

Macomb County 4-H E-mail Announcements for November 30, 2011

COUNTY EVENTS

Support Operation Military Kids (OMK) with your vote

Operation Military Kids has been chosen to participate in the 2011 @Martin Waymire Advocacy Communication Gives Project. We need all of our supporters to go to <http://mwacsocial.com> and vote for us in the poll. The charity with the most votes by Dec. 16 will receive a large donation. You can vote once a day so vote now! <http://mwacsocial.com> With these donations we will be able to fund events and opportunities for military children and youth beyond what our OMK grant allows us to fund. Please pass along to those that support OMK!! Thank you!!

Last Call for County Awards

We are excited to bring the County Awards with a new look this year. The awards will be held on January 26 of 2012 at the Macomb Intermediate School District (MISD) building on Garfield in Clinton Township. The application forms for each individual award are available on the website. Check them out at http://macombcountymi.gov/msuextension/4h_Forms.htm. You can choose from the variety of awards available. Print these forms out and encourage all 4-H members to apply. It is a great introduction to bigger things...like State Awards. Good Luck. **The application deadline is Monday, December 6th.**

We'd love to see club interaction this year. We'd love your club to send a PowerPoint slide that shows your club and its members being involved, providing community service, learning projects, or just having fun. Please forward them to Alayne at the MSU Extension office, alaynewaterstraat@macombcountymi.gov.

Club Officer Training

The annual Club Office Training will take place on **Wednesday, December 7th** from 6-8:30 p.m. at the 4-H Office. Dinner will be provided prior to the training. After a brief general session, there will be the following officer breakout sessions: (1) Presidents, Vice Presidents, Sgts-at-Arms; (2) Treasurers and adult helpers; (3) Secretaries; (4) Historians and Reporters. Adults accompanying officers are welcome to attend any of the sessions. Those helping treasurers are particularly encouraged to attend. **Call the 4-H office by Friday, December 2nd to reserve your spot** at 586-469-6431. Have the following information for both youths and adults: name, break out session attending. For questions, ask for Anne Crotser.

Northern Macomb Seeks Donations

Northern Macomb 4-H Club is again making a meal at the Ronald McDonald House located at the Detroit Medical Center. This time, dinner will be served by club members and their families and friends on Saturday December 3. They will also be doing household chores. In addition, they are making up activity bags for patients at Children's Hospital (2 coloring book pages with 2 crayons) and bags of goodies for those families staying at the Ronald McDonald House. The club is seeking donations of new items that Ronald McDonald House and Children's Hospital need: games, toys, DVDs, CDs, blankets, baby toys, craft kits, magazines, and books. Northern Macomb 4-H Club will also be donating a vacuum to the Ronald McDonald House to replace a broken one. If your club or organization would be interested in donating new items, please contact Stephanie Seefried (Club President) 586-781-8836 or Kara Fiebelkorn (Club Vice President) 586-949-5857.

*****Nominate Club Representatives Early for 4-H King and Queen*****

Reminder to 4-H clubs to nominate their club representatives early for 4-H King and 4-H Queen. Each club is allowed to nominate one boy for 4-H King and one girl for 4-H Queen. Nominating your representatives early provides your club nominees a chance to complete the application (on Macomb MSU-Extension website) and have it reviewed by their 4-H club leader. Plus, it allows sufficient time for the nominees to make sure their applications are prepared accurately and adequately to meet the judge's satisfaction. Also, the extra time gives your club nominees a lot of interview practice with club members and club volunteers. As a reminder, the nominees should be able to be present for both the Romeo Peach Festival Floral Parade and the Richmond Good Old Days parade. Contact Jenna Lotan at 586-781-7081 with any questions.

*****REMINDER: Returning members should re-enroll by Dec. 1st*****

Returning 4-H members have until 5 p.m. on December 1, 2011 to register online. Contact the Macomb County MSU Extension 4-H office for instructions and an Open ID and password if you do not already have them.

