

Media Advisory

Office of Macomb County Executive
Mark A. Hackel



Michigan State University - Extension

For Immediate Release

Vickie Hart
Media Contact: 586-469-6090

Date: August 16, 2011

PROUD EQUESTRIAN PROGRAM MAKES A POSITIVE IMPACT

Sharing skills and knowledge is what the 4-H Proud Equestrians Program is all about. Young people and adults who worked in this program gained great satisfaction through this therapeutic horseback-riding program.

With the help of trained and caring volunteers, eight kids challenged by disabilities will discover new abilities this fall. Horseback riding improved their balance, coordination, posture and muscle tone as well as their self-esteem, self-confidence, discipline and social growth. This positive program would not be made possible without the dedication of our certified therapeutic riding instructor, Tammy Kerchkof, the support of all the PEP committee members, horse owners, numerous volunteers and Black Tie Ranch generosity in allowing Macomb County MSU Extension to use their facilities.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

The P.E.P. program is planning for the next five-week session. We are looking for:

- **RIDERS** – Young people and adults with physical, developmental, emotional or multiple disabilities.
- **VOLUNTEERS** – Young people and adults who assist riders as needed until the riders develop the skills they need to ride independently.

The program will run on Wednesday evenings, from 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm and 7:00 pm to 7:45pm from September 14 through October 12, 2011. For rider and registration information, please visit our website at www.macombcountymi.gov/msuextension/PEP.html

#####