

Cornell Cooperative Extension Rensselaer County



October-November 2026

Clover Chronicle

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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 Eileen DePaula at CCE Rensselaer County.

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 emd32@cornell.edu

Equine Explorers- Alice Bourdeau

One of our members, Alice, went to the Goshen Harness Track in Goshen, New York, in the month of July. As part of the Equine Ambassador Program, she returned to our club in August with stories about her experiences. The main focus of this harness track is animal training. She learned about all the track and equipment. While she was there, she was also able to wear racing silks and actually drove harness horses. She met an accomplished Australian harness race driver named Lauren Tritton. Lauren was listed in the top 10 drivers in Australia and had 920 victories when she first arrived in the United States in 2020. Winning the State Premiership, which one has to be top 5 to participate in making her the best driver. In the US she now raises a family, runs a training facility, and races when she has time. Alice enjoyed getting to meet such an inspirational woman in the equine industry. She also told us about the trip to the Harness Racing Museum and Hall of Fame. They had figurines of all the Hall of Fame winners and even the original Goshen Stable inside the museum.

During our second August meeting we also continued our work on our Fair Educational display and collected items for our Fair Auction Basket.

In the month of September, our club had an informational meeting. We discussed our plans to put our educational display from the fair at a library for National 4-H week and learned about a local art

exhibit at the Sand Lake Art Center to benefit a horse rescue. We completed our honor club form and distributed re-enrollment applications during this meeting. For our November meeting we talked about possibly doing a community service activity. One of our members, Alice, attended an event with the Equine Ambassador Program at the State Fair. She shared details about her trip where she took care of the ten horses on site, introduced the public to them, and helped out with a horse parade. She really enjoyed the experience and hopes to have the opportunity to go back next year. Our members were tasked with thinking of ideas for our banquet centerpiece and auction item for the next meeting.

Honor Club Application

Every 4-H Club has the opportunity to join the ranks of becoming a Rensselaer County 4-H Honor Club! This prestigious award is given to each Club that accumulates a minimum of 100 points on the rubric. Did you know it was as easy as getting enrollment paperwork in by October 31st, sending in Secretary's Reports, recording your community service project, and/or participating in 4-H events and trainings?



Points are available for a variety of activities such as membership, project work, 4-H training and workshops, participation in club and county events, and demonstrate consistent leadership. To be eligible for Honor Club, 4-H clubs must apply by October 1st. [Honor Club Application](#)





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!

STAFF

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Bw27@cornell.edu

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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
East Greenbush, NY 12061

**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.**

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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The Clover Chronicle is published six times a year by the 4-H Youth Development staff of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County as 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 renssealer@cornell.edu

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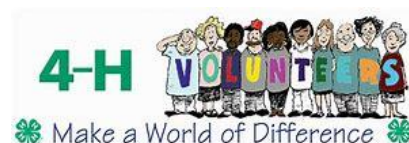
Leader's Digest

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.

Re-enrollment Update

For the 2026-2027 4-H year, we will again be doing reenrollments virtually through 4-H Online beginning on October 1st. If you have not already done so, you will need to reset your password on 4-H Online the first time you log in. Use the email address which you are receiving the email blast with to sign in. If you have any questions, or if you would prefer hard copies of your paperwork, please contact Eileen at emd32@cornell.edu.



To complete the reenrollment process please follow the instructions below:

Log into 4-HOnline; *You will be asked to reset your password if you have not logged in before.* Use the email address which you are receiving the email blast with to sign in. Update any incorrect information and add any new projects.

All youth need to complete and submit the following forms – they can be found in 4-H online when re-enrolling – scroll down the forms page to choose the appropriate form -

- Code of Conduct
- Acknowledgement of Risk
- Photo Release

Volunteers do need to complete and submit a Code of Conduct. These also can be found on 4-H Online.

Payment for your reenrollments can be made via the CCE website donation page at <https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/PY5DMJB36HRY2> or with a check payable to CCE Rensselaer County, that can be mailed to the 4-H office at 99 Troy Rd., Suite 203, East Greenbush, NY 12061

Enrollment fees are:

- \$15.00 for each child (maximum of \$45 for families with more than 3 children)
- \$10.00 for each leader (Maximum \$10 per couple)
- ***A maximum of \$55.00 per family***

Re-enrollments need to be submitted by November 1st. If you have not reenrolled by then please know that you are not covered by our insurance. If you plan to participate in any 4-H activities, make sure you have completed the reenrollment process. Youth do need to be enrolled by May 15th to show at the fair.

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-renselaer-volunteer@cornell.edu



General Interest & Livestock Recognition Banquet

(General Interest, Small Animal, Livestock, Independents, and any that would like to attend)

Friday, October 9th at 6:00pm

Brunswick Community Center- 18 Keyes Ln, Troy

Please contact Eileen with your newly elected club officers, as well as any special club awards that you would like to present by October 2nd to ensure a place on the schedule. This is a Potluck Style banquet - please bring: a dish to share, your own table setting (plate & flatware), and your own beverages. Clubs are asked to bring a table centerpiece that will be used for decoration that night and then donated as a door prize. Please rsvp to Eileen at emd32@cornell.edu by October 2nd if you will be attending.

Cattle Year End Banquet

Where: North Hoosick Fire House - 22106 Route 22

When: Friday, November 6, 2026

Time: 7pm

This is a Potluck Style banquet — please bring: a dish to share, your own table setting (plate and flatware), and your own beverages.

RSVP by October 25th to Mamnenge

Horse Banquet

November 7th at the Poestenkill Firehouse at 6 PM.

Please reach out to your leader for sign up details and food assignments.

Junior Chefs

Monday, November 30th

6:00pm @ the CCE Office

\$10.00 participation fee

Holiday Foods Workshop

The 4-H Junior Chefs will meet on Monday, November 30th at 6:00pm at the CCE Office in East Greenbush. At this workshop youth will be making food items with a holiday theme in preparation for the upcoming holiday season.

