

Medina County 4-H December Newsletter

2025
Family

Monthly Highlight



To our Medina County 4-H Family,

As we reflect on another year of growth, service, and community, we want to express our deepest appreciation for each member, volunteer, family, and supporter who makes this program what it is. Medina County 4-H is more than projects and meetings it is a community built on kindness, curiosity, and a genuine commitment to helping young people become their best selves.

Every skill learned, every act of service completed, and every moment spent encouraging one another strengthens not only our clubs, but our entire county. Your dedication to leadership, citizenship, and hands-on learning continues to inspire us daily.

Thank you for showing up for one another. Thank you for modeling resilience and responsibility. Thank you for carrying forward the 4-H pledge in both big and small ways. Our Extension office is honored to walk alongside you, support you, and celebrate the impact you've created.

Here's to another year of growth, gratitude, and greatness —together.

With appreciation,
Medina County OSU Extension office

In this Newsletter:

- Important Dates and Deadlines
- Camp Dates 2026
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- CARTEENS
Volunteers needed
- 2026 County Fair
- Safe Sitter Classes
- State Updates





[Click here to visit the website!](#)

The Ohio State University will be closed Dec. 24-Jan. 1. We look forward to spending time with our family and friends and observing the university's winter academic recess. Thanks to our community partners, volunteers, and 4-H members for a great 2025. We look forward to connecting with in early 2026!

January 2026

- **Club Advisor Training and Youth Activity and Program Policy Training**- January 7th, 6:00-8:00PM
- **New Volunteer Orientation Training**- January 7th, 6:00-7:30PM
- **Beef and Dairy Beef Tag In**- January 10th (See here for details <https://medina.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/junior-fair-livestock-projects>)
- **Tractor Certification Registration**- Due January 23rd
- **Junior Leaders Meeting**- January 26th
- **Volunteer Re-enrollment** - Due January 31st
- **New Volunteer Application** - Due January 31st
- **Club Documents Due**- Due January 31st
- **Achievement Form** - Due January 31st
- **Skillz Skool Early Bird Sign Up**- Due January 31st
- **Committee/Affiliate Financial Summary/Audit Report** - Due January 31st
- **Background Checks**- Due Jan.31, for Volunteers who received a notification letter. [Click here to find a local WebCheck location!](#)**
 - All volunteers must submit a receipt to our office in person or by email ** If you currently work with kids and have had a Background Check completed in the past 12 months, you can request a copy to be sent from the BCI to OSU for \$8 ***using this form.***



JOIN US FOR

MEDINA 4-H SUMMER CAMPS

Camp dates are tentative and may be subject to change

CLOVERBUD CAMP

June 23rd-25th

Location: Medina County Fairgrounds

9:00 am- 3:00 pm

Ages 5-8

JUNIOR DAY CAMP

June 16th- 18th

Location: Hidden Hollow

9:00 am- 4:00 pm

Ages 9-13

KELLEYS ISLAND CAMP

June 30th- July 3rd

Location: Erie County 4-H Camp on Kelleys Island, (Overnight)

Ages 9-13



• go.osu.edu/mccamp •

Tentative 2026 Camp Dates!



CFAES

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

MEDINA COUNTY
4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

2026 TRACTOR SAFETY CERTIFICATION COURSE

Orientation Meeting – Saturday, February 7th, 9:00am-10:00am
Classroom Sessions 1-6 – Saturdays, February 14th – March 21st
 Promptly start at 8:15am and end at 12:30pm, end at 1:00 pm, on 3/21
Tractor Skills & Driving Test – To be announced

Why: Successful completion of this 24-hour course along with passing scores on the written; skills; and driving exams, will certify a 14*-15 year old youth to legally operate a tractor and farm machinery and meeting the current Federal Bureau of Labor Standards for employment of a minor. ***Participants must be age 14 by the course completion date.**

Cost: \$50. Payment is required with registration. Course materials will be distributed at orientation. Make checks payable to: **OSU Extension, Medina County**

Registration Deadline: January 23rd, Must have 4 enrolled by registration deadline for class to be offered.

Class Location: Medina County Agricultural Society – Fair Office 720 W. Smith Rd., Medina

Important Note: Students should have the basic ability to operate a farm tractor and have access to a farm tractor.

Questions: Contact [Brittney Robinson](mailto:Brittney.Robinson@osu.edu) 330-661-6343 or robinson.3375@osu.edu

2026 Medina County 4-H Tractor Certification Course

Return this completed form with \$50 check made payable to: **OSU Extension, Medina County**
 4046 Medina Rd, Medina OH 44256

Participant's Full Name			
Mailing Address			
City	OH	Zip	County of Residence
Daytime Phone		Cell Phone	
Birthdate (month/day/year)	Age (on Jan. 1)	Parent/Guardian's Signature	



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Quality Assurance

Test Out By Appt.
Ages: 15+

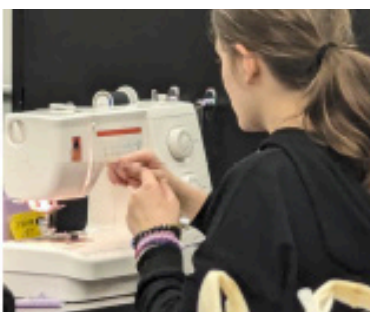
2026
MUST ARRIVE BY
6:00 PM

Feb.
16
10:00 am–Noon
or 1:00–3:00 pm
Medina County Community Center

Mar
11
6:00–8:00 pm
Medina County Community Center

April
29
6:00–8:00 pm
Medina County Community Center

RSVP Link and Lorain Dates to come!



