OTTAWA COUNTY
HAPPENINGS

Volume 24 Issue 2
JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2009

MICHIGAN 4-H YOUTH PROGRAM

2009 HORSE JAMBOREE
Time to showcase your knowledge of all things equine! Horse Bowl requires regional qualifying, but Judging and Hippology are open to all. Visit the link below for more information or call the office to have copies sent to you. http://web1.msue.msu.edu/horsekids/

STATE AWARDS
The regional deadline for State Awards applications for 2009 is March 1. Ottawa County has been very competitive in State Awards in the past and we look forward to another successful year. Go to the link below to find all the forms and information you need. Remember, the 4-H office will provide you with the correct binder for your notebook, so call if you need one. http://web1.msue.msu.edu/msue/cyf/youth/steward.html

4-H MARK OF EXCELLENCE
This is an opportunity for 11 and 12 year olds to compete for honors at Exploration Days. Two essayists per county are selected for their 500 word essays themed “Because of 4-H I can . . .”. Deadline for submissions to the county office is February 27.

TEEN CLUB NEWS
The Teen Club had a very productive meeting in January and one of the agenda items was lock-in. After much thoughtful discussion, the members voted to cancel Lock-in for 2009 due to a variety of reasons. They will continue to do fundraisers, service projects and social events throughout the year and plan to bring back a bigger and better lock-in in 2010. The next Teen Club meeting is February 12 if you wish to join.

FREE MONEY!!
Got your attention? Good. It’s Michigan. It’s winter. It’s cold. What better do you have to do than research and apply for one of the many 4-H related scholarships available to you?? Exactly. So go to http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/scholar.html and get busy. Also, six county scholarships are awarded each year as well. We are currently waiting for revisions on one form. As soon as revisions for that application are turned in, information on all of them will be printed here in the next issue of the Happenings as well as linked on the blog.

NOTE: Do not get foiled by an incorrect deadline – check and double check when each individual scholarship is due!! New Livestock Scholarship opportunity: this is from the Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship Fund. It is for $1000.00 and requires you be a Michigan resident who has exhibited livestock
for at least three years at local, county or state fairs prior to entry. Applicant must be a graduating high school senior or a graduate continuing their education at an accredited institution in the year they are applying. The website is www.michigan.gov/mda-mlsf although currently the application would not come up. The address to write for one is Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship Fund PO Box 13295, Lansing MI 48901.

FEB. 7 – A BUSY DAY FOR EQUINE ENTHUSIASTS!!

There are a number of events going on this particular Saturday. At the Pavilion there is a benefit for Michigan 4-H Horse Programs featuring clinician, judge and trainer GiGi Bailey from 11am – 3pm. The cost is $12.00. This is a Michigan 4-H Horse Judges Approved Clinic and will cover Showmanship and Horsemanship. Also at the Pavilion this weekend is an MQHA/4-H Horse Judging Workshop. If you have never been involved in judging, it is a great way to develop many skills that will serve you well in the future – and you can hang out with other horse folks! The cost is $10 and more information can be found at www.canr.msu.edu/anscikids/events.html. Lastly, there is a T.R.A.M. meeting (Trail Riders Alliance of Michigan) at the Dow Diamond in Midland from 2pm-5pm. Contact the office for more information.

FOOD DONATIONS FOR HORSE COMMITTEE

The annual Tack Sale is nearly upon us and once again the Horse Committee is requesting donations for the food booth at the sale. Typically horse clubs donate food to this cause, but it is great when leaders from across species/project areas can support each other whenever they can. So if you and/or your club can provide any of the items listed below, please contact the 4-H office and let us know what you will be providing and we can make arrangements to receive it. The Horse Committee will also happily accept any cash donations to be used to purchase food. Checks can be made payable to Ottawa County 4-H Horse Committee and sent to the extension office.

- Ground beef 50lbs
- Hamburg buns 25 doz
- Hotdog buns 25 doz
- Hotdogs 25 lbs
- Potato chips 18 large bags
- Tortilla chips 4 bags
- Cheese sauce 1 large cans
- Candy, tootsie roll pops, laffy taffy, Choc bars, etc 4 boxes
- Chopped onions 1 lg tub
- Relish 3lb jar
- Brownies 2-9x13 pans
- Donuts 4 doz
- Pies 4 assorted
- Hot cocoa pkts 1 large box
- Coke/Pepsi 5 cases
- Diet Pop 5 cases
- Sprite 5 cases
- Mountain Dew 5 cases
- Bottled water 4 cases
- Cookies/treats 3-4 doz
- Ice 24 sm or 12 large bags
- Paper plates 600
- Forks 400
- Napkins 600
- Small plates 300
- Bowls 250
- Cups 400
- Ketchup & mustard in squeeze jars 3 each

HEARTLAND RABBIT SHOW
Farwell High School
9am Saturday Feb. 14, 2009
Call 989.465.2058 for more info!
20th ANNUAL TACK SALE

Saturday
March 7, 2009
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Clothing
Tack
Horse Trailers
Over 100 Tables
Private Individuals &
Commercial Vendors

*GREAT FOOD AVAILABLE ON SITE*

Allendale Middle School
6561 Lake Michigan Drive (M-45)
Allendale, Michigan

Located 16 miles west of Grand Rapids on M-45
or 11 miles east of U.S. 31 on M-45

Sponsored by:
Ottawa County 4-H Horse Committee

For more information check the back of this flyer or call

Lynn Croel (616)677-5933
Please do not call Allendale Public Schools!

