



**MARCH/APRIL
2012**

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Clover Chatter



The Jodies' Buzz:

It has been a busy start to 2012! It's important to reflect on the past and all of the accomplishments that have been made by our 4-H youth and leaders. We have celebrated the completion of projects at our Youth Awards Banquet and hosted a very successful Livestock Association Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser. Thank you to everyone who has helped to make these events successful!

Now, it's time to look at the future. In this *Clover Chatter*, you will find a plethora of educational events and activities that are available for youth, leaders, and parents. If you have any questions about any of these events, please feel free to call MSU Extension-Bay County at (989) 895-4026 or e-mail Jodi Wrzesinski at wrzesinskij@baycounty.net.

Newsletters Going Electronic

During the past year we have piloted e-communications with parents, members, and volunteers through the Clover Quickie. Based on the need for newsletters to be a quicker process to get news to all in 4-H and in the community we have decided to transition the Clover Chatter to e-news as well. This edition of the Clover Chatter will be your last paper newsletter communication. We will be moving into a monthly newsletter that is delivered through email. 4-H families, volunteers, and community members are asked to subscribed to the Clover Chatter monthly newsletter to ensure you never miss any communication from Bay County 4-H. Continue to watch our Website at www.baycounty-mi.gov/msue/4-H and Facebook to subscribe to our newsletter. You may also scan the QR code on the left with your smart phone to join now!

Office Hours and Closures

MSU Extension - Bay County has new office hours. We will be open Tuesdays and Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. or by appointment. To schedule an appointment contact MSU Extension - Bay County at (989) 895-4026. The Bay County MSU Extension office is closed in observance of the following holidays: **Good Friday**, Friday, April 6, 2012; **Memorial Day**, Monday, May 28, 2012.

4-H Youth Enrollment Deadline for 2012 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 this year's fair. If you are unsure if you are enrolled in Bay County 4-H, please contact MSU Extension Bay County at (989) 895-4026 to confirm!

March Meeting Dates

Advisory Council: March 22, 2012, at 6 p.m. at MSU Extension - Bay County.

2012 Fair Book Changes

It's time to submit fair book changes for the 2012 Bay County Fair and Youth Exposition premium book. Please submit all fair book changes to Jodi Wrzesinski at wrzesinskij@baycounty.net in writing no later than Thursday, March 29, 2012. All changes must be approved by perspective superintendents and the Fair Board before any change will be made.

St. Patrick's Day Parade

Don't forget to mark your calendar for the 2012 St. Patrick's Day Parade that will be taking place on Sunday, March 18, 2012. 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, princes, 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 in a wagon. If you plan to walk an animal, please bring a bucket to clean up after your animal. This will count as an activity. Please bring decorations for the trailer and don't forget to wear green!

2012 Youth Awards Banquet

Congratulations to the following youth and adult volunteers who were honored February 11th at this year's banquet:

Friend of 4-H Awards

Tractor Supply Company

Cloverbuds

Laken Clark
Alex Clark
Melea DeCatur
Ethan Heller
Madalene Reszke
Damien Swarhout
Abbrey Yell

Young Achievers

Mitchell DuBay. Swine
Megan Groulx. Poultry
Katlyn Groulx. Rabbits
Noah Guettler. Swine
Jayden LaBean. Poultry
Jannah LaBean. Poultry
Gabrielle Reszke. Clothing and Textiles
Anthony Reszke. Poultry
Aletta Samborn. . . Food and Nutrition
David Simpson. . . Community Service
Lane Stender. Achievement

County Medal Winners

Kristy Brandt. Demonstrations,
. Consumer Education
Emily Brandt. Leadership, Visual Arts
David Clark. Visual Arts, Horses
Madison DeCatur. Goats, Rabbits
Lauren DeShano. Poultry, Citizenship
Briana DuBay. Photography, Goats
Kennedy Gollin. Horses
Mark Guettler. Archery, Swine
Megan Guettler. Poultry,
. Clothing and Textiles
Alexandra Histed. Archery, Horses
Raini Lucas. Horses
Rachael Naugle. Poultry, Goats
Henry Patterson. Leadership,
. Gardening
Meline Smith. Arts and Crafts, Rabbits
Sara Jo Stender. Leadership,
. Photography

Cloverbud Camp Counselor Award

Emily Brandt
David Clark
Megan Dorn
Amber Gaiser
Megan Guettler

Alex Histed
Jonathon Matthews
Brook Peters
Sara Jo Stender

Graduate Awards

Emily Brandt
Sara Jo Stender

All-Around Achievement Award

Emily Brandt
Sara Jo Stender

I Dare You Award

Emily Brandt

A special thank you to the following for making the Youth Awards Banquet possible:

4-H Advisory Council Awards Banquet Committee, Awards Application Committee, 4-H members, parents and leaders.

2012 Leader Awards Banquet Reminder

The banquet will took place on Monday, March 12, 2012, at 6 p.m. at the Krzysiak's House Restaurant located in Bay City.

Thank you to the Bay County 4-H Advisory Council for sponsoring the dinner and awards. Congratulations to Diane Draves of the Horsemanship for Handicappers 4-H Club for receiving Leader of the Year 2012! Your dedication to the Bay County Program is greatly appreciated!

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser – Another Success Thanks To You

Thank you to all of the individuals, clubs, and businesses for donating

items to the Bay County 4-H Livestock Association's annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser held Thursday, February 16, 2012.

We would like to give special acknowledgment to the Creative Clover Kids 4-H Club for being the chair-club of this event.

Exploration Days 2012

Exploration Days will take place June 20 - 22, 2012, at Michigan State University. It is a wonderful opportunity for youth ages 11 through 19 (by January 1, 2012).

