

*Alcona County*

4-H Family News

Spring 2015

Spring is Coming!

Like many of you, I was fearful that Spring would never come back to northern Michigan– but after these past few days of warmer weather, I have a new found optimism. The grass is greening, the driveways are drying out and spring sports are practicing. With all of that, I want to get a spring newsletter into your hands, filled with numerous opportunities to get involved with everything we have to offer this summer.

Throughout this newsletter you will find a club directory as well as the summer dates calendar– we have lots to see and do this summer. Please also find a registration for the Detroit Daytrip– we are excited to announce that we will be going to Greenfield Village as well as to Comerica Park and that registration is open on a first-come, first-served basis. In addition to the opportunities inside, I have also added our scholarship policy– as we can all use a hand in paying for the educational programs we're going to. Our 4-H Council has set a \$2000 youth scholarship budget this year– let's make sure we take advantage and spend it all!

See you soon!

JOIN | THE REVOLUTION 
OF RESPONSIBILITY

LesThomas, 4-H Program Coordinator

Area Youth Attend Leadership Program

19 area youth from ages 11-19 came together to learn about the importance of youth leadership in January at a program held prior to the 4-H Appreciation Dinner at Lost Lake Woods Club.

The program was facilitated by Wexford County MSU Educator Sara Keinath to help youth realize their leadership potential and remind them that they can be a positive voice in their communities. Youth participated in

activities designed to help them discover their leadership voice and strengthen their team building skills as well. In addition to the youth program, Keinath also spoke at the evening Appreciation Dinner event. That event hosted over 70 volunteers, donors and supporters for a wonderful evening of food, fellowship and recognition. A silent auction capped the evening off that raised over \$1800 to support both the dinner, leadership program as well as the scholarship fund.

For Photo from event– see page 2.

Contact Us

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Instagram

ALCONA COUNTY 4-H CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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Garden Club members needed!

The Alcona Elementary School garden is looking for a club or club(s) to help with all phases of the 2015 garden— from pre-planting to harvesting.

The Born in a Barn 4-H Club has been very active in establishing and maintaining the garden that sits in between the Elementary school and the partnering Alcona Health Center.

The garden project was born with supporting funds from NEMIGLSI—the Northeast Michigan Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative— a local grant fund designed to help youth get involved with community and place-based education projects. Besides the health center, Elementary school and 4-H, much of the garden was designed and created with help of the Agri-Science and Woodworking classes at Alcona High School as well as the Alcona FFA Chapter.

If you would like to help, contact Les Thomas at 724-6478.

May 1	Counselor sign up for camp ends- Camp Fur, Fins and Feathers
May 1	Registration for Detroit Daytrip opens
May 31	Camper sign up ends— Camp Fur, Fins and Feathers
June 24-26	Exploration Days at MSU
June 29-July 2	Camp Fur, Fins and Feathers— Ocqueoc Outdoor Center
June 1	Soccer signup begins
July 1	Registration Deadline— all Alcona 4-H clubs
July 18	2nd Annual 4-H Expo—Alcona Recreation Area (Fairgrounds)
July 20	16th annual Detroit Daytrip - Greenfield Village/Comerica Park
July 26-27	Fair registration—Livestock deadline
Aug 2-3	Fair Registration—Home Arts deadline
Aug 1	Soccer signup ends
Aug 2-8	Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp
Aug 18	4-H Awards deadline (all paperwork must be turned into club leader)
Aug 18-22	Alcona County Fair



Leadership program participants pose with CYI Educator Sara Keinath (at left) after completion of their 4-hour program held at the Lost Lake Woods Club in January.

\$upport Available from the Alcona 4-H Advisory Council

The Alcona 4-H Advisory Council recently approved their 2015-16 budget including numerous items that will benefit the active 4-H family. Through tireless fundraising, the council has set aside funds for youth and adults to use when attending 4-H programs on the local, regional and state levels. Additionally, funds from the annual membership fee may also be available for youth wishing to attend state programs for the first time such as Exploration Days and Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp. 50% of the member fees collected annually stays within the county to be used in this manner.

Scholarship Policy

Any current 4-H member may request that an educational program be paid for up to 50% of the total cost of registration, not to exceed \$50 per member. To apply, simply request this benefit when registering with the Alcona MSU Extension Office. In the event of a no-show where fees are collected, the scholarship will be removed and payment must be made by participant. This benefit will occur at time of registration.

