

CHANNEL 4-H NEWS

MSU Extension - Isabella County

March 2011

2011 4-H Exploration Days

June 22-24

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 begins on March 22 and sessions fill up fast, so turn in your registration forms as soon as possible to the Extension office.

For a registration book or for more information check out the Exploration Days website at: <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/expodays.html>

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Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

Saturday, March 5

8 am – 11am

Orr Building, at 10266 East Coleman Rd., Coleman



The Wise Workers 4-H club is having a pancake breakfast fundraiser and bake sale to raise money to help with building improvements.

Spring Paper Clover Promo at Tractor Supply

Clubs are needed to help with the spring Tractor Supply clover sales promotion, April 14 – 25. Your club could have a bake sale, showcase projects, bring small animals, etc.

Contact the Extension office to schedule a time for your club to spend some time at the store promoting 4-H!



Card Shower for Vera Wiltse's Retirement

Vera is retiring on March 31! A card shower is being held in her honor and cards are due to MSUE by March 22.

CLUB CORNER

Evergreen - At our January meeting we set the date to go tubing at Snow Snake Mountain. We also had a speaker come and talk about goats. We then discussed our barn decorations for this coming year. At our February meeting we discussed doing a ceramic project, and asked members and parents to bring any Spring Fundraiser ideas to our March meeting. As a group we also went to Snow Snake to tube.

Tally-Ho - Members of Tally-Ho participated in the Optimist Club Bowling Fundraiser. A new member was introduced at that time, and everyone had a great time bowling.

Save The Dates

Summer Camp – July 12 & 13
Cloverbud Camp – July 19 & 20

2011 4-H Royalty Contest

Start thinking now about participating in this fun, worthwhile event. Princess candidates are 9 - 14 years old and Queen candidates are 15 - 19 years of age.

Application packets will be available sometime in April. Much more information to come.

Broiler Chick Orders

Time to order your broiler chicks! Orders need to be placed at the Extension office by April 29. Approximate cost per bird including shipping is \$1.40 each 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.

Mini-Grants Available

Each year, the Isabella County 4-H Program Council awards mini-grants of up to \$250 to 4-H clubs and programming committees. The money can be used for new programs, workshops, clinics, or enhancement of existing programs.

If you have an idea for 4-H programming, and if you would like to implement it but need some funding, please contact Monica at the Extension office for more information.

Dairy Feeder Weigh-In

Saturday, March 26
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Isabella County Fairgrounds

All feeders must be dehorned, castrated, and not weigh more over 250 lbs.

4-H Camp Rentals

Just a reminder to all that the 4-H camp is available to rent for open house, family reunions, etc. 4-H clubs and committees may use the facility for 4-H events at no charge.

Check out the link below for more information about the 4-H camp:

<http://www.isabellacounty.org/forms/msue/campbroc.pdf>

4-H Shooting Sports Update

We are looking for volunteer leaders to become certified as 4-H Shooting Sports instructors in archery, rifle, and shotgun. You will need to attend the April 29 - May 1 workshop at Kettunen Center. At the workshop you will learn safe and proper use of guns and archery equipment that you can teach the youth. Please call the Extension office if you would like to register or have any questions.

Listed below are the shooting sports dates for 2011:

- **April 9** - Fun Shoot
- **May 14** - Fun Shoot
- **June 11** - Fun Shoot
- **July 16** - County Shooting Competition (July 23, alternate date)

Congratulations to Brandi Andrews!

Brandi Andrews, Wise Workers 4-H club, has been awarded a \$2,000 Pre-college Achievement Scholarship. Students in 8th, 9th, and 10th grades for 2010-11 who attended a 2010 summer pre-college program at MSU were eligible for award nomination. Brandi was eligible from her participation in 4-H Exploration Days. Selection for this scholarship is based on academic ability and potential, demonstration of extra-curricular and community service experience, demonstration of leadership and teamwork skills, ability to overcome obstacles, teacher and program director nominations and strength of student essay question responses. The scholarship will be applied toward the student's first year at MSU as a degree-seeking student.

Isabella County Rabbit & Cavy Show Results

Our 22nd annual show was held February 26 at West Intermediate. Thank you to all that worked so hard and helped in many capacities! The many hands offered for set up and clean up made things go very quickly and smoothly for a very tired show committee. We held a bake sale to benefit the food stand – thanks to the many Isabella County people that provided delicious food. We hope more of you will take advantage of this local, educational event next year: save the date of February 28, 2012. ****Special thanks to Angie Coldwell & Tammy Brecht for their hard work as show superintendent and show secretary!****

Congratulations to our county winners this year:

Showmanship

Junior: 1st - Katelyn Hutchinson, 3rd - Kylie Hutchinson, 6th - Johna Lawens, 7th - Maryn Carter

Intermediate: 1st - Madeline Devantier, 4th - Charlie Carter, 5th - Andrew Hutchinson

Senior: 1st - Kate Troxell, 3rd - Kaylee Devantier, 5th - Brandi Andrews, 10th Sam Robinson, Honor Riley Andrews

Rabbit Breed Class

Best Holland Lop - Jayme Riley, Best Himalayan - Maryn Carter, Best Polish - Darren Palmer

Horse Nutrition Meeting

Wednesday, March 23

6:30 pm

Isabella County Building, Room 320

Please join us for a Horse Nutrition Meeting "Balancing Cost Considerations with Behavior & Performance in 2011". Guest speaker will be Dr. Dan Burke, PhD, Director of Equine Nutrition from Tribute Equine Nutrition. Pizza and refreshments will be served.

Please RSVP to Johnston Elevator at 989-386-7271.

PQA Meeting Date

We are trying to schedule a date for a certification training in Isabella County in April. We will keep you posted on a date.

