



Cass Clover

4-H Family News

July 2017

Dear 4-H Family and Friends,

The 30 day countdown has begun to the Cass County Fair. For most of our 4-H families, this time of year proves to be stressful, yet rewarding. As you are planning for fair week, finalizing the last minute details of your project, and determining which exhibits you will showcase, remember to take time to reflect back on your experiences this year.

As always, please take the time to read about the many programs we have locally and statewide. Feel free to contact us with any questions!

Sincerely,

Stephanie Consford

Stephanie Consford
4-H Program Coordinator



Contact Us

Stephanie Consford
4-H Program Coordinator

120 N Broadway
Suite 209
Cassopolis, MI
49031

Phone: 269-445-4438
Fax: 269-445-4418

Email
consford@anr.msu.edu

Web Site
msu.casscountymi.org/

Newsletter Web Site
msu.casscountymi.org/4HYouth

EARN MORE MONEY!

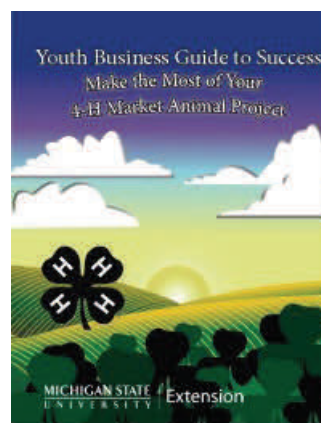
Do you want to earn more money selling your 4-H market animal project? Don't hesitate and sign up for a session now!

Session will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on

7/8/17 - communication (pre-register by July 5th)

Cost is FREE!

Session topic will consist of communication and marketing from the Youth Business Guide to Success curriculum. The structure of this session will be most beneficial for youth ages 12-19 and we can host a maximum of 30 participants. Sign up now, you don't want to miss the last session!



**The 2017 Cass
County Fair
Theme is...**

**Have You "Herd"
it's the Cass
County Fair!**

**Costume Theme
*Circus***

Michigan State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status. Issued in furtherance of MSU Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Jeff Dwyer, Director. MSU Extension, East Lansing, MI 48824. This information is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply endorsement by MSU Extension or bias against those not mentioned. The 4-H Name and Emblem have special protections from Congress, protected by code 18 USC 707.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2

Youth Pork Quality Assurance Requirement Reminder

Any swine exhibitors planning on showing at the Cass County Fair will need to be certified in the Youth PQA program. If you are new, or your certification expires prior to August of 2017, you will need to complete this training. You can now go online and complete the training at www.pork.org/login. This should be completed by July 1st!



Wish them good luck!

Show your fair participant support with a 2x3 black and white ad in the fair guides (published one week before fair week) with Leader Publications. Cost is \$49, due with your ad by Friday, July 7th. Call 269-687-7717 for more information or to place your ad.

July

- 4 Independence Day, Office Closed
- 5 Clerk Training, 6:00 p.m., MSU Extension Conference Room 210
- 8 Youth Business Guide to Success, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m., MSUE Conference Room 210
- 13 Record Book Clinic, 6:00 p.m., MSU Extension Conference Room 210
- 13 Michigan 4-H/FFA Livestock Judging Contest, MSU Pavilion, East Lansing
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/resources/michigan_4_h_ffa_livestock_judging_contest
- 17-21 4-H Youth Dairy Days, MSU Pavilion, East Lansing
<http://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-dairy-expo-and-4-h-dairy-days>
- 19 Horse Leaders' Association Meeting, 7:30 p.m., MSUE Conference Room 210
- 20 Leaders' Association Meeting, 7:00 p.m., MSUE Conference Room 210
- 21 Michigan 4-H/FFA Meat Judging Contest, Anthony Hall, MSU, East Lansing
<http://bit.ly/2rsPGFW>
- 30- Aug 3 National 4-H Forestry Invitational, Jackson's Mill State 4-H Conference Center, Weston, West Virginia
<http://4hforestryinvitational.org>

