



NOTES:

2008 4-H & YOUTH
FAIR July 21-26th

4-H STAFF

- Gilda Schott,
Extension Educator
- Lori Warchuck,
Program Assistant
- Liane Allen,
Program Assistant
- Therese McKernan,
Program Assistant
- Christine Suiter,
Program Assistant

Gilda's Feedback

I hope that you have all had the opportunity to find awe and enjoyment in Mother Nature's recent show of beauty. Yes, it can cause transportation challenges, electrical shortages, etc., but I can't help but appreciate the beauty that comes with it. Even the recent foggy weather that left frost crystals hanging from trees, shrubs, and everything was amazing.

Happy New Year to everyone. I sincerely hope that we take heart and make the efforts to a new start. What are the benefits that make 4-H stand out from any other youth organization? It is because of our guiding principles – those things that we want to happen as a result of a child's involvement in 4-H. It is youth developing positive relationships with adults and peers. It is that Youth are actively engaged in their own development; that they are physically and emotionally safe. It is the point that youth are considered participants rather than recipients in the learning process. Youth develop skills that help them succeed. They grow and contribute as active citizens through service and leadership. They recognize, understand and appreciate multiculturalism. It doesn't say anywhere that we engage in gossip or take up a negative person's crusade. It doesn't say anywhere that the fair is the end all. It doesn't say anywhere that conflict is required. And it certainly doesn't say anywhere that we bring in kids into the conflict or disgruntled attitudes.

Why are you a part of 4-H? Is it because you support the guiding principles and want kids to have positive experiences? Is it because you want to push your personal power or relive your youth? If you chose to be involved because of that first positive choice, then you are in the right place. If you chose because you have your own agenda and encourage the negative attitudes and behaviors, then you need to rethink. This program is about and for the kids. Get on board with the elements of the effective practices that support the guiding principles. We have no room or time for grinsches.

A reminder that we want everyone to be looking at what is available to support your project learning through the workshop and training opportunities coming up and registering for them. In almost all instances you must register. Workshops will be cancelled for lack of interest. We will notify you if you have registered for a workshop and it is cancelled. Let us know how we can help you or your members in supporting the project areas and leaders.

Changes that are new this year: Effective January 1st, all members age 18 and older must go through a background check before they attend any overnight events. If you have questions about this, please do not hesitate to contact me. Administrative Leaders were given this information as part of the re-enrollment information. Hopefully this information has been shared with others.



<http://msue.stclaircounty.org>
MSU Extension website
address

STATEWIDE 4-H EVENTS

2008

- Jan. 11-13 *The Future is You! Future 4-H entrepreneurs, future millionaires and future community leaders workshop
- Jan. 24-26 Grand National Pigeon Show, Gibraltar Trade Center, Mt Clemens
www.npagreatlakesgrandnational.com/
- Jan. 26-27 *4-H Citizenship, Leadership & Service Workshop, see page 4 for more info
- Jan. 27 4-H Ski & Snowboard Day at Apple Mountain www.applemountain.com
- Jan. 31 4-H Emerald Clover Society nomination Deadline—<http://www.mi4hfdtn.org/ecs/ECSNominationPkt.pdf> GOAL—to identify individuals who have had significant 4-H involvement as a youth and who have made significant contribution to their local, state and national communities for a list of current members see <http://www.mi4hfdtn.org/ecs/>
- Feb. 9 Michigan 4-H Communications Day, go to <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/commday.html> for details, scholarship monies available
- Feb. 15 Michigan Week Youth Photo Contest deadline see requirements on <http://msue.stclaircounty.org/> under current events
- Feb. 16-17 +4-H Proud Equestrian Program Instructor Update
- Feb. 22-23 *4-H Veterinary Science Teen & Adult Leader Workshop
- Feb. 23-24 *4-H Beef, Sheep & Swine Teen & Adult Leader Workshop
- Feb. 23 Isabella County 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show, call Angie (989) 828-6229 for more info.
- Feb. 29-Mar 2 *4-H Plant Science and Entomology Workshop GREAT SESSIONS LIKE: Insect Zoo, Gardening for the Farmer's Market, Caterpillar Craze, Square Foot Gardening, and much MORE
- Feb. 29-Mar 2 *4-H Environmental & Outdoor Education Adult & Teen Leader Training Workshop Watershed Adventures, Leave No Trace, Nature Photography, Wildlife Tracks, CSI (Forensic Entomology)
- Mar 8-9 *4-H Poultry Workshop
- Mar 9-12 4-H Capitol Experience annual 4-day teen 4-day conference that focuses on civic engagement and public policy held in Lansing <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/msue/cyf/youth/index.html>
- Mar 15-16 *Family Science 2008
- March 29-April 5 National 4-H Conference, Chevy Chase, Maryland
- April 11-13 +2008 4-H Dairy Conference
- April 19-20 *4-H Companion Animal Workshop
- April 25-27 *4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Training
- June 18-20 Exploration Days for all 4-H youth, 3 days on MSU Campus, East Lansing



