Due to the auction, this newsletter is finding its way to you a little later than normal, so for that I apologize if you do not have it in time to review during your club meetings. The auction was extremely successful and pictures have been posted as an album on Facebook—“Lapeer County 4-H”. The figures are still being worked out as some cash donations are still making their way in, but this may be the best year yet! Including cash donations that went to our endowment, we are in the high $40,000’s, and a final figure will be released shortly. Thank you to all of the volunteers, who helped get donations as well as helped on setup day and days of the auction. It was a lot of hard work, but also a lot of fun! We had a major challenge this year in having enough people to go out to our county’s businesses and get those donations, so next year we will need your help! More to follow on those plans, but please remember that the auction raises the money that 4-H’ers directly benefit from including, but not limited to, Capitol Experience, 4-H Congress, and CWF scholarships, Senior Scholarships, Volunteer Recognitions, Club and Member Awards, Jean Kreiner’s and Tiffanie Osburn’s positions, Exploration Days’ Scholarships, Leadership training, Camp, workshops reimbursements, Spring Achievement and Awards Ceremony, Membership Fee Waiver for families in need, Promotion, marketing, postage and printing and fair expenses. 

The auction is vitally important to our program, so please consider taking a small list of businesses in your home town beginning this late Fall or Winter. Many hands make light work, as the saying goes!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date and Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Horse Leaders Committee</td>
<td>April 22, 6pm, 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goat Committee Meeting</td>
<td>April 27, 10am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swine Weigh In</td>
<td>May 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>PEP Committee</td>
<td>May 14, 6:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheep/Goat Weigh In</td>
<td>May 16, 9am-11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Board Meeting</td>
<td>May 6, 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Livestock Committee Meeting (note site change)</td>
<td>May 11—Fair Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council Meeting</td>
<td>May 18, 7pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horse Leaders Committee</td>
<td>May 27, 7pm</td>
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</tbody>
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Exploration Days

We have 30 youth registered for Exploration Days currently! Registration ends April 28th, so please check out Exploration Days website at http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/4-h_exploration_days and register in the Lapeer County MSU Extension Office. I am in need of additional chaperones. If your child is going, please consider spending the 2 1/2 days on campus. This is such a fun event and life changing for many of the 4-H’ers. We have some 11 year olds attending, so I want to make sure all youth are managed well, so they enjoy their time.

Enrollment Information

Ownership and registration deadlines are approaching. Please contact your leader for your project area’s ownership deadlines. Non-animal project area registration deadline is May 31st. If you are having trouble with the online enrollment, please contact the office and we can walk you through it or sit at one of our desks and enroll right here! It only takes a few minutes and we still have quite a few people not yet registered.

TSC Paper Clover Spring Campaign

Please contact TSC in Lapeer or Imlay City to have your club come out and be present in some way during this upcoming Paper Clover Campaign April 22—May 3. The weekends are best to come out and show your support in the TSC fundraiser. Lapeer County has typically raised a high level of funds for their local 4-H. Come out and shop, donate and show your support of THEIR support!

2015 Swine and Goat Jackpot Show

The 2015 Thumb Swine and Goat Jackpot Show will be held June 6th at the Eastern Michigan State Fair Grounds, Imlay City. This is sponsored by Lapeer County 4-H and FFA Swine Department and Lil’Hillbilly Charms Goat Club. All families in these project areas should have received an email with the brochure and registration information, or you may have received it from your leader. It will be placed on our website this week.

Tree Planting Community Service Opportunity

May 2nd at 10am will be a great community service opportunity for 4-H’ers! Come out and help plant fruit trees on the site of ReStore in Lapeer. They have received a grant to purchase the trees and have invited 4-H to come help plant. If your club is looking for a community service project, this is already set up for you. Snacks provided, bring some shovels, work gloves, etc. and give back to your community!
Jean’s Tidbits...

Helping Hooves PEP

This is normally the time of year when we start our riding sessions for those youth with special needs. However, the program is on hold until I can get some volunteers and volunteer horses. I am hoping to be able to do at least a 4-week program before too long. To be a part of this wonderful experience for all involved, you need to be at least 14 years of age and commit to once a week for 4-6 weeks for 3 hours. To make this program happen I will need 4 horses and 10-12 volunteers, teens and/or adults. If interested or would like more information, PLEASE call the office, 810-667-0343 and ask to speak with Jean.

Summer Camp

Plans are well underway for our Renaissance Festival Summer camp program, July 13-18th. Day camp will be on July 13 & 14 (kids K-1st grade ages 5-7) and overnight camp(kids 2nd-6th grade ages 8-12) being held July 15-18th. Brochures will be out in schools this week and soon you will see them in libraries and businesses around Lapeer County. They are also on our county website on the camp page so you can download and register or share with others via email or Facebook. Camp counselors will be doing a fundraiser on Saturday, May 9th at the Almont Family Farm & Home store selling hotdogs and baked goods to raise money for scholarships to send kids to camp. If in the area, please stop by and help us out (maybe get Mom something “sweet” for Mother’s Day). Also will be doing a Schwan’s fundraiser for scholarship funds soon, watch for details to come.
Spring Achievement was a Big Success!

