

*Mecosta County*

4-H Family News

February 2020

Happy February everyone!!!

As the months have flown by its truly hard to believe I am celebrating my one year anniversary with MSU Extension in just a short 21 days!!! Hard to believe that a year has already went by!!! But I am so proud of our county and everything we have built, started, and improved this past year. I would not have been able to do any of it without all of your support and help!! I want to say thank you to everyone!! We have a GREAT program and I'm proud to be a part of it!!!

I hope everyone is starting to gear up for this upcoming year!! Hard to believe its already time to start getting ribbons ordered. Water donations to getting the tent rented and secured for this year. Spring Weigh-in will be here before we know it. Right now is always my favorite time since its when the kids are all starting to get their animals and some are being born with the everyone getting watch.. That's something truly special that all kids should be able to be apart of. I love to see all the pictures daily that people send me of the kids being part of this as well the stories. I want to tell everyone thanks for letting me be part of it.

Hopefully everyone is staying healthy!! (as we all know I haven't been the last few weeks but I'm on the mend) Thanks everyone!!! Please make sure to pay close attention the below deadlines.!!

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

Announcements:

- * 2/1: Youth Superintendent Applications Due
- * 2/1-2/2: 4-H Winterfest at Kettunen Center
- * 2/5: 4-H Council @ 6:30pm MCSB
- * 2/7: Turkey Orders due to the Office by 5pm
- * 2/21-2/23 Vet Science Camp Workshop Kettunen Center
- * 2/17: MSU Extension Office Closed in Observance of Presidents Day
- * 2/28: February Community Service Event @ 6pm MCSB

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records](https://www.canr.msu.edu/mecosta/4-h/forms-records)

[https://
www.mecostafreefair.co](https://www.mecostafreefair.co)





Keeping Kids Safe: Resources for caregivers of youth ages 0-17

This resource series introduces key concepts and age-appropriate activities for youth ages 0-17 that can be used by parents and caregivers to help protect children and teens from child sexual abuse. In addition, these factsheets share ways to help youth build skills and knowledge that will reduce their risk of being victimized.

Four factsheets exist in this series: Ages 0-5, 6-11, 12-17 and "the Downside to Sharpening." To access or learn more about these resources, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/creating-safe-environments/for-parents-caregivers>.

4-H Events and Workshops

February 6: 4-H Books for Cooks SPIN Club

Collins Elementary School, Houghton Lake

This event, for youth ages 6-12, engages participants in reading a book and then cooking food from the book. This is the first of a four-week SPIN club series.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-books-for-cooks-spin-club>

February 15: 4-H Tubing Party

Snow Snake Mountain, Harrison

4-H families and their friends can enjoy tubing from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Cost is \$11 per person. Participants must be 36" tall to ride the tubes.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-tubing-party-2>

February 22: Youth Officer Training

Shiawassee County Fairgrounds, Corunna

This event is for all 4-H and non 4-H members who are an officer or wish to become one. Learn about officer roles and parli-pro; includes snacks and door prizes.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/youth-officer-training>

March 3-4: Project FISH Workshop

MSU Natural Resources Building, East Lansing

Teachers, educators and volunteers are invited to two days of "Place-Based Learning through Sport fishing and Aquatic Resource Education." Participants will leave with curriculum activities, equipment, a fishing rod and reel and access to supplies and resources to begin a successful fishing program with children in the classroom or in an after-school setting. Registration deadline: February 21; cost is \$75 per person.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/project-fish-workshop>

March 6: Michigan 4-H Embryology Staff, Teacher & Volunteer Training

Kent County MSU Extension Office, Grand Rapids

This training is designed for educators who would like to learn how to implement an embryology program through classroom activities or 4-H SPIN clubs.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-embryology-staff-teacher-and-volunteer-training-kent-county>

March 7: 4-H Dog Youth & Adult Workshop

MSU Anthony Hall, East Lansing

Youth ages 8-19 and adult volunteers who help in the dog project area are invited to learn more from seasoned professionals about various aspects of dog care, management and training.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-dog-youth-adult-workshop>

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



2020 Michigan 4-H State Award Changes
Are you making plans to apply for a 2020 Michigan 4-H State Award?
Take note of the exciting changes to this year's program!

