



4-H Family News

APRIL 2026
Volume 10 Issue 8

MACOMB COUNTY



4-H'er Addison Smith is Miss Armada

A special congratulations goes out to 4-H member Addison Smith on being crowned Miss Armada 2026! Addison is a senior at Armada High School and is a member of the North Macomb 4-H Robotics Club! She is a member of the National Honor Society and a member of the trap and track teams at Armada High School. Addison's plans after high school are to attend Saint Clair Community College to become a Pediatric Dental hygienist.



Congratulations to Addison, the 4-H community is so excited for you, and we can't wait to see all the amazing thing you will do, Miss Armada!

Show your 4-H volunteer appreciation

April is Volunteer Appreciation Month. Is there a Macomb County 4-H volunteer that you appreciate? Tell us about it here: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/4LmGz0TQe6>. We may share responses received during the month of April.

Reminder: Enrollment deadlines

- All youth members planning to show **non-livestock 4-H projects** at the 2026 Armada Fair must be [enrolled in 4-H](#) by **April 1**. *Members planning to show 4-H livestock projects at the 2026 Armada Fair needed to be enrolled in 4-H by January 1, 2026.*
- Macomb County 4-H youth members who do **not** plan to show 4-H projects at the 2026 Armada Fair may enroll in 4-H at any time during the current 4-H program year, before they participate in 4-H meetings, events and/or activities.

Macomb County 4-H Rabbit Clinic – April 12

The Macomb County 4-H Rabbit Clinic will be held on April 12th at 11 a.m. in the Grange Hall on the Armada Fairgrounds in Armada. The clinic is FREE and open to all Macomb County 4-H members.

Topics covered will include:

- 1) Raising Meat Rabbits
- 2) Breeding for Market Class
- 3) Proper Rabbit Care.

Please use this form to register by April 9th:

<https://forms.office.com/r/5Ra9eha0YU>

For more information, contact

4-H Rabbit Superintendent Kathy Matthews at 586-419-9968.



MACOMB COUNTY 4-H STAFF

Kristi Evans, District 11 Director

Kathy Jamieson, 4-H Educator

Elizabeth Duran, 4-H Program Coordinator

Rebecca Konarski, 4-H Program Coordinator

Diane Wisnewski, Supervising 4-H Educator

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WEBSITE

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/macomb/4-h/>

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COUNTY 4-H NEWS & EVENTS

4-H Poultry Clinic: Market, Showmanship & Breed



Join Poultry Superintendents Lori Clough and Susan Lain, with Wolcott Farm Interpreter Mary Barnes, for a Poultry Clinic from 1-3 p.m. on April 19, 2026 at Wolcott Mill Metropark Farm Learning Center Greenhouse, 65775 Wolcott Road, Ray Township and get answers to your questions, enhance your skills, and be ready for success this fair season!

It's free and open to anyone who wants to learn about poultry showmanship. Register at <https://forms.office.com/r/MqsdBXvtp1>. Questions? Contact 4-H Program Coordinator Rebecca Konarski at 586-783-8163 or konars13@msu.edu.

Coggins & Vaccination Clinic for 4-H Riders

Thumb Veterinary Services will be hosting a Coggins & Vaccination Clinic for 4-H riders on April 18 at Camp Rotary – Wolcott Mill. Discounted pricing will be offered for 4-H members. The deadline to sign up for Clinic is April 10, 2026.

This is a haul-in, appointment-based event (rain or shine) and pre-registration is required to manage scheduling. A minimum of 10 horses is needed to host the clinic.

Dr. Felster will also offer an Equine First Aid demonstration following the clinic for those interested. You may attend the first aid portion only, even if you do not need Coggins or vaccinations.

If you are interested in any portion of this event, please complete this form:

<https://forms.gle/4PWrcu2wrVxZcLbn8>.

The form will help track attendance and scheduling preferences. Appointment times will be assigned and communicated after registration closes.

2026 Macomb County 4-H Horse Show Dates

- May 23 - Lights
- May 24 - Mini/Pony/Draft
- May 30 - Lights
- May 31 - Mini/Pony/Draft
- June 6 - Lights
- June 7 - Mini/Pony/Draft

Shows are at the Armada Fairgrounds in Armada. Forms and patterns are online at

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/macomb/4-h/councils-committees-/horse-program-committee/>.

