



4-H Family News

MARCH 2026
Volume 10 Issue 7



MACOMB COUNTY

4-H partners with RARE to offer Animate with Stop Motion program

Animate with Stop Motion! is at the Recreation Center of Roseville and Eastpointe (RARE), 18185 Sycamore, Roseville from 6-7:30 p.m. on March 18th. Turn everyday objects into stars of your own mini-movie using stop motion animation and Keynote. Learn how to snap creative photo sequences, add cool effects, and create your very own animated GIF to share. No experience is needed. Register online at <https://tinyurl.com/msf7s68d>. Go to Youth & Teen Enrichment Programs.

2026 Spring 4-H Club Leader Meet

MSU Extension 4-H Staff is pleased to host the **2026 Spring 4-H Club Leader Meet** on Tuesday, March 24th from 6-8 p.m. at Camp Rotary, 20505 29 Mile Road, Ray Township. Join us to connect, share success stories, provide important program updates, and discuss important topics for the 2026 Armada Fair. Any Macomb County 4-H club or committee leaders who would benefit from attending are welcome to attend. Please R.S.V.P. at <https://forms.office.com/r/G0m15RPtzk>.

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.

Pet Care 101: Rabbits

March 11 | 5:30-7:30 p.m. | Youth ages 5-19

Hosted by Macomb Township Parks & Recreation.

Learn the ins and outs of raising a rabbit at Lucido Park, 52175 North Avenue, Macomb Township. Register:

<https://mimacombweb.myvscloud.com/webtrac/web/>

Go to Youth/Teen and look for Macomb County 4-H.



4-H Exploration Days

[4-H Exploration Days](#) is June 24-25 at Michigan State University in East Lansing! Sign up at <https://forms.office.com/r/Q0DL4Mv63d> to receive event updates, Macomb County busing and orientation details, and more. Registration opens March 12. Participants must attend a pre-event orientation. The cost is \$250/youth or \$150/adult volunteer. Scholarships may be available. In Macomb County, contact 4-H Program Coordinator Nikki Knight at 586-469-5979 or knightn9@msu.edu for details about this annual youth conference for ages 12-19.

MACOMB COUNTY 4-H STAFF

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WEBSITE

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

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OTHER LOCAL NEWS & EVENTS

Armada Fair Updates:

Tagging Dates:

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

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.

Macomb County Farm Bureau Updates

Macomb County Farm Bureau Scholarships: Macomb County Farm Bureau offers scholarships to qualified applicants with an agriculture focus. Apply by March 1, 2026. Scan the QR code for more information and to apply.



Project R.E.D. – Volunteers Needed: The Macomb County Farm Bureau will host its annual Project R.E.D. (Rural Education Day) on Tuesday, April 21, 2026 from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at the Armada Fairgrounds, 74280 Fair Street, Armada. This hands-on event introduces 3rd graders to Michigan agriculture through interactive sessions on crops, animals, greenhouses, and more.

Volunteers are needed to assist with student activities, parking, lunches, and behind-the-scenes support. To volunteer, contact Kim Trpcevski at 586-727-0025. Help us make this an unforgettable experience for local students!

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>


 JOIN US AT \$10/PERSON
\$25/FAMILY
Pancakes For Prevention
Suicide is NO joke!
 REGISTRATION:  **MARCH 24, 2026**
 4:30PM - 6:30PM
 MACOMB ISD-MICHIGAN ROOM
 44001 GARFIELD,
 CLINTON TOWNSHIP, MI 48038

Other upcoming MSU Extension programs

Michigan Cottage Food Law Monday, March 4 / 6 p.m.

Learn how to safely prepare and sell allowable foods to the public made in home kitchens. The Michigan Cottage Food Law workshop reviews the food safety aspects and guidelines of preparing and selling cottage foods. The MSU Product Center joins us to cover the business aspects of the Cottage Food Law. A Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Inspector will be available for the Q&A portion of this workshop.

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/CLF26/>

Preserving MI Harvest -- Back to Basics: Canning with Confidence Thursday Mar. 5 / 1 p.m. & 6 p.m.

We will cover the basics of water bath and pressure canning, share tips for our favorite pieces of equipment, and walk through tested recipes so you can safely preserve fruits, vegetables, and meat with confidence!

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/Preserving2026/>

Dial Gauge Pressure Canner Testing

Contact your local MSU Extension Office to schedule an appointment to have your dial gauge pressure canner tested. Find your local County MSU Extension office: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/outreach/county>



STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Open your home to a student with the 4-H International Exchange Program!

Invite an international youth (ages 12-17 years) or adult chaperone into your home and share an American experience! Michigan 4-H is looking for host families interested in opening their homes and hearts this summer. Consider sharing the clover and giving a lucky Japanese youth and your family the experience of a lifetime!

The Japanese delegation will arrive in Grand Rapids mid-July and depart mid-August, meeting their hosts for a 3.5-week stay. A host family must complete the States' 4-H International Exchange Programs online application, have a youth to match as a host brother/sister (within three years of age) be Michigan 4-H adult Gold volunteers, and participate in an interview and home visit process.

