



Clover Chronicle

June- July 2026

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4-H Club Reports

Club Reports

At the end of each month, club secretaries should submit the Secretary's Monthly Report form to Kandis Freer at the CCE.

Refer to page 27 in the "4-H Club Secretary's Handbook" for examples and forms. Even though the Clover Chronicle is printed bi-monthly, secretaries should submit their reports every month. You receive points on the Honor Club Application for every Secretary's Report submitted on a timely basis.

The Secretary's Monthly Report is also available on the Rensselaer County 4-H website. You can find it on the 4-H Forms page. Secretaries, please email reports to kmf83@cornell.edu.

Clover Kids and Critters, Sophia Olsen-Pittstown

In December, we gathered to make a recycled holiday ornament out of toilet paper rolls. In January, we took wood boards, drew pictures on them, and used a wood burner to finish the project. We also used Epsom salt, citric acid, baking soda, oil, and essential oils to make bath bombs.

In March, we met at Dyken Pond for a snowshoeing and animal tracking program with Cat LaPorta. We saw deer, mink, and bird tracks. We also learned interesting information on how to track.

In April, we held a business meeting, updated the schedule, and planned for 4-H awareness events.

Fundraising

Flower Power Wrap Up

Thank you to everyone who supported our Flower Power Fundraiser! We hope you enjoy the colorful flowers in your yard!

Bloomin' Socks Fundraiser

Rensselaer County 4-H will have a Bloomin' Socks fundraiser this summer. The socks will come in a variety of patterns including the 4-H Clover, several animal fun patterns (cows, goats, horses, chickens, rabbits, and sheep) and tractors. They would make great gifts, or a treat for yourself! The socks are 100% American made and will sell for \$12.00 a pair. Each purchase supports Rensselaer County 4-H. To purchase socks, contact Eileen at emd32@cornell.edu. We will also have socks at upcoming 4-H events as well as at the fair to purchase.

Clover Fun Run October 24th

at Schodack Island State Park

Please help pass the word. We are accepting sponsors and lining up our volunteers for that half day of fun! If you are interested in becoming more involved in the planning, please let Bernie know – bw27@cornell.edu. We are hoping to have club displays and a few family-friendly activities to round out the fun run with even more 4-H FUN.





How to reach us

Call the CCE Office: (518) 272-4210
Monday through Friday, 8am to 4pm

You can leave a voicemail message
any time!

4-H Program Development Committee (PDC)

*4-H PDC members are available to you.
If you have comments or suggestions do not
hesitate to reach out to any of our PDC members.*

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Facebook: Rensselaer County 4-H

YouTube: CCE Rensselaer
<https://www.youtube.com/ccerensselaer>

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County

99 Troy Road, Suite 203
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**Cornell Cooperative Extension is a unique
educational network, linking Rensselaer County
with resources from Cornell University, USDA,
and the land grant university system.**

**Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer
and educator recognized for providing equal
program and employment opportunities in
accordance with applicable laws.**

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The Clover Chronicle is published six times a year
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part of our informal educational programs for youth.

No one shall be denied the opportunity to
participate or receive information based on their
ability to pay. If you have special needs that we can
accommodate, please contact us at (518) 272-4210
or rensselaer@cornell.edu

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Upcoming Opportunities



Leader's Digest

Volunteers are the life's blood of our organization.

We would like to thank all our volunteers for their passion for working with youth, and their dedication to 4-H.

Welcome to our new 4-H Volunteers!

Laura Amedio

Cathy Hewitt



Reenrollment Update

Reenrollments were due back to the 4-H office by November 1st. If you have not re-enrolled currently, please know that you are not covered under our insurance. If you plan to participate in any 4-H activities, please send in your enrollment forms. Youth do need to be enrolled by May 15th to participate in the fair. If you have questions, or need copies of the reenrollment forms, please contact Eileen at emd32@cornell.edu.

Annual Volunteer Harassment Prevention Training

4-H volunteers, the Harassment Prevention Training is an annual requirement to be enrolled as a Cornell Cooperative Extension volunteer and needs to be completed each year. The virtual training takes approximately 10 minutes and can be found at <http://blogs.cornell.edu/ccevolunteertraining/required-training/>. When completed, please forward the confirmation email to cce-rensselaer-volunteer@cornell.edu.

Schaghticoke Fair Books

Since we moved to an electronic format there will be few 4-H Premium books for the Schaghticoke Fair printed. Printed books will be available at the following locations after July 1st. You may want to call ahead for availability.

Schaghticoke Fairgrounds Main Office- 69 Stillwater Bridge Rd, Schaghticoke, NY 12154

Sand Lake Town Hall- 8428 NY-66, Averill Park, NY 12018

Hoosick Falls Town Hall- 80 Church St., Hoosick Falls, NY 12090

Kristy's Barn- 2385 Brookview Rd, Castleton-On-Hudson, NY 12033

CCE Office- 99 Troy Road, Suite 203, East Greenbush, NY 12061

The Fair Book will also be available online at Cornell Cooperative Extension

*Remember all Entries are due to the CCE office by August 10th.

Ambassador Council Teens

The ACT Club met in May at the Van Rensselaer Manor to celebrate National Nursing Home Week with a luau. Our next big event will be the Snack Bar and Auction.



Teen Exchange

We had a challenging time finding a county match, but we have made plans! We will be traveling to Eastern Washington this summer to experience a variety of agriculture industry related enterprises, tour Washington State University and University of Idaho – both Land Grant Universities. We will be launching a July Calendar Fundraiser so please keep an eye out for that when it is available later in June. Thank you to all that supported our successful Smith Orchard Pie Fundraiser!

