

Osceola County MSU Extension 4-H Newsletter

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Extension

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4-H Family & Friends,

March/April 2015

Winter is coming to a close and spring is on the way. It is time to make room for some upcoming spring events.

Turkeys have been ordered and will be arriving in April. Start preparing your poultry pens for the arrival of new chicks. If you were planning on showing broilers or cornish at the fair, chick orders will be taken at the beginning of the small animal meeting in March. When we think of chicks in 4-H, we think of fair. Yes, fair weigh-in is close at hand as well. Check out the information in the newsletter regarding fair weigh-in and registration this year.

A Gym Night & Pizza Party for the dairy families will take place in April; it is sponsored by the Dairy Boosters. Make sure to put this “utter”ly great event on your calendar!

The Bad Toads Shooting Sports Club has been shooting since January and is about to come to an end for another year, but let’s not forget about the award night to showcase what was learned and celebrate together! For those who were not involved in the shooting sports program, sign-up is in January each year. This program is a short-term program lasting 12 weeks.

Horse lovers get ready! The 10th Annual Equine Extravaganza is galloping this way. During this event a Coggins Clinic will take place. This will be a great opportunity to take care of all the necessary Coggin’s paperwork needed for the year. Another great horse event to look forward to is the Proud Equestrian Program. Read inside this newsletter for more details.

“Moo”ve over, I hear cattle coming. The 12th Annual Crossroad Classic Beef Show will be held the last weekend in April at the Osceola County Sheriff’s Posse Grounds. The night before the a pancake supper will take place. Come out for dinner and enjoy the show!

There are plenty of other events and meetings happening these next two months. Make sure you add them to your calendar.

Jacob Stieg,

Osceola County 4-H Coordinator

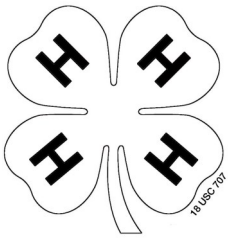


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Special Points of Interest

- Exploration Days
- 4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp
- US Geospatial Intelligence Foundation Scholarship
- Crossroads Classic Beef Show
- Giddy Up Get Ready Clinic
- Coggins Clinic
- 4-H Hairy Horse Benefit Show
- Proud Equestrian Program
- State 4-H Horse Show
- Equine Extravaganza
- State Goat Expo
- Osceola County 4-H Goat Clinic
- Chick Orders
- ARBA Show



GENERAL 4-H NEWS

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

The Marion Fair and Osceola County 4-H & FFA Fair sponsor the **Outstanding Fair Exhibitor** Award each year. This award goes to the member with the most points earned from exhibits at both fairs. Members ages 14 & up (Fair age) are eligible. You must sign up at the 4-H office by June 1, 2015.

The **Ag and Natural Resources Week at MSU is March 7-14, 2015**. ANR Week provides a wide-variety of topics in areas such as agriculture, horticulture, and natural resources, i.e. Quiet Water Symposium, Michigan Wildflower Conference, food and nutrition conference. A complete schedule can be found online at:

<http://anrweek.canr.msu.edu/sessions>

4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp, August 2-8, 2015- Camp Chickagami in Presque Isle County. Young teens have fun and amazing outdoor hands-on learning experiences as they go charter fishing, snorkeling, sailing, hike through forests, wade through wetlands, explore dunes and more! This really fun MSU pre-college program could be the highlight of your summer - it could even change your life! Open to teens who are aged 13 to 15. Cost is \$345 for current 4-H members; \$355 for those not in 4-H. Find out more at: <http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/glnc>

Seniors...**The US Geospatial Intelligence Foundation (USGIF)** has a scholarship available to high school students who are graduating this year. This is a good opportunity for any of our 4-H'ers who have been working with GIS & GPS to apply. The scholarships are due April 20th. More information can be found at: <http://usgif.org/education/scholarships>.



KETTUNEN CENTER

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. This conference is open to youth ages 11-18 as of Jan. 1, 2015. **Last day to register is March 4th.**

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!