Cass County Fair Week July 30th - August 5th

August

- 2-4 4-H Health and Food Science Camp, MSU, East Lansing
<https://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=A11B8C3CF0D2FB86>
- 11-13 State 4-H Horse Show, MSU Pavilion, East Lansing
- 16 Horse Leaders' Association Meeting, 7:30 p.m., MSUE Conference Room 210
- 19 Lansing Lugnuts 4-H Night!, Cooley Law School Stadium, Lansing
http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/lansing_lugnuts_4_h_night
- 20 State 4-H Miniature Horse Show, South Barn, MSU Pavilion, East Lansing
http://www.ans.msu.edu/extension/horse_youth_programs
- 24 Leaders' Association Meeting, 7:00 p.m., MSUE Conference Room 210
- 26-27 Global Village and Global Gateway Experience with 4-H, Howell Nature Center
<http://howellnaturecenter.org/programs/heifer-global-village/global-gateway>

September

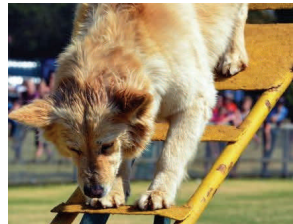
- 4 Office Closed, Labor Day
- 9 Outdoor Experience Day, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., T.K. Lawless Park
- 13 New Club Orientation, 6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., MSUE Conference Room 210
- 13 New Leader Orientation, 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m., MSUE Conference Room 210
- 20 Horse Leaders' Association Meeting, 7:30 p.m., MSUE Conference Room 210
- 28 New Leader Interviews, 5:30 p.m., MSUE Conference Room 210
- 28 Leaders' Association Meeting, 7:00 p.m., MSUE Conference Room 210

For the most up-to-date events listing, go to <http://4h.msue.msu.edu/events>

State 4-H Dog Show

The 2017 State 4-H Dog Show, held at Michigan State University, will be held on Saturday, August 19th at the MSU Pavilion. It is open to exhibitors 9-19 years old as of January 1st. Entries, class forms, and shot records are due to the Extension office before 5:00 p.m. on July 21st. Make checks payable to Michigan State University.

For more information and to find the registration materials, please visit http://msue.anr.msu.edu/events/state_4_h_dog_show.



Clerks and Runners Needed!

We are in need of adult clerks for Still Exhibit day, July 29th, 2017. We are asking each club to identify one or two adults available that day to serve as clerks for our judges. Youth ages 12 and older are needed as runners during Still Exhibit judging day helping youth bring exhibits in, assisting judges with displaying projects, and other general tasks as needed. Morning, afternoon, or all-day sign-ups are available. Please contact your Key Leader or the MSU Extension office to volunteer.

Best Recognized Achievement Validated Outstanding

The B.R.A.V.O. award is given to youth exhibitors that demonstrate the skills that echo the 4-H motto, "To Make The Best, Better". Recipients who have excelled in doing their very best through their project completion and judging interview at this year's Cass County Fair are eligible to receive this award. Only 15 awards are given. Recipients are invited to an appreciation meal for themselves, a guest, and the sponsor.

To continue to provide this award we are reliant upon scholarships. Sponsors are asked to donate \$25. Please contact the MSU Extension office if you would like a donation form or have questions about the B.R.A.V.O. award. Thank you to our last year's sponsors from 2016: Accounting Consultants PC, Cass Auto Supply, Charles and Bonnie McCarthy, Cleopatra's Hair Hut, Country Crew 4-H Club, Creative Vinyl, Mechanicsburg 4-H Club, North Red Hill 4-H Club, Penn 4-H Club, Quality Masonry, Randy and Marilyn Bowman, and Sandra Reed.

Senior Bios

Are you a graduating senior at the Cass County Fair? Please go online to <http://msu.casscountymi.org> to download the Senior Bio form or come into the MSU Extension office to pick up a hard copy. These forms are due to our office by Friday, July 7th.

State 4-H Horse Show

If you are interested in participating at the State 4-H Horse Show, August 11-13, at Michigan State University, please contact your club key leader to express interest. Entry fee is \$60. Deadline to submit paperwork to the MSU Extension office is Monday, July 10th. Postmarks will not be accepted!

4-H Leaders' Association

Are you looking to help the county 4-H program? The 4-H Leaders' Association is the place for you! Come to our next meeting on Thursday, May 25, 2017 at the MSUE Conference Room at 7:00 p.m. to see what we are all about!

Questions? Visit our webpage at <http://www.casscounty4hleaders.org/> for more information.

Teen Leadership Group Meeting

Are you a teen interested in leading activities, events, and participating in county-wide events? Consider joining our Teen Leadership Group by coming to one of our meetings! We are working on a project for the 2017 Cass County Fair and would love more input from you!

Please contact our office for more information at 269-445-4438.

