



4-H Family News

MACOMB COUNTY

NOVEMBER 2025

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Local youth invited to address global hunger

The World Food Prize is the foremost international award recognizing the accomplishments of individuals who have advanced human development by improving the quality, quantity, or availability of food in the world. The World Food Prize is a \$500,000 award formally presented at the Laureate Award Ceremony in mid-October, on or around World Food Day, in conjunction with the Borlaug Dialogue international symposium.

An extension of this prestigious event for youth, the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute, is held each year at the state level where students in grades 7-12 participate in a day of innovation and global impact. In Michigan, participants can attend the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute in person in East Lansing or virtually via Zoom. The event is hosted by Michigan State University.

Participants present a research paper on a key global food issue, discuss solutions with experts, and take part in interactive sessions exploring global food security and sustainability. The top participants earn the opportunity to represent Michigan at the World Food Prize Global Youth Institute in Des Moines, Iowa, in October 2026.

Macomb County 4-H is pleased and proud to announce that L'Anse Creuse High School-North 11th grader Jackson Weingartz was selected to represent Michigan at the national World Food Prize Global Youth Institute event next week in Des Moines, Iowa. Jackson will travel to the national event with four other students to participate at the national level.

Registration for the 2026 competition will be open February 1-March 15, 2026. There is no cost to participate. Learn more on the [World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute website](https://www.canr.msu.edu/macomb/).

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Macomb County Casual Day benefits 4-H



Thank you to the employees of Macomb County! Together, they donated \$592 to Macomb County 4-H in September through the county's Casual Days Program.



COUNTY 4-H NEWS

Macomb County 4-H enrollment deadlines

Macomb County youth may enroll in 4-H at any time during the 4-H program year (Sept. 1-Aug. 31), however, **RETURNING 4-H members** who plan to show 4-H projects at the Armada Fair must be re-enrolled no later than **November 1, 2025**. **NEW 4-H members** planning to show 4-H projects at the 2026 Armada Fair need to be enrolled in 4-H by **April 1, 2026**. Under certain circumstances, those registering late may request that the deadline be waived. Please direct requests for waivers to 4-H Program Coordinator Nikki Knight, knightn9@msu.edu or 586-469-5979.

Oakland University students prepare the 4-H Garden in Warren for winter



Make a Difference Day is an annual day of community service celebrated on the fourth Saturday of October, encouraging people to volunteer and help others. Established in 1992, it's one of the largest national days of volunteerism in the United States, promoting acts of kindness, community engagement, and a focus on making a positive impact through service activities.

This year, Make a Difference Day was on Saturday, October 25, 2025. For the last seven years, students from Oakland University have selected the 4-H Garden at the Max Thompson Family Resource Center in Warren as a beneficiary to receive help in cleaning and restoring the garden. Rain or shine, the students always show up and fulfill their obligation. The garden has been a hands-on learning lab for hundreds of Macomb County youth. During 4-H day camps and the A Day in the Garden program, kids learn best practices in growing their own food as well as how to harvest, eat and sometimes preserve their own food.

The Macomb County 4-H staff would like to thank the students for always lending a hand in the continued success of the garden.

Aztec, indigenous history and customs part of El Dia de los Muertos event



In honor of National Hispanic Heritage Month, youth gathered at the Max Thompson Family Resource Center in Warren on October 11 for a special Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebration! Hosted as part of the 4-H Global Education curriculum, the event gave participants a fun and creative way to learn about the history and meaning behind this colorful tradition.

Día de los Muertos has roots that go back more than 3,000 years to Indigenous peoples of Mexico, including the Aztecs, who honored their ancestors through month-long festivals. They believed that **Mictecacihuatl** ("Lady of the Dead") and **Mictlantecuhtli** ("Lord of the Dead") cared for the spirits of the departed. The familiar skeleton decorations we see today come from these ancient beliefs.

When Spanish colonizers arrived in the 16th century, the celebration was combined with All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day, moving it to November 1 and 2. Today, Día de los Muertos blends indigenous and Catholic traditions to joyfully remember loved ones who have passed away.

During the 4-H event, participants made traditional crafts to decorate their ofrendas (altars), learned about corn—using popcorn as a hands-on example—and even made horchata, a traditional sweet drink. It was a lively, well-attended event full of learning, creativity and cultural appreciation.

Happy Thanksgiving

from the Macomb County 4-H Staff

Lristi

Diane

Nikki

Rebecca



Kathy

Kea

Lizz

Roberta

WELCOME...

New volunteers as of
November 1:

- Hope Howell, 4-H Munchkins
- Andrea Seaton, Alarro



STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS



Support 4-H with the TSC Paper Clover Campaign

From Nov. 28 – Dec. 14, Tractor Supply Company (TSC) customers across the nation will have the opportunity to support 4-H youth by purchasing a \$1 clover at checkouts when shopping both in stores or online at www.TractorSupply.com during the campaign dates.

Funds raised will support county, state and national 4-H programming. To learn more, visit www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/cms/4h.

