Macomb County 4-H E-mail Announcements for February 2, 2011

COUNTY NEWS

Beef Tagging

IMPORTANT: Beef tagging is from noon-2 p.m. on **Sunday, February 6th** at the Armada Fairgrounds in Armada. You MUST have your animal tagged to show it at the 2011 Armada Fair.

4-H Livestock Judging Clinic

A 4-H Livestock Judging Clinic will be held at the VerKuilen Building, 21885 Dunham Road, Clinton Township, MI from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 5th. The key objective of this clinic is to develop a cadre of adults interested in developing their skills to eventually serve as judges at 4-H livestock shows around the state. The information presented will also be helpful to leaders, members, parents and 4-H and fair superintendents who what to increase their knowledge and improve their skills.

Sessions for all participants include:
1) The Judge as a Professional – Participants learn about judging etiquette and expectations in the show ring, the dos and don'ts of judging, and what makes 4-H judging unique. Applicable to all species.

2) Role of the Superintendent – Learn the critical role the superintendents play, the job requirements, how they interface with the judge and how parents can support them. This session will improve communication between livestock boards, leaders, species superintendents, parents and fair board members so all fair volunteers know each others' roles.

Plus, participants will choose either of these sessions:
1) How to Judge a 4-H Showmanship Class

2) How to Judge a 4-H Market Class.

Cost is $10 for Macomb County 4-H'ers, and $15 for out of county participants. Register by February 25, 2011. For more information, contact Kathy Jamieson at jamies13@anr.msu.edu . A registration brochure is online at http://macombcountymi.gov/msuextension/livestock.html. Make checks payable to MSU Extension and mail them to MSU Extension, Attn: Sue Stapleton, 1200 North Telegraph Rd., Pontiac, MI 48341.

4-H Fair Theme

The votes were tabulated and we have a winner! Our 2011 fair theme is:

Experience the Magic of 4-H

The theme was submitted by Ashley Cerku of Midnight Riders. Congratulations on winning $20. Now that was easy money!

*** Become a 4-H Youth Conservation Council Member***

The Macomb 4-H YCC is an environmental leadership opportunity for teens aged 13 to 19 that includes:

- A learning experience working with conservation decision-makers in local government.
- The chance to improve presentation and public speaking skills.
- Time spent researching and presenting conservation issues to local legislative committees.

- The opportunity to organize and/or participate in environmental community service projects.
- The chance to be formally recognized as a youth leader in conservation.
- Networking opportunities with teens, agency professionals and government officials through meetings, training sessions, and civic participation.
- The chance to gather valuable information on career opportunities.

For more information contact MSU Extension: Mary Gerstenberger --- 586-469-6085, or gerste10@msu.edu

It's a Leaderlicious Evening ~ combined with ~ Resource Pick Up

On the evening of Thursday, **February 10,** beginning at 6:30p.m., we will be gathering to make a wintery warming gift for that special leader in your club (or another club!)

- Bring a clean mason jar
- The rest is FREE!

Since it is a surprise, no other information can be shared. Please RSVP your place by contacting Alayne Waterstraat at the MSU Extension office: 586-469-7610 or email: alayne.waterstraat@macombcountymi.gov

Also on Thursday evening, we will have a *Resource Pick Up and Donate* event.
We are pulling out ALL the resource materials available for YOU and YOUR CLUB. You'll find great pamphlets, printables and books. Let your club look them over to generate new ideas. Get 'em while you can. Donations accepted.

Let's Get Growing: Gardening with Kids

This training, taught by Master Gardeners, will be offered to adults and youth 16 years or older who want to garden with 5-14 year olds. Topics covered include plants, plant parts and their uses, insects and diseases, soil and water, and tips for organizing and administering youth gardening programs. Participants will be provided with a selection of gardening curricula, lots of hands on, age-specific lessons, arts and craft ideas, a chance to network with established Junior Master Gardener and school garden programs, and much more. Let's Get Growing will take place at the Macomb County MSU Extension office from 6-9:30 p.m. on four Thursdays evenings between February 24 and March 17. There is a fee of $50 to cover the cost of handouts and curriculum. Teachers are eligible for 1.4 SB-CEU's and Master Gardeners can earn 14 educational hours. . Register with Roberta at 469-6431. For more information ask for Anne Crotser or send e-mail inquiries to anne.crotser@macombcountymi.gov. Registration ends February 17.

Outdoor Ed & Rec Committee Meeting

If your club is interested in doing shooting sports as a shared project please attend the following meeting to learn what is happening in shooting sports.

The Outdoor Ed & Rec Committee Meeting will be held from 6-7:30 p.m. on Feb. 21 at Huron Pointe Sportsmen Association. For more information please call Leroy at 586-255-0505.

****Horse Meetings***

The Macomb County 4-H Mini/Draft Subcommittee meeting will be held at Camp Rotary on Monday, Feb. 28th at 6 p.m. The Horse Committee meeting will follow at 7 p.m. Come learn and share ideas about the upcoming show season. All horse people are invited and encouraged to attend.

