



OCTOBER 2ND 2026

Green & Growing

Grounded in purpose, growing in Dutchess County 4-H.
Cultivating curiosity, leadership, and clover pride.

NEW LEAVES ON THE VINE

New this issue:

State Fair Pick-up
DCF Premium Pick-up
Record Book Drop-off
Enrollment/Office Hours
National 4-H Week!
Officer Installations
EOY Forms
Dutchess 4-Hers at The Big E!
Crafty Quilters 4-H Club Art Party
NYCAMH's Annual Farm Safety Art Contest
CCEDC Fall Festival
Facility Notice- CLOSED On...



A NOTE FROM THE CLOVER PATCH

Didn't we just see the September 4-H G&G? The Dutchess 4-H Team cannot believe October is here this year! When did that happen? Yesterday we were at the Dutchess County Fair and today we're planning pumpkin carving and year-end rollover! Whatever October brings for you, we hope you're feeling that clover pride settling into the final stretches of the 2025-2026 4-H Year.

Don't forget that **beginning in October, the 4-H newsletter will return to once a month, arriving in your inbox on the first Friday of each month.** That doesn't mean we don't need additions from our 4-H members! You know where to find us if you have a special article, an update to a program, or just want to show off your 4-H swag, make sure to let the 4-H team know before the end of each month and we'll add it to 4-H Green & Growing!

Take a look at our updates, events, and calendars galore below:

As of mid-September, 2026, Brooke Tibbetts is no longer employed with CCEDC. Please contact Jim or Carolyn for any Dutchess 4-H needs or questions.

SEASONS OF 4-H

Save these Dates!

September:

Record Book Drop-Off Deadline - September 30th

October:

CCEDC Fall Festival - October 3rd @ CCEDC

National 4-H Week - October 4th - 10th

4-H 2026-2027 Enrollment opens - October 15th

4-H Enrollment Office Hours - October 20th 4:30 PM - 8:30 PM

NYS 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Training - October 24th - 25th

4-H Enrollment Office Hours - October 29th 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Club EOY Forms Due - October 30th

November:

Club Leader Forum - November 11th 6:30PM-8PM

December:

Club Leader Forum - December 12th 9-10:30AM

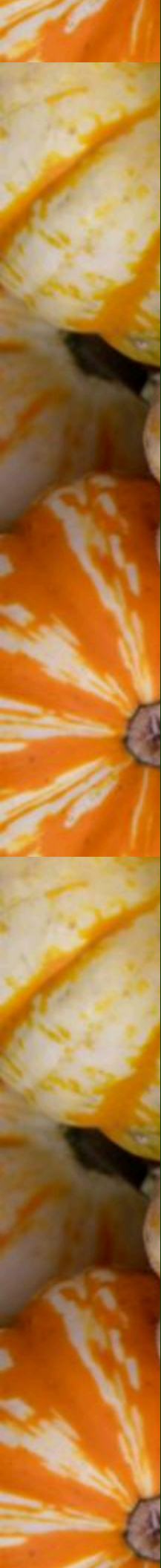
CLOVERBOARD NOTICES

State Fair Pick-Up

We still have exhibits to left from the 2026 Dutchess County Fair

Premium Pick-Up

Forgot to pick up your premiums during the fair? No worries!



AND the 2026 NYS Fair at the Dutchess Extension Office. Please find a good time to drop in, Mon-Fri, 9AM-4PM to pick up those exhibits!

Similar to last year, **premiums for State Fair exhibits will be available later in the fall/winter.** You'll receive

Schedule a time to stop by the CCE office and pick them up.

Please be aware that any premiums **not picked up by January 1, 2027 will be considered a donation to the Dutchess County 4-H General Fund.**

These funds help us purchase program materials, Fair shirts, prizes, and other supplies that support our 4-H programs throughout the year.

