Niagara County 4-H **CLOVER SCENE** *Newsletter* December 2025

Congratulations





Congratulations Michellynn Schroeder and Emily Jago! They recently competed at NAILE (North American International Livestock Exposition) in Louisville, Kentucky.

Michellynn represented Niagara County 4-H in the Dairy Quiz Bowl contest. Her team won FIRST PLACE, and she placed SECOND as individual. Emily represented Niagara County 4-H in the Horse Bowl Competition, where she placed FIRST as individual and SECOND PLACE team.

These girls have put years of studying into their species as well as species they don't show to better themselves and those around them. Their dedication to 4-H and knowledge competitions has paved the way to their decisions on career paths. Both girls deserve these hard fought wins and hope to continue being a light to younger members to encourage them to put themselves out there and compete. Nothing compares to National trips, the experiences they give you, and the friendships that are made.





























Congratulations to Bella Muck!

Bella proudly represented Niagara County at the NYS 4-H Livestock Skillathon and Judging held during the National 4-H Livestock Contest at the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Kentucky.

While in Kentucky, Bella and her teammates traveled around the region, visiting Forsee Southdowns and Double F Club Lambs for judging practice. The teams were thoroughly impressed with the outstanding sheep, excellent facilities, and the valuable learning experiences they gained along the way.

Way to go, Bella! Thank you for your dedication and for representing Niagara County with enthusiasm and excellence!

Public Presentations 2026

Public presentations are one of the most rewarding experiences for 4-H members and leaders.

4-H Public Presentations is a talk given by a 4-H member in front of a small group. By giving a presentation, youth will have the opportunity to tell others what they have learned or about a topic they enjoy. This is a very important part of the 4-H experience.

Each time a 4-H'er presents, they learn to speak more easily before groups, and gain confidence.

Registration Forms will be out soon. Check back in the January Clover Scene for more details!

Save the dates!

Public Presentations 2026:

Thursday February 26 & Saturday February 28 NEW- The Dale Association, 33 Ontario Street, Lockport

Cloverbud Bash – Saturday, February 21 (Cloverbuds only) 4-H Training Center

Practice Pre-Game Sessions: Tuesday Feb. 10 & Saturday Feb. 14

4-H Center– see details in next Clover Scene

District Regional Competition: Saturday, March 28 **Sign-ups not yet open**More info coming soon!

Did you know that you can present on ANY topic!? What makes your heart happy?



Premium Money

Any 4-H member (does not include Cloverbuds) who exhibited an animal at the Niagara County Fair in 2025 and/or entered exhibits in the Training Center, AND was re-enrolled in 4-H by March 1, 2025 – will receive premium money. If you didn't pick it up at the 9/19 Achievement Night, you can stop by CCE Administration office any time during business hours to pick up your cash. Please pick it up asap.

Niagara County Fair Specials

Did you receive a 4-H Sponsors "special" award during the Niagara County Fair? If so, a monetary prize has been given to you for your outstanding work in a project area. 4-H members can pick up the checks any time between 10/1—12/23/25. Checks not picked up by December 23, 2025 will be forfeited back to Niagara County 4-H Sponsors.

DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED

Give Today to Grow CCE Niagara County

Together, we're growing leaders, building community, and shaping the future of Niagara County. With your gift, we can reach more youth, expand programs, and continue building a stronger community.

To donate to CCE Niagara's Annual Appeal click here: https://secure.givelively.org/donate/cooperative-extension-association-in-the-state-of-new-york-lockport-ny/give-to-grow-niagara-county

CANNED FOOD DRIVE

When: November 12-December 18

What: Any non-perishable food items

Examples: Any non-expired canned goods (fruits, vegetables, meat, soup),

cereal, mac & cheese, rice, beans, pasta, nut-butters, etc.

