

Clover News

November - December 2025

Cornell Cooperative Extension Albany & Schenectady County Youth Programs



Hello 4-H'er!!

I hope you've been able to enjoy the extended warmer weather, beautiful fall colors and signs of cooler weather ahead! This is such a terrific time of the year, with the holidays almost upon us! I really love this time of year because it reminds me about how fortunate I am for so many reasons – for one thing, I am surrounded by staff members who are absolutely amazing – we all make a terrific team! Each one of them is creative, helpful, and provides terrific programming not only to our 4-H families, but also to many students and youth throughout Albany County. It makes it easy and fun to come to work each day when you work with such incredible people! I'm also grateful for all of our 4-H members, volunteers and families who help to make up the 4-H Program here in the county. We have learned so much from all of you and we're thankful that you're a part of our big 4-H Family! Speaking of family, I am also very grateful for my husband Rick, daughter Katrina and son Ryan, along with our furry family members Rocky and Celie. Without them, I would never have been able to make it through this extraordinary journey we call life!

We're all looking forward to **4-H Achievement Night/Make It, Take It on Friday, December 5th from 5:30 – 8:00 pm at the 4-H office, 24 Martin Road in Voorheesville.** We will celebrate the achievements of our 4-H members at the event and take some time to create some fun projects. This will be a potluck dinner so we are asking that each family bring one dish to share with the group. Please let us know how many will be attending so we can make sure we have enough supplies!

Hope you enjoy your holidays with friends and family!!

~Barb

***Have a club report or information to be included in the
Jan/Feb Clover News?***

**Please email Barb: bes13@cornell.edu
by Monday, December 15th.**

☐☐ **Trunk or Treat was a huge hit this year!** ☐☐

Thank you to everyone who came out to participate, and of course to our 4-H teens and 4-H families who made decorations, brought decorated vehicles, and handed out candy!! While the rain and hail may have dampened our decorations, they certainly didn't dampen our spirits!

☐ **The first place decorated car goes to Megan R with a spooky chicken themed car, and second place goes to the Hunt family for their 80s cartoon car!** ☐

Congratulations to our 1st and 2nd place winners – please visit the 4-H office for your prize and thank you again to all who brought a decorated vehicle!



Reminders



New Enrollment Forms!

Attention Club Leaders

New Enrollment forms are available for
October 2025 - September 2026.

Please email albany@cornell.edu or visit
CCE Albany County in Voorheesville to
pick up forms for your club.

Every member and volunteer needs to
complete a new form each year.

The 4-H Paper Clover Campaign is coming to Tractor Supply Co. November 28th through December 14th. Buy a Paper Clover at the checkout of any Tractor Supply Co. location to support 4-H. In Albany and Schenectady County, 4-H Paper Clover funds help pay for teen trips and provide scholarships to our Summer Adventure Programs.



It's Paper Clover Time!

Nov. 28 - Dec. 14, 2025

Funds support scholarships to 4-H camp
and leadership activities.



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Upcoming Events

4-H Animal Science News

The 4-H Horse Program is once again scheduling programs thanks to Laura Prior in the Caps 'N Chaps 4-H Club! Laura has been busy making contacts and putting together some programs for our 4-H members and families – please see below!



Upcoming 4-H Equine Event – November 8th

Join us for a special equine welfare event with Megan and Jody from the Train with Trust project! They'll share their insights on understanding and improving horse welfare, followed by a hands-on enrichment activity that participants can take home for their own horses.

- ❑ **Date:** Saturday, November 8, 2025
- ❑ **Time:** 12:30 PM
- ❑ **Location:** CCE Albany County, 24 Martin Road, Voorheesville
- ❑ **Contact:** Barb 518-765-3500 | bes13@cornell.edu

All 4-Hers are welcome—come and learn, create, and have fun while exploring how we can make our horses' lives happier and healthier!

Attention Teens!

Join us on Monday, November 10th at CCE Albany County from 5:00 - 6:30 pm to craft a fall centerpiece to take home!

RSVP to Grace at ged49@cornell.edu | 518-765-3547 by Thursday, November 6th.



Please join us for our 2025 4-H Achievement Night on Friday, December 5th!

We will be celebrating the achievements of our 4-Hers during the 2024-2025 4-H year with a potluck dinner followed by an awards ceremony and holiday themed make and take crafts!

**RSVP is required – please RSVP to Grace by Monday, December 1st
518-765-3547 | ged49@cornell.edu**

with the number of people in your party and the name of any 4-Hers attending!



4-H ACHIEVEMENT NIGHT

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5TH
5:30–8:00PM

24 MARTIN ROAD, VOORHEESVILLE

Join us as we celebrate our 4-Hers' achievements during the 2024-2025 4-H year with a potluck dinner followed by a brief awards ceremony and holiday themed make and take crafts.

Coming in December **Adopt-a-family holiday shopping!**

Keep an eye on your email!