- The awards program will be held on Wednesday evening of 4-H Exploration Days.
- Senior interviews will be held via Zoom during the week of June 9.
- This will open up the opportunity for all State Award delegates to attend both first and second half sessions at 4-H Exploration Days.
- Applications will be submitted with the MSU Extension events management system. Learn more and apply at: extension.msu.edu/4HStateAwards.

World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute registrations due April 1

As millions across the globe deal with food insecurity, the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute (WFP MIYI) offers young people an opportunity to be part of the solution. Held May 7 in East Lansing, the event seeks to inspire and prepare the next generation of global leaders to end world hunger.

Attendees will have the opportunity to share their ideas related to global food security with experts and other Michigan youth while learning how university faculty and staff members, researchers and students are working to address world hunger.

To participate, youth should be in grades 8-12 and register by the April 1 deadline. As part of the registration process, youth are required to prepare a two- to five-page research paper about one of 20 grand global challenges which are related to food, hunger and poverty. At the event, youth present and discuss their papers with other attendees and research and industry experts. They also participate in interactive activities related to global food challenges and engage with area experts to discuss solutions to global hunger and poverty.

The top performing students at the WFP MIYI will be selected to attend the World Food Prize Global Youth Institute in Des Moines, Iowa, in October. For more information, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/wfpmyi/>. Registrations and papers are due April 1.

Register today for Michigan 4-H Capitol Experience!

At Michigan 4-H Capitol Experience, teens learn how to change the world for the better through engagement in Michigan's state government and public policy process. The 4-H Capitol Experience program, scheduled for March 15-18, in Lansing, has been described by past participants as "amazing", "life-changing", and "an opportunity unlike any other".

The four-day event, open to high-school-aged youth, includes tours of the Michigan State Capitol, meetings with state legislators, and time to find and strengthen one's voice in the legislative process. During the program, youth are supported by highly qualified peer leaders and MSU Extension staff as they work in small teams to develop real world solutions to challenges in agriculture, civil rights, education, environmental quality, human health, technology and other public policy issue topics.

While directly observing Michigan's state government in action, and through participation an immersive legislative simulation, 4-H Capitol Experience participants develop a valuable and solid understanding of the state's legislative process. Attending the program strengthens participants ability to speak up on issues that matter, and to make a positive difference as active and engaged citizens in Michigan.

Hotel lodging, local transportation, materials, chaperone supervision, and most meals are included in the registration fee, which is \$360 for currently registered Michigan 4-H members (\$380 for non 4-H members). Contact your [local 4-H Program Coordinator](#) to learn about scholarships that may be available in your county to cover some, or all, of the 4-H Capitol Experience registration fee.

Registrations must be completed online at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/capitalexperience2020/> by February 9 in order to participate. To find out more information, visit https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_capitol_experience/

Mecosta County Jr Livestock Minutes Jan 13, 2020

Mecosta County Junior Livestock Association Agenda

Monday, January 13, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Mecosta County Service Building

7:01 PM Open Meeting

Executive Board Roll Call (Present, Absent, Excused)

President Lauren Marfio: Here
Vice President Ruthie Doughty: Here
Secretary Sadie Metcalf: Here
Treasurer Cody Skinner: Here
Adult Advisor Doug Richard: Absent
Adult Advisor Tiffany Spedowski: Here

Pledges were recited

Reports

Secretary- Sadie

Mackenzie makes a motion to approve the secretary minutes, Addie seconds, motion approved.

Treasurer- Cody: Auction - \$13,304.69. Jr. Livestock - \$16,419.14.

Cannot move auction to Jr. Livestock because still one check hasn't been cashed. Addie makes a motion to approve treasurer report, Chloe seconds, motion passes.

MSU Extension-

White board names- please see Mollie after meeting if your name is on the whiteboard Mollie has things she needs to give to you.

Schedule- Mollie is back to going school and is in Lansing Tuesdays and Thursdays until 10 o'clock and is in the office at noon.

Club Signatures Needed- She will get these from you guys.

