

**Mecosta County****4-H Family News**

December 2019

HAPPY December,

I cannot believe its seriously almost Christmas. Where has this past year went? Crazy I have already been here almost a year now!! Guess the saying is right time flies when your having fun!! :-)

Hopefully everyone is ready for the new year!! 2020 should be a great one!! :-) I first want to wish everyone a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

I am for sure looking forward to the new year starting. Getting ready for the start of preparations for the 2020 fair which is hard to believe. Will be here before we know it!!

Please keep in mind upcoming community service projects that will be going on each month and don't fall short on getting the requirements before the spring starts and getting to the last few Jr Livestock meetings in. Better to get them done now so every one will be all set.

I hope everyone has a GREAT holiday season. Thanks for a GREAT 2019!!!

Sincerely,
Mollie T. Hogg
MSU 4-H Program Coordinator

Contact Us:**Mollie T. Hogg**

Michigan State
University

4-H Program

Coordinator

Mecosta County

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Announcements:

- * Dec 3th - 4-H Council at 6:30pm MCSB Back Conference Room
- * Dec 14th- Beef Weigh in Fairgrounds 9am-11am-(see attachments in letter)
- * Dec 15th- Community Service Christmas Card Making 1pm-3pm MCSB
- * Dec 24th- Office will be close in observance of Christmas
- * Dec 25th- Office will be closed in observance of Christmas
- * Dec 31st- Office will be closed in observance of New Years Eve
- * Jan 1st-Office will be closed in observance of New Years

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4-H Dog Patch Program

The Michigan 4-H Dog Patch



Program is designed to recognize the personal achievements of individuals participating in the 4-H dog project area.

The program has been in existence since 1987 and provides youth with goals to work towards in this project area. There are numerous patches available to reflect the varying disciplines in which youth can participate. In 2019, three new patches have been added; the Rally Intermediate, Rally Master and Beginning Novice.

For more information about the Michigan 4-H Dog Patch Program or to order patches, visit https://www.canr.msu.edu/re-sources/4_h_dog_patch_program.

4-H Events and Workshops

December 3: Give Green Day

Statewide

Help Michigan 4-H reach their goal of raising \$5,000 in a 24-hour period on Giving Tuesday. Funds raised provide 4-H participant scholarship grants for youth who are unable to pay the 4-H youth participation fee.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4h-give-green-day>

December 12: Start Your Own Insect Collection

Macomb County MSU Extension Office, Clinton Township

This class will introduce collecting and preserving insects. All participants receive an insect collection box, set of pins, and leave the class with 10-20 pinned insects.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/starting-your-own-insect-collection>

December 14: Treat Yourself Workshop

Berrien County MSU Extension Office, Benton Harbor

A countywide project where youth will learn about chocolate and spa projects.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/berrien-county-4-h-treat-yourself-workshop>

December 15: 4-H Day at the Lions

Ford Field, Detroit

4-H members, families and friends are invited to the Dec. 15 Detroit Lions game. For every ticket purchased, \$10 will go back to county 4-H programs.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-day-at-the-lions-19>

December 30: 4-H Spa-Delicious Countywide Project

Van Buren County MSU Extension Office, Paw Paw

Learn how to make homemade body products in this fun and educational class. Each participant takes home their own bath fizzies, sugar scrub, lip balm and air freshener!

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-spa-delicious-countywide-project>

Save the Date

February 1: Michigan 4-H Winterfest

Kettunen Center, Tustin

A crowd favorite every year, this statewide event is for youth ages 8-12. A special emphasis is placed on providing sessions that offer hands-on learning.

View more 4-H events at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4h/events>.

Support Michigan 4-H with holiday shopping!

Get ready for the holidays by supporting 4-H while making your purchases on AmazonSmile, SHOP 4-H Online and at JOANN's Fabric.

AmazonSmile will give 0.5% of eligible purchases to the Michigan 4-H Foundation when you shop at <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-1539997>.

Buy your favorite Michigan 4-Hers 4-H apparel and essentials at the SHOP 4-H Online Store (<https://shop4-h.org/?rfsn=871792.16dd0>) and 5% of the purchase will go back to Michigan 4-H!

JOANN's Fabrics shoppers who use their free 4-H loyalty card (<http://www.joann.com/4-h/>) will save 15% while also giving 2.5% back to the National 4-H Council.



