



# 4-H Family News

Macomb County, MI | Volume 6 Issue 7 | March 2021

## Macomb County 4-H News & Events

### 2021 Virtual 4-H Skillathon - March 20

In March, three regions across Michigan will each host a free 4-H Skillathon. Participants ages 8-adult are invited to test their knowledge and comprehension of Animal Science and Livestock Management in 10 different categories: Rabbits, Poultry, Dogs, Sheep, Goats, Swine, Beef, Dairy, Horses, and General Knowledge (Animal Care & Well-Being, Tools, Crops, Biosecurity, etc.).

Age divisions are Novice (8-11 years), Junior (12-14 years), Senior (15-19 years), and adult (open to current adult 4-H volunteers ages 20+). Scores will be weighted evenly. Contestants who place in the top 20<sup>th</sup> percentile of each age division will qualify for the Michigan Skillathon State Championship held on April 10<sup>th</sup>. All participants will receive a 4-H Livestock Skillathon t-shirt. The top five scorers in each competition level will get a Skillathon hoodie.



The Skillathon for Region 3: Southeast Michigan is March 20, 2021 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Region 3 includes Bay, Genesee, Hillsdale, Huron, Jackson, Lapeer, Lenawee, Livingston, **Macomb**, Midland, Monroe, Oakland, Saginaw, Sanilac, Shiawassee, St. Clair, Tuscola, Washtenaw, and Wayne counties. Adults and Seniors will join the Zoom meeting at 8:30 a.m. and their competition will begin promptly at 9 a.m. Juniors and Novices will join the Zoom meeting at 11 a.m. and their competition will begin promptly at 11:30 a.m.

**Registration is required by March 1** to receive the Skillathon Zoom link. Statewide, there are currently 145 registrants. So far two members are from Macomb County.

For more information or to register, visit <https://events.anr.msu.edu/skillathon/>. Links to study resources are listed [here](#). Rules and regulations are available online at [www.canr.msu.edu/otsego/4-h/2021-michigan-4-h-skillathon](http://www.canr.msu.edu/otsego/4-h/2021-michigan-4-h-skillathon).



### Macomb County Spring 4-H Leader Meet - April 1

Macomb County 4-H club leaders, mark your calendars! You're invited to attend the [Spring 4-H Club Leader Meet](#) from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on April 1, 2021. Share your success stories, brainstorm new ideas, and get important updates on policy, procedures and upcoming events. The meeting will be held via Zoom. Watch your inbox for the link, meeting ID and passcode or contact Macomb County 4-H Office. We hope to see you there!



## S.T.E.A.M. Careers SPIN Club starts March 2

Hey! Are you interested in learning more about S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) careers as a career pathway? This exciting series of STEAM Careers is being offered for high school youth to offer exposure to employment opportunities in a variety of fields. Different session topics will be offered on Tuesdays from March 2nd - April 6th from 4:00-5:00 p.m. EST. To receive club access, please make sure all high school youth who are interested are registered in [4-H Online](#).

Interested in sharing your STEAM career pathway with youth? We are looking for panelists to share their experiences. Please email Ally Baird ([bairdal2@msu.edu](mailto:bairdal2@msu.edu)) with questions. Visit <https://bit.ly/2NCbVXf> to receive more information about this club. **Register by 11:59 p.m. on March 1.**

## Great 4-H Clover Bake-off - March 14-17

The Macomb County 4-H Youth Council is hosting a social media challenge the week of St. Patrick's Day. What better way to celebrate this green holiday than by showing your 4-H pride through baking?!

YOU could win a gift card! Participate in the **Great 4-H Clover Bakeoff** in just four (4) easy steps:

1. Create your 4-H themed treat. Anything green goes! Think homemade shamrock shakes, clover cupcakes, green Rice Krispies treats, etc. Put those creative thinking caps on and get started!
2. Take a picture of your delicious treat!
3. Post the picture on Facebook and/or Instagram from **Sunday, March 14-Wednesday, March 17**. Be sure to tag us **@MacombMSUE4H**
4. All participants who post a photo between March 14 and 17 on social media AND tag Macomb County 4-H will be entered into a drawing to receive a gift card!



