



CHANNEL 4-H NEWS

MSU Extension - Isabella County

April 2009

Sheep Weigh-In	Swine Tagging	Goat Weigh-In
Sunday, May 3	Sunday, May 3	Sunday, May 3
9 - 11 am	11 am - 2 pm	1 pm - 3 pm

Members enrolled in these projects must bring their fair animals to the fairgrounds during these times for weighing and tagging. Goat weigh-in is for wethers only. Market hogs will not be weighed (there will not be a rate of gain competition) but must be brought to the grounds for tagging. An adult or youth must be with the hogs and be ready and willing to tag their own hogs. Hogs will not be unloaded and superintendents will not be entering the trailer.

Create an Award Winning Poster

This is a reminder that the final BLT (Building you Leadership Toolbox) session is on Saturday, April 4th, 9:30 - Noon in room 320 of the County Building. The topic of the session is Graphic Design and Fair Exhibits.

Come and learn the basics of graphic design and receive some great tips for your next 4-H educational exhibit. Bring ideas for your 4-H project poster or achievement booth because you will have an opportunity to create a draft and receive feedback from a graphic designer. We will furnish poster size paper, pencils, markers, and refreshments! This event is open to all 4-H members, so make sure to tell your friends! Please call the Extension office if you plan to attend.

Inside this issue:

<i>Club Corner</i>	2
<i>County Rabbit Show Results</i>	3
<i>Dog Clinic</i>	4
<i>Tack Sale</i>	4
<i>Beef Show</i>	5
<i>Livestock Judging Contest</i>	6
<i>Calendar</i>	8

Pork Quality Assurance (PQA) Meeting

Monday, April 13 - 6:30 pm - Isabella County Building, room 320

Swine project members are required to be PQA certified in order to exhibit your animal at the 2009 Isabella County Fair.

Youth 9-11 years of age (Beginner) must recertify annually by attending an approved Youth PQA Plus education program. Youth 12 -14 years of age (Intermediate) and 15 - 18 years of age (Advanced) can certify/recertify by attending an approved Youth PQA Plus education program or can certify by completing and passing an examination at the appropriate age level. Once certified by examination, the youth is not required to recertify until the next age level is reached. 19 year old and older must be Adult PQA Plus certified at the commercial level.

Please call the Extension office to register for one of these meetings if you need to be certified this year.



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"Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the MSU Extension office at (989) 772-0911 ext. 302. at least 5 days prior to the scheduled event to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements. Requests received after this time will be met when possible."



CLUB CORNER

Cowgirl Up - In March the club spent two Saturday evenings at Bennigans selling MDA Shamrocks, to help Bennigans send 3 children to MDA camp. They sold a total of \$485.00.

Evergreen - For their February meeting each member brought non perishable food items for the REAP in Rosebush. They had a feed speaker at our March meeting and were given very good information. Our last fundraiser was started.

Pony Creek - At their March meeting they went over the newsletter and talked about what everyone had done since their last meeting. They also talked about going down the Chippewa river in canoes when it warms up and cleaning up the river. After the meeting they made "sand art" candles.

Rural Routers - During February members went bowling and in March they discussed community service projects. They will work at the Maple Syrup Festival. Also talked about upcoming events and opportunities.



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.

State Awards Service Project

As part of the State 4-H Awards process, delegates participate in a service project during Exploration days. This year, they will be making fleece tie blankets. Each delegate is asked to bring 2 - 1 yard pieces of child friendly print fleece to the state awards assembly session to complete the blankets. Many of you receive 50% off coupons from Joann's from time to time or you have a huge pile of fabric in your quilting rooms at home that may have an extra yard of fleece you could donate. If you have either and would be willing to help support our county's state delegates by donating the coupon or the fleece please let us know. If we bring extra down to Exploration Days, that's just more blankets we're able to give to DeVos Children's Hospital!! Thank you!!

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.

