

July 2, 2018



2018 Fair Edition Newsletter

Ionia County 4-H

Change is Hard

This year there has been a lot of change, especially regarding the fair. Most people hate change which makes it even more difficult. I am asking that everyone focus on helping each other this year. Focus on having fun and learning and the overall experience of fair. Those 10 (or 11 or 12 for us) are stressful and HOT but

there are so many amazing memories that can be gained from the experience. We are all in this together to provide the best experience to the youth that we can and we will succeed again. Just give this year a chance.

As some of you already know, my dad, Steve McLean, passed away 4 weeks ago, suddenly, at the age of 63. We are a very close family and this has been a huge loss to us and many more.

The reason I am telling you all this is so I can ask for your help. I ask that you be more understanding, that I cannot be stuck in my office alone for many hours; I am

not emotionally strong at this point. Understand that my perspective is quite different than it was a month ago and some things are much more important than others.

Understand that I may need help getting things done because I already had double the job I did last year but now am further behind.

Understand that this is rough and I will struggle but I will do everything I can for the 4-H members in this county, as I always have. Mostly, I just ask for your patience and compassion.

Thank you,
Haley McLean

Topics:

- Service Club Food Booth
- Clothes Swap
- GreenStone Sponsored Rodeo
- Awards
- Sweepstakes
- Record Books
- Ice Cream Social and Dance
- Schedules
- Extra Contests

"THE SECRET OF CHANGE IS TO FOCUS ALL OF YOUR ENERGY, NOT ON FIGHTING THE OLD, BUT ON BUILDING THE NEW."

— SOCRATES

Important Information Inside

This newsletter is packed with information about the fair so take a very close look at all of the pages. It is emailed to all families in 4-H so you all should know exactly what is going on. I have included many important dates, as well.

I have already checked all fair registrations and cleaned those up so they are correct, with the wonderful help of

Kim at the IFF office, or contacted those that are missing theirs. If you think you did yours incorrectly, I need to know ASAP. Parking passes can be picked up at the fair.

Please let me know if you have questions on anything in the next couple of weeks, otherwise I will see you at the fair!



If you see this little guy at the fair, I am most likely not far behind.

4-H Service Club Food Booth

Each club is required to work a shift at the 4-H Food Booth during the fair. During a shift, there must be at least 9 individuals that are older than 13 to work in the kitchen, 2 adults to work the cash register, and 2 youth to clean the dining area. We ask that there is no more than 1 rotation or replacements during the shift. Also, the individual working the cash register should work the entire shift.

This food booth raises money for 4-H members to attend workshops and events at reduced costs throughout the year. It also pays participation fees for

the families that are unable to.

If the 4-H member or family is involved in multiple clubs, it is expected that you work during each of your clubs' shifts, unless your leader tells you they don't need you during one. Parents are also asked to help during these shifts, especially when the club has many young members.



2016 4-H members working in the 4-H Service Club Food Booth.

Please remember to drink water while you are working and to bring a hat. Each club should bring 8 -two crust baked fruit pies to their shift. **Please do**

not pre cut them or bring them early.

Also, clubs need to bring 1 jar of

unsweetened iced tea and 1 can of coffee to their shift.

Clothes Swap

We need your old show clothes! We are looking for clothes for a Clothes Swap for the fair this year. It will be held in the Green Quanset throughout the fair. Youth that need clothes for fair that they could either not find, forgot, or couldn't afford can look through the selection and take whatever they may need. This is only possible if people provide donations of their old clothes or accessories. I know I still have clothes from showing that I will be donating. So, at this point, we are looking for any

show clothes, boots, or accessories for any project that you would like to donate! All sizes will be accepted. Please contact me if you have questions. Clean clothes can be brought to the office before Wednesday, July 11.

We need your old show clothes!

Greenstone Rodeo

The Super Kicker Rodeo is being held in the Grand Stands on Tuesday, July 17 at 7pm. 4-H members can pick up their free Rodeo tickets/wristbands at Ionia GreenStone Farm Credit Services during business hours. This is only for registered 4-H members; they do have a list of 4-H members at their office so you do not have to bring any proof that you are a member. **It is preferred**

that you pick up your tickets before the fair starts.

