

CHANNEL 4-H NEWS

MSU Extension - Isabella County

April 2011

Farewell message from Vera

It has been almost 24 years since I started working for MSU Extension. It has been a great career that has allowed me to be a teacher, counselor, program coordinator, administrator, camp director, fundraiser, etc. There have not been any dull moments!

As I retire, my hope is that Isabella County will continue to have dedicated volunteers to serve on planning committees, to work directly with youths, to be positive role models for many more generations, and to make learning FUN!

Because of budget concerns at the local and state level, my position will not be filled. Monica Borgman and Nonie Gross will continue to maintain the county program and you will have the opportunity to meet new Extension Educators as they plan and conduct programs for multiple counties including Isabella County.

And because everyone asks: I will continue as a 4-H volunteer, teaching crafts and life skills, as well as doing volunteer work in my church and community. And as many of you already know, traveling is always on my agenda.

Best wishes to all of you! Enjoy all that life has to offer!

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Swine Tagging

Saturday, May 7
9 am - 12 noon

Sheep Weigh-In

Saturday, May 7
5 pm - 7 pm

Goat Weigh-In

Saturday, May 7
9 am - 11 am

Members enrolled in these projects must bring their fair animals to the Isabella County fairgrounds during these times for weighing and tagging. Goat weigh-in is for wethers only.

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. 4-H Royalty information and application packets will be available at the Extension office by April 26. All of the criteria, rules, and required dates will be part of this information.



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CLUB CORNER

Aim High - Aim High reviewed projects kids can take to fair. Teen leaders gave presentations about small animals and reminded everyone they need to own their animals by May 1st. Also talked about upcoming community service and fundraising dates. Everyone signed a card for Vera's retirement party.

Evergreen - At our March meeting we voted on doing a spring flower and vegetable fundraiser, decided a date to clean-up the Rosebush United Methodist Church as a community service project and we also did a ceramics project as a group.

Lincoln Center - At their March meeting, the club decided to go Roller Skating on March 20th at Spinning Wheels. They also decided the date for their MDOT Adopt-a-Road community service project, which will take place April 2nd. A short PowerPoint Presentation was given by Andrew Hutchinson on lambs and public speaking. Members also signed up for a shift at the Maple Syrup Festival.

Pine River - In our February meeting we held a grandparent's dinner. At the dinner the club members served there guest food and drinks. Later we had a drawing for door prizes.

Spring Paper Clover Promo at Tractor Supply

Clubs are needed to help with the spring Tractor Supply clover sales promotion, April 14 - 25. Contact the Extension office to schedule a time for your club to spend some time at the store promoting 4-H!

In-Store Event Ideas for Clubs

- 4-Her carry out service
- Set up a table at the store to showcase 4-H events
- Bring animals to the store and hold demonstrations
- BBQ Cookout with hamburgers & hotdogs
- Have 4-Hers give demonstrations in their project area
- Petting zoo
- Bake sale
- Hold an animal food drive and customers shopping TSC can buy food to donate to animal shelter

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.

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.

4-H Camp Clean up Day

Save the Date - May 21

The Isabella County 4-H Camp Association has set a date – May 21 - for clubs to come and help prepare camp for the 2011 camping drns. The campasso

Volunteers Needed for Proud Equestrian Program (PEP)

The "If Wishes Were Horses" Proud Equestrian Program is looking for volunteers for the following dates: May 12 & 19, June 9, 16, 30 & July 14, 21, 28. You do not need have to have experience with horses to volunteer. It is an eight week riding program for children with disabilities. There will be two riding sessions. One at 6 p.m. and another at 7 p.m. An orientation for volunteers & horse screening is set for May 5th, 6 p.m., in the outdoor riding arena at the Isabella County Fairgrounds.

If you have any questions call the Extension office or e-mail Keri Powers at: jpp99@frontier.com.

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. 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>

Congratulations to our 2011 Mark of Excellence Award Winners!

The following youths submitted excellent essays this year revolving around the theme "Because of 4-H, I can..." There were seven quality essays entered in the essay contest this year.

Brianna Boerma – Aim High 4-H Club
 Katelyn Hutchinson – Lincoln Center 4-H Club
 Kylie Hutchinson – Lincoln Center 4-H Club
 Alyvia Karcher – Crackerjack 4-H Club
 Johna Lawens – Evergreen 4-H Club
 Dakota Miller – Pony Express 4-H Club
 Ryanne Reddick – Mt. Eagles 4-H Club

Thank you for entering the contest and sharing your wonderful, creative thoughts on 4-H and how it has affected you and your life. Selection of the two essays was difficult.

Brianna Boerma and Ryanne Reddick were chosen to receive the 2011 Mark of Excellence Award. They will represent Isabella County and be recognized at the State Awards Celebration during Exploration Days this year.