## Macomb County 4-H volunteer creates art project videos

Are you looking for art projects for your club? Check out these fun art project videos from Macomb County 4-H Volunteer Lori Clough of School Section 4-H Club.

### *The Squiggle Game*



### *Egg Carton Face (recycled art)*



*Nature Leaf Print (printing)*



## Other Local News & Events

### **Armada Fair news**

**Tagging Dates:** Armada Fair livestock tagging dates are listed online at <https://armadafair.org/livestocksale>.

**Bill Hahn Scholarship:** The Armada Agricultural Society sponsors the Bill Hahn Memorial Scholarship in memory of former president and longtime board member, Bill Hahn. The scholarship will be awarded yearly to two high school graduating seniors. The applicant must have been a volunteer, employee, Open Class exhibitor or Youth Organizations exhibitor at the Armada Fair to apply. This would include Miss Armada and her court.

Applications must be postmarked no later than April 15th and may be mailed to the Armada Agricultural Society, P.O. Box 507, Armada, MI 48005, dropped off at the Armada Fair Office during normal business hours or emailed to the fair office by 11:59 p.m. April 15th. [office@armadafair.org](mailto:office@armadafair.org). More information about the scholarship can be found online [here](#).

**Miss Armada:** Do you know a single young woman between the ages of 17 and 24, who either attends, graduated from or lives in the Armada Area School district? Is she personable, articulate, mature, confident and sincere? Does she possess knowledge of the Armada Fair and her community? If so, please nominate her for MISS ARMADA 2021! Ladies do not have to be nominated to submit an application. [Nominations](#) are due March 26, 2021. [Applications](#) are due April 19, 2021. For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/3pE9qRL>, call 586-784-5488 or email [office@armadafair.org](mailto:office@armadafair.org).

## Statewide 4-H News & Events

### **Apply for Mark of Excellence**

Michigan 4-H'ers ages 11-12 are invited to apply for a Mark of Excellence Award. To apply for this state-level award, write and submit an essay (500 words or less) that focuses on the theme,

"Because of 4-H I can..." Essays are due to your county MSU Extension 4-H Office no later than **April 1, 2021**. For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/2LNpfqU> or contact your county's MSU Extension 4-H Office.

### Apply for a 2021 4-H State Award!

Michigan 4-H true leaders ages 11 and older have an opportunity to be recognized for the great work they do in 4-H by completing a state award application. A Michigan 4-H State Award is the highest honor bestowed on a Michigan 4-H member and provides an opportunity to receive recognition for their engagement in rich learning experiences that result in outstanding knowledge and life-skill development.



State award applications are divided into four categories: Mark of Excellence essay contest (11-12 years old), junior state award (13-15 years old), senior state award (16-19 years old) and group awards (13-19 years old). The application process and selection is determined by the age of the 4-H member.

More information about the Michigan 4-H State Award process can be found online at <http://bit.ly/stateaward>. **Applications are due April 1, 2021**. For more information, contact your 4-H program coordinator Lizz Duran, [duraneli@msu.edu](mailto:duraneli@msu.edu) or email Janice Zerbe at [rajzerj@msu.edu](mailto:rajzerj@msu.edu).



### 4-H Youth in Action Awards Applications Now Open

Apply now for the 2022 4-H Youth in Action Awards! Each year, the program recognizes four confident young leaders with diverse backgrounds and unique perspectives in the pillar areas of agriculture, civic engagement, healthy living and STEM.

Winners will have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to share their stories along with unforgettable experiences, celebration on the national stage, recognition in the media and a \$5,000 college scholarship.

This opportunity is open to youth age 15-19. The deadline to apply is March 29. Learn more and apply at <https://4-h.org/parents/4-h-youth-in-action-awards/>.