This is a very fun activity during the fair so please take advantage of it if you are free that night. Please make sure to thank GreenStone while you are there! They sponsor it so you can go for free; a great benefit to 4-H families.



Awards

Certain classes and places mean that you get a special award, a plaque or a blanket. Superintendents will give out a card to the winners of these awards listing the sponsor and award name.

The winner must then write a thank you note to the sponsor and bring that to the fair 4-H office in a stamped and addressed envelope in order to get the plaque or chair. If you think that you

are supposed to receive a special award but did not receive a card, please check with the 4-H office. I did have many plaques that were never picked up last year.

Sweepstakes

This show is for the top showman of each species in each age group. It is a great honor to participate in this show. Each youth (one junior, intermediate, and senior of each species) must show all 11 animals in a round-robin order on the



final Friday, July 20, of fair. There is a mandatory meeting for participants on Tuesday night, July 17 for the participants to receive more

information about the event. Participants use time during the fair to go around to other members from different projects to learn the different projects. There will also be “clinics” that 4-H members can go to where other members will teach them how to show. There will be a sign up for this at the 4-H office during the fair.

Record Books

Record books are a requirement every year for every animal project shown at the fair. This is an essential educational component of raising, training, showing, and selling an animal. Record books are due at different times for different species. Horse and dogs are due before fair to

the superintendent. Poultry, rabbits, and cavies are due at check in. All other animals are due to the 4-H office at the fairgrounds by 6pm Saturday, July 14. A 4-H member cannot show unless they have submitted a complete and neat record book.

“A 4-H member cannot show unless they have submitted a complete and neat record book.”

Cloverbud Ice Cream Social and 4-H Family Hoe Down

Some fun activities that are put on for the 4-H members during the fair are the Cloverbud Ice Cream Social and 4-H Family Hoe Down. They are both held on the final Friday of fair. The ice cream social will be at 11:30 am Friday, July 20. This is for all 4-H cloverclimbers and cloverbuds and is free. Please stop by the covered arena at that time.

The 4-H and FFA dance is held Friday night after the covered arena is cleaned up from Sweepstakes. The 4-H Service Club sponsors this event and gets a DJ for the event. It is a fun ending to the fair and a chance for all 4-H members to get together!



Set Up Dates and Times

Some of the set up dates and times are listed below. These ones are very important to know because all clubs should be taking a part in this if they have youth doing projects in this area.

- Still Exhibits: Cleaning Monday, July 2 at 6pm; Set Up: Monday, July 9 at 6:30pm
- Rabbits/Cavies/Poultry: Saturday, July 7 at 10am
- Livestock: Sunday, July 8 at 11am; Swine meeting at 11am; set up for animals after

If you have any questions about these dates or times please let me know ASAP.

Auction Dates and Times

4-H Gallon of Milk Sale

Tuesday, July 17 at 6pm

4-H Small Animal Auction

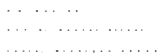
Wednesday, July 18 at 6:30pm

Ionia Free Fair Youth Livestock Auction

Thursday, July 19 at 4pm

Sale Order: Steers, Swine, Sheep, and Goats

Fair Contest



616-527-1310
office@ioniafreefair.com

Ionia Free Fair offering prizes for the best presented clubs

*Cleanliness

*Decorations

*Presentation of project- educational info for the public to read and learn about your project area

*Member representation to talk to the public

Will be judged by business owners and/or managers from the community.
Judging will take place everyday at random times as the different judges have time to come to the fair and walk through all the project areas.

1st prize will be \$300

2nd prize will be \$200

3rd prize will be \$100

Checks will be written to the club name after fair.