Small Animal News

May 1 is the deadline for owning fair animals. If you have questions, please contact one of the superintendents below. All small animal members will soon be receiving a letter in the mail -- please be sure to read the whole letter and take note of the important information provided.

Cats = Janet Maddocks: jmaddocks@sha.net

Dogs = Sheila Beutler: skbeutler@yahoo.com

and Diane Gaw: dmkovacs@gmail.com

Goats = Ray & Shari Beebe: sharibeebe@hotmail.com

and Theresa Epple: goat_girl49@hotmail.com

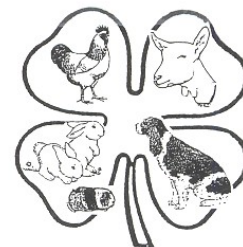
Pocket Pets = Cathy VanOrden: ccvanorden@msn.com

and Dan VanOrden: dvanorden@hotmail.com

Poultry = Wanda Travis/Darlene Misenhelder: gingertravis@aol.com

Rabbits = Bob & Barb Coldwell: rjcoldwell@hotmail.com

and Angie Coldwell: jandacoldwell@cmsinter.net



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)

4-H Night at the Loons

Monday, July 11

Cost: \$9 box seats, \$6 lawn seats

Come out to Dow Diamond as the Loons take on the Fort Wayne TinCaps and support 4-H. Activities include: make and take crafts, 4-H Information Displays, Greening Station, Cupcake Decorating, Petting Zoo, & more! Also, they are looking for more activities & events if anyone has ideas.

Contact the Extension office if you are interested in attending. We have been asked to generate interest and get projected attendance numbers.

2011 Isabella County 4-H Horse Shows

Speed:

June 22, July 6, July 20, makeup July 27

Twilight:

June 15, June 29, July 13, makeup August 3

Denim Days:

May 7 & 8

Horse Camp:

June 23 - 26

Cowgirl Up/MMOHSC:

June 4 & 5, July 9 & 10



Interested in Learning to Laugh in a Different Language?

International Student Exchange (ISE), a CSIET-approved program, is looking for host families in the central Michigan area for the upcoming 2011-2012 school year. Students are between 15-18 years old. Currently, male and female students from Europe, South America, and Asia are available. Interests include, but are not limited to, sports (all types), music, dance, animals, crafts, cooking, travel, church activities, and reading. For more information, contact Cheryl Jindeel at (989) 954-5743 or cheryl.jindeel@yahoo.com. You can also check out www.cmw-exchange.com for general information on hosting. Change a life. Host an exchange student!

PQA Meeting

Tuesday, April 27

6:30 pm - 8 pm

Isabella County Building, rooms 320 & 225

All swine project members must be PQA Plus certified in order to exhibit your animal at the 2011 Isabella County Fair. If you attended a meeting last year, check your completion certificate for your certification deadline date. If you cannot find your certificate, contact the Extension Office. Youth 8-11 must attend the certification meeting annually.

Updated Isabella County Rabbit/Cavy Show Report

In the newsletter 2 months ago regarding the February Rabbit & Cavy Show, two very special awards were omitted:

* Best of Breed Dwarf Hotot was won by Charlie Carter

* Best Opposite Himalayan was won by Johna Lawens

Sorry that we missed you girls and congratulations on your honors! We also appreciate that you attended our show and represented Isabella County.

Spring Dog Clinic

Saturday, May 14

Clinton County Fairgrounds, St. Johns

Open to youth ages 9 and up. Parent, leader or qualified teen must accompany youth under 12 to assist with dog handling. Register by April 29. \$20/person with a dog. Contact the Extension office for more details.

Save These Dates

4-H Summer Camp - July 12 & 13

4-H Cloverbud Day Camp - July 19 & 20

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

Dates: July 12 & 13

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 19 & 20

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

Registration forms will be in the May newsletter.

Poultry Palooza

Saturday, May 21

9 am - 5 pm

Clinton County Fairgrounds, St. Johns

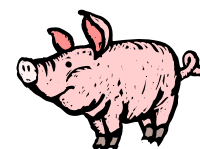
The State 4-H Poultry Palooza is designed for young people aged 9 to 19 who are interested in exhibiting poultry and testing their knowledge of the poultry industry in a fun and educational way. You must pre-register by April 22 to participate. More information at: <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/aniscipr.html#Poultry>

Swine Workshop

Thursday, April 7

6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Johnston Elevator, Clare



Clare County MSU Extension is accepting reservations for a swine presentation: "The Science of Selecting and Feeding your Champion 4-H Swine Project Presentation"

Sponsored By: Johnston Elevator
Guest Presenter: Brian Hines, Swine Judge and Sunglow Feed Representative

If you are planning to attend, please RSVP to Clare County MSU Extension at (989) 539-7805 or Travis Schunk at Johnston Elevator at (989) 400-9532.

