## 4-H FACTS

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

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### 4-H HONOR SECRETARIES

Congratulations to: Autumn Borek, Barnyard Buddies 4-H Club; Jordynn Alesia, Kuyahoora Kaprines; Mercedes Lewandrowski, Merry Moos 4-H Club; Chase Brewer, Milk Shakers 4-H Club; and Dylan Dyn/Hawkes Family, Independent 4-H members for turning in their March 4-H Club Secretary report by April 5.

Congratulations to: Jordynn Alesia, Kuyahoora Kaprines; Mercedes Lewandrowski, Merry Moos 4-H Club; Chase Brewer, Milk Shakers 4-H Club; Dylan Dyn/Hawkes Family, Independent 4-H members for turning in their April 4-H Club Secretary report by May 5.

### 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.
- Non-ownership (lease) paper to the 4-H Office for any market/non-registered animals you will be showing.

### RABBIT AND POULTRY SHOWMANSHIP CLINIC

June 27, 1-4 pm at the Herkimer County CCE Office

Bring your rabbits and chickens and learn how to prepare and present your animals for showmanship. Basic rabbit fitting and showmanship will be taught. Poultry will cover the basics as well as a more advanced for those that have attended the clinics in the past and if we have time, some information on raising a backyard flock. Preregistration is required by June 22 by calling the 4-H Office.

### PULLORUM TESTING FOR POULTRY

June 27 ~ 4 pm (following the poultry clinic) at CCE Office

All poultry that will be shown at county and state fairs need to be pullorum tested. This is a free test which is conducted by Debra Toth, LVT Animal Health Inspector Division of Animal Industry, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets. Birds must be at least 4 months (16 WKS) old. Chickens, turkeys, guinea fowl, pheasants, pheasants & quail are eligible. Pigeons and waterfowl are exempt from testing.
COMMUNITY SERVICE AT THE UTICA ZOO

Herkimer County 4-H has teamed up with the Utica Zoo to grow vegetables for the zoo animals. 4-H members and volunteers will be maintaining and harvesting produce throughout the summer months. 4-H members and volunteers will also be maintaining and weeding the existing flower beds for the summer. It is not too late for 4-H members and volunteers to sign up with us for 1 to 2 weeks out of the summer to go to the Utica Zoo once per that assigned week and weed the gardens.

All participants will receive a t-shirt (indicating that you are there to work on the gardens), and free admission to the zoo on the day you work.

Please check with the 4-H office to see what weeks are still available, if you are interested in this great, fun filled opportunity. Please give us your name and shirt size; and what week you are available to cover the care of the garden. For more information, Please contact Wendy.

SAFE CHAINSAW OPERATION

CCE Herkimer County is offering a “Safe Chainsaw Operation” workshop for 4-H members and their families on June 22 at 6:30 pm at the CCE office. The cost is $5/member and $10/family.

The instructor, Mike Burns, is a graduate of the NYS Ranger School and SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry, Mike is a consultant forester with 30 years of field experience. For almost a decade he developed and presented safety, environmental, and business training for professional loggers and was responsible for all operations of New York Logger Training, Inc.

Mr. Burns will go over chainsaw safety and how they are among the most useful and dangerous outdoor power tools used by landowners. While all danger cannot be eliminated, training and instruction have proven to be an effective way to mitigate the risks. This session reviews common injuries and how to avoid them, reviewing saw safety features and recommended equipment.

Please mail your payment to 5657 State Route 5, Herkimer, NY 13350. Include with your payment what you paying for (we have several workshops going on) and for how many people. You may call the CCE office at 315-866-7920 or email herkimer@cornell.edu to register but space is limited to 20 participants - be sure to get your payment into the CCE office promptly.

Canvas Painting Workshop

July 19  6pm – 9pm at CCE office

$20/4-H member

(This is the actual picture you will be painting)

Designed for anyone who wants to create a masterpiece! Join us to learn the art of painting as you create your very own work of art! An instructor will lead you step by step as you develop your artistic skills and create your very own painting of a barn scene! You can then take your completed painting home to display, give as a gift, or exhibit at the County Fair! Registration is due by July 14th (your prompt payment confirms your spot). This class is limited to 20 4-H members only!

Come paint a barn scene on canvas!
NYS JUNIOR DAIRY LEADER

If you know of youth in your area or region 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/eligibility-requirements. Applications are due by June 30. Please contact Debbie Grusenmeyer at 607-255-0656 if you have questions or concerns about the program or application process.

BEGINNING DAIRY LEADER

This program is for youth entering their sophomore year in high school and have an interest in the dairy industry careers.

Youth should be able to commit to one Saturday in November of current year and February, March, April and June of 2017. Students can apply for both the Junior Dairy Leader and the Beginning Dairy Leader program in the same year, however, students cannot participate in both programs in the same year.

The cost is $100 and only 30 applicants will be evaluated and selected based on application essay, interest and personal reference. Please contact the 4-H office for application.

4-H EARN-A-CALF AWARD

Any Traditional Member 4-H' er involved in a 4-H cattle project, previous winners are not eligible. Applicants must be active participants of the Herkimer County 4-H Program for at least one 4-H year prior to applying.

Please call the 4-H office to get application, requirements and information on the rules for the Earn-A-Calf Award.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4

Admission tickets are $26 per person. Admission with an all-you-can-eat lunch buffet will be $37 ($30 for those 3-7 years of age). Buffet includes: hamburgers, hot dogs, grilled chicken breast, salt potatoes, tossed salad, chips, watermelon and all-day beverages. The lunch buffet will be served from 12:30 - 2 pm so come at the beginning, middle and end and get your fill. Also included with the lunch buffet option will be all you can eat ice cream novelties. They will be served from 3:30-4:30 pm in the pavilion, which will be a great afternoon snack.