Get ready for the 2020 4-H State Award applications process!

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. Final candidates for the junior, senior and group level awards in each project area will be selected to participate in the State Awards program during 4-H Exploration Days in June where final selection and announcement of winners will take place.

More information about the Michigan 4-H State Award process can be found online at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-scholarships-and-recognition-program/4-h-awards-and-recognition-program/youth-recognition>. Applications are due Feb. 1, 2020. For more information, contact Betty Jo Krosnicki at nashbett@msu.edu. **What can you do be-**

cause of 4-H? Share for a chance to win! Michigan 4-Hers ages 11-12 are encouraged to share how 4-H has impacted them through the 4-H Mark of Excellence Essay Contest. A great introduction to the Michigan 4-H State Awards program, Mark of Excellence contestants write a 500 word essay on the topic of "Because of 4-H, I can..." Winners will receive a certificate of recognition and medal to commemorate their accomplishment.

Essays are due to respective county 4-H offices by February 1. County 4-H programs then select up to two youth essays as their representatives and submit those names and essays to the State 4-H Awards Committee. The committee uses the essays to inform the public about what 4-H means to youth and copies are also shared with the Michigan State 4-H Office, Michigan 4-H Foundation, and Kettunen Center.

For more additional information and instructions, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/4-h-scholarships-and-recognition-program/4-h-awards-and-recognition-program/youth-recognition> or contact Kelly Stelter at grandt-ke@msu.edu.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Dec 02, Julie Strohkirch

Dec 04, Rachel Ottobre

Dec 04, James Sylvester

Dec 04, Mati Rautio

Dec 05, Elizabeth Rees

Dec 05, Nevaeh Adams

Dec 06, Christopher Bonnell

Dec 10, Jennifer Sylvester

Dec 12, Hannah Underhill

Dec 13, Lisa Voelker

Dec 14, Madison Snider

Dec 14, Jesse Galloup

Dec 14, Tyler Geer

Dec 15, Grace Lewallen

Dec 16, Alec Knapp

Dec 16, Renee Sheldon

Dec 16, Ethan Voigt

Dec 18, Olivia Bouck

Dec 19, Mason Dishong

Dec 21, Harlee Dunlop

Dec 22, Destiney Covey

Dec 22, Jeremiah Faber

Dec 23, Rylan Larson

Dec 23, Lisa Baker

Dec 23, Caitlyn Schuberg

Dec 24, Landen Bittner

Dec 27, Paige Larson

Dec 28, Jonathan VanOstenberg

Dec 30, Samantha Veltema

Mecosta County Junior Livestock Association Agenda

Monday, November 18, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Mecosta County Service Building

I. At 7:03p.m. meeting was opened.

II. Executive Board Roll Call: A. President: Lauren Marfio (present)

B. Vice President: Ruthie Doughty (present)

C. Secretary: Sadie Metcalf (present)

D. Treasurer: Cody Skinner (present)

E. Adult Advisor: Doug Richard (absent)

F. Adult Advisor: Tiffany Spedowski (present)

III. Pledges were recited

IV. Reports: A. Secretary - Sadie: the minutes from our last meeting on September 16, 2019 were read. Addie makes a motion to approve the minutes, Taylor seconds. Motion passes that the secretary minutes from last meeting were approved.

B. Treasurer - Cody: \$16,991.80 in our account. \$15,959.39 in our Auction Account. Macey makes a motion to approve the minutes, Ryan seconds. Motion passes that the treasurer reports from last meeting were approved.

C. MSU Extension - Mollie: Mollie would like to thank our leaders and has a little gift for each of them. Mollie would like everyone to know that her expenses for conferences is paid for from scholarships that she has applied for and earned. Also, the part in our pledge where we go "around the world," for my club, my community, my country, and my world" is NOT part of our pledge. Some how this feature got slowly added to our pledge and we would like to encourage leaders to start working on having their youth recite the pledge correctly.

D. Fairboard - Steve was not present.

E. Superintendents: 1. Rabbits (Julie, Venus): nothing

2. Poultry (Jennifer, Mary Jo): nothing

3. Goats (Darcie, Pat): if you are doing a market goat get in contact with your buyer.

4. Sheep (Faith): nothing

5. Cattle (Jenn): Beef weigh in December 14th 9-11am, \$2 per tag. The show schedule has changed - dairy show will be on Sunday and it will be opened up to out of the county, they can trailer in on Sunday and can show. The participants can be from another county's fair as well!

