

*Mecosta County*

# 4-H Family News

September 2019

As we move into September I find it hard to believe that I just moved past my 6 month anniversary being with Mecosta County 4-H. Crazy how quickly time is passing and to think the kids are headed back to school or already in school. I want to tell everyone good luck with school this year. I also want to tell our youth that's headed to their first days of college GOOD LUCK. Enjoy every moment of it. It goes by so fast.

I will be starting our end of the year paperwork. So please make sure you are getting your clubs end of the year paperwork as well to me. So I can get everything in on time. (in between my fall river fishing of course and before hunting season begins haha I want to get started EARLY)

I'm looking forward to getting a new year started with some fresh new changes that will hopefully help us be more organized for our future too. We will be electing new officers soon in council and in Jr. Livestock. So will be a fresh start for everyone.

I hope everyone has a GREAT start to the fall and a Happy and Safe Labor Day weekend. I will be out of the office Sept 7th until Sept 16th due to training's and conferences that I am required to attend too. But you know you can always reach me by email.

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

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## Announcements:

- \* Sept 2nd- Office Closed in Observance of Labor Day
- \* Sept 3rd- 4-H Council 6:30pm @ MCSB Front Conference Room
- \* Sept 7th- Mollie will be out of the office until Sept 16th
- \* Sept 16th- Jr. Livestock Meeting @ 7pm MCSB Back Conf Room
- \* Sept 25th- ANRS Days from Mecosta County @ Cran Hill Ranch

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### Attention...

#### **Become a 4-H volunteer!**

Michigan 4-H has a goal of recruiting 8,000 new volunteers in the 2014-2015 program year. Would you or someone you know make a great 4-H volunteer? There are many ways to get involved: help at camp, teach a workshop, lead a club, chaperone an event, lend your professional skills, help at the fair and more!

**Contact the county MSU Extension office at <http://msue.anr.msu.edu/> to learn more about becoming a 4-H volunteer today. By giving your time, you'll help youth achieve big dreams and prepare for the future. After all, life's little questions aren't meant to be answered alone.**

### 4-H Events and Workshops

#### September 3: Welcome Back MSU 4-H Alumni Reception

*Morrill Hall of Agriculture, East Lansing*

Join MSU Extension for the third annual Welcome Back MSU 4-H Alumni Reception. Pizza and pop will be provided for participants and MSU Extension staff will be on hand to interact with attendees.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/msu-welcome-week-4-h-alumni-reception>

#### September 9: Youth Fun with Finances

*Harvest Time Christian Fellowship, Warren*

The free and fun event is open for youth, ages 13-19, to participate and learn about how to save money and earn credit.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/youth-fun-with-finances>

#### September 18: 4-H Children's Garden - Stories for Sprouts and Seedlings

*4-H Children's Garden, East Lansing*

This program is designed especially for young children, ages 0-4, to experience the wonders of gardening through stories and hands-on projects.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-children-s-garden-stories-for-sprouts-and-seedlings-september>

#### September 21: Michigan Youth Leadership & Global Citizenship Spectacular

*Kettunen Center, Tustin*

The workshop features a wide variety of incredibly fun sessions focused on youth leadership, civic engagement, global citizenship, international cultures, life skills, career exploration and workforce preparation.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-youth-leadership-global-citizenship-spectacular>

#### October 4: Michigan 4-H Foundation Annual Membership Meeting

*Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, East Lansing*

All Michigan 4-H Foundation members are invited to attend and vote on all items at the meeting such as trustee elections, audited financial statement report, and more.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-foundation-annual-membership-meeting>

### Apply now for the 2020 4-H Youth in Action Awards

Every 4-H'er has a story, and those stories are worth telling! Apply for the 4-H Youth in Action program, where sharing your 4-H story could earn you a \$5,000 scholarship and a trip to Washington, D.C. for National 4-H Council's Legacy Awards!

The program recognizes four confident young leaders in our core pillar areas of Agriculture, Civic Engagement, Healthy Living and STEM, giving pillar winners the chance to share how 4-H changed their lives and how they have used the skills they gained in 4-H to change the lives of others.

