

E-mail Announcements for November 25, 2009

COUNTY NEWS

*****Club Officer Training*****

Club Officer Training will take place on Tuesday, December 1st, 6-8:30 p.m. at the Extension Office. Dinner will be provided. The following breakout sessions will follow a short general session: (1) Presidents, Vice Presidents, and Sgts.-at-Arms; (2) Secretaries/Clerks; (3) Treasurers and their adult helpers; (4) Historians and Reporters. **Please have one person RSVP (469-6431) for the whole club by MONDAY, NOV 30. We need to know the names and sessions of each attendee.**

*****Got Friends???**

No county award nominations in the category of Friends of 4-H were received this year. We know there are many worthy supporters of our program who should be recognized at the January County Awards Banquet. Consequently, the 4-H staff has decided to extend the deadline for this category and will be accepting nominations through December 11th.

The Friend of 4-H Award recognizes individuals and organizations, who are not 4-H members, but who have demonstrated a commitment to 4-H by making contributions to a club or the county 4-H program on a recurring basis. This contribution may consist of use of facilities, donation of materials or services or direct financial support. "Friends" may be nominated annually for this award. The completed application, which should include the number of years this individual/group has partnered with 4-H and how the Macomb County 4-H Program has benefited from their involvement.

*****4-H Impact Survey*****

We would like to get your feedback on how 4-H has impacted both youth and adults. The survey should take no more than 5 minutes to complete. Your input will help evaluate our County's 4-H Youth Program. We will be sharing the results of the survey with various stakeholders to include Macomb County Board of Commissioners, Michigan State 4-H Office, our 4-H Council and families. We would appreciate if you complete the survey by Monday, December 14. To access the survey go to the following link:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=x_2fp_2fAFWSwD1Rsn3jVhQZzQ_3d_3d

Thank you so much for your input.

***** Go Green for the Holidays with MSU Extension *****

Want to incorporate green living ideas into your holiday celebrations? Learn how to be environmentally friendly, save time and money, and reduce your stress this holiday season by attending the MSU Extension program, "Go Green for the Holidays with MSU Extension". The program is being held at the MSUE Offices in the VerKuilen Building, 21885 Dunham Rd., Clinton Township, 48036 on Wednesday, December 9th, from 6:30 – 8:00pm. The program is geared to adults and youth or for family participation. We will be talking about gifts and activities for the holidays, 4-H youth will help us with an environmental craft, and we will be learning about healthy food choices for the holidays. Please RSVP by December 7th to the MSUE office, 586-469-6430 or email Mary at gerste10@msu.edu.

***** JCPenney Afterschool Round-Up*******

When you shop at the ROSEVILLE JCPenney store on Gratiot between December 4-13 and round up your purchase to the next whole dollar, the JCPenney Afterschool Fund will donate the difference to the Macomb county **4-H Youth Development Programs**. This is a great opportunity for all of us to support our local 4-H programs by "rounding up" our purchases! Spread the word to your family and friends!

*****Investing in Communities Presentation*****

Dr. Laura A. Reese, Michigan State University and Gary Sands, Development Research Associates will be coming to Macomb County on December 10 at 12 pm to present her research on community investments and development in order to create local economies that are sustainable in the long run. Michigan communities

typically pursue traditional economic development strategies involving tax abatements, infrastructure investment, and other particularized incentives for businesses. The benefits of such approaches have gone most directly to private interests; communities have enjoyed benefits as a secondary effect. Through her research on urban areas, Dr. Reese concludes that achieving long run gains in sustainability and quality of life requires a holistic approach to community development. In her presentation on December 10th, Dr. Reese will describe development strategies and investments in communities that have experienced economic growth to highlight activities most likely to promote community health and sustainability. The presentation will take place on 9th floor conference room in the New County Building at One South Main Street. RSVP required by December 7 by calling 586-469-5180.

*****New Volunteer Orientations*****

All adults who are interested in becoming a screened 4-H volunteer, must attend a new volunteer orientation. Orientations are held at the VerKuilen Building -21885 Dunham, Clinton Township 48036 and have been scheduled for the following dates and times:

Monday, December 21, 3-6 pm (Young adults who have aged out of 4-H are encouraged to attend)

Wednesday, January 20, 6-9 pm

Tuesday, February 9, 6-9 pm

Please RVSP by calling Vickie at 586-469-6431.

*****Armada Fair Survey*****

Your input is important to us. Please take a few minutes before **Monday, November 30** to answer a few questions about your experience at last year's fair, vote on next year's 4-H fair theme, and provide suggestions for improvement. In addition, the Armada Fair will be opening a day early on Monday August 16 and we would like your thoughts on when craft judging should take place. To access the survey go to the following link:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=CER18ZMQav06c9uoOXk4Zg_3d_3d

***** 4-H Cultural Diversity Life Skills Training*****

Please join us on Tuesday, December 22 from 6:30-8:30 pm at the 4-H office to learn about cultural diversity. We are asking participants to bring a dish to share that represents your culture or family tradition. Please RSVP to Rachel at 586-783-8163 by Friday, December 18.