Ionia Free Fair Service Club Food Booth Schedule 2018

Date	6:30am-11:45am	11:30am-5pm	4:45pm-10:15pm
Thursday July 12	Udders & Such Wednesday Night		Praire Creek Hustlers
Friday July 13	Pride in Pork	Balebreakers & Livestock Etc & Shining Faces	Service Club & Heart and Hands
Saturday July 14	Hoe Down Hogs	Field of View & Bovine Brats	Prime Cuts 4-H Club
Sunday July 15	River Valley Trailblazers	Happy Hoppers	Swinging Gates & Hippology
Monday July 16	4-H 4 Paws	Sweet Endings & Chicken Pluckers	Saranac FFA
Tuesday July 17	Miracle of Life	Haynor Hawks	Hobby Horse Riders & 5th Dimension
Wednesday July 18	Hare Raisers	4 Corners 4-H Club	Clarksville Country Club
Thursday July 19	Levalley Clovers Foods, Dairy, Handicrafters, World Wide Kids		Bits & Bridles & Dairyland
Friday July 20	Barnyard Bunch North	Two Rivers Crafts	Town & Country Riders & Blazin Bridles
Saturday July 21	Grand Valley	Dairyland Son's & Daughters	Udderly Delicious

Items to bring: 1-Can of coffee

1-Jar of unsweetened ice tea or lemonade???

8 – two crust baked fruit pies. **No custard, cream, pecan, or fresh (unbaked) fruit pies**

Please bring pies the day of your shift

You must have 9 workers 13 or older in the Kitchen, 2 adults for cashier, and 2 cleaning dining area

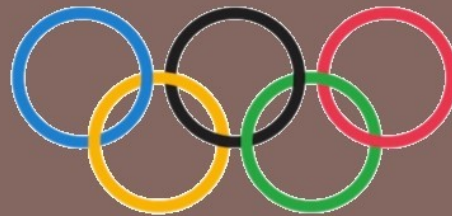
PLEASE, PLAN ON NO MORE THAN ONE ROTATION OF REPLACEMENT WORKERS PER SHIFT!!



IONIA COUNTY 4-H AG OLYMPICS

Join us Saturday, July 21 for the Ag Olympics! You will participate in games, along with other 4-H members in randomly drawn teams of 4. Prizes will be awarded to the top teams.

All interested 4-H and FFA youth must sign up by Friday, July 20 at 5pm at the 4-H office in the Covered Arena. Open to all ages!



CONTACT HALEY MCLEAN WITH QUESTIONS: 616-558-3693

LOCATION: HORSE ARENA

DATE: SATURDAY, JULY 21

TIME: TEAMS CHOSEN AT 1:30PM, GAMES START AT 2PM

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Steve McLean 4-H Photography Contest



The Ionia Free Fair experience is an amazing one. Everyone takes many pictures to commemorate the experience so why not submit those pictures for a chance to win a prize! Here are the rules for the contestant:

1. Must be a 4-H member between the ages of 9 and 19 (4-H Age). The photo must be taken by the 4-H member. This means that the only way the photographer can be in the picture is if it's a selfie.
2. Must create their own caption to go along with the picture. The caption should be 25 words or less.
3. Must be original in color or black and white. You chose which best compliments the picture the best. Cropping is allowed but no other editing of the photo is acceptable.
4. If there are other people in the photo as the focus, you must have a signed permission form from them. This can be found at the 4-H Office at the fairgrounds.
5. Must attach a signed release for the use of the photograph to be used in promotion from the 4-H program and the Ionia Free Fair.
6. May enter one photo per theme, and as many themes as you like.
7. A winner will be chosen from each theme.
8. Any type of camera may be used, including mobile phones.
9. Be creative and candid!

To enter: All photos are due electronically by 11:59pm Saturday, July 21. Please send the photo in an email to mcleanha@anr.msu.edu with the signed releases and titled "Photo Contest: (the theme)." In the email include your name, age, and caption. Photographs will be judged by a panel of judges and winners will be announced in August. All photographs will also be posted on the Ionia County 4-H Facebook page to be viewed by the public.

Themes:

- 4-H member showing an animal or still project
- Parent/grandparent and child working together
- Friends
- A ride at the fair
- A 4-H leader working
- Barn duty
- People hanging out
- Fair food
- Action
- Human/animal bond



Ionia County 4-H

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**To make the best,
better!**



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Throughout this newsletter, I have mentioned the 4-H Office at the Ionia Free Fair many times. From Monday, July 9 to Wednesday, July 25 my office is moved down to the fairgrounds. It is located under the covered arena. My hours vary during the fair, based on events of the day, but will usually be around 9/10am to 5/6pm.

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