One national winner will be selected from the four pillar winners to receive an additional scholarship and recognition! Applications open on through October 21. Visit [www.4-h.org/](http://www.4-h.org/)



### Michigan 4-H Youth Leadership & Global Citizenship Spectacular

The Michigan 4-H Youth Leadership and Global Citizenship Spectacular embodies Michigan 4-H's mission to make the world a better place through collective youth power. Attending the annual conference will help you become an outstanding leader who approaches life with your head, heart and hands open to new ideas, interesting people, and diverse cultures. Come to the 2019 4-H Spectacular and be part of the movement that has YOUTH leading the way!

The workshop features a wide variety of incredibly fun sessions focused on youth leadership, civic engagement, global citizenship, international cultures, life skills, career exploration and workforce preparation. Sessions for the workshop have been planned, and will be led, by youth and adult volunteers and MSU Extension staff.

The 4-H Youth Leadership & Global Citizenship Spectacular will be held September 21-22, at the Kettunen Center in Tustin, Michigan. This workshop is open to current and aspiring leaders and volunteers, ages 12 and up (by Jan. 1, 2019).

Participants must register for the 4-H Spectacular by September 9. Register at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/spectacular19/>. The registration fee (\$85.00) includes superb lodging, four delicious, home-cooked meals, conference resources and some great surprises!

In order to participate in the 4-H Spectacular, youth participants must also enroll (or re-enroll) in Michigan 4-H for the 2019-2020 4-H program year (which begins on September 1), and pay the \$20 4-H participation by September 15, 2019. Contact the 4-H staff at the MSU Extension office in your county to learn about the availability of scholarships that may reduce or completely cover your registration fee for this event.

Michigan 4-H represented by two youth at 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships

Michigan 4-H was represented by two youth in the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships held in Grand Island, Nebraska, June 23 through June 28.

The 4-H Shooting Sports National Championship is open to youth across the country to compete and present their skills in compound archery, recurve archery, air rifle, air pistol, smallbore rifle, smallbore pistol, shotgun, muzzle loading and hunting.

"We're really proud of our two 4-H'ers who attended this national event," said Laura Quist, Michigan 4-H Shooting Sports coordinator with MSU Extension. "Competing at the national level takes a lot of commitment, time and effort."

Preparation for youth to attend the national championships begins months in advance of the competition. The youth selected to participate put in considerable practice time in their chosen events in order to compete at their best.

The Michigan 4-H youth that attended and competed are:

Joe Balkema, a 15 year-old Kalamazoo County 4-H'er, who received a gold medal in 3-D archery and third place overall in compound archery.

Jackson Sokel, a 16 year-old Monroe County 4-H'er, who competed in shotgun.

"Congratulations again to these two youth on a great contest," continued Quist. "We also want to acknowledge and thank the parents of these 4-H'ers who helped to make their success possible."

Applications for youth wishing to attend the event in 2020 are due to Quist by September 22. For information about the competition or Michigan 4-H Shooting Sports in general, contact Quist at [quistlal@msu.edu](mailto:quistlal@msu.edu).



# Mecosta County 4-H Council Updates and Minutes:

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## Birthday's For September

**9/2 John Strohkirch**  
**9/2 Brooke Rasmussen**  
**9/3 Anthony Race**  
**9/4 Jamie Bissett**  
**9/5 Katie Deur**  
**9/7 Marlin Sheldon**  
**9/9 Samantha Spring**  
**9/9 Addyson Bouwkamp**  
**9/11 Jacob Spring**  
**9/12 Tyler Borowka**  
**9/17 Francis Sylvester**  
**9/17 Addy Minkel**  
**9/19 Teri Ouder Kirk**  
**9/19 Nadine Page**  
**9/20 Marie Goltz**  
**9/20 Robert Zemla**  
**9/20 Sarah Carroll**  
**9/20 Aubrie Barhitte**  
**9/20 Addison Battle**  
**9/21 Steve Doughty**  
**9/23 Jesse Benson**  
**9/23 Paige DeLay**  
**9/23 Conner Ball**  
**9/25 Daylan Nickisson**  
**9/26 Margaret Robison**  
**9/27 Jamis Cline**  
**9/27 Kurt Wilber**  
**9/29 Emma Steig**  
**9/30 Braylon Derevage**  
**9/30 David Sheldon**



Mecosta County 4-H Council

August 6, 2019

Meeting Minutes

Members in Attendance: Tyler Herzog, Jaydan Herzog, Tiffany Spedowski, Trudy Herzog, Julie Strohkirch, Nadine Page

