# 4-H FACTS

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

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4-H Honor Secretaries

Congratulations to: Fern Bick, Haderondahs of Old Forge 4-H Club; The Hawkes/Dyn Family, Independent 4-H members for turning in their September 4-H Club Secretary report by October 11.

Congratulations to: Katie Livingston, Barnyard Buddies 4-H Club; Chase Brewer, Milk Shakers 4-H Club; and the Brackett family, Independent 4-H members for turning in their October 4-H Club Secretary report by November 5.

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.
Earn-A-Project Animal Scholarship

Interested in participating in the 4th Annual Mohawk Valley Livestock Auction, but are unable to secure a project animal to raise and sell? Then this may be for you.

The 4-H Earn-A-Project program is proudly supported by Top Notch Livestock of Jordanville, NY. Top Notch Livestock is generously donating (2) market lamb wether projects and (2) market hog barrow projects. This project is open to all Oneida, Herkimer and Madison County youth that are traditional 4-H members (ages 8-19 as of January 1, 2017). The youth and parents agree to accept all costs associated with their project animal. Youth agree to raise awarded project animal to be shown and sold in the September 23, 2017 Mohawk Valley 4-H Show and Sale. Youth also are aware they are responsible for securing a minimum of (2) buyers and complete records of the cost associated with raising the project animal. This program requires dedication from the youth member and support from their guardians. Youth applying for a project must prove that they have adequate housing for the animals, and aware of the costs and time associated with the award. Through the 4-H Earn-A-Project, 4-H youth will learn planning, time management, organizations and record keeping skills.

Requirements:

- Complete a written application including 2 letters of reference
- Written essay of @ 250-500 words stating why you would like to receive the Earn-A-Project award
- Accept all costs incurred by providing adequate housing and nutrition for the project
- Keep accurate project records provided at the initial Show and Sale meeting for the project animal
- Attend (2) educational 4-H events pertaining to your Earn-A-Project species
- Show the animal at the Farmer's Museum Junior Livestock Show
- Show the animal at your county fair
- Display an informational sign and educational display at the county fair regarding Earn-A-Project program
- Exhibit records at the county fair
- Show & sell Earn-A-Project in the September 23, 2017 Mohawk Valley Show & Sale

1) The 4-H youth will be responsible for finding a minimum of 2 buyers to come purchase their project
2) In the case that the youth doesn’t sell their project in the 4-H auction, they will be required to reimburse Top Notch Livestock for the agreed value of $300.

For more information or an application on this program, call Jenn at the 4-H Office. Applications are due to the 4-H Office by April 1.

Artificial Insemination Workshop

Saturday, February 4, 2017

We will be offering a day long hands-on workshop for 4-H members (13 and over) on February 4. It will be hosted in Oneida County and will begin at Dependa Bull farm in Knoxboro and finish up at CCE Oneida. The day will consist of learning about the semen collection process to learning about the parts of the reproductive system along with the steps of how to breed cattle. Actual breeding of cattle will not be a part of this workshop. For more information or to register, please call Sarah Hardy at the Oneida County 4-H Office at 726-3394 extension 108.

Announcement!
**4-H HORSE AND DAIRY QUIZ BOWL**

Interested in learning more about the horse and/or dairy industry? Why not try horse quiz bowl or dairy quiz bowl. Practices will start after the first of the year, so please call Jenn at the 4-H Office if you are interested in participating or volunteering to coach a team.

If you are planning on participating, here are some important dates to remember:

- The District Horse Bonanza Contest (Horse Bowl and Hippology) will be held on Saturday, March 4 in Morrisville. District Horse Communications will be held on April 26 at CCE Oneida County.
- The District Dairy Bowl Contest will be held on Saturday, March 11 at South Lewis High School.

If you are interested in participating, contact Jenn by January 4 so practices can be set up.

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**NYS 4-H DAIRY JUDGING TEAM – SUCCESS IN LOUISVILLE, KY**

In early November, a team of 4-H youth traveled to Louisville, KY to compete at the dairy judging contest held at the North American International Livestock Exposition. Team members were Bob Nagel, Chautauqua Co., Peyton Darling, Otsego Co., **Bryce Windecker**, Herkimer Co., and Mary Sweeney, Genesee Co. The team placed 1st in Guernseys, 2nd in Ayrshires and finished out the contest with a 2nd place win overall competing against 20 other teams. Kevin Ziemba, Oneida County 4-H volunteer coached the team.

