



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

TO: **4-H Administrative Leaders**

FROM: St. Clair County 4-H Program Staff

RE: Bi-monthly update to share with your club members and leaders

DATE: April 2008

FROM GILDA'S DESK - It looks like we have nicer weather on the horizon. With that comes the awakening of 4-H project life and the kick in to project completion. Spring Achievement is just around the corner. I encourage members to utilize time on their spring break to finish up on projects and not leave them to being finished at the last minute. You'd be amazed at the difference a little planning and a little less rushing can have on the finished product. I know that from experience. Plan ahead for deadlines.



**ST. CLAIR COUNTY
MSU Extension**

We have a significant number of prospective volunteers in the volunteer selection process. We try to stay on top of the paperwork, but if you have adults considering becoming a leader the one most significant piece is making sure their references turn back in their forms on a timely basis. We made some changes in the process last fall to help in getting through the process. We have incorporated the interview step and orientation as one, thus eliminating one additional meeting for the prospective volunteer. The following dates are established for New Leader Orientation:

200 Grand River Avenue
Suite 102
Port Huron MI 48060
810.989.6935
FX 810.985.3557
msue@stclaircounty.org
<http://msue.stclaircounty.org>

Thursday, April 3	1-3 p.m.	MSU Extension Office – Port Huron
Monday, April 14	1-3 p.m.	MSU Extension Office – Port Huron
Wednesday, April 16th	9-11 a.m.	MSU Extension Office – Port Huron
Monday, April 28th	7-9 p.m.	Goodells County Park – Community Bldg

Prospective volunteers will be notified when they are ready to attend orientation. Anyone who has never been to an orientation is welcome to attend, however, registration is required.

A reminder to administrative leaders: minutes from club general meetings are required to be submitted to the office. If you have not turned those in for your January thru March meetings, now is the time to submit them. There will be a review of minutes submitted. Those clubs whose minutes are not submitted will be considered clubs not in good standing. Clubs not in good standing will not be receiving re-enrollment packets in the fall and may be subject to other consequences. The expectation is that clubs have six general meetings a year with a preference of them meeting minimally every other month. If you have questions regarding this, please contact the Extension office.

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested three days before the event by calling to make the arrangements, requests received after three days will be met when possible.

STATEWIDE 4-H EVENTS

2008

- April 11-13 2008 4-H Dairy Conference, Kellogg Biological Station
- April 13 4-H Recreational Leadership Wkshp, Rodney, MI,
- April 12 MSU & Ohio State U. FREE 1 day Poultry Clinic, Anthony Hall, E. Lansing, 9-4:30 pm
- April 18-20 *4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Training
- April 25-26 Thumb Jackpot Beef Show, flyer at msue.stclaircounty.org Armada Fairgrounds, Macomb
- April 26-27 *4-H Companion Animal Workshop
- May 17 4-H Dog Fun Match, Van Buren Fairgrounds, contact rajzerj@msu.edu or (269) 657-8213
- May 18 West Mich. Lakeshore, 4-H All Breed Heifer & Steer Show, mcquist7@msu.edu
- May 31 BEEF BLAST—MSU Meat laboratory, more info contact Jeannine at grobbej@msu.edu
- June 18-20 Exploration Days for all 4-H youth, 3 days on MSU Campus, East Lansing
- June 23-25 Livestock Camp, Branch County, registration begins March 5
- *Oct 4 4-H Family Reunion, celebrating 100 years of Michigan 4-H, volunteers needed call Julie Chapin at (517) 432-7608 or chapin@msu.edu

Entry information and entry forms for the **Michigan Beef Expo Junior Beef Show**, as well as a **Livestock Judging Contest**, are now available on the Animal Science Youth Programs web site. The address is: <http://www.canr.msu.edu/anscikids/> Go to "Upcoming Events". Both of these opportunities are sponsored by the Michigan State University Block & Bridle Club. *These workshops will take place at the Kettunen Center, near Tustin Michigan.

Britches For Boys 4-H Community Service Opportunity

Malawi is located in southern Africa where local people from the Methodist Church went on a mission to help build a hospital. Rachel O'Neill and her fellow missionaries decided they needed to do something for the little girls dressed in rags. They formed "Little Dresses for Africa" and the word spread to our 4-H program as well as other churches all over the United States. Our county was able to provide about 200 pillowcase dresses to the mission which will be shipped in June, they now have over 2,000 dresses to send, with the help of many sewers all over the country. Many people asked "What about the boys"?

