

4-H'ers recognized by Michigan Senate for environmental advocacy

Michigan's wealth of natural aquatic resources results in a thriving and vibrant recreational boating season. Unless handled with care for the environment, Michigan's sail boats and motor crafts could damage the natural resources for which Michigan is most noted.

This was the message presented to the Michigan Senate Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee on Earth Day 2003, April 22, by the Michigan 4-H Youth Conservation Council (M4-HYCC).

In recognition of the council's research on the hazards of petroleum spills from recreational boating and its work in support of Senate Bill 415 to create a Michigan Heritage Water Trails Program, the Michigan Senate gave the council the 2003 White Pine Award.

The award, presented this year by state Sen. Patricia Birkholz, recognizes groups that have effectively facilitated youth education and environmental stewardship.

The Earth Day presentation was the second appearance before the senate committee for 16-year-old Lisa Campion, a member of Macomb County's 4-H Metro Crusaderz Club, and an M4-HYCC veteran.



The Michigan 4-H Youth Conservation Council (M4-HYCC) received the Michigan Senate's 2003 White Pine Award on April 22. The team received the award for their research on petroleum spills from recreational boating in the Great Lakes and their work to create a Michigan Heritage Water Trails Program. The team chose to plant the White Pine tree at Kettunen Center.

"We looked at a whole bunch of issues, but we wanted to get an issue that affected everybody," Campion said. "Recreational petroleum spills was brought up by the Great Lakes Task Force, and not a lot has been done on it. We found that education is the easiest, simplest, most cost-effective way to address this issue."

Campion spoke on the Michigan Senate floor as part of the team's acceptance of the White Pine Award. She also helped present the team's research on why bio-fuel is

an environmentally safe and viable option for recreational boating, and on why young people doing significant community service like that of the M4-HYCC should receive college tuition credit.

"I was kind of nervous but was more excited to be able to share my views on these issues," Campion said about speaking on the Michigan Senate floor.

The solutions the team presented would not require the passage of laws but the distribution of information and increased education.

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Explore, Experience, Achieve:

The Campaign for



Campaign co-chairs named

Former Michigan first lady Janet Blanchard has joined Karley Herman, Midland County 4-H member, and Kevin Thomas, Wayne County 4-H volunteer, as co-chairs of the Michigan 4-H Foundation's Campaign for 4-H!

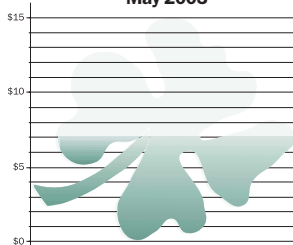
"This triad of leadership has committed to building excitement among all of the Michigan 4-H family and with potential community-based individual, organization and corporate partners," said Terry Langston, the foundation's executive director.

The co-chairs will preside over the campaign cabinet made up of foundation trustees and state and county 4-H program staff members committed to developing ideas and programs to help strengthen 4-H's work.

The \$15 million Campaign for 4-H was launched publicly in fall 2002 at 30 percent of that goal. Since that time, strong support for the 4-H Children's Garden and a number of planned gift commitments have been received.

For information on supporting the Campaign for 4-H priorities, visit www.mi4hfdtn.org/campaign.

Campaign for 4-H Status
May 2003



Campaign Goal: \$15 million
Campaign Status: \$7.02 million

Two new youth join board of trustees

Yolanda E. Haynes, Oakland County 4-H'er, and Shelby Newman, Kent County 4-H'er, were elected to the Michigan 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees Apr. 25.

Haynes and Newman join trustee Laura Hamlin in filling the three positions reserved for trustees aged 16 to 22.

Haynes is an 11th grader at Christian Victory Homeschool in Southfield. She has been a 4-H'er since 1991, is currently president of the Kings Kids 4-H club and is a member of the foundation's Campaign for 4-H Citizenship, Leadership and Service design team. She has participated in the Oakland County 4-H Youth Leadership Insti-

tute, the 4-H Book Buddies program and 4-H Capitol Experience. She has also served on both the Farmington and Bloomfield Township Library youth advisory boards and the Vol-

unteer Impact Teen advisory board. Haynes has volunteered on political campaigns, worked for the Observer and Eccentric newspaper and served as an election official for Southfield.

