



# 4-H Family News

MACOMB COUNTY

November-December 2024  
Volume 10 Issue 2



## Macomb County 4-H News & Events

### Donate to Macomb Co. 4-H CrowdPower Campaign by Nov. 30

The dynamic youth of Macomb County possess immense potential and need your support to sustain their growth through the MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development Program. Through November 30, 2024, your contribution to our new [CrowdPower campaign](#) will be utilized to develop more diverse, welcoming and inclusive programs for the youth at low or no cost to them. This includes the purchase of peer-reviewed curricula, educational kits, program scholarships, and resources for 4-H clubs and volunteers. Studies indicate that youth involved in 4-H are less likely to engage in at-risk behaviors and are better equipped for college, careers, and becoming well-rounded citizens. Plus, participation in 4-H offers youth exposure to numerous opportunities across fields that they may not have previously encountered.

In 4-H, youth have the opportunity to encounter caring adults who acknowledge their intrinsic worth and significance. Your contribution would greatly advance our mission to promote a more diverse, inclusive and equitable youth development program in Macomb County. We are confident our initiatives will demonstrate to all stakeholders the advantages of 4-H and emphasize how a varied MSU Extension 4-H program can enrich the experiences and outcomes for all young individuals.

Please [give online](#) now, or **make a gift by mail\***:

University Advancement Spartan Way  
535 Chestnut Road, Room 300  
East Lansing, MI 48824

*\*Make check payable to Michigan State University and write "Appeal 25OOPCF1MC4HM" in the note section.*

### Join Thompson 4-H Garden Club!

Youth ages 5-19 are invited to join the Thompson 4-H Garden Club. Club members will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Max Thompson Family Resource Center, 11370 Hupp Avenue, Warren. Participants will gain hands-on gardening experience and enjoy fun activities. To enroll, register for SPIN CLUB Thompson 4-H Garden Club in [4-H Online](#). For more information, please contact 4-H Program Coordinator Lizz Duran at 586-469-6090 or [duraneli@msu.edu](mailto:duraneli@msu.edu).

### 4-H County Awards program design ideas requested

Are you creative? Your design could grace the cover of the 2024 County Awards Program! Any Macomb County 4-H youth who is interested in submitting a design for the event program should contact 4-H Program Coordinator Nikki Knight at 586-469-5979 or [knightn9@msu.edu](mailto:knightn9@msu.edu).

The date for the Macomb County 4-H Awards Event will be announced soon.

### Craft Fair - Nov. 24

Join us at the Craft Fair at the [Macomb Family YMCA](#) in Mount Clemens on November 24th from 11 a.m.-2 p.m! Youth and adults up to age 19 will be have their selling their handmade products.

For more information, contact 4-H Program Coordinator Nikki Knight at 586-469-5979

## Macomb County 4-H Staff

**Kristi Evans**  
D11 Director

**Diane Wisnewski**  
4-H Supervising Educator

[Kathy Jamieson](#)  
4-H Educator

[Kea Norrell-Aitch](#)  
4-H Educator.

[Elizabeth Duran](#)  
4-H Program Coordinator

[Nikki Knight](#)  
4-H Program Coordinator

[Rebecca Konarski](#)  
4-H Program Coordinator

[Roberta Busquaert](#)  
Office Assistant - Senior

## Locations

MSU Extension has two office locations in Macomb County:

VerKuijen Building  
21885 Dunham Road, Suite 12  
Clinton Township, MI 48036

Max Thompson Family Resource Center  
11370 Hupp Avenue  
Warren, MI 48089

## Contact Us

Telephone: 586-469-6431  
Email: [Macomb.4h@macombgov.org](mailto:Macomb.4h@macombgov.org)

[Subscribe](#)

Happy Thanksgiving!



## Macomb County 4-H News & Events (continued)

### 4-H Horse Judging and Hippology Team

The first Horse Judging and Hippology Team introduction team meeting was held at Camp Rotary in Ray Township on November 19, 2024. Horse ownership is not necessary to participate, and this team offers a great way to learn about horses without owning one. For more information, please contact 4-H Volunteer Amanda Kutchey at [kutcheya@gmail.com](mailto:kutcheya@gmail.com).

### 4-H Meets Wolcott: Farming 101 - Animals and Agriculture

Learn about all aspects of the farm and how to properly care for animals at MSU Extension's 4-H Meets Wolcott: Farming 101 – Animals & Agriculture series. Sessions will be held on Sundays from 1-3 p.m. at Wolcott Mill Metropark Farm Center, 65775 Wolcott Road, Ray Township. The program is FREE and open to all youth ages 5-19. Attend one or more sessions.