This year, we had almost 300 MORE projects registered than last year! Below is a participation report from Brenda Patrick:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initial Entries (members): 9-12</th>
<th>31</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial Entries (members): 13-19</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial Entries (members): CB’s</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>77 total members registered</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initial Entries (projects): CB’s</th>
<th>95</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial Entries (projects): 9-12</td>
<td>283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial Entries (projects): 13-19</td>
<td>295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>673</strong> (380 in 2014)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Projects Showed:

- 9-19 — 361
- Clover Buds - 83
- Grand Total 444 (279 in 2014)

**Check out the Lapeer County 4-H Facebook page for the full album of pictures!**

Awards Ceremony

The Awards Ceremony was also very well attended and we had the opportunity to honor many of our youth and leaders with a variety of recognitions and awards. Thank you to all of you who helped set up Spring Achievement/Style Revue, especially the entire Indoor Superintendents Committee, including Kathy Whitaker, who “held down the fort” in the American Legion Hall and rearranged the club tables, while the staff held the Judge’s Orientation down the street! It takes a village to put on an event of this size! Tiffany Weiss kept the Awards Ceremony running smoothly with managing all of the awards and certificates, as well as being a wonderful mentor to the Ambassador Court. We are grateful to have such dedicated volunteers like these wonderful people!

Ambassador Court offered a project to all youth at Spring Achievement, showing youth how to make dog toys. All toys made were donated to Paradise Rescue.

The event was also able to collect many boxes of food and non-perishables as a community service aspect, tying in with the “Community and 4-H Go Hand-in-Hand” theme. We delivered everything to North Branch Emergency Aid to help those in need in our own community. Great job, everyone! **We’re looking forward to 2016 Spring Achievement/Style Revue!**
Fair Registration

Fair Registration is online at http://easternmichiganstatefair.com/, but the date registration starts online is TBD. However, in the Fairbook, walk-in registration at the Fair Office is the same as last year:

Third (3rd) Saturday of June. (6/20/15)
9:00 am until 4:00 pm

Fourth (4th) Friday of June. (6/26/15)
12:00 noon until 4:00 pm

Fourth (4th) Saturday of June. (6/27/15)
9:00 am until 4:00 pm

Livestock Ethics Statement

Be sure to sign the Ethics Statement if you are going to show any animal project area at fair this summer. The Ethics Statement, titled “Show Ring Ethics” is found on our website at msue.msu.edu/lapeer under “Lapeer County Fair”. Leaders should be collecting these before Fair to submit to Mary Rayl before fair starts. No youth will be allowed to show any animal without this signed document.

Open Indoor Exhibit Fees have been amended by the Fair Board (4/1/15) as follows:

Open class entry registration fees for adults will remain at $25, but will only require 15 projects for a 5-day pass, rather than 25 projects initially requested. There will also be an option for a one-day pass for $10 with 3 projects entered into the indoor open exhibit.
4-H International Exchange Program

Currently, Michigan 4-H needs additional host families for:

- 4 Belize visitors, June 26-July 26
- 25+ Japanese visitors, July 26 to Aug. 22
- 6 High School Students – various countries (Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Japan, Korea, etc.), Aug 2015 to June 2016

Host a Youth from Belize this Summer! Did you know there is a 4-H program in Belize? Did you know that Belize is the only Central American country where the official language is English? Did you know that by opening your home for 3 short weeks to a youth from Belize could result in a lifelong friendship and a better grasp on global competencies? Sign up to be a host family today! We are in search of 2 additional families for two 18 yr. old girls, 1 family for a 15 yr. old boy, and 1 family for an adult male chaperone. Families will need to complete an in-home interview and a background check. Please contact Jackie Martin (marti623@msu.edu) or Heather Gray (grayhea2@msu.edu) by May 1 for more information.

Rabbit and Cavy Expo

Registration deadline is approaching...May 6
The event will be held on June 6th; please visit http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/4_h_rabbit_and_cavy_expo for more information.

Pick up Zoonotic Kits

We have a number of clubs who have already picked up their free Zoonotic Disease Kits to be used as a fun, teaching aide during meetings. If you haven’t done so, please pick it up the next time you’re in the office. Have your teens learn how to use it and teach the youth!

From Macomb County 4-H...