Dog Classes

Anyone interested in joining a fun group of kids and their dogs to learn about training and competing in the many areas of dog sports or if you just want to learn about dogs, please contact Diane Gaw, Assistant Dog Superintendent at (989) 772-7503 or dmkovacs@gmail.com.

Attention Camp Counselors

If you would like to be a counselor for 4-H Cloverbud Camp or Summer Camp, please complete an application form now!

Forms are available on-line:

www.isabellacounty.org/dept/msue/forms.html

Completed forms are due to the Extension office by April 29.



The Isabella County 4-H Council chose to dedicate the \$575 raised from the fall paper clover event held at Tractor Supply Company to the Isabella County 4-H Proud Equestrian Program (PEP), a therapeutic horseback riding program.

Left to right in the photo:
Wendy Albrecht, PEP instructor
James Jones, store manager
Keri Powers, PEP committee Chair
Jeremy Powers, PEP rider

Horse Clinics

Saturday, March 19th at 1:00 pm
Q and A Session With A Judge/Trainer

Trevor Walton – Wishing Star Farms
Trainer, Instructor, Judge

Saturday, April 2nd at 1:00 pm
Starting the Young Horse

Levi Beechy –
Levi's Training & Boarding Center

Saturday, April 16th at 1:00 pm

Showing and Grooming the Miniature Horse and Pony
Aftin Ruhle – Aftin Ruhle Performance Horses
Trainer, Instructor, Judge

Saturday, April 30th at 1:00 pm

Desensitizing the Trail or Show Horse on the Ground
Jeremy Yarger – JD Ranch
Trainer, Instructor

All clinics will be held at the Eternal Equestrian Center in Edenville. Bring a chair and join in for fun filled afternoons. Hat cleaning/shaping and clipper blade sharpening on-site April 2 & 16. Bring your hat and blades to be ready for show season! Drinks and snacks provided and door prizes.
All these clinics are free!

For more information call Aftin Ruhle at 989-465-1456 or email aftin_carrier@hotmail.com.

Fair Help Needed

Superintendents needed for Collections, Basketry, and Glass, Plastic, Wood, & Stone Art areas. If you or someone you know would be interested in helping out in one of these areas, please contact the Extension office.

Donors are needed for the Leadership-Special Awards at Fair (Outstanding 4-Her, Junior Achievement, Senior Achievement, teen leader awards). If any clubs would like to help sponsor this area (or know someone else who would), contact our office.

Poultry Palooza

Saturday, May 21
Clinton County Fairgrounds



More information will be in the next newsletter.

Fair Trophy Sponsors

There is a need for fair trophy sponsors for several project areas. If you or someone you know is interested in sponsoring a trophy, please contact Eva Loudenslager at eml40@localnet.com or 588-4882.

4-H WORKSHOPS

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

4-H Environmental & Outdoor Education, Plant Science & Entomology Workshop March 18–20, 2011 – Kettunen Center

This is a hands-on opportunity to learn about many environmental and outdoor education, horticulture and entomology projects through fun lessons and activities. Gain ideas, project resources and activities to help kids get outside and have fun outdoors. Sessions will feature wildlife, natural resources, plant science, entomology, outdoor adventure challenge recreation and leadership, water testing, fisheries, energy, GPS techniques and more. Learn about science applications and career exploration related to these subjects and how to use the information with 4-H clubs or classrooms.

4-H Healthy Living

April 8–10, 2011 – Kettunen Center

This workshop is the first workshop in TEN years offering unique training on how to eat and live healthy. In this workshop you will gain invaluable experiences when working with youth and also personal growth in the area of healthy living. You will learn how to be health conscience and teach youth how to also do the same. Are you ready to challenge yourself, be educated and have fun all in the name of healthy living? Sign up today for this great workshop. During this workshop, please plan on bringing workout clothes, shoes and loose fitting garments.

Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference

April 15–17, 2011 – Camp Beechpoint, Allegan, Michigan

You'll learn about dairy management topics including dairy cattle nutrition, health, reproduction and cattle evaluation. Practice for state dairy management contests such as the skillathon and quiz bowls that will focus on dairy cattle reproduction. You'll also tour area farms. Open to youth aged 12 to 19.

4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Workshop

April 29–May 1, 2011 – Kettunen Center

Choose one of several disciplines offered at this workshop as a first step in becoming certified as a Michigan 4-H shooting sports instructor. Disciplines offered include rifle, shotgun, archery, hunting and wildlife. Join us and see all that the 4-H shooting sports program has to offer! Learn how we foster positive youth development through the shooting sports, and try techniques that effectively help young people learn safe and proper use of guns and archery equipment. You do NOT need to retake the training unless you've been inactive for more than 3 years or your certification has lapsed. Open to new and veteran adult volunteers and youth aged 16 and up.

4-H Mentoring Weekend

July 22–24, 2010 – Kettunen Center

This weekend event brings mentoring matches together from around the state to enjoy time strengthening their relationship through workshops and fun! Check out the Michigan 4-H Youth Mentoring profile on Facebook to learn more, stay updated on event details and see pictures from previous mentoring events! Open to 4-H mentoring matches aged 11 and up.

4-H Youth Development
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 Isabella County
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 Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

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Become a fan of MSU Extension Isabella County on Facebook



Isabella County 4-H Calendar

March		
1	Teen Horse Leaders @ MSUE	6:15 pm
1	Horse Leaders @ MSUE	7 pm
15	4-H Camp Association @ MSUE	6:30 pm
17	PEP @ MSUE	10 am
17	Small Animal Association @ MSUE	7 pm
22	4-H Council @ MSUE	7 pm
23	Horse Nutrition Workshop @ MSUE	6:30 pm
26	Dairy Feeder Weigh In @ Fairgrounds	9 am - 12 noon

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