There is a \$10.00 participation fee per youth. To register a youth, or for more information, please contact Eileen at emd32@cornell.edu.



Tractor Supply Paper Clover

Since 2010, Tractor Supply has partnered with 4-H to prepare youth to be ready for work and life. The success of the Paper Clover campaign has raised more than \$24 million to impact local youth with the technical skills and life skills that prepare them for whatever comes their way.

100 percent of funds raised through the bi-annual Paper Clover campaign directly benefits 4-H youth. 90 percent of donations directly support 4-H youth in the state where the funds were raised, and the remaining 10 percent supports the overall mission and growth of 4-H nationally.

Dates for the 2026 Paper Clover campaigns are:
November 27 - December 13, 2026



National 4-H Week

October 4-10

National 4-H Week brings together 6 million youth, 3,500 Extension educators, 500,000 volunteers, and 35 million alumni to celebrate the incredible impact of 4-H and prepare young people to be Beyond Ready for life and career.

This year, we'll come together as a system to recognize National 4-H Week and the [Beyond Ready initiative](#) on two celebratory days.



Day 1: Go Green

Monday, October 5, 2026

On Monday of National 4-H Week, **Go GREEN** and show your 4-H state spirit! A simple, cohesive way for youth, professionals, volunteers, alumni & supporters across the country to celebrate their 4-H program being *Beyond Ready*. Wear a green hat, clothing, face paint - anything green goes. Let's paint the nation **GREEN**, on **Monday, October 5th!**

Share your Go Green moment on social and tag National 4-H, your State 4-H program, and use **#4HBeyondReady** **#National4HWeek**

Day 2: Thankful Thursday

Thursday, October 8, 2026

On Thursday of National 4-H Week, help us shine a light on all the good that 4-H does! A day to recognize all 4-H'ers who are doing good and making positive impact by helping their communities and beyond.

Share your own story or celebrate someone who is making a difference - another 4-H'er, volunteer or educator. We want to know, on **Thursday, October 8th** and use **#4HBeyondReady**

Ambassador Council Teens

Ambassador Council Teens meet every other month to carry out community service. In May, teens met at the Van Rensselaer Manor to support a luau for the residents. If you are interested in joining, email Kandis or Eileen!

Teen Exchange

What an amazing week our members had learning all about the corners of Washington, Idaho and Oregon that come together. The geography, people, natural resources and agriculture industry was all new for our members and so completely different then our own Rensselaer County. Lots of lessons learned and horizons broadened. We hope you enjoy some of our pictures from our trip in this issue.

Can you believe it is time for our Wreath and Swag fundraiser! Please find order information in this issue. Orders are due November 16th to the CCE office. Orders will be ready after Thanksgiving. We had a display at the fair and received a blue ribbon. Thank you to Jameson and Declan (and parents) for pulling this display together.

On October 15th we will be having a chicken BBQ fundraiser. Pick up for dinners will be from 4 to 6 PM at the Schaghticoke Fairgrounds – across from Stewarts. Dinners will be \$18 and reservations can be made by calling 518-421-2360 and/or by going to our donate button on our website and indicating how many dinners you would like with your name and phone number - [Link for Payment](#) . See our link also under Chicken BBQ.

What are you doing on Veterans Day? We will be holding a Spaghetti Dinner that day at the Pittstown United Methodist Church Hall on old Route 7. Serving from 4 to 6 PM with meals for adults \$15, 12 years to 6 years \$10 each with 5 years and under eating free. Check out our flyer. Lastly, a few of our members helped with thinning trails with that ACT group at Dyken Pond and we donated a basket to the 4-H Ticket Auction at the fair themed “Taste of Washington, Idaho and Oregon”.



Chicken BBQ Fundraiser

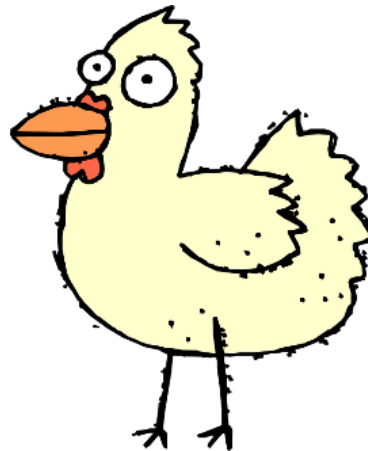
October 15th – 4 to 6 PM

Schaghticoke Fairgrounds at the Routh 40 (Main Street) Entrance

Cost - \$18 for ½ a chicken, coleslaw, baked potato and corn bread

RSVP by calling – 518-421-2360 – payment can be made in advance (but not required) by going to the code below. Please be sure to place your name, number of dinners and best phone number, in the “write a note” box on the payment platform.

Profits to Benefit Teen Exchange Program



Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

November 11th – 4 to 6 PM Serving

Pittstown United Methodist Church Hall

Veterans no charge – let us serve and thank you !

Non Veterans – 13 years and over - \$15; 13 to 6 years \$10; 5 years and under eat for free.

RSVP by calling – 518-421-2360 – payment can be made in advance (but not required) by going to the code below. Please be sure to place in the “write a note” box on the payment platform your name, number of dinners and best phone number to reach you.

Profits to Benefit Teen Exchange Program



Wreath Order Fundraiser

Orders due to the office by November 16th via:
Email bw27@cornell.edu;
Fax 518-272-1648; or
Mail – 99 Troy Road, Suite 203, East Greenbush, NY 12061

Teen Exchanged will be constructing 12-inch pine wreaths, 10-inch boxwood, pine/boxwood mix wreaths, and pine door swags. You have the option of purchasing plain wreaths or wreaths with a simple bow. All orders will be delivered during the first week of December. All proceeds go towards the Teen Exchange.

Name/email/phone of person submitting order.

