



CLOVER CHRONICLES

December 2017

Isabella County

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Beef Weigh-In

Saturday, December 2
9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Isabella County Fairgrounds



All beef project members must bring their market beef animals to the fairgrounds to be weighed and tagged. Each member may weigh-in two animals.

4-H Day at the Breslin Center with the Lady Spartans

Saturday, January 20, 2018
4:00 p.m.
FREE to families



You ALL are invited to attend the annual celebration of MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development at the Spartan Women's basketball game as they take on the Indiana Hoosiers.

Contact the Extension office now to reserve your FREE tickets!

Teen Representative Opportunity for 4-H Council

If you are interested in being a teen representative on 4-H Council, please submit an application to the Extension Office. Teens must be enrolled in a teen leadership project. The application is at: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/isabella/isabella_county_4_h

4-H Mark of Excellence Award

4-H'ers who are 11 or 12 years old are eligible to apply for the 4-H Mark of Excellence Award. To apply, a 4-H member needs to write an essay on the theme, "Because of 4-H, I can"

Counties select their representatives, and submit their names and essays to the State 4-H Awards Committee. For more information and instructions, see the *Overview and Instructions* at: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/4_h_scholarships_and_recognition_program/4_h_awards_and_recognition_program

Deadline for submission is February 1.



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CLUB CORNER

Barn Yard Kids - In November, we created new Christmas ornaments to decorate the tree at Rosebush Manor. We set the date and time to meet at the Manor to decorate our tree. We also went over the agenda for the new year.

Country Neighbors – For our November meeting we made stuffed Christmas trees to take to the guests at Stone Lodge.

Dairy Dreamers - In November, we built wreaths for our annual wreath fundraiser and decided to have a bake sale and sell them at TSC on December 2. The wreaths were made out of greens that three of our members collected last month in the U.P. We also approved our agenda for the year and decided to write Christmas cards for recovering soldiers at our December meeting.

Evergreen - At our meeting on November 5, we recognized and gave out pins to our members that have completed their cloverbud, 1st, 5th and 10th years in 4-H. We announced the county medal winners from our club and discussed the Co-Expo Board Lighting Challenge. Ryan Griffis, a speaker for the Isabella County Rotating Homeless Shelter came in and shared with us their mission and how to get involved with the shelter. We also discussed planning for the Thanksgiving Dinner at Rosebush manor, and voted on our club by-laws.

Farm Hands - Our club met on Sunday, November 12 to introduce new members, get to know one another, make plans for future fundraisers, and talk about the club members plans for the 2018 year. The Mogg and Cole families were down in Louisville, Kentucky showing at the North American International Livestock Expo (NAILE). Lindsey Mogg placed 4th with her steer and won Reserve Division Shorthorn Plus Heifer, while Wesley Cole placed second with his steer. These are huge accomplishments for the kids of Isabella county!

Pony Creek – At our November meeting, we handed out individual awards for projects, number of years of membership and Cloverbuds. New this year was an award for an outstanding Pony Creek 4-H member, congratulations Matt Simon! In December we will be having a potluck Christmas Party. As a community service/charity contribution this holiday season, we will be collecting items and donations for the Foster House of Isabella County.

Still Exhibit Auction Checks

Still Exhibit Auction checks are available at the Extension Office. Please pick-up and cash before January 5, 2018. Any checks not picked up by January 5, 2018 will be donated back to the Still Exhibit Auction.

Out of County Participants

Due to the over crowding in our large animal barns, (beef, dairy feeders, swine, and sheep) the Isabella County Fair Board will close its doors to all out of county 4-H and FFA participants who wish to show and sell large animals at our county fair.

Those out of county 4-H and FFA participants who showed and sold last year (2017) will still have the privilege to participate in our county fair.

Shooting Sports Instructors Needed

We are looking for volunteer leaders to become certified as 4-H Shooting Sports instructors in archery, rifle, and shotgun.



Please call the Extension office if you are interested or would like more information.

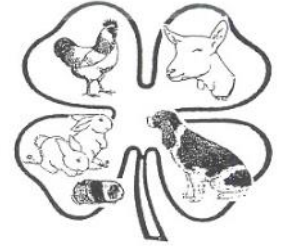
4-H Pledge Resources

We all know how important our 4-H Pledge is and that's why these amazing, colorful, printable, FREE resources were created!

