



Macomb County 4-H E-mail Announcements for February 15, 2011

COUNTY NEWS

*****4-H Livestock Judging Clinic-Register by Feb 25th*****

A 4-H Livestock Judging Clinic will be held at the VerKuijen Building, 21885 Dunham Road, Clinton Township, MI from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 5th. This clinic will help develop the skills of individuals who may be interested in serving as future livestock judges. The information presented will also be helpful to leaders, members, parents, and 4-H and Fair Superintendents. The morning will cover two sessions for all: "The Judge as a Professional" and "Role of Superintendent". The afternoon presentations will be specie specific and cover "Judging a 4-H Showmanship Class" and "Judging a 4-H Market Class". Experienced judges, breeders and MSU Extension Specialists will be conducting the presentations on cattle, dairy, swine, goats, sheep, poultry and rabbits. Cost of the clinic is \$10 per person for Macomb County 4-H adults and youth.

Deadline to register is February 25. 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!

*****Fair Planning Meeting*****

All club leaders, 4-H Superintendents, and Fair Superintendents please plan on attending a meeting on March 21 at the 4-H MSUE office to help prepare and plan for another successful fair.

Dinner will be served at 6 p.m. for those who RSVP to the 4-H office (586-469-6431) by Thursday, March 17th. This is a wonderful opportunity to work together as a team to discuss roles and responsibilities, review policies and procedures, receive fair updates, and implement new ideas and suggestions. Look forward to seeing you there.

*****Bill Hahn Memorial Scholarship*****

The Armada Agricultural Society is once again offering two college scholarships to one male and one female high school student graduating in 2011. An application can be found on-line at armadafair.org or by calling the Armada Fair office at 586.784.5488. Applications are due no later than April 15th. Feel free to contact the fair office if you have questions or require additional information at 586.784.5488.

*****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. LGG will take place at MSUE on four Thursdays evenings between February 24 and March 17 from 6:00pm.-9:30pm. 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 or e-mail anne.crotser@macombcountymi.gov. Registration ends February 17.

*****Ray's Riding Rascal's 31st Annual 4-H Tack Sale *****

The Ray's Riding Rascals 4-H Club will be holding their 31st annual horse tack sale from 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. on March 5, 2011. The sale will be held at the Berville Lions Field Hall, 13651 Hough Road, Allenton, MI 48002. New and used clothes will be available. The event is open to the public. Admission is \$3 per person. Children ages 12 and under are free. Cash or check payments only.

Consignment check-in is Friday, March 4th from 6-8 p.m. or Saturday, March 5th from 8-9 a.m. Consignment fees are \$2/page (15 items). Please call mid-February if you plan on consigning more than 60 items. Ray's Riding Rascals receives 10% commission on sold items only. Sellers will receive a donation receipt for the 10% commission amount the

same day. Consignment check out is from 4-5 p.m. on Saturday, March 5th. Unclaimed items become the property of Ray's Riding Rascals.

For more information, call Sheryl at 810-874-9921 after 8 p.m., check us out on Facebook, or go online to www.raysridingrascals4h.webs.com.

*****Volunteer Training Dates*****

Reminder all Direct Volunteers must be screened!

The next Volunteer Training dates scheduled are:

March 15, 2011 @ MSUE office

April 7, 2011 (Location to be determined)

Volunteer training occurs from 6:00 pm--8:30 pm.

Please call Vickie Hart at the 4-H office at 586-469-6090 to register.

STATE NEWS

*****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>.

***** 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>.

*****4-H Recreational Leadership Workshop*****

March 4-6, 2011 -- Kettunen Center, Tustin, MI

This workshop is for individuals who plan on being summer camp counselors, assist with or direct summer camp programming in their community, or who would like to learn more about recreational leadership. 4-H Recreational Leadership skills can be used in a variety of settings, including clubs, special events, short term programs, meetings and camps. Enjoy fun, hands-on activities that you can take back and share locally. Sessions will feature outdoor cooking, career options in recreational leadership, noodles, noodles and more noodles, risk management, campfire magic, arts and crafts, injecting fun into your event, large group games, being a camp counselor- what does that really mean and loaded with fun (recreational backpacks). Each participant leave with a backpack full of ideas and new skills on being a recreational leader! Guest instructor from Ohio State University will be on hand to share programming and activity ideas with participants.

The workshop is open to adult and teen volunteers ages 13 and older - members and non-members , and MSUE staff, youth educators and adults who work with youth in a variety of settings. The cost: \$66.50 for 4-H members and volunteers and MSU staff. To request a workshop information packet or to register, contact Roberta at 586-469-6431 or Macomb.4h@macombcountymi.gov . Hurry! The registration deadline is 2/18/11!