Newman, of Saranac, recently completed her first year at Michigan State University, where she is a Lyman Briggs premedical major with aspirations to become a dermatologist or plastic surgeon. She has been a member of Kent



New youth trustees (L to R) Yolanda E. Haynes and Shelby Newman.

County's Life's a Stage performing arts 4-H club since 1998. She has completed numerous activities with the club, including a performance of "The Castaways" to benefit a local food bank. She attended 4-H Capitol Experience and 4-H Exploration Days numerous times. Newman also volunteered for the Ionia County AmeriCorps ReadingCorps and assisted with political campaigns.

Boge becomes foundation's finance director

Cynthia J. Boge has joined the Michigan 4-H Foundation staff as the new director of management and program services. Boge comes to the foundation from Hemlock Elevator/Heritage Equipment Company in Chesaning with more than 26 years of financial management and operations experience.

She is responsible for all financial procedures, record keeping, reporting, oversight for all accounting staff and practices of the Michigan 4-H Foundation. This includes responsibility for accounts and general ledger management; administration and coordination of gifts, grants and endowments received and disbursed; investment portfolio management; and review and monitoring of budgets and subsidiary ledgers.

Boge supervises the foundation's two bookkeepers and provides guidance to the administrative team on the financial operations of both the foundation's main office and Kettunen Center, the Tustin-based conference center owned and operated by the foundation.

Calendar

May-October 31—Michigan 4-H Children's Garden is open. Call (517) 355-0348 for details on tours and events.

June 18-20—4-H Exploration Days. This annual event brings over 2,000 young people to MSU. The State 4-H Awards Assembly will be June 19. For details, visit 4-H online at <http://www.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/expodays.html>.

July 10—Michigan 4-H Children's Garden 10th Birthday. Details on p 6.

June 22-27—Intergenerational Elderhostel at Kettunen Center. The event features learning experiences for grandparents and grandchildren to share. Call (231) 829-3421 for details.

Lapeer County 4-H Club Read receives \$10,000 grant from J.C. Penney Afterschool Fund

Lapeer County's Irwin 4-H Club Read was one of two national recipients of \$10,000 "First Gift" grants sponsored by the J.C. Penney Afterschool Fund.

Richard Johnson, Lapeer J.C. Penney manager, presented the award at a Feb. 24 press conference to the Irwin 4-H Club Read members and volunteers Roberta Rickett and Sharon and Dean Hartman.

The grant is given to exceptional after-school programs. The second grant was awarded to the Grass Valley 4-H Afterschool Child Care Program (ACCP) of California.

4-H Club Read began statewide in 2000 with funding from the Michigan Community Service Commission. AmeriCorps volunteers were placed in counties to address reading and literacy needs in a safe and fun after-school environment for youth in kindergarten through grade three.

Tom Watkins, superintendent of public instruction, Michigan Department of Education, commented at the press conference that "teachers and volunteers are making a difference in the lives of our children."

Other speakers included Terry Langston, Michigan 4-H Foundation executive director; Sheila Urban-Smith, MSU Extension 4-H associate program leader; Dave Taylor, Lapeer County board of commissioners chairman; Patricia Waugh, Lapeer County MSU Extension 4-H agent; Dean Hartman, Johnson and Rickett,

all of which emphasized the importance of 4-H and after-school programs to young people.

The Irwin 4-H Club Read club meets every Monday after school at Irwin Elementary School. The youth rotate to various activity stations where they read, write and play games.

"It's rewarding to work with the children and to watch them grow and learn," Dean Hartman said.

The grant funds dispersed by the Michigan 4-H Foundation will be used to purchase books for the club and for the members to start their own libraries at home; supplies for learning projects such as paper, markers, games and glue; digital and disposable cameras to document club activities; as well as field trips, volunteer training, staffing, and program expansion to other schools or community sites.

"Thirteen other [Michigan] counties and more than 8,300 kids have 4-H Club Read opportunities," Smith said. "Seventy to 80 percent of those involved have shown an increase in their MEAP [Michigan Education Assessment Program] scores."