*****African Shoe Project*****

The Ambassador Club would like to invite members and clubs to participate in a new community service activity to be held on December 3rd from 6:30-8:00 at the VerKuilen Building in Assembly Rooms A and B. Participants will be painting canvas sneakers for children in Africa. If you would like to participate or donate shoes for this worthwhile project, please contact Karen Hakim at 586-469-6431.

***** Volunteer Intern Training*****

Kathy Jamieson will be offering a training targeting young adults who have recently aged out of 4-H (i.e., 19-22) who are interested in staying connected to the County 4-H Program. This training will take place on Monday, December 21st, from 3-6 p.m. at MSUE. Please RSVP to Vickie at 469-6431 or Veronica.hart@macombcountymi.gov. If you can't come to this event, but want to be included in future events/information of interest to former 4-H youth, also let Vickie know.

***** Training Survey Results*****

Thank you to all clubs that returned our training interest survey in September. The curriculum you requested has arrived and will be in your hands soon. Due to budget and staffing cuts in 2010 the 4-H Office's ability to offer training is limited. However, funding is available to any club or group that wants to organize a countywide training in one of the topics listed below (ones that got the most positive results in the survey). From highest interest, the top 11 topics were: (1) Photography; (2) Vet Science; (3 tie) Woodworking; Art for K-8, Teamwork; (6 tie) Dogs; Visual Arts for 7-12gr; (8 tie) Sewing, Goal Setting; (10 tie) Foods; and Leadership. Contact Anne at the 4-H office for more information.

STATE WIDE NEWS

***** Special MSU Basketball Event: 4-H Day with the MSU Women's Basketball Team *****

On Sunday, January 9, 2010 at 2:00 p.m., MSU Extension 4-H Youth and their families are invited to join thousands of 4-H'ers from across the state at MSU's Breslin Center to cheer on the MSU Women's Basketball Team as they take on Ohio. This event celebrates 4-H volunteers and youth, and this year, we'll focus on Michigan 4-H Nutrition, Health and Well-Being programs. There will be activities and displays to help Michigan residents make smart food choices, learn about nutrition and apply what they learn, manage their food budget, manage chronic disease, prevent disease and improve their overall physical, mental and social well-being. For more information, visit the website <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/4h/member/cool.html>

NOTE: We will not be able to provide transportation this year, even though the website mentions that we might. Parking is \$5.00.

Ticket price: FREE for CYFC/4-H youth, their families, 4-H volunteers and MSU Extension staff and their families!

Time: Game starts at 2 p.m. The gates open at 12:30 p.m. for the general public .However, Gate D will be open at 12 p.m. for our group. This is the only gate open this early and it is also the gate you need to enter if you are picking up tickets from the 4-H Registration Table. (Do not go to the Breslin Center "will call" entrance.)

Show your MSUE/4-H pride by wearing your green or white 4-H or MSUE apparel.

Let your 4-H leader know you (and how many of your family members) want to attend, or contact Roberta at the county Extension office. You can call her at 586-469-6431 or email Roberta.Busquaert@macombcountymi.gov.

***** Poultry Workshop Postponed until 2010 *****

The 4-H Poultry Teen & Adult Leader Workshop scheduled for March 6-7, 2010 has been postponed until October 30-31, 2010. More information will be coming as the workshop date gets closer.

***** 4-H Teen Citizenship, Leadership & Service Conference *****

January 23-24, 2010, Kettunen Center, Tustin, MI

This exciting conference has teens from across the state converging on Kettunen Center to learn leadership and civic engagement skills to use to make a difference in their communities. The conference is open to teens 14 years old and up and adults. It has sessions for both the 4-H and non-4-H member. There are several tracks to choose from and the announcement, available in the fall, will have complete descriptions of each track. Teens and adults sign up for a track to attend throughout the weekend when they register. Cost is \$52 per person. Register with the Macomb County MSU Extension office by 5 p.m. on January 8, 2010. Call 586-469-6431 for more information.

***** Take Me Fishing Family Fun Day*****

Saturday, January 30, 2010, Kettunen Center, Tustin, MI 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Learn all about the lake environment through the ice! We'll be ice fishing with local experts, identifying local fishes, performing water tests, and examining the quality of plant and animal life of Center Lake in winter. Other sessions will include fly tying with a professional river fishing guide, a presentation on salmon fishing, casting instruction, snow science and creating fish prints on a t-shirt you bring or a tote bag you can purchase here for \$3.00.

All instruction, equipment, bait and a hot buffet lunch are included in the \$6.50 per person cost. The day is designed for school-age children and their parents. Call the Kettunen Center at (231) 829-3421 or email kross@kettunencenter.org. Preregistration is required by January 26th.

*****AMBASSADOR CLUB MAKES PILLOW CASES FOR CHILDREN IN HOSPITALS**

All 4-H youth are invited to attend the next Ambassador Club meeting that is scheduled for Thursday, January 13, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. in assembly rooms A & B at the Verkuilen building. At the meeting you will learn how to make pillow cases that will then be donated to a local hospital for sick children. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Susan Wilkinson at slwik2003@yahoo.com or call (586) 786-2177 so we can purchase an adequate amount of material for the project.



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