

MSU Extension  
 Livingston County  
 820 East Grand River Ave.  
 Howell, MI 48843 (517) 546-3950

The 4-H



Corner Post

January-February

Newsletter for 4-H Families

2008

**Leaders please be sure to share this newsletter with your members.**

**Members may also get the newsletter off the website at [www.co.livingston.mi.us/msuextension](http://www.co.livingston.mi.us/msuextension)**

## New Mentoring Opportunity for 4-H Leaders

Many of you mentor teens on a regular basis through 4-H. However, I have a unique NEW opportunity for 4-H Leaders. The Livingston County 4-H Program is going to be partnering with the Juvenile Courts to provide a much needed mentoring program for youth that come through their system.

Mentors will go through special training and matches will be made only after both the mentor and mentee have approved the match. Even though you already mentor youth you may be saying to yourself, "I wouldn't know what to do or say." Well, the answer is quite simple - take your mentee to dinner, watch a game on TV, watch a movie or just talk and listen. These kids just want to spend time with you as you are, doing simple, day-to-day activities.

*"Being a mentor...gives you a chance to provide help and show some kid that there are people who care and can be trusted."*

From Ottawa County:

- 92% of mentees think it's important to try and help others after enrolling in the program.
- 85% of mentees think they are a better person now and feel they are more honest.

The following comments from mentors may help to answer some of your questions:

"Being a mentor is not really any work or loss of time for myself. It really gives you a chance to provide help and show some kid that there are people who care and can be trusted." ~ Cal, mentor

"The best thing about having a mentor is spending time with someone older than you so that you can look up to them for anything. Another great thing is having someone to talk to and hang out with." ~Sammy Jo, age 16

"I've learned more than I every imagined! My mentee has taught me how important it is to just be there, to listen, have an open mind, to be consistent, as well as setting boundaries and limitations. I still have much more to learn through our relationship." ~Kelli, mentor

If you are interested or would like more information on this new program, call and we'll talk. I'm excited about this new venture, and hope you will be too. Both men and women are needed. There are, however, a lot of young men who need mentors, so if you are a male leader please consider this life changing opportunity. It may be appropriate for some of the youth to have a couple be their mentor, so if any husband/ wife combinations are interested please call as well. Call Roxanne at 517-546-3950.

Learn more about .....**Market Chickens and Turkeys**  
 Coming Soon to the Bulletin Rack !!  
**Market Poultry Brochure**  
 Written especially for Livingston County  
 4-H Market Poultry Members

## Teen Leaders: 4-H Needs You!

4-H Teen Leadership is an important part of our 4-H program. The program provides teens an opportunity to develop their leadership skills. Teen leaders can be a huge asset to you and your club.

**A teen leader can serve in the role of assisting the adult volunteer. In this way, the adult leader serves as a mentor to the teen. The club leader and the teen leader can work out an agreement about what the role of the teen leader will be. This might include:**

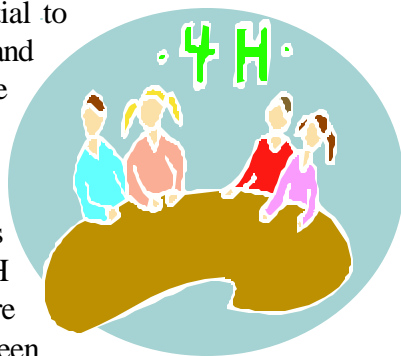
- *Club record keeping*
- *Researching local community service projects*
- *Plan a specific club activity*
- *Working with younger members to complete a 4-H project*
- *Communications Specialist*

Many clubs have teen leaders already doing such projects and activities but they are not listed as a teen leader. If you have teens in your club who deserve the title "4-H Teen Leader" be sure that project area is marked on their 4-H enrollment form and encourage them to keep up the good work!

If you do not have teen leaders in your club, why not develop a list of responsibilities unique to your club that have the potential to make your job easier and see what a difference a teen leader can make.

Several opportunities exist at fair for 4-H teen leaders. They are welcome to enter a teen leader project and also develop an achievement booth of their total 4-H accomplishments.

In addition to the club level, teen leaders are encouraged to serve on our developmental committees and on 4-H Council. Teens are encouraged to volunteer for other county wide events such as horse shows, fair, officer training, Spring Achievement, and the Clover Bud mentor program.



## Cloverbud Mentor Program

This program allows 4-H age 8 year olds to work with a teen leader mentor a couple of times before fair and then participate in a special day for them on the Thursday of the fair. The cloverbuds would assist the mentors in feeding, watering, cleaning pens and bathing animals. Then they would be allowed to handle their animal in the livestock showing with the mentors right by their side ~~and other spotters in the ring as well. This is not~~ a competition and no placings take place. However, the kids do get awards and have a great time showing their skills.

This year we will offer the following animals: Goats, Sheep, Dairy, Horse, Poultry, Dogs and Rabbits. Mentors would need to have completed 2 years in these project areas and also be a teen leader.