Irwin 4-H Club Read is supported by the partnerships between MSU Extension's 4-H Youth Development, Irwin Elementary and the J.C. Penney Afterschool program.

"J.C. Penney is a firm believer in after school programs," Smith said. "We know from research that children's success now is very vital to their future."



Lapeer County's Irwin 4-H Club Read received a \$10,000 grant from the J.C. Penney Afterschool Fund. Lapeer County will use the grant for books, supplies, digital and disposable cameras, field trips, volunteer training, staffing and program expansion.

M4-HYCC

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"Michigan has 1,003,947 registered watercraft and 1,000,049 registered boaters—that is 40 percent of Michigan residents," the team reported. "Currently it is estimated that 200,000 gallons of fuel leak into Michigan waterways in a single weekend. The economic impact of travel on Michigan's economy is at \$12.5 billion. The boating industry brings in \$2.5 billion annually and supports 21,000 jobs statewide. The sheer number of boaters on Michigan waterways compels us to educate them about the different types of motors and products they can use to reduce leakage of fuel into the water."

The team's research showed that appropriate laws already exist to help regulate oil spills in Michigan waterways, so they proposed a boater awareness pollu-

tion prevention education program to prevent, reduce or eliminate recreational petroleum spills.

The Michigan 4-H Youth Conservation Council comprises 22 members from across the state. It was formed in 1998 at the request of state Sen. Loren Bennett, the 1998 chairperson of the Senate Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee and with support from Bob Wilson, senate majority policy adviser. The request came as a result of the senator's involvement with delegates to Michigan's 4-H Capitol Experience, the annual 4-H youth citizenship and leadership educational experience in Lansing.

The 2003 M4-HYCC's overall advisers are Andrea Grix, Kettunen Center's program coordinator, and Dean Kiesling, MSU Extension 4-H program leader for environmental education.

Jost retires after 26 years with the foundation

A retirement reception took place in honor of Donald R. Jost, former executive director of the Michigan 4-H Foundation, May 8 at the University Club of East Lansing.

Masters of ceremonies were Victor L. Fulgoni, III, Michigan 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees president, and Cheryl Howell, Michigan 4-H Foundation communications director.

The program focused on Jost's 4-H career, beginning when he was a member of Kent County 4-H to today, with remembrances from Cathy Kennedy, Jost's sister; Martha Brownscombe, former Ingham County MSU Extension staff member; Nathan Jost, Jost's son; Nancy Thelen, Washtenaw County MSU Extension director; and Mike Tate, former state 4-H director and current dean of Extension at Washington State University.

U.S. Sen. Deborah Stabenow sent a video greeting that reflected on when she worked for Jost in the Ingham County MSU Extension office.

"What a wonderful legacy you leave on behalf of the foundation, 4-H and all of the wonderful work that you have done. . . the programs that you have touched and helped create will only grow stronger and flourish; and people will always know that Don Jost touched their lives through his commitment and caring," she said.

Nearly 90 charitable contributions were received in honor of Jost, totaling \$7,833 toward the Michigan 4-H Legacy Fund. The fund supports innovative programming for the future of 4-H.

Individuals wishing to make contributions in Jost's honor had the option to give to the Michigan



Donald R. Jost, former executive director of the foundation, was presented a Detroit Tigers jersey representing his retirement gift to attend the Tiger Fantasy Baseball Camp next February.

4-H Legacy Fund or toward a retirement gift.

Jost, a lifelong baseball fan, was presented a Detroit Tiger baseball jersey as his gift, but the jersey isn't where the gift ends. Thanks to

monetary gifts from friends, family and colleagues, he will wear his number 4 jersey at the Tiger Fantasy Baseball Camp in Lakeland, Fla., next February. The camp is a weeklong, total immersion major

See Jost retires, page 7

“Take A Deep Breath” in the indoor 4-H Children’s Garden

Allison Stoutland, an East Lansing children’s author, has been named the first Norma Guyer Visiting Educator with the Michigan 4-H Children’s Garden.

