

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

January 2020

Happy NEW YEAR!!!

Very excited to start a new fresh year!! Welcome to 2020!! Crazy to think how fast this year has come and gone. I'm quickly approaching my 1 year anniversary. Just crazy to think all the great memories that I have had already. Very excited to start another year with Mecosta County 4-H.

Great things for this month!! From many fun things starting up for the new year. Make sure to get with me on all the upcoming activities that you will want to be registered for so you don't miss out. Please also keep in mind I am going to back to school this spring semester to MSU. So I will be out of the office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings until 12pm. But feel free to email me or give me a call anytime.

I hope everyone has a GREAT month make sure to stay warm and healthy!! Just keep in mind as these winter months drag everyone down. Fair is only 6 months away!!!! Where we will be complaining that its too darn hot!!!

Take care everyone and see you soon!!

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

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Announcements:

- * **Jan 1st– New Years Day– Office will be closed**
- * **Jan 2nd 7pm– Record Book Meeting for leaders only @ Fair Office**
- * **Jan 7th– 6:30pm– 4-H Council Meeting @ MCSB Back Conference Room**
- * **Jan 13th 7pm– Mecosta County Jr Livestock Meeting @ MCSB**
- * **Jan 25th-26th– Green and White Hog Show @ MCSB**

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2019 Michigan 4-H Animal Science Sportsmanship winner

Michigan 4-H congratulates Caleb Hall, of Shiawassee County, on being named the 2019 Michigan 4-H Animal Science Sportsperson of the Year!

Hall received nine nominations, and that in itself is an incredible accomplishment. Their nomination letters were accompanied by an enthusiastic letter of support from Nikki Hersch, Shiawassee County 4-H program coordinator.

The nominators shared stories of leadership, mentorship to other 4-H youth, determination and passion for his animal projects, and his bright personality. Additionally, Hall was awarded Shiawassee County's John & Joan Spindler Sportsmanship Award in 2019. Congratulations Caleb!

4-H Events and Workshops

January 6: Resumes and Cover Letters Made Easy

Online webinar

Youth will learn to build a resume, even if they have limited work experience! Attendees will also receive a step-by-step guide for creating attention grabbing cover letters. Register now at:

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

January 7: 4-H State Award Program Overview Teen/Parent Training

Online webinar

This training will provide 4-H members/teens with an overview of the 4-H State Awards Program, as well as review the application and deadlines.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-state-award-program-overview-teen-parent-training-january>

January 8: Resumes and Cover Letters Made Easy

Online webinar

Youth will learn to build a resume, even if they have limited work experience! Attendees will also receive a step-by-step guide for creating attention grabbing cover letters. Register now at:

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

January 15: Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)

St. Joseph County Intermediate School District, Centreville

YQCA is an annual education and certification program focused on food safety, animal well-being and character awareness for youth ages 8 to 18.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/youth-for-the-quality-care-of-animals-yqca-st-joseph-county-01-15-20>

January 31: 4-H Horse Judging Workshop

MSU Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education, Lansing

Join this Friday evening judging workshop followed by a practice contest on Saturday morning!

The workshop will feature three classes and an opportunity to give oral reasons. This is an approved Michigan 4-H Horse Judges Seminar.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-horse-judging-workshop>

February 1: 4-H Benefit Clinic

MSU Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education, Lansing

Join us for an annual clinic, with a day full of clinics in the classroom and arena.

Topics will include showmanship, trail, and barrel racing.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-benefit-clinic-1>

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.

MSU Extension to launch new portal for volunteers in 2020

In early 2020, MSU Extension will launch Volunteer Central, a statewide volunteer management database and screening system. Volunteers are the core of many MSU Extension programs and the most essential partners MSU Extension has. As such, the organization has made a major investment into Volunteer Central in an effort to improve processes for both staff and volunteers. In the new system, volunteers will enjoy improved features including easy-to-read dashboards and a one-stop application process, among other advantages.

A unique feature of Volunteer Central is that each volunteer will have their own unique online account and profile. Unlike 4-H Online, family profiles will not be permitted. This is necessary to protect the confidentiality of each volunteer and the integrity of data in the system. In preparation for the launch of Volunteer Central, those who currently share an email address with another 4-H volunteer should make plans to create a separate email address for each shared user. For those who may need help with this task, holiday time with family, friends and neighbors is a great opportunity to ask for assistance in this area.

Once you have created a new email address, please either:

1. Log in to 4-H Online and add the newly created email address to the volunteer with whom it should be associated; or
2. Contact your local 4-H program coordinator and share the newly created email address and the volunteer with whom the account should be associated.

The email addresses in 4-H Online and shared with 4-H program coordinators will be used to create access accounts for current volunteers in Volunteer Central. In the coming weeks, look for additional information about Volunteer Central and when current volunteers will have access to the system. In the meantime, please contact your local 4-H program coordinator with any questions or concerns.