*****Join 4-H Dresden Challenge Club at Planet Rock-December 27*****

Consider having some fun rock climbing in between the holidays at Planet Rock on December 27th. Discounted price of \$20 per climb is being offered but need to **RSVP by December 20th** to Teresa or Joe Whitenight at t_whitenight@yahoo.com. Make sure to dress in gym type clothing and bring a lunch and water bottle. You can meet at 7:30 am at their home, 6456 Hessen Road, Fair Haven, 48023 or 8:15 at Walmart on Hall Road between Gratiot & I-94. Must fill out the waiver and rules forms found on the Planet Rock website <http://explore.planet-rock.com/content/general-waiver>

*****4-H Day at the Breslin Center – Cheer on the Lady Spartans*****

4-H Day at the Breslin Center is Sunday, January 15, 2012. MSU Extension and 4-H families are invited to attend the 7th annual celebration of MSU Extension and 4-H Youth Development at the Lady Spartans' Women's basketball game vs. Ohio State University. The game starts at 4 p.m. This event is free, but you must reserve your tickets. Call the Macomb County MSU Extension office at 586-469-6431 or email Macomb.4h@macombcountymi.gov for more information or to request tickets. If we have twenty people who are interested in going to this event and taking a bus, we will reserve a bus but will need to charge only \$5.00 to offset some of the costs. **Must RSVP by December 22.**

*****Follow 4-H on FACEBOOK*****

Click "Like" on the 4-H Facebook site: Macomb MSUE 4-H. We are up and running and would like to promote the successes of Macomb County 4-H and keep others informed as well.

*****Outdoor Ed. & Rec. Committee*****

Voting for officers of the Macomb County 4-H Outdoor Education & Recreation Program Committee will take place on Dec. 12th at Huron Pointe Sportsmen's Association at 7 p.m. We encourage any adults and youth wishing to be officers to please attend this meeting. The youth will be officers and the adults will be sponsors of the youth. The adults will train the youth for the positions.

4-H is a positive youth development program and this will help the youth to develop new skills.

Also, Dec. 2nd (Friday) is the start of the Archery program again at Huron Pointe. This session is from Dec. thru March. Leroy Miklowoski from Coyote Club and anyone wanting to participate with his group will shoot from 6-7 p.m. Please contact Leroy at 586-255-0505 to see if he has openings for youth during this time slot. Stephen Sondey and Rob Kitchen will be shooting from 7:15 p.m. thru 8:30 p.m. (or until done). Please call Stephen at 586-255-4660 to RSVP for this time slot.

On Dec. 2nd we will also be taking pictures for the "Thank You" to Romeo Whitetails for their donation to the Outdoor Ed. & Rec. Committee. The time for picture taking is 7:15 p.m. at Huron Pointe. Remember, the county shoot will be in June, so you must get your shoots in by that time.

*****Macomb County 4-H Horse Program Committee*****

The next scheduled Horse Committee Meeting is 7 p.m. on January 23, 2012 at Camp Rotary in Ray Township. Please remember to have one adult and two youth present from each horse club. This is your time to vote for President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Point Secretary. These positions need to have youth representation for the positions. So please be present and supportive of youths elected to these positions. This is a good opportunity to support positive youth development, which is the philosophy of 4-H.

*****Livestock Updates*****

Livestock Participation Forms are now available online at http://www.macombcountymi.gov/msuextension/4h_Forms.htm . If you plan on selling Livestock at the 2012 Armada Fair, make sure to turn your form in to the Livestock Sale Secretary by the 2nd Friday in January (January 13.) Hard copies of the form will be mailed to club leaders in mid-November.

Livestock Sale Committee elections will be held this year at the January meeting on January 23rd 7p.m. at the Grange Hall. Please mark this date and plan to come for this year's election.

Beef Tagging will be Sunday, February 5th from noon to 2 p.m. at the Armada Fairgrounds. All youth who plan on selling beef at the 2012 Armada Fair need to have their steers tagged.

*****Sock Puppet Marathon 2012*****

Attention all upcoming Sock Puppet Marathon Attendees: We are in desperate need of used clean socks! Any color, shape, size, yes, even with holes. Also please start collecting craft supplies to be brought the day of the Sock Puppet Marathon. Please watch for upcoming emails for the date, which has not been set. Any questions or concerns should be emailed to Alissa at schoolsection4h@att.net.

STATE EVENTS

*****MSU Horsemen's Weekend – January 13-15, 2012*****

The MSU Horsemen's Association will host a weekend of shows, clinics and equine education, January 13-15, 2012! This will be a great educational opportunity for 4-H clubs, and will also highlight the equine clubs and opportunities at MSU. For more information or a complete schedule of events, please visit: <https://www.msu.edu/~msuha/> or email msuhorsemens@gmail.com.

