Seeking Host Families
The 4-H/Japanese Exchange Program is currently seeking host families for Japanese students for July 24 – August 22, 2009. If you feel drawn to open your heart and your home to these eager, English speaking, 12 – 15 year old young people, I encourage you to contact Larry Johnson, program coordinator at 616.396.1426 or johns153@msu.edu.

4-H Council Board is ready to serve you! The 2008-09 Ottawa County 4-H Council recently held their elections and have board members in place to serve you. All the 2007-08 board members were re-elected to their positions: John Willcome, President; Erin McCarthy, Vice-president; Gerry Burns, Treasurer; Terrie Graftema, Secretary. Members were also appointed to the various committees of 4-H Council and we are off to a great start for 2009! Thanks to all of you willing to give your time and serve the Ottawa County 4-H Program as council members.

Supershowmanship Clinic
In 2009, 4-H Council is pitching in to make the annual Supershowmanship Clinic put on by Teen Club even more super! Mark your calendars for May 30 to get all the latest information on fitting your particular species for the show ring from industry specialists! This will be on top of all the great showmanship tips you plan on every year. What you will learn at this clinic is sure to help you rise to the top of your classes at all the shows, not just at the fair! Teen Club will have food available on the grounds and more details are on the way soon as we complete our planning of this first-time-ever event!

Exploration Days Registration Books
They are now available online if you want a sneak peek before the hardcopies reach your mailbox. Remember, if you can dream it up, you can experience it at Exploration Days, but only if you get registered early! The link below will give you through the youth development website at www.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/

http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/expdays/ExpdaysRegBk-09.pdf
Spring Achievements Planning Session
All sewing and craft leaders are asked to attend the first Spring Achievements planning meeting set for **7pm on Tuesday March 17** at the **Allendale Library in the Roon Room**. Note that this is a new location for the planning this year!! See you there!

Hot off the Presses!
I just received an email regarding a fascinating opportunity for youth aged 12-17. AgDiscovery Camp is a two week boarding camp held on select college campuses designed to help youth learn about careers in protecting wildlife and agriculture through labs, workshops and field trips. If you would like to apply for this program, call our office for more information or peruse the brochure located at the link below. [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/agdiscovery/downloads/AgDiscovery_Brochure_2009.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/agdiscovery/downloads/AgDiscovery_Brochure_2009.pdf)

Club Hog/Club Lamb Sales
There are updated lists now available for private treaty and public sales of club hogs and club lambs for anyone looking for a project animal. Visit [www.canr.msu.edu/anscíkids](http://www.canr.msu.edu/anscíkids) to view the lists.

Fundraising Opportunity
I was contacted by Sue Veltkamp from the board of the Kenowa Open Horse Shows offering Ottawa County horse clubs the opportunity to earn $100 for their clubs by working one of their 4 shows this summer. Clubs have already volunteered for one of their shows which leaves three openings. Duties include announcing, gate, ribbons, ring steward, etc. The available dates are June 20, August 8 or September 5. If your club is interested, please contact Sue at 616.355.2316.

Communications Day Winners!
Congratulations go out to Crazy Crafter Critter members **Alisa DeRoo** and **Moriah Gonzales** for their success at Communications Day which was held February 14, 2009. Alisa brought home two gold and one silver medal and Moriah received three gold medals! Outstanding, ladies!

State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Show
Congratulations also to **Katelyn Schullo** for winning Best of Breed with her Silverfox!

2009 4-H Spring Dog Clinic
Purpose: Bring your dog! The clinic provides an opportunity to learn and enhance youth skills in obedience, showmanship, rally, and freestyle.
Date: June 6th, 2009
Time: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Where: Ionia County Fairgrounds
Cost: $15.00 includes lunch
Dog leaders are strongly encouraged to make this an outing for their members. Ottawa has a strong presence on the State Dog Committee so let’s support our leaders who serve in that capacity! It will also give all dog members consistent instruction in the basics of dog showing. Ottawa may follow up with an agility workshop since that is not covered. Stay tuned.
***NEW LOCATION FOR 2009***

BERLIN FAIRGROUNDS

OTTAWA COUNTY 4-H LEADERS

31st ANNUAL OPEN HORSE SHOW

SATURDAY, June 6, 2009 - 8:00 A.M.  ENTRY FEE - $4.00

Located on Berlin Fair Dr, Exit 23 off I-96  ■  Ring Judge: Ron Strefling

Great Versatility Prizes ■ Fun Prizes For Every Class Including Door Prizes

HALTER
1. 2 Year Olds & Under
2. A.Q.H.A. Mares
3. A.Q.H.A. Stallions & Geldings**
4. Registered Other Breeds-Pleasure Type
5. Registered Other Breeds-Stock Type
6. Grade Horse Halter
7. Ponies, 56" & Under

SHOWMANSHIP
8. State Show Qualifying Class-Horses*
9. State Show Qualifying Class –Ponies/Minis*
10. 19 & Over – Open
11. 16 to 18 - Horses
12. 12 to 15 - Horses
13. 11 & Under - Horses
14. 18 & Under - Ponies

