**Secretary Reports due the 5th of every month**

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<td>1 Career Exploration registration due</td>
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<td>1 Applications due for Bruce Field</td>
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<td>1 Non-owned project animal lease agreements are due to the 4-H office</td>
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<td>1 Non-ownership (lease) paper to the 4-H Office for any market/non-registered animals you will be showing</td>
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<td>3-4 Dairy &amp; Equine 101 at Morrisville State College</td>
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**4-H HONOR SECRETARIES**

Congratulations to: Autumn Borek, Barnyard Buddies 4-H Club; Mercedes Lewandrowski, Merry Moos 4-H Club; Sam Donahoe, Milk Shakers 4-H Club; and the Hawkes Family, Independent 4-H members for turning in their January 4-H Club Secretary report by February 5.

Congratulations to: Autumn Borek, Barnyard Buddies 4-H Club; Jordynn Alesia, Kuyahoola Kaprines; Mercedes Lewandrowski, Merry Moos 4-H Club; Sam Donahoe, Milk Shakers 4-H Club; the Hawkes Family, and CarolAnn Eysaman, Independent 4-H members for turning in their February 4-H Club Secretary report by March 5.

**4-H TRACTOR SAFETY COURSE**

Safe Tractor and Machinery Operation Program open to youth and adults 14 and over will be held on April 26-28 in Clinton, NY.

- **Cost:** 4-H members $25  
  Non 4-H members $30  
- **Time:** 8:30 am - 3 pm  
- **Location:** VFW in Clinton

We invite and encourage all farm and non-farm youth and adults who will be working on or around machinery to participate in the program.

Please call the 4-H office to register or go to https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/2016TractorSafety_221 You can also scan this QR code to be brought to the registration link.

**ALICIA KENNEDY 4-H MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

In memory of Alicia Kennedy, a longtime Herkimer County 4-H member, the purpose of this award is to help graduating seniors who have been active in the Herkimer County 4-H Program. The fund is administered by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Herkimer County, 4-H Youth Development Program. The selection committee made up of 2-3 “non” 4-H leaders will be appointed annually by the Herkimer County 4-H Educator.
**CONNECTING WITH KIDS**

At Herkimer College on April 6 from 6 - 8 pm

This workshop will refresh our understanding of positive youth development and look at what impact diversity has on youth work professionals. How do we continue to create the nurturing relationships, environments and opportunities we know all youth need? Come find out from Heather Wynkoop Beach, Extension Support Specialist with ACT for Youth Center of Excellence at Cornell University.

You may call the CCE Herkimer County office with your registration at (315) 866-7920 or register online at https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/April2016ConnectingWithKids-2_221 (or by scanning the QR code) or email your information to herkimer@cornell.edu.

Please indicate what agency or school district you are from, a daytime phone number and the name(s) of those attending.

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**2016 4-H LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

Looking ahead to the 2016 4-H Livestock Auction, if you did not attend one of the meetings last fall, but are planning on selling a market hog or market lamb at the auction in September, then you must attend the meeting on **April 11 At 6:00PM at CCE Oneida**.

Be sure to check your email, our web page and our facebook page for updates on this event. If choosing to participate in the auction, there will be strict guidelines on weights and ages of animals being sold to ensure a high quality sale. Market lambs and hogs must be obtained by June 1, 2016 and born after February 1, 2016.

In order to participate in the sale, youth will be required to keep in depth and accurate records on the animal to be sold, so now is the time to start those records for your market hogs & lambs.

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**TRACTOR SUPPLY 4-H PAPER CLOVER CAMPAIGN**

The Spring Tractor Supply Paper Clover fundraiser will be held April 13-24. Customers at our local Tractor Supply can support 4-H by purchasing paper clovers at checkout. All funds raised will be donated to state and local 4-H. If a 4-H club would like to host an event at Tractor Supply during this time and help sell paper clovers, call the store and ask to set one up. Just be sure to let the 4-H Office know when you will be doing it.

Thank you in advance for your continued support. All funds generated will go to support 4-H programming in the county.

