

Osceola County MSU Extension 4-H Newsletter

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension

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Education is not
preparation for
life; education is
life itself.

John Dewey

*MSU is an affirmative –
action, equal-opportunity
employer.*

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

*Michigan State University,
U.S. Department of
Agriculture and counties
cooperating.*

4-H UPDATE

January/February 2015

Happy New Year and best wishes to you and your family as you begin the start of the New Year!

During this time of year many 4-H programs and events are being planned for 2015. Are you looking to try something new and exciting this year? How about getting involved in a committee or attending an event here or outside the county. The Kettunen Center offers many great events and is located right here in Osceola County. Each time you try something new you will make new friends, learn more about your project areas or new project areas, spend time with your family and other 4-H families, and have fun every step of the way. Take the challenge and try something you have never done before.

Keep your calendar nearby in order to make all the events you have planned. January holds: the mandatory turkey order meeting, the 4-H Shooting Sports “Bad Toads” program, the PQA meeting, the Small Animal Cook-Off, the FREE women’s basketball game at the Breslin Center, the Green & White Hog Show, plus Kettunen Center workshops. February continues the 4-H Shooting Sports “Bad Toads” program and holds more Kettunen Center workshops. Both months contain small animal meetings, OLC meetings, horse development meetings, and fair-board meetings. Make sure you do not miss out.

The 4-H office would like to keep you inform on all updates, including any cancellations due to weather. If you do not receive electronic information from our office already, please contact the office if you have email and would like to receive electronic updates. Updates are posted online as well on Facebook on the **Osceola County Michigan 4-H** page.

I am looking forward to an exciting new year, I hope you are too!

Happy Holidays!

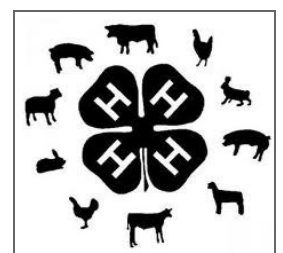
Jacob Stieg
Osceola County 4-H Coordinator

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Special Points of Interest

- Shooting Sports
- MSU Lady Spartans BB Game
- Capital Experience
- Exploration Days
- State Awards
- High School Senior Scholarship Opportunities
- Kettunen Center Workshops
- Mandatory Turkey Order/Meeting
- Small Animal Association Cook-Off
- State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show
- PQA
- Green & White Market Hog Show
- Osceola County Market Goat Contest





GENERAL 4-H NEWS

Club Leaders: You should have all received your club rosters. Please verify all the information to ensure that it is correct; the 4-H office uses this data to promote Osceola County 4-H. If you did not receive it call or email the office and one will be sent.

The **Bad Toads 4-H Shooting Sports Club** will begin the winter league on **Tuesday, January 6, 2015**, at the Reed City Middle School Cafeteria. Youth ages 8-19 as of January 1, 2015, are welcome to join. The league will run for 12 weeks, and the cost is \$10 for the whole 12 weeks, plus the \$10 4-H participation fee if you have not already paid in another 4-H club. You will receive an enrollment form at the first meeting in January. If you would like the forms mailed to you ahead of time, contact the 4-H office.

SAVE THE DATE!!! 4-H Day at Breslin – Women’s Basketball event will be January 18, 2015! **MSU Lady Spartans** will take on Iowa Lady Hawkeys at 2:00 p.m. FREE for MSUE 4-H youth and their families, 4-H volunteers and MSU Extension staff and their families! Tickets are now available; call the MSU Extension office to reserve yours. Any tickets ordered after Friday, January 2, 2015, will need to be picked up at 4-H Registration table inside Gate D at the Breslin Center on game day.

4-H Capitol Experience, March 22-25, 2015—Teens, ever wonder what it’s like to be a state legislator? A lobbyist? A government official? Or even a political reporter? Do you know that teens working together can make a difference in public policy and laws at the state and local levels. For four days in March, you can visit Lansing and learn how Michigan government works. You can choose an interest area, such as the environment, equality and personal rights, health, education, jobs and the economy and agriculture. Through a Michigan Legislative Simulation, you propose a law and follow the process of how an idea becomes a law in your interest area. You also get some one-on-one time with your state legislator to learn what he or she is doing for your community. If you turn 14 by January, and you are interested in impacting public policy and seeing how government works, you’ll want to go to 4-H Capitol Experience. The deadline for registration is February 17, 2015. To learn more about the 2014 4-H Capitol Experience, visit 4-H on the Web at http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/4-h_capitol_experience

