4-H is the Youth Development component of Cornell Cooperative Extension. Through 4-H, young people ages 8-19 learn citizenship, leadership, and life skills. 4-H members pledge their heads, hearts, hands, and health to the betterment of themselves and their communities. In Wyoming County, our main delivery method is through the traditional 4-H Club Program, where young people are encouraged to develop a sense of belonging, achieve mastery, experience generosity, and gain independence. Complementing our club programs are 4-H Camp Wyomoco, 4-H special interest programs, and 4-H school enrichment programs. As the 2010-2011 4-H year ends, this brief collection of statistics highlights our successes.

• In 2011, Wyoming County 4-H had 982 members.
• The key to our successful 4-H program is our volunteer leaders. This year, 292 adults gave their time and talents to the Wyoming County 4-H Club Program.
• 197 4-H members participated in the Public Presentations Program.
• 15 4-H members participated on a county level in Horse Communications, 46 participated in the Horse Bowl and 39 participated in the Hippology contest.
• The incubation and embryology project reached 11 area schools, home school programs, libraries and preschool programs impacting approximately 700 youth.
• 4-H members exhibited 848 animals at the Wyoming County Fair.
• 118 hogs, 19 lambs, and 26 beef and dairy beef meat animals were auctioned off at the Wyoming County Fairgrounds as part of the annual meat animal program.
• 1,457 exhibits were created by 4-H members and displayed in the Youth Building at the Wyoming County Fair.
• 83 4-H members exhibited youth building projects at the NY State Fair.
• 68 4-H members exhibited animals in the NY State Fair animal shows.
• 33 4-H members participated in Award Trips, including the Pennsylvania Farm Show in Harrisburg, PA, 4-H Capital Days in Albany, 4-H Career Explorations at Cornell University, and Agri-Business Career Conference at SUNY Cobleskill.
• In partnership with Rural AHEC, 4-H staff and volunteers provided weekly Agriculture in the Classroom instruction to the students in the Perry “Honeycomb” Afterschool Program.
• 54 4-H youth and leaders participated in 4-H Fun Day Workshops in May.
• Over 140 youth, leaders, and parents participated in the 4th Annual 4-H International Food and Fun Night in May.
• 67 4-H youth and leaders attended 4-H Holiday Workshops in December.
• One Wyoming County 4-H member represented NYS 4-H at NAILE, participating in a national 4-H dairy judging contest.
• 3 4-H members earned National Safe Tractor and Machinery Operation Certification. 41 additional youth participated in the annual tractor and small engines safety program during January and February.
• 98 members participated in the Wyoming County Dairy Bowl, with 24 members continuing on to district level competition.
• In April, 88 youth participated in the Wyoming County Dairy Judging Competition that took place over two weekends. 21 members continued on to compete in district level competition and 12 at the state competition.
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1st place 4-H education booth, Tri-County Kids 4-H Club.
29 4-H’ers attended the WICKED theater production in Buffalo for receiving a blue ribbon on their senior public presentations.
Nathan DeMario (Holland) and Tyler Perry of (Strykersville), placed 1st & 2nd in the NYS 4-H Tractor Operator’s Contest.
Mannequin models Adele Schenk (Delevan), and Danielle Herrick (Bliss) display their clothing projects at the county fair.
Members of the junior team participating at the Western District Dairy Bowl.
This attractive farm animal cut-out was created by 16 year old 4-H member Megan George (far right) of Strykersville.
Natalie Emerling (Perry) helping to prepare her cow for the dairy show.
Abe Hauser (Perry) and his heifer calf at the Wyoming County Fair 4-H dairy show.
Colton Raiber (Arcade) with his giant pumpkins.

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4-H’ers from the 3+2 4-H club share their presentation on the Netherlands at the 4th annual 4-H International Food & Fun Night.

