

CHANNEL 4-H NEWS

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Dairy Feeder Weigh-In

Saturday, March 28
9:00 am - 11:30 am
Isabella County Fairgrounds

All feeders must have an RFID tag, be dehorned, castrated, and not weigh over 250 lbs.

4-H Exploration Days 2009

June 24-26
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 half the fee for full time registration. Registration booklets will be available at the Extension office in early March. Registration opens on March 24, and sessions fill up very fast. So turn your form in early!

Choose from sessions such as: adventure education, animal science, arts, leadership, and much more! For more information check out the Exploration Days website at: web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/expodays.html

4-H International Opportunities

1. Belize – spend about 15 days in Belize representing Michigan 4-H and promoting 4-H in Belize. Be a host family for delegates from Belize for 2 weeks starting June 26.

2. Poland – be a host family from June 26-July 21. Must have a youth in the family ages 14-19. Hosts will have the opportunity to travel to Poland in 2010.

3. Japan – be a host family from July 25th – August 21st. Must have a youth 12-15 in the family. Host families are especially needed for boys! Youth will have the opportunity to return to Japan next year.

Don't wait to apply! Paperwork must be completed by mid-May! Contact the Extension office for applications.



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CLUB CORNER

Evergreen - In November they served Thanksgiving Dinner to the Rosebush Manor residents and their guests. They also started a citrus fruit sale. At their December meeting the group made pine wreaths to take home and brought in Christmas cookies that were sent to Rosebush Manor residents. At their January meeting they made plans to go tubing at Snow Snake Mountain and planned a fundraiser breakfast.

Lincoln Center - At their February meeting, members discussed their community service projects for April, and celebrated February birthdays. Members also made Valentine Cards for the Commission on Aging's Have a Heart Campaign.

Pony Creek - At their February meeting they went over the newsletter and talked about the last couple of months, because their December meeting was cancelled because of weather. Members are going to think about doing a fundraiser to make money for a club activity. After the meeting they made chia pets.

Silver Spurs - Had a normal business meeting in January and discussed stall decorations and club point system.

Town & Country Maple Leaves - Their February meeting was at the SAC for a bowling party. They are planning a bake sale for April 11. Some members will be volunteering at the county Rabbit show.

Sponsor A Fair Trophy

Have you ever wondered how we find all of the sponsors for the trophies you win at fair?? It is a very SIMPLE process -- we ask people to volunteer. We are hoping that several clubs and/or families will take on this opportunity for our 2009 fair awards. It is a great service to the 4-H program and what better way to spend some of your club funds than to support a fair awards winner! The average cost of sponsoring a trophy is \$20; many of them are less. If you are even a little bit interested, please contact Nonie at the 4-H office and she can provide more details. If you are only able to offer a certain amount for the sponsorship, we can do some partnering to cover these awards. We really want to make sure all of the awards/trophies are covered for this upcoming fair and are asking for your support. We hope you will seriously consider this request.

Broiler Chick Orders

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.

Isabella County 4-H Scholarship

Isabella County offers one \$1,000 scholarship to a 4-H member or former member each year. The scholarship recipient must be enrolled at an institution of higher learning and have been involved with 4-H in Isabella County. The scholarship is not limited to college freshmen.

Applications are online at:
www.isabellacounty.org/dept/msue/forms.html
 or at the Extension office and are due back to the office by March 30. The scholarship recipient will be notified by May 15.

Flower Arranging Workshop

Saturday, March 28

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Isabella County Building, Room 320

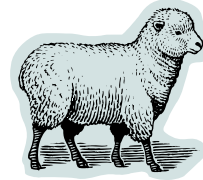
Open to any 4-H member or leader! Suzy Tengen, an Isabella County Master Gardener, will teach the basics of flower arranging using real flowers. You will create a small tabletop centerpiece to take home and be able to recreate for a fair project. Cost: \$10 You must pre-register by March 18th. If you are attending the BLT workshop in the morning, you can bring a sack lunch or join us for pizza at noon.