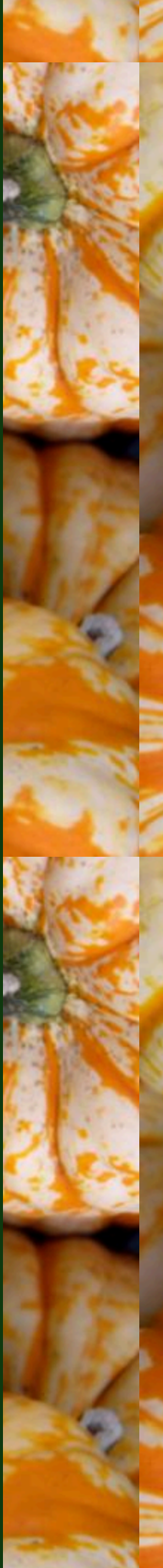
Record Book Drop Off

Completed Record Books were due by September 30! Get your finished Record Book to the Dutchess County CCE office by the deadline — however you get it here is up to you! You can drop it off yourself, give it to your leader to bring in, send it with a friend, or, if necessary, employ a very determined (and preferably gigantic) carrier pigeon. As long as it arrives at the office by September 30, you're good to go!

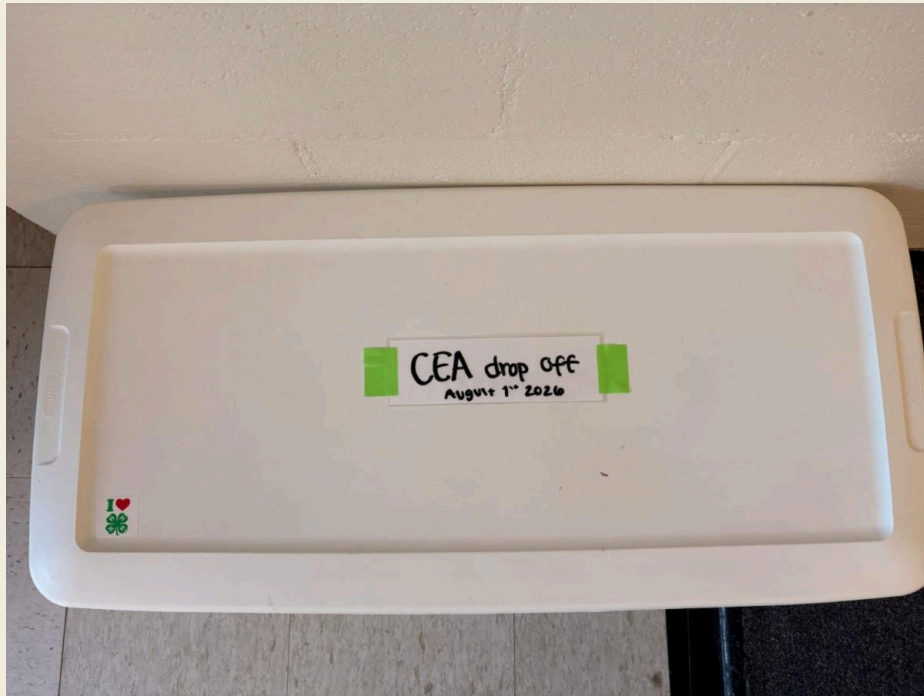
Where? Dutchess County CCE, 2715 US-44, Millbrook, NY 12545

Deadline: September 30, 2026

Dropping it off during the day? Look for the green cart by the front door and leave your Record Book there. **Coming by when the building is closed?** No problem! You can use the drop-off tote outside the front entrance (seen in the photo below- the tag has



been updated to say Record Book drop-off). Just make sure your Record Book is clearly identified with your name and club.