Where: Drop off to the box in CCE Admin Building, front foyer

Raffle: Anyone who drops off these items to CCE during business hours, please come into the office and pick up a raffle ticket! You will receive 1 raffle ticket for each food item donated. Winner will be drawn on 12/19. One winner will receive a framed print 22x28 print of "Feat of Five" by local artist, Manning McCandish (\$300 retail value). Sponsored by the Niagara Art Trail & Manning McCandish.

All food donations will be distributed throughout Niagara County.

Workshops

Travel Tissue Cover and Hexagon Coaster

Date: Monday, December 1 Time: 6:00-8:00pm Place: Memorial Room

Cost: \$1.00 Age: 5+

RSVP: Iesa at 716-523-4981 by November 24

This is a beginner friendly sewing project. For those who have had little or no sewing experience please come at 6. Learn the parts of a sewing machine and then how to operate it before starting the sewing project. The rest will start at 6:30. Please bring the following: sewing machine (if you have one), pins, seam ripper, sewing scissors and white sewing thread. You will be picking fabric from the closet to use. An adult must stay with child. Limit to 8.

Pipe Cleaner Snowflakes

Date: Monday, December 8

Time: 5:30-6:45pm **OR** 6:45-8:00pm

(pick one time slot) Place: Memorial Room

Cost: \$2.00 Age: 5+

RSVP: Iesa at 716-523-4981 by December 3

This is a fun and easy ornament that will brighten any tree. You will make several. All supplies are provided. If you have small pliers or wire cutters, please bring.

Quilt as You Go Tree

Date: Monday, January 12 Time: 6:00-8:00pm Place: Memorial Room

Cost: \$1 Ages: 5+

RSVP: by January 5 to Iesa 716-523-4981

This is another easy sewing project. Previous sewing experience is required. Sewing strips of green fabric on to batting cutting a tree shape then adding a decorative stitch on top. Will make two. Please bring sewing machine if you have one, sewing supplies, green sewing thread, and some scraps of green cotton fabric only if you have some, the rest we will be getting from the closet. An adult must be with child. All ages. Limit to 8.

German Bell Ornament

Date: Monday, January 26

Time: 6:00pm

Place: Memorial Room

Cost: \$5 Ages: 8+

RSVP: by January 19 to Iesa 715-523-4981

This is an origami project. We will be making several, using a variety of papers. Also learn how to make a tassel. All supplies will be provided.

4-H Foods Class Baking a Christmas Yule Log

Date: Monday, December 1 or Tuesday, December 2 or Wednesday, December 3

Time: 5:30 pm

Place: Large Meeting Room

Cost: \$15 Ages: 8-18

RSVP: dsweeney7371@gmail.com by November 24

Madeline Burns, owner of Baked by Burns in Niagara Falls, will teach members how to make a Christmas yule log. The same class will be taught all three nights. Enroll for one class. If you have already enrolled and want to change the date, rsvp by November 24.

Members will use a pre-made sponge cake for the roll and she will demonstrate how to make a frosting recipe. They will learn frosting techniques, bark texturing and how to add decorations. Every member will go home with a 7" log.

For 4-H Foods classes, it is very important that members RSVP by due date and follow through by attending the class. Teachers make sure they have enough supplies based on registration. All teachers volunteer their services and we greatly appreciate them sharing their skills with 4-H members.

To register for this class:

- RSVP by November 24 to dsweeney7371@gmail.com
- List first and last name of 4-H member and their 4-H age (as of Jan 1, 2026)
- Tell me the date Dec 1, 2, or 3 that the member will attend
- If you have pre-registered and your plans have changed and are not able to attend the class, email me. There is a waiting list.

Let me know of any allergies the member may have Questions? email or text at (716) 531-2386



Appliqué Pin Cushion

Date: Saturday, December 6

Time: 11:00-1:00pm Place: Memorial Room

Cost: \$5.00 Ages: 5+

RSVP: Iesa at 716-523-4981 by December 1

This is a new project. With some pretty fabric add a felt appliqué and some embroidery to make a useful pin

cushion. All supplies will be provided. Please bring sewing

scissors. This will take several classes.