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Youth compete in the 4-H sheep showmanship contest at the county fair.
Wyoming County 4-H Produced in NY State Food Contest winners.
Roxanne Dueppengiesser (left) nominated and presented Holly Harwood (right) with a NYS 4-H special service award.
Ray Kirsch speaking to a group of youth about grain bin safety at the annual Farm Safety Day held this year at R.L. Jeffres & Sons.
Eighteen Wyoming County 4-H teens attended this year’s 4-H Career Exploration Conference at Cornell.
Andrew Casselberry (Bliss) was the 2nd highest seller in the 4-H Cookie Sale. As a prize, he received a saddle that will be used in his 4-H Horse project.
Kala Nickerson (Arcade) answering questions from the Swine judge, at the Wyoming County Fair 4-H Meat Animal Show.
Taylor Tyczka (Cowlesville) and Abigail Parker (Perry) participate in the Produced in NYS Foods Presentation.
Wyoming County 4-H’ers selected to participate in the 2011 NY State Fair Clothing Revue in Syracuse.
4-H Capital Days - Karl Kunze (Wyoming), Lydia Zielinski (Arcade), and Laurel Perl (Strykersville) meet Assemblyman Burling and Senator Patrick Gallivan.

- 35 youth were members of the Wyoming County 4-H Shooting Sports Club.
- 29 4-H members completed the 4-H Wildlife Shrub Program.
- 17 members raised approximately 1030 pheasants through the DEC’s Day-old Pheasant Chick Program that were released in non-posted areas throughout Wyoming County.
- 54 youth participated in the Gladiola Grown Project which is sponsored by the Western NY Gladiolus Society.
- 75 youth received seed to grown giant sunflowers and giant and mini pumpkins.

4-H members and leaders in Wyoming County participated in many workshops, events, and competitions throughout the year. The 4-HYouth Development Program in Wyoming County has a rich past and continues to grow and improve to meet the needs of our young people in the future.

4-H Public Presentation Program
The Public Presentation program is frequently referred to as the most beneficial and rewarding experience of all 4-H experiences. Public presentations give 4-H members an excellent opportunity to research a subject, organize ideas in logical order, and learn to speak effectively before groups. The public presentation program is often credited by 4-H alumni as having given them an edge above peers in both college and professional careers. Learning public speaking skills builds confidence and mastery in a skill area that will be useful throughout their lives.
In 2011, 197 youth participated in our local Wyoming County 4-H Public Presentation event, an increase from 173 youth in 2010 and 153 youth in 2009. In the Horse Communication program, five of our Wyoming County horse presenters were chosen to go on to the regional competition, along with four going onto states. Sixteen youth participated in the Western District 4-H Public Presentation event held in April in Erie County. Three Wyoming County 4-H members received a gold seal, a tremendous achievement! In addition, at this year’s Wyoming County Fair, 51 youth repeated their presentation in the Youth Building for the public!

4-H International Food & Fun Project
In 2011, 347 Wyoming County 4-H’ers were enrolled in the food and nutrition project area. In addition to participating in food projects within the club setting, youth participated in activities such as the 4-H Produced in NY State Foods Contest and various workshops focusing on good nutrition and food safety practices. The 4th annual 4-H “International Food & Fun Night” was held at the Valley Chapel Free Methodist Church Fellowship Hall in South Warsaw on Monday evening, May 23rd. Seven clubs participated including: Castile Country Kids (France), Grandma’s Gang (Germany), Peppy Perryettes (Egypt), 3+2 (Netherlands), Shamrockers (Italy), Varysburg Dancing Pumas (Fiji), and the Wyoming Wildcats (Mexico). All the clubs put together very attractive and informative displays highlighting their country and presented an overview of what they learned from their involvement in the project to the rest of the audience! At the conclusion of the evening, everyone enjoyed sampling various foods and dishes representative of the various countries! Everyone enjoyed an evening of entertainment, educational awareness, food, and fun!