6. Swine (Tracy): make sure you talk to whoever you are buying from. Pigs need to be born in December-January and start to purchase March - April. Pig show is on Wednesday this year NOT Tuesday.

7. Horses (Jamie, Linda): Look at the new schedule for changes.

V. Old Business: A. Canopy/Tent: Possibly looking into party suppliers and looking at purchasing their out of inventory ones. It is around \$4000 to get one the size that we use (30x60). Table it until the budget discussion.

B. Show Scheduling: has been approved by fair board. Look at the schedule for a few changes that were made this year to try and avoid the running around to get to a show.

C. Commission Changes: Cody made a motion to move commission from 4% to 3%. Club vote to lower commission from 4% to 3%. With club vote the motion was passed to move commission from 4% to 3%.

D. Education/Community Service Logs: Get those forms turned into Mollie or send her an email. As a reminder it is 2 educational sessions (can be shows that you attend or educational sessions that JLA puts on), or 5 hours of community service (can be community service that the youth finds, or Mollie will try to host a community service event every month). This Friday the 22nd of November, at 5:00 p.m. in the back conference room of the Mecosta County Services Building Mollie and 4-H members will be making Thanksgiving baskets to donate to families/individuals in need around the county. On December 15th, from 1-3pm in the back conference room at the Mecosta County Services Building Mollie and 4-H members will be making Christmas Cards to send out.

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For community service events like these you may stay however long you would like.

For the Christmas Card making please let Mollie know if you are attending - she is buying pizza for all of the 4-H members and families who attend.

E. Mecosta County Website for Newsletters: 1. www.mecostafairfair.com

2. Mecosta County Facebook Page

3. <https://www.canr.msu.edu/mecosta/4-h/forms-records>

F. 2019 4-H Awards Banquet: Thank you to everybody who was able to attend. There are still awards left for people to pick up, please get those picked up. Also Mollie has a list of everyone who won an award if you would like one.

VI. New Business: A. Fair Checks, Premium Checks: Please get your checks cashed.

B. Community Service Projects Upcoming: We will have monthly community service projects. This Friday at 5 o'clock in the MCSB we will be making Thanksgiving Baskets to give out in our community. There will be Christmas Card Making on Sunday, December 15th in this same room at 1 o'clock.

C. Beef Weigh In 1. December 14th @ 9am-11am at the Fairgrounds

2. \$2.00 per tag. You can pick those up ahead of time from Mollie at the office, or at the time of weigh-in

3. Animals must have halters and RFID tags.

4. Contact Mollie for the Weigh - In/Registration sheet if you would like to fill it out ahead of time.

5. By Laws read that an animal can be weighed in for each youth and a family alternate for each child. a) For example: a family with 3 kids can weigh-in up to 6 steers.

b) To make it more clear: a 4H member cannot use their brother or sisters (who is also a 4H member) weighed-in steer as an alternate, they would have to have a separately purchased steer.

D. Beef Ultrasound - Possibly cutting it due to Seth Lattimore not being on fairboard and some kids do not understand the true meaning of the ultrasound. Ruthie made a motion to Table until the next meeting to talk to the person who does our ultrasounds, Addie Seconds. Motion passes to table it.

E. Photographer - looking for bids for a photographer. Photographer has to be at the fairgrounds Monday - Thursday, and get the fair pictures organized and in order to Mollie Thursday morning so that she can have them for the auction. Sadie makes a motion to open it to bids, Ruthie seconds. Motion passes.

If anybody knows of a photographer that would be willing to take the pictures during fair week JLA is willing to take recommendations. They could possibly come in and present some of their work to our 4H members and family.

VII. Committee Reports: A. Trophy - keep the trophies the same as last year or change them. Keeping hoodies for showmanship. Looking at possibly doing personalized items for the winners of classes - examples: personalized halter for horses, and steers, personalized blanket for sheep and goats... etc. Sadie makes a motion to table it until the next meeting, Macey seconds. Motion passes.

B. Budget - a few adjustments were made to the budget based on things that were taken out. Sadie makes a motion to raise the budget for our auction dinner to \$3000 and open it up to accept bids and Kelsei seconds. Sadie amended her motion to raise it to \$4500 and still open it up to bids. Club discussion. Club vote, motion passes. Sadie makes a motion to approve the budget as amended, Nora seconds. Motion passes.