Guest: Chloe Steiner

Meeting was called to order at 6:40p.m. By Tiffany Spedowski

Pledges were recited

Julie S. motioned to approve the agenda Nadine P. seconded it Passed

Julie S. motioned to approve the minutes Tyler Herzog seconded it Passed

Trudy H. went over the treasures report Nadine P. motioned to approve the treasures report Julie S. Seconded it Passed

Extension Office Report:

Molly said there are some people that are interested in joining council

ANR's day is September 25th at Cranhill Ranch the cost is \$400. Julie S. motioned to move \$300 from Molly's budget to the ANR's day fund Jayden H. seconded it Passed

Committee Reports:

-Awards: Have to get going on Trudy, Molly and Tiffany will have a meeting

-Finance and Budget: Jayden Herzog motioned to remove Amy Miller (Engelhard) From the Chemical Bank account or any other Accounts for Mecosta County 4-H. Julie Strohkirch seconded it. Passed

-4-H Promotional: Summer Fest is August 24th from 11-4 in downtown Big Rapids Molly would like to have kids there to help at it. Moly has some 4-h promotional stuff she needs help handing out there.

Molly would also like to participate in Parades. Julie S. will look into it.

-Fundraising: Julie would like to see about having a 5k race she will work on it. We would like to see about maybe making up other t-shirts to sell

-Arena Signs: We still have some more available to sell

-Plat Books: N/A

-Dairy Booth: We did well with it this year

-Leadership & Developmental: Take Rebecca Herzog off

-Camp: We won't be having a camp this year, maybe next year

Old Business:

Trudy will be getting the Scholarships out to the Schools

Julie S. mentioned she would like to get new council shirts

We had some more discussion about the By Laws. Julie S. motioned that starting in 2021 in order to be eligible for a Scholarship you must be active for two years on the Council and do a presentation at the Council meeting in April. Nadine Page seconded it Passed

Trudy Herzog motioned that the 2019-2020 Seniors must attend 50% of meetings and also do a presentation at the April council meeting in order to be eligible for a Scholarship. Tyler H. seconded it Passed

Julie S. motioned for those that want to apply for other Scholarships must assist in a county program before applying for one. Nadine Page seconded it Passed

We would like to see about Ambassadors coming back in our 4-H program

Nadine P. and Julie S. would like to see about having something like a pageant for 4-h

New Business:

ANRS days is September 25th at Cranhill Ranch Molly would like some help at it will be from 9:00-1:00

Jayden H. and Chloe Steiner said they could help

Jayden H. motioned to accept Chloe Steiner to join Council Julie S. seconded it Passed

Meeting was adjourned at 8:16p.m. by Jayden H. seconded by Tyler H. Passed

Respectably Submitted

Tiffany Spedowski

Meeting started at 7:00pm

Executive Roll Call:

President (Kelsei Rushmore)- Here

Vice President (Ruthie Doughty) - Here

Secretary (Sadie Metcalf) - Here

Treasurer (Elizabeth Mishler) - Here

Adult Advisor (Doug Richard) - Here

Adult Advisor (Tiffany Spedowski) - Here

Pledges recited

Reports:

Secretary: Read of last meetings minutes. Ruthie makes a motion to pass. Elizabeth seconds.

Treasurer: \$17,752.40. Ruthie makes a motion to accept report. Addie passes.

MSU Extension- Joe Stockrich thank you for your audio and visual hard work at the fair. And to Ferris State University for the resources. Superintendents thank you for all that you do at the fair for us. Lauren Marfio for working with Mollie and helping out in the office. Summerfest is on Saturday and would love to have some clubs represent our county. We need to get our name out there.

Fairboard: Steve Cramer (president) says we did an awesome job this year at the fair. Liked the dairy booth coming back. Livestock control and cleanliness was done very well. Going to put together a fair schedule again and some shows may be moved, are hoping to get it done by October. Looking at doing new pig wash racks, as well as updating some of the camping spots.

Superintendents:

Rabbits: not here

Poultry: Jennifer Sylvester – 162 birds in the barn, 52 showman this year.

Goats: Everything went really well this year. Got a compliment from the judge, said the market is competing with down south now.

Sheep: Everything went well, only thing is if we have lambs, keep up on the fly spray a little bit better than this year. Still looking for someone who would like to be the Sheep Superintendent though.

Beef: Everything went pretty well.

Dairy: Not a whole lot. Might be looking at other counties to come in and maybe have an open dairy show. Other than that things went well.