Online applications to host can be found at: <https://www.states4hexchange.org/apply/host/>. For more information, contact Michigan 4-H International Exchange Program Coordinator Jan Brinn brinn@msu.edu.



Michigan 4-H Day with the Detroit Tigers



Get your tickets for Michigan 4-H Day with the Detroit Tigers

Join Michigan 4-H and MSU Extension for a fun day at Comerica Park to watch 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. To celebrate, 4-H youth, volunteers, staff and their families will enjoy a discounted ticket to the game, as well as:

- Access to a pre-game, on-field opportunity. Michigan 4-H youth are invited to take a lap around the warning track of Comerica Park before the game.
- A portion of each ticket sold donated to Michigan 4-H.

There are several ticketing options available this year, in three main locations, ranging in price from \$33-54. In addition, each ticket purchased through the Michigan 4-H link will have the opportunity to purchase an exclusive co-branded Michigan 4-H and Detroit

Tigers bucket hat (while supplies last). Hats can only be purchased by purchasing a ticket through the Michigan 4-H link; however, there is an option to buy tickets without the purchase of a hat.

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

4-H Youth in Action Program applications open

Apply now for the 2027 4-H Youth in Action Awards! This program recognizes four confident young leaders with diverse backgrounds and unique perspectives who are making a difference in their communities. 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 ages 14-19. The deadline to apply is April 13. Learn more and apply at <https://4-h.org/programs/4-h-youth-in-action-program/>.



STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

Adulting 101: Life Skills for Youth

Michigan State University Extension offers free, one-hour **Adulting 101** Zoom workshops to help teens and young adults navigate adulthood. The next session, **Sleep Wellness**, is March 4th at 5:30 p.m. Attend and get a clear understanding of your rights and responsibilities as a tenant.

Other upcoming topics include: Eat Smart: Healthy Meals on a Budget (April 13 / 5 p.m.), Cooking with Confidence (May 18 / 6:30 p.m.), AI and You: Smart, Safe & Savvy (June 11 / 6 p.m.), Think Before You Click (July 8 / 6 p.m.), Roadmap to a Smart Used Car Purchase (August 12 / 5 p.m.), Are you Ready? (September 23 / 5 p.m.), Mental Health Toolkit (October 7 / 6 p.m.) and Realities of Animal Care (November 12 / 7 p.m.).

Register online at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-2026>.

4-H horse contests open for registration

Registration is now open for these Michigan 4-H Horse Program events!

Michigan 4-H and FFA State Horse Judging Contest

When: Saturday, April 11, 2026

Where: Farm Bureau Pavilion at Michigan State University

Who: 4-H or FFA Youths, aged 5-19, with an interest in Horse Evaluation

Come build your animal evaluation skills and public speaking skills and join us for the 2026 Michigan 4-H and FFA State Horse Judging Contest!

Register here: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/MI4HHORSEJUDGING26/>

Coaches, please fill this form out to designate

teams: https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b1MrCMXDTaH3OGa

2026 Michigan 4-H State Hippology Contest

When: Sunday, April 12, 2026

Where: Farm Bureau Pavilion at Michigan State University

Who: Michigan 4-H youths, aged 5-19, interested in everything horses.

Put your knowledge to the test and join us for the 2026 Michigan 4-H State Hippology Contest. Register online at

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/MI4HHIPPOLOGY26/>

Michigan 4-H Youth Equine Communications Contest

Do you love horses? Do you love talking about horses? Join the fun for the Michigan 4-H Youth Equine Communications contest! The contest is March 14, 2026. Register by March 11th:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/horses_ponies/registration-information

Statewide 4-H Trail Riding Recognition Program

Join the new Statewide 4-H Trail Riding Recognition Program! If you're enrolled in a 4-H horse project, log your trail miles through July 31. Top Junior and Senior riders will be recognized at the Michigan 4-H State Horse Show. Start logging your rides:

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

Make the Most of Your Market Animal Project webinar series

Are you ready to take your market livestock project from your 4-H best to better? MSU Extension's 2026 *Make the Most of Your Market Animal Project* webinar series is packed with tips to help 4-H'ers ages 8-19 build confidence, sharpen marketing skills, and boost auction success!

Each week features a new skill

- SMART goals
- Effective communication
- Marketing strategies
- Record keeping & break-even points
- Social media promotion & buyer outreach

These webinars will be held via Zoom on Tuesdays, April 21–May 19, 2026 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. and they're FREE. Attend one or more!

Learn more and register

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

If you have any questions, contact Janice Zerbe at rajzerj@msu.edu or Dave Radloff at radloff@msu.edu.

Michigan 4-H State Awards

Calling all 4-H members ages 12-19 years old (current 4-H age): Do you like to receive recognition for your hard work? Interested in earning a scholarship to attend 4-H Exploration Days (\$50) or a cash award (\$100-500)? Want to build your 4-H resume and tell your 4-H story?

