



CLOVER CHRONICLE



4-H MISSION

The purpose of 4-H is to foster the well-rounded development of youth, nurturing their physical, mental, moral, and social growth. It aims to help young individuals become competent, committed, and self-assured adults through; project involvement, 4-H events and various positive activities.

In 4-H, we believe in the power of young people. We see that every child has valuable strengths and real influence to improve the world around us.

CCE ONTARIO 4-H OFFICE

MONDAY - FRIDAY
8 AM- 4 PM

480 North Main St.
Canandaigua
NY 14424

cceontario.org/4-h-youth

4-HCampBristolHills.org



Follow us on Facebook!

@ontariocounty4H



Meet our Staff:

[4-H Club Staff]



Sarah Wilhelm, **4-H Resource Educator**
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Amy Pyra, **4-H Educator**
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Amelia DeVolder **4-H/Parenting
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CCE ONTARIO

[Association Staff]

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Cornell Cooperative Extension | Ontario County

UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS

March

- Tractor Safety continues Thursday Evenings
- Horse Extravaganza, District Dairy Bowl, Livestock Skillathon

April

- 11th- District Public Presentations
- 18th-24th Volunteer Appreciation Week
- 25th Jr. Iron Chef Workshop -Register NOW! Link on pg. 9



MESSAGE FROM THE 4-H STAFF

Welcome to the month of green! March is a busy month with multiple district programs happening. Good luck to all our youth participating in Livestock Skillathon (7), Dairy Bowl (9) and Horse Extravaganza (Horse Bowl & Hippology)!

Please look forward at registration deadlines for some new programs coming up like our **Jr. Iron Chef workshop and the Textile Evaluation/ Fashion Revue!** These programs are making a come back to our county and we are really looking forward to kicking them off with great success.

It also is never to early to be thinking about County Fair! It may only be March but July will be here sooner then you think. Pullorum Clinic date has been set to Monday June 22nd- SAVE the DATE. Anyone interested in being a *Jr. Superintendent or a Teen Leader* during County Fair must email Sarah at sab423@cornell.edu. The kick off meeting will be held on April 16th 5:30 at the CCE Office.

The 4-H office is happy to announce that Sarah is back in the office part-time. You are more then welcome to email her but if it is urgent, please contact Amy Pyra anr32@cornell.edu or Amelia DeVolder agd72@cornell.edu!



-Ontario 4-H



Ontario County 4-H - Calendar of Events 2025-2026

(dates subject to change)



September

- 1st Labor Day- Holiday -Office CLOSED
- 13th Saturday- Annual Fall Fest/ 4-H Open House
- 16th Tuesday- Volunteer Kickoff Meeting 6-7 pm

October

- 1st - 4-H Enrollment Begins
- 5th-11th- National 4-H Week-Beyond Ready
- 10th Friday- Achievement Night Paperwork Due
- 24th Friday- Harvest Food Fest Paperwork Due
- 28th Tuesday- Achievement Night 5:30 pm at the Ontario County Fairgrounds-Carriage Barn

November

- 1st 4-H Enrollment Due
- 8th Saturday- Harvest Food Fest (PINY) 9 am
- 18-Tuesday-CCE Annual Meeting @ 5:15 PM
- 24- Monday - Livestock Auction Informational Meeting
- November 27-28 Thanksgiving Holiday - Office CLOSED*

December

- ?? Holiday Fun Day
- Dec 25- Jan 2 Winter Break - Office CLOSED*

January

- 9th Friday- Public Presentation Training 6:00 pm at CCE Office
- 14th Wednesday- Public Presentations Paperwork Due
- 15th Thursday - 1st and 2nd Year Auction Participant Meeting
- 14, 21, 28 Wednesdays Crochet Workshop Series 6:00-7:30 pm**

February

- 3rd Tuesday 6-8 pm Public Presentations
- 6th Friday 6-8 pm Public Presentations
- 7th Saturday 9 am-1:30 pm Public Presentations
- 10th SNOW DATE 6-8 pm (ALL at CCE Office)
- 18th Sewing Workshop**
- Tractor Safety TBD

March

- Horse Extravaganza, District Dairy Bowl, Livestock Skillathon
- Tractor Safety

April

- 11th- District Public Presentations
- 18th-24th Volunteer Appreciation Week
- 25th Jr. Iron Chef Workshop**

May

- 2nd -Textile Evaluation & Fashion Revue**
- 26th-Memorial Day- Office CLOSED

June

- 6th- Turkey BBQ Clinic
- ?? State Fair Information Session
- 22nd -Pullorum Clinic
- ?? Fair Entry Worknight

July

- July 4 Independence Day-CCE Office CLOSED
- ??- Fair Clean Up
- 21st -25th Ontario County Fair

August

- 3rd- Roseland 4-H Fun Day
- August 26-September 7- New York State Fair

TEXTILE EVALUATION & FASHION REVUE



MAY 2, 2026



Schedule: Evaluations - 9:00 AM until 10:30 AM
(must arrive by 9:30)
Time to practice walking the runway will be given after you have been evaluated

Fashion Revue - 11:00 AM
Residents and Family members are invited!