DUTCHESS COUNTY 4-H

Enrollment OFFICE HOURS

**NEED HELP ENROLLING/RE-
ENROLLING FOR THE 2026-2027 4-H
YEAR?**

**SWING INTO THE OFFICE ON EITHER OF
THE TWO DAYS BELOW TO GET HELP FROM
A 4-H STAFF MEMBER.**

10/20
4:30 PM -
8:30 PM



10/29
8:30 AM -
4:30 PM

2715 ROUTE 44, MILLBROOK, NY,
12545

2027 4-H Enrollment Opens October 15!

IMPORTANT NOTE!

**PLEASE WAIT FOR RE-ENROLLMENT
INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE ENROLLING FOR THE 2026-
2027 YEAR!** Many families create new profiles when
trying to re-enroll and cause hiccups within the system.

The Dutchess 4-H Team will be available during
Enrollment Office Hours and by phone or email to help
navigate re-enrollment.

It's almost time to get enrolled for another year of 4-H!
**Enrollment for the 2027 program year opens
October 15**, and we're excited to have everyone back
for another year of learning, growing, and making
memories.

There's some good news for returning families this year: **you can now pay your enrollment fee directly through 4-H Online!** This is a new option this year and should make the enrollment process a little easier. As a reminder, **enrollment fees remain \$35 for one member, \$70 for two members, or \$90 for three or more members.** Also New: families can digitally sign all required forms. YAY!

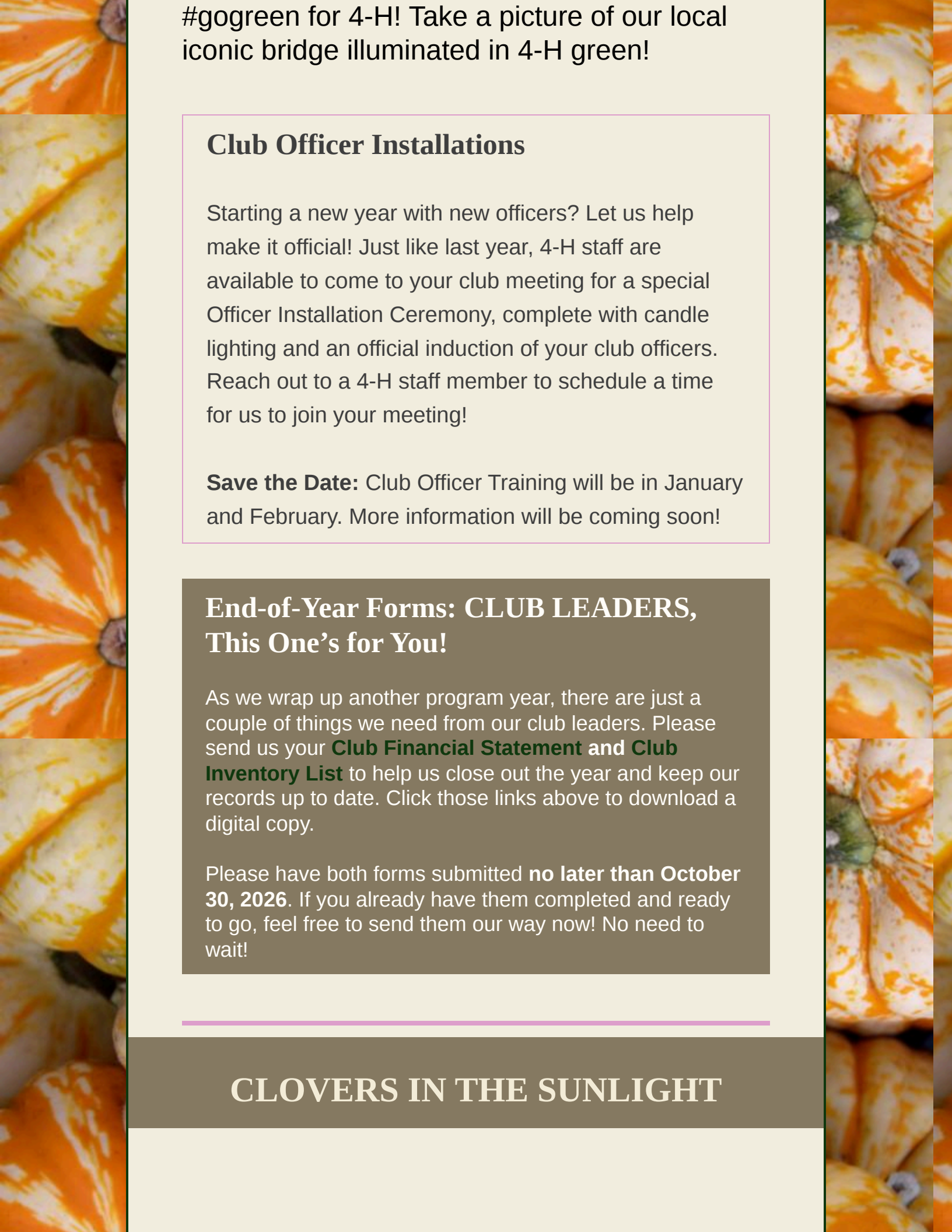
Need help getting set up or reenrolled? Just like last year, we'll be offering **4-H Enrollment Office Hours at the CCE office.** Stop by during either of these times and a staff member can help you work through the enrollment process:

- **Monday, October 20 | 4:30–8:30 PM**
- **Wednesday, October 29 | 8:30 AM–4:30 PM**

Can't make either of the office hours? No problem! If you'd like a 4-H staff member to come to your club meeting and help your members and families with enrollment, just reach out to us and we'll work with you to get something scheduled.



To kick off National 4-H Week, on Monday October 5 the Mid-Hudson Bridge will



#gogreen for 4-H! Take a picture of our local iconic bridge illuminated in 4-H green!

Club Officer Installations

Starting a new year with new officers? Let us help make it official! Just like last year, 4-H staff are available to come to your club meeting for a special Officer Installation Ceremony, complete with candle lighting and an official induction of your club officers. Reach out to a 4-H staff member to schedule a time for us to join your meeting!

Save the Date: Club Officer Training will be in January and February. More information will be coming soon!

End-of-Year Forms: CLUB LEADERS, This One's for You!

As we wrap up another program year, there are just a couple of things we need from our club leaders. Please send us your **Club Financial Statement** and **Club Inventory List** to help us close out the year and keep our records up to date. Click those links above to download a digital copy.

Please have both forms submitted **no later than October 30, 2026**. If you already have them completed and ready to go, feel free to send them our way now! No need to wait!

CLOVERS IN THE SUNLIGHT

Dutchess 4-H at The Big Eastern States Exposition!

The Big E is the largest agricultural event within the New England region, and hosts several regional sized youth and open livestock events. Located in Springfield MA, many of our Dutchess 4-H members choose these shows to test their knowledge and skills against competitors and experts from multiple states. Check out the success and fun some of our 2026 4-H members had at this year's Big E and look for photos of our 4-H Hog Clubs competing this weekend!

Pictured below: Amelia Coon (Northern Dutchess Dairy 4-H Club) received the Junior Herdsman Cane for the 2026 Guernsey Classic; Jane Carroll (Here Comes the Beef 4-H Club) won Overall Steer at the 2026 Big E 4-H Beef Event; Katie Drum (Independent 4-H Member) won 1st Jr January Ewe Lamb.



Amelia Coon of New York was awarded the Emery Fisher Junior Herdsman Cane at the 2026 New England Guernsey Classic.





GROWING GREEN LEADERS



4-H Crafty Quilters Fundraiser Paint Class

At the Farm and Home Center
2715 US-44, Millbrook, NY

November 7th
3pm

\$45.



GIVE
SUPPORT
4-H



Fundraising
EVENT



Scan QR code to purchase tickets
or go to
www.ArtPartyToni.com



Ticketing fees apply - Not sold at the door

NEW YORK CENTER FOR AGRICULTURAL MEDICINE & HEALTH "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/>.