4-H Leaders Peggy Gregg and Julie Modrich and her family have organized 3 sewing days in April to sew "Britches for Boys". **April 7, 17, and 23rd starting at 6:00 pm** we will meet at the St. Clair County Administration Building in the **Auditorium** to sew shorts. We need people to cut, press and sew if you are not available to help on these dates, call the office at (810) 989-6935 and we can send you patterns to sew on your own or with your group. We are also accepting donations of material and elastic.

Peggy is also the superintendent for the Leadership/Achievement project area for Spring Achievement she states that the record books she has seen need work on their community service hours and suggest that this would be a great project to report on at Spring Achievement.

Things to bring:

- Sewing machines
- Material (old sheets work well you can make several pair of shorts out of one sheet)
- Elastic 3/4" or 1" width
- Clothing irons

A note from Rachel O'Neill: I got the pillowcase dresses from your group, and I want to thank you so much for your help. I never cease to be amazed at how creative people are. If there is somewhere that I can send an official thank you for you to post, I'd be delighted.

The price on the container has been secured and we are in the process of securing a broker to meet the shipment on the other side. Meanwhile, we are counting and boxing the inventory of bikes, books and of course beautiful little dresses. We hope to have a group go to Malawi in early June and be part of the distribution of these items as well as attend the grand opening of the hospital.

You can let your group know that we have also started a small group sewing "Britches for Boys". I can't wait to see what comes of that.

I am so grateful for your energy and enthusiasm, and really thank you personally for taking up the cause and getting behind this exciting project. I will forward pictures when we get back. Again, thank you so very much!

You can email Rachel at rachel.oneill@sbcglobal.net or check out the Little Dresses Website at littledresses-forafrica.org for more information.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY SPONSORED EVENTS

2008

April 11	Spaghetti Dinner, sponsored by SCC Trail Blazer 4-H Club	Avoca Community Hall 5-8 pm
April 20	Thayne Minor Scholarship interviews	1-4 pm Goodells
April 26	Spring Achievement	Central Middle School, PH
May 3	4-H small market livestock weigh-in	8 am to noon, Goodells Park
May 10	SCC Horse Leaders Youth Clinic, pre-registration required	Goodells Park
May 17	Livestock Day Camp, pre-registration required	Goodells Park
May 23	Great Garden Adventures, 4-H'ers 5-19 year olds and leaders	5:30-8:30 pm Goodells
May 31	Dog Showmanship Workshop	12-3 pm Goodells Park
May 31	Cat Workshop, showmanship, grooming and general care	12-3 pm Goodells Park
June 6	Clover Sprout Adventures, 5-8 year olds	5:30-8:30 pm Goodells Park
June 7	Exploration Days Orientation (mandatory for participants and parents)	7 pm Goodells Comm. Bldg
June 14	4-H State Qualifying Horse Show	Goodells Park
June 16	Marketing—Getting the best price for your market animal Pre registration is required	7-9 pm Goodells, Comm Bldg
June 18-20	Exploration Days—3 days on MSU Campus all Michigan Youth	East Lansing

You can receive more information about these events by contacting Lori Warchuck at (810) 989-6935 or lwarchuck@stclaircounty.org or visit our website at <http://msue.stclaircounty.org/>

More INFO on what these local workshops are all about

Saturday, May 10, 2008—FREE 4-H Horse Project Clinic 4-H members are invited to bring their project horse or pony to this clinic, or come to observe and be an auditor, learn new skills and strengthen existing skills. Classes included Trail, Western Horsemanship, Jumping, Patterns and GPS tracking. Pre-registration is required.

Saturday, May 17, 2008—4-H Livestock Day Camp 4-H members 9-19 years old interested in livestock projects are invited to participate. Learn new and expand existing skills related to livestock projects. Space is limited so reserve your spot early *pre-registration is required no later than May 5th*, by calling the MSU Extension Office at (810) 989-6935. You will need to choose two sessions and one alternate, if choosing the goat session indicate if you are a beginner, intermediate or advance showman. Cost is \$5 4-H members and \$10 out of county or non-4-H youth and lunch is provided to the participants, lunch is available to all others for a \$5 fee. Held from 8 am to 5 pm at the Goodells County Park with sessions on Pygmy Goats, Dairy Goats, Sheep, Llamas/Alpacas, Rabbits, Swine and Beef.