Correction & Apology

The June 2017 of your county's *4-H Family News* may have contained an article about the State 4-H Goat Show. Accompanying that story were four pictures – three of which were inadvertently and incorrectly photographs of sheep, not goats, being judged. The use of those three pictures was completely my error. Some very alert readers called this unfortunate mistake to my attention and I immediately updated my photo library so this will not happen again. For those of you who were distressed by this, please accept my sincere apology.

Priscilla Martin

Barn Clean Up Dates

Dairy Feeder
July 22 - July 23
Details TBD

Dogs
July 26, 2017
5:30 p.m.- Show Arena

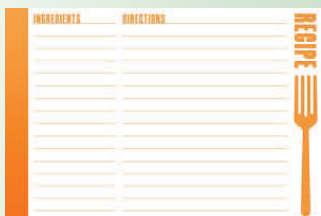
Goats
July 13, 2017
6:00 p.m.

Poultry
July 8, 2017
10:00 a.m.

Rabbits
July 8, 2017
10:00 a.m.

Still Exhibit Barn
Tuesday, July 11
5:00 p.m.

Swine
July 11, 2017
6:00 p.m.



Recipe cards are mandatory for all food exhibits.

You can find recipe cards at the MSU Extension office. Recipe should **NOT** include the following items: mystery ingredients, mixes, pre-made pie fillings, or alcohol.

Still Exhibits:

There have been many deletions, additions and changes – watch the fair book closely. **Some** are listed:

- Macrame, plastic canvas, and rubber stamping division have been deleted – they are now classes in the “other crafts” section in the division Folk Arts.
- Face Painting has been added as a still project also under the “other crafts”. In order to do the face painting, the exhibitor must perform the painting on a model in front of the judge. The exhibitor will need to bring their own paints and brushes. A picture will be taken and be put on display for the fair.
- Acetylene and electric welding have been combined into one section.
- Fairy gardens and wind chimes have been added to indoor/outdoor container gardens.
- The Home & Garden section has been eliminated.
- The Media section has been eliminated.
- Club Hangers and Banners have been changed to Club T-shirt. Save a t-shirt to be displayed during fair week!
- **The judging timeframe has been shortened to 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**
- **Judging will be closed for lunch from 12:00 p.m. until 12:30 p.m.**

Barn Un-loading

New this year, barn un-loading passes will not be issued. All livestock families are allowed to actively un-load feed and supplies in your barn area until 9:00 a.m. daily. Immediately after unloading, please move your vehicle to the parking area to avoid congestion of vehicles near the barn. Vehicles not removed by 9:00 a.m. will be towed at the vehicle owner’s expense.

Livestock Entry Requirements for All Exhibitors

Youth livestock may enter the fairgrounds from 7:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 30th.

All beef, beef breeding stock, dairy, and dairy feeders must have an RFID tag. (Tag should be provided by the breeder that you purchased your animal from.) Regardless of age...this includes animals under 6 months of age.

All sheep and goats will need proper identification (scrapies tag) and health certificates according to the Scrapies eradication rules.

All horses and ponies must present negative coggins test results upon entry.

All market rabbits had to be validated prior to fair. All breed rabbits (including pee wee rabbits) must be tattooed prior to arrival at fair.

All swine will be tagged when they enter the fair grounds.

All market poultry will be banded at the fair during Sunday check-in.

Fair Registration Procedure

Registration and judging for non-livestock exhibits will be on Saturday, July 29th from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Lunch break will be from 12:00 p.m. until 12:30 p.m. All still project exhibitors must pick up their entry forms and exhibit tags from the registration tables before judging and return the form to the registration tables after all their projects are judged Saturday. Passes may be purchased at that time. The yellow copy of the registration form is given back to the exhibitor to be kept for picking up projects on Sunday, August 6th from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. If you are not able to pick up your projects at this time, please make arrangements with someone to have these picked up. Any exhibits left after 12:00 p.m. may no be saved.

Fair Reminders

5

Mandatory Evaluations

What are you learning about your project? Document all of your project skills, life skills, and opportunities you participate in related to your different project areas. These records will come in handy as you are filling out award and scholarship applications for 4-H and school!

In order to exhibit certain animals at the Cass County Fair, you must complete an evaluation/record book. These species include: cat, dog, rabbit, poultry, goats, and draft horse. These will be judged on Saturday, July 29th between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. at the Lowe building with the exception of dogs and draft horse, see fair book section for details.