4-H Day at the Breslin tickets available

Join us for the 15th annual celebration of MSU Extension 4-H Youth Development at the MSU Women's Basketball game. The Spartans will host the Penn State Nittany Lions on Sunday, March 1, at the Breslin Center on MSU's campus. Game time is still to be determined (either 12 p.m. or 2 p.m.). Gates open 1.5 hours before tip-off, come early to enjoy all the fun activities going on around the concourse. Tickets are free to 4-H youth and their families, 4-H volunteers and MSU Extension staff and their families.



NEW THIS YEAR: 4-H members and guests will obtain their own tickets online. Use the [ticket link \(https://fevo.me/34iKc1r\)](https://fevo.me/34iKc1r) to claim as many free tickets as desired. Once at the link, select the number of tickets required and click "add to cart." The tickets will be added to your cart, free of charge. Once done, click "CHECKOUT." Fill in your first and last name, email and phone number. In the space that says "Let's make it memorable. Name your event:" please type in your county followed by 4-H (ex. Ingham County 4-H). Once you name your event, you will need to fill in your address. After filling out all the information on the screen, click "CONFIRM." You will receive an email with your tickets. You can either scan tickets off your phone at the game or print them from your email and bring them to the game so they can be scanned at entry.

2019-2020 4-H Ambassadors:

Juniors:

Hi, my name is Jadyn Herzog, I am 12 years old, and one of the 2020 Mecosta County 4-H Ambassadors! I am the daughter of Trudy and LJ Herzog of Paris. I have two siblings Rebecca and Tyler. I grew up on a farm raising mainly beef cattle and Boer goats. I have been a participant of the Mecosta County 4-H for 6 years and I am currently the youth vice president of the council. I exhibit cattle, pigs, goats, sheep, chickens, and cavy's yearly at the fair and attend many livestock expositions around the state. Along with that, I have a great passion for arts and crafts, gardening, and being involved in my community. I most look forward to representing the other youth in my county and being a voice for the program that has taught me so much! Throughout my involvement in 4-H I have learned to better communicate with others, be responsible, hard-working, team oriented, and a drive to make the future better for my club, my community, my country, and my world.



My name is Chloe Steiner, I am 13 years old. I am in the 8th grade at Chippewa Hills Middle school. The daughter of Jon and Brooke Steiner of Mecosta. I am one of the Junior Mecosta County's 4-H 2019-2020 ambassadors. I am currently a 4-H member and am involved in many projects including dairy beef, dairy feeder, heifer, cow, horse, pig, goat, and photography. I am also the president of my 4-H club, Back Road Country Kids, I am the youth treasurer of 4-H council, and I am part of the budget committee for Mecosta County 4-H. Some of my accomplishments are being a straight A student, being able to win grand champion showman with my market goat, being in sweepstakes, becoming a 4-H ambassador, and winning several 4-H awards including the excellence award. In the future I plan on participating in dual enrollment in high school, when I go to college I want to find a job that has something to do with animals such as a veterinarian, and I plan on trying to get a scholarship from 4-H. 4-H has taught me so many things such as time management, responsibility, and confidence.



2019-2020 4-H Ambassadors:Seniors:

My name is Lauren Marfio and I am a current 4-H member in Mecosta County. I am the daughter of Andy and Jennifer Marfio. I grew up on Maple Crest Farms in Blanchard MI. I am the 2019-2020 Junior Livestock President, Mecosta County 4-H Ambassador, part of the Morley Stanwood Critter Club, and I participate with many different species. Just completing my 12th year of 4-H, I have previously participated and continue to participate in

many projects including Beef, Dairy Market, Dairy Feeder, Sheep, Swine, and Dairy. Additionally, I have taken part in different projects in the Exhibit Building such as baking, quilting, and photography. Outside of 4-H, I am studying Pre-Pharmacy at Ferris State University in Big Rapids. Not only is 4-H enjoyable, but it has allowed me to meet many friends. Additionally, 4-H has taught me many life lessons that helped my transition from high school into college. I have gained the useful qualities of responsibility, leadership, and confidence while participating in 4-H and will continue to cherish the time I have left.



My name is Tyler Herzog and I am an active member of 4-H in Mecosta County. I

am the son of LJ and Trudy Herzog, and I grew up on our family farm raising beef cattle and Boer goats. I am the President of my 4-H club (Pine Grove), and now also a Mecosta County 4-H Ambassador. I just finished my 10th year in 4-H, and in those ten years I have participated/showed a few projects such as Beef Steers, Beef Heifers, Dairy Steers, Swine, Goats, and Lambs. 4-H has taught me many different skills and lessons like leadership,

responsibility, and confidence. These lessons and skills will serve me well as I continue my education at Ferris State University this fall in the Welding Engineering Program.