- *These workshops will take place at the Kettunen Center, near Tustin Michigan.
- Contact Lori Warchuck at the SCC MSU Extension office at (810) 989-6935 for workshop information or visit the MSU Extension main website at <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/msue/cyf/youth/index.html> for more in depth descriptions.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY SPONSORED EVENTS

2008

Jan. 16	Master Gardener Training Course begins, Wednesdays 6-10 pm	SCC Auditorium, Port Huron
Jan. 18	Beef Blast see page 5 for more information	9 am USDA Import Station 2835 Wadhams
Jan. 19	<u>Adult Horse Leaders</u> Workshop featuring Karen Waite, MSU Equine Youth Specialist	Goodells
Jan. 26	4-H Fair Beef project weigh-in at	8 am-noon Goodells
Jan. 31	Making your meetings fun and effective	7-9 pm Goodells, Com. Bldg
Feb. 1	Market Poultry Workshop with Poultry Specialist Darrin Karcher	Goodells
Feb. 9	Photography workshop with Rose Norton, Photographer and 4-H judge Rose will share her expertise with professional equipment etc.	SCC Auditorium, Port Huron
Feb. 9	Pet First Aid at the American Red Cross	Port Huron
Feb. 16	Horse Helmet workshop	10am—noon Goodells Park
Feb. 23	4-H Leaders Council Auction	Goodells Co Park
Feb. 26	True Colors: Understand your personality and minimize conflict	7-9 pm Goodells, Com. Bldg
March 10	From the Forest To The Table Workshop 9am to 4pm	4 Square Sportsman's, Jeddo
March 12	Juggling home, school and getting the 4-H project done-Time Management	7-9 pm Goodells, Garden Ctr
March 15	4-H Cat project workshop	Goodells
March 15	Master Gardeners present "Designing with Great Plants" flyer at http://msue.stclaircounty.org/	
April 12	Youth Horse Clinic with Karen Waite, MSU Equine Youth Specialist	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	Goodells Park
May 17	Livestock Day Camp	Goodells Park
May 20	Marketing—Getting the best price for your market animal Registration deadline May 13, 2008	7-9 pm Goodells, Com Bldg
June 14	4-H State Qualifying Horse Show	Goodells Park
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/>

TEEN ADVISORY REMINDER

Teens interested in becoming a part of the Teen Advisory Council should contact Lori Warchuck at (810) 989-6935 or lwarchuck@stclaircounty.org for an application. This Council will be made up of teens 14 years old and older, giving them a chance to take their leadership commitment to the next level and make sure that there is a teen voice in the 4-H program. This group is also looking for an adult to take over the advisor roll, if you know of a leader or parent who is interested, please contact Gilda at (810) 989-6935 or gschott@stclaircounty.org

HORSE HELMET SAFETY WORKSHOP—Saturday, February 16, 2008

It has been two years since we held this workshop, with the new members and the current members growing out of their helmets, it's time to get together again and learn the proper way to fit and use the equestrian riding helmet. There will be a video for 4-H or non 4-H members, helmets to try on for size and an opportunity to place your order for a new helmet. The cost of a helmet will be approximately \$25.00, payment will be required when placing the order, delivery will be the end of February. No pre-registration is required just meet at the Goodells Park Community Building on Saturday, February 16, 2008 at 10 a.m. we should be done by noon.

