Mission
Cornell Cooperative Extension puts knowledge to work in pursuit of economic vitality, ecological sustainability and social well-being. We bring local experience and research-based solutions together, helping New York State families and communities thrive in our rapidly changing world.

Outdoor education field days educate 6th graders
CCE-Steuben and the Greater Southern Tier BOCES hosted the 2017 Outdoor Education Field Day event at Wildwood BOCES Campus in June. Over 450 sixth grade students, teachers and chaperones connected to outdoor education and natural resource-based industries and careers.

The format for the day was a series of stations for smaller groups of students to enjoy fun, interactive, and informative programming from a wide variety of outdoor enthusiasts and professionals. Presenters included: Arkport Cycles – ATV & Helmet Safety; Autumn Mist Farm – Alpaca Fiber Producer; CCE-Steuben – Renewable Energy/Energy Conservation and Entomology; Greater Southern Tier BOCES Wildwood – Criminal Justice, Heavy Equipment, and Health Occupation Programs; Guiding Eyes for the Blind – Puppy Raising/Training; Mercy Flight Central – First Aid & Hiking Safety; Mike Warren – Wild Turkeys/Turkey Calls; NYS DEC Forester – Forest Management & Invasive Species; Soaring Capital Beekeepers Association – Honey Beekeeping; Steuben County Public Health – Lyme Disease & Sun Protection; Steuben County Soil & Water – Conservation & Agriculture. Next year’s event will be at Coopers BOCES Campus.

CCE-Steuben pairs berries and BBQ for fundraiser
In June CCE-Steuben County hosted an old fashioned backyard barbecue aimed at the entire family and held at Heritage Village of the Southern Finger Lakes in Corning.

The theme of the evening was Berries, so the pie entries needed to be of the fruit variety. In the adult category, winners were Ruth Troxel, Jasper 1st place apple pie, and Liz Smalt, Savona 2nd place blackberry pie. In the youth category, first place went to Dylan Troxel, Jasper, with his apple crumb pie, second to Ryker Seymour, Corning, with a cranberry apple, and 3rd to Blake Houghtaling, Jasper, apple crumb pie, and to Khloe Carey, Corning, apple pie. (cont’d on Page 2)
Sixteen New York State families shared their homes with a young person from Japan for one month this summer through the 4-H Youth Development program. One of those families was Tracy Smith’s family, of Avoca, who hosted 14-year-old Soya Kikutani. Everett Smith, 13, and Brecken Smith, 12, are members of the Forever Farmers 4-H Club in Hornell. Tracy said Soya fit right in with her boys and was both polite and helpful.

Visit www.bit.ly/4Hexchange to learn more about the Smith’s experience. Advance to approx. 10 minutes into the video.

Pictured above, L-R: Soya Kikutani, Everett Smith, Tracy Smith, Brecken Smith.

Steuben goes solar

The Going Solar Steuben County campaign has taught that solar can be a great option for anyone interested in reducing their personal emissions, saving money on the energy bills or for some one who would like to become energy independent.

CCE coordinated several workshops and events across the county. With the help of a wonderful group of volunteers, three solar installers were vetted: Twin Tiers, Solar Liberty and Tatum. They offered free assessments of a potential property, and were available to answer residents’ questions. The campaign offered discounted pricing on solar arrays, an opportunity to learn about incentives, and the chance to see if going solar was right for them.

CCE Steuben was fortunate to host a capable intern this summer in Dmitri Kostya Green (left), a SUNY Geneseo student from Corning. An expert in GIS, Kostya helped get the 4-H Invasive Species project up and running, made maps for grants and various projects, and helped out around the office, fairgrounds, and in all of CCE’s programs. He headed back for his last semester at Geneseo this fall. Summer Nutrition Educator Ireland Armstrong, of Bath, (right) also joined the CCE staff for the summer months, teaching nutrition education classes through the Eat Smart NY program, as well as helping coordinate a Cornell research study about nutrition education and Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) in Corning.

BBQ (cont’d from Page 1)

The berry theme continued with a special presentation by Jerry Keeler, who has maintained a family blueberry farm near Bath since 1999. He engineered a hydroponic growing system for the farm which he currently markets.

CCE-Steuben Executive Director Larkin Podsiedlik said, "We are so fortunate to have such support from the community for Extension’s work, and this event not only helps raise funds for our programs, but also awareness of the work we do every day in Steuben County."
4-H members are selected for award trips based on achievement and merit

The first two 4-H groups have completed the 4-H Shooting Sports Archery classes held at Bath Rod and Gun Club in June and July. There were 14 youth participants and one youth Junior Instructor who completed their respective classes.

New York State 4-H Shooting Sports is part of the 4-H Natural Resources Program offered through the Cornell Cooperative Extension system. Positive youth development is the primary goal of our programming. With an emphasis on maximum safety and the most responsible use of firearms and archery equipment, youth participants have the opportunity to gain both vocational training knowledge and garner important life-long recreational skills. The New York State 4-H Shooting Sports program also fosters responsibility, seeks to develop social skills, and helps youth acquire and enhance knowledge, leadership skills and abilities.

Keep an eye out for more classes this fall. If you are interested in becoming a certified instructor, please contact us! We are looking to provide more classes in Archery, and we also hope to expand our program to include additional disciplines such as Hunting & Wildlife, Air Rifle, and Air Pistol.

Clinic teaches more than construction

The Rabbit/Cavy/Poultry Cage Clinic in July drew 40 youth from Steuben County to participate! Besides having a practical application – just in time for fair – the Steuben youth were able to exhibit and showcase their creations, be evaluated on construction, and finish work in the 4-H Youth Building.

CCE-Steuben wanted the kids to walk away from this experience with a better understanding of animal husbandry, a sense of accomplishment, and a better ability to plan a project and think critically. Also, since tools were shared between participants, many kids were working cooperatively and working through some problem-solving situations.
4-H members conduct senior interviews

CCE Steuben recently participated in the Cornell University research project, Building A Community Legacy Together (BCLT). The BCLT is based on the success of the Cornell Legacy Project in which more than 1,000 Americans over the age of 65 were interviewed to seek their practical advice on issues such as education, work and career, dating and marriage, raising children, finding happiness and avoiding regrets.

The BCLT program trains youth to interview elders ages 65+ about their general advice for living a happy and successful life. In addition to learning about older people’s life lessons and engaging in a community service experience, the program exposes the youth to social science methods, including interviewing skills and techniques to interpret and analyze interview data.

The BCLT program gathers the wisdom of older Americans so their advice for living can be passed down to future generations. It allows youth to learn about older people and aging and is expected to create respect for the wisdom of age and combat ageism. It also provided youth with an opportunity to develop skills sets that will be useful to them in the future such as interviewing and research skills.

Summer nutrition education has been busy all around the county. The Finger Lakes Eat Smart New York program partnered with the YMCA, United Presbyterian Church of Hornell, Turning Point, and Hornell Summer Meals Program on the Community Garden project. The goal was to work toward reducing food insecurity for Hornell area residents. Nutrition educator Jon Sterlace taught 250 people during Healthy Kids Day at the Corning YMCA about healthy drink choices, fruits & vegetables, and encouraged kids to answer healthy trivia questions.

Pat Lamphier, Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program educator, helped the Mom’s Group at the Addison Resource Center learn how to give children the opportunity to try new local garden produce, such as their spinach Peanut Butter banana smoothies and raw zucchini.