Swine: Very pleased with how the barn was kept clean. Getting new wash racks for next fair, all at the north end and enclosed. Please do not hit the gates hard with the wheel barrows. Recommend going in backwards when hauling a wheel barrow or push through the door lightly. Could move show day.

Horses: Went generally very well. Going to play with the schedule. Parents and communication was very well. Tack trailers went very well.

Doug Richard: Thank you to Mollie for stepping in after the year had already started.

Old Business:

Scale: Jim Bob was not here to discuss. Tracy mentioned it to the fairboard, one scale for bigger and one for smaller. It will have to be a permanent scale that has to be attached to a scale house. If we do digital scale it has to be certified every year. If we decide to do an extra scale we have to discuss a location. Has to be a permanent fixture but does not have to be attached to a barn. Steve says at the Evert fair they have a digital scale (for a couple years now) their pig numbers were down and pigs did not make the weight limit by 1 pound and that causes conflict. With a balance scale you can bounce that weight of an animal. We got a compliment from the weigh master that we have a very nice scale. With a digital scale you have an immediate weight that cannot be bounced. Certifying it every year costs approximately \$300 each time and some digital scales cannot be certified. Lauren Marfio makes a motion to keep the scales that we have. Ruthie seconds the motion. Lauren Marfio amended the motion to keep the same scale and not purchase an additional scale: Club Vote: Motion passes.

#### New Business:

Fair 2019- Thoughts, ideas dislikes?

Can we start the scale earlier? Maybe move the pig weigh in time. Table it since the schedule is still being moved. May need Sunday for a show day with the new schedule.

Donna Mishler- a sign that says "Warning Animals Moving"

Chloe Steiner – adding rate of gain to the market animal sign.

Bouck mom – adding plexy glass to keep saw dust in.

Permanent show numbers for each showman.

Anna Sylvester – possibly doing numbers on both front and back of the showman to make it easier for the judges and others to see.

Elizabeth – possibly making the carcass class an actual 4H class to get premiums for winning. Steve Cramer – Theres many options for a carcass class. Animal is entered before the fair and butchered before fair and is judged on actual carcass. Or just the ultrasound class.

First Aid kits in barns? Would like to have small first aid kits in barns for the fair week. Spectrum Health will possibly donate and will possibly refill.

Market Class Placings to 4th place – Discussion: would like to know how their pigs place. Maybe placing through the class, not necessarily everybody getting ribbons just placing. Anna Sylvester makes a motion to place through the top 5 but only the first and second get ribbons. Ruthie seconds. Motion passes.

New System for shows and auctions – Jenn Marfio and Mollie are looking at using a new system for the sale bill and everything else. Want it to where we can pre-register right online and not turning things in at the office. Should help with the Pioneer newspaper article and getting the placings and everything right. Want to give kids a permanent show number.

WIFI @ fairgrounds – will speed up checkout and sale.

Dairy Booth – loved the dairy booth. Stacy could use a little bit more help next year though. Need to have a club sign up. Need a sign that says to go inside because the window looks tricky.

Canopys for sweepstakes – All animals got warm during sweepstakes. Possibly purchase a canopy that is junior livestock. Tabled to look at size and prices.

Livestock costume contest – went great. Think we should do it again.

Show Scheduling conflicts – have a meeting with superintendents to revamp the schedule.

Commission changes – 4% commission we think should be dropped down to 3%. Tabled.

2019 4-H Awards Banquet – In the works of it. Working on location. Would like to have more nominees for the awards banquet. Recognize kids, leaders, and partners in 4H. Randy our grounds crew deserves a lot of recognition. Will get back to you on the date.

Magnets – magnets are available that have dates for JLA and Council meetings.

Officer nominations-Next Meeting September 16th (please be present to be nominated)

Education-community service: holding off. Tabled.

Mecosta County Website [www.mecostafreefair.com](http://www.mecostafreefair.com) – please check out the website, Mollie now has access and a lot of things are posted on the website.

#### Committee Reports:

Trophy- nothing new

Education- nothing new

Auction- nothing new

Sweepstakes- nothing new

Record Books – interested in revamping the record books please get ahold of Jennifer Sylvester. September 20th at 7:00pm at the First Baptist Church in Howard City.

Next Meeting: September 16, 2019 at 7:00 pm at the MCSB.

Anna makes a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:26pm and Addie seconds. Motion passed.