Check them out at: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/resources/4_h_pledge_posters

Small Animal News

- If you sold a rabbit/poultry/goat at fair time and did not attend, then you can pick up your check at the Extension Office. Please cash your checks as soon as possible because they are only good for 90 days.
- The Small Animal Association will not meet in December. Our next regularly scheduled meeting is January 18, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
- Goat members: for fair wether information, please contact Theresa Frederick at (989) 621-6866



Market Animal Loans Available

Joe Johnston from the USDA office is a Farm Loan Officer who would be willing to come to a club meeting and let youth and parents know that he can and will, provide loans needed to youth and families for the purchase of a 4-H market animal project and/or the feed. The loan is usually repaid when the animal sells, but there are several payment arrangements.

If you are interested in having him attend a meeting, or you want more information, his contact information is: Joe Johnston, 989-772-5927 or joseph.johnston@mi.usda.gov

If you would like more information before contacting him, please contact Kristi Schreiber at: 989-317-4079 or schrei61@anr.msu.edu

Vet Science Workshop

February 16 - 17, 2018
Kettunen Center, Tustin

Explore animal systems and learn about animal health for a broad array of animals species. Come prepared to learn from others, share information and experiences, ask questions and quiz veterinarians about their careers. You will also participate in hands-on demonstrations that will teach attendees how to help members recognize healthy, sick, and/or injured animals. New resources will be provided to all attendees. Open to adult and teen volunteers ages 13 and older.

Contact the Extension office if you would like to register for this workshop.

Community Service Opportunity

The Character Counts gazebo at Island Park has flower beds around it and we're looking for a club or any 4-H leaders/ members that want to adopt it next year. Duties include weeding, mulching, planting or separating and some general care of the area.

Anyone interested can contact Craig Brune, Parks and Public Spaces Coordinator City of Mt.Pleasant Parks and Recreation, at (989) 779-5340 or cbrune@mt-pleasant.org.

Congratulations Alexa Lehr!

Alexa Lehr of Country Stars 4-H Club represented Michigan at the National 4-H Poultry & Egg Conference in Louisville, Kentucky, in mid November. She took 2nd place (out of 86 youth) in Market Poultry. She also judged live production birds, turkey & chicken carcasses and eggs for 5.5 hours. She had a fantastic experience! Congratulations Alexa!!



Attention Teens! Are You Interested in Serving as a Teen Superintendent?

Prospective Teen Superintendents will be interviewed by the Superintendent of the project area they are interested in. Teen superintendents must have taken the project they are interested in for at least 2 years. Applicants must be enrolled in the Teen Leadership Project (Teen Leader App: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/isabella/isabella_county_4_h) and be a teen leader in the project that they would like to be a teen superintendent.

Responsibilities may include assisting with instructional demonstrations, workshops, or clinics; assist in preparation and set up before fair and tear down after fair; and attend pre and post fair meetings.

You may pick up applications at the Extension office or visit our website: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/isabella/isabella_county_4_h. Applications are due to the Extension office by Friday, January 5, 2018.

JOANN Fabrics Partnership With 4-H

Together, National 4-H Council and Joann are partnering to bring more hands-on 4-H programs to youth in local communities across the nation. While there are many aspects to this collaboration – some of which are still being worked out – we wanted to ensure you were aware of one right away: the free 4-H Reward Card.

Through the Reward Card program, members of the 4-H community (current and alumni members, parents of members, and volunteers) will have the opportunity to save money while "shopping with purpose." The reward card is now available and gives JOANN shoppers 15 percent off their total in-store and online purchases every day. In return for customer participation in the loyalty program, Joann will give a minimum of 2.5 percent of every eligible transaction made with the reward card as a donation to National 4-H Council.

To get the free reward card, visit <http://www.joann.com/4-h/> or download the Joann's app to your mobile device.

Potential Blood Drive - Fundraiser

No date is set, but potentially there will be a blood drive fundraiser and we are inquiring to see who may be interested in participating. Thanks to those who suggested this type of event. We must have a minimum of 20 donors committed/signed up before we will proceed. Michigan Blood offers a program for educational-type organizations to fund-raise for a project. This is for 18 year-olds and over (so leaders, here is your special opportunity), but with parental permission, 4-H'ers 16 and 17 years old can also participate. We help those in need of blood right here in our local area and we receive a contribution for each person donating, as long as we have the minimum number of 20. There is no maximum and the last we heard, we would receive \$10/ person so potentially this could be a very positive donation to the Fair Board's building fund.