*****4-H Teen Leadership & Community Change Conference – Jan. 21-22, 2012*****

This powerful 2012 conference at Kettunen Center brings teens, ages 14 and up, from across the state to learn youth leadership and community change skills. Following are comments from the 2011 conference participants: "This conference makes me feel as if I can change the world." "I personally loved this workshop; not only did I learn new leadership techniques, but I also learned a lot about myself." From an adult chaperone participant: "This conference was interactive, dynamic and perfectly geared toward youth!" For more information please view the [Program Announcement](#) for this event. Call (586) 469-6431 or email Macomb.4h@macombcountymi.gov to request a printed copy. *This workshop is presented with support from the Sandra Clarkson Stuckman Endowment and the Turner-Ousterhout Endowment of the Michigan 4-H Foundation.*

*****4-H Veterinary Science Workshop -- February 24-25, 2012*****

Save the date! The 4-H Veterinary Science Workshop will be held Feb. 24-25, 2012 at Kettunen Center. Explore animal systems and learn about animal health for a broad array of animal species. Come prepared to learn from others, share information and experiences, ask questions and quiz veterinarians about their skills. You will also participate in hands-on demonstrations that will teach you how to help members recognize healthy, sick, or injured animals. Meet other youth that have developed outstanding veterinary science projects and gain ideas to help others start their own vet science projects. Open to

adult and teen volunteers ages 13 and older. More information will be posted online soon at http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/4_h_volunteer_training_workshop_schedule.

*****4-H Beef, Sheep & Swine Workshop -- February 25-26, 2012*****

The 4-H Beef, Sheep & Swine Workshop will be held at Kettunen Center Feb. 25-26, 2012. If you are interested in 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 ages 13 and up. More information will be posted online at http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/4_h_volunteer_training_workshop_schedule as the workshop date nears. *This workshop is presented with support from the Michigan Pork Producers Association.*

*****Exploration Days 2012 – Save the Date!*****

4-H Exploration Days, a popular annual conference for youth ages 11-19, will be held at Michigan State University from June 20-22, 2012. Information will be available online by March 1, 2012 at http://4h.msue.msu.edu/4h/4_h_exploration_days. Registration will begin in late March. Watch future email announcements for more details.

OTHER

*****Military Families are invited to have Bagels with Santa-December 3rd*****

Join Military Families for a special morning with Santa, Saturday December 3rd from 9-10am at Lakeside Mall Food Court. In addition to spending time with Santa, each child will receive a plush toy and special holiday cookie to decorate. This FREE event is sponsored by Panera Bread. Pre-registration is required by calling 586-247-4131 or email amy.stanton@gqp.com to register.

*****Rabbits, Cages For Sale*****

Two Havana rabbits and cages are for sale. The rabbits are great starter rabbits for incoming 4-Hers. The asking price is \$10 each.

There are two tiers of flush-system cages available. Three stacked cages (with dividers, making six cages) on wheels with flush system installments are \$100 each. Contact Alissa Gianferrara at schoolsection4h@att.net for more information.

*****Prepare Horse Shelters NOW for Winter*****

Now is a good time for horse owners to address housing options for their horses if they plan to keep them outside during the winter. Tom Guthrie, Michigan State University Extension educator, says that portable, open-front sheds are the most common shelter options for horses kept outside during the winter months. The MidWest Plan Service Horse Facilities Handbook recommends providing 150 square feet of roofed area for each mature horse.

Choose a shed location that allows for convenience in handling your horses. When selecting a location, consider the shed's proximity to other buildings. Factor in traffic lanes and feeding areas. Will you have the ability to observe the horses from the location? Will manure clean out be easy? Will wet areas be a problem? Will there be a place to stack up snow in the winter?

The open side of the shelter should face either south or east, in most cases, to protect horses from prevailing winds, and it's advisable to use a windbreak to provide some relief from wind and blowing snow.

Related Content

- [Study: Shelter Seeking Behavior Most Common in Poor Weather Conditions](#)
- [Winter Shelter](#)
- [Run-In Shed Makeover](#)
- [Ready To Assemble: Barns, Stalls, and Run-In Sheds](#)
- [Understanding Basic Horse Care](#)

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