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**REMINDERS: BY JUNE 1**

- Non-owned project animal lease agreements are due to the 4-H office.
- The following bill was legally adopted by the NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets July 1987. Exhibits shall have been owned by the exhibitor for a period of at least (30) days prior to the entry of the exhibit provided, however, that any animal exhibit entered in a youth fair, youth exhibition or 4-H show or exhibition shall have been in the care of the exhibitor for a period of at least (60) days prior to entry of the exhibit.
- Farmers’ Museum Junior Livestock Show Entries are due to the 4-H Office.
- Non-ownership (lease) paper to the 4-H Office for any market/non-registered animals you will be showing.
4-H BARN SIGN PROJECT
On Thursday, April 28 from 6 pm – 9 pm at the Herkimer Reformed Church; come join us for a fun night of decorating recycled barn wood! All the supplies provided. Trust me, you don't need to be "crafty" and you get to take home an amazing, one-of-a-kind creation made by YOU! Each 4-H member will be decorating a wooden sign with their name, show animal name or farm name (your choice). Cost for this event is $20. Space is limited to first 25 4-H members. Registration upon payment by April 19 and we will also need the name for your sign when you register.

BRUCE FIELD AGRICULTURE AWARD
PURPOSE - In recognition of his untiring efforts in the service of agriculture in Herkimer County, the Central New York Farm Progress Show, Inc. has set up this annual Bruce Field Agriculture Award. The purpose of this award is to recognize students from the farming community who have done outstanding work; and to encourage their careers in agriculture.

AMOUNT OF THE AWARD - One award of $300 is offered annually to a male student; and one award of $300 is offered annually to a female student.

ELIGIBILITY - Eligible applicants need to be seniors in a high school in Herkimer County or Herkimer County residents who are high school seniors attending a school outside Herkimer County. They need to be graduating in the academic year of the award.

You can find the application on our website www.cce.cornell.edu/herkimer. Go to Youth Scholarship Opportunities. You can also call the 4-H office or contact your high school Guidance Counselor for a copy.
Return the application to Cornell Cooperative Extension of Herkimer County, 5657 State Route 5, Herkimer, NY 13350, by May 1.

ANIMAL CRACKERS
Saturday, May 7 at Cornell University
The focus for 2016 Animal Crackers is Dairy Cattle & Goats. 4-H project members (suggested age range 9-12) are strongly encouraged to attend (with their parents or chaperones). However, all youth 9 and up are welcome. Participants will get to meet Cornell faculty and students, learn about different aspects of animal care, interact and exchange information with professional producers, industry experts, and more! Hands-on workshops are planned for each species group. The cost is $15 per youth (chaperones are free) and pre-registration is required. Registration & payment is due to the 4-H Office by April 14. Let us know which tract (dairy cattle/goats) you would like to attend when you register.

DAIRY FITTING AND SHOWMANSHIP CLINIC
When: May 21
Where: Windex Farm, the Windecker Family, Minots Corners Road, Frankfort
Time: 10:30 am
Come spend the day with us as we learn what it takes to get dairy cattle ready for shows this summer. We will cover clipping as well as showmanship skills!

The cost of the program is $10, which includes lunch. Youth need to bring whatever supplies such as clippers with them and be ready to get to work! Preregistration and money due to the 4-H Office by May 13.

CHICKENS ARE BACK!!!
SAVE THE DATE for Monday, June 27 there will be a poultry clinic for both beginners and advanced youth from 1pm-3pm at the 4-H Office. Clinic will include how to show as well as how to have a backyard flock.

Pullorum Testing (***needed to exhibit at fairs***) for chickens will be held immediately following the clinic.
**DAIRY & EQUINE 101**

**June 3 & 4 at Morrisville State College**

This one night two day 4-H Dairy Camp will be held at Morrisville State College. 4-H youth ages 13-19 years of age are eligible to participate in this camp/college experience. Dairy topics for this year will include calf, heifer and cow management along with reproduction. Equine participants will be able to choose from difference disciplines. The camp will include a visit to Oneida County’s Farm Fest event as well as possible visits to other industry-related businesses.

All sessions will be taught by Morrisville State College faculty and other professionals in the industries. The cost for the weekend is $100 per 4-H participant ($75 per chaperone). For more information on this **awesome** program, call Jenn at the 4-H office. You can register online at https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/2016EquineAndDairy101_221 or by scanning the QR code.

**JUNIOR DAIRY LEADER PROGRAM**

If you know of youth in your area or regions who have an interest in learning more about dairy careers and leadership development, the Junior DAIRY LEADER program may be for them.

The program is a year-long program for young people who are 16-19 years old and have an interest in the dairy industry, career planning and their own personal and professional development.

The Junior Dairy Leader program starts in late September with a 7-day trip to Madison, Wisconsin to tour the Wisconsin dairy industry and attend the National 4-H Dairy conference which ends the following August with a graduation ceremony and presentation. We will have 8 to 9 workshops in the program year.