Name of Teen Exchange Member for Credit (optional)



Name	Boxwood \$32	Pine x Boxwood \$32	Pine \$15	Swag \$10	Bow \$3	Total:



Bloomin' Socks Fundraiser

Rensselaer County 4-H is holding a Bloomin' Socks fundraiser. 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 \$13.00 a pair. Each purchase supports Rensselaer County 4-H. To purchase socks, contact Eileen at emd32@cornell.edu.



FunPasta Fundraiser

The fundraiser begins on October 5th

The fundraiser will end on November 16th.

Rensselaer County 4-H is again having a virtual Fun Pasta Fundraiser

All sellers MUST REGISTER to sell the full selection of products online.

They can register at <https://funpastafundraising.com/signup/T7SL>

Follow the instructions on the website and you will be all set to sell the pasta!



Save-Around Books Fundraiser

This year we will again have a virtual Save-Around book sale, and we will also have a limited number of books for sale at the CCE office. We have books on order and when they are available, we let everyone know in the email blast. For the virtual sale there is a \$.99 credit card processing fee for each book purchased online. This processing fee is charged to the purchaser, NOT the fundraiser. The books will ship automatically to the address provided by the purchaser. There is no shipping fee. Watch upcoming email blasts for more information about the virtual sale. There will be several options of books to choose from.

All members are encouraged to sell at least one Save-Around book. Money from the Save-Around sales go back to our members in the form of resources, 4-H educational trip scholarships, and direct 4-H programming. The Save Around sale will end on December 31st.



CCE Rensselaer Annual Meeting

Please be on the lookout in October for our CCE of Rensselaer County Annual Elections for determination of new representatives to our Board of Directors and respective Program Development Committees – please be sure to follow the instructions and vote. Our CCE Annual meeting will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn on Hoosick Street on November 9th to start with social time at 5:30 PM. This may be a great year to come as we will be featuring some of our teens as part of the program who have been part of national trips. Please consider attending our annual meeting.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Rensselaer County



NYCAMH's Farm Safety Art Contest

NYCAMH's annual Farm Safety Art Contest is back! This year's theme is **Roadway Safety Starts in Your Lane**, promoting safety messages about rural roadways. Students in grades 5-12 may enter artwork in either print or digital categories. First and second place prizes will be awarded to both print and digital entries in each age bracket (grades 5 – 8 and grades 9 – 12). Artwork must be submitted with a completed entry form by October 30. Entry forms, contest guidelines, and more information are available at <https://www.nycamh.org/artcontest/>.

2026 Cornell Sheep and Goat Symposium

The Symposium will be held Friday, October 23rd through Sunday, October 26th in Ithaca, NY.

There are options to Register for the **Full symposium or individual days**.

THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE is Wednesday, October 14, 2026.

There are workshop schedules, the registration link, local lodging, and parking information at blogs.cornell.edu/goats & blogs.cornell.edu/newsheep

Reach out to Mamnenge if you are interested in registering.

Bowl Season is Coming

For those members that are non-Cloverbud who are interested in learning more about horses and cattle – bowling may be right up your alley. Horse and Dairy Bowl are two formats of testing members knowledge of cattle and horses in a “game show – team” event. Members will start meeting as early as November with bowl coaches to learn in-depth information in a fun and interactive way while members rekindle friendships as well as make new ones and learn a whole lot about cattle and/or horses. If you are interested in being part of dairy or horse bowl this year, for Dairy Bowl interest contact Mamnenge at mbg242@cornell.edu and for Horse Bowl / Hippology interest contact Bernie at bw27@cornell.edu by November 1st so you can be placed on a contact list for coaches and be informed of practices in the upcoming months.

Dairy Ambassador Program

All members with an interest in learning more and being involved in the Rensselaer County Dairy Ambassador Program. This program is open to all youth of all ages. Have you had the sweet taste of the ice cream in the New York Products Building at the Fair? Have you received a coupon for a free scoop through one of our 4-H Shows at the Schaghticoke Fair? Have you ever wondered about learning more about the marketing and the “state” of the dairy industry? You are invited to reach out to Carolyn Collins – The Rensselaer County Dairy Ambassador Advisor at renscodairyprincess@hotmail.com. The Dairy Ambassador Program in Rensselaer County – Rensselaer County Dairy Promotion program engages youth ambassadors to advocate for the local dairy industry, educate consumers on nutrition, and highlight sustainable farming practices. Reach out to Carolyn today if you would like more information.

4-H Shooting Sports Volunteer Meeting

Monday, November 16th at 6:00pm at the CCE Office

This meeting is for both current 4-H Shooting Sports Instructors as well as anyone who is interested in becoming a certified 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor. In this meeting, we will discuss creating a shared direction for our program, plans for training and activities, recruitment of instructors as well as participants, and general information for new and perspective instructors. We have a high demand for 4-H Shooting Sports in our county, and we really depend on our volunteer instructors to meet this demand. For more information, or to register for this meeting, please contact Eileen at emd32@cornell.edu. consider attending our annual meeting.

Clover Fun Run October 24th

October 24th – 10 AM

Schodack Island State Park

Please help pass the word. We are accepting sponsors and lining up our volunteers for that half day of fun! .

We are still looking for helpers for the morning to help with:

- On Course water distributors
- Photographer
- Cleanup
- Finish Line recording
- Snack Organizer

If you are a teen or older and would be able to help, please reach out to Bernie via email at

bw27@cornell.edu or 518-272-4210.

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.



CLOVER FUN RUN

SATURDAY

- ▶ **OCTOBER 24, 2026**
- ▶ **10:00 AM**
- ▶ **Schodack Island State Park**

SCAN ME



COSTS

- ▶ **18+: \$25**
- ▶ **YOUTH: \$20**
- ▶ **Pay: <https://bit.ly/4qDRfg3>**

For more information contact Bernie Wiesen at bw27@cornell.edu or (518) 272-4210.



Please mail your filled out registration card to:
99 Troy Rd Ste. 203,
East Greenbush, NY 12061

REGISTRATION

BASIC INFORMATION

Full Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Age: _____

For more information contact
Bernie Wiesen at
bw27@cornell.edu or
(518) 272-4210.