Location: Ferris Hills at West Lake;
One Ferris Hills Drive
Canandaigua, NY 14424
-Rayburn Hall-



Projects allowed to enter:

Clothing or a project that has been made from traditional fabrics, repurposed, knitted or crocheted, projects that have been made for their home such as a pillow or a quilt. **Whatever the project selected, it needs to be appropriate for the age and experience of the member**

REGISTER BY APRIL 24!

https://cornell.cal.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_88PvUc69jaQELZk

Questions, email Sarah sab423@cornell.edu or call the office 585-394-3977 ext 408



SCAN





Scholarship Opportunity

Ontario County Board of Supervisors and Casella Waste Management are providing college scholarships to encourage students to pursue college-level studies and careers in the fields of environmental studies, agriculture, and waste management. **Eight \$2,500 scholarships are provided each year** to students who reside in Ontario County, have been accepted into a recognized college level program of study leading to an associate or bachelor's degree, and are US citizens or possess permanent resident visas at the time of their application.



Applications Due by March 27, 2026

Application materials are also available through Ontario County Department of Sustainability & Solid Waste and the Cornell Cooperative Extension websites.



MORE INFO  For More Information **585-394-3977 X 408**  Visit Our Website **www.cceontario.org**



ONTARIO COUNTY 4-H SCHOLARSHIP

Ontario County 4-H seniors in high school are encouraged to apply for the Ontario County 4-H scholarship before March 28th.

If you are planning on going on for post-secondary education (whether that be college, trade school, certifications, etc.)

We would encourage you to apply for the **\$750 Ontario County 4-H Scholarship**.
Apply Online HERE: https://cornell.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2hMx4MZKdthL5pY

Please reach out to Sarah sab423@cornell.edu for more information or find the application at this link: [Cornell Cooperative Extension | Ontario County 4-H Scholarship \(cceontario.org\)](https://www.cceontario.org/ontario-county-4-h-scholarship).

Cloverbud County Fair

Rule Clarification

According to state 4-H policies, Cloverbuds are only permitted to bring **one animal per species** to county fair and can **only show for a cloverbud ribbon** (are not eligible for placing/championships).

If you have questions about this policy, please reach out to the 4-H office.

Save the Date



Pullorum Clinic

Monday - June 22nd
2:30-6:00 pm

Location: Ontario
County Fairgrounds

All show poultry at the County Fair are required to have a proof of negative pullorum test.

Ontario County Fair 2026 - 4-H Theme

Go for the GOLD with 4-H!

CALLING ALL 4H TEENS!

WE ENCOURAGE ALL 4-H TEENS TO ATTEND THIS SESSION EVEN IF YOU ARE UNSURE

Teen Leader Program
Shorter-term fair leadership roles for 11-12 year olds as well as teens just wanting to try out a fair leadership role without committing to being a full junior superintendent.



Kick Off Meeting

APRIL 16TH AT 5:30 PM
4-H OFFICE

A GAME/PIZZA NIGHT WHERE WE WILL GIVE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAM

JR SUPERINTENDENT PROGRAM

This is a program where teens serve as Junior Superintendent helpers to our fair superintendents in the various areas at fair (Exhibit Hall, Clover Creamery, Beef, Dairy, Sheep, Goat, Rabbit, Poultry, Horse).

Interested Email Sarah at sab423@cornell.edu!

Additional Meetings:

May 19th, 6PM:
How to Job Interview/Practice

June 18th
Teen Leader Training

TBD:
Fair Clean Up



4-H NEWS



NYS LIVESTOCK QUIZ BOWL

2026 PILOT PROGRAM

SAT APRIL 25TH @ 2:00 PM AT CORNELL

New York State 4-H members who are 14 years of age or older [as of January 1] are invited to participate in the first-ever NYS 4-H Livestock Bowl Competition.

To qualify to participate in the event, youth must complete an online written test by March 15. Up to the top 36 youth will be invited to participate in the contest. The top four youth at this contest will represent New York State at the National Livestock Bowl Competition in Kentucky in November 2026.