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**WANT TO BE A STARR?**

**STATE TEEN ACTION REPRESENTATIVE RETREAT**

**When:** April 21 - April 23  
**Where:** NY State Fairgrounds, Syracuse

Want to be a STARR? STARR is an annual weekend for 4-H teens from across New York State to get together to build leadership skills as well as network with peers (ages 13-19) and adults from across the state.

Call the 4-H office 315-866-7920 or email Wendy at wlr45@cornell.edu and let her know if you would like to be part of this exciting weekend for teens.

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**FITTING AND SHOWMANSHIP WORKSHOP -TBD**

A Fitting and Showmanship Workshop / day will be held in May at the Herkimer County Fairgrounds. Exact date TBD and will be in the February / March 4-H Facts along with more details. Species covered will be dairy, beef cattle, sheep, goats, and swine.

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**TRACTOR SAFETY COURSE**

Safe Tractor and Machinery Operation Program open to youth and adults 14 and over will be held on April 18-20 in Clinton, NY.

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.

Watch for the February-March 4-H Facts Newsletter for more details. Call Jenn if you have any questions.
NY Ag Literacy Week
March 20-24

The book will be given to the school library with a bookplate recognizing the donor and NY Ag Literacy Week.

In celebration of National Agriculture Week (March 20-24), volunteers throughout the state will read a book with an agricultural theme to second graders. The selected book for 2017 is The Grapes Grow Sweet by Lynne Tuft and illustrated by Tessa DeCarlo.

More than 2000 books were donated last year in New York State while thousands of second graders participated in fun and educational activities. If you are interested in volunteering to read, please contact Jenn at the 4-H office.

2017 Vet Science program will target 6-8 grade 4-H members and will be held on February 20 & 21. This two day program will focus on the immune system and parasites. Participants will visit the Waterville Veterinary clinic on Monday to learn about small animals and pets and a dairy farm on Tuesday to focus on the large animals. The cost for this two day program is $15 for 4-H members and $20 for non-members. Registration for this event is being taken by the Oneida County 4-H Office. Call Sarah Hardy to register or with questions at 736-3394 extension 108.

Vet Science

With the arrival of New York’s booming grape industries we are proud to feature a book that so wonderfully captures this way of life for over 1,600 family-owned vineyards in our state. New York ranks third nationally in grape production, with 75% of grapes produced being made into grape juice and the other 25% processed into wine and used in the craft beverage industry.

This year’s focus on grape production is exciting because of the importance of the grape industry in New York State. The grape industry is growing in our state providing STEM careers and post-secondary opportunities; from grape production, research, crop management, processing, tourism and hospitality.

Through the Agricultural Literacy Week program teachers, students, and parents can learn more about this nutritionally and economically healthy and essential industry. All lessons, activities, and companion materials are aligned to the Common Core Learning Standards.

Thank You for Participating in the 4-H Cheese Fundraiser

Congratulations and thank you to the following 4-H Clubs, Independent Members and Board Members for participating in the County 4-H Cheese Fundraiser and selling almost $4,000 worth of cheese.

Barnyard Buddies 4-H Club; Kuyahoora Kaprines 4-H Club, Merry Moos 4-H Club; Mini Merry Moos 4-H Club; Schuyler Aggies 4-H Club; Schuyler Hillbillies; 4-H Members: Colin and Corinne Bick, the Meyers Family, and the Bracket Family.

4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.
HERKIMER COUNTY STUDENTS COMPLETE 4-H GOVERNMENT INTERNSHIP

Six high school students from three Herkimer County high schools participated in the 4-H Government Intern Program at the Herkimer County Legislative Chambers. The program is made possible by the Herkimer County Legislature and administered by Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H youth development program of Herkimer County.

The students included Cassidy French, Nicole Pickett, Logan Marrello, and Andrew Weiderman from Central Valley High School; Steven Jordan, Jr from Herkimer High School; and Ryan Smith from Frankfort Schuyler High School.

The fall session started in October, with four sessions total, to provide students with insight into the legislative process. Students reviewed issues, toured county facilities, interviewed county legislators and attended a county legislature meeting. The program is designed to decrease public apathy regarding government by involving youth of Herkimer County through learning by experience. Legislators looked forward to hearing from the students to receive their fresh point of view.

