



FEBRUARY 2011

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Michigan State University,
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Clover Quickie



The Jodies' Buzz:

Exciting things are happening in 2011. Enclosed in this newsletter you will find several opportunities for events, contests, workshops, and field trips. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (989) 895-4026.

Going Green!

As many of you know we have left our Blue Ribbon database back in 2010 and are now using the new online-based Access 4-H database in 2011. In the fall we discussed with registered 4-H leaders that organizational leaders will soon be able to access their club's information online. We are moving forward with that process and intend to have organizational leaders online viewing club information in February. Please watch your mailbox for more information.

Access 4-H will also move Bay County 4-H forward in communicating with 4-H families more through e-mail. If you have not submitted an e-mail address to MSU Extension-Bay County or your e-mail has changed, please contact us at (989) 895-4026 or schulzj@baycounty.net.

Bay County 4-H on FaceBook

Don't forget that Bay County 4-H is on FaceBook. We give updates, reminders, and last-minute information about 4-H programs. Please feel free to search for Bay County 4-H on FaceBook and become a fan!

St. Patrick's Day Parade

Don't forget to mark your calendar for the 2011 St. Patrick's Day Parade that will be taking place on Sunday, March 20, 2011. All 4-H families and friends are welcome to attend. This is a great opportunity to expose the public to 4-H. All past livestock or horse kings, queens, prince, and princesses are encouraged to wear hats/tiaras and sashes in the parade. We will meet around 1:00 p.m. at the fairgrounds and the parade will start at 2:00 p.m. You can bring an animal to walk or a caged animal (chicken, rabbit, etc.) that can ride on the wagon. If you plan to walk an animal, please bring a bucket to clean up after your animal. This will count as an activity.

4-H Youth Enrollment Deadline for 2011 Fair

The enrollment deadline for youth who plan to show at fair this year is April 1. Leaders may accept youth into their clubs after the April 1 deadline, but they will not be able to participate in fair. If you are unsure if you are enrolled in Bay County 4-H, please contact MSUE Extension Bay County at (989) 895-4026 or wrzesinskij@baycounty.net to confirm!

Pheasant and Chukars Project - Don't Miss Out!

If you are interested in raising pheasants or chukars as a project for the Bay County Fair and Youth Exposition this year, please contact Mike Meier at (989) 415-2441 to complete your order. The order must be made ASAP, so don't wait to call Mike! Pheasants and chukars will be available approximately the first week of May.

2011 Youth Awards Banquet

Don't forget the 2011 4-H Youth Awards Banquet is scheduled for Saturday, February 12, 2011, at the Canteen Building, Bay County Fairgrounds. If you and your family are planning to attend, we ask that you bring a dessert that will serve at least eight (8) people. Don't forget to contact MSUE ASAP to place your reservation for the banquet.

Now Taking Nominations for Leader of the Year

Think about a 4-H leader who has inspired, motivated, or encouraged you over the last year. Consider writing a small paragraph about why that person deserves to be the next 4-H Leader of the Year. Submit your nomination to Jodi Schulz at schulzj@msu.edu or in writing to MSU Extension - Bay County by February 15, 2011.

Office Closed

The MSU Extension - Bay County will be closed in observance of Presidents' Day: Monday, February 21, 2010.

Covenant Neonatal Intensive Care Community Service

The Bay County 4-H Advisory Council is partnering with Covenant Hospital's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) to help families who utilize the center. We are asking 4-H families to donate any of the items listed below to MSU Extension - Bay County for the Covenant Hospital NICU. The 4-H Advisory Council will also be requesting for 4-H families to bring an item to the Youth Awards Banquet.

All items must be new.

- Sleep sacks
- Socks and booties
- Books (limited number)
- Soothing musical toys
- Pocket size photo albums

The NICU is also in need of crib cards. These are 5 x 7 decorated cards that every child in the NICU receives. They are decorated and then personalized for each baby. 4-Hers can use card stock or scrapbook paper and decorate. Make sure to leave a space to write the baby's name.

