



Kalamazoo County

# 4-H Family News

MARCH 2018

## 2018 MSU Extension Exploration Days— Journey to Success

The 2018 MSU Exploration Days registration is coming up soon. Youth won't want to miss out on this exciting adventure **for 11-19 year olds!** The registration books online at [http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/4\\_h\\_exploration\\_days/registration\\_information](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/4_h_exploration_days/registration_information) and at the 4-H office. All of the forms that need to be completed are included in the registration booklet and need to be brought to the 4-H office. Don't delay! Sign up early for the best opportunity to get the classes that interest you the most. It's going to be an exciting time for youth to attend classes at MSU, develop new friends and skills while having a great time with our county delegation! Youth will be able to enjoy swimming in the Olympic size pool, MSU dairy ice cream and a variety of other activities while on campus.

The session numbering system easily identifies the session type as follows:

100-157	1st-half session (Wed. PM, Thurs. AM)
200-266	2nd-half session (Thurs. PM, Fri. AM)
300-311	Full session (Wed. PM, Thurs. AM & PM, Fri. AM)
500-528	1st-half session repeated as 2nd-half
600-628	2nd-half session same as 1st-half
900-918	State Awards 4-H Program

## REGISTRATION ENDS APRIL 16!

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### 4-H Project Leaders Needed

MSU Extension 4-H youth development programs, throughout the state, are in need of 4-H project leaders to help youth grow and develop in a variety of life skills. These life skills can be anything from science, baking, car repair, animal care, financial literacy and so much more.

Take a look at these questions:

Do you have a couple of hours a month you could give to a small group of youth?

Are there children in your club or neighborhood who show an interest in learning about a subject that you know something about or are willing to learn about with the youth?

Are you interested in making a difference in the lives of the next generation?

Can you help a child to become successful, giving them the tools to become confident leaders in their homes, schools and communities?

Do you believe that volunteering helps to build a better community?

Did you participate in a youth organization where adults volunteers helped you to develop into a confident adult?

If the answer was yes to any of these questions we're looking for YOU!

If you are interested in helping the next generation to "Make the best better" please contact the 4-H office at [bolhuisv@anr.msu.edu](mailto:bolhuisv@anr.msu.edu).

Some specific project leaders we are looking for currently are: culinary arts (food), needlecrafts (including sewing), arts and crafts (including drawing, painting, photography, ceramics, pottery, wood crafts, etc), vet science, entomology (study of bugs/beekeeping), sports and recreation, and so many more. If you have an idea for a project that you would like to teach and don't see it listed above please contact the 4-H office, we would love to talk to you!

Remember part of our pledge is to use our "hands for larger service" - many times this is taught through the example of our volunteers to our youth



### We are looking for Project Leaders in:

- Culinary Arts  
(food)
- Needlecrafts  
(including sewing)
- Arts & Crafts
- Drawing
- Painting
- Photography
- Ceramics
- Pottery
- Wood crafts
- Vet science
- Entomology  
(study of bugs/  
beekeeping)
- Sports & Rec

## Animal Health and Sciences Workshops

### Animal Senses: Finding a New Perspective

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

6:30 PM

Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds, Room B

During this interactive session, we'll learn about important science principals that help us better understand how to work with livestock in a low stress manner for us and them. We'll explore the domestication history of common livestock species and how this impacts their sensory world. We'll also take time to talk about how animal senses, what is the same and different from ours as humans and how can understanding these sense help us better work with animals.



Did You Know?

Bees never sleep.

### Goat Welfare

Tuesday, May 29, 2018

6:30 PM

Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds, Room B

At this session, we'll first start by defining what animal welfare is and is not. With that, we'll talk about two important references scientists use to think about and discuss animal welfare. Once we have a basic understanding of animal welfare in general, we'll turn our attention to goats and learn about species specific information for these animals.



## 2018 Poultry Deadlines

### Turkey:

Order—February 23

Pick-up—March 27

### Market Geese:

Order—March 30

Pick-up—May 8

### Heavy Duck:

Order—April 13

Pick-up— May 22

### Roaster (chicks):

Order—May 4

Pick-up—May 29

### Market (Peking) Duck:

Order— May 11

Pick-up—June 12

### Broiler (chicks):

Order—May 25

Pick-up—June 19

### Cornish (chicks):

Order—June 1

Pick-up—June 26







## First Generation 4-H Experience Survey

Michigan 4-H strives to create an environment that is inviting and easy to navigate for families participating in 4-H for the first time. We are currently conducting a survey so we can identify and remove barriers for youth and families who are new to 4-H.