Exchange Chicken BBQ

Mark your calendars for our chicken BBQ fundraiser on June 19th. Dinner pickup will be at the Schaghticoke Fairgrounds between 4 and 6 PM. Dinner will consist of ½ a chicken, coleslaw, corn bread, and baked potato for \$18. Please RSVP to secure the number of dinners you would like. Pickup will be available at the Schaghticoke Fairgrounds at the entrance across from Stewarts. You can also place your order by going to our donate button here – https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=NJDL6WY2MGZ58

When you get to the payment page, please place in the “write a note” to indicate the number of dinners you would like to reserve, your name, number of dinners and the best phone to reach you. Thank you and we hope to serve you on June 19th.

July Donor Appreciation Calendar

Fundraiser for Teen Exchange

For a mere \$10 donation to our July Appreciation Calendar, you may receive up to \$30 value of local products from businesses that are on our Teen Exchange July Calendar. For a \$10 donation you can be placed in the potential Teen Exchange Appreciation Calendar for the month of July. For every day of the month of July a random supporter of our July Calendar will receive the corresponding day item. If you buy more than one calendar, you will increase your chances of being selected to receive an appreciation item. To purchase find your closest Teen Exchange member or go to our website and donate through our donate button here - https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=NJDL6WY2MGZ58 . Be sure to include in the “write a note” section of the payment platform how many calendars you are purchasing and your contact information – name, phone, address. Thank you in advance for your support! Donors of the day will start to be selected July 6th. Keep an eye out for the July Calendar on our FB page and email blasts.

Upcoming Opportunities

4-H International Exchange Program

Open your home. Open your world.

New York State 4-H is looking for caring families to host Japanese exchange youth (ages 13–18) this summer through the 4-H International Exchange Program!

July 23 – August 16 (4 weeks)

This is a truly special cultural experience — your family shares everyday American life while learning about Japanese traditions, food, and culture. Many host families participate year after year because of the lifelong friendships formed.

You do NOT need to be a 4-H member to participate!

Families must:

✓ Live in New York State

✓ Have a child of the same age & gender as the delegate

All it takes is a warm heart and an open home to create a summer your family will never forget

Learn more: <https://www.nys4-h.org/international-exchange>

Apply: <https://www.states4hexchange.org/host-family/application>

4-H Agribusiness Career Conference

Mark your calendars! Official Registration will be released in July- but please let Mamnenge know if you are interested.

The 2026 4-H Agribusiness Career (ABC) Conference is coming soon! Join us for an exciting opportunity to explore careers in agriculture, connect with industry professionals, tour SUNY Cobleskill, and engage in hands-on learning experiences with fellow 4-H members from across the state.

Open to enrolled 4-H youth ages 14 and older.

Dates: October 8-9, 2026

Location: SUNY Cobleskill AG & Tech



4-H Rabbit & Cavy Showmanship Clinic

Date: Tuesday, July 14th @ 6PM

Where: Fonda Fairgrounds - Entertainment Building

Hosted by the Fulton Montgomery 4-H program, this clinic is open to all enrolled 4-H youth with an interest in learning more about rabbits and cavies. RSVP by Monday, July 13th to ky292@cornell.edu



4-H Rabbit & Cavy Showmanship Clinic

Tuesday, July 14 - 6pm

Fonda Fairgrounds - Entertainment Building

This clinic is open to all enrolled 4-H youth with an interest in learning more about rabbits & cavies!

Participating youth will learn:

- The steps to showmanship using the American Rabbit Breeders Association scoresheets
- Proper handling and pre-show grooming
- Terminology required for each step
- General knowledge questions that may be potentially asked during showmanship and more!

Participants may bring their own rabbit and/or cavy to the clinic. We ask each youth bringing an animal to also bring along a carpet square or towel to use for showmanship practice.

Note: All animals must be free from disease and parasites to participate.

RSVP to ky292@cornell.edu by Monday, July 13 to participate.



Cornell Cooperative Extension | Fulton and Montgomery Counties

Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for providing equal program and employment opportunities in accordance with applicable laws.

NYS Junior Dairy Leader Program

The NY State Junior Dairy Leader applications are now OPEN

Youth interested in dairy, exploring careers in the dairy industry, or building personal and professional skills will find this to be an incredible opportunity.

The program is open to students entering 11th or 12th grade this fall (ages 16–18) and is a selective, yearlong experience—welcoming its 28th class this year!

Applications are due June 30

Learn more and apply here:

<https://cals.cornell.edu/.../junior-dairy-leader-program>

Feel free to reach out to Debbie: [dj27@cornell.edu](mailto:djc27@cornell.edu) with any questions!

NYS JUNIOR DAIRY LEADER PROGRAM

GROW MAKE SERVE THRIVE

Program is designed to give young people an opportunity to build enthusiasm for the dairy industry along with personal, professional, and leadership development in a networking environment, while they discover the diversity of career choices in agriculture. The program presents youth with a realistic view of the dairy industry as a viable, profitable, and progressive business sector to work and build a career. Through a series of workshops participants represent NY at the National 4-H Dairy Conference, interact with dairy producers and industry professionals, on-farm production management experiences, tours of dairy and production facilities in the Northeast and Wisconsin, leadership development and team building, and technical skill growth in production management areas.



For more information contact:

Deborah Grusenmeyer

[dj27@cornell.edu](mailto:djc27@cornell.edu)

To apply visit: <https://cals.cornell.edu/pro-dairy/our-expertise/youth/junior-dairy-leader-program>



Eligibility Requirements

- At least 16 but not more than 19 years of age by August of the current year and at least starting their junior year of high school in the fall
- Have potential interest in dairy industry careers
- Can reasonably commit to the program from September of the current year to August of the following year
- Are not exhibiting animals at the World Dairy Expo during the current year
- Are not participating in the National Dairy Cattle Judging Contest during the current year

Cost \$400 for the year



To support the NYS 4-H Dairy Science Programs visit: <https://cals.cornell.edu/ny-4-h-animal-science-programs/ivestock/dairy/support-dairy-youth-programs>

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Equine – The Last Chapter Program

June 3rd at 6 PM at the Schaghticoke Fairgrounds in the CCE Building – “The Last Chapter” . This is an end-of-life program for planning the last chapter for your horse. It is not a cheerful and uplifting topic but one of the most important areas of equine management, a horse owner should be knowledgeable. This is geared for horse owners/leases of all types but may be difficult for some audiences. There is detailed information on different means of humane euthanasia, steps leading up to this difficult decision and information on different ways to safely handle the horse after death. These are difficult topics but necessary topics. Please rate your sense of appropriateness when it comes to youth. Please email Bernie at bw27@cornell.edu if you plan to attend and bring your best lawn chair to use for the program. Request of \$1 to be collected from those at the program. Light refreshments and drinks will be available.