Animal Care Workshop

Thursday, March 26

6:30 pm - 8 pm

Isabella County Building, Room 320



Attention All Sheep, Goat, Swine, and Prospect Beef Members!

It's that time of year again, when you will be purchasing your 2009 projects. We invite you to come and learn valuable information about feed recommendations, health management, and proper showing techniques and tips. We encourage you to attend our workshop and learn new ideas for your project animals. Cookies and refreshments will be provided. Please call the Extension office to register before March 23. *Supported by Brown Milling, Inc & Kent Feeds*

Save These Dates!!!

4-H Summer Camp - July 7, 8, 9

4-H Cloverbud Day Camp - July 13, 14, 15

4-H Summer Camp: for youth ages 9-13.

Dates: July 7, 8, & 9

Location: Coldwater Lake 4-H Camp

Overnight Camp: Arrival and departure times, and cost will be in the next newsletter.

Activities: craft projects, sports activities, swimming, campfire activities

Cloverbud Day Camp: for youth ages 5-8.

Dates: July 13, 14 & 15

Location: Coldwater Lake 4-H Camp

Day Camp: arrive by 9:30 am, depart at 4:30 pm each day. Cost will be in the next newsletter.

Activities: craft projects, sports activities, nature hikes, story time, and swimming

Shooting Sports Dates

April 18 - Fun Shoot

May 16 - Fun Shoot

June 13 - Fun Shoot

July 11 - County shoot (with the 18th as a back-up)

Shooting sports members should plan to attend one or all of the above events to be held at the Isabella Sportsmen's Club in Winn. In order to participate in the County Shoot members must have participated in at least one fun shoot.

Shooting sports leaders are available to visit your club meeting to give a presentation or answer any questions your parents of members might have about the shooting sports program. Contact the MSUE office for names of leaders willing to speak.

Arts & Crafts Workshop

Saturday, April 4

12:30 - 4:30 pm

Isabella County Building, Room 145

Find your favorite pictures, magazine pages, fun colored papers, back to school supplies and let's get started . . . Paper Art, Decoupage or Mod Podge, beginning scrap booking, China Art and so much more!

If you're interested in Exploring Fine Arts, Crafts, and Beginning Photography contact Amy at (989) 488-0315 or ramsdellamy@aol.com

Garden Contest

The Isabella County Master Gardener judges would like to set up a meeting to review the judging criteria for planting a vegetable or flower garden for the fair. Please call the Extension office if you plan to participate in this. Master

Gardeners would be willing to answer questions or be a source of information during the gardening process. They cannot help you with the garden but will be available to answer questions.



VETAVISIT

Saturday, April 18
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Vetavisit 2009, the MSU College of Veterinary Medicine's annual open house is set. Admission is free-of-charge and there is no need to pre-register. Beverages and light refreshments, as well as college of veterinary medicine merchandise, will be available for sale.

Please allow several hours to see all the exhibits and don't forget to wear comfortable walking shoes! Guests may want to plan for more than 2-hours if planning to attend an educational seminar or roundtable discussion (for those interested in learning more about a career in veterinary medicine). Most exhibits and displays are age-appropriate for children 6 years of age and older.

FOR STUDENTS INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN VETERINARY MEDICINE

Undergraduate advisors in the College of Veterinary Medicine will hold one or more informational seminars for individuals interested in learning more about becoming veterinarians or veterinary technicians. These sessions will be held in the E-100 auditorium, which is a large lecture hall located on the northwest corner of the Veterinary Medical Center, near the intersection of Bogue Street and Wilson Road.

There will also be informal student and faculty roundtables, held in room G-150, an auditorium at the far east side of the Veterinary Medical Center. These sessions provide an opportunity to learn more about the life of veterinary students and what happens in the college from both a student's viewpoint and the faculty perspective.