If your family was new to 4-H in the last few years, keep an eye out for an email with the survey link!

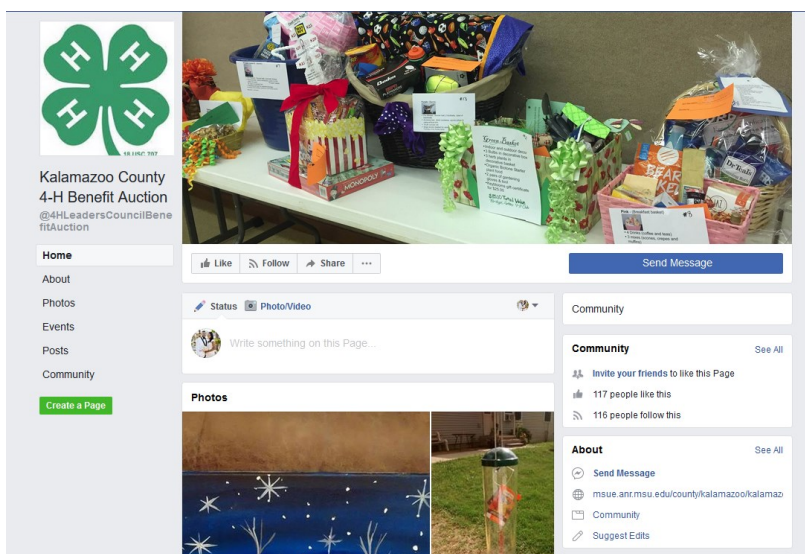


## Kalamazoo County 4-H Benefit Auction

The Kalamazoo County 4-H Benefit Auction will be held on Saturday, April 28 at the Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds. The registration will begin at 9AM and the bidding will begin at 10AM and will run until all items are sold.

All proceeds help to support the Kalamazoo County 4-H program through offering scholarships to attend MSU Exploration Day, college scholarships, 4-H programming, awards, trips and more!

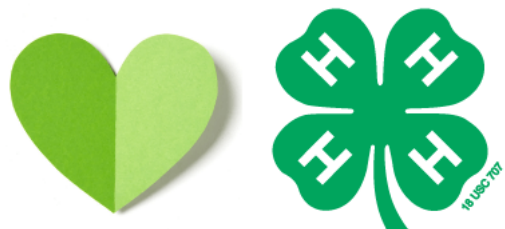
Many of the items have been listed (or will be listed) on the Kalamazoo County 4-H Benefit Auction Facebook page.: <https://www.facebook.com/4HLeadersCouncilBenefitAuction/> Please check it out and pass the link on to others.



## JOANN Fabrics Partnership

The JOANN's Fabrics Paper Clover campaign has been extended through March 31! Michigan is currently in the top 10 states for Paper Clover sales and this will give us a few more solid weeks for additional fund generation.

# JOANN



## 2017 Nationwide Impact



Projects that were  
environmental in  
nature



Projects that  
supported families  
and individuals in  
their communities



Projects that  
were related to  
providing food  
and other donations  
to those in need



Projects focused  
on youth  
educating the  
community on  
chosen topics



## National 4-H Day of Service



In April, 4-H'ers across the nation will participate as **True Leaders in Service** in multiple community service projects, culminating in a **National 4-H Day of Service on Saturday, April 28, 2018.**

The 4-H True Leaders in Service Toolkit and Event Registration are now live on 4-H.org. Want to plan a community service project? Visit [https://4-h.org/get-involved/true-leaders-in-service/#!](https://4-h.org/get-involved/true-leaders-in-service/#!overview) [overview](#) to start planning your event.

**Research shows youth who participate in 4-H programs are significantly more likely to make a positive contribution to their communities.**

## Raise Your Hand Activation

Following the success of last year's activation, National 4-H Council just announced that they will once again be holding the **Raise Your Hand Activation this spring**. This is a great opportunity to engage with 4-H alumni and friends and will be held April 1 – May 15. Although details are still being worked out, I'm told it will again feature cash prizes for the winners.