SATURDAY
▶ **OCTOBER 24, 2026**
10:00AM

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Rensselaer County



Please see our flyer and consider coming out to help raise funds for our 4-H Horse Program. It is sure to be fun and a great trail-type course that is 4K long. There is a fun walk/run for younger members (7 years and under). Above is a flyer to register in advance. This is open to All Runners and Walkers of all levels. If you intend to mail in registration, please postmark by October 14th.

Registration: <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/rensselaer-county-4-h-clover-run-copy/items>

Additionally, we are accepting donations of snacks – ready for serving and appropriate for outdoor rustic distribution. We also would welcome any cash donations to help offset the cost of the event. You won't want to miss it.



CLOVER FUN RUN



SATURDAY

OCTOBER 24, 2026

10:00 AM

Schodack Island
State Park

COSTS

18+: \$25

YOUTH: \$20

Pay:
<https://bit.ly/4qDRfg3>

For more information contact Bernie Wiesen
at bw27@cornell.edu or (518) 272-4210



Please mail your filled out
registration card to:
99 Troy Rd, Ste. 203,
East Greenbush, NY 12061

REGISTRATION

BASIC INFORMATION

Full Name:

Phone Number:

Address:

Email:

Age:

SATURDAY October 24th, 10:00AM

For more information contact Bernie Wiesen at bw27@cornell.edu or
call (518) 272-4210.

Past Events

State Fair Horse Show- Congratulations

A huge congratulations and thank you to Bridget Rowland and Emmeline Heer, both of the Playful Ponies Club for representing Rensselaer County so well at the New York State 4-H Horse Show. This is no easy feat considering you first must qualify at our county 4-H Youth Show and then juggle schedules and resources to make the trip out to the State Fair. Determine lodging, meals, equipment and so much more.....literally days before our own Schaghticoke Fair. Many ribbons were won by both members and their horses. Bridget participated in the driving division and Emmeline in the huntseat and dressage divisions. Hopefully we have members qualified, willing and able to represent our county in 2027. Again, congratulations to Bridget and Emmeline and thank you for fitting it into your schedules and trying something new!



The Great New York State Fair

Rensselaer County 4-H was well represented at the 2026 New York State Fair, with two 4-H members participating as livestock competitors. These youth had the opportunity to showcase the knowledge, skills and dedication they developed through their 4-H livestock projects while competing alongside 4-H members from across New York State. In addition to exhibiting livestock, Rensselaer County 4-H also had members volunteer their time at the State Fair to assist with the evaluation of 4-H projects. This provided the youth with a unique opportunity to take on a leadership role, gain experience with the evaluation process and contribute to the success of the State Fair 4-H program. In addition to that we had students enter their projects for evaluation and many turned out well. The participation of both exhibitors and volunteers demonstrated the variety of ways Rensselaer County 4-H members can engage in statewide 4-H opportunities and apply their skills beyond the local level.



Small Engine Workshop

Rensselaer County 4-H hosted a hands-on small engine workshop that gave youth the opportunity to learn about small engine operation, maintenance and repair. Participants learned to identify engine parts, use common tools and proper safety equipment, and safely operate and maintain small engines. 4-H'ers gained practical experience by tearing down and reassembling engines, cleaning carburetors, testing compression and diagnosing common engine problems. Youth also learned about engine electrical systems, power transmission, machine maintenance and selecting the right equipment for different jobs. The workshop also introduced participants to careers and business opportunities in the small engine industry, helping 4-H'ers build valuable mechanical and problem-solving skills they can use in their communities.



Dyken Pond Trail Restoration

Rensselaer County 4-H implemented a youth-led greenspace beautification project at Dyken Pond Environmental Education Center this past August, through funding provided by the National 4-H Council and Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation Greenspace Beautification Program.

During the project, 4-H youth worked to improve a half-mile educational trail focused on the theme. Participants spent the morning removing invasive plants and debris, clearing and preparing the trail environment, and improving the area for visitor learning and accessibility.

Youth also planted native white oak saplings to support forest health and biodiversity. Following the morning work session, participants took part in outdoor recreation and environmental education activities, including boating and fishing, allowing them to explore and connect with the natural resources surrounding Dyken Pond.



A video report is available at this link: [Facebook](#)



A Message from Us

Wow, can you believe a month has already passed, and the Schaghticoke Fair has quickly shifted to being a memory for us all. Please know Cornell Cooperative Extension truly appreciates all the work that you do as a member, leader or volunteer to help us create opportunities and run the many events for our members at the great Schaghticoke Fair. It literally takes hundreds of helping hands to make the Schaghticoke Fair 4-H Department what it is. If you have any thoughts on the fair that you would like to share with us, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Pictures were posted on our Facebook page throughout the fair, we hope you will follow us at <https://www.facebook.com/RensselaerCounty4H/>.

Schaghticoke Fair Wrap Up

It was terrific seeing so many of our 4-H members, families, and volunteers at the fair! Thank you to all of our wonderful General Interest evaluators for all their support and encouragement for our 4-Hers on judging day! Thank you to the following volunteers: Nik Segoloni, Kim Mullen, Deb Barton, Deb Gutierrez, Ray Martin, Catherine LaPorta, Emmalee Davis, Mark Samu, Jenn Hurd, Dona Reis, Christopher Kuhbander, Linda Tripp, Michelle Martin, Sharon Close, Chrys Nestle, Betsy Kaufman, Lorraine Ferguson, Wendy Troeger, Norah Bewsher, Patricia Guierrez, Hannah Deraway, and Grady Diamond. Thank you also to Kate Tubbs for helping on evaluation days.

Best of Fair

Congratulations to the following youth whose projects were selected for Best of Fair: Critters 4-H Club-club exhibit, Bailey Peterson- decorated skull, Mallory Rowland- painting, Catherine Stratton- recycled board game, Luke Giglio- chess game, Grady Diamond- tomato plant, and Brooke Ames- photography.