Printable brochures and applications are available at this website: http://ansci.cals.cornell.edu/extension-outreach/youth-extension/jr-dairy-leader-program Applications are due by June 30th. Please contact Debbie Grusenmeyer at 607-255-0656 if you have questions or concerns about the program or application process.

**FARMERS’ MUSEUM JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW**

**July 10-12, 2016**

Traditional members 4-H members that are enrolled in beef, sheep, dairy, goat or swine projects should receive their Farmers’ Museum Junior Livestock Show book around the middle of May. If you do not receive one and are interested in participating in this show, call Jenn at the 4-H Office.

**ENCHANTED FOREST/ WATER SAFARI**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 2016**

Mark your calendars for the return of this popular event and plan to be there on Thursday, August 4 for some fun in the sun with your 4-H family!

Feel free to invite family and friends (even if they are not in 4-H) to take advantage of this great price. And don’t forget...if you did a 4-H Public Presentation on 3/3 at our county-wide event or as part of the Occupational Hazards 4-H club you will get $10 off of your ticket! Watch upcoming newsletters for prices on admission tickets and combination meal/admission tickets; and when they will be available for purchase. Call Jenn with any questions.
4-H CAKE ICING WORKSHOP

On February 20, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Herkimer 4-H Program held a workshop on cake decorating and flower icing. Nine 4-H members participated in hands on activities with buttercream frosting and decorator tips.

The youth practiced making a rose, daisy, carnations and border designs. 4-H members learned how to mix colors and create two toned and tie dyed looks with food coloring. Each member decorated eight cupcakes to take home.

Virginia Culver, Katie Livingston, AnNi and Nate Carroll, from the Barnyard Buddies 4-H Club and Ellie and Natalie Collins, Valerie Ford, and Paige Cornish from the Showin and Growin 4-H Club Tren Carroll, from the Occupational Hazards 4-H Club participated in the workshop. Each 4-H member took home a set of decorator tips to use.

A huge thank you goes out to our volunteer presenter, Brenda D'Avolio of Ilion, for taking the time to teach the intricate art of forming flowers out of icing and sharing new ways to make frosting a cake fun.

4-H DISTRICT DAIRY BOWL

Congratulations to the 63 4-H members from Herkimer, Oneida, Madison, Lewis, Jefferson & St. Lawrence Counties that participated in the 2016 North Central District Dairy Bowl Contest. Herkimer County had six participants: Eleonore Collins, Natalie Fredericks, Kathleen Gallagher, Brogan Graves, Katie Livingston & Bryce Windecker. Eleonore, Natalie, Brogan & Katie participated as a junior division team while Kathleen & Bryce were in the senior division on a multicounty team. Overall, the junior team placed fifth out of seven teams with Brogan and Eleonore placing 6th and 7th respectively. The senior team placed second out of six teams with Bryce & Kathleen placing 4th and 5th respectively. The top four in each division get to go on and participate in the NYS 4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl Contest held on April 23 at Cornell University.
4-H independent member CarolAnn Eysaman tapped three trees in late March last year to try and make maple syrup just for fun. She started late and got about 2 quarts of syrup after boiling the sap down on a gas grill.

Since her family has several maple trees in their woods, CarolAnn decided to double the taps this year. Because of nice weather, 6 trees were tapped the first week in February. A hand drill was used to make the holes; one tap in each tree. Half of the trees were tapped with the metal taps and the other half with the plastic spouts and tubing. She got the plastic spouts at the Farm and Tractor Show at the Gilbert’s farm and the plastic tubing and metal spouts at True Value.

CarolAnn is keeping track of how many gallons she is collecting and which system is producing more sap. So far, she has collected about 50 gallons of sap. Both types of taps seem to be producing about the same amount of sap.

You must strain the sap before it’s boiled down then again before it is bottled. CarolAnn stores the sap in coolers and Lowes buckets with the lids. This year the sap will be boiled down on a Turkey Fryer System with a propane hookup outside, which goes faster than last year on the gas grill.

It takes 86 gallons of sap to make 1 gallon of syrup. Because the nights have been cold and the days above freezing, the sap is running good. Last year CarolAnn put the syrup in half pints, but this year she ordered some fancier bottles from a company called Leader Evaporator Company in Vermont.