## **AT THIS TRAINING YOU WILL:**

- ⇒ be introduced to all program materials
- ⇒ explore the HSFPF lessons
- ⇒ gain confidence in teaching the program
- ⇒ learn how to add value to student learning
- ⇒ find out how to get your free classroom



### **High School Financial Planning Program Training**



If you or someone you know (a non-profit, school teacher, community leader) wants to teach important money management topics to teens and are near Hastings, this is a great training.

You are invited to participate in a **FREE** training opportunity

for a curriculum in the National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE) High School Financial Planning Program (HSFPF). HSFPF has improved the financial literacy of millions of students across the county for nearly 30 years. Each workshop offers award-winning, noncommercial curriculum that aligns with state and national standards and provides easy-to-use lesson plans as well as free instructor manuals and workbooks for each student.



**March 23, 2018**

**9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (Check-in at 8:30 a.m.)**

**Hastings Public Library  
227 East State Street  
Hastings, MI 49058**

**[https://  
events.anr.msu.edu/  
NEFEHSFPFHastings2018/](https://events.anr.msu.edu/NEFEHSFPFHastings2018/)**

**\*\*Materials, refreshments, and lunch will be provided.**



### Kalamazoo County Leader's Council Scholarship

The Kalamazoo County 4-H Leaders Council Senior and Upperclassmen Scholarship deadline is April 16, 2018 at 5:00 PM to the 4-H office. Applications are available at [www.msue.msu.edu/kalamazoo](http://www.msue.msu.edu/kalamazoo) or at the 4-H office. Your Member Record Book must be handed in with your application. Applicants will be selected based upon their Member Record Book, statement of your reason for attending college or other advanced education and an interview. Senior interviews will be held on April 23rd. If you need help completing your Member Record Book, please contact the 4-H staff.



### **Application deadline for the 2018 Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship is May 15, 2018**

To be eligible for either the MYLSF general scholarship or the statewide scholarship, the applicant must be a resident of Michigan and a graduating high school senior or a high school graduate continuing their education at an accredited institution in the year in which they are applying.

For the general MYLSF scholarship, the applicant must be a youth exhibitor at the Michigan Livestock Expo, the Michigan Dairy Expo or the former Michigan State Fair, for a minimum of three calendar years prior to the year of application. For the statewide scholarship, an applicant must be a youth exhibitor at a local, county, or statewide exhibition for a minimum of three years prior to the year of application.

Applications and qualification requirements for the MYLSF and the statewide scholarship can be obtained at [www.michigan.gov/mda-mylsf](http://www.michigan.gov/mda-mylsf). Applications must be postmarked no later than May 15, 2018. If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Haarer, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's Producer Security Section Manager, at 517-284-5642 or Ernie Birchmeier, Michigan Farm Bureau's Livestock & Dairy Specialist, at 517-679-5335.





### **Junior Master Gardening Training**

March 14, 2018

9AM— 3PM

Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds

Register and find more information here:

[http://msue.anr.msu.edu/uploads/234/95894/Trainings/JMG\\_Workshop\\_Flier\\_Kalamazoo\\_2018.pdf](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/uploads/234/95894/Trainings/JMG_Workshop_Flier_Kalamazoo_2018.pdf)



### **4-H International Exchange Opportunity**

We are now accepting application for families to host international exchange students for one month this summer, 2018. We have 8 Korean delegates and 30 Japanese delegates looking forward to meeting your family.

**HOSTING PERIOD 4 weeks: July 22 – Aug. 17, 2018**

- Japanese & Korean delegates are ages 12-16 (most are 12-14) or adult chaperones
- Youth have limited English language skills, so host families should be prepared to communicate imaginatively.

#### **HOST FAMILY REQUIREMENTS**

- Japanese & Korean youth will be the same gender and within 3 years of age of your child.
- A chaperone can be hosted for two weeks by an individual or any family. Chaperones can be college interns or age 60+.
- No special activities needed. The youth want to experience American culture, make new friends, and improve their English by staying with your family.
- Volunteer to participate. Previous 4-H involvement not required.
- Delegates can attend summer camp (we cover cost up to \$250) with your child.