4-H Open House at Saratoga Race Course

NYS 4-H Horse will be partnering with the NYRA Foundation to host the second annual 4-H Open House at the Saratoga Race Course on Thursday, July 9th. This full day experience will give youth and families the opportunity to learn more about the Thoroughbred and racing industry through hands-on experiences, including meeting trainers and jockeys, seeing horses up close and watching live racing. This event is free to 4-H members and their families. Below is the link to register:

[2026 4-H Open House @ Saratoga Race Course – Fill out form](#)

Additional details and ticket information will be sent to registered participants in the coming weeks.

Mane Event

Attention all youth in Rensselaer County ... and beyond. The Mane Event scheduled for July 10th to 12th will offer live horse as well as non-horse offerings in a team format. You do not have to be a current 4-H member to participate, simply a youth that is school aged by January 1st of this year. You do not have to have a horse to participate, there will be non-horse classes and sessions at this event. If you want to learn more, reach out to Bernie by July 1st. Please RSVP in advance to Bernie at bw27@cornell.edu or 518-272-4210 ext 102. Thank you to special funding by Rensselaer County we are able to make this event reach beyond our current 4-H membership, so think about inviting a friend to learn more.

Thursday Night Mane Event Horse Clinics

Open to all youth with an interest in learning more about horses. Having a horse is not required for these sessions, which will focus on topics related to the Mane Event scheduled for July 11th and 12th at the Schaghticoke Fairgrounds. Sessions will range in topic from our first night on June 4th at 6 PM regarding an orientation to the Mane Event and the many elements including non-live horse portions of the contest. This is open to all school aged youth regardless of being current members of 4-H. Signup is required a week in advance of each session. Cost for each session will be \$20 if bringing a horse and free for non-horse attendees. To receive a specific schedule with topics and instructors please email Bernie at bw27@cornell.edu and you will be placed on the Thursday Night Mane Event Horse Clinic list. **You do not have to participate in the Mane Event to participate in these Thursday night sessions.** At this writing, these clinics will be held on Thursdays June 4th, 18th, 25th, July 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and August 6th.

Equine Tack Sale

June 20th 5:30 to 8 PM – Fairgrounds

(There is a flyer in this file but if it is not accessible, do not worry about using it).

If you are in the market for horse equipment or looking to disperse good condition horse equipment and attire, consider attending our 4-H Tack Sale to be held at the Schaghticoke Fairgrounds on June 20th from 5:30 to 8 PM. If you are shopping, please know we have in the past attracted a nice variety of equipment from tack and show clothes, to barn essentials such as buckets and stall accessories. If you would like to sell, please email Laura Schreiner by June 12th brokennewfarm@aol.com. Cost of having a table/space is \$15. Anyone who signs up to sell are encouraged to bring their own tables, as tables will be in short supply. We hope to see you there.

Rensselaer County 4-H Tack Sale



Location: Schaghticoke Fair Grounds

Date: Saturday June 20, 2026

Time: 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m

Cost: \$ 15 for a table/ spot to sell tack (limited tables; we encourage to bring your own tables)

RSVP: If you choose to sell any tack, please RSVP to

Brokennewfarm@aol.com



Please stop by to sell or shop and support our county 4-H.



4-H Shooting Sports

Archery Session

Thursdays July 23rd, 30th, and August 6th at 6pm

Castleton Fish & Game Club

The Rensselaer County 4-H Shooting Sports program will be offering an outdoor archery program for youth 8 years (as of January 1st, 2025) and older at the Castleton Fish & Game Club. The archery session will meet on Thursdays, July 23rd, 30th, and August 6th at 6:00pm. There is a \$20.00 registration fee for 4-H members and \$30.00 for non-members. Pre-registration is required no later than Thursday, July 16th. To register a youth or for more information, contact Eileen at emd32@cornell.edu.



Past Events

4-H Capital Days

The 91st annual 4-H Capital Days was held in Albany in May. Lili Ruepp and Sophie Townsend represented Rensselaer County at the event. This annual event is sponsored by the NYS Association of Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Educators. 4-H teens from all over New York State participate.

The delegates toured the New York State Capital Building, the Assembly Chamber, visited the NYS Court of Appeals, and the NYS Museum. They also attended presentations from a variety of NYS agencies, including Agriculture and Markets, the NYS Education Department, the Department of Health, the Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Department of Motor Vehicles. Lili and Sophie visited the offices of Assemblyman Scott Bendett and Senator Jake Ashby and shared their 4-H story with them. It was very busy, but educational few days!



Regional Hippology

A huge thank you to our coach Alicia Hayashi for helping our members prepare for the Regional Hippology Contest! We hosted the regional contest and thank those who helped make the regional hippology contest happen. A huge congratulations to our members who placed well and all qualified to go on to compete at the New York State 4-H Hippology Contest. Our senior played on a combined county team which included members from Saratoga and Albany County which placed 1st with Alice Bourdeau placing 3rd individually. The junior team placed 1st and our members Vincent Reiter placed 2nd individually and Korabeth Thompson and Ariana Severance placed 4th and 5th individually respectively. There will continue to be Hippology practices throughout the coming weeks to get ready for the state contest and the Mane Event. Please know all these practices are open to all and any non-Cloverbud member is welcome to attend our practices.