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

Forms are available on-line: www.isabellacounty.org/dept/msue/forms.html

Adult Help is Needed for Camp this year (age 21 & up)!!! 4-H camp program committee will meet in May with the camp counselors.

Consider joining the new 4-H camp program committee. In May, we hope to schedule a meeting of counselors & adults to plan the 2 camps. We need adult help planning, coordinating, conducting camp, and need camp chaperones.

Michigan 4-H Youth Development recommends the following adult-to-youth ratios when planning and implementing programs. When involving youth between the ages of 5 and 12 (of the same gender), follow a ratio of one adult to six youth. Supervision of young people aged 13 and up (of the same gender) requires a ratio of one adult to ten youth.

Horse Clinics

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.

4-H Outdoor Adventure Challenge Leader Training Series

The 4-H Outdoor Adventure Challenge uses the biggest classroom available - the outdoors - to lead young people in activities that are both physically and mentally stressful. Through Challenge, participants learn canoeing, kayaking, backpacking, exploring caves, climbing cliffs, outdoor survival and safety skills. Most importantly, they learn to communicate with other group members to plan, organize and conduct their own activities in the outdoors. The program teaches youth the skills necessary to deal with stressful situations which may occur in any setting in their lives. It also gives young people a greater sensitivity, understanding and appreciation for both themselves and the outdoors.

The cost for the training is \$275 for adults and \$150 for youth ages 16 and up. A registration fee of \$100 is due with the application. Trainees can select either the week-long 4-H Outdoor Adventure Challenge Leader Training Series, plus the specialty sessions, which are offered from May to January. Registration for either series is due in April. The registration fee for the training series covers instructional materials, meeting facilities, camping fees and group equipment costs and mileage for instructors. Participants also are responsible for the cost of their own food, personal equipment, transportation to and from the training sites, and other personal costs.

To become a certified 4-H Outdoor Adventure Challenge volunteer, you must attend all the required sessions, two specialty sessions, have current American Red Cross first-aid and CPR certification cards and work with a 4-H group after you complete the training. There are two training series to choose from:

- **The Weekend Series** This series includes three or four required weekend sessions from April through October. The sessions include an orientation weekend and specific training in group activities, backpacking and canoeing. Participants must also complete two of four specialty sessions in caving, rock climbing, kayaking, or winter camping.
- **The Week-Long Series** This series includes: a required orientation session in April and an in-depth one-week summer session that includes canoeing, backpacking, rock climbing and group activities training. Participants must also complete two of four specialty sessions in caving, rock climbing, kayaking, or winter camping.

4-H Outdoor Adventure Challenge leaders are men and women who like working with young people, enjoy outdoor experiences, have had or would like experiences in high-adventure activities, are mature, responsible, enthusiastic, personable and open to new and different experiences.

Do you fit? Contact the MSU Extension office for more information or visit:

<http://web1.msue.msu.edu/4h/challenge.html> to download a copy of the promotional brochure for additional training dates and certification requirements along with an application.

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 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 Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp 2011

July 31 - August 6

For teens ages 13 - 15 years old

\$335 - partial scholarships are available

Camp Chickagami (between Alpena and Rogers City), Presque Isle

This camp is designed for teens who will be aged 13 to 15 on July 1 of the camp year*. You do not need to be a 4-H member to attend. You'll learn about natural resources and management issues, especially those related to the aquatic environment and the Great Lakes. A limited number of camp counselors ages 16 and older will be selected by the camp director and assistant director to serve as camp counselors. *(Note: If you'll only be 12 during camp but will enter 8th grade in the fall, you may still apply.)

This camp provides teens from across the state have the opportunity to:

- Improve their knowledge about Great Lakes and natural resources ecology and management issues. Increase awareness of environmental problems, foster environmental stewardship and enhance involvement in local natural resources projects.
- Increase interest in the outdoors, develop leadership skills and self-confidence and influence career decisions.
- Gain hands-on science experiences, meet new people and develop friendships.
- Learn from natural resources and youth development experts and develop possible career interests.
- Have fun in the great outdoors doing camp activities such as fishing, boating, swimming, hiking and having a campfire

For more information about camp please visit: <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/4h/glnrc.html>

4-H Youth Development
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Isabella County 4-H Calendar

April		
5	Teen Horse Leaders @ MSUE	6:15 pm
5	Horse Leaders @ MSUE	7 pm
6	Shooting Sports Committee @ MSUE	7 pm
9	Fun Shoot @ Sportsmen's Club	9:30 am
12	4-H Camp Association @ MSUE	6:30 pm
14	PEP @ MSUE	10 am
21	Small Animal Association @ MSUE	7 pm
22	OFFICE CLOSED - AFTERNOON	
26	4-H Council @ MSUE	7 pm
27	PQA @ MSUE	6:30 pm

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