

Dear 4-H Supporters:

Thank you for your support of the Lenawee County 4-H program and the Lenawee County Fair. This year MSU Extension made the very difficult decision to suspend face to face programs during the Covid 19 health pandemic. As many of you know, the fair industry has also been devastated by this health crisis and is unable to offer a fair in the traditional sense. Because the 4-H youth were already engaged in raising livestock and growing personally in their knowledge and skills, the MSU Extension and Lenawee County Fair partnered to offer a virtual learning showcase and auction. We felt it was important to offer an experience for participants to showcase the skills they have learned and receive feedback that will assist in their growth and development as well as to assist them with marketing their animals.

Registration for the online virtual auction is a convenient and easy process. If you are a previous buyer you should have already received an email with a link to activate your account. If you are a new buyer, you will log into <http://lenaweecounty4h.fairentry.com> and create a buyer profile. Once the auction goes live, you will be able to log in and bid on animals between noon on **Tuesday July 28th through noon on Thursday July 30th**. As a potential buyer, when you bid on a project and someone bids higher, you will receive an email notifying you that you are no longer the top bidder. This will allow you to up your bid or support another exhibitor. Additionally if you would like to do add on bids, the system allows you to support an exhibitor without actually purchasing the animal. Just click on the add on button and enter the amount you want to give the exhibitor. We encourage you to visit the site frequently in order to support the youth and the hard work they have put into their projects.

Attached is a description of how the auctions work along with a brochure for you to reference and or share with friends, neighbors, colleagues etc.

For more resources on registering and purchasing on our virtual platform, you can view the Potential Buyers page on our MSU Extension Virtual Showcase and Auctions website.
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/potential-buyers>.

As businesses, families and individuals have been greatly affected by the Covid 19 health crisis, we understand that for many of our supporters your contribution may be different this year. We thank you in advance for what you may be able to do. The 4-H and FFA members from all over Lenawee County have worked hard this year to raise top quality livestock, please consider checking out our online auction and supporting the youth of Lenawee County.

If you have any questions about technical support or participating in the Online Virtual Auction, please contact us at 517-264-5300 or via email at stewa191@msu.edu or harr1325@msu.edu.

Sincerely,

Janelle Stewart

Janelle Stewart
MSU Extension Educator
4-H Youth Development

2020 Lenawee County Fair Virtual Livestock Auction

Log into <http://lenaweecounty4h.fairentry.com> and either activate your buyer profile or register to buy as a new buyer.

Projects to be sold:

Small Animals: Chickens, Ducks, Geese, Turkeys, Rabbits, and Goats

Dairy Feeder Calf: Dairy breed feeder calves

Jr. Livestock: Beef, Sheep and Swine

Sale Format: Premium Base Sale

In a Premium Base Sale, the bidding only reflects the bidder's contribution to the exhibitor. If you purchase a beef, sheep, swine and/or dairy feeder for your own personal consumption, to donate to charity or to take home, you will pay the premium you bid in the auction format AND the support price. If you want the animal to go to resale, you will only pay the premium bid.

The following are examples of the different auction scenarios:

Small Animal (Poultry, Goats and Rabbits):

As an example, a buyer bids \$250 for the lot of animals. As the high bidder you will decide if you want the animal donated to charity, take home (live) or have processed for your own consumption. As the winning bid, you will pay the amount of your bid, in the example \$250.00. Depending on your choice, the exhibitor will either have the animal processed, frozen and delivered either to charity or make arrangements with you to have them delivered. If you choose to keep the animal for yourself to raise it, the exhibitor will make arrangements with you for delivery. Exception goats, we do not have processing arrangements so as a buyer you will need to do that if you want it processed.

Dairy Feeder:

As an example, a buyer bids \$250 for the animal. As the high bidder you will decide if you want to keep the animal and raise it for out for to full market weight or if you would like ship it to our resale buyer. If you choose "resale" then your only financial commitment is the \$250 you bid in the virtual auction. The child will receive the market resale value from our resale buyer. If you want to take the animal home to raise, then you will pay the \$250 plus the total support price. The support price that is listed in the virtual auction is an estimate. The final price will be determined after we have officially weighed the animal and will be reflected in your invoice.

Jr. Livestock (Beef & Sheep):

As an example, a buyer bids \$250 for the animal. As the high bidder you will decide if you want to have the animal processed, take it home live, donate it to charity or send to market resale. If you choose "resale" then your only financial commitment is the \$250 you bid in the virtual auction. If you choose to have it processed, take home live or donate to charity, you will pay the amount you bid in the auction PLUS the total support price for the animal. The sale bill will have an approximate amount for market price but the actual amount will be determined after

the auction when certified weights can be verified. With any of the options, the exhibitor will get the support bid as well as the market price.

Jr. Livestock (Swine):

All the same information applies as outlined for beef and sheep, except we do not have a resale option. Due to a limited resale market, buyers will have the option to take the animal home live, have the animal processed for their own consumption or donate the animals to charity. All hogs will be an estimated support price. The final support price will be determined after the auction and when we can have certified weights. When picking these options, the buyer will pay the amount bid in the virtual auction along with the support price. We are partnering with South Michigan Food Bank and their Meating the Needs program to offer the opportunity for pigs purchased through the auction to be donated to charity. South Michigan Food Bank will pay the processing cost and all the meat will return to Lenawee County through participating food pantries. By donating your purchase hog (or any other animal) to charity, you will have the opportunity to help feed people in Lenawee County.

For more resources on registering and purchasing on our virtual platform, view the Potential Buyers page on our MSU Extension Virtual Showcase and Auctions website. <https://www.canr.msu.edu/virtual-showcase/potential-buyers> or call the MSU Extension office at 517-264-5300 or email stewa191@msu.edu or harr1325@msu.edu.