



Macomb County 4-H Fair Committee Newsletter

Armada Fair

August 14 - 19, 2007



Teen Leaders provide Fair Tips

Volume 3, Issue 2, August 2007

Allen Meinhard of K-9 & Kompany said "You need to be able to think on your feet. So get prepared in your head as to what you want to say to the judge".

Gina Riebel of Hidden Trails has a process for writing a letter to prospective Livestock Buyers.

1. Think of potential buyers that may consider supporting 4-H and who would enjoy quality meat. Include local businesses, businesses that your parents do business with, family and friends. Remember, people can share in the purchase.
2. Invite them to the livestock sale, include the date, time and location.
3. Tell them about:
 - A. Yourself: name, age and how many years you have raised livestock.
 - B. Your project: breed, what you feed and how you care for the animals.
 - C. 4-H: the benefits of buying a 4-H animal. Be sure to include that it is tax deductible.
 - D. Include a photo of you and your project.
4. Sign your name: include your

4-H group/club and a phone number.

5. Proof read all letters, check for spelling, grammar and punctuation.
6. Mail the letters.

Christine Bingham of Ray's Riding Rascals said that as a teen clerk, they help judges. They get more ribbons and carry projects into the 4-H Exhibit Building. Teen Clerks help inside the building, organizing projects by department and section. They are also on call to help the 4-H Fair Superintendent with their roles and responsibilities.

Jessica Makowski of Northern Macomb 4-H Club said that when she gets to fair, she tries to set up everything she will need for that week. She has all of her animal food there and even brings a first aid kit plus all her grooming supplies for her animals. She also makes sure that no else needs anything and if they do, she tries to help them with anything that they might need.

To prepare for the 4-H Livestock Sale or Silent Auction, Jessica usually cleans out her pen before possi-

ble buyers come to check out the animals. She also washes her animals before the auction.

To prepare for fair, Jessica sets up a plan for her animals, from figuring out the weights they need to be for fair and also going over worksheets and questions that the judges might ask her.

Katie Houin wrote that fair starts before the previous fair's even over. That's when you think about what you should be working with.. Practice your communication skills by giving presentations to your club about your project. Finally, the week before fair, go over your projects looking for and correcting flaws and doing final practices. All in all try to get as many of your projects done in advance, that way you can trust that they are all examples of your best work.

Jessica Bohm wrote "Fair is a great place to make new friends and get closer to old friends.

Denise Lotan, Chair

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THIS YEAR'S ARMADA FAIR

4-H THEME:

**"Achieve
your dreams
thru 4-H"**

*All Club displays
need to follow
theme.*

4-H Livestock Sale and Silent Auction Update

Mark your Calendars!! Livestock Sale will start at 4:00 and Silent Auction will be from 2:00-7:00 pm on Friday August 17.

1) All families involved in the Livestock Sale or Silent Auction should plan to bring prepackaged snack(s) for potential buyers and each Club should bring 2 cases of bottled water to the Livestock Building #15 office area by **Noon on Friday August 17.** 2) Adults are needed to help coordinate snacks and beverages for 1 to 2 hour shifts from 2:00 to 10:00 during the Livestock Sale; please contact Marie Marcath at 586.949.7538 to schedule a time. 3) Adults are needed to help with paperwork for Silent Auction on Friday, August 17 from 6:30-8:00pm; Contact Alayne Waterstraat to sign up 586.727.3030. 4) New this year-Youth participating in the Silent Auction will be having a picture taken of themselves with their animal on Tuesday, August 14 starting at noon near the Poultry Building; See Alayne Waterstraat, Pam Weslowski or Tracy Dubaere. Pictures will then be placed on the Silent Auction Form and displayed in Livestock Barn 15 during Silent Auction. 5) Leaders and members make sure to put up the Thank You Buyer posters on club displays and cages ASAP after the sale. 6) Tentative Livestock Sale Clean up is scheduled for Saturday August 18 at 8:30 am unless otherwise notified. 7) New this year-Livestock Sale/Silent Auction Brochures available to distribute to potential buyers; Brochures can be downloaded from 4-H website www.macombcountymi.gov/msuextension or by contacting 4-H office or your 4-H leader. 8) 4-H Families have fun during fair week!!!!

4-H Court Needs: 1) Materials needed to decorate court display in 4-H Exhibit Building –Contact Jenna Lotan 586.781.7081 2)Would like past Macomb County 4-H Kings and Queens to come out to opening ceremonies.

Upcoming Fair Events

July 29 - Goat project books due to Jean Bingham, Goat Superintendent

Aug 1 - Fair Wrap up meeting (Armada Fairgrounds 6:30pm) All invited. .

Aug 1-Dog project books due to Lori Riggs, Dog Superintendent

Aug 3- 4-H Superintendents should be contacted needed teen clerks to confirm roles and responsibilities.

Aug 4 & 5- Clean up & set up in 4-H Exhibit Bldg. & various barns 9AM to 4PM (Contact

Superintendents for Specifics)

Aug 5 -Rabbit Club Display Set up Noon to 4:00

Aug 9, 10, 11 -Final clean up, set up & decorating in barns. Contact Fair Superintendent for your project area, to get specific days & times.