Signing Day - Class of 2026 Seniors

High school seniors are invited to celebrate their 4-H success as they prepare to graduate and take the next step and choose a path forward - work, apprentice program, military, or higher education. The event will take place on **Sunday, May 17, 2026 from 1:30-2:30pm at the Armada Fairgrounds in Barn 3**. Attendees will receive a certificate, pin, and small gift in recognition from the Macomb County 4-H Youth Council for this milestone. Registration is required by May 5th and youth must be enrolled in Macomb County 4-H. Register online at <https://forms.gle/gZkPPMT4FBY8G2ho8>

Save the dates for other Macomb County 4-H Youth Council events

Check their Instagram page for updates: [@macombcounty4hyc](https://www.instagram.com/macombcounty4hyc)

Leather Project

May 17, 2026 • 12:30-1:30 p.m.
Armada Fairgrounds, Barn 3
74280 Fair Street, Armada
Led by Avery Stallmann & Angelina Accuso

Culinary "Chopped" Workshop

July 7, 2026 • 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
MSU Extension/VerKuilen Building
21885 Dunham Road, Clinton Township

4-H Year-End Party!

September 12, 2026 • 3-7 p.m.
Armada Fairgrounds, Barn 3
74280 Fair Street, Armada
Macomb County 4-H Youth Council



The next Macomb County 4-H Horse Program Committee Meeting is April 27th at 6:30 p.m. at The Armada Fair Office, 74280 Fair Street, Armada.



Discover Macomb County 4-H!



Whether you want to:

- Join an existing club or start a new one
- Start a 4-H program at your school or in your community
- Volunteer or partner with 4-H



The Macomb County 4-H staff can help you do it!

586-469-6431 macomb.4h@macombgov.org



OTHER LOCAL NEWS & EVENTS

Armada Fair Updates:

Club Forms: Club forms are due to the Armada Fair Office BEFORE May 1, 2026. Contact the Armada Fair Office at 586-784-5488 or office@armadafair.org for the form and more information.

4-H/Youth Organizations Entries: 4-H/Youth Organizations entries will be accepted May 1-31, 2026, either online or in-person at the Armada Fair Office, 74280 Fair Street, Armada. Forms and additional information are available online at <https://www.armadafair.org/exhibitors>.

Tagging Dates:

Swine - Sunday, June 14, 2026, 8-10:30 a.m.
Goats, Sheep, & Prospect Beef –
Sunday, June 14, 2026, 10:30 a.m.-Noon
All Poultry & Rabbits –
Sunday, July 19, 2026, 10 a.m. – Noon

Armada Fair Clean-Up:

Save the dates! The Armada Fair Clean-Up dates are June 14 & August 9, 2026. Event times will be announced. Come and help ready the Armada Fairgrounds (74280 Fair Street, Armada) for the 2026 Armada Fair season!

AAS Scholarships: The Armada Agricultural Society is sponsoring two scholarships for seniors. The Bill Hahn Memorial Scholarship and the Leif Carlson Memorial Scholarship are offered in remembrance of the organization's former president and board member Bill Hahn and longtime volunteer Leif Carlson. Each scholarship is awarded to two graduating high school seniors annually.

Applicants must be graduating seniors who will be attending an institution of higher learning (not limited to colleges or universities) and must have been a volunteer, employee, open class exhibitor or Youth Organizations exhibitor at the Armada Fair. This includes Miss Armada and her court. Grades and financial need are not considerations for this scholarship.

Application forms and additional information are available online at <https://www.armadafair.org/scholarship>.

Apply by April 15, 2026. Questions should be directed to the Armada Agricultural Society Sponsorship Committee via the Armada Fair Office at 586-784-5488.

Volunteers Needed for Project RED

The Macomb County Farm Bureau's Project R.E.D. (Rural Education Day) is Tuesday, April 21st from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at the Armada Fairgrounds in Armada. The hands-on event introduces 3rd graders to Michigan agriculture through interactive sessions on crops, animals, greenhouses, and more. To volunteer, contact 4-H Program Coordinator Rebecca Konarski at 586-783-8163.