Cloverbud Bean Candle Holder

Date: Wednesday, December 10 Place: Large Meeting Room

Cost: \$5

RSVP: Kathy Bowers at krc8@cornell.edu by December 3

Ages: 5-7

Using beans, glue and an L.E.D battery operated candle, kids will create a unique tablescape piece. Cloverbuds will

also decorate a placemat.

Study the STEM picture and use your engineering skills to create your own snowball launcher!

Send us pictures of your creations: ckw38@cornell.edu

Embroidery

Dates: January 10 & 24 Time: 11:00-1:00pm Place: Memorial Room

We will be continuing with the appliqué pin cushion. This

class is closed to new people at this time.

Archery (Ages 8+)

Dates: Mondays, January 5 & 12 Time: 5:00pm for beginners

6:00pm for beginners and intermediate

7:00pm for advanced only

Cost: \$5 for two classes

OR

Dates: Friday, January 9 & 30

Time: 6:00pm only, for all skill levels

Cost: \$5 for two classes

RSVP: By Dec. 22 to Stacey at ssh85@cornell.edu with first and last name, date and time. Spots are limited. First come, first served, based sign up date and time.

Archery Club

Date: Monday, January 26

Time: 6:00pm

Place: Agricultural Education Building

RSVP: to Heidi at Hmk3@cornell.edu if you have not

already expressed an interest.

Junior Leadership Training

Dates: Monday, January 26

Time: 7:00pm

OR

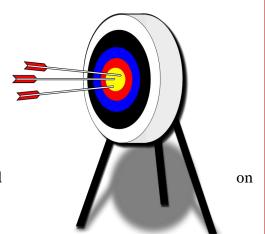
Date: Wednesday, February 4

Time: 6:00pm Ages: 13+

Place: Large Meeting Room

Teens interested in participating in the Junior Leadership Project must attend one of these meetings. We will go learn about leadership, the Leadership Project Guide and expectations.





** THESE DATES ARE NOT LISTED IN THE CALENDAR

Agricultural Activities

November 24	6:30pm	BR	Cat Club	Meeting
December 2	7:00pm	AUD	Dairy Cattle	Meeting
December 4	6:00pm	LMR	Dairy Cattle Cloverbuds, must RSVP	Meeting
December 8	6:30pm	LMR	Beef Cloverbuds	Meeting
December 8	6:30pm	AUD	Dairy and Meat Goats	Meeting
December 10	7:00pm	AUD	Beef	Meeting
December 11	7:00pm	LMR	Swine	Meeting
December 15	6:30pm	AUD	Sheep	Meeting
December 15	6:30pm	LMR	Sheep Cloverbuds	Meeting
December 16	6:00pm	AUD	Poultry Cloverbuds	Meeting
December 16	7:00pm	AUD	Poultry	Meeting
December 19	6:30pm	AEB	Rabbit & Cavy	Meeting
December 24-Janu	ary 1– Office Close	d		
January 5	6:30pm	AUD	Diary and Meat Goats	Meeting
January 8	4:00pm	LMR	Dairy Cattle Cloverbuds, must RSVP	Meeting
January 8	7:00pm	AUD	County Horse Meeting	Meeting
January 12	6:00pm	LMR	Beef Cloverbud	Meeting
January 12	7:15pm	LMR	Beef	Meeting
January 13	6:00pm	AUD	Working Goats 101 & Cloverbuds	Meeting
January 13	7:15pm	AUD	Working Goats 202	Meeting
January 14	7:00pm	AUD	Dairy Bowl	Meeting
January 15	7:00pm	LMR	Swine	Meeting
January 19 – Office	Closed			
January 20	6:00pm	AUD	Poultry Cloverbuds	Meeting
January 20	7:00pm	AUD	Poultry	Meeting
January 20	7:00pm	LMR	Dairy Bowl	Meeting
January 21	7:00pm	AUD	County Horse Meeting	Meeting
January 22	6:30pm	AEB	Working Goats – must RSVP	Workshop
January 23	6:30pm	AEB	Rabbit & Cavy	Meeting
January 29	7:00pm	AUD	Dairy Bowl	Meeting