Dog Patch Program

The patch program has been in existence for many years and has been expanded to incorporate a total of 18 patches for members to work toward. Patches are available in the following areas:

Dog Project	Pre-Novice	Graduate Novice
Pre-Utility	Utility	Tracking
Working	Visiting Pet	Freestyle
Leader Dog Puppy	Service Dog Puppy	

Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced Agility
 Junior Showmanship Champion
 Junior Showmanship Champion Excellent
 Advanced Graduate Novice

Detailed information and requirements for each patch available at the MSU Extension Office. Contact Lori Warchuck at (810) 989-6935 or lwarchuck@stclaircounty.org



4-H DOG CALENDARS— *go on sale soon*

The dog project has gone to the dogs with these clever canines showing their stuff in the 2008 St. Clair County 4-H Dog Calendar. Stop by the office or call Lori Warchuck for a calendar.

All proceeds from the sale of this calendar will go directly to the St. Clair County Dog Program so help support your local 4-H Program by purchasing one.

2008 Beef Blast— 9 am Friday, January 18, 2008

For all 4-H youth, leaders, and adults interested in learning more about the beef industry. There is no pre-registration so bring your club for an informative field trip.

FIRST STOP—USDA Import Station at 2835 Wadhams Road, park at the By-Lo Gas Station, walk North past McDonald's to the USDA Import Station

SECOND STOP—US Customs Agriculture Inspection located about 7 miles from the USDA Import Station. Directions and parking instructions will be given out at the first stop, USDA Import Station.

THIRD STOP—Smith Meats, near the Homeland Security Station, drive in the gate and park in the rear of Smith Meat parking lot.

Future Beef Blast

February 18, 2008:

- Hubbard Feed Mill, Shipshewana, Indiana
- Great Lakes Sire Service, near Sturgis Michigan
- Canning Plant (tentative)

More details to follow

Contact Jeannine Grobbel, District Beef Extension Educator for MSU for more information at (989) 269-9949 ext. 612 or grobbei@msu.edu

4-H Royal Court lights up the Yale Lighted Christmas Parade

4-H Royal Court along with other dedicated 4-H'ers participated in the Yale Lighted Christmas Parade that took place on Saturday, December 8th 2007.

The float featured a huge lighted 4-H Clover, palm trees and a Christmas tree decorated with parrots and tropical flowers. The theme of the parade was "Sand, Sea Shells and Santa". Our float won the trophy for the Best Club/Organization entry.

A special thanks goes out to these helpers; the Rick Ruemenapp Family for the extra effort on the huge 4-H Clover, Al & Cindy Leone for towing the float, SCC Farm Museum for the use of their warm maintenance barn, Kim Newberry for her leadership and everyone who helped with making this effort a success.

Pictured from left to right:
Jeff Ruemenapp, Spencer Mol-

lan (4-H King), Angelina Taylor (4-H Queen), Justin Warchuck, Alyssa Modrich (4-H Princess), Megan Ski (4-H Court), Ashley Usakowski (4-H Court), Natalie Modrich, Taylor Usakowski Front row: Callahan Mollan, Garrett Newberry, Jessica Usakowski Not pictured: Julie Ruemenapp (4-H Court), TJ Logan (4-H Duke) Jenna Hude (4-H Court),



SCCRESA Pine River Nature Center

Winter season public programs:

- Saturday Science for Families

January 12 and March 8 from 1—2:30 pm. Learn about nature with children grades 3 through 5 other ages are welcome also. The program will consist of a short discussion, a hike through the nature center property and a craft. Dress for the weather; this program runs rain or shine. Cost is \$4 per family, pre registration required.

- Winter Star Party—Saturday, February 9 from 8-10 pm. Take time to enjoy the night sky! Join us for star and planet gazing. This program is dependent on clear skies so call ahead if the weather looks cloudy. Bring a flashlight, chair and dress appropriately for the weather. This program is free, but registration is required.