STATE NEWS

Grandparents University

Grandparents University, a unique intergenerational summer camp, scheduled for June 28 through June 30, 2011, on the campus of Michigan State University, appears to have been a holiday gift sensation as more than 800 on-line registrations were received during December. Another 200-plus spots are still available for the 2011 session. Online registration for grandparents and grandchildren will remain open until March 1, or until all available spaces have been sold. Visit www.grandparents.msu.edu for event details and links to photos, class descriptions and registration.

A three-day educational experience on the MSU campus, Grandparents University is an opportunity for grandparents (or other adults) and grandchildren (ages 8-12) to spend time together while enjoying the college experiences of living in a dorm, attending classes across campus and sampling the many highlights of MSU. They attend programs together, customizing their experience by selecting classes that fit their family interests. Participants share hands-on learning activities led by world-class MSU faculty and staff members, and create lasting memories in a fun, educational environment.

4-H Mark of Excellence Award

4-H members ages 11 and 12 may participate in this 4-H essay contest. 4-H members will have the opportunity to share their 4-H experiences with other 4-H youth in their county and across the state. Interested 4-H'ers will write an essay focusing on the theme **"Because of 4-H, I Can…".** Each county may select up to two representatives to be recognized during the State Awards Celebration at MSU in June during 4-H Exploration Days. Although participation in 4-H Exploration Days is not required, it is strongly encouraged. Essays will be due to the county office **March 1st.** For more information, go to the following website: http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/staward.html .

4-Her's Encouraged to Apply for State Awards

The Michigan State 4-H Awards Program is an opportunity for members 4-H age 13 to 19 years with three or more year of experience in 4-H, to meet new friends, gain leadership skills, increase their interviewing skills, improve their writing skills, and compete for recognition in more than 30 different project areas.

Program participants must submit completed individual or group awards application forms to their county office by **March 1st.** The applications are evaluated on the county level and submitted for regional competition. Regional winners are selected by early April. Regional winners can compete for state-level honors in one project area.

State winners are selected during the 4-H Awards Assembly, held at MSU during Exploration Days in June. Selection is based on the awards application and an interview. Winners are announced at the 4-H Awards Celebration, which is held on Thursday night of 4-H Exploration Days. For more information visit the State Awards website at http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/staward.html.

*** Capitol Experience ***

Capitol Experience is a 4-day "State Government Camp" that focuses on leadership, civic engagement and public policy held in Lansing March 20-23. To learn more about this extraordinary event from a former youth participant's point of view, check out comments by Marquette County's Gentian Waller at
http://www.upriders.com/Archives/2010/03/CapitolExperience.htm

The cost for 2011 Capitol Experience is $295 for 4-H members and $305 for non-4-H members. The event is open to high school age youth and adult participant chaperones. 4-H Council scholarships covering up to 50% are available to eligible members. Applications, which are due to the county 4-H Office by February 4, 2011 are now online at

http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/capexp.html. Contact Anne Crotser at 586-469-6431 or anne.crotser@macombcountymi.gov for more information.

*** Polish Exchange Program***

Host families with teens are needed for about 20 youth, ages 15-17 and two adult chaperons from Poland who will be in Michigan for 4 weeks from mid-June to mid-July. This is a wonderful opportunity to make a life-long international friend, learn about Polish culture, and share American culture. Hosts can choose to visit Poland on a return exchange in 2012. The deadline for applying to host is April 1, 2011. For more information and an application, contact Anne Crotser at 586-469-6431 or anne.crotser@macombcountymi.gov. For more information about all of the international opportunities 4-H officers, visit the following web site: http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/culture.html.

American Youth Horse Council Leader's Symposium

Just a reminder! Michigan will be hosting the American Youth Horse Council Leader's Symposium, March 11-13, 2011. A wide variety of excellent speakers from across t he country will be in attendance, with tracks for youth, adults and industry professionals. We'll have an excellent tour which will include the Michigan Horse Council Stallion Expo, and you can still make time to attend the Expo to shop on Sunday afternoon.

The early bird deadline is Feb. 11th, so go to; http://www.ayhc.com/symposium.htm and sign up now! Let's show the country how great Michigan is!!!

***Experience Camp Kidwell ***

Below is information from 4-H Camp Kidwell Director KJ Kelly. All 4-H members are eligible to receive 17% off the cost of camp by registering online with the 4-H discount code - STATE4H2011. Camp Kidwell is in Bloomingdale, MI, and is open to kids ages 4-16. They do not have to be 4-H members to attend.

Go online to http://www.msue.msu.edu/objects/content_revision/download.cfm/item_id.596157/workspace_id.-30/2011%20Camp%20registration%20info.pdf/ for more information on camp sessions. There are also special discounts for military families. Please contact KJ directly at 269-521-3559 or campkidwell@btc-bci.com for discount information.

The 2011 camping season is right around the corner! The 2011 summer schedule is now available and you can register anytime. Camp Kidwell has also opened job applications! Please visit our website, www.campkidwell.org, and check out all of the great sessions.