4-H Exploration Days will be held June 24-26, 2015, on the campus of MSU. This is a wonderful way to learn more about MSU and to meet youth from across the state. You may choose from 200 action-packed learning sessions from sports to crafts to animal sessions. Anyone who has attended Exploration Days will tell you that it is an exciting experience they will never forget! This program is for youth ages 11 & up as of January 1, 2015 and their chaperones. The Osceola 4-H Council generally funds ½ of the cost of \$165 (which includes meals, lodging, and a t-shirt). Registrations are due by May 1, but some sessions fill up fast, so register early. The books will be out in early March. Contact the 4-H office for a book or go to: http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/4-h_exploration_days

State 4-H Awards Program: This is the highest honor bestowed on Michigan 4-H youth. This program is for 4-H youth aged 13 and up with at least three years of 4-H experience. All youth who meet these requirements are encouraged to apply. Youth compete in 19 different award areas showcasing their knowledge, skills and experiences.

To apply, youth submit the State 4-H Awards application to State4HAwards@anr.msu.edu by February 1. Applications are carefully reviewed by selection committees and delegates are announced by March 15. Delegates are invited to participate in either an advanced leadership development program (juniors), competitive interviews (seniors) or presentations (groups) during 4-H Exploration Days on June 24. State 4-H Award winners will be announced at the 4-H Recognition Program, held at the prestigious Huntington Club in Spartan Stadium, June 25 during 4-H Exploration Days.

State 4-H Award winners become a part of an elite group of 4-H youth who have demonstrated the highest level of excellence. While all State 4-H Award winners receive a plaque, seniors receive a \$200 cash award, while juniors receive a \$50 cash award.

High School Seniors!!! The Osceola County Community Foundation webpage has more scholarship opportunities; you can access the webpage at www.occf.info and click on scholarships.



... to my club, my community,
my country, and the world.

Kettunen Center Workshops 2014/2015

Michigan 4-H Youth Leadership & Global Citizenship Spectacular—January 17-18, 2015. The Michigan 4-H Youth Leadership & Global Citizenship Spectacular is a lively celebration of the power of young people as leaders! In the spirit of “thinking globally and acting locally” participants in this exciting, energetic, hands-on workshop will participate in small and large group sessions to share and develop valuable knowledge and skills related to youth leadership, civic engagement, global citizenship, and international cultures. This workshop is open to current and aspiring leaders and volunteers, ages 12 to 112 who seek to develop skills to serve (or assist youth serving) in leadership roles in clubs, schools, communities, the state and the world. Attending the 2015 Michigan 4-H Youth Leadership & Global Citizenship Spectacular will help you become an outstanding leader who approaches life with your head, heart and hands open to new ideas, interesting people, and diverse cultures...it will change your world!

4-H Winterfest—January 31, - February 1, 2015. 4-H Winterfest is a hands-on educational program that is open to youth ages 8 to 12 years old. Youth spend two days learning about many different project areas while meeting youth from around the state. 4-H Winterfest offers participants an opportunity to experience Kettunen Center in an overnight camp setting. Youth participate in hands-on sessions that range from crafts to shooting sports. This event offers an opportunity to spend time outdoors enjoying all the Michigan winters have to offer! Youth have the opportunity to go learn new skills, make new friends, while enjoying Michigan winter.

4-H Veterinary Science Teen & Adult Leaders Workshop—February 27-28, 2015. 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 Open to adult and teen volunteers ages 13 and older.

4-H Beef, Sheep and Swine Teen and Adult Leaders Workshop—February 28, - March 1, 2015. This workshop is designed for both teen and adult leaders who are involved with beef cattle, sheep and swine projects. Topics include animal health, management, care and nutrition. In addition, breakout sessions will include livestock and meat evaluation, animal management and more. Open to adult and teen volunteers ages 13 and older.

Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference—March 13-15, 2015 Do you have an interest in learning more about the dairy industry in Michigan? Whether you’ve just started learning about dairy cows or grew up on a dairy farm, this is the conference for you! You’ll learn about real-world dairy management topics, like nutrition, reproduction, welfare, health, and dairy cattle evaluation. You will also have a chance to practice for the state dairy skill-a-thon and quiz bowl contests and tour a nearby farm. Experts from the dairy industry and Michigan State University will lead educational, hands-on sessions about dairy management to bring the learning to life! This conference is open to youth ages 11-18 as of Jan. 1, 2015.

MI 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Certification Workshop—April 24-26, 2015. This Michigan 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Certification workshop is for 4-H staff, adult 4-H volunteers who have completed the 4-H Volunteer Selection Process with their county, and teens enrolled in a 4-H shooting sports club who are at least 16 years old as of Jan. 1, 2015. Participants must be approved by their county MSU Extension 4-H Staff person to work with 4-H Shooting Sports Programs and have at least a basic working knowledge of, and experience in the discipline in which they wish to participate.

4-H Mentoring Weekend—July 17-19, 2015. 4-H Mentoring Weekend is a 3-day workshop for adults and youth who are in a mentoring program through 4-H and other youth mentoring organizations. Mentoring program staff are also welcome to attend. The weekend offers activities to mentoring matches with a focus on science, outdoor education, healthy living, and meaningful service in order to strengthen the mentoring relationship. This year’s theme is Building Life Skills. Mentors are also provided with structured training that aims to build the mentoring relationship.

4-H Family Fun Weekend—August 15-16, 2015. Explore all that 4-H has to offer! This weekend will be action-packed and full of new experiences for the entire family. Youth, ages 5-8, and their parent/guardian/caregiver are encouraged to attend this workshop to learn about 4-H! Sessions will provide youth with opportunities to learn about 4-H projects and life skills, the Four-H’s of 4-H, and other Michigan activities and events for 5-8 year old youth involved in 4-H. Parents/guardians/caregivers who attend will learn about 4-H programming specifically designed for the 5-8 year old audience, how to make the most of 4-H experiences, and Michigan 4-H facilities, workshops, and programs. Families will learn and grow together while exploring Kettunen Center and 4-H!

SMALL ANIMAL

The mandatory **order meeting for market turkeys** for the Marion and Evert fairs, and Small Animal Association meeting will be held on Monday, January 5, at the Evert Middle School cafeteria at 6:00 p.m. Last year's prices for chicks was \$6.25 for bronze and \$5.25 for white. Please plan ahead and bring extra money, prices have been going up every year. This meeting will count as one of your educational meetings for fair which you need 3 to sell at the Osceola County Fair.

On Saturday January 17, at 11:30 A.M. the **22 Annual 4-H Small Animal Association Cook-Off** will take place at Reed City Middle School. Here you will have to prepare your dish and present it to a panel of judges.

Important Small Animal Dates for 2015

Educational Small Animal Meetings Dates for 2015

- Turkey Order—January 5, 6pm, Evert MS Caf 
- Goat—February 9, 6pm, Evert MS Caf 
- Poultry Order—March 2, 6pm, RCMS Caf 
- Topic not set—April 13, 6pm, Evert MS Caf 
- Rabbit—May 4, 6pm, Marion Fairground
- Showmanship Clinic—June 8, 6pm, Evert Fairgrounds

Marion Fair Small Animal Dates for 2015

- Breeding Date—March 27, 2015
- Doe Due Date—April 27, 2015
- Tattoo Clinic—June 8, 2015

Evert Fair Small Animal Dates for 2015

- Breeding Date—April 17, 2015
- Doe Due Date—May 18, 2015
- Tattoo Clinic—June 30, 2015

The **Osceola 4-H Rabbit Quiz Bowl Teams** will be holding meetings to practice for the upcoming State 4-H Rabbit Expo events on June 2015. The teams meet at the Evert Township Hall (two blocks south of the Evert stop light on the left side of the road) on the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Any registered 4-H youth in Osceola County may participate on these teams. Events include: Quiz Bowl, Rabbit Judging, Cavy Judging, Rabbit & Cavy Skill-a-thon, Written Quiz, Rabbit Showmanship, Cavy Showmanship, Breed Identification, Posters, and Crafts. There are team and individual events for members to participate in. New members are welcome. For further information contact Chris or Sherry Garrett at (231) 832-1450 or Ronda Hemenway at (231) 468-1863.