These evaluation books are cumulative, therefore you should have all previous years involvement included in your binder with your current project information. Join us on July 13th at 6:00 p.m. for our record book clinic! We will answer questions, help you put the finishing touches on your books, or help you get started.

Still Exhibit Auction

- Returning for the sixth year at the 2017 Cass County Fair is the Youth Still Exhibit Auction. For more information, contact the MSU Extension office and see the current fair book for complete guidelines and criteria.
- Still Exhibit Auction is open to all youth exhibitors ages 8-19. Cloverbuds/Pee Wees are not eligible to participate in the auction.
- An exhibitor may sell only one lot in this sale.
- An exhibitor must have received an "A" or "B" on the exhibit to be eligible to sell the item.
- Exhibitor must register the item to be auctioned immediately after the Still Exhibit judging on the Saturday prior to the opening of the fair, no later than 4:00 p.m.
- Projects eligible are: Foods, Fine Arts, Crafts (no memory albums), Photography, Artificial or Dried Flower Arrangements, Creative Welding, Recycling, and Scarecrows.
- All food items to be sold must be a duplicate of what the exhibitor had judged. All food items must be whole or at least a full dozen, and must have a recipe card attached (all ingredients must be listed.) All food items must have been properly stored (kept refrigerated if needed.) The duplicate food item must be turned in at auction registration after Still Exhibit judging, no later than 4:00 p.m. No Exceptions.
- If selling a non-food item, a duplicate item may be made by the exhibitor to be given to the winning bidder at the time of the auction.
- The exhibitor must be present to sell their own project.
- Five percent will be taken from the sale check of the item sold.
- Exhibitor must write a thank you note to the buyer within a reasonable amount of time.
- Item must be exact duplicate, including frame if that was how it was presented at sale.
- Exhibitor is responsible for delivery of item within 15 days or the auction check will not be released and exhibitor may not be able to sell in future auctions.

Release of Animals at Fair

Reminder - it is a violation for any person(s) to remove an animal from the fairgrounds before 6:00 a.m. Sunday after fair, without prior approval of the species superintendent and fair board.

Fair Exhibitor Fees

Dairy Feeder and Swine exhibitors will need to pay a \$10 exhibitor fee to show at the Cass County Fair. This fee will be deducted from your auction check!

Light Horse Driving Dates

July 15, 2017
Additional Information,
please email Kim
Blentlinger at
kblentlinger@hotmail.com

Beef Hoof Trimming June 24th - 9:00 a.m. - Fairgrounds



Still Projects

For the still projects in the Darlene B. Lowe Building, each youth exhibit will receive a sticker in place of a ribbon. The sticker will be applied to the exhibit card for each project. On Sunday, August 6th from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. you may pick up your still exhibit and at that time show your sticker for an actual ribbon if you would like one.



shutterstock, 264456035



Tips for

Lining Up Auction Buyers

If you plan to participate in either the large animal, small animal or still exhibit auction during the Cass County fair, you will want to plan ahead to line up auction buyers before fair time. Here are some tips to help you get started.

1. Prepare ahead of time. This could mean creating a one-page information sheet on the project you are selling and/or putting together an informational packet for potential buyers.
Include details like:
 - Information about yourself (bio).
 - Facts about your project.
 - Consider including a picture of you and your project.
 - Details of the auction you are participating in (place, date, time, etc.)
2. Contact potential buyers and ask them to attend the auction and support your project in the auction.
 - If possible, contacting a buyer in person is best. Creating a personal relationship typically has the best results. However, you can also contact buyers by telephone or email if necessary.
 - Dress neatly and appropriately.
 - Be respectful of the person's time when contacting them to discuss your project. Thank them for their time.
 - Don't wait until the last minute to contact a buyer and ask them to attend an auction. Many buyers have to take time off work and need advance notice.
 - Make sure you have a parent/guardian approval before making contact.
3. Remember to send thank you notes to your buyers promptly after the fair/auction. This helps to keep buyers returning year after year to the auction and shows them you are appreciative of their time and financial support.
4. If you are new to auctions, seek guidance from more experienced members of your 4-H club in addition to your leaders. Also there are many resources and ideas for how to line up auction buyers that can be found online.

Resources:

Turner, Shirley. (2011). Tips and Tricks for Soliciting Auction Participants. *Linn County Youth Livestock Auction*. Retrieved May 23, 2013 from <http://lcyla.org/blog/tips-and-tricks-soliciting-auction-participants>.