Exciting new options for 2011
--Payment plan option - Set up your account to make monthly payment
--Scholarship and discount program for Military families - Any family with military parents/guardians may be eligible for scholarship funding or a 25% discount. If you are an active duty family or know someone, please contact our office to get your discount code!
-- Rewards for registering - When you register you will receive a t-shirt, photo and $5 in Camp Store coupons.

Don't forget you can register simply and quickly with the online registration program. Follow the prompts from our website to make that happen.

***Upcoming Workshops ***

Information packets for 4-H workshops are usually available at the county Extension office approximately four weeks before the workshops begin. Most workshops are held at Kettunen Center in Tustin, MI. For more information about the following workshops or to register, contact

the Macomb County MSU Extension 4-H office at 586-469-6431 or Macomb.4h@macombcountymi.gov.

4-H Beef, Sheep & Swine Teen & Adult Volunteer Workshop
February 26–27, 2011 – Kettunen Center
If you're interested in 4-H beef cattle, sheep or swine projects, this workshop is for you. You'll learn about animal health, management, care and nutrition. In addition, you can sharpen your livestock judging and evaluation skills. By sharing ideas and interacting with others, you'll find ways to improve your county 4-H livestock program. The workshop will also offer ways to enhance your communications and teaching skills, and learn about the many opportunities available for those interested in the beef, sheep and swine industries. Open to adult and teen volunteers aged 13 and up. This workshop is presented with support from the Michigan Pork Producers Association.

4-H Recreation Leadership & Camp Counselor Workshop
March 4–6, 2011 – Kettunen Center
Develop your own "bag of tricks" for leading and supporting group activities, building teams, conducting 10-minute energizers and more. You'll learn how to take charge and make things happen in a club, group or camp setting while having a great time. Recreational leadership is about creating an environment that allows young people and adults to learn, grow and enjoy themselves. Open to teen members and leaders aged 13 and up and to adult volunteers who are interested in adding some pizzazz to their 4-H activities.

4-H Science Workshop
March 12–13, 2011 – Kettunen Center
This workshop focuses on new and exciting areas of science, engineering and technology! Teen and adult volunteers ages 13 and up are encouraged to come and learn about alternative energy, engineering, environmental sciences, and digital photography and film making. Hands on sessions for beginners and more advanced will include: robotics, rocket launching, wind power, making biofuel, digital photography, film making, making catapults, water quality, climate change and more! This workshop is presented with support from The W. A. Dart Foundation.

4-H Environmental & Outdoor Education, Plant Science & Entomology Workshop
March 18–20, 2011 – Kettunen Center
This is a hands-on opportunity to learn about many environmental and outdoor education, horticulture and entomology projects through fun lessons and activities. Gain ideas, project resources and activities to help kids get outside and have fun outdoors. Sessions will feature wildlife, natural resources, plant science, entomology, outdoor adventure challenge recreation and leadership, water testing, fisheries, energy, GPS techniques and more. Learn about science applications and career exploration related to these subjects and how to use the information with 4-H clubs or classrooms. Open to adults and teens aged 13 and up. This workshop is presented with support from The Michigan Electric Cooperative Association.

4-H Healthy Living
April 1–3, 2011 – Kettunen Center
This workshop is the first workshop in TEN years offering unique training on how to eat and live healthy. In this workshop you will gain invaluable experiences when working with youth and also personal growth in the area of healthy living. You will learn how to be health conscience and teach youth how to also do the same. Are you ready to challenge yourself, be educated and have fun all in the name of healthy living? Sign up today for this great workshop. During this workshop, please plan on bringing workout clothes, shoes and loose fitting garments.

Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference
April 15–17, 2011 – Camp Beechpoint, Allegan, Michigan
If you'd like to know more about the dairy industry, sign up to attend this conference. You'll learn about dairy management topics including dairy cattle nutrition, health, reproduction and cattle

evaluation. Practice for state dairy management contests such as the skillathon and quiz bowls that will focus on dairy cattle reproduction. You'll also tour area farms. Open to youth aged 12 to 19 as of January 1, 2011. This workshop is presented with support from the American Dairy Association of Michigan, Country Fresh, Inc.and the Michigan Milk Producers Association.

4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Workshop
April 29–May 1, 2011 – Kettunen Center
Choose one of several disciplines offered at this workshop as a first step in becoming certified as a Michigan 4-H shooting sports instructor. Disciplines offered include rifle, shotgun, archery, hunting and wildlife. Join us and see all that the 4-H shooting sports program has to offer! Learn how we foster positive youth development through the shooting sports, and try techniques that effectively help young people learn safe and proper use of guns and archery equipment. You do NOT need to retake the training unless you've been inactive for more than 3 years or your certification has lapsed. Open to new and veteran adult volunteers and youth aged 16 and up. This workshop is presented with support from the Hal and Jean Glassen Memorial Foundation.

NATIONAL NEWS

CALENDAR

*** Calendar of Events ***
For additional information about events listed above and more, visit the Macomb County MSU Extension 4-H Calendar online at
http://www.macombcountymi.gov/msuextension/events/index.htm.

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