By doing this program the 8 year olds will get a feel for the amount of responsibility they will take on next year if they bring an animal. It will also help them to be more knowledgeable in how a show day will run. The experience will not only give these young people something special to take on but also give them skills that most 9 year olds never had a chance to obtain before their first fair with animals.

Please consider enrolling your 8 year olds in this program or, if you are a teen, becoming a teen mentor. Call the office to add mentors or mentees to the mailing list for future information. All pairing of mentors will be done later through the office. Call 517-546-3950 to enroll.

## The Prudential Spirit of Community Award

Do you know of a youth who has made a difference by volunteering in the community over the past year? Why not, nominate them for the Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

Through this award the youth could be presented with \$1000 and a fabulous trip to Washington, D.C. next May. This award is solely based on their volunteer activities.

Applications can be picked up from the Extension office.

## MICHIGAN 4-H LIVESTOCK CAMP 2008

June 22-25, 2008 (Early check-in June 21)  
Branch County 4-H Fairgrounds  
Coldwater, Michigan

### Sessions Offered:

Beef	Swine
Dairy	Sheep
Dogs	Rabbits/Cavies
Poultry	Large Animal
Goats	Sweepstakes
Horses	Feeder/Starter



### Who Can Attend Livestock Camp?

4-H members who are at least 10 years of age by January 1, 2008 for each session except for:

Sweepstakes Session - you must be at least 14 and have shown two years at your county fair.

Horse and Beef Sessions- require at least one year of showing experience at the county fair.

Registration books will be available in February on the MSU Extension 4-H bulletin rack.

## 19th Annual Isabella County 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show

Saturday, February 23, 2008  
West Intermediate School  
550 S. Bradley St., Mt. Pleasant, MI

Enter day of show by 8 a.m.  
Showmanship begins at 9 a.m.  
Showmanship, Breed & Educational  
Classes: \$2.50

### Special Feature

Borrow a bunny for showmanship. If you don't have your bunny yet, we'll have some available.



For additional information, call  
Angie Coldwell at 989-828-6229  
or Tammy Brecht at 989-828-6394.

## 2008 MICHIGAN WEEK YOUTH PHOTO CONTEST

**Great Lakes,  
Great Traditions!**

**Celebrate Michigan Week, May 17-23, 2008**

PURE MICHIGAN™



### Photograph a Favorite Michigan Historic Site

Use a 35 mm (for black and white, color or slide film) or digital camera.

### What is a historic site?

For this photo contest, a historic site is any site that is 50 years old or older. There are thousands of sites in Michigan! You can photograph buildings (like firehouses, museums or schools), structures (like bridges), areas (like neighborhoods, business districts, or fairgrounds) and objects (like monuments).

**Open to all  
Michigan youth  
aged 9 to 19 as of  
January 1, 2008**

There are three age divisions: Junior (youth aged 9-12); Intermediate (youth aged 13-15); and Senior (youth ages 16-19).

**Photo submission  
deadline:  
February 15, 2008**

This contest is coordinated by Michigan State University Extension's 4-H Youth Development, the Michigan Department of History, Arts and Libraries and *Michigan History for Kids* magazine. Additional financial support comes from the Michigan Barn Preservation Network.



**For more information, pick up a complete packet at the Extension office.**

## Attention New 4-H Leaders: Don't Delay....Return Your Form Today!

If you are a potential new leader waiting for your official welcome into the program, make sure that we have received your green form with personal information, three references listed with addresses and telephone numbers and the signed authorization for a criminal history check. Many times your official leader status is at a stand still because of missing pieces of the process. You will be contacted when the next interview/orientation meeting is scheduled if you are missing this part of the process.

We tried to make this process as painless as possible for you. Please work on getting the necessary forms completed in a timely manner. **All** 4-H leaders need to have completed the process by May 1, 2008 or they will not be considered official 4-H leaders.

## May 1st Forms Horse, Dog, Goat, Llama, Alpaca

May 1st forms are now available. Do not wait till May 1st to turn them in. Get them filled out and turn them in today! May 1st forms need to be filled out for Dogs, Goats, Horses, Llamas and Alpacas and will not be accepted past 5:00 pm on May 1st. Please pay close attention to the Goat and Horse forms changes have been made.

Goat forms will require side view photos of your goat or unborn kids mother. If pictures are not submitted of each side of your goat the form will not be accepted.

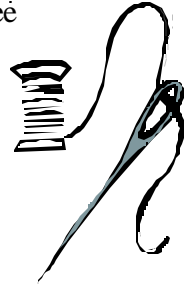
Horse must submit a side view photo or breed registration papers with a drawing. Drawings alone will not be accepted.

Save our budget- Please do not take more forms than you need. If you pick up your forms yourself please let your leader know so they don't pick up another for you. Thank-you.



## New Clothing and Textile Resources

The Clothing and Textile Committee received memorial dollars from the family of Marjorie Rocker. Those dollars have been used to purchase new resources for our members and leaders interested in the Clothing and Textile project area. The new materials include:



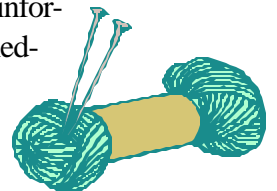
The Winky Cherry System of Teaching Children to Sew  
My First Sewing Book  
My First Quilt Book  
My First Sewing Machine Book  
My First Embroidery Book

These great books are now in our resource library and ready for check out!