The Milk Shakers 4-H club donated 70 Rice bags that were made and submitted by their families. The bags were given to Heather Judd to put in Chemo comfort bags. Heather put together a local Chemo/Radiation comfort bag drive. Last year around 150 chemo comfort bags were delivered to cancer centers throughout the Mohawk Valley and Syracuse. This terrible disease has affected us all.

The 4-H members wanted to help out and so they decided to sew and fill rice bags that could be heated up and used as a heating pad by the people receiving the bags. Each rice bag was given a tag with best wishes from the Milk Shakers 4-H club. Other items in the bags include fleece blankets and hats, warm socks, creams & lotions, Chap Stick, magazines, puzzle books, water bottles, hard candy, playing cards, and other items. The 2nd annual Chemo Bag drive was even more successful than originally hoped for... This year, just over 500 bags were sponsored and filled for donation.
Herkimer County 4-H held two Public Presentation events in February and March to qualify for the North Central District Public Presentation event to be held in April.

By participating in these events, 4-H youth improved their public-speaking ability while developing self-confidence, poise, self-esteem and stage presence and knowledge, giving them an advantage over their peers in this lifetime skills area. These skills will be useful in their future social, educational and career pursuits.

The Occupational Hazards 4-H club held the first Public Presentations event at the Herkimer BOCES and the Remington Pathways in Ilion on February 25th. Twenty 4-H club members participated in the event. They were Dan McAdams, Catie Cromie, Shannon Cromie, Ethan Reid, Travis Allen, Grace Orsillo, Jeremiah Arsenault, Brittany Emery, Aliandra Gifford, Sal Uricola, Michael Clemons, Errol Thayer, Brittany Helmer, Nick Godbout, Lisa Perry, Brandon Lamphere, Brandon Smith, Tren Carrol, Seth Slabe, and Sajra Prosic.

The second event was held on March 3th at the Herkimer High School. Thirty-two 4-H youths, from all over Herkimer County, took turns giving illustrated talks, demonstrations, or job and college interviews in front of judges that evaluated their presentation skills. All 4-H members (5 - 9 years old) were invited to give their presentation in front of trained volunteer Evaluators. The evaluators constructively critique each presentation and provide positive feedback as well as suggestions for improvement. Special thanks go out to our volunteer evaluators for taking the time work with our youth. The evaluators for the event were John Skinner, JoAnn Richards, Kim Creater, Judy Pasick, Cathy Eysaman and Jennifer Hartsig.

Cloverbuds, 4-H members in kindergarten through second grade, participating in the event were: Darby Bick, Kayden Ford, Lily Payne, Luke Alesia, Lilly Simmons, Logan and Lucas Humphreville.

Traditional 4-H members participating included: Emily Marhaver, Katie Marhaver, Hannah Carnright, Hailey Carnright, Austin Jones, Jakob Payne, Jordynn Alesia, Issac Alesia, Paige Alesia, Bo Alesia, Eric Jones, Kaitlyn Fitch, Bennett Shoonover, Virginia Culver, Nate Carroll, AnNi Carroll, Abigail Reed, Fern Bick, Denten Spellman, Madesen Spellman, Rose Simmons, Sophia Simmons, Skye Simmons, Benjamin Plungis, and McCaylia Plungis. Congratulations to all of the Herkimer County 4-H youth who participated! Great job!

Going on to District 4-H Public Presentations, on April 16 in Oneida County, are juniors (8-12) Fern Bick, Abigail Reed and Jacob Payne, and seniors (13-19) Jordynn Alesia, Ben Plungis and McCaylia Plungis.
4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.
4-H Club Information

Club Charters: Please remember that in order to be a bonafide 4-H Club, you must fulfill these requirements:

- You must have an Organizational Leader.
- You must elect officers (not required for Cloverbud Club).
- You must have at least 5 members or 5 Cloverbuds from 3 different families currently enrolled.
- You must have the Program Planning Sheet filled out for the 4-H year.

Fundraisers - Please remember when you are doing fundraising in the name of 4-H, you need to:

- Fill out the “Fundraising Request” form and have it approved by Jennifer Collins 30 days before you do ANY fundraising.
- There must be a PURPOSE for the 4-H fundraising. You CAN NOT fundraise just to have money in your 4-H account.

Summer Is Parade Time

Summer is the time for parades, carnivals, fairs, picnics, cookouts and warm weather fun of all kinds. Memorial Day is the traditional kickoff for summer activities, especially parades.