### Michigan 4-H presents American Ninja Warrior Daniel Gil

Join Michigan 4-H on March 24 for a special presentation by 2020 American Ninja Warrior winner Daniel Gil! During the free virtual event, Gil will discuss overcoming obstacles. This unique opportunity is open to all Michigan youth and their families. The event will take place at 6:30 p.m. EST. Preregistration is required. To register, visit [www.canr.msu.edu/events/daniel-gil-presentation](http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/daniel-gil-presentation)

### Culture Experience - March 13

The [MSU Community Language School](#) is partnering again with MSU Extension to host the [Virtual Culture Experience](#) on Saturday, March 13th from 1-4:30 p.m. The Virtual Culture Experience is geared for kids ages 8-19 years old and is free! The cultural experience will showcase language and culture sessions in two languages: German and Swahili. Each 90-minute session will have three 30 minute interactive activities: cooking, craft, and movement! **Register by Monday, March 1, 2021** to reserve your spot!

- Swahili: <https://forms.gle/aUs3MyNtA1Uo44EBA>
- German: <https://forms.gle/tKhaEc5m5G43XcVB7>

For more information, email [cls@celta.msu.edu](mailto:cls@celta.msu.edu) or visit [cls.celta.msu.edu](http://cls.celta.msu.edu)

## Graphic Novel 101 4-H SPIN Club starts March 5th

Ever wanted to create a Graphic Novel, but didn't know where to start? Now is your chance to learn the skills and create your very own Graphic Novel. Starting on March 5, the Graphic Novels 101 Virtual SPIN Club will meet every Friday until April 9, to give you the skills, knowledge, and practice of becoming a Graphic Novel Designer and Author. It's open to youth ages 10 and up, and it's FREE. **Register by March 1.** Youth must also be enrolled in this club through 4-H Online (Club is listed under Bay County – SPIN Club: Graphic Novels 101). Please visit <https://bit.ly/4HNovels> or contact Lance Fowler, [fowler37@msu.edu](mailto:fowler37@msu.edu), for more information.



## Kami Ori Creators 4-H Statewide SPIN Club

Youth ages 5-19 will explore the cultures of Japan and China through the art of Origami. Each week, participants can choose how to participate (written instructions, videos, and/or Zoom meeting) and create a new origami project. Sessions will be led by both MSU Extension staff and guests. Finally, there will be an opportunity to participate in the 10,000 Cranes service project.

Kami Ori Creators 4-H SPIN Club meetings are Tuesdays, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and April 6, 13 from 4:30-5:30 p.m. Registration will be in [4-H Online](#). Chose "Alcona" as your county of participation to find this club! Please direct questions to Les Thomas [thoma322@msu.edu](mailto:thoma322@msu.edu) or Brandie Sigler [siglerbr@msu.edu](mailto:siglerbr@msu.edu)

## The Roots & Branches of your Family Tree - March 23

Have you ever wondered about the traditions in your family? Wondered how your grandparents met? Where did your family come from and how they settled in the area they are now? Join 4-H staff on March 23 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom as we talk about [The Roots and Branches of your Family Tree](#). We'll talk about doing family research, what resources are out there to help you in your search and we'll start creating the branches of your family tree. Open to youth ages 8+. FREE. Register online at <https://bit.ly/3bgiKGi>.



## Join the Michigan 4-H LGBTQIA+ Alliance leadership team!

Youth ages 15-19 are invited to apply for the new Michigan 4-H LGBTQIA+ Alliance leadership team to help create a friendly, positive environment for Michigan youth and communities. The Michigan 4-H LGBTQIA+ Alliance is the brainchild of two Michigan 4-H teens who attended the [2020 National 4-H True Leaders in Equity Institute](#) and were inspired to create positive change in their 4-H community.

Applications are being accepted for the teen leadership team that will serve as advisors for the state-level Alliance. These leaders will develop leadership skills and help to create opportunities for LGBTQIA+ youth and allies to come together in fun, positive, and supportive ways. While this group is being established through Michigan 4-H, youth do NOT need to be 4-H'ers to apply; this opportunity is open to all teens interested in supporting the inclusion and participation of LGBTQIA+ youth and allies in Michigan 4-H.