2011 Leader Awards Banquet

The Leader Banquet will take place on Monday, March 7, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. at the Mandarin House Restaurant located at 3000 West Center Road, Essexville. The cost is free for all leaders, guests are \$10 each. The deadline to RSVP is February 18, 2011. An official invitation is included in this newsletter.

Reminder to Club Leaders

Just a reminder to club leaders that if you have parents or other volunteers who are having ongoing or unsupervised interactions with 4-H youth, they need to go through the Volunteer Selection Process.

Ongoing means more than four meetings or gathering times.

Unsupervised means that the person is alone with children for periods of time (15 minutes or more).

If you need paperwork for your volunteers to complete the Volunteer Selection Process, please contact MSU Extension - Bay County at (989) 895-4026.

Rocket J's Chicken Contest

We are thrilled to announce that Rocket J will once again be sponsoring the Rocket J Chicken Contest at this year's Bay County Fair and Youth Exposition. Please contact Mike Meier at (989) 415-2441 or MSU Extension - Bay County at (989) 895-4026 to register for the Rocket J Chicken Contest. The birds will be available for pick-up in June at Rocket J's at 526 North Garfield Road, Linwood.

Check the *Bay County 4-H Livestock Association Bylaws* for details on this contest.

Project Record Books

Contact MSU Extension - Bay County if you are interested in completing a project record book for the 2010-2011 4-H program.

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Don't forget that the Bay County 4-H Livestock Association will be holding their annual spaghetti dinner on Thursday, February 17, 2011. Thank you to all of the youth who have volunteered to work at set-up and the dinner. Note: All work shifts are currently filled.

Shaggy Spring Fling Horse Show

The Bay County 4-H Livestock Association is proud to announce that they will be hosting this horse show, which is scheduled for April 30, 2011. Registration information will be available soon.

February meeting dates

Livestock Association: February 17, 2011. (Not a regular business meeting due to Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser.)

Advisory Council: February 24, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. at MSU Extension - Bay County.

Kettunen Center Workshops

Make sure you visit <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/4htrain.html> for the latest information on Kettunen Center Workshops. Scholarships are available to attend. Contact schulzj@baycounty.net for more information.

State 4-H Awards Program

The Michigan State 4-H Awards Program is an opportunity for 4-Hers aged 13 and up with three or more years of experience in 4-H to meet new friends, gain leadership skills, increase their interviewing skills, improve their writing skills, build their self-esteem, and compete for recognition in more than 30 different project areas.

The Michigan State 4-H Awards Program includes county, regional, and state level competition. Awards program participants must submit completed individual or group award application forms to MSU Extension by February 25, 2011.

Visit <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/staward.html> to download forms. State winners are selected during the 4-H Awards Assembly held at MSU during 4-H Exploration Days in June.

Mark of Excellence Essay Contest

The theme for the 2011 Mark of Excellence essay is, "Because of 4-H I can..." This opportunity to be recognized at the Wharton Center on the campus of MSU during Exploration Days is available for youth ages 11-12 as of January 1, 2011. Essays must be 500 words or less and typed or handwritten in blue or black ink. For more essay guidelines, contact MSU Extension at (989) 8954026 or <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/awards/MarkAward-10-InfoSheet.doc>

The deadline to submit essays is February 25, 2011.

Enhance Your Future at Exploration Days 2011

"Enhance Your Future" will be the theme during Exploration Days from June 22-24, 2011. This is an annual pre-college program that attracts approximately 2,500 youth participants and chaperones who represent all 83 Michigan counties.

4-H Exploration Days is designed to:

- ✓ Help you learn new ideas, techniques and skills you can use personally and in your 4-H groups and communities.
- ✓ Offer in-depth action learning through sessions in your interest areas.
- ✓ Provide opportunities and experiences above and beyond what is available in your county or region.
- ✓ Enhance your personal growth by giving you opportunities to develop responsibility, independence, accountability, decision-making, time management and teamwork skills.
- ✓ Meet new people and make new friends from different places and with different backgrounds from across the state.
- ✓ Give you access to the Michigan State University campus and its wealth of resources.