15 MINUTE BREAK
15. Maverick Walk/Trot, 10 & Under
16. Novice Walk/Trot 11 – 19
17. Lead Line 8 & Under
18. Adult Walk/Trot riders 20 and over***

ENGLISH OR STOCK SEAT EQUITATION
19. State Show Qualifying Class-Horses*
20. State Show Qualifying Class –Ponies*

ENGLISH PLEASURE
21. Junior Horse & Ponies 5 and under
22. Senior Horses & Ponies 6 and up
23. 19 & Over-Open
24. 16 to 18 – Horses
25. 12 to 15 – Horses
26. 11 & Under – Horses
27. 18 & Under - Ponies

ENGLISH EQUITATION
28. 19 & Over – Open
29. 16 to 18 – Horses
30. 12 to 15 – Horses
31. 11 & Under – Horses
32. 18 and Under – Ponies

*  State show qualifying classes are for Ottawa County 4-H members only and require no entry fee. Members must be 13 years of age by January 1, 2009.
** Stallions must handled by persons age 18 & up
*** No Trainers Allowed.  Proper attire not required.

SHOW SPONSORED BY
THE OTTAWA COUNTY 4-H HORSE LEADERS

Any person entering the grounds absolves this party of any responsibility for loss, injury or theft.

Food Available on Grounds
Tack Vendor Available

30 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK

WESTERN PLEASURE
33. Junior Horses & Ponies 5 and under
34. Senior Horses & Ponies 6 and over
35. 19 & Over – Open
36. 16 to 18 – Horses
37. 12 to 15 – Horses
38. 11 and Under – Horses
39. 18 and under - Ponies

STOCK SEAT EQUITATION
40. 19 & Over – Open
41. 16 to 18 – Horses
42. 12 to 15 – Horses
43. 11 and Under – Horses
44. 18 and Under - Ponies

BAREBACK-ANY-STYLE
45. 15 & Over – Horses
46. 14 & Under – Horses
47. 18 and Under - Ponies

RIDER VERSATILITY CLASS
48. Open

TRAIL
(to be shown in a separate arena from 12 to 3:00)
49. 19 & Over – Open
50. 16 to 18 – Horses
51. 12 to 15 – Horses
52. 11 & Under – Horses
53. 18 and Under – Ponies
54. In Hand Trail
(Horses & Ponies 2 and under & Miniatures)

The rider versatility class will be English Equitation, Stock Seat Equitation and a game.  Riders will be given a 5-minute in arena tack change between styles.  They will be allowed two grooms per entry to assist in these changes.

See reverse side for show rules.

For more information call Erin McCarthy at 616-550-3403
PER MICHIGAN LAW
YOUR COGGINS TEST PAPERS MUST BE SHOWN AT ENTRY BOOTH

Leader’s Show Rules:

Michigan law requires proof of negative coggins to enter. Age as of January 1, 2009. Entries must be made one class prior to entering the ring. SEI approved helmets will be worn in all hunt seat and bareback classes. Classes for exhibitors under 9 are not sanctioned by Ottawa County 4-H. The show committee reserves the right to combine or cancel any classes. Points will be pro rated. Points calculated on one-horse/one-rider basis. Trail will be run in a separate ring from noon until 3:00 p.m. Horses and ponies are eligible for only one trail class. Lead line and maverick exhibitors may not show in any other riding division. 4-H rules will apply to youth and adult exhibitors.

Failure to comply with these rules will not be tolerated.

For more information, contact: Erin McCarthy (616) 550-3403

Berlin Fairgrounds are located at 2008 Berlin Fair Drive, Marne MI
Quote of the Month:
“Spring is nature’s way of saying ‘Let’s party!’ ”

Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 2</td>
<td>4-H Council Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 9</td>
<td>Teen Club Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 18</td>
<td>Berlin Hog Weigh in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 25</td>
<td>Berlin Lamb Weigh in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 24-25</td>
<td>Spring Achievements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>Spring Horse Clinic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 30</td>
<td>Supershowmanship Clinic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For information on any of the events below, please contact the office

Ottawa County welcomes new 4-H leaders!

Please give these new leaders a warm welcome to the Ottawa 4-H family when you see them at events! There will be a couple more names being announced soon!!

Lauri Adams leads the new K9QTs dog club based in Zeeland

Tom Beukema plans to expand shooting sports and outdoor education in Ottawa County

Tim Bouma plans to assist the South Siders in many aspects of the club

Heather Ferwerda will be added the leaders roster for Blendon 4-H

Andrea Grimm plans to share her knowledge with the members of Paradise Riders

Catherine Haveman wants to recruit new youth into the dairy project area

Rhonda Dryfhout assists Hilltop Gang

Patricia Brinks enhances the craft project area in Explorers of Grand River

Rebecca Bos brings her craft experience to Animals & Us

Kettunen Center Workshops

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Title</th>
<th>Begin Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4-H Dairy Conference</td>
<td>April 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Training</td>
<td>April 24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2009 Tack Sale was a Great Event!

Check out the crowds!! Need I say more?

Big thanks to all who helped to make it a success!!
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
wellselz@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

www.msue.msu.edu/ottawa
www.ottawa4h.blogspot.com

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.