Teen leaders will meet two to three times per month and should plan on committing about three hours of their time each month. The first meeting will be in April. This teen leadership team is just the beginning; additional opportunities will be available for youth who wish to serve on regional or local Alliance leadership teams, as well as join and participate as members.

Applications from prospective youth leadership members will be accepted through March 15 at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/4hlgbtqia/>. Youth interested in learning more about the Michigan 4-H LGBTQIA+ Alliance are encouraged to attend an optional Zoom open house on Tuesday, March 9 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Preregistration is required to participate in the open house, and can be completed at <https://bit.ly/3q6v1D8>. For more information, please contact MSU Extension Educator Brian Wibby at [wibby@msu.edu](mailto:wibby@msu.edu).

## State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Showmanship and Educational Showcase results

The State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Showmanship and Educational Showcase results are in. Check them out [here](#).

## Wild Spartans – Searching for Vernal Pools, Nature’s Disappearing Act

Join 4-H staff as we take a look into life working with fisheries and wildlife! This month during the [4-H Wild Spartans Series](#), we will take a dive into the springtime ephemeral pools in the woods to discover the treasures within! Join us on Tuesday, March 9th, 2021 at 7 p.m. EST for “Searching for Vernal Pools, Nature’s Disappearing Act”. We will talk to a herpetologist about researching and conserving amphibians and reptiles. You will meet Yu Man Lee, Conservation Scientist, Michigan Natural Features Inventory, learn about her field work, and the education and career path she followed to get there. Youth will be encouraged to ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A with scientists. This free series is open to 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 12-19 years. Monthly sessions will be held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. EST through May. Pre-registration is required: [https://www.canr.msu.edu/environmental\\_outdoor\\_education/wild-spartans-series](https://www.canr.msu.edu/environmental_outdoor_education/wild-spartans-series).



## Exploration Days is going virtual June 22-24

Mark your calendars! [4-H Exploration Days: Expanded](#) is June 22-24, 2021. This virtual alternative to the treasured on-campus Exploration Days event will focus on skill development and exploring new experiences. Youth participants will register for three session choices, receive a kit with fun and educational items, participate in a keynote and capstone experience, engage in a community building activity, and have options for shorter free-time engagement opportunities. Watch for more information to be made available soon.



## Back by popular demand: Pippin's Pantry

If you love baking, dogs, or both then Pippin's Pantry 4-H SPIN Club for you! Join Pippin and learn about people vs. pet food safety, how some people foods are harmful and others are safer for your pet, and get a bi-weekly dog-safe and Pippin approved treat recipe to bake together! This club is designed for youth ages 5 to 12, but is open to ALL!

Register online at [https://events.anr.msu.edu/Pippins\\_Pantry2/](https://events.anr.msu.edu/Pippins_Pantry2/). For more information, contact Ali Olson, [olsonal8@msu.edu](mailto:olsonal8@msu.edu).

## Trail Cameras 101 SPIN Club

If you're interested in learning about local wildlife and how you can contribute to science, then the March 4-8, 2021 [4-H Trail Camera SPIN Club](#) is for you! This club is FREE and open to new and existing Michigan 4-H members who are ages 9-13. Participants will be introduced to ecosystems and Michigan wildlife, and will learn how to contribute to science by examining trail camera footage and use other observation methods. Youth will be using their own cameras -- if they have them -- or may use footage collected by staff. **Registration closes on March 3rd.** For more information or to register, please visit <https://events.anr.msu.edu/TrailSPIN/>. Questions? Contact Laura Quist at (231)-942-7552 or [quistla1@msu.edu](mailto:quistla1@msu.edu), or Mariah Kucera at [kucerama@msu.edu](mailto:kucerama@msu.edu)



## Important information for swine exhibitors

If you're planning to show your swine at fair, be aware of some changes: [Updates for obtaining official identification for exhibition swine in 2021](#).