Animal Science Members

Re-Enrollment deadline for returning members is January 5, 2026

- Returning/Re-enrolling members must re-enroll by January 5th to be eligible to show/exhibit animals at the upcoming Niagara County Fair. Re-enrollments received between January 6-March 1, 2026, can still participate in 4-H and attend all animal meetings & 4-H programs, but are not permitted to show animals at fair in 2026. This is a hard deadline and exceptions will not be made.
- First time enrolling/new members must enroll by March 1, 2026, and meet the minimum meeting requirements (explained below) to be eligible to show any animal species at 2026 fair.
- Each Clover Bud & 4-H Member must attend at least 5 species meetings per year (between October-July) to meet minimum meeting requirements, to be eligible to show/exhibit animals of any species, at the 2026 Niagara County Fair.
- County level 4-H public presentations can count towards ONE of those 5 meetings. For those showing multiple species, counts for only 1 animal species of 4-H'er's choice *Decide at time of public presentation sign up*
- Farm Safety Course or Livestock Skillathon (offered by Niagara County 4-H) can count towards ONE of those 5 meetings, for only 1 animal species of 4-H'er's choice (if showing multiple species) *Decide at time of course sign-in*
- Each animal species program/leader has the right to require additional requirements in order to be eligible to show that species within their program, at leader's discretion.
- **NEW!!! College Students in 4-H:** If you're away at college and can't attend the required five species meetings, you must complete a **College Member Agreement Form** with your species leader at the start of the year. This form must be signed by your species leader, a 4-H educator, and a parent/guardian, and be on file by **January 5,** of the year you plan to show. Contact the 4-H office and we will send you the form! (hmk3@cornell.edu)

Mandatory Livestock Auction Meeting

4-H youth planning to participate in the 2026 Livestock Auction at the Niagara County Fair, **must** attend <u>one</u> of

two meetings offered. No RSVP necessary.

Dates: Wednesday, January 7 OR Thursday, February 5

Time: 7:00pm Place: Training Center **Dairy Bowl**

Dates: January 14, 20, & 29 February 3, 12, 17, & 23

March 3

Time: 7:00pm

Place: varies each meeting please check calendar

March 7 - Western District Dairy Bowl at Pioneer

School

Equine Happenings

CONGRATULATIONS Emily Jago on your accomplishments at the 2025 Eastern National 4-H Equine competitions in Louisville, Kentucky. Emily was part of the NYS Horse Bowl team which placed second and Emily was the first place individual in the Horse Bowl contest.

2026 County Equine Educational meetings: January 8(Thurs), January 21(Wed), February 4(Wed), February 18(Wed), March 5(Thurs) and March 19(Thurs). All meetings be held from 7:00 -8:30pm in the Auditorium. Meetings will be broken down into 3 knowledge levels (beginner, junior and advanced). We will cover breeds, feeds, health, tack, etc. Meetings are open to anyone interested in horses and fulfill county fair requirements. More info: Cheryl Bish 716-439-4499 or ckrfarms@aol.com

TACK SWAP - time to clean out those closets or tack room to make room for this year's tack and show attire. The swap will be held on Friday, February 27, 7 - 9:30pm. Tables are free to current 4-Hers, but must be reserved. Contact Cheryl Bish 716-439-4499 or ckrfarms@aol.com

4-H Model Horse Show: Sunday, March 8, 2026 - Do you have a model horse? Breyer, Schleich or other? We are going to have a horse show for models, details to follow. There will be ribbons and prizes. Even if you have never done it before, we can help.

Equine Career Day: Sunday, March 8, 2026: do you think that you would like to have a job related to horses, but don't know what is out there OTHER than training? We will have representatives from approximately 20 different careers related to horses. Stop in and chat with them to learn more about their work. Details to follow.