Holly Harwood Receives New York State Award
Wyoming County 4-H Agriculture Educator, Holly Harwood received the New York State 4-H Educators Association Special Service Award for staff under 5 years of service, at the New York State 4-H Educator’s Conference in October. Holly was selected on the basis of her outstanding program leadership, innovation, and commitment to the 4-H youth and leaders of Wyoming County. Congratulations, Holly!
Over 1,300 campers participated in summer programs at 4-H Camp Wyomoco. 869 campers participated in traditional overnight summer program. 64 campers participated in our Fall Camper weekend. In addition, we collaborated with 12 different user groups to run programming at Camp Wyomoco in 2011.

- 36% of our campers were from Wyoming County.
- 23% of our campers were from Erie County and 20% were from Monroe County.
- 38% of our campers are 4-H members. This far surpasses all other 4-H camps in New York.
- 66% of our campers attend camp for one week and 34% of our campers attend for two or more weeks.

Wyoming County Dairy Institute STEM Camp
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wyoming County’s unique attributes contributed to the third year of our successful Dairy Institute STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Camp. Camp Wyomoco provided the setting and home base. The collaborative efforts of staff from Camp, our 4-H and our Agriculture programs created a participatory dairy career discovery opportunity. 11 campers participated visiting 11 different operations/farms and interacted with 10 different speakers from the dairy and agriculture industry. Campers visited farms and businesses across the area to learn about milk quality, calf raising, animal health and nutrition, environmental protection, crop production, artificial insemination, lending and record keeping. The Center for Dairy Excellence provided funding to help support this regional program.

Americorps
For the fourth year we were fortunate to have six summer Americorps members on camp staff and one six-month position. This partnership with Americorps and the Genesee County Youth Bureau allows college students to serve on camp staff taking leadership for a specific project or area. The Americorps member works to develop their program area and create a strong program for the future at Camp Wyomoco.

Energy $mart Camp$ and Camper$ Camp and our campers participated in a variety of Energy Awareness related activities this summer through a two-year grant provided by the Cornell Cooperative Extension Director. Energy Awareness activities included:

- Campers participated in energy saving activities on “Green Day” every Tuesday.
- Camper activities included: Appliance Challenge, Mining ChoCOALate, Energy over 4 Generations, Solar Labs, and Solar Smoothies.

www.CampWyomoco.com

Program Staff
Shawn Tiede
4-H Camp Wyomoco Manager

Marie Wixner
4-H Camp Wyomoco Director

Susan Hatch
4-H Camp Administrative Assistant
**Agriculture**

**Agri-Palooza**
The inaugural Wyoming Agri-Palooza, held in June, was a celebration of Wyoming County’s #1 industry—AGRICULTURE. The event was hosted by Van Slyke Dairy Farm in Pike. Tours travelled through their 1300-cow facility and digester, where raw manure is processed into dry bedding and Bessie’s Best compost. Animal displays, a Farmers’ Market, Cornell Cooperative Extension Exhibits, and more rounded out the event. Wyoming County 4-H provided fun and educational games and contests, and pedal tractor races. An “Ask A... (Farmer, Veterinarian, Nutritionist, Crop Consultant, Farmstead Planner)” booth provided information, and question and answer opportunities. Machinery displays included equipment such as potato harvesters (Wyoming County is New York’s top potato producer). Agri-Palooza proved a great success, with more than 1,500 visitors. This event was an example of Wyoming County people working together; Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Chamber of Commerce collaborated together with the Farmland Protection Board, the Soil and Water Conservation District, and Farm Bureau.

**Direct Marketing**
The new “Eat Fresh, Buy Local” directory has 70 participants, with avid response by local growers and vendors in Wyoming County. It provides locations, hours, and product information as well as availability of fresh market produce and locally-made furniture and farm crafts, eateries using local fresh foods, and greenhouses, orchards, and berry farms; even locally-produced compost.

Wyoming County boasts three Farmers’ Markets. The Arcade Farmers’ Market, featuring local fresh produce, is new and had a great start with resource assistance from CCE. The Warsaw Farmers’ Market was located in the parking lot of the Full Gospel Community Church. The popular Perry Farmers’ Market enjoyed a successful year, and now has a permanent location on Main Street.

