



NOVEMBER 2022

# 4-H Family News

MECOSTA COUNTY



## Note from Jennifer's Desk

Happy November 4-H Families!

The new 4-H year is underway, and enrollment is open! There are some great things coming to Mecosta County 4-H this year so please sign up early so you do not miss out on some of the new opportunities. Know a friend or family who could benefit from Mecosta County 4-H? Invite them to join – IT'S FREE!

I am looking forward for Mecosta County 4-H to be more present within our awesome community. So, make sure to read this newsletter to see how you can become more involved as a 4-H member in Mecosta County.

John F. Kennedy once said, "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them." I appreciate this quote as a 4-H alumna and Program Coordinator simply because we, as 4-H'ers, are shaping the future together by making the best better within our communities.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving with family and friends!

*Jennifer Myers*  
4-H Program Coordinator

## CONTACT US



Jennifer Myers  
4-H Program Coordinator

14485 Northland Dr.  
Big Rapids, Michigan 49307

## PHONE & EMAIL:

(231) 592- 0792

[msue.county@county.msu.edu](mailto:msue.county@county.msu.edu)

## WEBSITE:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/county/>

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# COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 4-H Council Meeting @ 6:30 PM MCSB	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 	12
13 Float Decorating @ 3 PM Spedowski Farms Stanwood, MI	14	15	16	17 Morley Stanwood Family Science Night	18	19 Festival of Lights Parade @ 4:30 PM Downtown Big Rapids
20	21 Grant Center Pioneers Mtg @ 5:30 PM MCSB  Junior Fair Board Mtg @ 7 pm MCSB	22	23	24 Happy Thanksgiving  Office Closed	25 Office Closed	26
27	28	29	30			



# COUNTY 4-H NEWS

## Mecosta County 4-H Fundraiser

The Mecosta County 4-H Council is doing a hooded sweatshirt and 4-H Beanie Hat fundraiser sale where proceeds will go towards providing youth scholarships for 4-H Exploration Days at Michigan State University in June of 2023. 4-H Exploration Days is a great opportunity for youth, ages 12-19 as of January 1, to explore their future, try new things and experience college life. It is a three-day event where youth gain confidence and independence through hands-on learning and make friends for a lifetime. Sweatshirts will be \$30 each for sizes S-XL and an additional \$3 for sizes 2XL and above. 4-H Beanies will be \$15 each. Payment, via cash or check, must be received by the Mecosta County Extension Office by December 10, 2022 for your order to be placed. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to give the Extension Office a call at 231-592-0792.

Place order by following the link:  
<https://forms.gle/jwAK5hmjatrQiDgz7>

**Mecosta County 4-H Fundraiser**

Sweatshirt Option #1      Sweatshirt Option #2

The Mecosta County 4-H Council is doing another fundraiser where proceeds will go towards 4-H Exploration Days scholarships.

Hooded Sweatshirts are \$30 each in size S - XL.  
 Sizes bigger 2XL and up are an additional \$3 per sweatshirt.  
 4-H Clover Beanie Hats (gray with green 4-H clover) will be \$15 each.

Order and money is due to the Mecosta County Extension Office by December 10, 2022.

## Big Rapids Festival of the Lights Parade

Big Rapids Downtown Business Association Presents

*Festival of the Lights*

**PARADE**

**NOVEMBER 19th**  
6:00pm - 8:00pm

*Downtown Big Rapids*

**FREE EVENT**

- PARADE - TREE LIGHTING - LIVE REINDEER -  
 - SPECIAL VISIT FROM SANTA - CHRISTMAS STORIES -  
 - CAROLING - HOT CHOCOLATE -

BR  
BIG RAPIDS

Mecosta County 4-H will be participating in Big Rapids Festival of the Lights Parade on November 19<sup>th</sup>.

We would love to have 4-H families help us spread Christmas cheer with our float. We will be decorating at Spedowski Farms on November 13<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm in Stanwood. Youth can earn volunteer hours if they assist with decorating and walk in the parade.

We do ask that families that plan to walk in the parade with us, if they would bring a bag of candy to help supply for passing out to the crowd that would be much appreciated.

Line up for the parade on November 19<sup>th</sup> is at 4 pm along Michigan Avenue (South of Oak St.) and Cedar Street. Float must be completely set up by 5:30 pm as the parade begins at 6. If you are planning to join us and walk the parade, please be there by 4:45 pm.

Please let Jennifer know if you plan to help decorate and walk in the parade.



# COUNTY 4-H NEWS

## NOVEMBER COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

As mentioned in October's newsletter, Mecosta County 4-H will be starting new monthly community service projects.

In the 4-H pledge, we say for our community, our country, and our world. Giving back to the community is a key element to our amazing organization.

Therefore, we are asking for 4-H families and community members to donate non-perishable food items to the Mecosta County MSU Extension office where items will then be donated to Project Starburst in honor of the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday. Deadline for donations is Monday, November 21, 2022.