Please check the exhibit and demonstration schedule at the Vet-A-Visit website for exact times and to confirm room locations!

When you arrive at Vetavisit, ask for a map or handout with the list of demonstrations and seminars to confirm times and locations.

Small Animals Day 2009

Saturday, April 18th

9am to 1pm

Admission: \$2/person

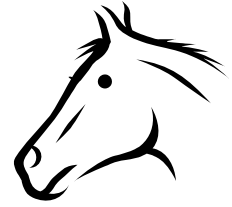
Another campus event that animal-loving youngsters enjoy is "Small Animals Day". This annual event is hosted by student organizations and clubs in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at MSU (NOT by students in the College of Veterinary Medicine). It is an opportunity to get outside on a spring day and visit the MSU farms and pavilion, and to see newborn animals up close.

Parking is at the southwest corner of Mt. Hope Rd and Farm Lane on the MSU campus. Visitors should dress for the weather. Buses transport passengers to a limited number of MSU farms to see the facilities and learn more about newborn animals (such as lambs, calves, foals). Animals will also be at the MSU Pavilion—and a lot of students/animal-related student clubs will be there. It's a fun time! To verify Small Animals Day info, call: 517-355-9575. Directions to MSU and maps:

<http://www.msu.edu/maps>

Yearn To Learn Clinic

Saturday, March 14
2 pm - 6 pm



This clinic is being provided free of charge for anyone that is interested in learning about horses and horse showing. The Isabella county teen horse leaders will be bringing you their combined knowledge in areas such as: banding, breed standards, leads, improving the whoa, bits, first aid, nutrition, and safety

There will be games, door prizes, and refreshments. So come and learn how you can be a better horse show mom, dad, or participant.

For more information, contact Megan Boursaw at 989-400-1681.

West Michigan Lakeshore 4-H All Breed Heifer & Steer Show

May 17, 2009
Western Michigan Fairgrounds, Ludington

Call the Extension office if you would more information on this event.

Pig & Lamb Sales List

Information for upcoming pig and lamb sales for youth project animals has been posted on the Animal Science Youth Program web site. The address is: www.canr.msu.edu/anscikids/

Also updated on the web site, is information regarding Pork Quality Assurance for Youth Certification sessions that are scheduled around the state. We are still in the process of updating the list of certified PQA trainers in the state.

Barn Tour Coming to Isabella County

September 21st will be an exciting day for those interested in learning about the "round roof" barns of Isabella County. In cooperation with the county sesquicentennial committee and the Michigan Barn Preservation Network, MSU Extension will be hosting a barn tour for travelers from all over Michigan.

We are looking for teens willing to help with planning and conducting this event as a 4-H teen leadership project. You will work with Paul Gross and Vera Wiltse to identify the barns for the tour, collect information, and organize a driving route.

Call us at the Extension office if you are interested!



State Rabbit and Cavy Events

State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Expo: June 13, 2009 (Note the date change)

State 4-H Volunteer and Teen Leader Workshop: November 14, 2009 (Note the date change)

More information is available at: web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/aniscipr.html#Rabbits

Michigan Livestock Expo

July 17 - 19

Ingham County Fairgrounds, Mason

The Michigan Livestock Expo is a multi-species livestock event including beef, sheep, swine, and goats, designed to enhance the livestock industry, educate youth and showcase Michigan's agriculture industry. The dairy industry will also be holding the Michigan Dairy Expo July 20-24 at the MSU Pavilion. Champions in each species will be sold at a special industry sale-aboration. Additional award winning animals will be chosen in each specie for the sale.

The show begins with check-in on Friday, July 17 at the Ingham County Fairgrounds. The beef, sheep, swine, & goat showmanship and market shows will be held July 18 & 19. The dairy show and showmanship will take place on July 21 at the MSU Livestock Pavilion. The Michigan Livestock Expo will conclude the evening of July 21 with a reception and sale of champions.