Skillz Skool

Presented By Medina County 4-H

Saturday, March 28th
9:00 am- 5:00 pm

Youth will take project classes at our event that will kick start their 2026 4-H project learning from experienced instructors!

Cost:

Early Bird by
January 31st
\$40.00

Registration by
February 28th
\$50.00

Each youth will receive project books and some project materials.
Lunch will be provided.

Please bring canned food to donate to our local food bank and learn about why we need to assist other in our community.

Register Here:

go.osu.edu/skillzskool



THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

Ohio State University Extension is part of The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences.

Tracks Offered

Let's Start Cooking

This project takes a fresh look at basic cooking and baking skills. You'll learn about kitchen equipment and food prep, and how to read recipes and measure ingredients. Then you'll tackle how to slice and dice food, and how to cook in a microwave oven.

Basic Sewing

Come to get comfortable with a sewing machine and learn basic sewing skills to help you get start on the 4-H sewing project of your choice. Coupons for any 4-H sewing book will be given to these youth.

Photography

This beginning level study of photography gives you the tools you need to succeed. Choose at least two activities in each of these areas: equipment, lighting, composition, and skill building. Topics include flash, black & white photography, and taking selfies! Access to a camera (phone or DSLR) is essential

Cake Decorating Beginner or Intermediate/Advanced

Track your learning as you gain new skills and showcase your decorating talent!

Get Started in Art

Explore the basic elements of visual art through activities on color, line, space, balance, and more, and then complete your own work of art. Ceramics, drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, design, and crafts are all possibilities.

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CARTEENS Volunteers Wanted

4-H CARTEENS is a traffic safety program conducted by 4-H teen leaders and their program partners for juvenile traffic offenders.

4-H CARTEENS goals include:

- reducing the number of repeat juvenile traffic offenders
 - decreasing the number of teen traffic offenders
- increasing teen awareness of traffic/vehicular safety



As a Teen Instructor you will:

- Teach during the classes that take place once a month
- Have quarterly team meeting
- Get to do one team trip a year

If you are interested, please email Sierra:

baca.43@osu.edu



August 3-9 2026

Theme:

STARS STRIPES
★ ★ ★ AND ★ ★ ★
SUMMER NIGHTS

MEDINA COUNTY FAIR
2026
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

A dark blue rectangular poster with white and yellow text. At the top, 'STARS STRIPES' is written in white, bold, sans-serif font. Below it are three white stars, the word 'AND' in white, and three more white stars. The words 'SUMMER NIGHTS' are written in large, bold, yellow, sans-serif font. Below this is a banner of six triangular flags: blue with white stars, red and white stripes, blue with white stars, red and white stripes, blue with white stars, and red and white stripes. Underneath the banner, 'MEDINA COUNTY FAIR' is written in white, bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the year '2026' is written in large, bold, yellow, sans-serif font. The entire poster is framed by a row of white stars at the bottom.



2026 DATES

Friday, January 2

Monday, February 16

Monday, March 30

Monday, April 6

Held on school holidays for your convenience!

TIME

9:30am-2:30pm

COST

\$65.00

(includes SafeSitter Kit for participants)

LOCATION

OSU Extension,
Medina County
4046 Medina Road
Medina, OH 44256

Safe Sitter Training Grades 5-8

Designed to prepare students in grades 5-8 to be safe when they're home alone, watching younger siblings, or babysitting.

This instructor-led class is filled with fun games and role-playing exercises. Students even get to use manikins to practice choking rescue skills and will receive a SafeSitter certification!

Class taught by Erin Ruggiero, FCS Educator.

To register:

Visit www.go.osu.edu/MedinaSafeSitter26
Spaces are limited.

All students must bring a packed lunch.

Contact Erin at ruggiero.46@osu.edu or 330-661-6410 with any questions



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Ohio State University Extension is part of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences at The Ohio State University.





Support Youth Participation in the 2026 Ohio Youth Institute

We are excited to share information about the 2026 Ohio Youth Institute (OYI)—a signature youth leadership and global learning opportunity offered in partnership with the World Food Prize Foundation and The Ohio State University. OYI helps young people explore real-world solutions to food insecurity while strengthening their research, communication, critical thinking, and civic engagement skills.

The 2026 Ohio Youth Institute will take place on:
April 13, 2026
The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

About the Opportunity

High school students (grades 9–12) who participate will:
Research a global challenge impacting food security
Develop and submit a 3–5-page Global Challenge Paper
Present their findings at OYI to peers and experts
Be recognized as a Borlaug Scholar
Become eligible for international internships and fellowships

Students are encouraged to work with an adult mentor (teacher, Extension professional, coach, or community leader) who can support their research and writing process.

Paper submission and registration deadline: April 1, 2026.

More information can be found at:

<http://worldfoodprize.org/ohio>