Bring this to your classroom

Classes and groups are encouraged to participate, and NYCAMH offers an optional in-person or virtual classroom presentation centered around the theme to extend learning and inspire creativity. Reach out to info@nycamh.org or 607-547-6023 to invite one of our educators to present.

THE GREEN FRAME

CCE Community & Family Fall Festival

Save the date for the 2nd Annual CCEDC Community & Family Fall Festival! Join us on Saturday, October 3 for a day full of fall fun, including activities for all ages, live music, food trucks, farm animals, games, pumpkin painting, and more. Come enjoy the day, explore what Cornell Cooperative Extension has to offer, and celebrate the start of the fall season with our community!

Date: Saturday, October 3, 2026

Time: 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Location: Dutchess County Farm & Home Center



4-H Families are invited! Come out and enjoy a festival celebrating the season with special vendors, food trucks, and live music!

Pumpkin Carving Contest

Back by popular demand! We're bringing back our Pumpkin Carving Contest and giving you a chance to show off your creativity while adding a little fall spirit to the CCE office. Winning and favorite pumpkins will be displayed at CCEDC for the community to enjoy!

This year, carved/painted/decorated pumpkins must be entered through email to Jim at jrb556@cornell.edu. Please include your **first and last name, your 4-H age, and the category you are entering: Spooky, Animal, Jack-O-Lantern, or Any Other Category**. Entries should be made no later than **October 23rd, 2025**. Pumpkins will need to be dropped off at the Dutchess Extension office no later than **October 28th at 5PM** for judging.

If you would like to pick your pumpkin up on October 30th to display for Halloween at your house, please do so!

Any questions, please feel free to call/email Jim.