The **State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show** will be held on January 31 at the MSU Pavilion. This one-day event is open to participants aged 9 to 19 by January 1 of the current year. Exhibitors must be Michigan 4-H members and must own the rabbits or covies (guinea pigs) they

enter. Exhibitors may enter as many breeds as they wish; however, if breed show times conflict, another 4-H member must help show the entries. Exhibitors will be responsible for transporting their rabbits and covies to and from the judging tables. Spectators are welcome! For a catalog of the show, contact the 4-H office or go to the web link:

http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/4_h_rabbit_and_cavy_show
Consider attending this event as either a participant or spectator.

LIVESTOCK

A **PQA (Pork Quality Assurance)** class will be held on January 12 at the Evert Middle School auditorium at 7:00 p.m. All 4-H members who wish to sell market swine at the Evert Fair are required to be certified in PQA. Members 8 to 11 will just attend the class; members 12-14 will attend the class, and may take a written test - if they pass the test, they are certified until the next age division; members 15-19 will attend the class, and may also take a written test that if they pass, they will be certified until they are 18. If your member is ages 6 & 7 please contact the 4-H office for information. If you cannot attend this class, in future newsletters there will be other opportunities to take a PQA class outside of the county.

The monthly OLC meetings will resume on February 9, at the Evert Middle School Auditorium, and continues on the 2nd Monday of each month.

The **Green & White Hog Show** and Contests will be held on January 30-31, 2015, at the MSU Pavilion. Forms are available at: http://www.ans.msu.edu/uploads/files/ANS_Youth/GW_Complete_Entry_Info_15.pdf

Available again this year: **The Osceola County Market Goat Contest**. This is open to any market goat youth that is interested. Youth will fill out an application then submit it to the 4-H office by February 2nd. The selection committee will go through the application and pick individuals that will go to the next step by participating in a non-formal interview in March. After the interview one recipient will be awarded a market goat that must be shown and sold at any of the three fairs. If you are interested please contact the 4-H office to get the application.

January 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 4-H Office Closed New Year's Day	2	3
4	5 Small Animal Mtg. & Turkey Order 6:00 pm Evert MS Caf�	6 Shooting Sports 6:00 pm RCMS Caf�	7 4-H Council Mtg. 7:00 pm Evert Depott	8	9	10
11	12 PQA Meeting 7:00 pm EMS Auditorium	13 Shooting Sports 6:00 pm RCMS Caf�	14 Cadillac Area Livestock Mtg. 7:00 pm Fairgrounds	15 Horse Develop- mental Comm. Meeting 7:30 pm RCHS Library	16	17 Small Animal Cook-Off 11:30am RCMS 4-H Youth Leader- ship Kettunen Center
18 4-H Day at Breslin Women's Basketball Game	19 4-H Office Closed Martin Luther King Day Marion Fairboard 7:00 pm Fairgrounds	20 Shooting Sports 6:30 pm RCMS Caf�	21	22	23	24
25	26 Evert Fair Board Mtg. 7:30 pm Fairgrounds	27 Shooting Sports 6:30 pm RCMS Caf�	28	29	30 Green & White Hog Show MSU	31 4-H Winterfest Kettunen Center

February 2015

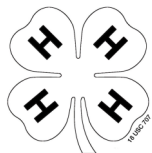
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Shooting Sports 6:30 pm	4	5	6	7
8	9 Small Animal Mtg. 6:00 pm Evert MS Caf� OLC Meeting 7:00 pm Evert MS Cafe	10 Shooting Sports 6:30 pm RCMS Caf�	11 Cadillac Area Livestock Mtg. 7:00 pm Fairgrounds	12	13	14
15	16 4-H Office Closed President's Day Marion Fairboard 7:00 pm Fairgrounds	17 Shooting Sports 6:30 pm RCMS Caf�	18	19 Horse Develop- mental Comm. Meeting 7:30 pm Evert Depot	20	21
22	23 Evert Fair Board Mtg. 7:30 pm Fairgrounds	24 Shooting Sports 6:30 pm RCMS Caf�	25	26	27 4-H Vet Science Kettunen Center	28 4-H Beef, Sheep & Swine Kettunen Center



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2015 FAIR DATES

Marion	July 5-11, 2015
Osceola County	July 26-August 1, 2015
Northern District	August 16-22, 2015

