanese youth will be a part of your family and participate in family activities. This will give them an opportunity to learn more English and an opportunity to share their culture with your family.

Please call Vera at the Extension office for more information or a host family application.

SMALL ANIMAL MEMBERS

(please read our monthly "reminders"):

- Last year 1/3 of all rabbit exhibitors were 1st year members so we want to help you know the basic rules before the fair book is available around June 1.
- All small animals which you plan to show at the fair (poultry, rabbits, goats, dogs, cats & pocket pets) need to be in your possession by May 1st – except poultry "Broilers" which need to be ordered through the Extension Office by April 30.
- If you need help finding a project animal, call the Extension Office and they will give you a phone number for your species' superintendent.
- Begin now to keep a record of any expenses you have with your project so you can fill out your Project Record Sheets accurately.
- Dates for the summer Small Animal showmanship nights will be in next month's newsletter.



Timothy Brecht, age 13 of Rural Routers 4-H Club was chosen Best In Show at the Isabella County Rabbit Show that was held on February 23.

19th Annual Isabella County 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show Results

The 19th annual Isabella County 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show was held Saturday, February 23. We had good attendance and the weather cooperated so travel was not a problem. Our judges were very impressed with the quality of animals that were shown as well as the level of knowledge and positive attitudes of our showmanship participants. We would like to thank everyone that helped for this event. We had a great set up crew Friday night that allowed us to be done in less than 2 hours and clean up Saturday afternoon was the same - again, you know who you are - we are so thankful for the teamwork displayed! For the MANY volunteers in MANY different capacities during the show on Saturday, we couldn't have done it with out you! Everything went so smoothly and we appreciate your assistance.

Our BIG winner for the day was Timothy Brecht and his chocolate Dutch. They were chosen Best In Show and really wowed the judges - they couldn't say enough positive things! Congratulations Timothy - you made us all proud!

In the breed classes, our Isabella County winners were:

Best and Best Opposite Silver Fox = Andrew Brecht

Best and Best Opposite Himalayan = Alissa Coldwell

Best of Breed Dutch = Timothy Brecht

Showmanship results of Isabella County members were:

Junior class (25 participants)

6th place = Kate Zakrajsek

Intermediate class (20 participants)

1st place = Lauren Ringwalt

3rd place = Kate Troxell

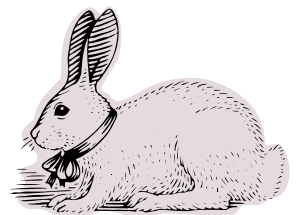
9th place = Kaylee Devantier

Senior class (15 participants)

2nd place = Alissa Coldwell

We are already thinking about next year and how to celebrate 20 years, so watch for further information about some special events that will be part of our show. We hope you will consider exhibiting and supporting this very worthwhile event that is held right in your back yard. Please feel free to contact us with questions, concerns, ideas, and suggestions. We would really like to make this a fun event for all of you.

Thanks again to everyone that had a hand in making the day fun and successful!
Tammy Brecht & Angie Coldwell



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. Contact the Isabella County MSU Extension Office at (989) 772-0911 ext. 302 to register.

4-H Shooting Sports Workshop

March 14-15, 2008 - Covenant New Life Church in Lake City
Please call the Extension office for more information.

4-H Dairy Conference

April 11-13, 2008 – Kettunen Center

If you'd like to know more about the dairy industry, sign up to attend this conference. You'll learn about dairy management topics including dairy cattle nutrition, health, reproduction and cattle evaluation. Practice for state and dairy management contests such as the skillathon and quiz bowls that will focus on dairy cattle nutrition. You'll also tour area farms. Open to youth aged 13 and 19.

4-H Shooting Sports Train-The-Trainers Workshop

April 17-21, 2008 – Kettunen Center

This workshop gives experienced shooting sports instructors a chance to develop and improve your skills in facilitating Michigan 4-H shooting sports instructor workshops for adult and teen volunteers. The workshop will cover best practices in youth and adult education, implementing 4-H goals and policies, and effective facilitation skills. You may become certified as a 4-H shooting sports trainer in rifle, shotgun, archery or muzzleloading. You'll also be expected to become part of the state 4-H shooting sports training team, offering at least one shooting sports instructor training session a year. Admission to this workshop is based on your qualifications and potential to successfully fulfill the role of a state 4-H shooting sports trainer, in addition to geographic and disciplinary needs.

4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Workshop

April 18-20, 2008 - Kettunen Center

This workshop offers a variety of training sessions including riflery, shotgun, archery, hunting and wildlife. Completing the course does NOT guarantee that participants will be certified; they must demonstrate proficiency on written and range assessments at the workshop, then complete a paperwork (including approval by county staff) before they obtain certification. Join us and see all that the 4-H shooting sports program has to offer! Shooting sports instructors seeking recertification in a discipline should fill out a recertification application. You do not need to retake the training unless you've been inactive for more than 3 years. Open to new and veteran adult volunteers and youth aged 16 and up.

4-H Companion Animal Workshop

April 26-27, 2008 - Kettunen Center

Share, learn and explore the 4-H companion animal project at this workshop. You'll share information about activities, club and group development, and learn canine behavior and training along with skill development for performance events such as agility, obedience, showmanship, rally, and freestyle. You can also choose cat, pet bird and other sessions that will enhance your 4-H companion animal experience. Open to adults and youth aged 12 and up.

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 Web: www.isabellacounty.org/dept/msue/index.html



Isabella County 4-H Calendar

March		
1	BLT @ MSUE	9 am
4	Teen Horse Leaders @ MSUE	6:15 pm
4	Horse Leaders @ MSUE	7 pm
11	CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition @ MSUE	4 pm
13	Shooting Sports Committee @ MSUE	7 pm
15	BLT @ MSUE	9:30 am
15	First Aid / CPR Training @ MSUE	9 am
18	Camp Association @ MSUE	6:30 pm
20	Small Animal Association @ MSUE	7 pm
22	First Aid / CPR Training @ MSUE	9 am
25	4-H Council @ MSUE	7 pm
29	Dairy Feeder Weigh-In @ Fairgrounds	9-11 am

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