Regional and State Horse Communications

A huge congratulations to our members that participated in Regional Horse Communications! Our Junior participants of Olivia Doroski and Audrey Kondak placed 2nd and 3rd respectively. Our Senior presenters were Sophie Townsend who placed 4th and Maya Bull who placed 5th. We also had two senior public speakers. Kira Colarossi and Lili Ruepp placed 1st and 2nd respectively. Recently, Lili, Kira and Audrey competed in the New York State 4-H Horse Communications Contest where Lili placed 2nd, Kira 3rd and Audrey 4th in their respective divisions.

This is a huge accomplishment and congratulations to them all. A huge thank you to all who have had a hand in making Horse Communications possible from our County to State levels for our 4-H Presenters.



NYS 4-H Horse Bowl - Congratulations

What a great year our Horse Bowl members have had. The cherry on top was the NYS 4-H Horse Bowl Contest where our Junior Team placed 4th and our senior members were able to compete on the Regional Senior Team for 5B which placed 3rd. Members of the Junior Team were led by Captain Wyatt Tomlinson who placed 5th individually and Vincent Reiter, Olivia Doroski and Ariana Severance. Alice Bourdeau and Heidi Beraldi played on the Senior Regional Team. Heidi placed 8th individually. A huge thank you to our coach Alicia Hayashi and everyone who helped make the New York State Horse Bowl Contest experience possible for our members.



2026 4-H Veterinary Science Program

From April 8–10, 16 youth from Rensselaer County participated in an engaging, hands-on exploration of veterinary science and animal care. Throughout the multi-day program, participants explored important topics including animal wellness, behavior, first aid, veterinary skills, and the connection between animal and public health.

The program was facilitated by industry professionals including Dr. Nicole LaMora from Brunswick Veterinary Hospital, the team from Mohawk Hudson Humane Society, and staff from Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital. Their expertise provided youth with valuable real-world insight into veterinary medicine and animal care careers.

Program highlights included interactive sessions on conducting animal wellness checks, interpreting animal behavior, assembling first aid kits, and understanding proper animal care practices. Participants engaged in hands-on demonstrations, collaborative activities, and group discussions that strengthened both technical knowledge and essential life skills such as teamwork, communication, and problem-solving.

The program offered youth a unique opportunity to deepen their understanding of veterinary science while building confidence through practical learning experiences.



2026 Tractor Safety Program

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County 4-H, in collaboration with other Capital District 4-H programs, held a hands-on annual Tractor Safety Program for youth ages 14 and older. The program was held from April 6-9.

22 youth from across the capital region participated with 3 from Rensselaer County. The National Safe Tractor and Machinery Operation Program enables young workers (ages 14-19) to obtain a US Department of Labor Certificate of Training which is required to operate farm tractors and equipment off the family farm for youth ages 14 & 15. Over four days, participants learned and practiced safe working skills as they apply to an agricultural setting, with hands on instruction and practice in the operation of agricultural equipment and implements. Highlights of the program included a presentation by the New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health (NYCAMH) at Kinderhook Creek Farm, tours of Saratoga Sod Farm and United Ag and Turf, and a presentation from Tim Havens of Falls Farm and Garden Equipment. Youth also learned about safe storage of chemicals, avoiding trip and fall hazards, how to safely operate skid steers, and many other valuable life and career readiness skills. Thank you to all who supported the program this year: The Eckardt Family of Kinderhook Creek Farm, New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health (NYCAMH), Saratoga Sod Farm, United Ag & Turf-Northeast, Falls Farm and Garden Equipment Co., Gailor Ground & Earthworks Aaron Bogden (H&M Equipment, and The Washington County Fairgrounds.





FAIR INFORMATION

Animal Lease/Ownership

Due June 15th

For members who have animal projects

All other animals (non-horse) must be owned or leased by June 15th. Lease (not owned by the exhibitor)

and/or grade (unregistered animals) paperwork for cattle, goat, sheep, swine and dog need to be filed with the CCE Office by June 15th of the current year to be eligible to be exhibited in the 4-H Shows at the Schaghticoke and New York State Fair.

Click here to access lease and grade paperwork <https://rensselaer.cce.cornell.edu/4-h-youth/4-h-forms>
If you have any questions, please contact Mamnenge at the CCE Office.

June 1st Deadline for Horse Project Paperwork

Members who plan to participate in 4-H shows and/or participate in 4-H clinics with their project horse this year need to be sure their information is up to date in the office. All members will need to have a current rabies (dated 2026), either a 2025 or 2026 negative Coggins test as well as a Project Horse Certificate by June 1st. Additionally, you will need to be sure you have a current riding evaluation on file in the office for the proper level you will be riding this year. If you are using the same horse/s as the 2025 season, all you will need to do is send in your rabies and current negative Coggins. If you are riding the same horse/s and level as 2025 you will be set for this year. If this is not the case, you will need to submit an updated riding evaluation before our first county wide riding event. Contact Bernie if you have any questions – bw27@cornell.edu

Fair Clean Up

On Wednesday, August 19th 4-H families from across Rensselaer County will gather at the fairgrounds to clean out the winter cobwebs and spruce up for the fair. Although the majority of 4-H'ers display projects in the 4-H Building, there is a relatively small crew of volunteers to clean up and set up. Everyone is asked to chip in to help. Remember - many hands make light work! Cleanup will start at 1 PM for those available, "Make and Take" workshops at 4 PM followed by finishing cleaning and setup in the 4-H Building and Barns. Since attendance at Fair Clean-Up Day has fallen off in recent years, the clean-up/set-up process has been streamlined. Display dividers are no longer covered with new paper on fair clean-up day. Clubs should keep this in mind when preparing their stationary exhibits. Paper will be available during judging and exhibit set-up for clubs that need to cover the dividers.

The fair schedule often conflicts with back-to-school activities, so members and volunteers should mark the dates on their calendars and be prepared to plan ahead to be able to fit everything in.