**Maple Program**
The WNY Maple School and Trade Show held at Letchworth School in January offered 12 classroom sessions on a variety of topics, as well as a presentation on Landowner Rights and Maple Industry.

Continued on page 10
and Cornell Maple Program updates. Attendance was 160 people. Maple Weekend, on the last two weekends of March, included 15 producers hosting guests numbering in the thousands who sampled and bought maple products. Local producers look forward to the NYS Maple Tour in July 2012 (co-sponsored by the Cornell Maple Program). The ‘Maple Production for Beginners’ workshop was held in October. A turnout of 45 students attended the classroom session and woods walk. Instructors were Steve Childs, Cornell Maple Specialist; and Eric Randall. Monthly maple webinars round out the Cornell Maple program offerings.

Beekeepers’ Association
The Wyoming County Beekeepers boast a solid core of 60 enthusiasts and a total of 110 interested. In October, a ‘Cooking with Honey’ workshop with a local chef and beekeeper provided simple ways to use honey for cooking. Plans for 2012 include live hive visits and hive care demonstrations, field trips to apiaries and to the Dyce Lab at Cornell University.

Horticulture and Entomology
Over 250 residents received assistance with:
• Conducting soil pH testing; providing plant and insect identification, plant disease, and pest diagnostics. Providing recommendations on cultural practices and integrated pest management. Distributing pesticide, herbicide, fungicide, and nutrient management recommendations and resources.
• Offering CORE DEC Pesticide Recertification and Cornell Cooperative Extension Sustainable Landscape Webinars, which offer DEC pesticide applicator credits and nutrient management considerations to turf and lawn care professionals.

Master Gardener Volunteer Contributions
The focus of the Master Gardener program in 2011 was to promote Master Gardener community involvement and the programs affiliated with Wyoming County Cornell Cooperative Extension. Many of the 17 active Master Gardeners are involved in community gardens and beautification projects throughout the county. These projects were planned and executed without being labeled as Master Gardener projects. A key element in the future success of the program is recognizing who made these projects possible.

Master Gardeners support Cornell Cooperative Extension’s programming. Gaining knowledge of resources and confidence in accurately answering horticultural, plant disease, and pest management inquiries, master gardeners were available to provide soil pH testing, and distribute information at events like Agri-Palooza and the Wyoming County Fair.

Wyoming County Cornell Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners have donated 300–400 hours of outreach labor throughout 2011 while providing outreach and educational opportunities to experienced and future gardeners.

Horticulture Workshops Offered
• Homespun Holiday Orange Pomander Centerpiece (35 participants)
• Make and Take Hypertufa (25 participants)
• Garden Day Celebration (300–400 Attendees)
• Garden Bounty Soap Making Demonstration (28 participants)
• Shiitake and Oyster Mushroom Log Inoculation Workshop (20 participants)
• Demonstrating Seed Viability at Burlingham Books Seed Exchange (18 participants)
• Community Gardening Talk at Silver Lake Institute (15 participants)
• Presentation Perry Garden Club
• Presentation Wyoming Garden Club
In 2011, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wyoming County made the resources of the North West New York Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops Team available to Wyoming County producers by establishing a memorandum of understanding including staff sharing.

WNY and Finger Lakes Corn Congresses and Soybean/Small Grain Congresses
Over 600 producers and agri-business representatives were updated on corn production topics including: hybrid selection, planting populations, disease management, herbicide resistance, western bean cutworm, weed control, fall tillage, tile plows, nitrogen protectors, and DEC updates. Over 400 received updates on soybean and cereal grain production including: soybean and wheat varieties, disease and weed management, seeding rates, population studies, cover crops, NYS Soybean Board, seed treatments and soybean aphids.

2011 Crop Challenges - Decision Tools for Forage Purchases
An invitation to present at Pioneer Hybrid’s Bash at the Bunk, spurred team members to collect information regarding crop maturity and forage purchase decisions. These were linked from the team web site and have proven valuable to producers making forage decisions.