2027 New York State Fair Selections

The following Rensselaer County 4-H members had projects selected at Schaghticoke Fair for 2027 New York State Fair. Congratulations everyone!

Chelsea Ames, photograph, Melody Bailey, welded sunflower, Juliette Brownell, chocolate chip cookies, Wesley Brownell, tractor decorative plaque, Owen Campenella, cutting board, flag painted box, Lucas Corrow, yarn bowl cat, Silas Ellis, bee bar, Timothy Etman, apple spice cider cookies, Jace Freer, garden bed, record book, Mackenzie Danish, plastic bag coasters, Olivia Goyer, bleached shirt, Cole Kaufman, fabric art, Sadie Lavigne, cookie bars, Colin Marchaland, metal flower, Ella Mae Guile, bench, Ava Olsen, garden bed, Bailey Peterson, cattle head, Jameson Roberts, shutter snowman, tie-dye shirt, Vince Reiter, healthy snack, and Aiden Urquhart, reverse tie dye shirt.



Snack Bar

Rensselaer County 4-H Snack Bar Builds Workforce Skills **While Supporting Youth Programs**

The Rensselaer County 4-H Snack Bar continues to be one of the most successful youth-led enterprises at the county fair, providing young people with hands-on workforce development experiences while raising funds to support Rensselaer County 4-H.

Operated by 4-H members ages 5 to 19, the Snack Bar offers youth the opportunity to develop valuable life and career skills through real-world work experiences. Participants learn customer service, teamwork, food preparation, communication, problem-solving, financial management, and leadership skills in a supportive environment.

Younger members begin by assisting with tasks such as filling drink orders and stocking supplies, while older youth take on customer service, cashier, and food preparation responsibilities. Teen members work alongside trained adults to prepare meals, manage operations, and ensure customers receive excellent service throughout the fair.

The Snack Bar serves as more than just a fundraiser. It is a workforce readiness program that helps youth gain confidence and practical experience while serving thousands of fairgoers each year. Through these experiences, 4-H members learn responsibility, professionalism, and the value of community service, helping them become truly "Beyond Ready" for future careers and leadership opportunities.

Proceeds from the Snack Bar directly benefit Rensselaer County 4-H programs and opportunities, including youth recognition events, educational workshops, leadership development activities, camp scholarships, project learning experiences, and fair participation opportunities.

The success of the Snack Bar would not be possible without the generous support of local farms, businesses, organizations, clubs, and families who donate food products, supplies, equipment, and volunteer time. Their contributions help keep costs low while allowing the Snack Bar to feature fresh, locally sourced ingredients.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Rensselaer County 4-H Program gratefully recognizes the following businesses and organizations for their generous support:

- Anatriello Family Farm- Farm Fresh Ground Beef
- Carlo Construction & Co-produce
- Crissy's Cravings- Bread
- Denison Farms- Produce
- Fahey Family Honey Farm- Honey
- Honest Weight Co-Op-Hummus
- LaPosta's Market- Coleslaw
- Lansingburgh Hannaford- Hot dogs and rolls
- Quality Retail Systems- Cash Register
- Remington's Harvest- Tomatoes
- Running Brook Sugar Shack- Maple Syrup
- Thomas' Poultry Farm- Farm Fresh Eggs
- Wertman Farm- Peppers



In addition, we extend our sincere appreciation to the many 4-H clubs, families, volunteers, and community members who donated items from the Snack Bar Wish List and dedicated countless hours to staffing and supporting Snack Bar operations throughout fair week.

The continued support of our community makes it possible for local youth to gain meaningful workforce development experiences while strengthening the educational opportunities available through 4-H.



Animal Show Results

Beef

Grand Champion Showman	Reed Hoag
Reserve Grand Champion Showman	Sophie Townsend
Senior Champion Showman	Reed Hoag
Reserve Senior Champion Showman	Carter Stratton
Novice Champion Showman	Sophie Townsend
Reserve Novice Champion Showman	Beatrice Anatriello
Junior Champion Female Angus	Reed Hoag
Grand Champion Female Angus	Reed Hoag
Junior Champion Female Hereford	Carter Stratton
Junior Reserve Champion Female Hereford	Reed Hoag
Grand Champion Female Hereford	Carter Stratton
Reserve Grand Champion Female Hereford	Reed Hoag
Grand Champion Market Steer	Sophie Townsend
Junior Champion Female Grade	Anastasia Bertram
Junior Reserve champion Female Grade	Wyatt Baudy
Senior Champion Female Grade	Cora Cropsey
Senior Reserve Champion Female Grade	Bailey Peterson
Grand Champion Female Grade	Anastasia Bertram
Reserve Grand Champion Female Grade	Wyatt Baudy
Senior Champion Written Exam	Merritt Cropsey
Junior Champion Written Exam	Natalie Quackenbush
Reserve Junior Champion Written Exam	Ella-Mae Guile
Novice Champion Written Exam.....	Wyatt Baudy
Reserve Novice Champion Written Exam.....	Parmelle Emmett
Cloverbuds.....	Benjamin Grab; Ellie Anatriello

Cavy

Best Pet.....	Makenzie Danish
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Dog