Open to all youth between the ages of 9 and 20 as of January 1. To register or for more information visit: www.milivestock.com

State 4-H Goat Expo

April 25 2009

Anthony Hall,MSU Pavilion

The catalog and registration information is now accessible on line at: <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/aniscipr.html#Goat>. When you are on the web site please notice the new resources that have been recently added.

Animal Science Youth Programs Calendar:
www.canr.msu.edu/anascikids/calendar.html

Camp Counselor Meeting

Monday, March 23

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Shepherd High School, Room 211

This is a meeting for overnight camp counselors. We want to give the counselors more opportunities to take leadership for the camp program and activities so advance planning is needed. If you want to be a teen counselor for the overnight camp, please submit your application asap. You can get the forms at: www.isabellacounty.org/dept/msue/forms.html

BLT - 3rd Edition

(Building your Leadership Toolbox)

You have 3 more opportunities to participate in this year's BLT series. The program is designed to build leadership skills and help 4-H members be the best they can be when exhibiting at the fair.

#2 - Saturday, March 21 - Presenting Yourself!

You will learn the secrets to a good interview with the judge. You will also learn about the public speaking competition and practice some recreational instruction.

#3 - Saturday, March 28 - Your Leadership Style

Spend the time in an informal, fun approach to discovering your personality strengths with the Real Colors program.

#4 - Saturday, April 4th - Graphic Design

Award winning posters, achievement booths, and educational exhibits don't just happen! Learn how to develop and design with a graphic designer.

Call the MSU Extension office now to register for the classes of your choice.

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 Isabella County MSU Extension office at 772-0911 ext. 302.

Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference

April 17-19, 2009 - Kettunen Center

If you would 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, health and cattle evaluation. Practice for state dairy management contests such as the skillathon and quiz bowls that focus on dairy cattle health. You'll also tour area farms. Open to youth aged 13 to 19.

4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Training

April 24-25, 2009 - 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 paperwork (including approval by county staff) before obtaining 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 Rabbit & Cavy Teen & Adult Volunteer Workshop

****date change** November 14, 2009 - Kettunen Center**

Gain new ideas and information about the rabbit and cavy project areas. You'll choose from a variety of learning opportunities including management, health, nutrition, breeding, animal evaluation and fun 4-H club program. You'll have the chance to exchange ideas, make new friends and explore new areas with other individuals who are just as excited about rabbits and cavies as you are! You'll be encouraged to develop plans for sharing your learning experiences in your county. Open to adults and teens aged 13 and up.

4-H Outdoor Adventure Challenge Leader Training Program

The 4-H Outdoor Adventure Challenge uses the biggest classroom available — the outdoors — to help young people develop the life skills they need to become self-directing, contributing and productive members of society. Through 4-H Outdoor Adventure Challenge, participants learn canoeing, kayaking, backpacking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, outdoor survival and safety skills. As part of these activities, they learn to deal with physically and mentally stressful situations that may occur in any setting in their lives. The program also helps young people develop greater sensitivity to, understanding of and appreciation for themselves and the outdoors. They learn to communicate with their group members to plan, organize and conduct their own activities in the outdoors. Applications are due April 13th and an orientation is scheduled for April 24th-26th. Contact the Extension office for more information.

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 Isabella County
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 Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

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 Fax: (989) 773-1622
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 Web: www.isabellacounty.org/dept/msue/index.html



Isabella County 4-H Calendar

March		
3	CHARACTER COUNTS! Meeting @ MSUE	4 pm
3	Teen Horse Leaders @ MSUE	6:15 pm
3	Horse Leaders @ MSUE	7 pm
11	Shooting Sports Committee @ MSUE	7 pm
17	Camp Association @ MSUE	6:30 pm
19	Small Animal Association @ MSUE	7 pm
21	BLT @ MSUE	9:30 am
23	Camp Counselor Meeting @ Shepherd High	6:30 pm
24	4-H Council @ MSUE	7 pm
28	BLT @ MSUE	9:30 am

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