*****4-H Science Workshop*****

March 12–13, 2011 – Kettunen Center, Tustin, MI

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! The cost for this workshop is \$56. Registration forms and payments are due at the county Extension office by 5 p.m. on March 1, 2011. Make checks payable to MSU Extension. A \$56 scholarship is available to the first 50 people to register. This workshop is presented with support from The W. A. Dart Foundation. Call Roberta at 586-469-6431 or e-mail Macomb.4h@macombcountymi.gov for more information.

*****4-H Environmental & Outdoor Education, Plant Science & Entomology Workshop *****

March 18–20, 2011 – Kettunen Center, Tustin, MI

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. The cost is \$75. Registrations will be accepted at the county Extension office until 5 p.m. on March 4, 2011. Make checks out to MSU Extension. Contact Roberta at 586-469-6431 or Macomb.4h@macombcountymi.gov for more information.

*****4-H Exploration Days*****

Enrollment for 4-H Exploration Days will begin at 9 a.m. on March 22 and run through 5 p.m. on April 29, 2011. This popular annual youth conference will take place June 22-24, 2011 at Michigan State University in East Lansing. We expect registration books to be available online by March 1st. The full-time cost for 4-H members is \$165. Non 4-H members pay an additional \$10 participation fee. Partial scholarships will be available. Registrations received early will be kept and entered in the order they are received. Sessions fill quickly, so don't delay. Last year, a record number of sessions filled on the first day of registration. For more information about 4-H Exploration Days, contact Roberta at 586-469-6431 or Macomb.4h@macombcountymi.gov, or go online to <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/4h/expodays.html>.

*****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. The cost is \$90.00. This workshop is presented with support from the American Dairy Association of Michigan, Country Fresh, Inc. and the Michigan Milk Producers Association. Contact the Macomb County MSU Extension 4-H office at 586-469-6431 or Macomb.4h@macombcountymi.gov for more information or to register.

*****4-H Healthy Living = Healthy U*****

April 8-10, 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? Please plan on bringing workout clothes, shoes and loose fitting garments. This conference is open to teens, 4-H members and non-members, aged 15 (by January 1, 2011) and older, and 4-H volunteers, educators and adults who work with youth in a variety of educational settings. The cost is \$71.50 per participant. Register at the county Extension office by March 25, 2011. For more information, call 586-469-6431 or send e-mail inquiries to Macomb.4h@macombcountymi.gov .

*****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. Registration deadline and cost information are generally available one month before the event. The Macomb County MSU Extension office will forward the information to shooting sports project families and post it in future e-mail announcements when it becomes available.

OTHER NEWS

*****FREE*****

The following items are FREE. Call 586-749-3393 for pick up information.

- 1 plastic two-piece medium-size dog house
- 2 boxes of old magazines from AMHA & AHMR (Miniature Horse Registries) has ads and articles about miniature horses kids could learn from
- 1 humongous collection of very good condition miniature horse ribbons that could possibly be re-purposed (hundreds)

*****For Sale*****

These items are FOR SALE. Call 586-749-3393 for more information.

- 2 Western saddles for full sized horses - \$200 each-- 1 has smooth seat the other is suede. Both good condition; other horse equipment, like saddle pads.
- 1 bridle with braided Rommel reins \$75
- 4 miniature horses ---3 geldings 1 mare very, very family friendly! None priced over \$1,000.00. Call and ask April for more details. 586-749-3393

*****Events at Wolcott Farm*****

Please phone Wolcott Farm at 586-752-5932 for information about any of the following events:

Horse Trailer Safety Seminar

March 6, 2011 -- 1:00pm -- \$10 per person -- Pre-registration required

Presented by Sue Moffit. Be prepared! Learn what to do in case of an emergency on the road. Know the road rules and learn tips for safer trailering over the road or close to home trips.

Farm Open Volunteer Day

March 19, 2011 -- 10am to 4pm -- Free -- Pre-registration required

Enjoy a day on the farm. Come and volunteer for an hour or two, or stay for the whole day. Help us as we prepare for our upcoming programs. Bring yourself, your family, or your organization. Refreshments will be provided.

Sheep Shearing Saturday

March 26, 2011 -- 10am to 3pm -- \$5 per person -- Pay at the door

Watch and listen to our professional sheep shearer as he demonstrates how to shear a sheep properly. Ask questions and visit with the vendors who will be demonstrating their spinning, weaving and felting techniques. Sip on hot chocolate or coffee while the kids make a craft.