Applications are found at [www.states4hexchange.org](http://www.states4hexchange.org) or if you have questions





## FUN at the Fair

Over the past several years we've had a lot of fun for the 4-H youth at the fair. A few years ago water games and pizza were added on Sunday night along with a dance on Friday night. We would like to add more fun games and activities for youth and adults throughout the week, but we are looking for your input. Josh (the fair manager) and I would like to have both youth and adults attend on Thursday, March 15th, 6:30 PM at the fairgrounds. If you can't make it, but have ideas please send them to us by March 14th to Veronica at [bolhuisv@anr.msu.edu](mailto:bolhuisv@anr.msu.edu) or Josh at [jdgowe@kalcounty.com](mailto:jdgowe@kalcounty.com).

## Youth Business Guide to Success

Are you involved in the 4-H market animal project area? Want to expand the market animal project area in your 4-H group to teach life skills around marketing, budgeting, communication, and entrepreneurship skills?

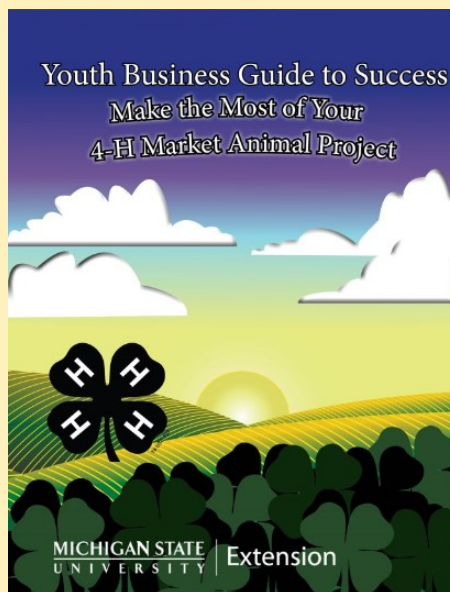
If so, Michigan 4-H has a curriculum and training to support the work you do with youth! Through the [Youth](#)

[Business Guide to Suc-](#)

[cess](#) curriculum, youth will gain knowledge about marketing and advertising their products. Participants will also explore and practice production, management and distribution skills. In addition, it provides a venue to explore what it takes to be successful in business and view the world of animal science and agribusiness as a viable career option.

Intended for 12-19 year olds, the Youth Business Guide to Success (YBGS) curriculum is very adaptable to 4-H and non-4-H audiences working with animals. We would like to offer a class in the spring of 2018.

If you are interested please contact the 4-H office at [bolhuisv@anr.msu.edu](mailto:bolhuisv@anr.msu.edu).



### Did You Know?

Owls have three eyelids on each eye: one for blinking, one for sleeping, and one for cleansing.



**Revised 4-H  
Teen Leadership  
Guide now  
online**



Learn the roles and responsibilities of a teen leader from this newly revised 4-H Teen Leadership Guide. Designed to make the process of taking on a 4-H teen leadership project easier, the publication provides a five step project guide along with fillable forms that make any teen into a great teen leader.

The 4-H Teen Leadership Guide is available to download for free at [msue.anr.msu.edu/resources/4\\_h\\_teen\\_leadership](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/resources/4_h_teen_leadership).

## 4-H Events and Workshops

March 6: 4-H and Fundraising 101 for Volunteers -Online

Learn about Michigan 4-H and MSU Extension fundraising policies.

[http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4\\_h\\_and\\_fundraising\\_101\\_for\\_volunteers](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_and_fundraising_101_for_volunteers)

March 15: 4-H Junior Master Gardener Workshop -Kalamazoo Fairgrounds, Kalamazoo

Become a 4-H Junior Master Gardener at this workshop. Registration is due by March 7.

[http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4\\_h\\_junior\\_master\\_gardener\\_workshop\\_kalamazoo](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_junior_master_gardener_workshop_kalamazoo)

March 17: Time for Success 4-H Workshop -MSU Tollgate Farm and Conference Center, Novi

Polish your skills and get prepared for your next interview.

[http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/time\\_for\\_success\\_4\\_h\\_workshop](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/time_for_success_4_h_workshop)

March 19: Michigan 4-H Embryology Staff, Teacher and Volunteer Training -Online

This free training is designed for educators who would like to learn how to implement an embryology program through classroom activities or 4-H SPIN clubs. Register by March 15.