Aug 12-Judging of all non-livestock 4-H projects

8:30-Superintendents arrive

9:00-Judges arrive

9:30-Teen clerks project judged (Teen clerks need to sign up with 4-H office. Jobs will be given to those who

have not been contacted by a Superintendent in a.m.).

11:15-12-Judges lunch
12-4 CLUB JUDGING

Aug 14 - 4-H Court announced

Aug 17 - Livestock Sale 4pm; Silent Auction 2-7pm Barn 15 (Everyone is invited)

Check 4-H Fair book on web-site at www.armadafair.org for times & dates of shows and dates & times for release of exhibits as well as tear down of stalls, pens, cages, & displays.

4-H Day Chair & Exhibit Building Schedule

THANK YOU to the individuals below who volunteered to serve as Day Chairs and their corresponding clubs who volunteered to help monitor the 4-H Exhibit building. As a token of the 4-H office's appreciation, the Exhibit Building Raffle was created **new this year** where all who help have the opportunity to win \$25 for themselves and \$25 for their club.

Sunday 8/12/07

9-Noon Jan Mueller

11:30-2:30pm Deanna D.

Casual Clutter

2-5pm Anita Cipa, A Little Tacky

Tuesday 8/14/07

8:45 -1:30pm Alayne W. Clever Clovers and Cathy Cooper, Mini, Mighty & All

1:15-6pm Sue Wilkinson, K-9 & Kompany

5:45-10pm Val C., Poochez N Pals

Wednesday 8/15/07

8:45-1:30pm Pat Fons, Pirates

1:15-6pm Marilyn B, Ray Com.

5:45 -10pm Herman Houin, Ray's Riding Rascals

Thursday 8/16/07

8:45-1:30pm Sue K., Romeo Rough Riders

1:15 -10pm Tracy DuBaere, Trailblazers

Friday 8/17/07

8:45-1:30pm Laurie Evans, Alarro

1:15-6:00pm Rachel C., Mentoring

5:45-10:00pm Kevin L.,

Ambassadors, M and M Club

Saturday 8/18/07

8:45-1:30pm Faye Cerku, Midnight Riders

1:15-6pm Nancy Miller, Kids-N-Kritters

5:45 pm-10:00 pm: NEED A DAYCHAIR/CLUB

Sunday 8/19/07

8.45 -1:30 pm Penny Tibbits, School Section

1-3 pm-Christina T., Future Stars

2:45-5:30 pm Marilyn B., Ray Com

5:15-9:00 pm Denise Lotan & Sharon Knust, Northern Macomb

Petting Farm and Barn Monitoring

THANK YOU to clubs that are sharing the responsibility of monitoring 4-H Barns & helping with 4-H Petting Farm feed cone fundraiser. If your club has not signed up to help, contact Kathy Jamieson (586.469.6431) for Day Chair/4-H Exhibit Barn or Mike Cobbett for Petting-Farm (810.395.7333). The main purpose is to make guests feel welcome & to promote 4-H & your club. If you have club t-shirts, it would be a perfect time to wear them. Please have your 4-H members & families greet people & talk with them about your project areas & what 4-H is all about.

For the 4-H barns, your club's role would be to protect the projects & keep the building clean. As you know lots of time & effort have

gone into each project. Your club can demonstrate a skill during your work session. For those clubs working the 4-H Exhibit barn, there will be a TVR/VCR to play your videos on your projects, etc. Each of these would be a wonderful advertisement as to what 4-Hers can accomplish. Also there are brooms/dust pans to sweep the floor in & around the barns.

In the Petting Farm, one adult needs to be present to assist your club members in handling donations from the feed cones. During your club's work session, your club members can assist the Petting Farm Committee members in keeping the area clean and assisting in the main gated petting area.

By assisting at the 4-H Barns and Petting Farm, 4-Hers gain

good experiences which can be used when filling out their annual project books, & applying for 4-H awards. Proceeds from feed cone donations help benefit our Macomb County 4-Hers with such things as scholarships for different 4-H programs offered at the county, state, national and international level. (i.e. Expo Days, Livestock camp, County Awards, etc).

GOT QUESTIONS?? Contact 4-H Fair Superintendent or Armada Fair Superintendent listed in 4-H fair book.

On behalf of Macomb County 4-H, a hearty "thank you" is extended to each of you. We're expecting the Armada Fair to be a positive, fun, enriching and educational experience for all. We appreciate your assistance in reaching this goal.

4-H WORDS OF WISDOM

Judges decisions are final. Please do not ask to have your project or your child's project reviewed again. There are many things taken into consideration regarding the judging process. This is not a personal issue, but a life lesson. A "B" ribbon is not a bad thing, & a "C" ribbon is something to learn from. Maybe the project has room for improvement or growth, etc. Please keep this in mind.

MSU Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, or family status. MSU, U.S. Department of agriculture and Macomb County Board of Commissioners cooperating. MSU is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. The 4-H name and emblem are protected under 18 U.S.C. 707.