The Macomb County 4-H Outdoor Education & Recreation Program Committee is inviting 4-H members, leaders, and volunteers to the 2015 Macomb County 4-H Outdoorama. Outdoorama is a one-day event on Saturday, May 30th at Camp Rotary, a part of the Wolcott Mill Metropark in Ray Township. The day will focus on exploring what 4-H has to offer in the outdoors. Sessions include archery, orienteering, shelter building, a nature scavenger hunt, and more.
2015 4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp (GLNRC)

This weeklong, *triple award-winning* ([http://bit.ly/18xHcjC](http://bit.ly/18xHcjC)) camp, now in its 33rd year, features outdoor, hands-on learning experiences and activities such as charter fishing, snorkeling, sailing, swimming, hiking, dune exploration, and wading through wetlands!

GLNRC learning sessions and recreation are designed to:
- Increase teens’ appreciation and enjoyment of the outdoors, natural resources and science.
- Develop a strong attitudinal attachment to Michigan’s unique natural resources and bioregional features.
- Increase teens’ knowledge about the Great Lakes, natural resources ecology and management issues.
- Foster scientifically rooted environmental stewardship.
- Develop and expand career and personal interests.
- Develop leadership skills and self-confidence.
- Increase social and academic skills needed for successful transition to college and life as an adult.

**Who**: Youth aged 13 to 15 (or going into grades 8 to 10) who function at grade level or above.

**When**: August 2 to 8, 2015

**Where**: Camp Chickagami ([http://www.campchickagami.org/#](http://www.campchickagami.org/#)), Presque Isle

**How**
Youth applicants must complete the 2015 Michigan 4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camper Application ([http://bit.ly/1xbmVw8](http://bit.ly/1xbmVw8)) and submit the application by May 1 to Laura Potter-Niesen, 4-H Youth Development, Room 160 Morrill Hall of Agriculture, 446 West Circle Drive, East Lansing, MI 48824. Space is limited!

**Cost**
The 2015 cost (that includes meals, snacks, lodging, and program and activity fees) is **$345 per young person** ($355 for youth who are not 4-H members). A limited number of state 4-H scholarships are offered for teens with financial need. 4-H members may wish to check with their county MSU Extension office to see if scholarship funds are available.

**More Information**
Ways to find out more about 4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp include:
- The 4-H GLNRC web site ([http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/glnrc](http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/glnrc))
- Michigan Science Curriculum High School Content Expectations (Grades 8 to 12) Addressed by 4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp ([http://bit.ly/1BmFwoK](http://bit.ly/1BmFwoK))
- 4-H staff in your local MSU Extension office ([http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county))
- Nick Baumgart ([baumga75@anr.msu.edu](mailto:baumga75@anr.msu.edu)) or 906-774-0363

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**What is Your Hashtag?**
Are you capturing your 4-H memories on Instagram or Twitter? Be sure to use some of our hashtags to connect with the 4-H’ers across the state and nation.

Here is a list of some of the common Michigan 4-H hashtags:
- #MI4H
- #4H
- #makeadifference
- #volunteer
- #leavealegacy
- #giveback
- #MSUExtension
- #4Halumni
4-H Events

May 4: Build Your Future Curriculum Training
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/build_your_future_curriculum_training3
Max Thompson Community Center, Warren

May 6-8: 2015 Michigan Envirothon State Competition
http://conta.cc/1AVTkY5
Fort Custer, Augusta

May 15-16: Wilderness First Aid, 4-H Outdoor Adventure Challenge Class
Contact Nick Baumgart (baumga75@anr.msu.edu)
Bay College, Escanaba

May 16: Michigan 4-H State Poultry Show (formerly 4-H Poultry Palooza)
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/4_h_poultry_palooza1
Eaton County Fairgrounds, Charlotte

May 16-17: May 15-16: Wilderness First Aid, 4-H Outdoor Adventure Challenge Class
Contact Nick Baumgart (baumga75@anr.msu.edu)
Otsego County MSU Extension Office, Gaylord

May 28: Skill Building for Youth Workers: Youth Development and Communication
http://bit.ly/1MnLxoT
MSU Federal Credit Union, East Lansing

May 30-31: Michigan 4-H Companion Animal Camp
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/michigan_4_h_companion_animal_camp1
Camp Tuhsmeheta

June 6: 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Expo
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/4_h_rabbit_and_cavy_expo2015
Anthony Hall, MSU, East Lansing

June 13-14: Wilderness First Aid, 4-H Outdoor Adventure Challenge Class
Contact Nick Baumgart (baumga75@anr.msu.edu)
Camp Tuhsmeheta, Greenville

June 13-20: Citizenship Washington Focus
http://bit.ly/1MnL2yOi
National 4-H Center, Chevy Chase, Maryland

June 15: Keep Your Head When You Win and Your Heart When You Lose: Teaching Sportsmanship in Animal Science
http://bit.ly/1MnL2y0R
Your Computer

June 15-19: 4-H Animal and Veterinary Science Camp
http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events/event/michigan_4_h_animal_and_veterinary_science_camp
MSU, East Lansing

June 17-18: MMPA/4-H Milk Marketing Tour
Contact Melissa Elischer (elischer@msu.edu)
Novi

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