Expo Days, State Awards, Vet Science Camp- all on the same week this year. Talk to Mollie if you have issues or questions with it. Expo days registration is March 10th. Dates are on the back of the agenda to refer to. State awards has a meeting this Sunday at 3:30 after the community service here in MCSB if you would like to attend.

Fairboard-

Steve- Nothing new.

Superintendents-

Rabbits: Julie, Venus- Nothing new.

Poultry- Jennifer, Mary Jo- Start thinking about Turkey orders, will be ordering through Mecosta County Extension office if you would like. They will be picked up at Big Rapids Farm and Garden if you order through Mecosta County Extension. Turkeys should be 18 weeks. New class added called Decorated Egg, more information coming

Goats- Darcie, Pat- Excused as their grandchild was born today.

Sheep- Faith- Think about where you are getting your lambs from. Faiths husband is building a show ring in her yard in the Spring and if you have questions on how to show get ahold of her!

Cattle- Jenn, Stacy- Feeder weigh in is coming up and cannot be over 300 pounds! Start looking for calves!

Swine- Tracy- Start looking at getting pigs lined up, pigs should be born anytime now. April 9th is the registration at 4:30pm. PQA/YQCA is still under watch.

Horses- Jamie, Linda- Horses are not here.

Old Business

Canopy/Tent-

Last meeting we talked about buying one or renting, it is in our budget to keep renting it. Any discussion. Mackenzie makes a motion to keep renting the tent, Chloe seconds. Motion passes.

Show Scheduling- Fair Dates: July 12th- July 18th

Show schedule is finished, remember there are some changes.

Education/Community Service- Logs

Remember 2 educational OR 5 hours of community service. Community Service opportunity every month.

Mecosta County websites for newsletters:

www.mecostafreefair.com & Mecosta County Facebook Page &

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

Fair Checks, Premium Checks

There is still one person who hasn't cashed their check.

Beef Ultra Sounding

Last meeting we tabled this. Seth is willing to sponsor and organize it all, last year we payed \$311.50 to ultrasound 25 steers.

Discussing if Jr. Livestock should still pay for it, or a member who wants to do it pays \$10 to do it if they want. Club discussion. Club vote – motion passes that individuals will pay \$10 a head for beef ultra sounding and it is optional.

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New Business

Youth Superintendents- Lauren- See Back of Page for Links to apply.

Lauren is starting to do youth superintendents that will shadow the adult superintendents and will help with record books, and such. Must be 4H age of 12 or older, can only be one species superintendents, apply by February 1st. Mollie and Superintendents will pick the winner.

Spring Weigh-In Date: April 11, 2020- 8am – 11am- Tags, Swine Pictures, Registration Forms

Tags will be at weigh in or before \$2 each. **Swine pictures and registration are during April 9th, 4:30pm.**

Photographer For Fair:

Courtney Cotter gave us a big that all leaders have. We are still waiting on Wise photography bid.

Community Service Events: Feb, March, April, May- Adopt a Highway Program. Sunday is the clothing drive, get Mollie clothes if you want to donate them, they will be donated to the Salvation Army. Mollie has asked clubs to come up with Community Service ideas. We have also adopted the last road in the county. In April we will be doing a trash pick up on the highway.

Committee Reports

Trophy- Sweatshirt Colors for 2020: Kelly Green and Grey- More info to come.

The only thing that is set in stone are colors. Sponsorships are given to people within the committee that must find these sponsorships.

Budget- Completed for 2019-2020- Please email Mollie if you would like a copy. hoggmoll@msu.edu

Budget is finalized all except the beef ultrasound are finalized.

Handbook/By Laws- Voting

2 changes were made in handbook. Commission and goat Breedstock wear. Mackenzie makes a motion to approve the handbook and by-laws, Chloe seconds, motion approves.

Record Books- picking up and any discussion

Record books were approved. Notebooks you must pick up in the office, but market pages will be online. If you have never completed a notebook start with #1, if you have completed notebooks continue where you have left off. There must be a notebook for every animal shown, and then a market book according to species must be completed as well. These will be turned in on July 1st, weights will be estimated. Books will be done and graded before fair week. Next JLA meeting record books should be available.