Have a Question? Ask Extension!

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/outreach/ask-an-expert>

MSU Extension – Macomb Program Guide

Read the current MSU Extension-Macomb Program Guide [here](#). Subscribe to find out what MSU Extension is offering each month in Macomb County!

<https://forms.office.com/r/Pde7XzQpai>

Other Upcoming MSU Extension Programs

Extension Extras for Parents

Extension Extras For Parents is a free series of online parenting workshops designed to provide guidance for parents of children as they navigate the challenges, concerns, and joys of parenting. Register for one or more.

April 7:

[Screen Time for Children](#): This workshop will help participants learn about how screen time and other media exposure impacts children, learn the screen time recommendations for infants, toddlers, and young children and understand ways to decrease screen time for young children.

April 14:

[Talking with Kids About the Birds & the Bees](#): Explore the importance of having honest discussions about bodies, the birds & the bees, and how to have age-appropriate conversations with your child that build a relationship of open communication and trust.

April 21:

[Together We Can - Co-Parenting](#): Parenting is a team effort. The adults in a child's life need to consider their children's needs as they parent together. Build upon your knowledge & skills to promote healthy family & parenting relationships.

April 28:

[Positive Discipline](#): -Learn about techniques that focus on positive discipline that can help you create an environment that is safe, fun and focuses on learning while helping children develop self-control and minimizing behavior problems.

Class Time: 7:30-9 p.m. | **Cost:** FREE

Register:

https://msu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_niFCQDzYRKG_Cnu3qCa5vmw#/registration



STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Register now for 4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp

4-H Great Lakes and Natural Resources Camp mixes summer fun and hands-on science education. The camp will be held July 26-August 1 on the shores of Lake Esau at Camp Chickagami in Presque Isle and is open to youth ages 13-15 during camp.

During this enriching MSU Extension educational program, campers will increase their science literacy and stewardship as they learn from natural resource experts in fields such as Great Lakes coastal and fisheries management, limnology, wildlife, forestry, geography, geology and environmental education. In addition to hands-on learning, attendees also enjoy exciting natural resources recreation activities such as kayaking, swimming, sailing, archery, fishing, snorkeling, evening campfires and more!



Registration is now open! The registration fee is \$550 and includes six nights of lodging, all meals and snacks, a t-shirt and program and activity costs. Space is limited to 70 campers so register today. For more information and to register, visit www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_great_lakes_natural_resources_camp/.

Register for 4-H Exploration Days!



Join 1,000 youth from across Michigan on MSU's campus to explore YOUR future! This three-day pre-college program is designed to help you explore careers, build skills and envision your future. Choose from more than 100 fun learning sessions on a variety of topics that are led by MSU faculty, 4-H staff and volunteers, and other experts. You'll stay in and eat at MSU residence halls, attend sessions in buildings throughout campus, and of course have fun at free-time activities across the university!

4-H Exploration days will be held June 24-26 at MSU in East Lansing. Young people ages 12 to 19 are invited to join the fun! The cost for the 2026 event is \$250, which includes two nights' lodging in a residence hall, meals, learning sessions, an event t-shirt and free-time activities. Contact your local MSU Extension office to find out if your county 4-H program offers scholarships for youth participants.

Registration is open and closes April 17. You'll want to register soon – sessions fill up fast and are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis! For registration links or more information, visit www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days/.

In Macomb County: Sign up at <https://forms.office.com/r/Q0DL4Mv63d> to receive event updates, Macomb County busing and orientation details, and more. Riding the bus to Exploration Days is free to Macomb County participants this year thanks to the generosity of the [Romeo](#) and [Clinton Township](#) Kiwanis clubs.

Purple up for military families!



April is the Month of the Military Child, an annual awareness campaign that recognizes the sacrifices made by military families and their children. In partnership with many others across the United States, Michigan 4-H Military Partnerships is participating in the annual "Purple Up!" Day event. To show your support of children whose parents are serving in the military, MSU Extension and Michigan 4-H are asking residents throughout Michigan to Purple Up! on April 15.