Are you interested in the NEW NYS Livestock Quiz Bowl?

Email Amy if interested by March 10th!-

anr32@cornell.edu

Must be 14 yrs (as of Jan 1) and older

To qualify in the event youth must complete a written test given at the CCE office in early March.

36 Youth across the state will be selected to compete on April 25th!

Ontario County



4-H JR. IRON CHEF WORKSHOP



We are excited to announce a workshop for the 4-H Jr Iron Chef contest to be held at our Ontario CCE office on

April 25th 10:00am - 1:00 pm.

The Jr Iron Chef contest is modeled after the TV show "Chopped". In the contest, teams of 3-5 youth are provided festival food and asked to reinvent their food item into healthier and tastier recipes, using some pantry items, local foods, maybe a surprise or two, and their own culinary creativity!

This workshop will be led by volunteer leader Michele Vangalio who is experienced in coaching youth in this competition. Come join us to test your culinary skills and learn more about the contest at state fair. Joining a team for the state fair contest is not required. Anyone interested in cooking and teamwork are encouraged to attend.

Register NOW!



https://cornell.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1YP52EW1bb6iarQ



4-H NEWS



The Wild Side 4-H Club

Our club talked about goal destinations for our end of year celebration. We are organizing a fundraiser to work towards a group to trip to either Roseland, Altitude, Bristol Aerial Adventures, or bowling. We calculated the price of each activity and will vote on one.

The group president presented today's activity, fishing lures making! A fishing trip to try them out was suggested. We made different types of lures & it was a fun group activity.

-Maddox, VP of the Wild Side Club

Western Livestock Wranglers

Our club has been busy learning about the livestock species digestive system.

Our club is also planning on a community service activity with the Ronald McDonald House.

Honeoye Robotics

The club has completed their ROBOT! They are ready for **Finger Lakes Reginal Competition** at RIT's field house, **March 13th and 14th from 8am to 5pm.**

It is a "FREE" event for spectators. We would love to have you attend and cheer us on. Be sure to stop in the pits and say Hi."



Email Amelia at agd72@cornell.edu before the 1st of the month to get your club news in the next Clover Chronicle!

Spark Club

For our February meeting we got to try our hand at sewing! Each club member made their very own "puppy" pillow.

Thank to our club member Madelyn and Jamie for leading this fun activity!



4-H NEWS

Hens, Hares & Hooves

Collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House charities, and our goal is to fill a feed bag!

Collections until End of April

This month, we focused on reproduction! For our first part of the month, we talked about lambing and kidding! We learned about some signs of labor, and what to prepare for during and after birth. One of our 4Hers, Charlie Rodas showed off his kidding kit with all the essentials! One of our leaders, Molly made a kidding simulator so the kids could have a hands on experience of birthing goats! We also learned about breeding rabbits! We talked about signs of heat, and the length of time rabbits may be pregnant: we talked about what makes a good breeding doe and buck as well. For poultry we talked about the cycle of an egg, and how it gets fertilized!

- Andrea Silkiewicz



UPDATE



LIMITED SPACE

-RESERVE EARLY-

First 5 youth to sign up will WIN a FREE Charcoal Grill!

TURKEY BBQ

Multi County Clinic

SATURDAY JUNE 6TH FROM 10 AM - 2 PM

Held at the Ontario County Fairgrounds
2820 Co Rd 10, Canandaigua, NY 14424

Taught by state poultry leader MaryAnn Whipple and Ontario County poultry superintendent Richard Lawson

"Special Guest"

**National BBQ Champion
Gracie Dawson**

Register Here:

https://cornell.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9WvJpZ5U82nJUJ8