Auction Dinner- Discussion

2 bids were given to Mollie. Abbey Sellers, and Ferris both gave us bids. We have \$4000 allotted for the dinner in the budget. The auction dinner will be set up by youth members this year. Club discussion – Club Vote – Country Fresh will be catering our auction dinner.

Sweepstakes- Judges have been chosen.

Roll Call: everybody is present.

Announcements: See Back

Next meeting: March 16, 2020 @ 7pm MCSB-(This meeting will be led by our Executive Board Members. I plan to do my best on zooming this meeting. Just depends with the time difference and my internet capabilities in Belize)

Adjourn @ 8:00pm Mackenzie makes a motion to adjourn the meeting, Chloe seconds, motion passes.

4-H Exploration Days Information:

6

June 24-26, 2020

Michigan State University

This fun MSU pre-college program could be the highlight of your summer - it could even change your life! About 2,500 youth (ages 11-19) and chaperones from across Michigan attend annually.

4-H Exploration Days registration goes from mid-March through April with session assignments made on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration deadlines, usually the end of April, but can vary by county, so check with your county MSU Extension office. As you select your session choices, be sure to watch for age restrictions! Age requirements for sessions are based on your age as of January 1.

Registration Book

The 2020 registration book and forms will be available late February-early March, 2020

Activity Guide

The 2020 Activity Guide will be available mid-May 2020

- Increase responsibility, confidence, independence, accountability, problem-solving, decision-making and time management skills.
- Increase communication, team work, citizenship, and leadership skills.
- Foster ability to meet new people and make new friends from different places and backgrounds.
- Develop and expand career and personal interests.

Increase college exploration and access to the [Michigan State University](https://www.msu.edu/) campus and its resources.

- Develop social and academic skills needed for a successful transition to college and life as an adult.

Give youth opportunities to try things that aren't available in their county.

Youth must be age 11 by January 1 in order to attend. All participants must submit their forms and payments to the county MSU Extension office (forms are at the back of the registration book).

If you need to obtain contact information of your county 4-H staff, visit: <http://msue.anr.msu.edu/county/> and click on your county name. The county 4-H staff there will process your registration and payment with the State MSU Extension/4-H office. County 4-H staff manage the recruitment, chaperone and orientation process.





Let's Help

Sisters of Sobriety

For February Mecosta County 4-H Community Service

Dates: Feb 1st - Feb 28th

Donations can be dropped off to the Mecosta County Extension Office

Sisters of Sobriety (SOS) focus on helping women start to build a solid foundation for a new way of life in a structured, caring environment – free of drugs and alcohol. Their staff provides and facilitates individual state-certified Peer Support Recovery Coaching, state-certified Community Health Worker access, Medication Assisted Treatment and many other activities to further the experience of a fun and fulfilling life without the use of drugs and alcohol. They provide transitional housing, a safe moral environment, and life skills training for women recovering from substance abuse. Their goal is to integrate residents back into society as productive, healthy individuals. They employ 4 recovery coaches, and a volunteer recovery coach. They currently have a house that accommodates 13-15 women, but are expanding to a next door building to house their staff to open up much needed space for more women. The house is located in Remus on Pierce Rd.

Sisters of Sobriety are in need of the following supplies: body soap, razors, personal care items, toilet paper, laundry detergent, fabric softener, hand soap, dryer sheets, trash bags, general cleaning supplies, coats, hats, gloves, and boots.





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**

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

4-H ANIMAL & VETERINARY SCIENCE CAMP

JUNE 22- 26, 2020

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED UNTIL
MARCH 2, 2020



For an application and more information visit:
www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_animal_veterinary_science_camp/

2020 SPRING WEIGH-IN

Sheep, Goats & Dairy Feeders

**PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD!!! THIS
DOES FALL ON EASTER WEEKEND!! SO
PLEASE MAKE SURE TO PLAN AHEAD!!**

**Spring Weigh-in will be on
April 11, 2020**

At the Fairgrounds from 8am-11am

**Ear-Tags will be there for
purchase!!! \$2.00 a piece please
bring exact change!!**