If anybody knows of people who would be willing to help set up the auction dinner please let Mollie know as the Doyle family will be putting together the auction dinner for the last time, and next year it will have to be put together by somebody else. Also if anybody knows of someone who caters or would be willing to maybe smoke a hog and make the side dishes for 500 people+ please let Mollie know and she will get in contact with them!

C. Handbook/By Laws - Some changes were made because of the change in commission. Kelsei brought up a discussion as to why non-Market goat youth participants have to wear black pants and white shirt - Kelsei makes a motion to change the #2 on non-market goats to wear Western Wear while showing goats for non-market, market, and breedstock, Kenzie seconds, motion passes. If you see something that needs to be changed in our JLA Handbook/By Laws please let Mollie know. Ruthie makes a motion to table by-laws to next meeting, Sadie seconds, motion passes.

Sadie makes a motion to extend the meeting due to it being 8:30 and in the By-Laws if a meeting extends passed 90 minutes a motion must be made to extend the meeting, and Macey seconds. Motion passes.

D. Record Books - Jen is presenting for the record book committees. Leaders have a folder with a few more examples of record books as well. Mollie also presented 3 other record books from other counties (Clare County, Newaygo County, and an online record book). Club vote was taken - and Proposal 1 is the new record books.

E. Auction Dinner - not here

F. Sweepstakes - not here

VIII. Roll Call: Everyone on the sign-in sheet is present.

IX. Next Meeting: A. January 13, 2020 @ 7:00p.m. Mecosta County Service Building

X. A motion was made by Nora to adjourn the meeting at 9:05p.m. Grace seconds the motion. Motion passes.

XI. Meeting adjourned at 9:05p.m.



Mecosta County Jr Livestock

Mecosta County Junior Livestock members, who are intending to show and sell a market animal project at the Mecosta County Agricultural Free Fair.

Are ALL required to fulfill either a minimum of two educational requirements each year or you are allowed 5 hours of community service and also attend 1 Jr. Livestock Meeting

**(that does not include the post fair and pre fair meetings)
Just please keep in mind these are the meetings that are left:
January 13, 2020 - March 16, 2020 - May 18, 2020**



'TIS IS THE SEASON TO BE JOLLY

**MECOSTA COUNTY 4-H DECEMBER
COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT
MAKING CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR THE
MECOSTA COUNTY SENIOR CENTER
PLEASE COME JOIN THE FUN AND HAVE
PIZZA AND MAKE CARDS
PLEASE RSVP TO THE OFFICE BY DEC
14TH**

Sunday, December 15 / 1pm-3pm
@ the MCSB Back Door Entrance

Mecosta County 4-H/FFA Beef Registration Form

Youth Information

Name: _____ DOB and 4-H Age: _____

Address: _____

Club: _____ Phone: _____

I have read the 2020 Junior Livestock Handbook and agree to follow the rules outlined in it.

Member signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____

Animal Information

***Please fill out info above and below dotted line for primary and alternate animal(s)**

Breed: _____ Color: _____ Sex: MF

RFID #: _____ Beginning Weight: _____ Ear Tag#: _____

Animal Information

Breed: _____ Color: _____ Sex: MF

RFID #: _____ Beginning Weight: _____ Ear Tag#: _____

Animal Information

***Please fill out info for primary animal and alternate if applicable for your records**

Breed: _____ Color: _____ Sex: MF

RFID #: _____ Beginning Weight: _____ Ear Tag#: _____

Mecosta County 4-H/FFA Dairy Beef Registration Form

Youth Information

Name: _____ DOB and 4-H Age: _____

Address: _____

Club: _____ Phone: _____

I have read the 2020 Junior Livestock Handbook and agree to follow the rules outlined in it.

Member signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____

Animal Information

***Please fill out info above and below dotted line for primary and alternate animal(s)**

Breed: _____ Color: _____ Sex: MF

RFID #: _____ Beginning Weight: _____ Ear Tag#: _____

Animal Information

Breed: _____ Color: _____ Sex: MF

RFID #: _____ Beginning Weight: _____ Ear Tag#: _____

Animal Information

***Please fill out info for primary animal and alternate if applicable for your records**

Breed: _____ Color: _____ Sex: MF

RFID #: _____ Beginning Weight: _____ Ear Tag#: _____