Training Policy

Any youth or adult registered volunteer attending an educational training program, may request up to 50% of the total cost of registration be paid for elective training and 100% for mandatory training (not including room upgrades.) In the event of a no-show where fees are collected, this benefit will be removed and payment must be made by participant. This benefit will come in the form of a reimbursement after completion of the program.

Loans for Market Beef Projects

The Ludlow Family of Alpena has set aside money in a loan program for any youth who wishes to raise a beef project and would like financial help to get started. This is a zero interest loan that can offer up to \$500 per year on a first come—first served basis. All loans are subject to repayment by September 30th without penalty.

The Council Needs you!

While we have seen the council grow in the two years, we are always looking for more members to share their time and effort in supporting the Alcona 4-H program. Call for meeting details!

Fundraiser Policy for all clubs

Step one: Club determines that they **need money for something**. Could be a trip, membership fees, club resources, 4-H paraphernalia; whatever. You may not raise money for the sake of having it.

Step two: Club **plans** a fundraising project—carwash, bottle drive, bake sale—something that all or most of the members will be able to help with. Remember that raffles or other *games of chance* are not allowed for 4-H clubs in Michigan.

Step three: The club leader **submits a fundraising request** to the MSU Extension Office no less than 2 weeks prior to the anticipated start of the fundraiser event. This document can be picked up at the office or can be found in the Michigan 4-H Treasurer's book.

Step four: **Wait** until confirmation is given for the fundraiser; either right then by staff or by phone or mail. You may NOT go ahead with the fundraiser unless this confirmation is given.

Step five: **Conduct fundraiser** and make sure to include all members; this can be a very valuable learning experience for everyone. Make sure that all moneys are accounted for and that they are carefully tracked using the Michigan Treasurer's book.

Step six: **Complete** the Fundraiser Wrap-Up form found in the Michigan 4-H Treasurer's handbook. Mail or drop it off to the Alcona County MSU Extension office.

A reminder--All clubs will be asked to complete an **Annual Fiscal Statement** to be on file with the MSU Extension Office no later than November 1 of the following 4-H year. If your club had no fiscal activity (no current balance or money raised or spent on behalf of the club in the past year) simply zero the form and return it to the office. Bank slips and receipts should be turned in where appropriate.

4-H Club Directory

These are the clubs that are looking for new members– if you see something you like, please use the contact information for the club to get involved!

1. To Enroll in a club, go to: <https://mi.4honline.com>
2. Create a family profile with your email address and a password.
3. After initially signing in, the system will collect some info and ask if you'd like to change the password- Changing the password is not necessary!
4. Once you get the family information set, you can add youth and adults as members and/or leaders. (Note- You must have passed the Volunteer Selection Process to be a leader.) Some of the fields will pre-populate from information you already gave!
5. Only add information that will be helpful for your club leader/staff- the system is very secure, but there may be info that you wish not to share. For the permission page, you will need to select an option for each section and then type both the members' name and your own as an electronic signature.
6. Finally, add the club(s) that each of your children are currently going to be in and then attach projects to each of the clubs.
7. Send in your member fee of \$10/member (\$30 per family max) to the Alcona MSU Extension Office and once we receive it, we will approve your record in the database.

Orkie's Camo Club

Projects– Rabbit, poultry, gardening, composting, Ages– 5-19

Meetings– leader's home in Harrisville.
Dues– none in addition to the \$10 annual member fee.

Contact- Pat Stewart 724-7474

Apple Hill Variety Club

Projects– All livestock including beef
Ages– 5-19 Meetings-

Dues– none in addition to the \$10 annual member fee.

Contact-

Dr. Jaci Fitzgerald 736-6020
Dr. John MacMaster 736-6020
Lisa Stephenson 989-370-1883

Crafts and Critters

Projects– Community Service, small animals, crafts, jewelry making
Ages 5-19 Meetings– Start in October at leader's home in Glennie.

Dues– none in addition to the \$10 annual member fee.