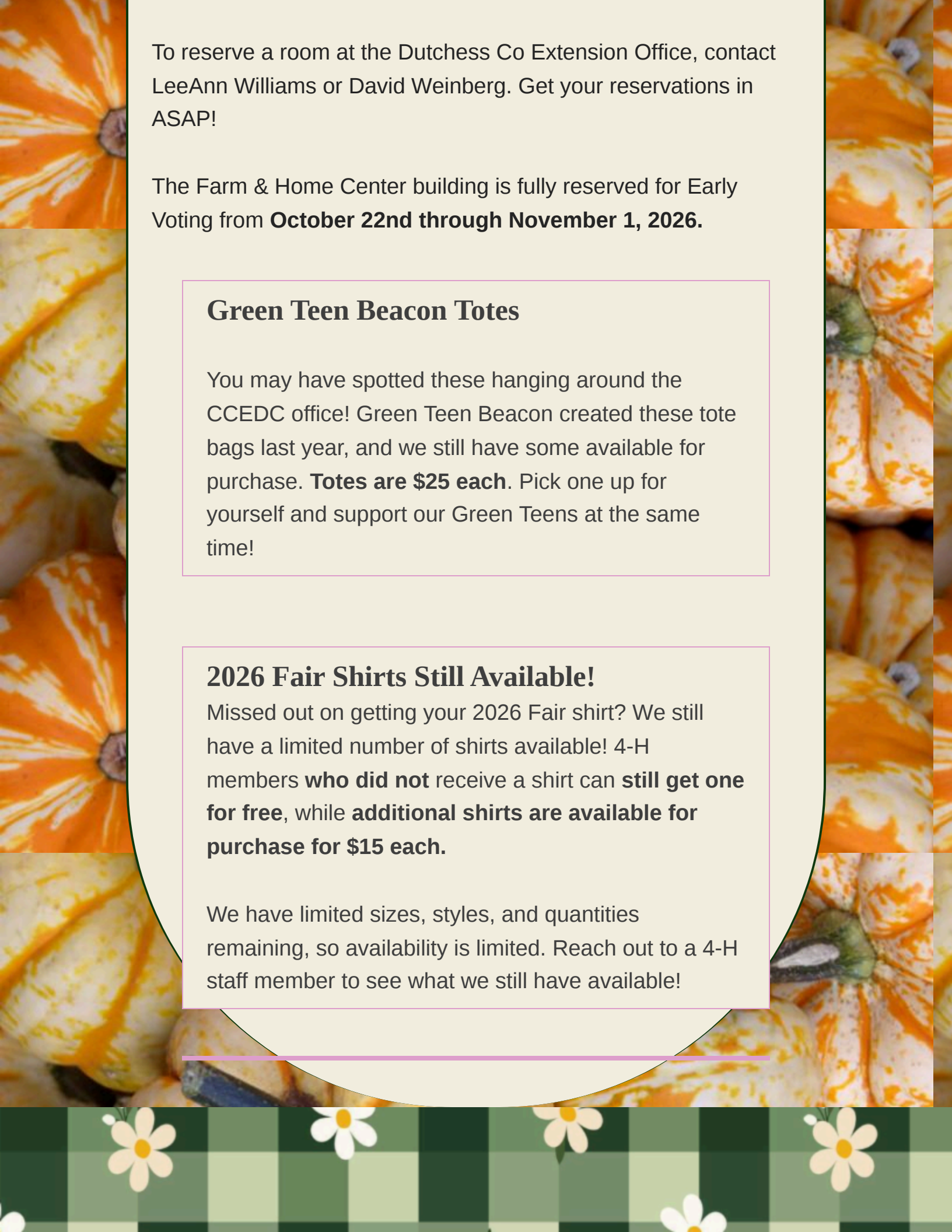
FIELD NOTES

Facility Notices:

CCEDC and the Dutchess Extension Office will be closed on Monday, October 12th, in honor of Indigenous Peoples Day.

CCEDC and the Dutchess Extension Office will be closed on Thursday and Friday (November 26th and 27th) to observe the Thanksgiving Holiday.

CCEDC and the Dutchess Extension Office will be closed on Friday, December 25th to observe the Christmas Holiday.



To reserve a room at the Dutchess Co Extension Office, contact LeeAnn Williams or David Weinberg. Get your reservations in ASAP!

The Farm & Home Center building is fully reserved for Early Voting from **October 22nd through November 1, 2026.**

Green Teen Beacon Totes

You may have spotted these hanging around the CCEDC office! Green Teen Beacon created these tote bags last year, and we still have some available for purchase. **Totes are \$25 each.** Pick one up for yourself and support our Green Teens at the same time!

2026 Fair Shirts Still Available!

Missed out on getting your 2026 Fair shirt? We still have a limited number of shirts available! 4-H members **who did not** receive a shirt can **still get one for free**, while **additional shirts are available for purchase for \$15 each.**

We have limited sizes, styles, and quantities remaining, so availability is limited. Reach out to a 4-H staff member to see what we still have available!

THE WANDERING VINE

Looking for more things to do in Dutchess?

Click Here to visit Destination Dutchess. It's your one-stop guide for events, activities, and adventures happening across Dutchess County.

DON'T LEAF US BEHIND

Have Something to Share?

We love celebrating the amazing things happening across Dutchess County 4-H! If your club has an upcoming event, a community service project, a fundraiser, a fun photo, or a story worth spotlighting, send it our way. We're always looking for club updates, activities, member achievements, crafts, jokes, riddles, and anything that highlights the creativity and spirit of 4-H.

 Send photos, stories, and submissions to:

ccedc4-H@cornell.edu

Thank you for helping us grow a vibrant, connected 4-H community.

We can't wait to see what you're up to next!

– Carolyn & Jim

Dutchess County 4-H Team



4-H GROWS HERE

Cornell Cooperative Extension | **Dutchess County**

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and employment opportunities.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County | The Farm and Home Center 2715
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