Students heard from guest speakers, got involved in the legislative process, researched topics, and gave presentations as part of the program. Youth thanked guest speakers from many departments for their visits and help in researching topics that made it an engaging experience. Legislator Peter Manno presented students with their certificates for the program and congratulated them on well researched topics.

4-H Government Intern Program is offered by the Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth development program of Herkimer County in the fall and spring of the school year. For questions on this or any of our 4-H programs offered, please contact Cornell Cooperative Extension Herkimer County at (315)866-7920 or email herkimer@cornell.edu

4-H OFFICER TRAINING

Sixteen 4-H members recently attended a tri-county 4-H Officer Training workshop held at the Cornell Cooperative Extension Office of Oneida County. The newly elected club officers learned to conduct more efficient meetings and gained skills to ensure a successful 4-H year. The training of young people helps them to understand their role in a group setting and learn the rules of parliamentary procedures for conducting an effective meeting, which is an investment into a lifelong skill.

Herkimer county 4-H members who participated included from the Kuyahoora Kaprines 4-H Club: Bo Alesia, Isaac Alesia, Paige Alesia, Hailey Carnright, Kathleen Marhaver and Emily Marhaver; from the Haderondahs of Old Forge 4-H Club: Fern Bick, and Corinne Bick; from the Barnyard Buddies 4-H Club: Virginia Culver.

The volunteer presenters included Colin Idzi, facilitating the President and Vice President segments; 4-H volunteer, facilitating the Treasurer segment; Jennifer Hartsig, 4-H club leader, facilitating the Secretary segment; 4-H educator of Oneida County, Lynette Kay, facilitating the News Reporter segment, and Choose Health and Song/Recreation facilitated by 4-H Program Educator Wendy Richardson. After receiving individualized instruction for their
specific office, each group elected an officer to represent them in a simulated 4-H Club meeting. Virginia Culver was elected President, Emily Marhaver, News Reporter, Gamliel Brackett and Isaac Alesia Song & Recreation Leader.

4-H youth can get a head start on preparing for a job or college interview by participating in the New York State 4-H Public Speaking Program’s Interview Process. During the Interview Process, 4-H teens will undergo a simulated interview for a job or college entrance with a trained volunteer evaluator. Youth can choose to participate in a job or college entrance interview. The same format will be followed for either choice. The résumé, cover letter and application (written presentation) will be judged based on appearance and content. The oral presentation will be the actual interview using questions selected from a set list. The written presentation documents will be submitted for judging prior to the face-to-face interview. The face-to-face interview should last about 20 minutes. Afterward, the evaluator will review the youth’s evaluation sheet and provide positive feedback in a private consultation.

Job Interview
Job Position: 4-H Summer intern

Required Paperwork:
1. Completed Job Application
2. Résumé
3. Cover Letter

College Entrance Interview
College: Unnamed or 4-Her’s choice

Required Paperwork:
1. Universal College Application
2. Résumé
3. Essay on why youth chose the college and future career path

SPECIAL NOTE TO CLOVERBUDS
Cloverbuds will not be judged on their presentation, but will receive a Certificate of Participation and credit toward completion for the year. Members may work individually, in pairs, or groups. Think “Show & Tell.”

SPECIAL NOTE FOR HORSE COMMUNICATIONS

Official rules for Horse Communications can be seen on the following website: http://4h.anisci.cornell.edu/animal-programs/horses/events-rulebook/

4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.
The 4-H Member Volunteer Recognition Event was held at the Herkimer High School on Thursday, November 10. The event kicked off with a light dinner followed by the award ceremony and concluded with a make your own sundae donated by Stewart’s of Herkimer.

This year, twenty-eight members received Certificates of Year End Completion for their participation in 4-H. Fifty-nine members received an All Around 4-Her Award for their additional participation in 4-H events. There were nineteen Outstanding 4-Her Awards presented to member that fulfilled all the previous requirements including assuming a leadership role.

4-H members were recognized for completing their first year, fifth year, and tenth year with pins. Volunteers were also recognized for their support of 4-H. Volunteers are a huge part of what keeps 4-H going in Herkimer County. Donated time and continued dedication is greatly appreciated.
Lewis County 4-H will once again be hosting Teen Winter Weekend at Camp Oswegatchie in Croghan. You must provide a chaperone. The theme this year is SPORTS!