Contact- Elaine McGuire 735-2094

Born in a Barn

Projects– Gardening, Community Service. Ages– 5-19

Meetings- Spruce Presbyterian Church , Alcona Elementary School

Dues– none in addition to the \$10 annual member fee.

Contact- Hope Smith 471-2972

Jolly Rogers

Projects– Outdoor recreation, communication, community service, community engagement Ages– 9-19

Meetings– primarily in Lincoln, but will move depending on activity

Dues– In addition to \$10 Member fee, some activities may be at additional cost.

Contact- Judy French 335-1601

Bird Brains

Projects– Woodworking, community service Ages– 5-19 Meetings- Leader's home in Mikado. Dues– none in addition to the \$10 annual member fee.

Contact- Kevin or Deb Boyat 335-0307

Carl Racchini 739-7344

4-H Camp



FUR, FINS AND FEATHERS

This overnight summer camp experience is for all youth between the ages of 9-12 (as of January 1, 2015) Registration is first-come, first-served and you must register by June 1.

Low Cost!
\$75 4-H Members
\$85 everyone else

50% Scholarships are available



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4-H Summer Camp

Fur, Fins and Feathers

June 29-July 2

Summer Camp will never be the same...

Many things set this 4-H Camp apart from other youth summer camping experiences—

- **Sessions** are 75 minutes in length and are taught by industry professionals and experienced volunteers. Sessions are hands-on and fun and revolve around one of 4 camp themes. This year, sessions will include: wildlife, fishing, leadership as well as shooting sports and kayaking.
- **Great Food!** Our camp food service staff works very hard at putting together a menu that is both nutritious and kid-friendly. Meals are served buffet-style and fresh fruit and vegetables are served at every meal. Even picky eaters will love our choices!
- **Hydration Station**— This fun and interactive drink station offers fruit-infused water selections all day. You can even suggest the next flavor! We do not serve sugary drinks, but kids love them just the same!
- **No Electronics policy**— Leave your cellphones, games and cameras at home! Camp

will be best enjoyed without electronics that can get lost or broken. Your kids won't have time to miss them.

- **Evening Entertainment**— This year's evening programs will include live raptor show as well as a slide down the 80' water-slide! Don't forget about the marshmallow war!
- **Cost**- Most camps average \$100 per day for a camp experience... at \$75 we are less than that for our entire 3-day and 3-night program!

About our site...

The Ocqueoc Outdoor Center is north of Rogers City in Millersburg, and features barracks-style lodging and updated bathroom and shower facilities. The natural beauty of the site also includes a shooting sports range, lakefront for fishing and boating as well as lots of open space for games.

To Register— Call

Alcona MSU Extension Office—
989-724-6478
thoma322@msu.edu
Or
Connect on Facebook at:
Alcona MSU Extension

Dairy Heirs

Projects– Dairy Education, Public speaking Ages- 5-19

Meeting place varies

Dues– none in addition to the \$10 annual member fee.

Contact- Katie Dellar 335-0879

Shoot What 4-H Variety Club

Projects– Shooting sports (Pellet gun) small livestock, but not mixing the two! Ages– 7 and up

Meeting place– leaders' home in Glennie.

Contact—Jennifer Harte 305-2139



All Around Horses R Us

Projects– Horse, Home Arts, Home Economics Ages– Target ages are 13-19. Meetings- Leader's home in Lincoln. Dues– none

Contact- Sue Schmitz 736-8447
Pam Joslin 736-8064

Alcona Softball

Projects– Outdoor recreation, nutrition, physical fitness. Ages 11-13 (middle school age.)

Meeting this Spring at Alcona Schools. Dues may apply in addition to the \$10 annual member fee.

Contact Ed Schmitz 736-8447

Rolling Hills Variety Club

Projects– All livestock (no beef)

Ages- 5-19 Meetings– At leaders home on the south shore of Hubbard Lake. Dues– none in addition to the \$10 annual member fee.

Contact- Sandy LaBeau 335-4044
Missy Lobaugh 727-2013

Ace Riders

Projects– Horse, Livestock, community service Ages- 5-19 Meetings- Leader's home in Lincoln. Dues– none in addition to the \$10 annual member fee.

Contact-
Shannon Rifembark 335-0394

NEW SEWING PROJECT CLUB!

This new club is looking for members and will include teaching youth basic sewing skills, machine skills and completing personal and service projects!