General Interest Evaluations

There will again be two General Interest Judging Days this year, Saturday, August 29th from 9am-12pm and Monday, August 31st from 4-7pm. General Interest entries are due on or before August 10th.

4-H Presentations at the Schaghticoke Fair

4-H members who participated in County Presentations are eligible to give a repeat performance at the Fair. If you would like to do a presentation at the fair, please contact Eileen at emd32@cornell.edu to schedule a time for your presentation in the CCE building. This is a non-competitive event that offers 4-H members the opportunity to present for an audience of the General Public and other 4-H Members. We do ask that you let us know by Wednesday, August 19th if you plan to do a presentation.

Prepare for the Fair

All the pages of the 4-H Schaghticoke Fair book are crammed full of important information, rules, and regulations. And there are some changes this year! It can be a daunting task to try to figure out what to enter, and where to enter it. Leaders, parents, and members are encouraged to contact the 4-H office with questions about any of the classes or projects listed in the fair book.

Now is the time to ask questions about projects that may fall outside of recognized 4-H curricula. Help us avoid disappointments on judging days. We certainly do not want members to show up with items that cannot be evaluated by our judges!

Unfortunately, 4-H members often bring wonderful items to the fair only to find out they are not suitable for exhibit in the 4-H Building. 4-H leaders can be our first line of defense in preventing this disappointment. As we approach fair time, please remind your members that not everything we do and not everything we make during the project year is eligible to exhibit at the fair. Leaders should use their fair book as a guide. If your club has made something or worked on a project that does not fit into a category in the fair book, it is not appropriate for exhibit in the CCE Building and cannot be evaluated by our judges. If you have any questions, please contact the 4-H office. If we cannot find a way to make projects fit into the CCE Building, we can help you enter them in the Open Class.

Horse questions should be directed to Bernie Wiesen <mailto:bw27@cornell.edu>

Other animal questions should be directed to Mamnenge Gbim-Gbande <mailto:mbg242@cornell.edu>

Questions about General Interest projects, Club Exhibits, or special opportunities in the CCE Building during the fair should be directed to Eileen DePaula <mailto:emd32@cornell.edu>

Questions about the Snack Bar and Fair Auction should be directed to Kandis Freer <mailto:kmf83@cornell.edu>

Dogs at the Schaghticoke Fair

Just a reminder to all 4-H'ers and families interested in exhibiting dogs at the Schaghticoke Fair and NYS Fair-Dogs must be owned or leased by June 15 of the project year. 4-H youth who have trained their personal, immediate family, or a leased dog in the 4-H Dog Obedience program, or any other dog series & passed satisfactory evaluation at designated 4-H county dog evaluation event are eligible to participate at these events. If you have questions, please reach out to Mamnenge.

Livestock Auction

It is expected that members planning to participate in this year's Livestock Auction please let the CCE Office know as soon as possible. Paperwork is due June 15th. This is a great learning experience, open to all 4-H youth, and we want to make it possible for all of those interested to participate. We accept: Rabbits, Poultry, Beef Steers, Dairy Steers, Replacement Heifers, and Hogs.

There will be a meeting this summer that will discuss what is expected of those who would like to participate in this year's auction. This includes animal requirements and securing buyers.

If you are interested in participating in this year's auction, please let Mamnenge know!

*Please note that if we do not have enough participants, we will not have an auction *

4-H Tractor Driving Contest at the Schaghticoke Fair

Have you taken the 4-H HOSTA Tractor Safety Course? Do you want to demonstrate your skill behind the wheel at the Schaghticoke Fair? All 4-H members who have successfully completed the 4-H Tractor Safety Course can participate in the annual 4-H Tractor Driving Contest at the Schaghticoke Fair that will take place on Sunday, September 6th at 4:00 PM. Participants will drive on a closed course that will have them demonstrate equipment inspection, turning, backing, and stopping. To sign up for the 4-H Tractor Driving Contest please do so on Fair Entry by August 10th. If you have questions, contact Mamnenge at 4-H office by calling 518.272.4210.

2026 New York State Fair Animal Health Requirements

The 2026 NYS County Fairs and New York State Fair Animal Health Requirements are now available online. In state and out-of-state requirements have been consolidated into a single document.

You can find the requirements by going to: <https://agriculture.ny.gov/farming/fairs>

and scrolling down the page until you find the section "Fair Health Requirements".

2026 Fair Animal Health Requirements:

<https://agriculture.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2026/01/fairhealthrequirements.pdf>

For in-state poultry exhibitors, no-cost poultry **pullorum clinics** are listed on the NYS Ag & Markets website, exhibitors wishing to participate in clinics should check the website for updates.

<https://agriculture.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2026/01/pullorumclinicschedule.pdf>

All animals, including single day competition animals, paid animal exhibits, volunteer demonstration exhibits, show animals or any other category of animals, *must* meet NYS Fair Health Requirements to be present at a NYS county fair or the New York State fair.

Due to ongoing national animal disease events, exhibitors are encouraged to check the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets website for updated emergency animal disease regulations for state and county fairs on a regular basis. These regulations may change in response to animal disease events in real time and may apply to both in-state and out-of-state exhibitors.

Pullorum Testing to show at Fairs

If you cannot make that date visit the website below:

<https://agriculture.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2026/05/pullorumclinicschedule.pdf>

for an alternate date. Pullorum- an infectious, bacterial, poultry disease caused by the bacterium Salmonella pullorum. The disease affects mainly young chicks and pullets, but can also affect older chickens, game birds, guinea fowl, ostriches, parrots, peafowl, ring doves, sparrows, and turkeys.

Birds must be tested for pullorum-typhoid to attend county or New York State fairs and shows. The testing date for Rensselaer County/Schaghticoke Fair is Saturday, August 8th, 2026, from 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM at the Schaghticoke Fairgrounds, Stillwater Bridge Rd., Schaghticoke NY.