- Native American Storytelling—

Saturday, March 20 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Please join us for a

Native American Presentation with Joan and Joe Jacobs. They will be presenting native stories in full dress regalia. You don't want to miss this great experience. Refreshments will be provided. Cost: \$5/person or \$10/immediate family. Space is limited. Registration is required.

For registration form go to <http://www.sccresa.org/> or call (810) 325-9106

Youth Power Reports

Project Linus: The Blankets Are In!

On December 15th, 2007, approximately 90 people representing 12 4-H clubs and the community attended the "Project Linus" Blanket Day, in the Community Building at Goodells County Park. They volunteered their time, effort, and 1 to 2 yards or more of fleece material. The volunteers worked from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. cutting and tying blankets, while others that could not make the event had representatives from their group drop off their finished products. The volunteers also had the opportunity to learn how to make rag quilts from Cathy Fieitz and infant hats from Calahan Mollan.

At the end of the day, these creative, caring volunteers had assembled 121 blankets, 30 infant hats, and 2 pillows. These items are being distributed between Port Huron Hospital, Mercy Hospital, St. John's River District Hospital, and Children's Hospital in Detroit through "Project Linus".

"Project Linus" is a 100% non-profit organization which provides love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children, ages 0-18, who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade blankets and afghans, lovingly created by volunteer "blanketeers". It provides a rewarding and fun service opportunity for interested individuals and groups in local communities, for the benefit of children.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make this community service project such a resounding success! Our new group of "blanketeers" can proudly say they had a hand in making 121 kids feel a little bit

better in the hospital because someone cared enough to make them a blanket!

*Reported by: Angelina Taylor
President, Cloverkids 4-H Club*

Double K Riders learn first aid—

On Sunday, November 10, 2007 the Double K Riders 4-H Club visited Lone Willow Farm for a first aid clinic. The club learned valuable information about first aid and care of wounds. Tyler Adams won a first aid kit for participating.

Reported by: Rafael Charbeneau.



Flying High With Honor

The Cloverkids 4-H Club entered a "Flying High With Honor" Christmas tree in the annual Festival of Trees event at McMorran, sponsored by the Port Huron Hospital Foundation.

The tree received a blue ribbon in the student category. It was then raffled to help raise funds for children's services at Port Huron Hospital, by the Hospital Foundation.

Club members used donated items from Air Force and Reserve personnel to decorate the tree with actual patches, and had uniforms, complete with a set of boots under the tree wrapped with holiday ribbons to commemorate our service personnel.

The tree was won on the raffle, by a lady in the Port Huron area, who's son is stationed currently on an air base

in Florida. She was so excited to win a tree that honors and represents what and who her son is. It really brought him a little closer to home for her this Christmas.

Thank you all who helped put this project together.

*Reported by Mary Taylor,
Administrative Leader
Cloverkids 4-H Club.*

4-H Challenge Club's Kentucky Trip

With temperatures anywhere from 20 to 75 degrees, torrential rain, gusting and powerful winds, the weather was our biggest challenge on this 2007 Kentucky Thanksgiving trip. We hiked, climbed and toured old Indian trails, some of the places were called:

- Natural Stone Bridge State Park
- Red River Gorge
- Koomer Ridge Campground
- Gray's Arch
- Indian Staircase, along the Sheltowee Trace
- Huge rock shelters that Native Americans used



After a 7 hour drive from Michigan we arrived at the Red River Gorge area of Kentucky. This year's group included David Heitz with daughters Veronica and Ann Marie, Charles and Christopher McCue, Jonathan and Erica Huff, Kellie Skiba, Kathy and Steven Schriever, Theresa Whitenight, and late Wednesday we were joined by Ashley and Bryant Sebastian.