Meet The Alpacas

Saturday, April 18

11 am - 3 pm

Alma Fairgrounds (in the swine barn)

Everyone is welcome to attend and it is FREE! Includes gentle alpacas, fun kid's activities, informative demonstrations, and product vendors.





Isabella County 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show Results

Our 20th annual show was held February 28 at West Intermediate. Thank you to all that helped in many capacities for another successful show. The many hands offered for set up and clean up made things go very quickly and smoothly for a very tired show committee. We enjoyed anniversary cake, special presentations by our judges and an American Rabbit Breeders Association certified Registrar, caricatures by a local artist (who WILL be back next year), special door prizes, and a skill-a-thon put together by two of our teen leaders. The silent auction had some very nice animals available for bid and our raffle was the best in years. 4-Hers from all over the state attended and Isabella County was well represented. We hope more of you will take advantage of this local, educational event next year: Save the date of February 27, 2010.

Isabella County winners this year were:

Showmanship

Junior

- 1st Madeline Devantier
- 2nd Nathan Ringwalt
- 7th Elizabeth Troxell

Intermediate

- 1st Kate Troxell
- 2nd Lauren Ringwalt
- 5th Kaylee Devantier

Senior

- 1st Alissa Coldwell

Breed Classes

- Best Opposite Dutch* - Timothy Brecht
- Best Opposite Polish* - Kate Troxell
- Best Rex* - Kaylee Devantier
- Best Silver Fox* - Charlie Carter
- Best Opposite Silver Fox* - Timothy Brecht
- Best & Best Opposite Himalayan* - Alissa Coldwell

Educational Exhibit

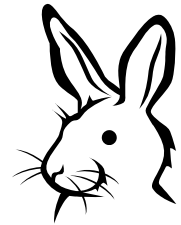
Junior Winners

- Nathan Ringwalt
- Beth Troxell

Skill-a-Thon

Junior Winner

- Kaylee Devantier



Shooting Sports Dates

- April 18 - Fun Shoot, 9 am - 3 pm
- May 16 - Fun Shoot
- June 13 - Fun Shoot
- July 11 - County shoot (with the 18th as a back-up)
- August 1 - State Shoot - Calhoun County

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.

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: Registration forms 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: Registration forms will be in the next newsletter.
 Activities: craft projects, sports activities, nature hikes, story time, and swimming





Start Your Gardening Project

Create a container garden for exhibition at this year's fair! Join us on Tuesday, May 12, from 6 - 8 pm at Pleasant Thyme Herb Farm, 5907 East Baseline Road.

Dave Breedlove and Isabella County Master Gardeners will be there to help you pick out companion plants to grow in your own container. You will also receive instruction on how to care for your garden during the summer months.

Bring your container or find one later, but don't miss this wonderful opportunity to get started early with your gardening project! Cost will vary depending upon number and choice of plants. 4-H member discounts will be available.

4-H Exploration Days 2009

4-H Exploration Days is an annual state youth conference that will be held June 24-26 at the campus of MSU and 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. Sessions fill up very fast so don't wait to register.

Choose from sessions such as: adventure education, animal science, arts, leadership, and much more!

Visit the Extension office for registration books or go to:
web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/expodays.html

2009 4-H Spring Dog Clinic

Saturday, June 6
9 am - 3 pm
Ionia County Fairgrounds

Bring your dog! The clinic provides an opportunity to learn and enhance youth skills in obedience, showmanship, rally, and freestyle. Cost: \$15.00 includes lunch

Tack Sale

Saturday, April 18
10 am - 1 pm
Midland County Fairgrounds



Event will run concurrent with the Jr. Equestrian Meet. Tables for rent: \$15 for 4-H members or \$20 for non 4-H members.

To reserve tables please call Ruthann Marsh at 989-839-2699 or Debra Arney at 989-631-9535.

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

Call the Extension office if you have questions.





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.