Stoutland, author of the book *Take A Deep Breath—little lessons from flowers for a happier world*, will work with Norm Lownds, 4-H Children’s Garden curator, to develop an educators’ manual for using *Take A Deep Breath* . . . in the classroom as well as during visits to the outdoor and the new indoor 4-H Children’s Garden.

The indoor 4-H Children’s Garden officially opened May 2 to offer year-round youth horticulture learning opportunities. The new youth-focused indoor garden space is located in the greenhouses of the Michigan State University Plant and Soil Sciences Building.

In addition to short-term exhibits such as the butterfly garden, this garden features a “Take A Deep Breath” theme area modeled after the lessons shared in Stoutland’s popular book.

“We had 130 kids through the new indoor 4-H Children’s Garden as part of the opening activities. They were doing lots of hands-on learning activities, and many of the kids had already created a ‘Take A Deep Breath’ garden that would go back to their school classrooms,” said Lownds, who in addition to being 4-H Children’s Garden curator, is also director of the MSU Horticulture Demonstration Gardens and associate professor of horticulture at MSU.



The indoor 4-H Children’s Garden opened May 2 to offer year-round youth horticulture learning opportunities. The garden features short-term exhibits such as the butterfly garden and the “Take A Deep Breath” theme area, pictured above.

The Norma Guyer Visiting Educator Program was created with memorial gifts given to the Michigan 4-H Foundation and Michigan State University to honor this former MSU first lady at her death.

Educators chosen for this program can develop a learning process, program or materials designed to have a broader impact on and increase access to youth horticulture learning. The program also connects that learning to the Michigan 4-H Children’s Garden and uses technology as part of the design and delivery of the educational experience.

“We define ‘educator’ as anyone who works with kids,” Lownds said. “We’re trying to help that educator to create a vision of what’s possible.

“We’re basically here to support and provide access to resources at MSU they wouldn’t otherwise have access to so they can create neat learning experiences, neat curriculum, neat lessons plans, whether an educator is with us every day for two to three weeks or two hours every week for six months.”

The program is funded through an endowment and currently provides this residency for one person each annual garden season. As the fund grows, the number of educators named each year may also grow. The opportunity is open to any teacher, 4-H staff member, 4-H volunteer, other agency youth development professional or any other youth educators interested in using the 4-H Children’s Garden to enhance and expand literacy, science, math and arts education.

For more information on becoming a visiting educator, contact Norm Lownds at lownds@msu.edu. For information on supporting the Norma Guyer Visiting Educator program, contact the Michigan 4-H Foundation at (517) 353-6692.

Don’t miss the 4-H Children’s Garden’s 10th birthday party!

July 10, 2003

**Michigan 4-H Children’s Garden
Michigan State University**

Join us on Thursday, July 10th for the 4-H Children’s Garden’s 10th birthday. Garden activities for kids and a donor luncheon are just a part of the celebration fun. Look for invitations in the mail soon. Ask about a special recognition for 10-year-olds!



Book Kettunen Center as a way to support 4-H

Many donors to the Michigan 4-H Foundation support the development and maintenance of Kettunen Center so that it continues to be the premier center for Michigan 4-H volunteer training and youth development events.

Donor gifts also defray the costs of 4-H volunteers and youths participating in the events through workshop scholarships and the costs of providing 4-H programming support at the facility, owned and operated by the Michigan 4-H Foundation.

Another good way to support 4-H is by considering Kettunen Center as a site to conduct a multiday retreat, conference, reunion or gathering.

Only about 40 percent of Kettunen Center usage is for 4-H volunteer training and other youth development events. The facility often hosts other organizations when 4-H isn't using it, such as weekdays and during the winter.

This business generally results in Kettunen Center being able to contribute close to \$100,000 annually toward the support of 4-H programs.

Kettunen Center's 160 acres of forest and wetlands bordering Center Lake provide ample outdoor resources to support a variety of group activities. Its residential campus offers complete meal service and features 70 guest rooms with both hotel- and dormitory-style wings that can accommodate two to four people per room.

Conference facilities include 11 meeting rooms that can host groups from 18 to 200, an up-to-date 12-station computer lab with satellite conferencing capabilities, a wide range of audiovisual equipment and conference planning assistance.

Kettunen Center has hosted association conferences, church retreats and large youth conferences conducted by other organizations, and it has been a popular training site for several state agencies.