This event is one that once teens go to, they can’t wait to go back every year. Be sure to put the dates on your calendar.

**DATE:** February 17 - 19. Arrive Friday, February 17 between 6 and 8 pm for registration and snacks.

**WHERE:** Oswegatchie Educational Center, Croghan. Visit www.oswegatchie.org/

**WHO:** New York State 4-H’ers ages 13 to 19 (as of January 1) and in grades 7 through 12.

**COST:** $70.00 per participant and $70.00 per chaperone. This will cover lodging, meals (Saturday breakfast to Sunday lunch), as well as snacks and workshop supplies.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** January 20, 2017. All registration fees must be paid no later than January 16.

**PROGRAM:** Possible programming for 2017 includes:

**WHAT YOU CAN DO: WE NEED YOU!!!!!**

- Winter Games
- Snowshoeing
- Cross Country Skiing
- Snow Sculpture
- Volunteers are needed to facilitate and implement any of the program ideas above or one generated by the volunteer

Volunteers/chaperones are required to help with meals and supervise kitchen clean-up.

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CHAPERONES & PARTICIPANTS SHOULD BRING:

- Bedding
- Toiletries and towel
- Outdoor clothing - Including boots/mittens or gloves
- Slippers
- Sleepwear
- Change of clothing
- Cross country skis - MUST BRING YOUR OWN
- Snowshoes - Rentals available @ $15.00 for the weekend or bring your own

All payment is due WITH registration, no later than January 16. The first 60 youth to register will be accepted.
**NATIONAL 4-H WEEK**

The Kuyahoora Kaprines 4-H Club members and livestock/poultry were at the 2nd annual Gems along the Mohawk Harvest Festival during National 4-H Week.


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For National 4-H Week, the Norway Country Critters 4-H Club was out at Weller Park with a petting zoo and horse rides!! The club members also sold popcorn and hot chocolate.

Reagan Rudd displayed her 4-H poster at school for National 4-H week in October.

The Merry Moos 4-H club made a display at the West Canada Valley School during 4-H Week.

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4-H Club News

The Barnyard Buddies had a busy start to the 4-H year. Club members wore their 4-H shirts to school the first week of October to promote National 4-H week. A handful of 4-H members helped out at the ‘Gems along the Mohawk’ harvest festival with painting pumpkins and face paintings. On Columbus Day, the 4-H Club got a tour of the Big Frog 104 radio station in Marcy. The 4-H club October meeting included making toilet paper pumpkins and chicken taco lasagna.
On November 25th, the Kuyahoora Kaprines 4-H Club participated in the Clinton Village Stroll Parade for their 3rd year in a row.


The Haderondah of Old Forge 4-H club helped out the Ocean Conservancy as a club community service project. Since most of the club is homeschooled, they were able to meet during the day to collect the water data. This year the biggest item of concern was foam pieces for dock floats. The 4-H members found 127 pieces. No dead animals, which was good.

On day two, the 4-H club met at a members grandparents’ house. There is a little trail that goes back to a creek, where they did stream testing. The 4-H members found a lot of small worm type things, to show that the stream was pretty healthy.

Winter Weather

Herkimer County is such a wonderful place to live, we offer the following information regarding Cornell Cooperative Extension and 4-H.

1. Sometimes the weather is bad in one part of the county and not in others. Use your own judgment when deciding to travel.

2. Sometimes it’s too late to cancel a meeting when the weather turns bad. Again use your own judgment.

3. If the Cornell Cooperative Extension office closes, evening meetings are cancelled.

4. If you decide not to travel to a meeting, please call the office ahead of time if possible.

If the Herkimer County Office Building is closed, the Cornell Cooperative Extension Office will also be closed. Canceling and trying to reschedule meetings is very difficult, so if at all possible, meetings will be held.

Again, use your own judgment and do not travel if you do not feel safe.

JOIN THE REVOLUTION OF RESPONSIBILITY

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
Christine Buda Administrative Assistant, ceb335@cornell.edu
Barbara Johnson Administrative Assistant, bmj9@cornell.edu

Web address: www.cce.cornell.edu/4h
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

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