Grand Champion	Samuel Bailey
Reserve Grand Champion	Thomas Foucher

Goat

Grand Champion Showman	Luke Giglio
Reserve Grand Champion Showman	Blake McCormick
Champion Sr. Showman	Giglio Luke
Res. Champion Sr. Showman	Lily Nichols
Champion Jr. Showman	Blake McCormick
Reserve Champion Jr. Showman	Makenzie Danish
Novice Champion Showman	Blake Carmel
Res. Novice Champion Showman	Rhea Carmel
Jr. Champion Nigerian Dwarf	Blake McCormick
Jr. Res. Champion Nigerian Dwarf	Melody Bailey
Sr. Champion Nigerian Dwarf	Melody Bailey
Sr. Res. Champion Nigerian Dwarf	Ferris Lochlen
Grand Champion Nigerian Dwarf	Melody Bailey
Res. Grand Champion Nigerian Dwarf	Ferris Lochlen
Sr. Champion Nubian	Brooke Ames
Sr. Res. Champion Nubian	Melody Bailey
Grand Champion Nubian	Brooke Ames
Res. Grand Champion Nubian	Melody Bailey
Jr. Champion Grade	Brielle Chapko
Jr. Res. Champion Grade	Sadie Lavigne
Sr. Champion Grade	Nora Lavigne
Sr. Res. Champion grade	Sadie Lavigne
Grand Champion Grade	Nora Lavigne
Res. Grand Champion Grade	Brielle Chapko
Champion Other Grade	Makenzie Danish
Res. Champion Other Grade	MacKenzie Diamond
Grand Champion Other Grade	Makenzie Danish
Res. Grand Champion Other Grade	MacKenzie Diamond
Junior Champion Alpine	Luke Giglio
Res Jr. Champion Alpine	Nora Lavigne
Grand Champion Alpine	Luke Giglio
Res. Grand Champion Alpine	Nora Lavigne
Junior Champion Lamancha	Brooke Ames
Res. Jr. Champion Lamancha	Calleigh Donlon
Grand Champion Lamancha	Brooke Ames
Res. Grand Champion Lamancha	Calleigh Donlon
Jr. Champion Other Breeds	James Colaneri
Sr. Champion Other Breeds	Camden Fisher
Sr. Reserve Champion Other Breeds	Calleigh Donlon
Grand Champion Other Breeds	Camden Fisher
Res. Grand Champion Other Breeds	Calleigh Donlon
Best Doe of Show	Luke Giglio
Res. Best of Show Doe	Melody Bailey
Cloverbud	Chelsea Ames

Horse

Champion Showmanship.....	Michael Gagliardi Memorial; Emmeline Heer
Reserve Champion Showmanship.....	Mya Bull
Champion Individual Canter/Lope.....	Cathy Kilby Memorial; Christina Lynch
Reserve Champion Individual Canter/Lope.....	Jacob Blair
Champion Novice Rider.....	Fiona Kircher/ Kimberwicke Memorial
Reserve Champion Novice.....	Eleanor Kircher
Champion English Rider.....	Emmeline Heer
Reserve Champion Rider.....	Lili Ruepp
Champion Western Rider.....	William Rowe Memorial; Emmeline Heer
Reserve Champion Western Rider.....	Ariana Severance
Champion Trail.....	Bridget Rowland

Poultry

Grand Champion Showman	Mia Brownell
Reserve Grand Champion Showman	Ava Olsen
Champion Senior Showman	Mia Brownell
Res. Champion Senior Showman	Ava Olsen
Champion Junior Showman	Blake McCormick
Res. Champion Junior Showman	Makenzie Danish
Champion Novice Showman	Blake Kaufman
Res. Novice Champion Showman.....	Blake Carmel
Best of Show Hen/Pullet	Blake McCormick
Res. Best of Show Hen/ Pullet	Makenzie Danish
Best of Show Cockerel/Cock	Makenzie Danish
Res. Best of Show Cockerel/Cock.....	Sophia Olsen
Best of Show Waterfowl	Blake McCormick
Res. Best of Show Waterfowl	Cole Kaufman
Best of Show Trio	Blake McCormick
Res. Best of Show Trio	Emalee Foucher
Champion Novice Written Exam	Blake Kaufman
Res. Champion Novice Written Exam	Nora Lavigne
Champion Junior Written Exam	Juliette Brownell
Res. Champion Junior Written Exam	Makenzie Danish
Champion Senior Written Exam	Mia Brownell
Res. Champion Senior Written Exam	Ava Olsen
Cloverbuds.....	Owen Lavigne; Bodie Church

Dog

Grand Champion	Samuel Bailey
Reserve Grand Champion.....	Thomas Foucher

Rabbit

Grand Champion Showman	Ava Olsen
Reserve Grand Champion Showman	Melody Bailey
Champion Junior Showman	Jace Freer
Res. Champion Junior Showman	Thomas Foucher
Champion Senior Showman	Ava Olsen
Res. Champion Senior Showman	Maddie Gallese
Best of Show Doe	Nora Lavigne
Res. Best of Show Doe	Nora Lavigne
Best of Show Buck	Nora Lavigne
Res. Best of Show Buck	Sadie Lavigne
Best of Show Pet	Joseph Taurone
Res. Best of Show Pet	Thomas Foucher
Best of Breed Holland Lop	Sadie Lavigne
Reserve Best of Breed Holland Lop	Sadie Lavigne
Best of Breed Mini Lop	Ava Olsen
Best of Breed Mini Holland Lop	Sadie Lavigne
Best of Breed Mini Rex	Nora Lavigne
Reserve Best of Breed Mini Rex	Nora Lavigne
Best of Breed Satin	Nora Lavigne
Res. Best of Breed Satin	Sadie Lavigne
Best of Breed Silver Fox	Melody Bailey
Reserve Best of Breed Silver Fox	Melody Bailey
Best of Breed Continental Giant	Bodie Church
Best of Breed Champagne D 'Argent	Jana Kondak
Champion Novice Written Exam	Melody Bailey
Res. Champion Novice Written Exam	Blake Carmel
Champion Junior Written Exam	Skyla Myers
Res. Champion Junior Written Exam	Joseph Taurone
Champion Senior Written Exam	Ava Olsen
Res. Champion Senior Written Exam	Bridget Rowland
Cloverbud.....	Bodie Church

Sheep

Grand Champion Showman	Naomi Cropsey
Res. Grand Champion Showman	Luke Giglio
Senior Champion Showman	Luke Giglio
Reserve Senior Champion Showman	Reed Hoag
Junior Champion Showman	Cora Cropsey
Novice Champion Showman	Naomi Cropsey
Reserve Novice Champion Showman	Grady Rowlands
Best Ram Grade	Reed Hoag
Reserve Best Ram Grade	Luke Giglio
Best Ewe Grade	Reed Hoag
Reserve Best Ewe Grade	Luke Giglio