Another good way to support 4-H is by considering Kettunen Center as a site to conduct a multiday retreat, conference, reunion or gathering.

On-site sports and recreation facilities include four nature hiking trails, a private beach and picnic area, an athletic field for volleyball and softball, a basketball court, lounges and game room. A new fitness room is also available for adult use.

Although 4-H remains the priority, there is room for growth of other non-profit business.

For more information and a pictorial view of the Kettunen Center facilities, visit www.kettunencenter.org. To book a conference or workshop at Kettunen Center, contact Dave Dickinson, operations coordinator, at ddickinson@kettunencenter.org or call (231) 829-3421.

Jost retires

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league baseball camp with dignitary coaches, such as members of the 1984 World Champion Detroit Tigers team and other major league players.

Jost led the Michigan 4-H Foundation as its executive director from 1977 to August 2002, when he took on the role of senior director of program and management services. He officially retired May 1.

Under Jost's leadership, the foundation's assets grew from \$340,000 to \$8.5 million. Programs such as SPACES, the Proud Equestrians Program (PEP, formerly called Horseback Riding for Handicappers or HRH), the

4-H China Project and the Michigan 4-H History Project were supported by his advocacy for 4-H.

Those are only a few examples of what his strong passion for 4-H led to. He was instrumental in the creation of Polish 4-H programs, as well as in the development of the Michigan 4-H Children's Garden, and he led the Vision 2021 Campaign for Kettunen Center.

Jost attributed his success to an "enviable" board of trustees and a nationally recognized 4-H youth development program.

"I am counting on the staff of the next 25 years to carry 4-H and the foundation's work to much more than I got done. It will be fun for me to see those future successes," he said.

VANTAGE

4700 S. Hagadorn Road
Suite 220
East Lansing, MI 48823-5399
(517) 353-6692
FAX: (517) 432-3310
URL: <http://www.mi4hfdtn.org>

Vantage is published three times per year for members of the Michigan 4-H Foundation. The foundation uses funds solicited from individuals and organizations to support 4-H youth development programs and train volunteer 4-H leaders throughout Michigan. The foundation also owns and operates Kettunen Center, the state 4-H leadership training facility in Tustin.

The Michigan 4-H Foundation is licensed to solicit charitable gifts by the state of Michigan (MICS 2751). A report containing percentages of charitable contributions expended on program administration and fundraising is available by request.

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Michigan 4-H Foundation

4700 South Hagadorn Road, Suite 220
East Lansing, MI 48823-5399

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In the News

Foundation trustee emeritus named "Banker of the Year"

Alan W. Ott, of Midland, Michigan 4-H Foundation trustee emeritus, was named "Banker of the Year" by the Michigan Banker's Association on May 8. Ott was a foundation board member from 1988 to 2000.

Extension professionals focus national attention on out-of-school time

Michigan 4-H Youth Development hosted approximately 170 people from nine states at the national "Hours of Opportunity" conference March 26–28 in East Lansing with the cooperative Ex-

tension programs of Ohio State University and Pennsylvania State University. The two-day conference, which involved many other youth-serving organizations as partners, explored ways to make positive differences for young people when they are not in school. The conference showcased new skills, ideas, resources and potential partnerships to help develop effective out-of-school time programs for youth. Participants learned about best practices to ensure positive youth development and school success, ways to build community capacity for delivering youth-focused programming, ways to influence public policy and advocacy and current youth development research and evaluation techniques.

4-H scholarships awarded

Three Michigan 4-H'ers received Michigan 4-H Foundation scholarships for 2003–04.

The Lowell and Carol Spike Memorial 4-H Scholarship has been awarded to Jacklyn Martin. This endowment provides a \$1,000 college scholarship each year to an outstanding Washtenaw County 4-H member. The children of Lowell and Carol Spike created this fund in memory of their parents.

Fall 2003 Michigan State University scholarships of \$900 each have been awarded to 4-H members Richard Taylor of St. Clair County and Amanda Kutchev of Macomb County. Funding is provided by the Edward Miller Memorial 4-H Scholarship Fund and gifts by other donors.