4-H Poultry Showmanship Clinic

Date: Wednesday, June 10th @6PM

Where: Adirondack Feed Center, Amsterdam

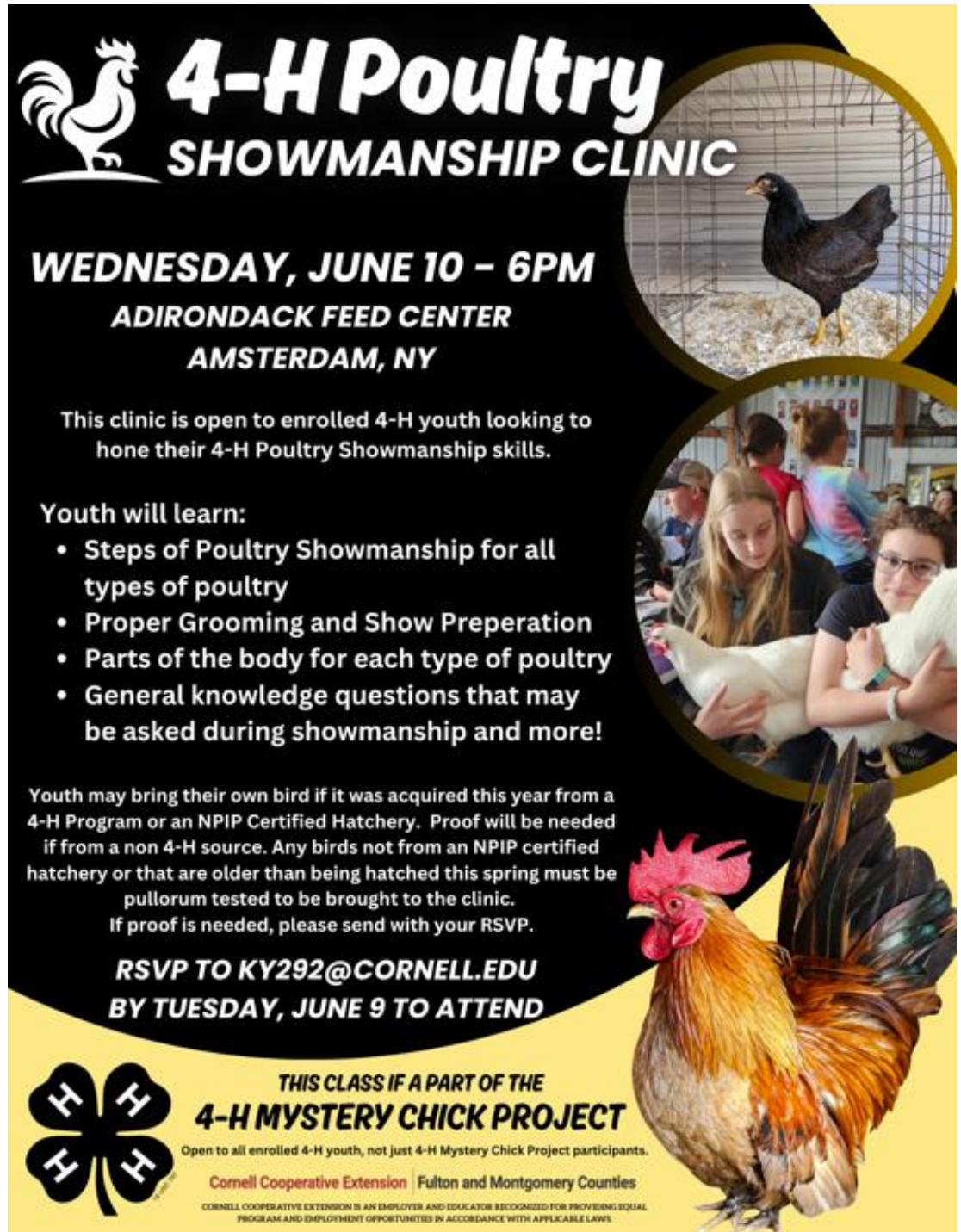
Hosted by the Fulton Montgomery 4-H program, this clinic is open to enrolled 4-H youth looking to hone their 4-H Poultry Showmanship skills.

RSVP by

Tuesday, June 9th to ky292@cornell.edu

please also let Mamnenge know you are attending.

Youth can bring birds they showed at last year's fair that went through pullorum testing.



4-H Poultry SHOWMANSHIP CLINIC

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10 – 6PM
ADIRONDACK FEED CENTER
AMSTERDAM, NY

This clinic is open to enrolled 4-H youth looking to hone their 4-H Poultry Showmanship skills.

Youth will learn:

- Steps of Poultry Showmanship for all types of poultry
- Proper Grooming and Show Preparation
- Parts of the body for each type of poultry
- General knowledge questions that may be asked during showmanship and more!

Youth may bring their own bird if it was acquired this year from a 4-H Program or an NPIP Certified Hatchery. Proof will be needed if from a non 4-H source. Any birds not from an NPIP certified hatchery or that are older than being hatched this spring must be pullorum tested to be brought to the clinic. If proof is needed, please send with your RSVP.




RSVP TO KY292@CORNELL.EDU BY TUESDAY, JUNE 9 TO ATTEND

THIS CLASS IS A PART OF THE 4-H MYSTERY CHICK PROJECT

Open to all enrolled 4-H youth, not just 4-H Mystery Chick Project participants.

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Fulton and Montgomery Counties

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION IS AN EMPLOYER AND EDUCATOR RECOGNIZED FOR PROVIDING EQUAL PROGRAM AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAWS.



The Snack Bar Schedule

Please call or email Kandis with your club's 1st and 2nd choice for Snack Bar duty!

We have fewer clubs, please do your part. Even if you only have one or two kids that can make it, we still need every club to choose at least one shift.

To receive fair passes your club must be signed up for a Snack Bar shift.