Greenhouse Fun

April 3, 2011 -- 1pm -- \$5 per person -- Pre-registration required

Join us in our heated green house and get your hands dirty while planting several varieties of plants and seeds. Learn basic plant care. Take your creation home and watch it grow. Call for details and reserve your spot.

Equestrian-Have a Fun and Safe Summer with your Horse

April 10, 2011 -- 1-3pm -- \$25 per horse/rider -- Pre-registration required

This program is for horse and rider. Tips for safer trail riding for you and your horse. Desensitize the green horse, read your horse's signals and learn exercises to keep the trail horse sound and safe. Presented by Sue Moffit. Please call for details on bringing your horse to our farm.

Earth Day Cleanup

April 16, 2011 -- 9am to Noon -- Free -- Pre-registration required Please come and join us as we celebrate Earth Day by helping to clean up our natural environment. Parents and scout leaders this is a perfect time to bring your kids out to the Farm. Free lunch and wagon ride to all participants.

Farm Egg Scramble

April 17, 2011 -- Noon to 3pm -- \$5 per child -- Pay at the door

Come out and visit with the farm animals and participate in the best egg scramble around! Get your picture taken with the Easter Bunny, visit with Rosco the Clown and stop by Bunnyville and visit the rabbits. Kids can make a craft to take home and enter in to our coloring contest.

Baby Animal Tours

April 26-30, 2011 -- 10am, Noon & 2pm -- \$3 per person -- Pre-registration required

Go for a tour around our farm and stop, visit, take pictures with and learn about the various baby farm animals. Visiting with and petting baby farm animals is fun for everyone! Pre-registration required! Hurry – this program fills up fast – limited spots available

Horse Workshop

May 7, 2011 -- 11am -- \$5 per person -- Pre-registration required

This is a program for the novice horse enthusiasts. Meet our draft horses and learn how to provide and care for a horse. We will make a lead rope that you can use for a future horse or as a dog leash. Bring your questions and your camera.

Flowers and Wagon Rides for Mom

May 8, 2011 -- Noon to 3pm -- \$5 per person -- Pay at the door

Looking for something different to do for Mother's Day? Join us at the farm where you and mom can enjoy a wagon ride and choose a flower or plant to take home. Moms are FREE.

Equestrian – Western Pleasure Clinic

May 14, 2011 -- 1 to 3pm -- \$20 per horse/rider -- Pre-registration required

This program is for horse and rider. Looking to get that slow western jog or beautiful lope? Then this clinic is just what you need for this show season. Help to build balance between you and your horse in the show ring, on the road or on the trails. Presented by Nick Costinika. Please call for details on bringing your horse to our farm.

Equestrian-Trail Clinic

May 28, 2011 -- 1 to 3pm -- \$20 per horse/rider -- Pre-registration required

This program is for horse and rider. The clinic will help you understand how your horse sees each obstacle and what the judge is looking for in your pattern. Nick will help horse and rider through each trail obstacle and offer you helpful advice and techniques. Presented by Nick Costinika. Please call for details on bringing your horse to our farm.

*****Science Opportunities*****

The following opportunities are not affiliated with 4-H. They are provided for information purposes only and do not constitute an endorsement by 4-H National Headquarters, NIFA or USDA.

1. The Buick Achievers Scholarship, funded by the GM Foundation, is designed to help students who are leaders in both the classroom and their communities, but who may not have the financial means to attend college. The Buick Achievers Scholarship Program will award: Up to \$25,000 per year for 100 students or \$2,000 per year for 1,000 students. More details about the scholarship program, eligibility rules, and selection criteria can be found at

<http://www.buickachievers.com>. A pdf is available for download and printing at <http://www.buickachievers.com/flier>.

2. United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation Scholarship (USGIF) hopes to inspire students who are interested in all that geospatial has to offer to invest their futures in this incredibly exciting and relevant field of study. Deadline is May 2, 2011. For more information visit <http://usgif.org/education/scholarships>.

3. Google Science Fair: Google has partnered with NASA, CERN, National Geographic, Scientific American, and LEGO to create a totally new kind of STEM competition: a science fair that is more open, inclusive, and global than ever before. The subject categories are broad and encompass all areas of scientific interest. So whether you teach computer science, chemistry, biology or math, you can encourage your youth to enter. The competition is open to students aged 13 to 18 from around the world working on their own or in a team of two or three. Deadline is April 4, 2011. For more information visit <http://www.google.com/events/sciencefair/>.

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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