Cover Crop Benefits
Cover crop training centers were established following winter wheat in Seneca, Monroe and Livingston Counties. Tillage radishes, clover, forage oats, and peas (alone and in combinations) are featured. From these trials, producers will be able to evaluate which crops prevent erosion, loosen heavier soil, scavenge excess nutrients in fall, and winter kill for quick nutrient release in the spring.

Group Care of Baby Calves
Fifty-three individuals learned about environmental and nutritional management required to successfully raise group housed and fed young dairy calves. A research and extension veterinarian who pioneered acid stabilized milk/milk replacer feeding and group housing in North America, shared his experiences aided by early adopters of the practice. This spurred information requests, networking amongst producers, and several calf facility projects. The economic ramifications of this change in facilities and feeding practice are large.

Step It Up 2011 Winter Grazing Conference
About 45 dairy and beef producers, including Alfred State College students, learned about weed management and pasture fly management. Featured topics included: how a Wisconsin dairy grazier got his start, and their Dairy Grazier Apprenticeship program.

Beef Pasture Walk, Wilmar Farm
Twenty-seven participants from seven counties learned the basics first-hand about beef recordkeeping for herd improvement, fence installation and maintenance, water systems, pasture management, handling facilities and winter feeding.
Feeds and Feeding Management

Thirteen people, mostly dairy farm employees, enrolled in this five-session training. It focused on dairy cattle rations, forage production, feed delivery and monitoring. Classroom sessions were presented by experienced nutritionists from Cornell University and private industry. Demonstrations, hands-on exercises along with two days of farm visits with the herd nutritionists, opened opportunities for discussion and analysis by participants. At least two attendees were promoted to more responsible positions following course completion.

Lameness and Hoof Care

Twenty participants learned how lameness in dairy cattle results in poor performance, increased culling and substantial economic losses. The five-hour sessions were split between classroom and hands-on trimming of cadaver feet. Two “at the farm” locations offered convenient access. Three professional hoof trimmers of national renown volunteered their services as trainers. Attendees were primarily responsible for cow care on dairy farms, many with hoof trimming as part of their job descriptions.

Animal Well-Being and Cow Comfort

Eighteen individuals learned from a team dairy specialist and a NYS Ag and Markets field veterinarian how cows respond to stress and how stocking density, facility design, bedding options and hygiene influence health, milk production and longevity. The New York State Cattle Health Assurance Program’s Welfare Certification module was used to assess dairy facilities for cow friendly attributes. Findings of the group were reported to the farm’s management for review.

Herd Health and Herdsmanship

A three day, 11-hour course gave cattle owners, herd health managers and a couple of “cow hobbyists” background on both metabolic and infectious diseases, preventative measures, vaccination programs, antibiotic use and treatment strategies. Classroom trainings and an on-farm session featured a walking tour discussion of cow management by the herd manager and in-depth practice of physical examinations. 18 enrollees took part in the training provided by team dairy specialists.

Farm Financial Management Education

Approximately 15 individuals representing 10 farm businesses and one agri-business completed the 12-hour Basic Farm Financial Management Workshop held over four days. Participants learned about the value of financial management practices and the three basic financial statements, including how to construct them. Participants applied knowledge and skills via numerous in-class exercises and assigned homework. About half of the farm businesses implemented some form of summary and analysis.

Wyoming County Dairy Institute (WCDI)

Program Staff

Joan Petzen
WCDI Facilitator

Tanya Nickerson
WCDI Educator

Susan Hatch
WCDI Administrative Assistant

www.WyomingCountyDairyInstitute.com

Picture Information

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Participants in the Wyoming County Dairy Institute classes receive hands-on training in bovine reproduction skills.
Chip Hendrickson (right) demonstrates hoof trimming techniques while participants practice skills on cadaver feet.
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<tr>
<td>Total County Support</td>
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**OUR MISSION**

The Cornell Cooperative Extension education system enables people to improve their lives and communities through partnerships that put experience and research knowledge to work.

**ESTIMATE OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wyoming County
An Estimate of Support Received for year ending 12/31/11

- **Total County Support**: $455,222.72
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