LIVESTOCK

If you plan to show and sell a pig this year, you must be certified in the **Pork Quality Assurance** program. Many of you already took the PQA training in Evert, If you missed it, there are other opportunities to become certified. Contact the 4-H office for more information. If you passed the test last year, and are still in the same age division, you may not have to re-certify! Remember, the PQA age is as of January 1, 2015. If you take the class in another county, be sure to get a copy of your certificate to the Osceola 4-H office.

PQA Age groups

Ages 6-7: Parents (Adult PQA) or older sibling can cover the youth

Ages 8-11: Must attend yearly to be certified

Ages 12-14: Have the option to test out by taking a test or attend yearly

Ages 15-18: Have the option to test out by taking a test or attend yearly

Age 19: Must attend yearly or could have tested out at age 18.

Adult Pork Quality Assurance will be offered on April 13, 2015 at the Evert Middle School during the OLC meeting. Please contact the 4-H office to RSVP if you plan on attending the Adult PQA class. The class cost \$20.00 and payment is expected at start of class.

The **12th Annual Osceola County 4-H Crossroads Classic Beef Show** will be held on April 25 2015, at the Sheriff's Posse Grounds near Reed City. This is a great chance to get your steers and heifers out for a show close to home. There is also a class for dairy steers. Contact the 4-H office for a flyer. Start making plans to bring your animals today! In conjunction with the show, a Pancake Supper will be held Saturday night, from 4-6 p.m. at the Posse Grounds.

Marion Fair will NOT have a Weigh-In.— 5 photos of each livestock project must be mailed or dropped off at the 4-H office along with pre-registration form by April 11, 2015, **emailed pictures will NOT be accepted.** Remember, all lambs and goats must have a scrapies tag in their ear to meet MDA movement requirements. Be sure yours do! **Remember: members may register only 2 pigs per member!** Registration form is in the newsletter.

Evert Fair lambs & goats will be weighed in at the fairgrounds on Saturday, May 2nd, from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m.

- Be sure to bring help to unload and reload your livestock if you are unable to do it yourself.
- Older youth volunteers would be appreciated to help with tagging, etc.
- Lambs and goats must have scrapie tags! Market goats must be dehorned and castrated at spring weigh-in.
- **Do not** use Recreational Ave to enter the fairgrounds. We will be using Laumen Road (blinker light) to enter the fair grounds. We will be using the North gate off from Laumen

Road and lining up out by the horse arena. There will be signs posted for everyone to follow this year. Contact Jacob if you are interested in helping with the weigh in.

- Swine **will not** weigh in this year; however, 2 side photos and 1 behind the head photo of each pig must be mailed or dropped off at the 4-H office along with pre-registration form, emailed pictures **will not** be accepted. Registration form is due by May 4, 2015. Registration form is in the newsletter.
- Final swine weigh-in is between **230-300 lbs.** All under and overweight swine at fair time will not be allowed to stay on the fair grounds and will be sent home. Weigh-in at fair time is from 9 am to noon on July 26, 2015

From the MDA, any out-of-state livestock for exhibit shall meet the requirement prescribed for importation of animals of that species and shall be accompanied by a copy of an official interstate health certificate or an official interstate certificate of veterinary inspection issued by an accredited veterinarian from the state of origin.

Northern District Fair Weigh-In goats, lambs & swine will be weighed in on Saturday May 2nd from 1:00 p.m. till 3:00 p.m. at the Northern District fair grounds. Lambs and goats must have scrapie tags!

Market swine, sheep, goats & rabbits are required to be pre-registered with the Northern District Fair by April 6, 2015. Contact the 4-H office if you need a registration form. All registrations forms must be mailed to: Lee & Mary Lee Hebner, 19043 160th Ave, Tustin, MI 49688.

All under and overweight market animals at fair time will not be allowed to stay on the fair grounds and will need to be removed.