## Spring Achievement for 2008

Spring Achievement is fast approaching! The date is Saturday, April 26th, and the event will be held at the Hartland Educational Service Center on M-59. If you have 4-H members who plan to participate in Spring Achievement this year, please call the 4-H office with the number and ages of members who will be exhibiting in sewing, crocheting, knitting, buymanship and the textile project areas.

A letter to all registered Clothing and Textile leaders will be sent out in mid-March with information about the event, time schedules, forms needed and evening style show. If you are a new club or exhibiting at Spring Achievement for the first time, please give the 4-H office a call and make sure your name is on the mailing list.



## 2008 4-H Calendar of Events

### Livingston County 4-H Schedule

**January**

- 21 4-H Clothing and Textiles Committee
- 26 Tack & Supply Sale

**February**

- 5 4-H Livestock Committee
- 9 Michigan 4-H Communications Day, MSU
- 11 4-H Council
- 13 4-H Small Animal Committee
- 15 Michigan Youth Photo Contest Entries Due
- 25 4-H Horse Leaders Association

**March**

- 10 4-H Council
- 17 4-H Clothing and Textile Committee
- 24 4-H Horse Leaders Association

**For a complete calendar go to the 4-H page of  
the Extension website at  
[www.co.livingston.mi.us/msuextension](http://www.co.livingston.mi.us/msuextension)**

### MSU Pavilion Schedule

**January**

- 26 Green & White Pig Show
- 26 State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show
- 31 MI 4-H Horse Benefit 8 am - 8 pm

**February**

- 5-6 Great Lakes Draft Horse Sale
- 9 2008 Winter Tournament Horse Show
- 15-17 MSU Spartan Stampede Rodeo
- 22-24 So. MI Spring Quarter and Paint Horse Sale

**March**

- 1 International Stallion Exposition/Trade Show  
Heritage Livestock  
2008 Winter Tournament Horse Show
- 7-9 Horse Expo  
MQHYA Easter Extravaganza Quarter Horse Show
- 28-29 Michigan Spring Dairy Show & Sale
- 29 2008 Winter Tournament Show
- 30 4-H Hairy Horse Clinic

**For a complete calendar go to  
[www.pavilion.msu.edu](http://www.pavilion.msu.edu)**



### Kettunen Center Calendar

**January**

- 26-27 4-H Teen Citizenship, Leadership & Service Workshop

**February**


- 22-23 4-H Veterinary Science Teen & Adult Leader Workshop
- 23-24 4-H Beef, Sheep & Swine Teen & Adult Leader Workshop
- 29-Mar 2 4-H Plant Science & Entomology Workshop
- 29-Mar 2 4-H Environmental/Outdoor Education Teen & Adult Volunteer Training

**March**

- 15-16 4-H Family Science Weekend: Jump into Food, Fitness & Family Fun!

**April**

- 11-13 Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference
- 18-20 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Training Workshop
- 26-27 4-H Companion Animal Workshop



2008

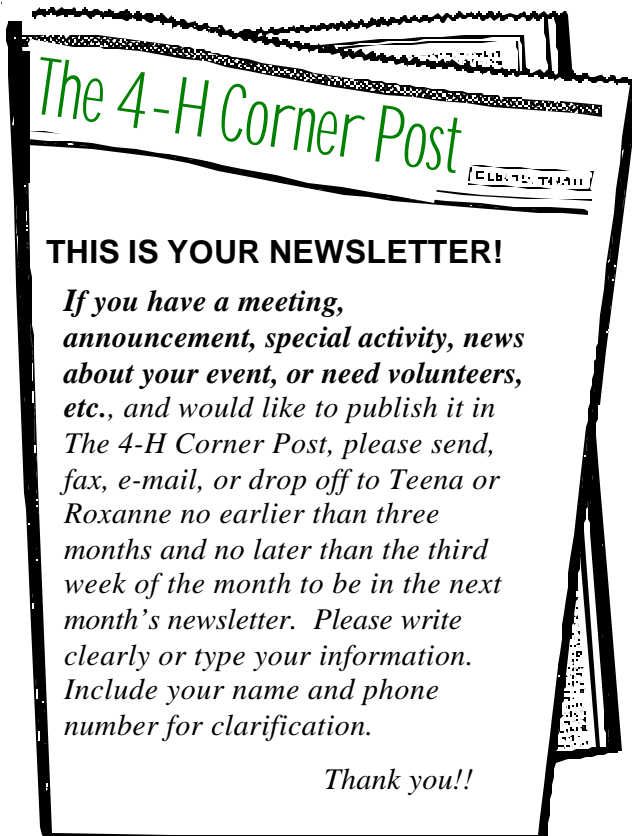
**For a complete calendar go to  
[www.KettunenCenter.org](http://www.KettunenCenter.org)**

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Livingston County MSU Extension



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