You can also support 4-H by purchasing three special commemorative 4-H holiday ornaments, now in TSC stores! Proceeds from the sale of ornaments support 4-H.

Join the 4-H For Good Challenge!

A simple act of kindness can spark a ripple of good — and you can be the spark! National 4-H Council is teaming up with Universal Pictures leading up to the release of *Wicked: For Good* on November 21 by celebrating the power of young people and communities and creating a wave of kindness.

Just like Elphaba and Glinda in *Wicked: For Good*, your choices can change the world. This challenge is open to everyone — youth, families, schools, workplaces, and community groups — and it's your chance to show how one good deed can inspire another.

Join the 4-H For Good Challenge in four easy steps:

1. **Do something good.** Big or small, every act counts. Help out, give back or simply show someone you care.
2. **Share your heart hands.** Snap a pic of your heart hand and write a short post about your good deed.
3. **Post it online.** Use the hashtag #4HForGood and tag 4-H.
4. **Challenge your crew.** Tag for friends and invite them to keep the good growing!



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



On October 8, MSU Extension hosted the third 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're immensely proud of the Michigan 4-H program, which has been shaping futures and transforming communities for more than 115 years," said Quentin Tyler, MSU Extension director. "We're grateful for the opportunity to showcase this remarkable program to our state leaders for the third consecutive year and to bring additional awareness to the life-changing impact of 4-H."

Michigan 4-H Day at the Capitol was attended by legislators, stakeholders and members of the public. At the event, attendees visited information booths hosted by Michigan 4-H youth and staff. A brief program was held, featuring Tyler, as well as: Representative Jerry Neyer; MSU President Kevin Guskiewicz; Jackie Venton, Michigan Department of State Chief Operating Officer and a Michigan 4-H alumna; Logan Dole, Michigan 4-H youth from Clare County; and Danykah Muck, Michigan 4-H youth from Livingston County.

The program was livestreamed on the Michigan 4-H Facebook and can be viewed at www.facebook.com/Michigan4H.

Save the Date! Registration for [World Food Prize MI Youth Institute](#) will be open February 1-March 15, 2026.



STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Save the date: 2026 4-H State Shooting Sports Tournament is August 15

4-H Shooting Sports Instructors: Save the date for the 2026 4-H State Shooting Sports Tournament. The tournament date is August 15, 2026 at [Centerline of Calhoun](#), 23100 13 Mile Rd. Bellevue, MI 49021. More information will be posted on the [State Tournament Website](#) as it becomes available.

Webinar offers tools for club leaders – November 18

Are you thinking about leading a 4-H club or refreshing your leadership skills? On November 18, join MSU Extension 4-H staff online for So You Want to be a Club Leader? Let's Talk! This engaging session explores what it really takes to be an effective and inspired 4-H club leader – from logistics to communication to building positive club culture and meaningful connections. Whether you're brand-new or a seasoned volunteer, you'll leave with tools to lead with heart and purpose. Register for either the [Noon](#) or [7 p.m.](#) session to receive the meeting link. Learn more at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/volunteering/mi-4-h-volunteer-webinar-series>.

**2026 Michigan 4-H
Cash Composition Contest**

Write a brief 300 word essay addressing fraud and scams, and have the chance to earn a \$100 gift card!

Essays Due: March 1st, 2026
Winners Announced: April 1st, 2026

See website for contest details and requirements!



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

Cash Composition Contest

Scams and fraud don't discriminate by age! Michigan youth ages 9-19 are invited to enter the 2026 Michigan 4-H Cash Composition Contest on the theme of scams & fraud. Participants can win a \$100 gift card, thanks to Extra Credit Union. Essays are due March 1, 2026. Learn more & enter at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-money-smarts/money-smart-kids-contest>

Get your 4-H ornaments at Tractor Supply Company

**4-H 2025 Holiday Ornaments
are Here!**



Collect all 3!

TRACTOR SUPPLY COMPANY

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

Celebrate the spirit of the season while supporting 4-H youth across the country! The 2025 4-H Ornament Collection is now available exclusively at Tractor Supply stores nationwide and online. Don't wait too long—quantities are limited, and these collectible ornaments tend to sell out fast each year.

Visit your local Tractor Supply or shop online today to get yours before they're gone! Learn more at <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/brand/4-H>

Michigan 4-H license plates now available!

**MICHIGAN 4-H
LICENSE PLATE**

SUPPORT 4-H AND
SHOW YOUR 4-H PRIDE!

AVAILABLE AT
THE MICH. SOS



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

Michigan 4-H license plates now available! Members of the Michigan 4-H community can show their 4-H pride while supporting 4-H youth development programming by purchasing a Michigan 4-H license plate. The Michigan 4-H license plate will cost \$35, with \$25 of the purchase fee benefiting Michigan 4-H. A \$10 fee will also be charged to benefit Michigan 4-H when the plate is renewed. License plates may be ordered by visiting

Michigan.gov/sos, by mailing in a form or scheduling a visit to any Secretary of State office. Learn more at extension.msu.edu/4-HPlate.