Osceola Livestock Club (OLC)

- Monday, March 9th at the Reed City Middle School Cafeteria @ 7:00 p.m.
- Monday, April 13th at the Evert Middle School Auditorium @ 7:00 p.m.

Remember, members must attend **three** of these meetings in order to show and sell at the Evert Fair. Don't wait until the last three to do this!

The MSU Extension office is compiling a **list of local fair pigs, lambs and goats** producers. If you or your family has pigs, lambs, and goats for sale please contact the 4-H office. 4-Her's please be sure to be in contact with your previous suppliers.

The **Boyd Show Pig Sale** will be held on Saturday April 11, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. at the Boyd Farm, 1916 100th Ave Evert, MI 49631. Contact Nikki at (231) 734-6135 or boydshowpigs@gmail.com for more information.

Marion Fair Livestock Registration Form 2015

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Club: _____

Marion Fair (Registration Form Due Date April 11, 2015)

Circle which species you will be showing at fair.

Jr. Beef	Breed: _____
Goat	Sex: _____
Sheep	USDA Tag _____ (Scrapies: Sheep & Goat)
Swine	(RFID: Jr. Beef)

ATTACH PHOTOS ON SEPARATE SHEET (NO EMAILED PHOTOS WILL BE ACCEPTED)

(5) PICTURES ARE REQUIRED FOR EACH ANIMAL - FRONT, LEFT SIDE, RIGHT SIDE, BACK, EAR TAG

If this form is not complete and pictures of ID are not clear --it will not be accepted

Osceola County Fair Livestock Registration Form 2015

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Club: _____

Osceola County 4-H & FFA Fair (Registration Form Due Date May 4, 2015)

Circle which species you will be showing at fair.

Swine

Breed: _____

Sex: _____

USDA Tag _____
(IF APPLICABLE)

ATTACH PHOTOS ON SEPARATE SHEET (NO EMAILED PHOTOS WILL BE ACCEPTED)

(3) PICTURES ARE REQUIRED FOR EACH ANIMAL - LEFT SIDE, RIGHT SIDE, BACK OF HEAD WITH BOTH EARS IN PICTURE

If this form is not complete and pictures of ID are not clear --it will not be accepted

HORSE

The **Giddy Up Get Ready Clinic**. The purpose of this clinic is to help educate and prepare new and older riders for the upcoming show season, promote good sportsmanship and unity in the Osceola 4-H clubs. The perfect warm up after the winter off for riders and their horses to prepare for the new show season. This year our program will be focusing more on getting ready for shows. Topics this year include, showmanship, clipping, banding/braiding, learning to judge Western Riding, patterns, illegal/legal bits, arena etiquette, trail, low level jump prep, what to bring to shows, and lots of fun. This year we will be having a mock trial show so the kids can have a test run before show season! This is a great opportunity for the youth to work with some of our local equine professionals and brush up on their equitation and ask the professionals what the judge is looking for. The dates for this event is May 8-10. Registration forms are available at the MSU extension office and the deadline to enter will be April 3rd there are only 20 spots available.

A **Coggins Clinic** will be sponsored by the Tales and Trails 4-H Club on April 18, at the Sheriff's Posse Grounds from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information, contact Roxie Erler at (231) 832-9946.

4-H Hairy Horse Benefit Show will be held Sunday, March 29 at the MSU Pavilion. Registration begins at 7:00 a.m. and the show begins at 8:30 a.m. No ribbons or points will be awarded, just feedback to help you be a more successful showperson! Cost is \$40 for a stall and \$8 per class entered. Ages 9 (as of January 1st, 2015) and up are eligible. Negative Coggins test with in the last 12 months is required.

The **Proud Equestrian Program (PEP)** for handicapped riders will begin in April. This is a eight week program that we do jointly with Mecosta County 4-H. Volunteers are needed to serve as side walkers or to lead the horses. Anyone who has helped in the past knows that this is a very rewarding experience. The riders and their parents are a pleasure to work with, and appreciate the chance to actually ride a horse – something we may often take for granted. Consider becoming a volunteer this year – it's only one night a week for six weeks, and I guarantee you'll get much more from the experience than you put into it! Contact the 4-H office if you are interested.