The color purple is chosen as the signature color because it symbolizes all branches of the military. It is a combination of Army green, Coast Guard blue, Air Force blue, Marine red and Navy blue. Michigan 4-H Military Partnerships hopes everyone will take this opportunity to appreciate and celebrate all of our state's young heroes strength and sacrifice as their parents serve. Let's show our military families how much we appreciate their service by encouraging everyone to Purple Up!

Looking for more ways to celebrate Month of the Military Child? Visit www.4hmilitarypartnership.org/month-of-the-military-child.html. For more programs and resources available to military families through Michigan 4-H, visit www.canr.msu.edu/4h_military_families.

Make the Most of Your Market Animal Project

This webinar series helps 4-H'ers ages 8-19 build confidence, improve marketing skills, and boost auction success.

Learn SMART Goals, Communication, Marketing Strategies, Record Keeping & Break-Even Points, and Social Media Promotion.

Webinars run Tuesdays, April 21-May 19 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. on Zoom. FREE!

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/make-the-most-of-your-market-livestock-project>



CALENDARS OF EVENTS

**Building
awareness in
4-H experiences**



**Beyond
Ready**

Helping young people understand that they are part of 4-H and what that means is a key part of strengthening their overall experience. Awareness builds pride, connection and a sense of belonging.

As volunteers, you play an essential role in helping youth and families recognize when they are participating in 4-H and how activities connect to the values and learning within the program.

Simple, intentional steps can make a big difference.

- Have the 4-H flag and recite the 4-H pledge.
- Use the 4-H clover on handouts and materials when possible.
- Make clear connections between activities and one of the four Hs.

These actions help youth see themselves as true 4-H members engaged in meaningful learning.

#BeyondReady

Macomb County 4-H Events

April 1

4-H member enrollment deadline for youth showing non-4-H livestock projects at the 2026 Armada Fair
<https://v2.4honline.com>

April 12

Macomb County 4-H Rabbit Clinic
11 a.m., Grange Hall, Armada Fairgrounds, Armada
<https://forms.office.com/r/5Ra9eha0YU>

April 18

Coggins & Vaccination Clinic for 4-H Youth
Camp Rotary, Ray Township. Sign up by April 10.
<https://forms.gle/4PWrcu2wrVxZclbn8>

April 19

4-H Poultry Clinic: Market, Showmanship & Breed
1-3 p.m., Wolcott Mill Metropark Farm Learning Center
Greenhouse, Ray Township
<https://forms.office.com/r/MqsdBXvtp1>

April 27

Macomb Co. 4-H Horse Prg. Committee Mtg.
Armada Fair Office, Armada

May 17

4-H Leather Project
12:30-1:30 p.m., Armada Fairgrounds, Barn 3,
Armada

May 17

4-H Senior Signing Day
1:30-2:30 p.m., Armada Fairgrounds, Barn 3, Armada

May 23, 30 & June 6

Macomb County 4-H Horse Show (Lights)
Armada Fairgrounds, Armada

May 24, 31 & June 7

Macomb County 4-H Horse Show (Mini/Pony/Draft)
Armada Fairgrounds, Armada

July 7

4-H Culinary "Chopped" Workshop
10 a.m.-1 p.m., MSU Extension, Clinton Township

**How
social
are
you?**

**Tag or mention us on your
club or committee posts!**
Facebook: MacombMSUE4h
Instagram: macombmsue4h



Other Local Events

April 15

Armada Agricultural Society Scholarship Application
deadline (Bill Hahn and Leif Carlson memorial
scholarships)
<https://www.armadafair.org/scholarship>

April 21

Macomb County Farm Bureau
Project R.E.D.
9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Armada Fairgrounds, Armada.

April 28

Positive Discipline
7:30-9 p.m., online

May 1

Armada Fair club forms due to the Armada Fair Office
before May 1. Contact the Armada Fair Office at
586-784-5488 or office@armadafair.org for information.

May 1-31

Armada Fair 4-H/Youth Organizations entry forms
accepted online or in person at the Armada Fair Office.