	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
7:30am-11am	Hoosick Shamrocks					
11am-2:30pm						
2:30pm-6pm	Growing Clovers					
6pm-9:30pm						

Schaghticoke Fair Snack Bar Wish List

As you all know, prices are always on the rise, and it is important to the 4-H Program and Teen Ambassador/Council Members to keep the prices at the 4-H Snack Bar low and affordable. In order to do this we are asking each club to give one donation.

Clubs are encouraged to pool funds to purchase **something** off the list or a **gift certificate to Hannaford, Price Chopper, Wal-Mart, or Sam's Club** will allow us to keep our prices low and affordable while raising money for our 4-H members. All proceeds from the Snack Bar go toward the Scholarship Fund, awards, Fair Judges, educational activities, and trips.

- Cases of Water
- Tea bags– large and regular size
- Honey Mustard Dressing – 2, 13 oz bottles
- Creamy Italian Dressing – 2, 13 oz bottles
- Italian Dressing– 2, 13 oz bottles
- Sweet N' Low packets
- Hot Dog Buns
- Individual bagged chips
- Salsa
- Shredded cheese– taco blend
- Mustard

- Mayo
- Taco Seasoning
- Hot Coco mix
- One time salt and pepper shakers
- Vegetable Oil
- Hot Dogs
- Individual Cereal
- Sour Cream
- Relish
- Ketchup
- Freeze Pops

4-H Silent Auction

We are again asking clubs and independent members to collect donations, hang up posters, and ask community businesses to help publicize the Annual 4-H Auction by displaying it on their reader boards, A-frame signs, their websites, or any social media their company uses.

Proceeds from the auction help support the Teen College Scholarships, fair judges and awards, and all educational activities and trips.

This is one of the largest fundraising opportunities for Rensselaer County 4-H. To make this successful, we need your help!

To ensure that all donors receive a Thank You note from Rensselaer County 4-H, please submit a list of donors to Kandis.

Name of Business or Individual	Complete Mailing Address	Items Donated

County Medal Application

To be considered, applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Must be 14 years old as of January first of the current 4-H year.
2. Must be currently enrolled as an active 4-H member.
3. Must have presented or evaluated at County Demonstration Day in the current year.
4. Must have participated in the Medal project area for a minimum of 2 years.
5. Must be able to document outstanding work related to project quality and quantity.
6. Must have diversified experiences related to the project area.
7. Must be able to show outstanding time and commitment to the project.

Your completed County Medal Application must be completed and returned to the 4-H office by **AUGUST 10th** of the current 4-H project year. **Late arrivals will be disqualified.** NOTE: Members may apply for a County Medal in more than one project area each year. However, they will not receive more than one Medal award per year. Medals are awarded only once in each project area.

https://s3.amazonaws.com/assets.cce.cornell.edu/attachments/74448/County_Medal_Fillable.pdf?1754579238

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Rensselaer County

99 Troy Road, Suite 203
East Greenbush, NY 12061
Tel: 518-272-4210 Fax: 272-1648

To: 4-H Auction Donors

June 1, 2026

From: Rensselaer County 4-H Teen Council Ambassadors

Re: 4-H Auction

4-H members and volunteers in Rensselaer County are planning a major annual auction as a fundraising event.

As a 4-H member in good standing, I am seeking a donation from your business for the auction. All proceeds from the Auction go toward college scholarships, fair judges, awards, educational activities, educational trips, and support volunteer recognition efforts.

Since 1917, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County (CCE-Rensselaer) has responded to the needs of residents with unbiased, research-based information, tools and education that people have come to depend on and trust. Our programs are developed in direct response to community input and are based on the most current information available from Cornell and other Land Grant universities from across the nation. From our experiences we know that 4-H changes lives, helping youth to become confident, mature adults ready to succeed in today's challenging worlds. Studies show that youth participating in 4-H do better in school, are more motivated to help others, feel safe trying new things, and develop lasting friendships. Access to Cornell's resources gives young people an opportunity to make connections for college and beyond.

CCE-Rensselaer is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization and is part of the Cooperative Extension land grant system, a partnership between County, State, and Federal governments that is administered in New York State through Cornell University. Your donation is considered a charitable contribution, please let us know if you need more documentation.

Your generous assistance in support of these worthwhile causes is certainly appreciated. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this or any other 4-H program, please feel free to call Kandis Freer at the Rensselaer County 4-H office at 272-4210 ext. 106.

On behalf of Rensselaer County 4-H Youth Development, and the young people who benefit from 4-H programs, thank you for your support.

4-H Tee Shirts and Sweatshirts

Order extra Schaghticoke Fair T-Shirts or sweatshirts (all youth participating in fair will order tee-shirt through FairEntry). Both are a navy shirt/ sweatshirt base with same design.

Tee shirt orders are due on or before August 9th.

Sweatshirt orders are due on or before July 15th.

Both are available in both youth and adult sizes. (Please note shirts are NOT available in Youth Extra Large.)

Tee shirts cost \$12 (there will be an additional \$3.00 for adult 2XL and 3XL)

Sweatshirts cost \$40 (there will be an additional \$5 cost for adult 2XL and 3XL)



Specify number of shirts for each size	small	medium	large	XL	2XL	3XL
Youth Tee shirt				n/a	n/a	n/a
Adult Tee-shirt						
Youth Sweatshirt						
Adult Sweatshirt						

Pay by check or with credit card at <https://rensselaer.cce.cornell.edu/donate> and email Eileen DePaula the completed order form.

New York State Fair Selections

4-H projects that were chosen at the 2025 Schaghticoke Fair for the New York State Fair will be evaluated and on display in Syracuse from August 26th to September 7th. All projects must be delivered to the CCE office no later than Friday, August 21st, or can be dropped off at Fair Clean Up Day on August 19th.

All State Fair projects do need an "Exhibitor Entry Statement". The NYS 4-H office is working on updating the form and when available it will be on the 4-H forms page CCE Rensselaer website at <https://rensselaer.cce.cornell.edu/4-h-youth/4-h-forms>.