The dates are set for the **2015 PEP Benefit Shows and the Pleasure Point Shows**. All shows will be held at the Posse grounds and start at 9:00 a.m. The shows schedule is:

<u>PEP Benefit Show</u>	<u>Pleasure Point Show</u>
May 16, 2015	May 17, 2015
June 13, 2015	June 14, 2015
June 27, 2015	June 28, 2015
July 18, 2015	July 19, 2015

Clover Kid classes will be held for members 5-8 years old during the Pleasure Point Shows. These classes will be non-competitive, but will resemble the same classes that older youth participate in with a twist! As in past years, each horse club will be required to help with one of the shows. Contact the 4-H

office for show bills. Horse clubs remember that your club needs to help at one Pleasure Point Show.

If you are interested in participating in the **State 4-H Horse Show** August 7-9, you must pick up and submit a Delegate Declaration of Intent to the 4-H office by May 1st. Depending on how many spots Osceola County will be allotted depends on how many volunteers we will need. Once this information is obtained I will let you know. Members must be 13 or older as of January 1, 2015. Contact the 4-H office for a form.

The **Horseless Horse Program** will be starting back up on May 7 at Spring Hill. In this program participants get the chance to learn how to ride and take care of a horse without owning one. This program runs for seven weeks and will be held on Thursday evenings running from May 7th through June 18th. On each of the Thursday nights there will be two sessions held. The first session runs from 5:00-6:00 p.m. and the second session runs from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Limited space is available. If you are interested in learning how to ride and to take care of a horse contact Katrina Lechlitner at (616) 826-2904 or by email at ranch@springhillcamps.com

The **Barbara Vanburgel Memorial Scholarship** is available for graduating seniors and graduated youth that are attending a post-secondary institution. The requirements for this scholarship are the youth must be active in the horse project area and must submit academic transcripts along with the application. It is due back to 4-H office by May 1, 2015. Please contact the 4-H office if interested in applying for this scholarship.

The Osceola County 4-H Horse Committee will sponsor the **10th Annual Equine Extravaganza** on Saturday, April 18, at the Sheriff Posse Grounds/ The day will begin at 10:00 a.m. with a tack sale and a fun contest. There will be sessions on Ring Edict and our new ROCK program. Lunch will be available at \$3.00 per person. There will also be information tables, silent auction, cake walk, and equine bingo for door prizes. Each horse club is asked to provide an item or basket for the silent auction, and cakes for the cake walk. Also, participants for the day! This is really a fun day, and you will also learn something while having fun. Mark your calendars and plan to attend. The public is also welcome.

GOATS

The **State 4-H Goat Expo** will be held on Saturday, April 25th, 2015, at MSU. The State 4-H Goat Expo is designed for young people who are interested in live animal evaluation and in testing their knowledge of the goat industry in a fun and educational manner. This event includes contests in judging, quiz bowl, skillathon, creative writing and problem-solving. State 4-H Goat Expo events are open to participants aged 9 to 19 by January 1, 2015. You must be a 4-H member but you don't have to be enrolled in a 4-H goat project to compete. Some contests are designed for both team and individual competition. Spectators are welcome! Find out more at: http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/state_4_h_goat_expo1

The annual **Osceola County 4-H Goat Clinic** will be held on June 6, 2015, at the Osceola County Fairgrounds at 9:00 a.m. Topics will include clipping, fitting, showing, etc. Contact the 4-H Office for more information.

DAIRY

The annual **Gym Night and Pizza Party** for Osceola County 4-H Dairy families will be held Saturday, April 11, at the Evert Middle School gym at 7:30 p.m. Again this year, we are inviting all Osceola County 4-H Dairy alumni (and future 4-H members) to join us! Please pass the word. Take a minute to dig up some old pictures if you can. Come out and play basketball and volleyball or just socialize with fellow 4-H dairy members. There is no charge for this event.