Please seriously consider if this is something you could commit to. We all hear about the shortage of blood at any point in time; here is our chance to help that need and contribute to improving our fair grounds as well.

Please contact the Extension office if you are interested in participating.

STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Save the date for Challenge U 4-H FunFest



Challenge U 4-H Funfest, held at the Kettunen Center, offers participants and chaperones an opportunity to participate in hands-on sessions that will engage youth in learning about themselves, food and being active.

Targeted to youth ages 9 to 13, the Challenge U 4-H Funfest provides an opportunity for younger 4-H youth to become familiar with the Kettunen Center in an overnight camp setting.

Look for registration to open in January 2018.

For more information about this event, contact Michelle Neff at hydrmich@msu.

4-H Workshops

December 7: 4-H Treasurers Training

Dowagiac Union High School, Dowagiac

Being a 4-H treasurer is an important role. 4-H youth treasurer's learn valuable life skills to benefit their future.

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_treasurers_training

December 12: 4-H Alumni Engagement Training

Northstar Cooperative Building, East Lansing

This session will highlight meaningful ways to maintain relationships and steward 4-H alumni. Topics will include: 4-H alumni as 4-H volunteers, 4-H donors and 4-H advocates.

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/alumni_engagement_training

December 13: Ready to Go Volunteer Training Toolkit Train the Trainer Workshop

MSU Federal Credit Union, East Lansing

Ready to Go: Volunteer Training Toolkit provides mentoring program staff with activities you may customize, support for using the curriculum and a toolkit.

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/ready_to_go_volunteer_training_toolkit_train_the_trainer_workshop

January 8: Michigan 4-H Embryology Staff, Teacher and Volunteer Training—Bay County

Bay County Fairgrounds, Bay City

This training is designed for educators who would like to learn how to implement an embryology program through classroom activities or 4-H SPIN Clubs.

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/michigan_4_h_embryology_staff_teacher_and_volunteer_training--bay_county

Other 4-H Events

January 20: 4-H Alumni Tip-Off Reception

Spartan Stadium, East Lansing

4-H alumni will gather before 4-H Day at the Breslin for networking, refreshments and games.

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_alumni_tip_off_reception

January 20: 4-H Day at the Breslin

Jack Breslin Student Events Center, East Lansing

Join us for the 13th annual celebration of MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development at the MSU Women's Basketball game.

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_day_at_the_breslin_1

January 27: 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show

MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

This one-day event is open to participants aged 9 to 19 by Jan.1 of the current year.

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_rabbit_and_cavy_show

For the most up-to-date events listing, go to <http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events>.

STATEWIDE NEWS AREA

SHOP 4-H Online and support Michigan 4-H!

Get ready for the holidays by buying your favorite Michigan 4-Hers 4-H apparel and essentials at the SHOP 4-H Online Store. Ranging from 4-H apparel to 4-H flashlights, you can find the perfect gift for every 4-H member, volunteer, parent or staff person. As you share the 4-H spirit this holiday season, you'll also be supporting Michigan 4-H! The SHOP 4-H Online Store is giving five percent back to Michigan 4-H when you shop using this link: <https://shop4-h.org/?rfsn=871792.16dd0>.



SHOP 4-H Online is giving five percent back to Michigan 4-H with every purchase.

2018 4-H State Award applications process now open!



2017 State Award winners with their plaques at 4-H Exploration Days.

Michigan 4-H true leaders ages 11 and older have an opportunity to be recognized for the great work they do in 4-H by completing a state award application. A Michigan 4-H State Award is the highest honor bestowed on a Michigan 4-H member and provides an opportunity to receive recognition for their engagement in rich learning experiences that result in outstanding knowledge and life-skill development.

State award applications are divided into four categories: Mark of Excellence essay contest (11-12 years old), junior state award (13-15 years old), senior state award (16-19 years old) and group awards (13-19 years old). The application process and selection is determined by the age of the 4-H member. Final candidates for the junior, senior and group level awards in each project area will be selected to participate in the State Awards program during 4-H Exploration Days in June where final selection and announcement of winners will take place. The application can be found at <http://bit.ly/2xWk3VO> and is due Feb. 1, 2018. For more information, contact Betty Jo Krosnicki at nashbett@anr.msu.edu.