Apply between March 1 and April 1 at

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/StateAwards26/>

Ready to get started? Download the Overview and Instructions Document:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_scholarships_and_recognition_program/4-h-awards-and-recognition-program/Youth-Recognition/index



CALENDARS OF EVENTS

*Preparing youth
to be
Beyond Ready*



**Beyond
Ready**

4-H's approach to readiness begins with participation in high-quality positive youth development programs.

4-H has historically helped young people prepare for work and life through the development of competencies, skills and tangible assets, resulting in youth who are healthy, productive and engaged.

The complex landscape youth face today calls us to go a step further in preparing them to navigate their readiness pathway during and after their 4-H experience.

Is your club intentionally preparing youth to be Beyond Ready for the changing world? Watch here for tips to use with your club.

#BeyondReady

Macomb County 4-H Events

March 4

Adulting 101: Sleep Wellness

5:30 p.m., online

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-2026>

March 11

Pet Care 101: Rabbits

5:30-7:30 p.m., Lucido Park, Macomb Township

<https://mimacombweb.myvscloud.com/web>
(Go to Youth/Teen and look for Macomb County 4-H)

March 18

Animate with Stop Motion!

6-7:30 p.m., Recreation Authority of Roseville & Eastpointe, Roseville

<https://tinyurl.com/msf7s68d>
(Go to Youth & Teen Enrichment Programs)

March 24

[Macomb County 4-H Club Leader Meet](#)

6-8 p.m., VerKuijen Building, Assembly Rooms A & B, Clinton Township

April 13

Eat Smart: Healthy Meals on a Budget

5 p.m., online

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-2026>

April 19

[4-H Poultry Clinic: Market, Showmanship & Breed](#)

1-3 p.m., Wolcott Mill Metropark Farm Center Greenhouse, Ray Township

<https://forms.office.com/r/MqsdBXvtp1>

Other Local Events

March 1

Macomb County Farm Bureau Scholarship application deadline

March 1-April 1

Apply for a Michigan 4-H State Awards
<https://events.anr.msu.edu/StateAwards26/>

March 4

[Michigan Cottage Food Law](#)
6 p.m., online

March 5

[Back to Basics: Canning with Confidence](#)
1 p.m. & 6 p.m., online

March 24

Suicide Prevention Coalition of Macomb County Pancakes for Prevention
4:30-6:30 p.m., Macomb ISD, Clinton Township

April 21

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

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



CALENDARS OF EVENTS (CONTINUED)

Statewide & National 4-H Events

March 4

Adulting 101: Sleep Wellness

5:30 p.m., *online*

<https://canr.msu.edu/events/adulting-101-2026>

March 5

Future Ready – Exploring College and Career Paths Workshop

Washtenaw County MSU Extension Office, Ann Arbor

This workshop will feature an interactive panel discussion about the variety of opportunities available for high school graduates in college, trades and more. Ideal for youth ages 12-19.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/future-ready-exploring-college-and-career-paths-workshop

March 10

4-H Give Green Day

Online

Help us reach our goal of raising \$5,000 in a 24-hour period on Give Green Day to support learning experiences for Michigan 4-H youth.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4h-give-green-day

March 10

4-H Wild Spartans - The Lands Has a Story to Tell – But Are We Listening?

Online

Explore the stories that nature and humans weave with Zach Wilson, forest ecologist for the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission. Learn about his career and education and ask questions via a live Q&A. Suited for youth ages 12-19.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-wild-spartans-march

March 10

4-H Wild Spartans - The Lands Has a Story to Tell – But Are We Listening?

Online

Explore the stories that nature and humans weave with Zach Wilson, forest ecologist for the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission. Suited for youth ages 12-19.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-wild-spartans-march

March 14

Michigan 4-H Youth Equine Communications Contest

https://www.canr.msu.edu/horses_ponies/registration-information

March 25

Michigan 4-H Volunteer Webinar – Using AI Responsibly in 4-H

Online

Learn what AI is, how it impacts youth development, and how to use it responsibly within 4-H.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-volunteer-webinar-from-sparks-to-skills-using-ai-responsibly-in-4-h

March 30- April 1

4-H on the Move: Detroit Cultural Connection Camp

Detroit

An unforgettable spring break alternative! Build cultural awareness, empathy, and a deeper understanding of Detroit's diverse communities through guided tours, hands-on activities, and an opportunity to make a positive impact.

www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-cultural-connection-camp

April 1

Smart Money Missions Goosechase Game

Everywhere

This fun money management scavenger hunt game is played on the Goosechase app and is open to youth 13-19 years old residing in Michigan.

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

April 11

Michigan 4-H & FFA State Horse Judging Contest

Michigan State University, East Lansing

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

April 12

Michigan 4-H Day with Detroit Tigers Comerica Park, Detroit

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/Michigan-4-h-day-with-the-Detroit-tigers>

April 13

4-H Youth in Action Program application deadline

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

April 21-May 19

Make the Most of Your Market Animal Project

Online

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

Register by March 20th for the States' 4-H Pen Pal Program! Participants ages 9-18 (as of April 1, 2026) will be matched with an international pen pal and will send one letter or email weekly between March 1-June 1. The cost is \$10. For more information and to register visit <https://states4h.org/pen-pal-program/>