Families may bring their non-perishable food donations to the Junior Fair Board meeting that evening.

Let's start the holiday season right by helping those in need!



## New Junior Fair Board Specie Representatives and Officers

Congratulations to the new specie representatives for the 2022-2023 Junior Fair Board! We had a meeting with our specie representatives to elect the new officer team for the year. Our officer team is:

Blake Donley – President

Olivia Marfio – Vice President

Hannah Koch – Secretary

Addison Doughty – Budget

Congrats again! We are looking forward to seeing what new ideas you all have for the 2023 Mecosta County Fair!

Next meeting is November 21<sup>st</sup> at 7 pm here at the Mecosta County Services Building.





# STATEWIDE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## SAVE THE DATE! State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show



The State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show will be held on January 28, 2023, at the MSU Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education in East Lansing.

This one-day event is open to participants age 8 to 19.

Participants must enter the day of the show.

To be eligible to enter, exhibitors must be Michigan 4-H members and own the rabbits or cavies they wish to enter.

For more information, visit <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/state-4-h-rabbit-cavy-show-2023>.

### November 3: 4-H in the Kitchen – Whodunit Edition

*Baldwin, Scottville or online*

Get your sleuth on and explore a world of mystery, intrigue, and espionage. 4-H in the Kitchen will explore the world of forensic science by learning how to prepare a pair of dishes inspired by some of the best mystery writers of the past 30 years. This will be a hybrid workshop so participants will have the option of attending in person or virtually.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-in-the-kitchen-whodunit-edition>

### November 8: Wild Spartans – Exploring Michigan's Largest State Park

*Online*

Take a look into life working with fisheries and wildlife! 4-H Wild Spartans Series will hike to the heights of the Porcupine Mountains and along the shores of Lake Superior as we meet Katie Urban, interpreter for the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Learn about her work and the education and career path she followed to get there. Youth will be encouraged to ask questions to learn more through a live Q&A. This free online series is open to youth ages 12-19.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/wild-spartans-series-november-2022>

### November 17: 4-H Entrepreneurship Guidelines and Resource Training

*Online*

Do you want to learn more about how to run an entrepreneurship club? Do you have questions about how to handle the income and profits from an entrepreneurship project? Are you looking for youth entrepreneurship resources? This workshop is for you.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/4-h-entrepreneurship-guidelines-and-resource-training>

### December 3-4: Michigan 4-H Spectacular Youth Leadership Institute

*Various locations*

The institute will feature a wide variety of incredibly fun and interactive sessions focused on four tracks: personal development and leadership, community leadership, global citizenship, and leadership for diversity, equity, and inclusion. The institute will be held as an overnight event in East Lansing, Mich. (Dec. 3-4), and as a day-long program in Wayne County and Kalamazoo County on Dec. 3.

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





# STATEWIDE 4-H NEWS

## Michigan 4-H to participate in Giving Tuesday, Nov. 29

On Nov.29, Michigan 4-H is once again participating in Giving Tuesday.

The Giving Tuesday movement is a global day of giving and a chance to celebrate the opportunities that make 4-H so extraordinary.

From 12 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. EST, Michigan 4-H supporters are invited to participate in Giving Tuesday by giving their support financially or helping spread the word via social media channels and word of mouth.

**Michigan 4-H has a goal to raise \$5,000 to grow 4-H county endowments in a 24-hour period.**

County 4-H endowments are funds created by gifts from one or more donors to the Michigan 4-H Foundation. These endowments provide a perpetual source of income for county 4-H programs, where the principal amount remains intact and the investment income supports annual needs for a county 4-H program.

**Every dollar is an investment in 4-H!** Learn more about 4-H Giving Tuesday at <https://mi4hfdtn.org/giving-tuesday/>.



## Michigan 4-H Spectacular Youth Leadership Institute December 3-4

The Michigan 4-H Spectacular Youth Leadership Institute is an event for teens who want to improve their communities and our world through leadership and youth power! Attending the institute will help teens gain leadership skills and approach life with their head, heart, and hands open to new ideas, interesting people, and diverse cultures. Attend the institute and be part of the movement that has YOUth leading the way!

The institute will feature a wide variety of incredibly fun and interactive sessions focused on four tracks: personal development and leadership, community leadership, global citizenship, and leadership for diversity, equity and inclusion.

The institute will be held as an overnight event in East Lansing on Dec. 3-4, and as a day-long program in Wayne County and Kalamazoo County on Dec. 3 from 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Participants who register for the overnight event in East Lansing will attend a MSU Men's Hockey game on Sat., Dec. 3, as part of the evening entertainment!

This Michigan 4-H workshop is open to ALL teens (ages 13 and older by Jan. 1, 2023) and to adult leaders who have Gold Level volunteer status with MSU Extension. Space will be limited for this workshop. Learn more at: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-4-h-spectacular-youth-leadership-institute>.

*The Michigan 4-H Spectacular Youth Leadership Institute is sponsored with a grant from the Michigan 4-H Foundation.*

*Happy Thanksgiving*