**Ages 12 & up
to grill**

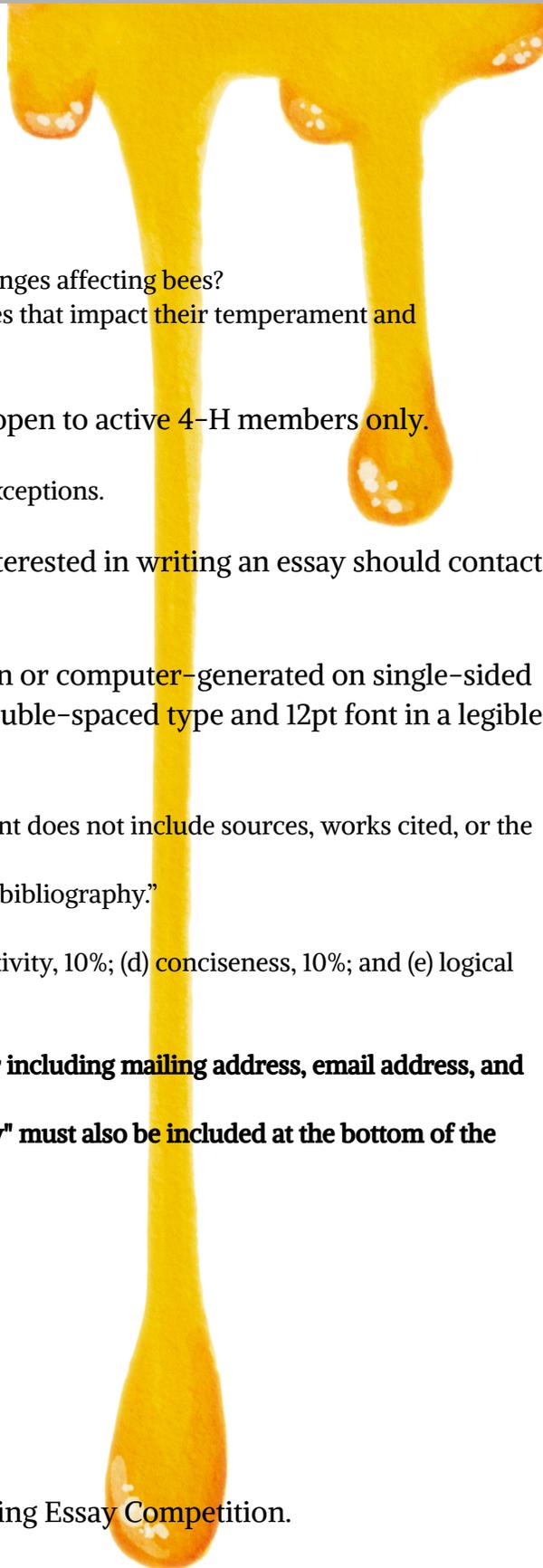
All BBQ materials and grills will be provided.

Families are asked to bring a dish to pass for lunch

Clinic will cover how to BBQ a turkey breast, how to get involved at the BBQ contest at county and state fair, and how to prepare for the presentation element of the contest

Cornell Cooperative Extension

2026 4-H Honey Bee Essay Contest - The Power of Pollen



For this essay, a 4-H student should answer these questions:

How is pollen important to bees?

Has pollen been changing in plants and in our landscapes? If so, are those changes affecting bees?

When do you observe the most and least pollen in your colonies and how does that impact their temperament and productivity?

Eligibility: The 2026 National 4-H Beekeeping Essay Competition is open to active 4-H members only.

Essays entered must encompass the designated topic only. There will be no exceptions.

Competition Rules & Essay Requirements: Any 4-H Club member interested in writing an essay should contact their local 4-H office for competition details.

Essay Requirements for National Judging: Essays must be typewritten or computer-generated on single-sided pages and formatted following standard manuscript format using double-spaced type and 12pt font in a legible font face.

Essays must encompass the designated topic in 750 to 1,000 words. Word count does not include sources, works cited, or the writer's biographical statement.

All factual statements and interview references must be cited in "sources" or "bibliography."

Essays will be judged on (a) scope of research, 40%; (b) accuracy, 30%; (c) creativity, 10%; (d) conciseness, 10%; and (e) logical development of the topic, 10%.

On a separate page, please include a brief biographical statement of the writer including mailing address, email address, and phone number.

New this year: The statement "I verify that AI was not used to create this essay" must also be included at the bottom of the essay and signed.

Entries are to be emailed or mailed by April 20, 2026 to:

Adam Davis afd7@cornell.edu
1201 MVR Hall
Ithaca NY 14853

Awards:

Three cash prizes will be awarded in the 2026 National 4-H Beekeeping Essay Competition.

First Prize: \$750 Second Prize: \$500 Third Prize: \$250

The three national prize-winning essays will be published in the ABF Quarterly, the magazine of the American Beekeeping Federation as well as the national trade magazines. Authors of the three prize-winning essays will be given a complimentary registration to the next

ABF annual conference. All authors of essays submitted to the national competition will receive a relevant book on honey bees, beekeeping, or honey



SAVE THE DATE



4-H OUTDOOR ADVENTURE WEEKEND

@ 4-H Camp Bristol Hills!

Friday, September 18-Sunday, September 20

Cost: \$85

For all youth 8 and older!

Registration Opens April 1!

Backpacking
Firebuilding
Wild Edibles
Aquatic Life and much much more!