- November 24 – Introduction to Poultry
- December 8 – Introduction to Rabbits
- January 12 – Introduction to Sheep
- January 26 – Introduction to Goats
- February 9 – Equine Exploration
- February 23 – Dairy Cattle/Milk Exploration

Register online at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/4HFarmAnimalsAg>. For more information, contact Macomb County 4-H Program Coordinator Nikki Knight at 586-469-5979 or [knightn9@msu.edu](mailto:knightn9@msu.edu).

### 4-H Meets Wolcott Farming 101: Animals & Agriculture



### County offices closed

Macomb County offices, including MSU Extension, will be closed on the following dates:

- November 28-29, 2024
- December 24-25, and 31, 2024
- January 1, 2025

### Happy Holidays from the Macomb County 4-H Staff:

*Diane Wisnewski, Kathy Jamieson, Kea Norrell-Aitch,  
Lizz Duran, Nikki Knight,  
Rebecca Konarski and Roberta Busquaert*

## Other Local News & Events

### Volunteer opportunities at Wolcott Farm

Wolcott farm Center is looking for assistance with their Holiday Lights on the Farm events. Volunteers will be helping visitors on and off wagon rides, helping them with crafts, visits to Santa's Workshop and photo opportunities. Sign up online at <https://tinyurl.com/bdz4d9m6>. For more information, contact Mary Barnes at 586-246-8603 or [mary.barnes@metroparks.com](mailto:mary.barnes@metroparks.com).

### Macomb County MSU Extension Program Guide

Check out the upcoming programs Macomb County MSU Extension has to offer in the December issue of its monthly [program guide](#)!

### Take the MCHD Health Care Access Survey!

Help the Macomb County Health Department (MCHD) identify barriers to accessing healthcare and behavioral health services by taking this survey: <https://tinyurl.com/4j4r3jn3>



## Other Local News & Events (continued)

### Armada Fair News

- **Fair Board meeting and Election:** The annual meeting and election will be held on Monday, December 2, 2024, at the Armada Fairgrounds, 74280 Fair St. Armada 48005. All Fair Board members MUST enter off Fair Street with a valid photo ID and obtain their ballot. Candidates (\* - Incumbent): Michelle Short\*, Gerald Spriet\*, David Knust, Ken Goike\*, Matthew Konarski\*, George Nelson\*, Ken DeMiglio\*, Dean Reinhardt\*, Devon Sherrard.
- **Holly Days Parade:** The 2024 Armada Holly Days Christmas Parade will be held on **December 7, 2024**. The parade will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. If you are interested in participating please fill out the application. Applicants may [apply online](#) or download a paper application. Paper applications must be emailed or mailed by **Wednesday, November 27, 2024**. Prizes will be awarded to the top float.

Application Due Date: **Wednesday, November 27, 2024 (5:00PM)**  
 Parade Line-Up: **Saturday, December 7, 2024 (3:00PM)**  
 Float Judging: **Saturday, December 7, 2024 (5:00PM)**  
 Parade Start Time: **Saturday, December 7, 2024 (6:30PM)**

Feel free to contact the Armada Fair Office at 586-784-5488 or [office@armadafair.org](mailto:office@armadafair.org) for more information.

- **Fair date:** The 2025 Armada Fair is August 11-17, 2025.
- **Livestock Sale Permission Forms:** The Armada Fair Livestock Sale is Friday, August 15, 2025. All youth planning to sell their Livestock project(s) at the 2024 Armada Fair must return the completed Armada Fair Youth Livestock Sale Permission Form to Livestock Sale Committee Secretary by the fourth Monday in January. Updated forms and tagging dates will be available soon at <https://www.armadafair.org/livestock-sale>.

Sources: <https://www.armadafair.org/livestock-sale> and Nov. 2024 Armada Agricultural Society (AAS) Newsletter

## Statewide & National 4-H News & Events

### Tractor Supply Company (TSC) Paper Clover Campaign - Nov. 29-Dec. 15

From November 29-December 15, support 4-H by purchasing a \$1 paper clover at your local Tractor Supply Company (TSC) store! Macomb County has multiple TSC locations to choose from:

- 57155 Gratiot Avenue, New Haven, MI 48048 •66143 Van Dyke, Washington, MI 48095
- 12020 Hall Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48313 •67500 S. Main Street, Richmond, MI 48062

#### Get your 4-H ornaments before they're gone!

Are you looking for a gift for your favorite 4-H'er? Celebrate the season with a limited-edition 4-H ornament from Tractor Supply Company!

**100% of your purchase benefits your local 4-H program.**



### MSU Extension hosts successful second Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol

On October 9, MSU Extension hosted the second Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol to showcase the positive impact of the Michigan 4-H program and bring additional visibility to its effects. The event was held in the atrium of Heritage Hall – the Capitol Visitor's Center.