Public Presentations - If you are interested in doing an equine presentation, there are 3 categories: Individual, team or public speaking. You must do a county presentation before going to regionals, watch the Cloverscene for registration information. Top regional presenters go onto the state contest and State contest Seniors winners get to attend Nationals in Kentucky. If you need an idea or help, please contact Cheryl Bish 716-439-4499 or ckrfarms@aol.com or Ashley Randall ash-ley.randall22@houghton.edu A presentation will count as 1 qualifying meeting for showing at fair.

Equine 5-Star test 2026 - Wednesday, March 25, 6 - 8:30 PM Open to anyone. Study guides may be found on the CCE website or come to any of the county equine meetings. Participating in the 5-Star test counts as 1 qualifying meeting for showing at fair. Questions? Contact Cheryl Bish 716-439-4499 or ckrfarms@aol.com

2026 Regional Horse Event dates:

Horse Bowl - March 21 (Catt. Co.) Presentations - March 28 (Erie Co.) Hippology - April 25 (Erie Co.)



Calendar

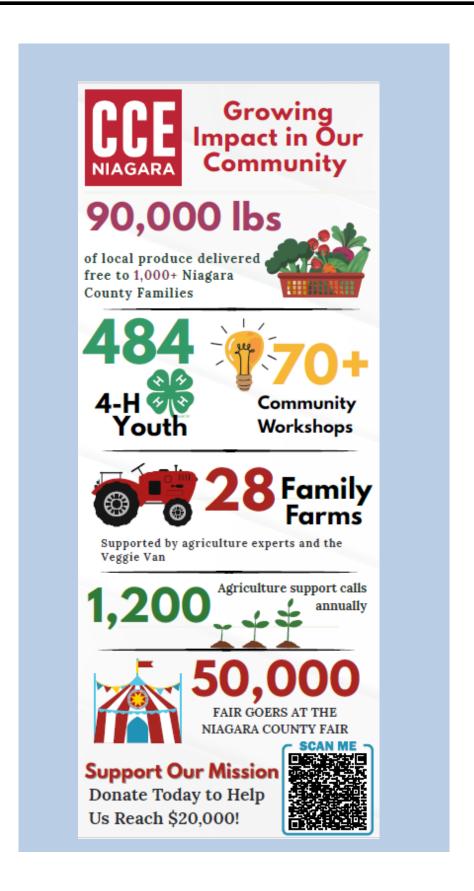
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<u>Date</u>	Time	Place	Topic	Type	
November 22	11:00-1:00pm	MEM	Embroidery	Workshop	
November 24	6:00pm	MEM	Felt Christmas Tree	Workshop	
November 24	6:30pm	BR	Cat Club	Meeting	
November 25	4:30pm	AUD	Lego Build	Workshop	
December 1	5:30pm	LMR	Baking Yule Log	Workshop	
December 1	6:00pm	MEM	Travel Tissue Holder	Workshop	
December 2	5:30pm	LMR	Baking Yule Log	Workshop	
December 2	7:00pm	AUD	Dairy Cattle	Meeting	
December 3	5:30pm	LMR	Baking Yule Log	Workshop	
December 3	4:30pm	MEM	3D Print	Workshop	
December 4	6:00pm	LMR	Dairy Cattle Cloverbuds, must RSVP	Meeting	
December 6	11:00-1:00pm	MEM	Embroidery	Workshop	
December 8	6:00pm	MEM	Pipe Cleaner Snowflakes	Workshop	
December 8	6:30pm	AUD	Dairy and Meat Goats	Meeting	
December 8	6:30pm	LMR	Beef Cloverbuds	Meeting	
December 10	6:00pm	LMR	Cloverbud Candle Bean Holder	Workshop	
December 10	7:00pm	AUD	Beef	Meeting	
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December 19	6:30pm	AEB	Rabbit & Cavy	Meeting	
December 24- Ja	nuary 1 Office Close	ed	•		
January 5	6:30pm	AUD	Diary and Meat Goats	Meeting	
January 7	7:00pm	TC	4-H Youth Auction	Meeting	
January 8	4:00pm	LMR	Dairy Cattle Cloverbuds, must RSVP	Meeting	
January 8	7:00pm	AUD	County Horse Meeting	Meeting	
January 10	11:00-1:00pm	MEM	Embroidery	Workshop	
January 12	5:00pm	MEM	Quilt as You Go Tree	Workshop	
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January 21	7:00pm	AUD	County Horse Meeting	Meeting	
January 22	6:30pm	AEB	Working Goats – Must RSVP	Workshop	
January 23	6:30pm	AEB	Rabbit & Cavy	Meeting	
January 24	11:00am	MEM	Embroidery	Workshop	
January 26	5:00pm	MEM	Origami German Bell	Workshop	
January 26	6:30pm	BR	Cats Club	Meeting	
January 26	7:00pm	LMR	Junior Leadership Training	Workshop	
January 29	7:00pm	AUD	Dairy Bowl	Meeting	
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To attend workshops participants must RSVP and receive a confirmation. Most animal science meetings do not require a RSVP unless noted.