**Michigan 4-H
Adulting 101
Navigating Tough
Talks: Conflict
Resolution and
Civil Discourse**

Thursday,
November 13
6:30-7:30pm ET
FREE on Zoom

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

Disagreements are a natural part of life—but how we handle them makes all the difference. Join MSU Extension's Adulting 101: Navigating Tough Talks – Conflict Resolution and Civil Discourse workshop to build essential skills for managing conflict with confidence, respect and empathy.

In this interactive session, youth will learn practical strategies to:

- Communicate effectively during disagreements
- Listen with an open mind
- Express their views respectfully
- Find common ground even when opinions differ

By the end of the workshop, participants will feel more prepared to handle challenging conversations—whether with friends, family or classmates—and strengthen their relationships through patience and understanding. Learn more and register at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-toughtalks>.



CALENDARS OF EVENTS

4-H Thriving Model of Positive Youth Development



The 4-H Thriving Model and 4-H Beyond Ready work hand-in-hand to prepare youth for success. The Thriving Model focuses on how quality 4-H experiences help young people grow by building sparks, relationships, and a sense of belonging that leads to thriving. Beyond Ready builds on this foundation by helping youth take what they've learned and apply it school, careers and real life.

Together, they ensure that 4-H youth don't just gain skills, but also the confidence, adaptability, and resilience to use those skills in the future. Through this connection, young people are not only supported in their personal growth today but are equipped to be "beyond ready" for whatever comes next.

Contact your local 4-H staff for more information.

MACOMB COUNTY 4-H EVENTS

November 1

Deadline for returning Macomb County 4-H members who plan to show 4-H projects at the 2026 Armada Fair to re-enroll in [4-H Online](#).

November 2

[4-H Meets Wolcott-Farming 101: Animals & Agriculture Kickoff & Farm Tour](#)
10 a.m.-Noon, Wolcott Mill Metropark Farm Center, Ray Township

November 9

Macomb County 4-H Horse Program Banquet
1 p.m., Zuccaro's Banquets & Catering, Chesterfield Township

November 10

Macomb County 4-H Awards Banquet
6:30 p.m., Fern Hill Golf Club, Clinton Township

November 11

Macomb County offices closed

November 16

[4-H Meets Wolcott-Farming 101: Animals & Agriculture \(Horses\)](#)
1 p.m., Wolcott Mill Metropark Farm Center, Ray Township

November 27-28

Macomb County offices closed

November 30

[4-H Meets Wolcott-Farming 101: Animals & Agriculture \(Goats\)](#)
1 p.m., Wolcott Mill Metropark Farm Center, Ray Township

OTHER LOCAL EVENTS

November 26

Last day enter a float in the [Armada Holly Days Parade](#)

STATEWIDE & NATIONAL 4-H EVENTS

November 10-December 15

[Online Parent Talk System Webinar Series](#)
Online

This parenting workshop is designed to improve communication and provide strategies for raising confident, caring, responsible children. Caregivers of toddlers to teens will explore eliminating unwanted behavior, setting limits, teaching about consequences, giving effective feedback, promoting independence and developing character. Participants will meet for six week on Mondays.

November 11

[Wild Spartans - Wildfire & Warriors: Science Where You Least Expect It](#)
Online

Meet Michele Richards, natural resources and wildland fire program manager with the Michigan Army National Guard. Learn about her work and the education and career path she followed to get there. This free virtual series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19 years.

November 12

[4-H Chef Turkey Cheese Ball](#)
Lenawee County MSU Extension Office, Adrian
Youth ages 5-11 will create a cheese ball that is perfect as a Thanksgiving appetizer.

November 13

[Adulting 101 – Conflict Resolution and Civil Discourse](#)
Online

Participants will learn how to manage disagreements with respect and open-mindedness, paving the way for stronger, healthier relationships. Leave with strategies to approach conflict confidently, express oneself respectfully, and find common ground with others.

November 15

[4-H Holidays Around the World Workshop – Diwali](#)
Flat Rock Public Library, Flat Rock

Open to youth in grades 3–8, this hands-on workshop invites participants to learn about the traditions and cultural significance of Diwali, one of India's most celebrated holidays.

November 18

MI 4-H Volunteer Webinar Series: So You Want to Be a Club Leader?

[Noon-1 p.m.](#) or [7-8 p.m.](#), Online

Thinking about leading a club or want to refresh your leadership skills? Join to learn what it takes to be an effective and inspired club leader—from logistics and communication to culture and connection.



Save the date! 4-H Night with the Toledo Walleye is March 22, 2026.

Tickets are \$17 for 4-H members and their families. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit <https://u.osu.edu/cloverstem/2025/10/16/4-h-night-with-the-toledo-walleye/>



Beyond Ready



Subscribe to MSU Extension-Macomb's Program Guide to find out what MSU Extension is offering this month in Macomb County!