ABSOLUTELY NO DOGS ALLOWED!!!!
4-H FAIR DECLARATION FORM

DUE AT 4-H OFFICE MARCH 1, 2009 OR MAY BE FAXED TO: 616-994-4579

Member Name: ____________________________ Back # __________________
(one member per form, please)

Club: ____________________________ Phone # __________________

Parent Signature ____________________________ Leader Signature __________________

NON – MARKET ANIMALS:

Dairy Cows: _______ # of adult cows _______ # of heifer calves ..........at Berlin
                _______ # of adult cows _______ # of heifer calves ..........at Holland
                _______ # of adult cows _______ # of heifer calves ..........at Hudsonville

Goats: _______ # of goats _______ # of pens .....................................at Berlin
       _______ # of goats _______ # of pens ..................................at Holland
       _______ # of goats _______ # of pens ........................... at Hudsonville

Poultry: No declaration needed. Previous limits on cages will be in effect.
         Pre-entry form due to project coordinator July 1st

Rabbits: No declaration needed. Previous limits on cages will be in effect.
         Pre-entry form due to project coordinator July 1st

MARKET PROJECTS: Each member limited to two species per year (one bovine)

CHECK ONLY ONE FAIR

Lambs _______ Berlin
                _______ Holland
                _______ Hudsonville

Hogs _______ Berlin (1 Hog/Mem)
               _______ Holland (2 Hog/Mem)
               _______ Hudsonville (2 Hog/Mem)

Market Rabbits _______ Berlin only

Market Goat _______ Holland only

IN THE EVENT OF OVER CROWDING, LIST YOUR PREFERENCE OF FAIRS

MARK 1ST, 2ND & 3RD CHOICE OF FAIRS

Berlin _______ Holland _______ Hudsonville _______

THE ANNUAL 4-H PARTICIPATION FEE OF $10 MUST BE PAID
BEFORE A MEMBER WEIGHS IN ANY MARKET ANIMAL.
### Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 3</td>
<td>Dog Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>February 5</td>
<td>4-H Council Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 12</td>
<td>Teen Club Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 21</td>
<td>Berlin Feeder Tagging</td>
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<td>February 28</td>
<td>Berlin Feeder Tagging</td>
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<td>March 7</td>
<td>Horse Committee Tack Sale</td>
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<td>March 9</td>
<td>Horse Committee</td>
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<td>March 10</td>
<td>Holland Livestock Committee</td>
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<td>March 12</td>
<td>Teen Club</td>
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<td>April 18</td>
<td>Berlin Hog Weigh in</td>
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<td>April 25</td>
<td>Berlin Lamb Weigh in</td>
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<td>April 24-25</td>
<td>Spring Achievements</td>
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### 4-H forever

Explore the Possibilities!

At 4-H Exploration Days...
- You’ll have the chance to attend:
  - Action-packed learning sessions
  - Great entertainment at the Wharton Center
  - A huge dance
  - Leisure activities like skating, swimming, a museum and bowling
  - And more!

Join the fun!

For more information and to register contact your MSU Extension office now or visit [http://web1.msue.msu.edu/4h/expodays.html](http://web1.msue.msu.edu/4h/expodays.html). 4-H Exploration Days registrations are due in your county MSU Extension office by May 1, 2009.
HOUSEKEEPING:
Just a few quick reminders for our 4-H families:

SS4 forms: All clubs who do not already have a Tax Identification Number received this form from the office. It is completely filled out and requires just a signature from the leader and to be returned in the envelope provided. That’s it. It’s that easy to be in compliance with the State office and the IRS. If they are happy, we’re all happy. **PLEASE sign and return the form if you have not already done so!** If you have misplaced your form, please contact the office and we will get you a new one.

PARTICIPATION FEES:
~$10 per member (maximum $30 per family)~
Typically, leaders will collect these funds and then submit them to the office. This fee is mandatory and due by the earliest deadline that applies to individual members: livestock weigh in, Spring Achievements or May 1st for all other project areas! **It is imperative that you get this money turned in on time.**

BERLIN LIVESTOCK NEWS:
The Berlin Livestock Committee met recently and there are some changes that feeder calf project members need to be aware of. As usual, all project animals must be calved no earlier that January 1, 2009. However, there will be no weigh in or rate of gain data required. We feel this will promote healthier calves that will feed out better in the long haul. So, Randy & Terrie Graftema have volunteered to tag the calves on farm – North of the river on Feb 21 and south of the river Feb 28. **If you show in this project area, be sure that the Graftema’s know where to locate your calf on tagging day!** We are very pleased that the Graftema’s are giving up two Saturdays to perform this service. Please have your calf caught up and accessible when they arrive. All members are expected to castrate and dehorn appropriately. Contact John Willcome with any questions.