Room Key

Administration Building-BR (Board Room), ADMIN (Administration Building), MEM (Memorial Room)

Training Center- TC (Training Center), AUD (Auditorium), LMR (Large Meeting Room) **Out Buildings**- SHOW (Showring), BARN (Animal Species Barn), MB (Merchants Building), GH (Greenhouse), AEB-Agricultural Education Building, TBA- To Be Announced



Staff

Executive Director	Justin Rogers	433-8839 x234	jpr237@cornell.edu
4-H Resource Educator	Heidi Feltz	433-8839 x241	hmk3@cornell.edu
4-H Community Educator	Kathy Bowers	433-8839 x239	krc8@cornell.edu
4-H Community Educator	Stacey Johnston	433-8839 x243	ssh85@cornell.edu
4-H Community Educator	Christina Wright	433-8839 x232	ckw38@cornell.edu

Key Leaders

AREA	LEADER	PHONE	EMAIL	
Auction	Randy Librock	445-5252	RandyL@relcosystems.com	
Beef	Kathie Librock	417-4944	rklibrockfarm@yahoo.com	
Cats	Alexandra Kuhns		alexandrakuhns@gmail.com	
Dairy Cattle	John Sweeney, Jr.	795-9257	mapleviewdairy@gmail.com	
	Matthew Sweeney	531-3728	msweeney@royhart.org	
Dairy Goat	Kaitlyn Verratti	957-0245	verratti.ak@gmail.com	
Dairy Steer	Kevin Luckman 550-2795 <u>Kaluckman@veriz</u>		Kaluckman@verizon.net	
Dogs	Dawn Keough	940-7677	kerikkelsi11@aol.com	
Entomology	Toby Mansfield	597-4438	bigwigkim@aol.com	
Equine	Cheryl Bish	439-4499	ckrfarms@aol.com	
	Karen Randall	439-1865	karen.randall@sodexo.com	
Meat Goat	Abby Sparks	628-3132	alcriswell1804@aol.com	
Poultry	Kate Handrich	796-5720	kheschke@gmail.com	
Rabbit/Cavy	Brenna Stoelting	474-7302	b.stoelting13@gmail.com	
Robotics	Christina Wright	433-8839 e	xt. 232 <u>ckw38@cornell.edu</u>	
Sheep	Stacey Johnston	433-8839 x	243 <u>ssh85@cornell.edu</u>	
Swine	Darrin Berghorn	860-7417	bergy571@aol.com	
Working Goats	Helen Rowlands	535-7115 <u>hrishell65@aol.com</u>		
Woodworking	Jay Krull		2016papaduke@gmail.com	

Niagara County 4-H Club Sponsors, Inc Neil Luckman, Finance 4487 Lake Avenue Lockport, NY 14094 nluckman@verizon.net | 716.930.1541