Friday, May 23, 2008—Great Garden Adventures with Dixie Sandborn, MSU 4-H Horticulture Specialist will share her skills with fun hands-on activities for you and your club. Held at the Goodells Park Community Building with a \$5 registration fee payable at the door, but you need to call ahead to save your space in the class, this class is for 4-H members 5-19 years old and their leaders.

Saturday, May 31, 2008—4-H Dog Showmanship Workshop Debbie Mapes an AKC licensed Jr. Showmanship Judge is the guest speaker for this workshop, held at Goodells Park, East Special Events Barn, from noon to 3 p.m. \$2 registration fee payable at the door, but you need to call ahead to save your space in the class. For 4-H youth ages 9-19 years old interested in the dog project area.

Saturday, May 31, 2008—4-H Cat Workshop For 4-H members 9-19 years old interested in learning new skills or expand existing skills related to the Cat Project area are invited to attend this workshop. Brigitte Todd and experienced 4-H Leader and Superintendent of the Cat Project area for Oakland County will share her expertise in fitting and showing, general health care and much more. Held at the Goodells County Park, Visitors Center, pre-register by May 19th by calling (810) 989-6935, \$3 registration fee is payable at the door, but you need to call ahead to save your space in the class.

Friday, June 6, 2008—Clover Sprout Adventures For 4-H members 5-8 years old and their leaders, \$2 registration fee payable at the door, but you need to call ahead to save your space in the class. Learn new skills, get project ideas for your Clover Sprouts with these sessions, obstacle course, making a stepping stone, learn about Chinese Culture with the bubble tea ribbon dance, gardening projects, food fear factor, face painting, meet 4-H Royal Court and much more.

Flyers are posted on our website at msue.stclaircounty.org or you can stop by the office and pick one up.

DID YOU KNOW?..... 4-H FACTS

Question: What resources are available to help me, as a leader?

Answer: We recognize that resources are important to leader and kids in helping them with their projects. There are a few different avenues that you have available to you. First, Michigan has some resources that are available to you through our Extension Office. You are welcome to stop into the office to look at these resources to see if they meet your needs. You can also access them online at: <http://web2.msue.msu.edu/bulletins/mainsearch.cfm> Another option that is available to you is our loan library. We have a limited number of items that can be checked out. You can stop into the office to look at the list or give us a call and we can send a copy out to you. We generally let you check out the item for approximately two weeks. If you need it longer, it can generally be arranged as long as someone else is not waiting on that resource. We are always open to adding resources to our loan library, so if you have resources that you have used that you would recommend, please let us know. This loan library is an opportunity for high priced resources to be available to our leaders and members without having to purchase them. We also have the Animal Science Learning Labs available for check out. These kits are great to use hands-on with your club and for skill-a-thon practices. Still another source for resource materials is through the 4-H Council Mall (many leaders get the hard copy of the 4-H Source Book). If you go to the web site: <http://www.4-hmall.org> you can access lots of information there for purchase. Lastly, if you have internet access, many good, researched based materials are available through other state's Extension Services. You would be amazed to see what is available if you take some time to surf other Extension sites. There are some things for downloading and others for purchase. And Extension sites are reputable sites to visit their address ends in .edu

CONTACT: Gilda Schott at gschott@stclaircounty.org or Lori Warchuck at lwarchuck@stclaircounty.org or (810) 989-6935

4-H STAFF

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OTHER MSU EXTENSION STAFF

[Lois Thieleke](#)
Interim County Extension Director
[Kim Mihelich](#)
County Extension Educator, FCS
[Terri Tabbaco](#)
County Extension Educator, FCS

CHICKENS

Free to good home, 3 male black cochin, 1 cochin Brahma mix. Call Judy at 982-8541 ext 149 for more information

SCC AGRICULTURE SOCIETY

(Fair Board)

Sponsors of the
St. Clair County 4-H & Youth Fair
P O Box 325
Marysville MI 48040
(810) 364-9100
www.stclaircounty4hfair.org

SHIBA ENU DOG

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: Free to good home 18 month :
: old female has been spayed, :
: shots up to date, good with kids :
: & people, contact Andy for more :
: information at (810) 327-2008 :
:.....

Mom-to-Mom Sale

Sponsored by Woman's Life Club 702

Saturday, April 19, 2008
9 am to 1 pm

North Street United Methodist
Church, 4580 North Road
North Street

\$1.00 adult admission

Maternity, infant and youth used clothing available. Sale is for pregnant women, parents and caregivers. All are welcome to shop OR rent a table for \$10 for the day. This fundraiser supports the United Methodist Church. For more information contact Kim Newberry at (810) 367-6682