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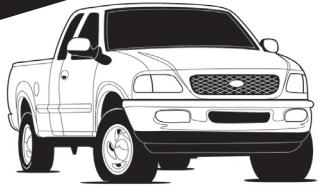
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(References)

## WORD SEARCH! SPORTS

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S	A	Q	T	B	J	C	A	I	W
B	A	S	E	B	A	L	L	V	O
R	D	P	K	K	E	W	L	F	D
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D	D	R	B	A	T	M	N	X	C
K	L	T	A	G	G	B	B	G	U
E	E	S	L	O	C	Z	A	0	0
J	I	F	L	Y	I	P	H	L	T
M	F	F	O	O	T	B	A	L	L

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## Grandpa's Spuds' 4-H members learn about Native Americans

by Russ (Grandpa) Stressman

This year, Grandpa's Spuds have learned a lot about Native American history. Each child picked a different United States tribe and looked into their tribe's heritage. They were surprised to find out that not all Native Americans were alike. They each had to sew a costume of what their tribe wore, make a model of the home they lived in, build a model of the transportation they used, and they also discovered what games they played. This year, besides their regular planting of food, the 4-H members planted like the Indians used to. First, they all went fishing; second, they buried the fish; and then they planted the seeds on top. This "mount planting" with the fish as fertilizer has shown great results.

Grandpa's Spuds have participated in the Christmas tree decorating at Englewood Farms every year since the event started. This year, the group won honorable mention with their edible decorations for animals.

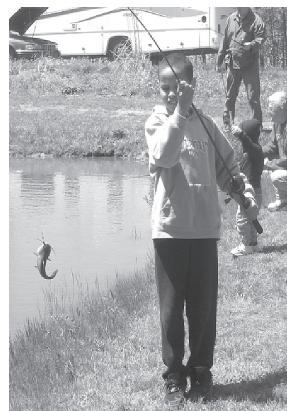
Grandpa's Spuds has nine active members this year: Elisia Oleen, age 13; Dalton Hall, age 11; Sara Pratt, age 11; Cameron Oleen, age 10; Shelby Thurston, age 10; Kenton



**Corey Oleen** tapping trees for sap.

Rhoades, age 10; Syndel Stressman, age 9; Corey Oleen, age 9; and Jordyn Stromberg, age 8. Up and coming spuds in training are Gabriel Hall, age 2; and Grace Oleen, age 2. Their leaders are Heidi Tice and Russ (Grandpa) Stressman.

The kids would like to thank all their parents for transporting and supporting them this year, with special thanks to Joy Oleen and Pat (Grandma) Stressman for their extra help at the meetings. •



**Cameron Oleen** and his fish.



**Elisia Oleen and Gabriel Hall**, stringing decorations for their tree at Englewood farms.



**Sara Pratt** fishing.



**Keaton Rhoades** fishing.

## Tip Top Riders 4-H members had a busy year

by Shelby Navarre

Fair seems to be coming up quickly for all of us in the Tip Top Riders 4H Club. No matter how hard we work and how prepared we truly are, it always seems to sneak up on us. I know that we are ready, though. We've been meeting every Thursday evening since last September to learn about horses. In 4H it's important to learn not only how to ride and handle your horse, but also how to care for it. In the fall, we begin with basic safety around a horse, grooming, and handling. When the weather gets cold and snowy, we head into our 4H leader's house and learn a lot of the academics behind horse care through group discussions and games that throw some friendly competition into the mix. Just a few of the many topics we cover include feed requirements, parts of the horse, and different pieces of tack. When spring finally rolls around and the snow melts, we begin bringing our own horses to our leader's home. There we learn how to show our horses both under saddle and in hand.

The horses in our group are very diverse in both breed and personality, and each horse poses its own unique set of both talents and challenges. We have horses ranging all the way from minis to drafts. The kids in the group are just as diverse as the horses in age and experience. Some own their own horses, while others lease other people's horses. We even have some members who don't show a horse at the fair, but they learn about horses all year long in 4H and help us out during fair. Our club consists of 14 members. Our returning members include Erica Adams, Marissa Aney, Savanna Santos, Haley Reineke, Taylor Brown, Deb Navarre, Shelby



**Taylor Brown** and her 4H project, "Momma," belong to the Tip Top Riders 4H club.

Navarre, and Katelyn Stevens. Our newcomers are Mikayla Aney, Cassidy Carr, and Clara Carr. One unique thing about our group is that we even have members as far away as New Era that show with us. Those members are Ashley Fekken and Tristen and Josh Moore. We are lucky enough to be led by not one, but two great leaders, Alicia Hard and Sonja Bignell. Cindy Rhine has also been helping us a great deal.

We will be very busy these next couple days with packing trailers, cleaning tack and brushes, clipping and bathing horses, polishing boots, and shaping hats so that we are show ready. See you at the fair! •



**Nathan Kriger** got his second turkey in as many years from his grandpa's farm in Nunica. His turkey had an 11 inch beard and weighed 20 pounds with a 7/8 inch spur. (Photo by Sandy Kriger)



**Last year's sack race winner** was 4-H Leader, Annel Olthof, and MSU Extension official, Frank Cox, came in second. Rumor has it that Frank has been practicing and doesn't plan on getting beat by Annel two years in a row. We're betting on Annel. The race takes place Wednesday, July 22 at 3:30 p.m.