[http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/michigan\\_4\\_h\\_embryology\\_staff\\_teacher\\_and\\_volunteer\\_training\\_online](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/michigan_4_h_embryology_staff_teacher_and_volunteer_training_online)

March 21: Animal Care and Well-Being - Mid Michigan Community College, Harrison

During this free event, learn about large and small animal welfare from MSU Extension educator Melissa Elischer.

[http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/animal\\_care\\_and\\_well\\_being\\_1](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/animal_care_and_well_being_1)

March 31: Southeast Michigan 4-H Target Archery Shoot -Springfield Oaks County Park Activity Center, Davisburg

This first annual event provides Michigan 4-H shooting sports members with the opportunity to test their skills and earn recognition. Register by March 17.

[http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/2018\\_southeast\\_michigan\\_4\\_h\\_target\\_archery\\_shoot](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/2018_southeast_michigan_4_h_target_archery_shoot)

April 4-5: 4-H Tractor Safety - NorthWest Michigan Research Center, Traverse City

Complete the tractor operation safety course to become certified to perform farm jobs. Registration is due by March 23.

[http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/2018\\_4\\_h\\_tractor\\_safety](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/2018_4_h_tractor_safety)

April 7: Michigan 4-H Hippology Skills and Communications Contest -Michigan State University, East Lansing

Combine youth interest in horses with the importance of science literacy and life skill building in this fun contest. Submit entries to your county MSU Extension office by March 9.

<http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/mi-4-h-hippology-skills-communications-contest>

April 14: State 4-H Goat Expo -Michigan State University, East Lansing

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 (caprine) industry.

[http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/state\\_4\\_h\\_goat\\_expo1](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/state_4_h_goat_expo1)

*For the most up-to-date events listing, go to*

## New Diddly Squat lessons available

### TEACHING SCIENCE

...when you don't know diddly-squat

#### Why are animals' feet different?

##### Purpose:

The purpose is **not** to teach specific content, but to teach the process of science – asking questions and discovering answers. This activity encourages young people to try to figure things out for themselves rather than just read an answer on the internet or in a book. As a reader, try not to express your opinion, but let the youth engage in arguments based on evidence.

##### Time required:

20 minutes or multiple days depending on the interest and questions the youth have

##### Materials:

- Balloons
- Masking or first-aid tape
- Flip-flops
- Scrap cardboard
- Papers or wax ties (optional)
- Tow vacuums or separators (can be used in place of papers)
- Materials for an obstacle course (e.g., creative examples include a two-by-four to use as a balance beam, bricks or stepping stones, tires or hula hoops to step in and out of, logs to step over, mud)
- A safe place to walk barefoot

**Note:** Before beginning, talk to the participants about safety. They should have fun while learning, but trying to rush with unsure footing could lead to a fall or a twisted ankle.

##### SCIENCE PRACTICE:

###### Asking questions and defining problems

1. Ask: Are animal feet different from human feet? How are they different? Do you think animals' feet give them any advantages or disadvantages as compared to human feet? How and why are chicken feet different from duck feet? How and why are horse feet different from cow feet?

##### SCIENCE PRACTICE:

###### Developing and using models

2. Could you modify your own feet to make them more like animal feet? Blow a balloon under each foot so you are walking more on your toes. (Horses essentially walk on a single toe, similar to the balloon taped under the heel.) What will happen if you tape toes together? (Cattle, pigs, sheep and goats also walk more on their toes, but they have hooves.) Tape the participants' toes together in two groups. Then put a balloon under each heel.) Some animal feet are spaced apart more than ours are. Place toe spacers turned upside down between each toe on both of your feet. How does that affect your walking? (Chickens and other birds have splayed toes. See with the toe spacers.) How might flip-flops or flippers be more like animal feet? (Ducks have webbed feet like the flippers.) What will happen if you tape a piece of cardboard larger than the flip-flops to the bottom of the flip-flops? (Some animals have broad feet for walking in snow or mud, like rabbits.) What are the limitations of these models? Is there anything you can do to make them more accurate to be more like an animal foot?

##### SCIENCE PRACTICE:

###### Planning and carrying out investigations

3. Set up an obstacle course with various objects as described under "Materials." Participants go through the course with different types of feet and observe how it affects their balance, speed and coordination.