Dairy

Grand Champion Showman	Connor MacNeil
Res. Grand Champion Showman	Devin DeLaMater
Senior Champion Showman	Connor MacNeil
Senior Res. Champion Showman	Devin DeLaMater
Intermediate Champion Showman	Avery McMahon
Intermediate Res. Champion Showman	Ben Stratton
Junior Champion Showman	Alivia Byerwalters
Junior Res. Champion Showman	Elijah Wilwol
Novice Champion Showman	Caleigh Quackenbush
Novice Res. Champion Showman	Josephine Baudy
Jr. Champion Guernsey	Caleigh Quackenbush
Grand Champion Guernsey	Caleigh Quackenbush
Jr. Champion Other	Josephine Baudy
Grand Champion Other	Josephine Baudy
Res. Grand Champion Other	Brennen Michel
Jr. Champion Jersey	Elijah Wilwol
Grand Champion Jersey	Elijah Wilwol
Jr. Champion Holstein	Devin DeLaMater
Res. Jr. Champion Holstein	Ashleigh Herrington
Senior Champion Holstein	Dominick Bushner
Res. Senior Champion Holstein	Alexandra Gardner
Grand Champion Holstein	Dominick Bushner
Res. Grand Champion Holstein	Alexandra Gardner
Senior Champion Brown Swiss	Connor MacNeil
Grand Champion Brown Swiss	Connor MacNeil
Sr. Champion Ayrshire	Brennen Michel
Grand Champion Ayrshire	Brennen Michel
Champion Young Breeder's Herd	Luke Hoag

4-H Special Competitions

Tractor Driving

Grand Champion	Sophie Townsend
Reserve Grand Champion.....	Brennen Michel

Thank You

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this year's local 4-H competitions a success!

To all our competitors, thank you for your hard work, dedication and sportsmanship throughout the show. To our judges, thank you for sharing your time, knowledge and expertise with our 4-H'ers and helping make this a valuable learning experience. And to all our volunteers, thank you for giving your time, energy and support to make sure everything ran smoothly.

This event would not be possible without the incredible support of our 4-H families, volunteers, judges and participants. We are grateful to everyone who played part in making the show a memorable experience for our youth!

4-H Auction Donors

Rensselaer County 4-H Program extends its sincere gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of this year's 4-H Donor Auction. The annual auction brought together businesses, organizations, families, and individuals who generously donated items, services, and financial support. Their contributions helped create an exciting event that raised \$3,924 to support local 4-H programs, leadership development activities, project learning experiences, scholarships, and educational opportunities for young people throughout the county.

We are incredibly grateful for the overwhelming support shown by our community. The generosity of our families and clubs that donated a basket and the enthusiasm of those that were willing to donate to 4-H through the event demonstrates the value our community places on investing in youth and helping young people develop the skills they need to become future leaders.

Every dollar raised through the auction directly benefits local 4-H youth by providing opportunities to develop life skills, explore career interests, engage in hands-on learning, and participate in leadership and citizenship programs.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Rensselaer County 4-H Program extends a heartfelt thank you to:

- 4-H Barn Quilt donated by Misty Arnold
- 2- Backpack & School Supplies donated by Blue Ribbon Bandits 4-H Club
- Back to School Basket donated by Stateline Livestock 4-H Club
- Blue Bird Basket donated by Shirley Calhoun
- Breakfast Lover Basket donated by Rensselaer County Trail Blazers 4-H Club
- Cat Themed Basket donated by Brunswick Veterinary Hospital
- Chicken Scratch Basket donated by Ken and Jodi Luskin
- Christmas in a Box donated by Tubbs 4-H Family
- Dog Themed Basket donated by Brunswick Veterinary Hospital
- Fishing Gear donated by Feathers & Furs 4-H Club
- Maple Basket donated by Running Brook Sugar Shack
- Paddle Board and \$50 gift card to Bass Pro donated by Clover Kids and Critters 4-H Club
- Puzzles donated by O'Donnell Construction
- Puzzles donated by Pittstown United Methodist Women Church Group
- Relaxation Basket donated by Northern Livestock 4-H Club
- Roku T.V. donated by Green Earthlings 4-H Club
- Sliding Glass Dog Door donated by Freer 4-H Family
- S'more's Making Fun donated by Equine Explorers 4-H Club
- Spa Day Basket donated by Southern Livestock 4-H Club
- Taste of Washington Basket donated by Teen Exchange 4-H Club
- Tool Belt & Tools donated by J.J. O'Donnell Construction
- Toolbox with tools donated by Danish 4-H Family
- Tractor Supply Bucket donated by Greenwich tractor Supply and Chelsea Eagan

Together, your support helps ensure that 4-H members have access to meaningful experiences that inspire confidence, responsibility, leadership, and service.

4-H is America's largest youth development organization, empowering young people with the skills they need to lead for a lifetime. Through hands-on learning experiences in science, agriculture, healthy living, civic engagement, and leadership, 4-H helps youth discover their passions and reach their full potential.

For more information about 4-H programs and opportunities, contact your local Cooperative Extension- CCE Rensselaer County at 518.272.4210 or visit rensselaer.cce.cornell.edu.



The Fall Foliage of Rensselaer County

Watching the fall foliage transform from beautiful bright green to hues of orange, red, yellow and purple is one of the most magical experiences Rensselaer County has to offer in the fall. Have you ever wondered how this captivating color change comes to be?

Where the Magic Begins

Colors of leaves are caused by "pigments." The pigment chlorophyll is what gives leaves their green hue. Other pigments give leaves their orange, purple, yellow, and red hues. The orange and yellow pigments are constantly present in leaves, we are unable to see them until the fall, when the leaves cease producing green chlorophyll.

