

For Immediate Release

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## Hopper's 4-H Club News

*Derek A. Cosner, Reporter*

The Hopper's club met Sunday, May 19 at the Senior Center in Friendsville. There were 10 members, 9 volunteers and 2 guests. The meeting was called to order by President Isabel Whiteside and the pledges were led by Derek Cosner and Ava Cosner. Vice President Ava Cosner introduced the guests.

Kevin Dodge from Garrett College gave us an informative presentation on mammals in Garrett County. It was a very nice slideshow with lots of information. He helped us learn new things and we appreciate him coming and hope he will return in the future!

Jazzy Vose read the Secretaries minutes in place of her brother Jacob. She did a wonderful job! The minutes were approved. Jeremy Gordon read the Treasurers report and it was approved.

Club members did a variety of different things since the last meeting. Jubilee Vose, Ava Cosner, Jerney Gordon and Maddox Gordon all helped with the Accident Community Planning Groups' Easter Program in March. Washington County PA Rabbit show attendees were Jacob Vose, Jubilee Vose, Maddox Gordon, Jeremy Gordon and Bristol Ketterman. They all reported to have a good and successful time there. Bristol also attended the Butler rabbit show and did well. Bristol Ketterman along with Pam Ketterman and Darlene Schmidt traveled to Wisconsin to the Wisconsin Polish Club Specialty Show. Bristol did quite well with her rabbits and was also crowned the 2024 APRC Dutchess, which is Polish rabbit royalty. Derek Cosner traveled to Allegany County to participate in a qualifier for the State Special Olympic Bocce match. He and his doubles partner each brought home a silver medal.

Both Derek Cosner and Ava Cosner helped their mother, Brenda Skipper, a member of American Legion Post 208, place American flags on graves of veterans at the Hoyes United Methodist Church cemetery. The Western Maryland District Show was held and nearly all our club members showed at least one breed of animal, some more than one. Maddox

Gordon, Jeremy Gordon, Bristol Ketterman, Cheyenne McClean, Ava Cosner, Jacob Vose, Isabel Whiteside, Noah Whiteside and Elizabeth Zimmerman all showed rabbits, and most of them did showmanship also. The competition was fierce in some categories, but the judge Ms. Ashton Lazorick did a fine job picking the winners and giving good advice.

Darlene told us to continue working on our record books and service-learning forms. She thanked volunteers for their help during the District Show. Everyone pitched in to make the cold miserable day a success. Ava Cosner gave a demonstration on ATV Safety.

We are ever so thankful to find out the Rabbit Barn will be receiving a roof where we show outdoors. We thank the Fair Board for this and look forward to being able to show in whatever weather Fair week or District Show may throw at us in the future.

Upcoming events you shouldn't miss are the Hopper's Spring Show, June 15, 2024, beginning at 9am at the Fairgrounds. Please send your entries to Pam Ketterman no later than June 7. She can be contacted at [hoppers4hclub@gmail.com](mailto:hoppers4hclub@gmail.com) or 304-288-1086. All rabbits must be brought in leak proof containers and be tattooed. You can bring as many as you want. The show is free to all youth, even if they're not in 4-H and adults are required to pay \$3 per rabbit, payable at the event. Refreshments will be available for purchase, and we hope to see you there!

Farm tours will be planned soon, and we will try to get the Rabbit Barn cleaned up sooner than right before Fair week.

The 67th annual Garrett County Agricultural Fair will be here before we know it. The dates are July 27-August 3, 2024. Premium books were handed out to 4-H families at the District Show. If you haven't gotten yours, please see your club leader. If you haven't completed your Quality Assurance program yet, please do so before July 1, or you will not be eligible to show at the Garrett County or Maryland State Fair. You must complete it if it is your first year of 4-H, when you reach a new age division or show a new species of animal. If you need help, please contact the Extension Office.

We have our regular meeting June 9 at 3pm the Senior Center. Mr. Zach Trautwein will be our guest speaker. HOP HOP HOP on over and join us!