Please be sure to remove all tags and ribbons from your project, repair any damage that may have occurred during the year, make sure it is neat and clear. Pack it securely for transport to the State Fair.

If you have any questions, please contact Eileen at emd32@cornell.edu and watch upcoming email blasts for more information as well.

Those projects chosen to advance to the 2026 State Fair are:

Melody Bailey: sourdough bread

Evelyn Brownell: pottery cup, pottery dog

Juliette Brownell: photo, sourdough pumpkin muffins

Carlo Colarossi: pastry cutter

Kira Colarossi: bouquet, gladiola

Thomas Colarossi: cherry ornaments

Owen Campenella: graphic print, level, checkerboard

Lucas Corrow: crochet hair scrunchies

Mackenzie Danish: brownies

Maggie Etman: sculpture

Lily Bell Ellis: cowboy toothpicks

Jace Freer: rocker, boot jack

Bret Giglio: paintings

Olivia Goyer: painting

Blake McCormick: photo

Jameson Roberts: photo

Benjamin Stratton: sculpture

Carter Stratton: plate, wood inlay, napkin holder, clipboard, oak table

Sophia Uccellini: what's for dinner game

Wade Wilcox: photo, glass flower, banana bread

Whelan Wilcox: oatmeal cookies, glass flower

Small Things to Help Small Pollinators

When we think of pollinators, honeybees usually get the most attention, but other bees, butterflies, moths, hummingbirds, and even beetles all play important roles in keeping Rensselaer County's landscapes lush and our food system healthy. While not everyone has the time, space, or finances to maintain a hive, everyone can contribute to pollinator health.

Here is how you can help pollinators this summer:

- **Habitat opportunities:** Plant native flowers that bloom at different times to provide food throughout the season.
- **Provide a water source:** Place a shallow dish of water on your deck or windowsill to help thirsty pollinators stay hydrated. By placing several semi-submerged stones in the water dish, you can provide pollinators with places to land so they can drink without running the risk of drowning.
- **Cut out the harmful chemicals:** Many pesticides and herbicides—even those labeled “bee-friendly”—can be harmful to pollinators.
- **Nesting sites are needed:** Different types of pollinators require different things. Some bees and pollinating beetles may use downed tree limbs and logs; many butterflies lay eggs and rear their young on plants; a small patch of bare ground might serve ground-nesting bees. Potential nesting sites include trees (both living and dead), shrubs, brush piles, bare ground, and bee boxes.
- **Build a bee hotel:** Bee hotels are the insect equivalent of a birdhouse and can be a fun craft to make.
- **Inform, educate, and inspire:** Spread the word on how we can support our pollinator species! Especially during national pollinator week June 15th- June 21st.

At least 75% of flowering plants worldwide are pollinated by insects and mammals! This is equivalent to more than 1,200 food crops and 180,000 other types of plants—plants that help stabilize our soils, purify our air, supply oxygen, and nourish us! Enjoy protecting pollinators!

For more information about pollinators, or other natural resource questions, contact Cat LaPorta.

Member Birthdays

June

Kennedy Hunter
Nathaniel LaMora
Wyatt Tomlinson
Maryann Murray
Cole Kaufman
Emma Wilwol
Aiden Urquhart
Ava Severance
Joseph Taurone
Rowen Popisil
Lavinia Wadsworth
Mya Bull
Annabel Reynolds
Grady Rowlands
Ellie Anatriello
Phoebe Corrow
Bret Gilglio
Mia Brownell
Franchesca Milianta
Josephine Baudy
Liliana Ruepp
Thomas Cobb

Sophia Olsen
Dominck Bushner
Isaac Gallese

July

Delaney Baranowski
Melody Barton
Daisy Hayashi
Bailey Peterson
Samuel bailey
Emily Wait
Rylynn Starks
Audrey Gale
Avery McMahan
Alivia Byerwalters
Joseph Neet
Max DeLaMater
Taylor Bugbee
Gianna Vanamburgh
Isaac McGowan
Terrence Kingston III
Alexander Kendrick

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

Calendar of Events

June

- 1st Deadline for horse paperwork
- 3rd Equine Last Chapter Program – CCE Building at the fairgrounds – 6 PM
- 4th Thursday Night Mane Event - Orientation Horse Clinic at fairgrounds – 6 PM
- 7th NYS Hippology Contest – Cortland County Fairgrounds – All Day
- 7th Archery League Contest @ Dyken Pond EEC 9:00am
- 9th 4-H Open House at Saratoga Race Course – preregistration required.
- 10th Career Ex Orientation @ the CCE Office 6:00pm
- 15th Lease/Grade Paperwork Due
- 18th Thursday / Mane Event Clinic – Fairgrounds 6 PM
- 19th BBQ to Benefit Teen Exchange – 4 to 6 PM at Fairgrounds.
- 19th – 21st 3-Day Clinic at the Fairgrounds
- 19th Juneteenth – office closed.
- 25th Thursday / Mane Event Clinic – Fairgrounds 6 PM
- 30th- July 2nd Career Explorations Cornell University

July

- 2nd Thursday / Mane Event Clinic – Fairgrounds 6 PM
- 4th Independence Day' office closed.
- 9th Thursday / Mane Event Clinic – Fairgrounds 6 PM
- 11th – 12th Mane Event All Day at the Fairgrounds
- 16th Thursday / Mane Event Clinic – Fairgrounds 6 PM
- 18th – 19th Youth Show All Day – Fairgrounds
- 22nd Rabbit/Cavy/Poultry PDC Meeting @ 6:30pm via Zoom
- 23rd Thursday / Mane Event Clinic – Fairgrounds 6 PM
- 23rd Shooting Sports @ Castleton Fish & Game Club; 6:00pm
- 30th Shooting Sports @ Castleton Fish & Game Club; 6:00pm

August

- 6th Shooting Sports @ Castleton Fish & Game Club; 6:00pm
- 19th Fair Clean Up
- 26th – September 7th NYS Fair