"We were so excited to bring this event back in 2024," said Deanna East, MSU Extension associate director who served as the event emcee. "Michigan 4-H is certainly worth celebrating every day of the year and we are grateful for the opportunity to highlight this impactful program to our state's leaders."

Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol was attended by legislators, stakeholders and members of the public. At the event, attendees visited information booths





## Statewide & National 4-H News & Events (continued)

### Kettunen Center Inventory Closeout

Kettunen Center was the first 4-H volunteer and youth training center in the nation, owned and operated by the Michigan 4-H Foundation from 1961 to 2021. The center's remaining merchandise and furnishings is now available for sale through the MSU Surplus Store! We know the Kettunen Center meant so much to the 4-H community and this is an opportunity to purchase something by which to remember the center. Purchase yours today!



### 2025 Spark & Share Summit - March 8

Reignite your passion for 4-H at the 2025 Spark and Share Summit March 8th at the Bavarian Inn Lodge and Conference Center in Frankenmuth!! 4-H Volunteers and teens can register for this 1-day conference where they can learn new projects and information that they can take back to teach and share in their local 4-H program at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/SELeaderMeet2025/>.

### Shop the Michigan 4-H Store this holiday season!



Buy your favorite Michigan 4-H apparel, drinkware, and essentials at the SHOP 4-H Online Store! Offered in collaboration with National 4-H Council through Shop 4-H, the Michigan 4-H store offers Michigan 4-H branded apparel and other gifts. Visit the store online and find the perfect item for your favorite 4-H'er, volunteer, alumni, professional or fan! The shop is open to the public and a percentage of all proceeds will be donated to Michigan 4-H.

To order Michigan 4-H specific items, visit <https://bit.ly/30pdNJw>. The store will remain open beyond the holiday season to continue offering Michigan 4-H branded gear to the Michigan 4-H community.

### Starting the 4-H season off right: Suggestions for the year's first meeting

*Adapted from an article by Michelle Neff at [www.canr.msu.edu/news/starting-the-4-h-season-off-right-suggestions-for-the-years-first-meeting](http://www.canr.msu.edu/news/starting-the-4-h-season-off-right-suggestions-for-the-years-first-meeting).*

A new 4-H year has started and that means it is time to start thinking about the goals and plans for educational, inspirational and recreational activities for Michigan 4-H clubs! No matter what project youth are participating in, it is important to start the year off right!

MSU Extension has resources for volunteers to help lead and manage their 4-H club on the 4-H Club Development website, [www.canr.msu.edu/4hclub/index](http://www.canr.msu.edu/4hclub/index). A good start to the 4-H year will allow youth members, club leaders and parents to be clear about expectations and plans for the group and be excited for what will take place. Some tips to get you started include:

- Get to know youth and adults and share about 4-H! Clubs transition from year to year. There may be members new to 4-H, youth trying new project areas, and members who have left or transitioned to different activities. Make sure everyone knows each other with a fun icebreaker activity.
- Prepare a list of activities for the year. The 4-H year goes fast and there is a lot to do in a short period of time. Preparing a list of club activities for meetings is important to ensure youth are learning the life and technical skills of their 4-H project.
- Create a calendar. Once you have your activities picked out, it's time to plan when and where it will all happen!





## Statewide & National 4-H News & Events (continued)

### Save the date: 2025 Michigan 4-H Dairy Conference - March 1-2

Save The Date for the 2025 MI 4-H Dairy Conference for March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> at Michigan State University! This two-day educational conference is open to any youth interested in dairy science and animal science in general. More information, a schedule, and registration will be available soon!

### Help youth build the Five C's: Competence, confidence, connection, character & compassion

*Adapted from an article by Christine Heverly, MSU Extension*

Michigan 4-H works to ensure that youth are engaged in a positive youth development program and utilizes the 4-H Thriving Model to help illustrate how it is meeting the needs of youth across Michigan. A key component of the 4-H Thriving Model is that youth form developmental relationships. Young people thrive best when their families, friends, schools, neighbors, businesses and other community members support them in a variety of ways.

Positive relationships with volunteers provide young people with chances to learn life skills such as goal setting, problem-solving and communicating. Volunteers can help young people move through the developmental stages and address difficulties along the way. One important way volunteers can help youth thrive is to help them build their Five C's. According to "Liberty: Thriving and civic engagement among America's youth" by Richard Lerner, the Five C's are competence, confidence, connection, character and compassion.

The Five C's aren't tangible things you can give to young people. They're skills and characteristics young people develop through their experiences and relationships. According to Zarrett and Lerner, young people who are able to display stronger evidence of having the Five C's are considered to be thriving and more likely to be developmentally on target than those who do not. Volunteers have the potential to assist young people in building the Five C's by creating relationships and situations that allow them to thrive.



MSU Extension recommends the following ideas to help Michigan 4-H volunteers working with youth to help build the Five C's.