You do not need your own sewing-machine!

If you are interested, please call the Veronica Brown at 335-0844 or contact Les Thomas by email at–

thoma322@msu.edu

Fishing Club

Projects– Outdoor recreation, fishing, aquatic science, community service. Ages- 9 and up (younger with parent involvement.) Meetings– monthly depending on where the fish are biting! Dues- none in addition to the \$10 annual member fee.

Contact- Tom Keerl 724-6804
Les Thomas 736-7231

A note to parents: If you have an interest in getting your child involved with a 4-H club but things are tight financially, don't worry– the 4-H Council has your back! Member scholarships are available (no questions asked) to any family that is eligible to receive free or reduced lunch.

The member fee will not be a barrier to **ANYONE** who wants to participate in a 4-H Club!

15th Annual 4-H Detroit Daytrip!



\$30 all youth
\$40 all adults or
\$15 commuter
(Any age- No transportation provided for commuters)

Monday, July 20

Bus leaves Alcona High 9:00 AM (exactly)
Returns 2:00 AM (approx.)
We will make a lunch stop in Clio

First stop- enjoy a 3 hour visit to the Greenfield Village where families can travel back in time and enjoy hands-on exhibits that are both fun and educational. Experience one of many demonstrations by reenactor staff that will amaze and inspire learning about Michigan's history.

Next stop- Comerica Park- home of the Detroit Tigers to watch our boys of summer take on the Seattle Mariners in an evening game. First 10,000 fans in the gate will get a free David Price Bobblehead! We will arrive early enough to qualify for this promotion as well as to watch warm ups and batting practice for the visiting team.

There are a limited number of spaces on the chartered bus, and they will be filled on a first-come, first served basis. There are a limit of 15 commuter spots that are also on a first-come, first served basis. Transportation will NOT be provided for commuters.

Fill out the form on the reverse side-
return it with full payment to the Alcona MSU Extension Office:

4-H Detroit Daytrip 320 South State St. Harrisville, MI 48740

Registration is on a first-come, first served basis and **registration deadline** is
Tuesday, July 14th or when all spaces are filled!

Trip Sponsored by: MSU Extension, Alcona 4-H Advisory Council and the Detroit Tigers.

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Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.

Registration for Detroit Daytrip

(Must be completely filled out and accompanied by full payment)
Limited space available!

Please make checks payable to:
Alcona 4-H

Mail completed forms with payment to:

Alcona 4-H
320 South State St.
Harrisville, MI 48740

Adult name(s)	<input type="radio"/> Check if commuter
-----	-----
Youth name	<input type="radio"/> Check if commuter
-----	-----
Youth name	<input type="radio"/> Check if commuter
-----	-----
Youth name	<input type="radio"/> Check if commuter
-----	-----
Youth name	<input type="radio"/> Check if commuter

_____ I have enclosed full payment (\$30 per youth, \$40 per adult or \$15 per commuter) with this form

Adult Address: (with PO Box) _____ Zip _____

Contact phone (morning of trip) _____ Email _____

Youth address (if different) _____ Zip _____

Contact phone (morning of trip) _____

Attach additional youth address information as necessary. All registered participants will get a direct mailing to next years trip.

As it is our goal to serve youth, we require every adult sign up with at least one youth.

Adults are responsible for all youth on their forms and no youth can attend without an adult.

Adult and Youth Code of Conduct

- **I do** accept responsibility to represent MSU Extension and Michigan 4-H Youth Programs with dignity and pride by being a positive role model for others.
- **I will** conduct myself in a courteous and respectful manner, exhibit good sportsmanship, respect, adhere to and enforce the rules, policies and guidelines established by MSU Extension and Michigan 4-H.
- **I will not** tolerate physical or verbal abuse to myself or any other person.
- **I will** comply with equal opportunity and anti-discrimination laws.
- **I will** under no circumstances, participate in theft or vandalism, consume, use, sell or have in my possession **alcohol** or any other controlled substance.
- **I will not** display inappropriate affection at any time.

Adults and youth over 18 are strongly discouraged from smoking or using other tobacco products at 4-H activities or events. The use of tobacco products by youth under 18 is illegal.

Adult Participant signature (s)

Date

Youth participant signature (s)