Three new lesson plans are now available in the "Teaching Science When You Don't Know Diddly-Squat" series. With a focus on sight, animal feet and math, the new lesson plans are not meant to teach specific content, but to teach the process of science.

Asking questions and discovering answers encourages 4-H'ers to figure things out for themselves.

Discover the entire series and download the new lesson plans at [msue.anr.msu.edu/resources/teaching\\_science\\_when\\_you\\_dont\\_know\\_diddly\\_squat\\_series](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/resources/teaching_science_when_you_dont_know_diddly_squat_series).

## 4-H Exploration Days registration opening March 13



4-H Exploration Days participants partake in a variety of fun, educational sessions while at MSU.

4-H Exploration Days is Michigan 4-H's largest pre-college program and could be the highlight of your summer—maybe even change your life! Registration for this popular event will open March 13 and is open to any Michigan 4-H'er above the age of 11 as of Jan. 1.

4-H Exploration Days is designed to help youth build the skills they need to successfully transition to college and to life as an adult. Michigan 4-H youth who participate have the opportunity to stay in MSU campus residence halls while attending classroom and field trip sessions throughout their stay.

With more than 200 session choices held on and off campus, there are topics for everyone including animal science, business and entrepreneurship, international language and culture, performing and visual arts, and science, engineering, and technology. During the 2017 4-H Exploration Days, nearly 2,000 youth attended and they gained important life skills like decision making, problem solving and communication.

tion.

Registration will be available beginning March 13 at 9 a.m. All registration information should be turned in to your county's Extension office, typically by the end of April. Check with your local 4-H program coordinator for your specific county date or visit [www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_exploration\\_days](http://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days) for more information.

## 4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp

From August 5 to 11, 4-H youth with an interest in the outdoors have the opportunity to engage in an amazing outdoor, hands-on learning experiences at the 4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp (GLNRC). Held annually at Camp Chickagami in Presque Isle, camp participants get to go charter fishing, snorkeling, sailing and hiking, while learning about Great Lakes ecology, natural resources and environmental education.

Declared one of the top eight 4-H science programs nationally in 2012, the goal of GLNRC is to help prepare, reinforce and enrich what youth have already learned in school and what they will learn in the future. This is achieved by allowing participants to spend one week learning from experts about coastal ecology, fisheries management, limnology, wildlife, invasive species and forestry. After attending the camp, participating youth will gain knowledge and skills in environmental science and related careers.

To attend, youth must be between the ages of 13 and 15 and apply online. Registrations are due by May 1, but space is limited to 70 campers, so early application is encouraged. For more information, visit [www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_great\\_lakes\\_natural\\_resources\\_camp](http://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_great_lakes_natural_resources_camp).



4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp participants explore nature at Camp Chickagami in Presque Isle.

# March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Oshemo, Portage club meetings	2 Early sign up for Exploration Days, Room C, fair- grounds, 6:30 pm  Derby car project, room B, fairgrounds, 7pm	3
4	5	6	7 4-H Friends club meeting	8 Richland club meet- ing	9	10
Home show—no rooms available @ fairgrounds						
11 Scotts, Tri-united club meetings	12 Climax, Fulton , Galesburg, Schoolcraft club meetings	13 Alamo club meeting	14	15 Horse council, room C, Dog project meet- ing room B, fair- grounds, 7pm	16 List of auction items due to Emily &	17
Home show—no rooms available & fairgrounds						
18 Hickory Corners club meeting	19 Horse council tack sale, 5-9pm fairgrounds, Dog council, Panera Bread, West Main, 7pm	20 Countywide poultry meeting, room B, fairgrounds, 7pm	21 LSA, room B, fair- grounds, 7pm	22 Countywide goat meeting, room B, fairgrounds, 7pm	23 Rabbit agility, room B, fairgrounds, 6:30 pm	24
25	26 Leader's council, room B, Carcass, room C, Cooper Cavaliers, room A, fairgrounds, 7pm	27 Countywide rab- bit meeting room B, swine meeting room A, fairgrounds, 7pm Beekeeping project meeting, 6:30 PM	28 Fair council, room C, fairgrounds, 7pm	29 Countywide beef , room A & sheep meeting, room B, fairgrounds, 7pm	30	31