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.



Exploration Days Scheme Team looking for members!

Love Expo Days? Want a chance to
make it even better?

**Now taking applications to be a
member of the Scheme Team!**

Possible jobs include:

Designing the T-Shirt

Developing activities outside of sessions

Social Media Committee

To apply:

And more!

You must have gone to Exploration Days at least once

Complete application by Jan. 17, 2020

Have a recommendation from your local 4-H PC

Questions?

Contact Laura Potter-Niesen at

potterla@msu.edu or Liz

Wiener (Scheme Team Staff

Chair) at wienere@msu.edu

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MICHIGAN STATE
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Michigan 4-H State Awards Program



4-H State Award Recognition Areas

- Beef Science
- Birds & Poultry Science
- Career Development
- Civic Engagement and Service
- Companion Animal Science
- Consumer & Family Science
- Dairy Science
- Environmental Science
- Equine Science
- Food, Nutrition, Health & Fitness
- Gardening & Horticulture
- Goat Science
- Leadership
- Rabbit & Cavy Science
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics
- Sheep Science
- Shooting Sports
- Swine Science
- Visual, Performing & Expressive Arts
- Group Award

**Applications for Michigan
4-H State Awards are due
February 1.**

**Questions? Contact: Betty Jo
Krosnicki at
nashbet@msu.edu or
810-648-2515 or
Janice Zerbe at
rajzerj@msu.edu or
269-657-8213**



Through the program, Michigan 4-H members have an opportunity to receive recognition while expanding their network and improving their leadership skills. At the conclusion of this program, participants have a cover letter, resume and a portfolio highlighting their 4-H experiences. Many of these tools will be transferable to future application essays for jobs, college and scholarships.

Age Categories

Mark of Excellence Essay Contest: 11-12 year-old 4-H members

Junior State Award: 13-15 year-old 4-H members

Senior State Award: 16-19 year-old 4-H members

Group Award: 13-19 year-old 4-H members

New for 2020

- Awards program will be held on Wednesday evening during 4-H Exploration Days
- Senior interviews will be held via Zoom during the week of June 9
- Applications will be submitted with the MSU Extension events management system

**Learn more and apply at:
extension.msu.edu/4HStateAwards**

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Save The Date!



State 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Showmanship Clinic

Clinton County Fairgrounds
St Johns, MI



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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/

**HOSTED BY:
MI STATE UNIVERSITY
MI PORK PRODUCERS**

Green & White Hog Show 2020: January 25-26 MSU Pavilion

**ENTRY INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE
BY NOVEMBER 1**



4-H National Youth Agri-Science Summit Michigan 4-H Delegation

DATE & TIME:

January 9-12, 2020

LOCATION:

National 4-H Conference Center; Chevy Chase, MD (near Washington, D.C.)

COST:

\$400

Includes lodging, airfare, transportation, most meals, conference registration, chaperones.

The Michigan delegation will be flying from Detroit (DTW)

Conference Features include:

- ♦ Issues Identification & Action Planning
- ♦ Career Exploration
- ♦ Educational Sessions
- ♦ D.C. Tour
- ♦ Guest Speakers
- ♦ Networking



**NATIONAL YOUTH
SUMMIT SERIES**
HEALTHY LIVING • MAKER • AGRI-SCIENCE

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

Michigan youth grades 9-12

DESCRIPTION:

At the National Youth Summit on Agri-Science high school students develop the skills and knowledge needed for the challenges facing agriculture, food security and sustainability. National 4-H Council and National 4-H Conference Center have partnered with agricultural scientists, researchers, leaders, politicians, and advocates to host the National Youth Summit on Agri-Science. This Summit emphasizes hands-on educational experiences led by experts in the agricultural community. Participants will prepare a community action plan to address a local agriculture science or food security issue.

HOW TO REGISTER

Register online by **December 20, 2019**

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/agrisciencesummit20>

Participants must also be currently enrolled in 4-H Online.

CONTACT:

Betty Jo Krosnicki at nashbett@msu.edu or 810-648-2515

SPONSORS:

Scholarships for conference registration fees and transportation for provided by Bayer and National 4-H Council.

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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!!**



MECOSTA COUNTY 4-H JANUARY'S
COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENT

4-H Clothing Drive

*Please help with giving back to our January's Community Service Clothing Drive.
All donations will be locally delivered to our local Salvation Army in Big Rapids.*



January 19th, 2020 | 1:00pm-3:00pm
@ the MCSB

Please help donate to our January Community Service Event. We will be putting all new or used clothes together on Sunday, January 19th in the conference room. If you would like to donate or anyone would like to that cannot attend you are welcome to drop off at the office. I will have boxes there to put things in. Please just make sure the clothes are washed. They can be all sizes from infants to adults.

Any questions feel free to reach out to me @ hoggmoll@msu.edu