Swine owners will now be responsible for acquiring the official identification for their animals. Per the [Michigan 4-H Livestock and Veterinary Science](#) Facebook page, "...fairs will no longer be able to purchase tags from MDARD for your show pigs. What does this mean

for you? First, check first with your local fair to see if they have leftover inventory that they can

use this year. If they don't, ask the breeder where you purchase your pig(s) if they can place a USDA 840 tag in your animal(s). You can also register the premises where the pigs are housed by contacting MDARD, and purchase your own 840 tags. If you have any questions, please reach out to Nick Babcock, Michigan State University Extension 4-H livestock and veterinary science program educator, at [babco116@msu.edu](mailto:babco116@msu.edu) or Beth Ferry, MSU Extension pork educator, [franzeli@msu.edu](mailto:franzeli@msu.edu)."



### Explore coding with 4-H Dance Party SPIN Club

4-H Dance Party SPIN Club will begin on Monday, April 12th and end Friday, April 16th. This club will meet virtually every day from 4-5:15 p.m. EST. Registration closes on April 8. Explore computer coding by programming your own Dance Party! This is an introduction to computer coding. Participants will need access to the internet to go to the coding site. This 4-H SPIN Club is FREE and OPEN to 4-H and non-4-H members ages 8 to 14. For more information and to register, please visit <https://events.anr.msu.edu/4HDancePartySPINClub/>.

This 4-H SPIN Club will meet virtually via [Zoom](#) (both computer and smartphone accessible). Zoom link information will only be sent to event registrants that complete their [4-H Online](#) enrollment by April 8<sup>th</sup> (Club is listed under Livingston County – SPIN Club Dance Party Club). For more information, please contact Christine Miller at [johns832@msu.edu](mailto:johns832@msu.edu) or 517-552-6905.

### Money Smart contests for youth

MSU Extension has some exciting contests coming up that give Michigan youth an opportunity to win cash and become more money savvy! Below you will find contest descriptions. Please note the [Cash Composition contest](#) is for youth who are ages 9-13 years and the [Show Your Money Smart Contest](#) is for youth who are ages 14-19 years. Top scorers/essay writers will go on to an interview round to determine placings and for an opportunity to serve as this year's Money Smart Youth Ambassadors where they can share their knowledge with their peers in fun educational ways. For more information about the contests, please contact Laurie Rivetto at [rivettoL@msu.edu](mailto:rivettoL@msu.edu) or Kathy Jamieson at [jamies13@msu.edu](mailto:jamies13@msu.edu).



**Cash Composition Contest (9-13 years old):** Money, money, money! In honor of Financial Awareness Month held each April, Michigan State University Extension 4-H is sponsoring the [Cash Composition Contest](#). Youth residing in Michigan, **age 9-13** have a chance to win up to \$400 by writing a 300 word (or less) essay on saving and investing. Contest registration and essay submission must be complete by April 5, 2021 to <https://events.anr.msu.edu/CashContest21/>. Five finalists will be interviewed for final placing. The winners will be named

this year's Michigan Money Smart Ambassadors where they will have opportunities to share their financial knowledge and develop additional leadership skills. Contest details can be found: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-money-smarts/money-smart-kids-contest>



**Show Your Money Smarts Contest (14-19 years old):** Do you want to learn how to avoid financial pitfalls and have an opportunity to win \$250 cash? In this third annual [Show Your Money Smarts Contest](#), Michigan youth **age 14-19** will compete in this on-line quiz challenge taking place the entire month of April. Contest registration must be complete by April 23, 2021 at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/MoneySmart21/>. High scoring youth will be entered into a cash prize drawing and can become a Money

Smart Youth Ambassador leading to opportunities to share their financial knowledge and enhance their leadership skills. Contest details can be found at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-money-smarts/show-your-money-smarts-contest>

**March 2**[S.T.E.A.M. Career SPIN Club](#)

4-5 p.m., Zoom.

Club will meet Tuesdays, March 2-April 6.

**March 2-April 13**

Kami Ori Creators 4-H SPIN Club

4:30 p.m. Tuesdays, online

**March 4-8**[4-H Trail Cameras 101 SPIN Club](#)

5-6 p.m. Thursdays via Zoom.

Explore ecosystems, Michigan wildlife, and citizen science by examining trail camera footage.