SMALL ANIMAL

The Osceola County 4-H Small Animal Association will hold the **chick order** meeting on Monday, March 2nd, at the Reed City Middle School Cafeteria at 6:00 p.m. The order meeting is mandatory for youth planning to exhibit and sell market broilers or cornish at the Marion or Osceola County Fairs. Cost of the chicks is \$1.65 each. Chick delivery dates are:

Turkeys

- Marion Turkeys—March 17
- Evert Turkeys—April 7
- Cadillac Turkeys—April 28

Broilers

- Marion Broilers—May 12
- Evert Broilers—June 2
- Cadillac Broilers— June 23

Cornish

- Marion Cornish—June 9
- Evert Cornish—June 23
- Cadillac Cornish— July 21

On May 16, 2015 the **Poultry Palooza** is being held at the Eaton County Fair Grounds. 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. Spectators are welcome! Find out more at: http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/4_h_poultry_palooza1

The annual **ARBA Show** will take place on Saturday, April 11, at the Evert Fairgrounds Community Building. Entry fees for the day are \$3.00 per rabbit, cavy or meat pen and \$1.00 for fur. Judging will begin for this double show at 9:00 a.m. for both youth and open. Make sure you arrive early to get your entries in.

If you plan to exhibit a pen of **market rabbits** this year, the breeding dates for your doe are below: The market rabbits may not be over 70 days old at fair check in.

2015 Educational Meetings—To sell at the Evert Fair participants must attend 3 small animal educational meetings.

- Poultry Order—March 2 at RCMS Café @ 6pm
- Topic TBD—April 13, at Evert MS Café @ 6pm
- Rabbit—May 4 at Marion Fairground @ 6pm
- Showmanship Clinic—June 8 at Evert Fairgrounds @ 6pm

Marion Fair—Important Small Animal Dates

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

Osceola County Fair—Important Small Animal Dates

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

Northern District Fair—Important Small Animal Dates

- Breeding Date—May 8, 2015
- Doe Due Date—June 8, 2015

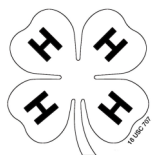
March 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Small Animal Mtg. & Poultry Order 6:00 pm RCMS Café	3 Shooting Sports 6:30 pm RCMS Café	4	5	6	7
8	9 OLC Mtg. 7:00 pm RCMS Café	10 Shooting Sports 6:30 pm RCMS Café	11 Cadillac Area Livestock Mtg. 7:00 pm Fairgrounds	12	13	14
15	16 Marion Fair Board Mtg. 7:00 pm Fairgrounds	17 Shooting Sports 6:30 pm RCMS Café Marion Turkeys Arrive	18	19 Horse Develop- mental Committee Mtg. 7:30 pm RCHS Library	20	21
22	23 Evert Fair Board Mtg. 7:30 pm Fairgrounds	24 Shooting Sports 6:30 pm RCMS Café	25	26	27 Breed Rabbits Marion Fair	28
29	30	31 Shooting Sports 6:30 pm RCMS Café				

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April 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Ewart Turkeys Arrive	8 Cadillac Area Livestock Mtg. 7:00 pm Fairgrounds	9	10	11 Dairy Family Gym Night & Pizza Party 7:30 pm Ewart MS Gym
12	13 Small Animal Mtg. 6pm Ewart MS Caf� OLC Mtg. 7:00 pm Ewart MS Auditorium Adult PQA Ewart MS	14 Shooting Sports Award Night 6:00 pm RCMS Caf�	15	16 Horse Develop- mental Committee Mtg. 7:30 pm Ewart Depot	17 Breed Rabbit Ewart Fair	18 Coggins Clinic 10:00 am Posse Grounds Equine Extrava- ganza 10am Posse Grounds
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Crossroads Classic Beef Show & Pancake Supper Posse Grounds
26	27 Doe Due Date Marion Fair	28 Cadillac Turkeys Arrive	29 4-H Council Mtg. 7:00 pm Ewart ?	30		