Exploration Days is designed to:

- Help you learn new ideas, techniques, and skills you can use personally and in your 4-H clubs and communities.
- Offer in-depth action learning through sessions.
- 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.
- Give you access to the Michigan State University campus and its wealth of resources.

The registration book and forms are available now at MSU Extension - Bay County or online at http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/4_h_exploration_days.

Registration begins on March 20, 2012, at 9:00 a.m. The last day to register for Exploration Days is May 3, 2012.

Please be sure to read the age requirements for sessions. If you don't meet the requirements to participate in a particular session don't try to register for it. You may miss your chance at getting the other session you wanted.

Great Lakes Natural Resources Camp

4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp is an annual MSU pre-college program held July 29- August 4, 2012, on the northern shores of Lake Huron in Presque Isle, Michigan.

This camp provides teens from across the state the opportunity to:

- Improve their knowledge about Great Lakes and natural resources ecology and management issues. Increase awareness of environmental problems, foster environmental stewardship, and enhance involvement in local natural resources projects.
- Increase interest in the outdoors, develop leadership skills and self-confidence, and influence career decisions.
- Enjoy quality camp activities, gain hands-on science experiences, meet new people, and develop friendships.
- Learn from natural resources and youth development experts and develop possible career interests.

For more information about the Great Lakes Natural Resources Camp, see <http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/glnrc>.

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 April 14, 2012, 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>

Small Animals Day 2012

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 21, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Admission is \$3 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. Visit <http://spartanyouth.msu.edu/Resource.aspx?ResourceID=190> for more information.

Save These Date!

PQA Training

May 15, 2012, 6:30 p.m.

All youth showing a pig at the 2012 fair must have up-to-date PQA certification. Mark your calendars for PQA Training on May 15, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. at MSU Extension - Bay County. To register contact MSU Extension at (989) 895-4026.

4-H Night at the Loons

July 26, 2012.

We are currently in the process of planning this wonderful opportunity for 4-H outreach to our community. More information will be available soon.

Do You Need to Buy Animals?

If you need resources for purchasing hogs, sheep, and/or beef for 4-H projects, please see the updated listing of sources for 4-H and FFA youth project pigs. The list is posted on the Animal Science Youth Programs Web site. The address is: http://www.ans.msu.edu/ans/livestock_youth_programs. The list can be found under the "Livestock Programs" page.

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, contact Amy Sylvester at (989) 205-9570 to complete your order ASAP. Pheasants and chukars will arrive around the first week of May.

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 Amy Sylvester at (989) 205-9570 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.

Bay County 4-H Advisory Council Looking for New Members

Bay County 4-H Advisory Council has open positions to sit on council. This is a great organization to join if you would like to be a part of "Making the Best Better" in Bay County 4-H. Contact MSU Extension - Bay County at (989) 895-4026 or join us at our next meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 22, 2012, at MSU Extension - Bay County.

Bay County 4-H Cookbook

Attention 4-H Members and Alumni: Bay County 4-H Advisory Council is planning to publish a "Bay County 4-H Cookbook". We need your help to make this project come to life. We would like to have recipes submitted by 4-H members, their families, and 4-H alumni. Please be sure to put your name, or "in memory of" on the recipe. The deadline to submit

recipes is my March 31, 2012. We are planning to have books available for sale by August 1. Please help us make this fundraiser a success. Recipes can be in any category - appetizer, main dish, vegetables, desserts, etc. You are also encouraged to pass along miscellaneous items - like cleaning tips. You may submit as many recipes as you wish. You can submit your recipes to:

Mail or drop them off to MSUE-Bay County, 515 Center Ave, Bay City, MI 48708.

Fax them to the MSUE: 895-4217

E-mail to:
Melissa Meier:
Meiermel@anr.msu.edu
Jodi Wrzesinski
wrzesinskij@baycounty.net
Mary Jo Brandt
mjbrandt23@aol.com

Drop them off at The Bay City Bowmen's Club, Saturdays from 4 - 6 pm.

Youth Awards Banquet Survey

The Bay County 4-H Advisory Council is looking for your feedback about the Youth Awards Banquet. Typically the banquet is held in February and recognizes youth for their accomplishments from the year before. We are looking for feedback on changes that can be made to this event. Please take the time to complete the survey by typing this link into your internet browser <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/8N9N2JQ>. The deadline to reply is April 19, 2012 by 5:00 p.m.

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Livestock Assoc. 7 p.m. Canteen	16	17
18 St. Patrick's Day Parade	19	20 Exploration Days registration begins! 9:00 a.m.	21	22 4-H Adv. Council 6 p.m., MSUE Office	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Fair Book changes due to MSUE	30	31 Recipes due for 4-H Cookbook.

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>Deadline:</i> Enroll in Bay Co. 4-H	2	3	4	5	6 MSUE-Bay office closed for Good Friday	7
8 Easter	9	10	11	12	13	14 Vet-A-Visit 9:00 a.m. at MSU
15	16	17	18	19 4-H Youth Awards Banquet Survey due. Livestock Assoc. 7 p.m. Canteen	20	21 Small Animals Day, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.,MSU
22	23	24	25	26 4-H Adv. Council 6 p.m., MSUE Office	27	28
29	30					

MSU Extension - Bay County

Howard Wetters. Greening Institute
Jodi Schulz. . . Extension 4-H Youth Programs
Ann Arnold. . . BSF/BKC Extension Educator
Margaret LaShore. . . State-wide FNP Reporting
Nola Leinaar. Breastfeeding Associate
Karen Parker. Nutrition Program Associate
Jan Rise. Master Gardener Coordinator
Vaccant. Administrative Assistant
Jodi Wrzesinski. 4-H Program Assistant

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