ANR WEEK: MARCH 6-14
This is a wonderful event for folks who are truly passionate about agriculture. There is more variety in topics that one can imagine and here are a few samples:
[www.canr.msu.edu/anrweek](http://www.canr.msu.edu/anrweek)

Kettunen Center Workshops

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<tr>
<th>Workshop Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>4-H Vet Science Workshop</td>
<td>Feb 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-H Beef, Sheep &amp; Swine Workshop</td>
<td>Feb 28</td>
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<td>4-H Family Science Weekend:</td>
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<td>SET Exploratorium</td>
<td>March 15</td>
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<td>4-H Environmental &amp; Outdoor Ed.</td>
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<td>4-H Rabbit &amp; Cavy Workshop</td>
<td>April 4</td>
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<td>4-H Dairy Conference</td>
<td>April 17</td>
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<td>4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Training</td>
<td>April 24</td>
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SPRING ACHIEVEMENTS
Planning will begin soon for this big annual event scheduled for April 24 -25, however we will not begin until our Chairperson, Hermena VandenBerg, is sufficiently convalesced from her recent hip surgery. Our get well wishes are with Hermena and hope that she is healing in a hurry!

MERRIMENT IN MONTCALM!
Rabbit & Cavy Show March 14 at Montcalt Comm. College [msue.msu.edu/montcalm](http://msue.msu.edu/montcalm)

JOHN BERRY in concert April 18 at Greenville High Performing Arts Center. Tickets are $25 and available at 888.687.4218 beg. Feb 16.
From the Forest to the Table 4-H Workshop
Saturday, March 7, 2009

Four Square Sportsman’s Club,
6779 Cline Road
Grant Twp. MI 48032

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Registration starts at 8 am

The St. Clair County Shooting Sports Leaders & Volunteers Present
this workshop in cooperation with
the 4-H Program Staff,
DNR Officer Ben Lasher
And Four Square Sportsman’s Club

- Cost is Free for 4-H members and $5.00 for non 4-H members ages 10-19 years old
- Pre-registration by February 23, 2009
- Dress for the weather rain or shine

EXTRAS
⇒ Gun Cleaning (guns provided-do not bring guns)
⇒ Knife sharpening (bring your favorite hunting knife learn how to properly sharpen—must be in sheath or case)
⇒ Raffle—lots of prizes
⇒ Bring your favorite hunting hat for a chance at a prize
⇒ If time allows hands on shooting, equipment and ammo will be supplied

MISSION: To encourage participation in environmental and outdoor education programs by exposing youth to shooting, hunting and other related activities. To promote the highest standards of safety, sportsmanship, ethical behavior and conservation. To strengthen families through participation in lifelong recreational activities and provide hands-on learning experiences to our youth.

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM—Due Mon. Feb. 23rd to the MSU Extension office, 200 Grand River Avenue Suite 102, Port Huron MI 48060

Name:

Club:

Phone number:

Morning Session 1st and 2nd choice

Afternoon Session (choose 2)

Afternoon alternate choice

AGENDA

Other morning sessions (everyone attends)
⇒ Ethics
⇒ Shot Impact
⇒ Blood trail tracking/shoot or don’t shoot
⇒ Tree stand safety

HANDS ON MORNING SESSION choose 1st and 2nd choice
⇒ Turkey processing
⇒ Rabbit processing
⇒ Deer processing

LUNCH = outdoor camp cooking sampling
- 4 Square’s will have concession stand available

AFTERNOON SESSIONS choose 2
⇒ Hands on tree stand—participants will receive a safety rope
⇒ Wilderness survival—lost in the woods; could you survive?
⇒ Leave No Trace
⇒ Trap setting
⇒ Compass Reading

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HAPPENINGS IS PUBLISHED PERIODICALLY
BY
THE OTTAWA COUNTY 4-H OFFICE
12220 FILLMORE ST. ROOM 122
WEST OLIVE, MI 49460
616-994-4540

ELIZABETH C. WELLS
EXTENSION 4-H YOUTH AGENT
welsetz@msu.edu

JOAN BIESECKER
4-H SECRETARY
ottawa4h@yahoo.com

BECKY HUTTENGA
4-H PROGRAM ASSISTANT
4hbecky@gmail.com

GRAND RAPIDS: 662-3100 X 4540
HOLLAND/ZEELAND: 392-3111 X 4540
MUSKEGON: 728-4297 X 4540
NE OTTAWA COUNTY: 1-800-764-4111 X 4540
FAX 616-994-4579

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