Leaf Pigments

Chlorophyll: Provides a basic green hue to foliage. It is responsible for the chemical process known as photosynthesis, which allows plants to use sunlight to produce nutritional carbohydrates.

Carotenoids: Produces the colors yellow, orange, and brown in things like corn, carrots, and daffodils.

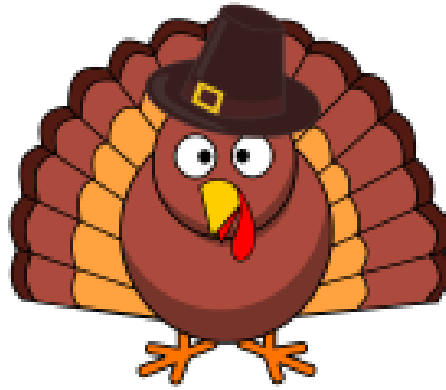
Anthocyanin: Gives well-known fruits and vegetables including cranberries, red apples, blueberries, cherries, strawberries, plums, and concord grapes their color.

Weathers Role in Fall Foliage

Temperature and moisture are the two main factors that determine how intense the fall foliage color is. Warm, bright days and cool, but not freezing, nights encourage beautiful colors, whereas drought, heavy rain, early frosts, and high winds can stress trees and cause dull hues or early leaf loss. The color of fall foliage depends on moisture. Trees that develop in the rainy season are healthier and have more vibrant colors. Trees that are stressed by dryness may show hues that are muted, delayed, or fade too soon.

Peak Foliage Viewing in Rensselaer County

There is an abundance of stunning natural settings in Rensselaer County for the ideal autumn leaf viewing. Fall foliage is usually at its peak throughout Rensselaer County around the second and third weeks of October. I Love New York's Fall Foliage Report provides weekly updates on foliage conditions. Bring binoculars, a sweatshirt, and take in the beauty of the seasonal stunning fall colors in Rensselaer County.



Turkey Trivia

Fall has arrived, and the great Thanksgiving holiday will shortly follow. One of the most iconic parts of the season is the turkey! This year, share these interesting facts about wild turkeys at your Thanksgiving dinner.

1. Turkeys are known for their “gobble, gobble” sounds, but did you know they also make clucks and purring sounds?
2. Male turkeys are called toms or gobblers, female turkeys are called hens, and young turkeys are called either poult, young male turkeys are called Jakes, and young females are called Jennys.
3. Turkey scat can determine a bird’s gender and age. Male droppings are j-shaped; female droppings are spiral-shaped. The larger the diameter, the older the bird.
4. An adult turkey has around 5,000 to 6,000 feathers.
5. Although we don’t normally see it, turkeys can actually move pretty fast. They can run up to about 18 miles per hour on foot and around 50 miles per hour in flight.
6. There are five distinct subspecies of wild turkey in North America. Eastern wild turkeys are native to New York State.
7. There were only about 200,000 wild turkeys remaining in the early 1900s, putting them in danger of going extinct. Today the National Wild Turkey Federation estimates that there are about 6.5 million wild turkeys in the United States thanks to conservation efforts over the previous century.
8. Wild turkeys have keen vision and hearing. Toms also have snoods. The snood is a fleshy appendage just above the beak. It’s important in attracting attention from females. It also assists with heat when turkeys are dealing with hot weather.
9. Wild turkeys are opportunistic omnivores, meaning they will consume almost everything that they can fit into their mouths.
10. Wild Turkeys can fly for short distances. Although it is one of the largest game birds, weighing between 15 and 25 pounds, it can fly distances of more than a mile. Not only can turkeys fly, but they also roost in trees at night!

Enjoy sharing these fascinating wild turkey facts at your thanksgiving festivities this fall!

Member Birthdays



October

Carson Luke
Evan Atherton
Emmett Parmelle
Shyann Hayashi
Zya Youngmann
Miranda Hollister
Kira Colarosi
Merritt Cropsey Jr.
Chloey Rousseau
Maya Herring
Audrey Kondak
Lily Nichols
Tristen Boleski
Eleanor Kircher
Fiona Kircher

November

Liam Masker
Caleigh Quackenbush
Lillian Brizzell
William Townsend
Madelynn Rathbun
Nora Luskin
Emily Weeden
Owen Masker
Bridget Rowland
Whelen Wilcox
Wade Wilcox
Auden Youngmann
Sophia Neet
Calleigh Donlon
Remi Rudat
Olivia Tromblee
Grady Diamond
Declan Cottrell
Thomas Foucher

Calendar of Events



October

6 th	4-H Youth Development Program Development Committee Meeting – 6 PM Brunswick Community Center
7 th	Rabbit/Cavy/Poultry PDC Meeting via Zoom at 6:30pm
8 th – 9 th	Agribusiness Conference (ABC) Trip to SUNY Cobleskill
9 th	General Interest Banquet at Brunswick Community Center 6:00pm
12 th	Columbus Day; office closed
15 th	Teen Exchange Chicken BBQ Fundraiser – pickup 4 to 6 PM at the Schaghticoke Fairgrounds
20 th	Cattle PDC Meeting in the CCE building at the Fairgrounds @ 7pm
22 th	Horse Program Development Committee meeting – In Person at the CCE Office in East Greenbush
24 th	Clover Fun Run – Schodack Island State Park – 10 AM step off

November

3 rd	Election Day – office closed
6 th	Cattle Banquet by 7pm at the North Hoosick Firehouse
7 th	Horse Year End Banquet – Poestenkill Firehouse – 6 PM
9 th	Annual CCE Rensselaer Meeting and Dinner – Hilton Garden Inn – Troy
11 th	Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser for Teen Exchange – Pittstown United Methodist Church Hall serving from 4 to 6 PM Veterans Day – office closed
16 th	Shooting Sports Volunteer Meeting @ the CCE Office - 6:00pm
26 th – 27 th	Thanksgiving; office closed
30 th	Junior Chefs at the CCE Office - 6:00pm