4-H Day at the Breslin tickets available

Free tickets are now available at your county Extension office for 4-H Day at the Breslin. Gather with 4-H friends, families, volunteers and staff to cheer on the MSU women's basketball team as they take on the Indiana Hoosiers at 4 p.m. Jan. 20, 2018 at MSU's Jack Breslin Student Events Center. Make sure to come early, doors open at 2:30 p.m., to browse booths set up around the concourse showcasing various Michigan 4-H programs and events.

4-H alumni and their families are also invited to a special pre-event activity at Spartan Stadium, beginning at 1:30 p.m. To learn more, visit msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_alumni_tip_off_reception.



Michigan 4-Hers recite the American and 4-H pledges during the halftime show.

4-H Pledge Posters now available!



Whether you are a new or longstanding club, learning the 4-H pledge is an important step for all 4-H members. Help new members learn the pledge by downloading a free 4-H pledge poster available at msue.anr.msu.edu/resources/4_h_pledge_posters.

The colorful pledge posters can also be used for displays that can help with recruitment of youth and volunteers.

If you have any questions regarding the 4-H pledge posters, contact Jodi Schulz at schulzj@anr.msu.edu.



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension

4-H Winterfest 2018

DATE & TIME:
February 3-4, 2018

LOCATION:
4-H Kettunen Center
Tustin, MI

COST:
\$70

SOCIAL MEDIA:



[4-H Winterfest](#)



WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

4-H Youth 8-12 years old

DESCRIPTION:

Youth and adults who attend 4-H Winterfest will spend 2 days learning about exciting project areas while meeting youth from around the state. 4-H Winterfest offers participants and chaperones an opportunity to experience Kettunen Center in an overnight camp setting. Youth participate in hands-on sessions that range from crafts to shooting sports!

HOW TO REGISTER

Registration information will be available in early December with registration taking place through MSU Events Management.

CONTACT:

Renee Carroll
231-928-1056
carro188@anr.msu.edu

4-H
GROWS HERE

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SAVE THE DATE

CHALLENGE U 4-H

FUNFEST

When: Saturday, March 17 2018, 9:30 a.m. through
Sunday, March 18, 2018, 11:30 a.m.

Who: 9 -13 year olds as of January 1, 2018

Where: Kettunen Center
14901 4-H Drive
Tustin, MI 49688

Healthy
Living

What: Youth and adults who attend 4-H Challenge U funfest will spend 2 days learning about exciting project areas while meeting youth from around the state. 4-H Challenge U funfest offers participants and chaperones an opportunity to experience Kettunen Center in an overnight camp setting. Youth participate in hands-on sessions that will engage youth in learning about themselves, food, and being active.

Cost: Youth Registration Cost : \$70
Chaperone Registration Fee: \$70*
Registration fee includes: Three meals, overnight housing, all session supplies for four action packed sessions.

Registration information will be available January 2018!

For more information contact:
Michelle Neff (989) 539-7805
hydemich@msu.edu

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

* Chaperones need to go through proper screening to attend so plan accordingly.

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 Isabella County
 200 N. Main Street
 Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

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 Fax: (989) 773-1622

Website:
<http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/info/isabella>



**WISHING EVERYONE
 A VERY HAPPY
 & SAFE HOLIDAY
 SEASON!!!**

SAVE THE DATES

Beef Weigh-In
 Saturday, December 2, 2017

4-H Day at Breslin
 January 20, 2018

4-H Winterfest
 February 3-4, 2018

Make It - Take It Day
 February 17, 2018

4-H Summer (overnight) Camp
 July 10, 11 & 12, 2018

4-H Cloverbud Camp
 July 17 & 18, 2018

Isabella County Youth & Farm Fair
 July 22 - 28, 2018

Isabella County 4-H Calendar		
December 2	Beef Weigh-In @ Fairgrounds	9:30 - 11 AM
5	Teen Horse Leaders @ MSUE	6 PM
5	Horse Leaders @ MSUE	7 PM
14	OFFICE CLOSED - all staff training	
22 & 25	OFFICE CLOSED	
29	OFFICE CLOSED	

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"Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting the MSU Extension office at (989) 317-4079 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."

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