

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MSU Extension News Bulletins 6-5-08



MACOMB COUNTY

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4-H Youth Conservation Council to meet

Macomb County youths, ages 13-19, interested in learning about local environmental issues and influencing public policy are invited to help establish a 4-H Youth Conservation Council.

The first meeting will be from 7-8 p.m. Thursday, June 19, at the MSU Extension offices, 21885 Dunham Road in Clinton Township.

Council members will learn team building, leadership and life skills while participating in science-based research on conservation issues and providing a "youth voice" at city, township or county government meetings.

Anyone interested in participating should contact Mary Gerstenberger at 586-469-6085 or e-mail gerste10@msu.edu.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Members of the media interested in participating in a discovery cruise, free of charge, should contact Steve Stewart at 586-469-7431]

Summer Discovery Cruises offer adventures on local waterways

Sturgeon, eagles, islands, rum-runners, lighthouse, remotely operated vehicles (ROV's), Bob-lo Island, wetlands and more await participants of Macomb MSU Extension (MSUE) Sea Grant's 2008 Summer Discovery Cruise season, which gets underway June 22 on the lower Detroit River and Lake St. Clair.

Designed to provide vessel-based Great Lakes educational opportunities for the public, Summer Discovery Cruises have proven to be a popular coastal ecotourism option for residents.

– more –

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Cruise options for this year include:

- **ROV Adventures** – Come aboard and join Captain Gary Longton, who will explore the underwater world offshore of Metro Beach Metropark using “Little Ricky,” DTE Energy’s Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV)
- **Light Houses** – Join a representative from the Save Our South Channel Lights organization to learn the history of the two lighthouses built on Lake St. Clair in 1855 to guide vessels through the treacherous St. Clair Flats
- **Shipping Out** – Sign on for a voyage into the world of Great Lakes shipping with former sailor and award winning author Patrick Livingston.
- **Whisky River** – During National Prohibition the Detroit River was better known as the “Whiskey River” due to the incredible amount of illegal hootch that crossed over it from Canada. R-visit the bad old days when rum-runners ruled and dry laws were meant to be broken.

For descriptions of all 2008 Summer Discover Cruises, visit www.discoverycruises.org.

To sign up for cruises out of Metro Beach Metropark on Lake St. Clair, call 586-463-4332. For Detroit River cruises out of Lake Erie Metropark, call 734-379-5020 (x5736).

Local youths participate in 4-H Art Exchange with China

Artwork created by eight Macomb County students will be on display at schools in China as part of the 4-H Children’s Art Exchange.

Thousands of children from across Michigan participated in the Michigan 4-H Children’s Art Exchange with China by submitting “visual letters” sharing stories, important ideas and feelings with children on the other side of the globe.

More than 400 works were chosen and shown at Michigan State University in May. Of the 400 pieces, 64 were chosen to be sent to China.

Artwork Created by Clayton Gamrat, Madison Paton, Aaliyay Rush, Nygel Sejismundo, Joseph Solowczuk (all from Ewell Elementary in Utica), Lidjon Devole, Sophia Simbeni (both from West Utica Elementary) and Bailey Bonacorsi (from Cheyenne Elementary in Clinton Township) was selected to represent Michigan.

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Their artwork will be on display at schools in Binshou City, Shandong Province, in China.

Through the 4-H Children's Art Exchange, children in kindergarten-grade six are asked to communicate something important in their lives in a painting or drawing. Participants learn about China through Chinese children's art.

All of the works will be posted online at <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/msue/cyf/youth/chinapro.html>.

For more information on the 4-H Art Exchange, call 586-469-6431.

For more information on any of the Macomb MSUE community programs including Children-Youth-Family, Agriculture and Natural Resources or Community and Economic Development, please call 586-469-5180, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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