**We will be sending out our shopping day, time and details
as we receive more information about our assigned family!**



Club Updates

Amazing Farm Friends Club

We were busy at the Altamont Fair this year. Brielle, Lily, Frankie, Wren, Djuna, Eloise, Owen and Aaron all showed chickens at the fair and did great!!! There were also several projects that were shown at the 4H building. Brielle, Eloise and Suneva's projects were chosen to compete at the State Fair. Suneva won a special recognition of outstanding exhibit for her photo. Congratulations Suneva!!! We also elected a new board for our club which will be helping us plan for future meetings. Our board is as follows - President - Brielle/Eloise, Vice President - Lily/Christina, Secretary - Suneva/Chelsea, Treasurer - Liliana/Aaron and Press Secretaries - Wren, Djuna & Aylssa.



Farm Friends 4-H Club

Farm Friends 4-H kicked off their year with an outdoor adventure day! Kiddos completed activities in campfire cooking, nature art and shelter building.





Livestock Club Meeting

Monday, December 1st | 6:00 - 7:00 pm
CCE Albany County

We will be practicing for Dairy Bowl. Dairy Bowl is a competitive contest for youth ages 8-18 where youth can compete as teams; regional, state and even national. Teams will answer questions like Jeopardy only they are all about dairy. Questions can range from food safety, animal health, nutrition, or dairy production. Youth can come to practice and decide whether they want to just learn or learn, compete, and have fun.

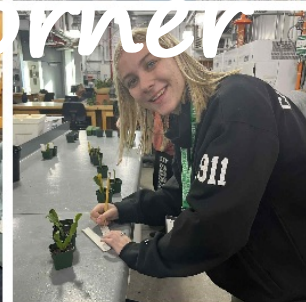
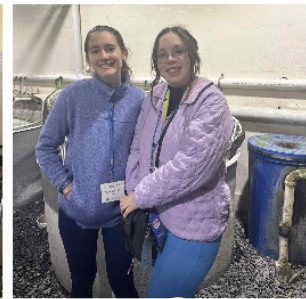
Please RSVP to Amanda @ 518-765-3519 | ajt247@cornell.edu

Agri-business Careers Conference

Recently six Albany County 4-Hers attended the Agri-business Careers Conference trip to SUNY Cobleskill. On Thursday of the trip, youth attended their chosen mini-tours to local farms and agricultural businesses to meet professionals in the field, before presenting about their trips to the conference group. On Friday, youth participated in 2 different areas of study that are offered at Cobleskill, as well as go on a campus tour and eat in the dining hall! Read what our participants had to say about the trip:

"We loved our trip this year! We particularly liked the milk quality lab and building connections with students and staff on campus! Some of us even got to drive tractors as part of our study area. Other study areas included animal sciences, plant science, and agriculture technology. At the end of the first night we concluded with a public speaking opportunity, in which all of our county presented on what they learned on their tours!"

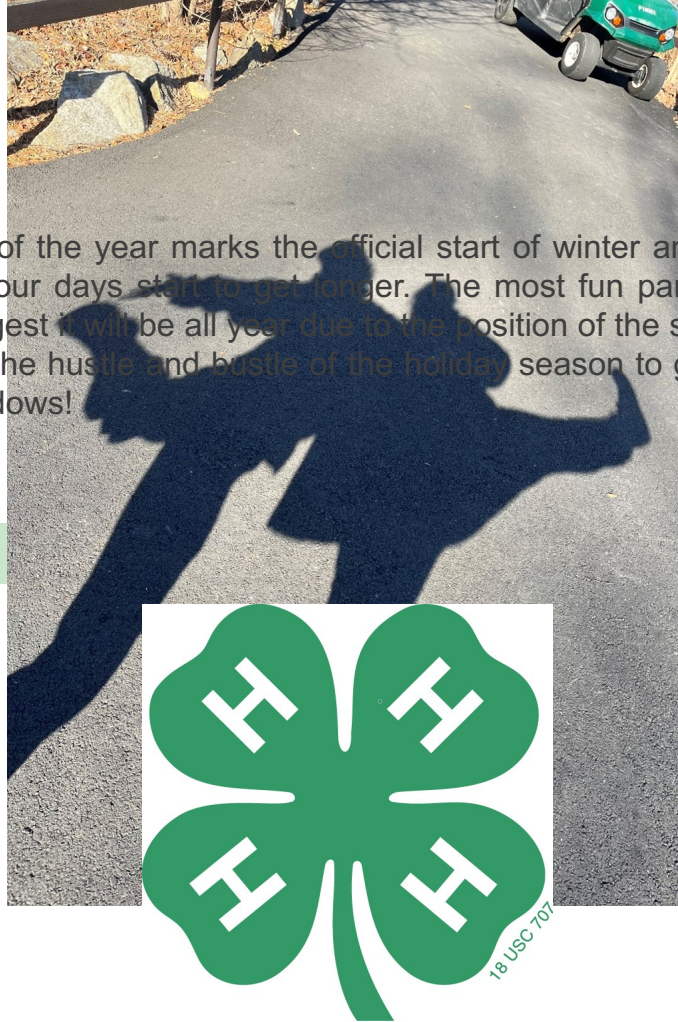
~ Written by Claire K, Albany County



Environmental Corner

December 21st is the Winter Solstice!

The shortest day of the year marks the official start of winter and welcomes in the return of light as our days start to get longer. The most fun part of the day? Your shadow is the longest it will be all year due to the position of the sun in the sky! Take some time out of the hustle and bustle of the holiday season to go outside and play with the giant shadows!



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Cornell Cooperative Extension | Albany County

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