Have you planned your summer parade activities? Many towns host their own local celebrations - Little Falls Canal Days, Newport Firemen’s Field Days, Herkimer County Fair Parade - just to name a few. Fairs and parades go on all summer long. Why not take advantage of the opportunity each of these events presents to showcase 4-H in your community by participating? Be sure to take a photo and submit it for inclusion in our 4-H Facts Newsletter.

With the parade season upon us, please be sure to follow these guidelines when your 4-H Club is in a parade.

- If on horseback, an adult leader must also be riding with youth.
- Floats, hay wagons, etc. - Leader or enrolled adult must also be on the float or wagon.
- Vehicle towing float or wagon must be driven by an adult 21 or over.
- Only 4-H youth on the float or wagon.
- If (non-enrolled) siblings of 4-H member are on the float, a parent must also be on float or wagon.

The 4-H Office has an assortment of flags, clovers, banners, etc. to help you decorate your float or for your marchers to carry. Contact Wendy at the 4-H Office to reserve your supplies.

Design a T-Shirt for the Fair Season

Theme: 4-H Grows Here

The 4-H staff is inviting all 4-H members to submit original designs for the 2016 4-H fair season T-shirt. The Theme is “4-H Grows Here”. The winning design will be printed on the shirts for 4-H youth that volunteer in the Youth Building and for sale at the Herkimer County Fair. We’re excited to see the creative designs that you submit! Designs must be in BLACK AND WHITE…NO COLOR PLEASE and indicate “4-H” somewhere on the design. Please, only original artwork…be careful not to plagiarize. If you plan to use the 4-H clover emblem in your design, do not use it as the “background” for any other item. For more details on the legal use of the 4-H Clover emblem, contact the 4-H office. Please submit your design to Wendy on or before May 31.
4-H Career Explorations is a great opportunity for you to experience life on campus, explore how your 4-H projects can lead to careers, and meet new friends! Registration is online and needs to be completed by your county 4-H Educator.

Dates: June 28 – 30, 2016  
Location: Cornell University  
Arrival: 10 AM – 12:00 PM on June 28  
Departure: 2:30 PM on June 30  
Cost: $250 per person  
Registration: Opened March 18

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Focus for Teens: teens entering 10th – 12th grades


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University U: teens entering 8th – 9th grades

Animal Adventures, Biomedical Research, Climate Leaders in the Making, Clocks and Codes, Construction of a Crystal Radio, Explorations in Nanotechnology, fishPHARM, Nutritional Artist

There are scholarships available. Scholarship applications are due at the time of registration, or no later than May 1. To apply for a full or partial youth scholarship, please complete the scholarship section of the registration form. Scholarships are limited and will be awarded to qualified applicants through a competitive review process. Scholarship applications must be approved by a county 4-H Educator. Please contact Wendy Richardson for details.

Dairy Cattle Workshop

Oakfield Corners Dairy invites youth of all ages and experience levels to the first Growing through Showing Youth Workshop.

The event is to be held April 30 at Oakfield Corners Dairy at Lamb Farms in Oakfield, NY. Showing, Fitting, Nutrition, Housing, Selection/Judging, and “What to pack in your Showbox”-a session on supplies and show preparation, will all be covered.

Industry leaders and professionals will be on hand to teach different sessions as well as answer any questions. A fun, interactive, and educational day will provide youth the knowledge to take their showing to the next level. The workshop is free and lunch will be provided.

Look for registration and sale information in the February & March NY Holstein News, the March Pennsylvania Holstein Profiles, the March Ohio Holstein News, Oakfield Corners Dairy Facebook page, and at oakfieldcornersdairy.com

If you have questions or would like more information please contact Kelly Lee at kai232@cornell.edu

4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.
THE PURPOSE OF THE 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM IS TO ENABLE YOUTH TO DEVELOP KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES, ATTITUDES, AND BEHAVIORS TO BE COMPETENT, CARING ADULTS

4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STAFF

Jennifer Collins 4-H Extension Educator, jlr34@cornell.edu
Wendy Richardson 4-H Program Educator, wlr45@cornell.edu
Rachel Shaver Administrative Assistant, rjs86@cornell.edu
Barbara Johnson Administrative Assistant, bmj9@cornell.edu
Web address: www.cce.cornell.edu/herkimer
State 4-H Web address: www.cce.cornell.edu/4h
National 4-H Web address: www.fourhcouncil.edu
4-H Resource Web address: www.cerp.cornell.edu/4-H
Find us on Facebook!
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