June 14

Armada Fair Clean-Up #1
Armada Fairgrounds, Armada (Details TBA)

June 14

[Armada Fair Swine Tagging](#)
8-10:30 a.m., Armada Fairgrounds, Armada

June 14

[Armada Fair Goat, Sheep, Prospect Beef Tagging](#)
10:30 a.m.-Noon, Armada Fairgrounds, Armada

July 19

[Armada Fair Poultry & Rabbit Tagging](#)
10 a.m.-Noon, Armada Fairgrounds, Armada

August 9

Armada Fair Clean-Up #2
Armada Fairgrounds, Armada (Details TBA)

National Volunteer Recognition Month

Know someone who goes above and beyond for their community? The Macomb County Board of Commissioners is seeking nominations for the **2026 Volunteer Recognition Program**.

Each Commissioner will select two outstanding volunteers from their district to be honored at a special recognition reception this April. Help us highlight the individuals who strengthen Macomb County through their service.

Submit nominations by 5 p.m. on April 10, 2026:
<https://bit.ly/3NhMz0c>



CALENDARS OF EVENTS (CONTINUED)

Statewide & National 4-H Events

April 1-21

Smart Money Missions Goosechase Game

Online (Goosechase App)

Join an interactive scavenger hunt game designed for youth to learn essential money management skills while having fun. Players age 13-19 complete creative missions, answer trivia and solve puzzles, all while earning points to climb the leaderboard.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/smart-money-missions

April 7

Extension Extras for Parents: Screen Time for Children

7:30-9 p.m., online

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/online-parenting-screen-time-4-7-26>

April 11

Michigan 4-H & FFA State Horse Judging Contest

Michigan State University, East Lansing

<https://events.canr.msu.edu/events/MI4HHORSEJUDGING26/>

April 12

Michigan 4-H Day with the Detroit Tigers

Comerica Park, Detroit

Join Michigan 4-H and MSU Extension for a fun day at the ballpark as the Detroit Tigers take on the Miami Marlins on Sunday, April 12. Michigan 4-H will be honored as the Group Charity of the Game.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-day-with-the-detroit-tigers

April 13

Adulting 101 – Eat Smart: Meals on a Budget

Online

Simple tips to plan meals that save money and taste great. Plus learn how to cook once and eat twice!

www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-eat-smart

April 13

4-H Youth in Action Program application deadline

<https://4-h.org/programs/4-h-youth-in-action-program/>

April 14

Extension Extras for Parents: Talking with Kids About the Birds & the Bees

7:30-9 p.m., online

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/online-parenting-birds-bees-4-14-26>

April 15

Purple Up! Day

April is the Month of the Military Child. MSU Extension and Michigan 4-H are asking residents throughout Michigan to wear purple on April 15th in support of children whose parents are serving in the military.

<http://www.4-hmilitarypartnership.org/month-of-the-military-child.html>

April 17-May 3

Spring TSC Paper Clover Campaign

Tractor Supply Stores everywhere

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

www.canr.msu.edu/events/spring-tractor-supply-co-paper-clover-campaign

April 21

Extension Extras for Parents - Together We Can: Co-Parenting

7:30-9 p.m., online

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/online-parenting-together-we-can-4-21-26>

April 21

Make the Most of Your Market Animal Project – Goal Getters

Online

Learn how to set SMART goals to enhance your livestock marketing success. Youth will learn practical strategies to develop a goal, stay focused and achieve it.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/market-animal-project-webinar4-21

April 22

Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar – Let's Talk it Out: Handling

Conflict with Ease

Online

Conflict happens—even to the best volunteer groups. Learn how to handle tough conversations without the stress. Pick up practical tips for turning disagreements into productive dialogue and keeping your volunteer experience positive and drama-free.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-let-s-talk-it-out-handling-conflict-with-ease

April 28

Extension Extras for Parents: Positive Discipline

7:30-9 p.m., online

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/online-parenting-positive-discipline-4-28-26>

April 28

Make the Most of Your Market Animal Project – Talk the Talk

Online

Effective communication is key to successfully selling livestock. Learn tools and techniques to connect with buyers, convey product value and empower youth with tips for impactful auctions and markets.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/market-animal-project-webinars-april-28

June 24-26

4-H Exploration Days

Michigan State University, East Lansing

www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days

July 26-August 1

4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp

Camp Chickagami, Presque Isle

http://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_great_lakes_natural_resources_camp/

July 31

Last day to log trail miles for the Statewide 4-H Trail Riding Recognition Program

https://msu.co1.Qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bOyn5zWORdTsyfY