Offered by: Youth Nature and Outdoor Environment Team
Cornell Cooperative Extension



REGION 2 4-H MODEL HORSE Show

Bring your Breyers, Stones, or other brand of model horses and show with us!

NYS 4-H members 5-18
Halter & Performance Classes offered!
Beginners welcome!



Saturday, March 28 @ 10 a.m.



CCE Ontario County
480 North Main Street
Canandaigua, New York 14424



Entry Fee: FREE!!!



Questions? Contact Jenny -
jmg422@cornell.edu

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Steuben County

2026 NYS DAIRY DISCOVERY

MARCH 27 - 28

CALS ANIMAL SCIENCE
FRANK MORRISON HALL
507 TOWER ROAD
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, NY 14853



2026 Focus: Quality Milk and Milk Production

Youth must be 14-19 years of age by January 1, 2026

Cost: \$50 per youth participant
\$15 per adult chaperone

DEADLINE TO REGISTER - MARCH 24TH

-Steps to take- Better Milk Quality
-The Mammary Gland
-Managing Pathogens- Where do you start

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER VISIT:
[HTTPS://CALS.CORNELL.EDU/PRO-DAIRY/OUR-EXPERTISE/YOUTH/DAIRY-DISCOVERY-WORKSHOP](https://cals.cornell.edu/pro-dairy/our-expertise/youth/dairy-discovery-workshop)



CONTACT DEBBIE GRUSENMEYER WITH MORE QUESTIONS -
djc27@cornell.edu



SCIENCE OF NATURE WITH YNOE PWT



Join us for a fun and educational virtual series on the science of nature: wildlife forensics, designed for youth across New York State.

The 4 part series runs every Wednesday in March, 2026 from 6:30-7:30PM



- Dates: March 4, March 11, March 18, March 25
- No cost to participate
- Who can participate: 4-H members and families, any interested youth



Registration required

[Here is the link for registration](#)

This virtual series for youth showcases examples where science has been used to identify, conserve, and manage wildlife. With expert speakers, we will unravel DNA analysis in mammals, cloning in conservation, wildlife crime in reptiles, and more!



Quality Wool Workshop



Saturday, March 21, 2026, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Please join us for a day of workshops and hands-on activities for shepherds, shearers, fiber artists, and interested community members -- learn how to produce quality fleece, process wool at-home, access markets for your wool, help your local shepherds, and strengthen our regional wool supply chain!

Lunch & Exhibits Noon-1 PM - Participants will have an opportunity to join us for an artisan lunch. Made from local farm products and by local bakers. Suggested donation \$10 payable at the event.

Pre-registration requested by **March 13th**. You may sign up for the full day or half day if that's what fits your schedule. https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/Quality_Wool_Alleghany_County_202

Hosted by Cornell Cooperative Extension Alleghany County in collaboration with Alleghany Fresh Transport, Northeast Fiber Exchange (NEFX), Southern Tier Fiber Arts Guild, and Crooked Lane Farm.

NYSDEC's

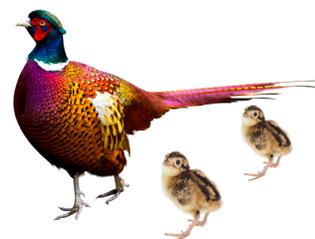
Day Old Pheasant Chick Program

Applications are due by **April 1st**. Please review the program criteria and requirements before submitting your application: [Day Old Pheasant Chick Program Guide](#).

If you would like to apply to participate in the program, applications are currently being accepted and can be submitted by clicking this link <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/cd96c1bc1e1f40ec9dc61015daec1448> or at on.ny.gov/dayoldchicks

There have been no major changes to the program this year, but please review the rules and requirements within the application. Applications must be completed in their entirety. For release sites that are non-DEC owned and not owned by the applicant, a proper permission form must be attached to the application or mailed to NYSDEC Reynolds Game Farm 81 Game Farm Rd Ithaca NY 14850, to be eligible. This form is found within the application.

After your application has been submitted and received, the Reynolds Game Farm will reach out to you if there are any questions and to notify you of approval. This may take a few weeks, but please feel free to contact the Reynolds Game Farm with any questions you may have about application status, requirements or eligibility by calling (607)273-2768 or e-mailing wildlife@dec.ny.gov Subject Line DOCP Application.



SAVE THE DATE - SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

Fun on the Farm



LOCATION:



Lawnhurst Farms
in Stanely, NY

Congratulations for
hosting this year!





SAVE THE DATE!

4-H Capital Days
May 17-19, 2026

4-H Capital Days is an NYSACCE4-HE-sponsored event that gives youth an opportunity to meet and interact with legislators and tell their 4-H story