**March 5-April 9**[Graphic Novel 101 4-H SPIN Club](#)

4-5 p.m. Fridays, online

**March 8, 10 & 11**[Mars Base Camp STEM Challenge](#)

5-6 p.m., Zoom

**March 9**[4-H LGBTQIA+ Alliance Youth Leadership Team](#)[Open House](#)

6:30-7:30 p.m., online

**March 9**[Wild Spartans Series!](#)

Zoom Webinar

Topic: [Searching for Vernal Pools, Nature's Disappearing Act](#). Join each month to meet scientists from across MSU Extension, the MSU Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

**March 13**[Virtual Culture Experience](#)

1-4:30 p.m., online

**March 13, 17 & 20**

4-H Capitol Experience

Online

**March 16**[4-H Give Green Day](#)

Everywhere

Michigan 4-H is once again joining MSU's #GiveGreenDay. Help reach the goal of raising \$5,000 in a 24-hour period to support Michigan 4-H youth.

**March 17-April 21**[Junior Zoologists 4-H SPIN Club](#)

5-6 p.m. Wednesdays, Zoom

**March 17-May 26**[Pippin's Pantry](#)

Meets every other week, online

**March 18**[MSU Tollgate Farm Stewards Virtual Winter Series 2021](#)

Zoom Webinar

This youth-led series, occurring monthly, is a safe place for past, present, and future MSU Tollgate Farm stewards and stewards-in-training to connect or reunite as a community and to explore resiliency and growth as youth leaders.

**March 20**[Virtual 4-H Skillathon](#)

Online

**March 23**[The Roots and Branches of Your Family Tree](#)

6:30 p.m., Zoom

Ever wondered about the traditions in your family, where they came from or how they settled where they are now? Join this webinar to learn how to start researching your family tree.

**March 24**[Daniel Gil presentation](#)

6:30 p.m., Zoom

**March 29**[4-H Youth in Action Award application deadline](#)**April 1**[Macomb County Spring 4-H Leader Meet](#)

6:30-8 p.m., Zoom

**April 1**[State Awards](#) application deadline**April 1**[Mark of Excellence](#) essays due**April 1**[4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest Deadline](#)

4-H youth have the opportunity to develop writing and research skills, earn cash and become published through 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest.

**April 5**[Cash Composition Contest](#)

Registration and essay submission deadline

**April 12-16**[4-H Dance Party SPIN Club](#)

4-5:15 p.m., Zoom

**April 13**[Wild Spartans!](#)

Zoom Webinar

Topic: [Researching Wildfire in Boreal and Arctic Regions](#)

**April 23**[Show Your Money Smarts Contest](#)

Entry deadline

**May 11**[Wild Spartans!](#)

Zoom Webinar

Topic: Meet a DNR Conservation Officer!

**For the most up-to-date events listing, go to <https://4h.msue.msu.edu/events>.**

# Macomb County 4-H Staff & Office Locations

Ed Scott,  
District 11 Coordinator  
Oakland & Macomb Counties

[Diane Wisnewski](#)

4-H Extension Supervising  
& Staff Development Educator

[Allenique Baird](#)

4-H STEAM Corps  
AmeriCorps Member

[Elizabeth Duran](#)

4-H Program Coordinator

[Katelyn Golembiewski](#)

4-H Program Coordinator

[Kathy Jamieson](#)

4-H Educator

[Seth Martin](#)

4-H Program Coordinator

[Kea Norrell-Aitch](#)

4-H Educator

[Roberta Busquaert](#)

Office Assistant - Senior

## **Office Locations:**

MSU Extension  
VerKuilen Building  
21885 Dunham Road, Suite 12  
Clinton Township, MI 48036  
Phone: (586) 469-6431

MSU Extension  
Max Thompson Family Resource Center  
11370 Hupp Avenue  
Warren, MI 48089  
Phone: (586) 469-7614

Email: [macomb.4h@macombgov.org](mailto:macomb.4h@macombgov.org)  
Web Site: [www.canr.msu.edu/macomb/](http://www.canr.msu.edu/macomb/)

Visit our  
website