Middle of the Mitten Beef Cattle Preview Show

Saturday, May 2
7:30 am - 9:00 am - check-in
Gratiot County Fair for Youth Fairgrounds, Alma

The show is open to youth age 9 through 20 by January 1, 2009. There will be \$10.00 entry fee per head entered by April 15, 2009. Entries mailed after April 15 will be required to pay \$15.00 per head.

If you would like entry information contact the Extension office. For specific questions about the show you may call Colleen Whitford at 989-763-4789.

Pig & Lamb Sales List

Information for upcoming pig and lamb sales are available from the Extension office or 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.

Teens Needed to Help with Barn Tour

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.

Please attend the committee meeting if you are interested in helping on April 9 at 6:30 pm.





4-H Learning Science through the Arts Camp

July 12 - 15

\$140

Kettunen Center, Tustin

4-H Learning Science through the Arts Camp is held every summer. The camp is designed for youth aged 9 to 14 years old and volunteer teen counselors, aged 15 to 19 years old. The camp program blends nature study and outdoor recreation with visual and performing arts. **The theme is "Wonders of Water: Get in to Water & Make a Splash!"**

Arts

- "A Picture is Worth A Thousand Words!" Learn how to take great outdoor pictures using digital cameras. Learn from a professional photographer Charles St. Charles. Explore and take photos of the wetlands, waterfront, water bugs and learn how to use computer technology and your digital "pop out" photos to create an amazing digital watershed mosaic to share with our friends and family at the end of camp presentation.
- Enjoy a WOW presentation of wildlife photographs taken by Charles St. Charles.
- Sketch, paint and more paint! Learn the basics of watercolor painting with artist Nancy Kitchen & enter your creations in an end of camp Art Show.
- Experience the fable of the Rainstick with storyteller Bonnie Neuman and create your own rainstick to take home.
- Design a T-Shirt using the ancient art of fish printing.

Sciences

- Water on the Go! Cranbrook Institute Science educators will present three programs: How We Use Water, I Live In A Watershed, and Groundwater Pollution, for you to learn about water resources. We'll also perform water quality tests on Center Lake and dip for macroinvertebrates.
- You will use computer technology to make a watershed mosaic of photographs. Professional photographer Charles St. Charles will involve you in this hands-on experience encouraging a connection with the natural resources through technology.
- Design your own boat and then test it for speed and floatation with other campers on Center Lake.
- Build your own terrarium to take home!

Outdoor Recreation

- Hiking, Swimming, Boating, Fishing, Campfires, and much more

For more information visit: www.kettunencenter.org/downloads/sciartcamp09.pdf

Livestock Judging Contest

Sunday, April 19

The MSU Block and Bridle club will host their annual Livestock Judging Contest. This contest is open to youth interested in building skills in this important area. The entry information and form is available on the Animal Science Youth Extension web site on the Upcoming Events page.

<http://www.canr.msu.edu/anscikids/>

Call the Extension office if you have any questions.





VETAVISIT

Saturday, April 18

9 am - 4 pm

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

9 am - 1 pm

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! Directions to MSU and maps: www.msu.edu/maps

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Isabella County 4-H Calendar

Isabella County 4-H Calendar		
April		
4	BLT @ MSUE	9:30 am
7	Teen Horse Leaders @ MSUE	6:15 pm
7	Horse Leaders @ MSUE	7 pm
8	Shooting Sports Committee @ Isabella County Sportsmen's Club	7 pm
8	Fairboard @ County Building, room 145	8 pm
9	Barn Tour Committee @ MSUE	6:30 pm
10	OFFICE CLOSED - AFTERNOON	
13	PQA Workshop @ MSUE	6:30 pm
14	Camp Association @ MSUE	6:30 pm
16	Small Animal Association @ MSUE	7 pm
18	Fun Shoot @ Sportsmen's Club	9 am - 3 pm
28	4-H Council @ MSUE	7 pm

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