Thanksgiving morning we prepared the turkey, placed it in the roaster oven for the day. After discovering all the outlets in the campground were not working we headed into town to find a place to plug it in. The town consisted of a gas station, a post office and a Subway restaurant. Just as we pulled into the gas station, an outlet on the side of the Subway across the street caught the eye of Mrs. Whitenight = u-turn! Ashley backed her PT cruiser up to the building and parked close enough so the roaster oven could sit in the back of the vehicle with the cord running out of the door jam into the back side of the building. We camouflaged the cord with some scrap wood and off we went for a day of hiking. The Challenge group conquers another obstacle.

We spent the day exploring the area hiking through the different rock formations and working up quite an appetite. The main group was dropped off at the campground to prepare for the upcoming turkey dinner that we all looked forward to. Team work at its finest helped prepare gravy, potatoes, corn, applesauce and cranberry sauce. We were getting real worried when Ashley and Bryant were taking so long to come back with the main part of the meal. What we didn't know was they had to take the cooked turkey out of the roaster, put the brown and serve rolls in, go purchase campfire wood, go back and take the rolls out and put the turkey back in, THEN head back to camp. Ashley and Bryant pulled into camp with the group chanting "turkey, turkey, turkey". When they stopped the whole group put their heads in the vehicle and smelled the main course, yummy! Then the feast began and all were satisfied and even had room for the pumpkin pie for another fantastic Challenge Club Thanksgiving.

The next morning with temperatures in the low 30's we were excited to begin the big hike that is 8 miles long. In one guide book it is rated moderate in another it is rated very strenuous. We found out that the beginning and the end were moderate and the entire middle was very strenuous. We nick named the trail the "ankle breaker" due to the wet leaves and slippery rock. We seen beautiful scenery on this hike, rocks, cliffs, scenic views, waterfalls, rivers, rock shelters and lots of hills. It had been a long hard day, but what fun.

Saturday was our last day and we planned on hiking the Indian Staircase, but before we could do that we had to travel back to the Subway restaurant. Mrs. Whitenight went in with her club bandana on her head and hiking gear. She explained to the lady working behind the counter that we had used the Subway electricity to cook our Thanksgiving turkey and wanted to pay for the electricity. The lady was so surprised that Mrs. Whitenight had to repeat the whole story and the lady just smiled and said "Happy Thanksgiving" in her Kentucky dialect. We continued on our way with a clear conscience to the Indian Staircase.

Last year on our hike we seen a bunch of trash, so this year we all took garbage bags with us and were surprised that during the year people had already cleaned most of it up. We still picked up what was there and had a chilly but fulfilling hike.

Kathy Schriever received the club amulet for this trip. Kathy had a great attitude, even when things were hard for her she never gave up. She is a trooper, Kathy is always willing to help. She had all her stuff packed and ready to go, then helped pack the entire trailer the morning we had to leave, congratulations Kathy.

The trip home went well, but took a long time and we were all tiered from the trip. Luckily Mr. Whitenight didn't mind washing all those dishes and pots and pans for us so that they can be stored until winter camping, which we will be doing soon.....

SCC AGRICULTURAL 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
2008 Fair=July 21-26

**Announcing
FREESTYLE OBEDIENCE**

At the State 4-H Dog Show

To find out more about this new class and free training go to
www.youngexplorers.net/state
freestyle

Programs offered through this publication are not intended to be endorsements of the program or its sponsor, but merely an announcement of available programs to be used at the discretion of the participant.

DEADLINE

- If you would like something
- put in the 4-H newsletter,
- please submit it by the third
- Monday of the month to Lori
- Brockdorff via mail or email
- lbrockdorff
- @stclaircounty.org
- We love to feature club
- events so send them in with
- photos too.

SPRING ACHIEVEMENT event catalog, project guidelines and 4-H Royal Court application are available at the MSU Extension Office or online at <http://msue.stclaircounty.org/4H/> Note the date has been changed for Spring Achievement to Saturday, April 26, 2008. Please encourage you club members to participate. We are still in need of adult Superintendent Volunteers for the following project areas. * Folkpatterns * Leather Craft * Models * Photography

If you are interested please contact Lori Warchuck for more information at 810-989-6935

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St Clair County MSU Extension

4-H Youth Program
200 Grand River Avenue Suite 102
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TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

OTHER MSU EXTENSION STAFF

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