- Help youth learn new concepts for the projects or activities they are participating in.
- Know youth names and address them by their preferred names and pronouns.
- Have youth find their spark by trying something new.
- Help youth navigate obstacles that they encounter.
- Help youth work through the tough side of giving away a project (i.e., selling an animal, giving away a project they worked hard on).
- Help youth record progress, no matter how small; each completed task is a job well done (i.e., maintain a "Done It List").
- Identify values or ethical standards a youth lives by. Do this with them. Write a non-negotiables list showing beliefs the youth will not alter. This helps alleviate peer pressure break downs.
- Define •confidence, competence, connection, character and compassion. Use one of these terms to define during a group meeting and discuss ways we show it. Align with the 4-H pledge and have youth brainstorm ways (or goals) to show these traits in the new 4-H year on paper. They can draw or write those ideas.
- Use simple ice breaker activities in pairs or small groups to help young people talk through or work on a common activity or topic. Have them share out loud to the larger group their shared connection or how they worked together to achieve a common goal (building competence and confidence, building connections).
- Focus on building relationship with the youth involved by really getting to know them (their hobbies, interests, events in school or family) and inquire about them with a genuine interest.
- Recognize specific positive behaviors or accomplishments in competence, confidence or character of youth in the club/group.
- Be compassionate in one's interactions with youth (and others) and serve as a role model in that behavior.



## Calendar of Events

### October 1-November 29

#### [Macomb County 4-H CrowdPower Campaign](#)

Please donate to help Macomb County 4-H offer program scholarships and purchase peer reviewed curricula, educational kits, and 4-H club and volunteer resource materials.

### November 24

#### [4-H Farming 101: Introduction to Poultry](#)

1-3 p.m., Wolcott Metropark Farm Center, Ray Twp.

### November 24

#### [4-H Craft Fair](#)

Macomb YMCA, Mount Clemens

### November 28-29

Macomb County offices closed. Happy Thanksgiving!

### November 29 – December 15:

#### [Fall TSC Paper Clover Campaign](#)

*Local Tractor Supply Co.*

Support 4-H by purchasing a \$1 paper clover at your local Tractor Supply Co. (TSC) store!

### December 3:

#### [Giving Tuesday](#)

*Online*

Join the #GivingTuesday movement — a global day of giving and a chance to celebrate the opportunities that makes 4-H so extraordinary. 4-H'ers are leading the way in a world full of change and together, we can build a generation ready for anything. We have set a goal to raise \$5,000 to grow 4-H county endowments in a 24-hour period.

### December 6-8

#### [Michigan 4-H Youth Leadership Institute](#)

MSU, East Lansing

### December 8

#### [4-H Farming 101: Introduction to Rabbits](#)

1-3 p.m., Wolcott Metropark Farm Center, Ray Twp.

### December 10:

#### [Wild Spartans – Forestry Fire Crew](#)

*Online*

Join 4-H staff to spark excitement in the world of wildland fire. Meet Jennifer Hansen and Courtney Kubitkey, who are on the forestry fire crew with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Learn about their work, and the education and career path they followed to get there. This free series is open to all youth ages 12-19 years. Pre-registration is required.

### December 17:

#### [Online Extension Extras - Helping Kids Manage Stress](#) *Online*

*Children and youth experience stress; parents and caregivers have an opportunity to support them. This workshop will cover common causes, signs and symptoms of stress, as well as discuss strategies for supporting children, youth and parents experiencing stress.*

### December 24-25 & 31

Macomb County offices closed

### January 1

Macomb County offices closed

### January 11-12

#### [Michigan 4-H Horse Show Judges & Volunteers Conference](#)

MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

### January 12

#### [4-H Farming 101: Introduction to Sheep](#)

1-3 p.m., Wolcott Metropark Farm Center, Ray Twp.

### January 25

#### [State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show & Expo](#)

MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

### January 26

#### [4-H Farming 101: Introduction to Goats](#)

1-3 p.m., Wolcott Metropark Farm Center, Ray Twp.

### February 9

#### [4-H Farming 101: Equine Exploration](#)

1-3 p.m., Wolcott Metropark Farm Center, Ray Twp.

### February 23

#### [4-H Farming 101: Dairy Cattle/Milk Exploration](#)

1-3 p.m., Wolcott Metropark Farm Center, Ray Twp.

### Macomb Co. 4-H'er awarded an MSU Pre-College Scholarship

Macomb County 4-H member Ashlyn E. has been awarded a \$2,000 [Michigan State University Pre-College Scholarship](#). Students in 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> grades for 2024-25 who attended an MSU summer pre-college program in the summer of 2024 were eligible to apply for this award. Ashlyn participated in 4-H Exploration Days, one of four pre-college programs offered by MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development. **Congratulations, Ashlyn!**

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