For more information about Exploration Days, please see the official Exploration Days 2011 Website at <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/4h/expodays.html#about>.

Pullorum Testing Certification Available

There is an opportunity for adults to become certified as pullorum testers. You have the opportunity to attend pullorum testing training during Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) Week, which takes place March 4-12, 2011. The ANR Week certification is offered on Tuesday, March 8, 2011, from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at the Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education on the campus of Michigan State University. For more information please visit <http://anrweek.canr.msu.edu/>.

Bunnies Needed

Kristy at Tractor Supply Company in Midland is in need of bunnies in early February through spring. If you can supply her with some bunnies, please contact her at (989) 832-1860.

Free Male Goats!

Did you know that you may be able to get a free male goat to learn how to raise? Ronda Denay has contacted MSU Extension - Bay County to give us the generous opportunity for 4-H youth to be given a free male goat to raise at your own house or at her house. If you are interested in taking part in this opportunity, please contact Ronda at (989) 671-0214.

Small Animals Day 2011

Another campus event that animal-loving youngsters would love is "Small Animals Day." Small Animals Day is put on by the student organizations (clubs) in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at MSU (NOT by the College of Veterinary Medicine). It is an opportunity to get outside on a spring day and visit the MSU farms and pavilion, and see new born animals.

This event will be held Saturday, April 16, 2011, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Admission is \$2 per person. Park at the corner of Mt. Hope and Farm Lane on the MSU campus. Dress for the weather. Buses will take you to a few of the MSU farms where you can see the new born animals. Animals will also be at the MSU Pavilion—and a lot of student/animal-related student clubs will be there. It's a fun time.

Vet-A-Visit

We are inviting you to join the Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine for a unique opportunity. For one day only, the school will be opening its doors in order to show you many fascinating aspects of the field of veterinary medicine. This event will take place on March 19, 2011, from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on the campus of Michigan State University. The event is free and the experience will be priceless.

For more information, please visit <http://cvm.msu.edu/alumni-friends/vetavisit>.

Clare County Rabbit Show

The Clare County 4-H Heartland Rabbit Show will take place on February 12, 2011, at the Farwell High School. For more information, contact (989) 539-7805.

Isabella County Rabbit Show

The Isabella County 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show will take place on February 26, 2011, at the West Intermediate School Gym in Mt. Pleasant. For more information, contact (989) 772-0911 Ext. 216.

Online Horse Resource

Did you know that the American Youth Horse Council has a wonderful Website full of information to help the horse industry come together to focus on youth. Check out their Website at <http://www.ayhc.com/>

Online Club Resources

Michigan 4-H has a Webpage dedicated to providing you with educational materials? Go to <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/guide4h/index.html>. to check out a plethora of bulletins and educational materials to help give you project ideas for your club.

United Way Help Line

United Way can provide families in need with food assistance, housing, and material assistance. If you know someone who is in need, please give them the United Way help number: (989) 893-7508.



*Your presence is requested at the
 Bay County 4-H Leader Banquet
 Monday, March 7, 2011, 6:00 p.m.*



Mandarin House



3000 W. Center Rd. Bay City

**All Bay County 4-H leaders are invited to attend.*
 Cost is free for leaders, guest are \$10 each.*

Accomplishment Information Form

(Please complete one form per leader.)

Leader's Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____, **Michigan** Zip-Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Years as a 4-H Leader: _____ (as of September of 2010)

4-H Club(s)(involved in as a member and a leader): _____

All leaders will receive a certificate. In addition to the certificate, every five years leaders receive a pin. Would you like to receive a pin with your certificate? Yes No

Number guests attending: _____ x \$10.00 per person = \$ _____ enclosed.

Make your check or money order payable to *MSU Extension* and return with this registration slip to:

**MSU Extension - Bay County
 515 Center Avenue, Suite 301
 Bay City, Michigan 48708-5124**

Registration Deadline: Friday, February 18, 2011.

For more information, contact MSU Extension - Bay County at (989) 895-4026.