For those that choose to purchase the lunch option, you will have use of the reserved pavilion for the day to get out of the sun, store your stuff, etc. Only those purchasing the lunch option will have access to the pavilion.

Tickets will be on sale thru July 29. Tickets must be paid for in full before they will be given out. If you already have a pass to Enchanted Forest, you can add on the lunch option for $15 (8 and older) and $5 (3-7 years of age), which will give you the options as listed above. Feel free to invite family and friends (even if they are not in 4-H) and to take advantage of this great price. And don’t forget...if you did a 4-H Public Presentation on either 2/25 or 3/3 at our county-wide events, you will get $10 off of your ticket! Call Jenn with any questions.
**“FARMSAFE FOR KIDZ" ANNUAL POSTER CONTEST**

The George Fuller Memorial Fund through NYCAMH (The New York Center for Agricultural Medicine & Health) is sponsoring the 26th Annual FARMSAFE FOR KIDZ Poster contest.

All 4-H members and area youth are eligible to participate if they live in Chenango, Delaware, Fulton, Herkimer, Madison, Montgomery, Oneida, Otsego or Schoharie County. Poster entries can be taken to the Farmers' Museum Junior Livestock Show on Sunday, July 10th, 2016 or to the NYCAMH office in Fly Creek on or before Thursday, July 7th, 2016.

This year, NYCAMH will focus on Safe Play Areas as there are hazards when living on the farm. For information safe play areas check out this link: http://www.marshfieldresearch.org/nccrahs/safe-play.

Prizes will be awarded Monday, July 11th, 6pm in the Dairy Show tent during the Annual Farmers' Museum Junior Livestock Show. Poster Contest winners will be selected from three age groups Ages 8 and under, Ages 9-12, and Ages 13 and older. Points will be awarded for safety message, originality and neatness. Posters must be 22"X 28" in size on 6 ply poster board. Please complete the entry form and attach it to the back of the poster. Entry form can be found at http://www.nycamh.org/news/?id=602

Winning posters will be awarded monetary prizes and ribbons. Winning poster entries will be displayed at the Farmers' Museum Harvest Festival in September 10-11th, 2016 and in the home school district of the winners during National Farm Safety and Health Week, September 20-26th.

Prior to the poster prize presentations, staff from NYCAMH will lead the group in a Safe Play Area discussion and activity.

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**FARMERS’ MUSEUM JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW**

ENTRIES DUE TO 4-H OFFICE BY JUNE 6

Many 4-H members take part annually in the Farmers' Museum Junior Livestock Show. They come with their animals from nine counties including: Herkimer, Otsego, Chenango, Delaware, Montgomery/Fulton, Madison, Oneida and Schoharie. They show beef cattle, dairy cattle, dairy goats, sheep and swine. You are invited to attend - even if you don't have an animal to show. Watching the show can be a fun and educational experience. The Livestock Show is held at the Iroquois Farm, River Road, Cooperstown. Admission is free and there are many exhibits to look at and tents full of animals to visit. The highlights of events is as follows:

**Sunday, July 10**
5 pm - Chicken barbecue
6 pm - Meeting for all exhibitors and parents
7:30 pm - Ice Cream Social

**Monday, July 11**
9:30 am - Dairy, Sheep, Beef, Goat Showmanship followed by breed classes, then market animals
5 pm - NYCAMH discussion on “Safe Play Areas”.
6 pm - NYCAMH Farm Safe for Kids Poster/ Slogan Contest Awards, Dairy Tent

**Tuesday, July 12**
9 am - Swine Showmanship followed by breed classes, market animals. Judging of remaining dairy, goat and sheep classes.
2:30 pm - Parade of Champions! Selection of overall Dairy Goat Champion, Livestock Champion and Dairy Champion

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**NO SMOKING IN TENTS OR BUILDINGS.**

**ALCOHOL AND DRUGS ARE PROHIBITED ON THE GROUNDS.**

**NO PUBLIC DOGS ARE ALLOWED ON THE SHOWGROUNDS EXCEPT FOR WORKING COMPANION AND SEEING EYE ANIMALS**

4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.
Fair time is fast approaching, so here are some dates to remember. Non-animal exhibits can be entered at the fair on August 14 from 10 am – 2 pm. If you would like to help out on the day of judging, please contact the 4-H office. We need adults to help with evaluating; and youth to help as assistants.

All exhibits are released to be taken home on August 22 from 9 am – 11 am. Any exhibits not going to State Fair will need to be picked up at this time. Any exhibits not picked up will remain at the Herkimer County Fair. If you have any exhibits going to State Fair, we’ll be glad to transport them directly from County Fair to State Fair. You must bring appropriate packaging for safely transporting your exhibit (i.e. newsprint or tissue paper to wrap fragile items, cardboard boxes to secure them from sliding around in the vehicle); as well as your completed NEW Exhibitor Entry card and Exhibitor Entry Statement.

Leaders and parents, now is the time to assist your 4-H members in preparing for the County Fair. An early start will help insure that the Fair is a positive and fun experience for everyone. Many last minute problems and disappointments can be avoided by making plans now. Here is a checklist of “to dos” to get you started.

- Go over the Herkimer County Fair book with your 4-H members. Make sure they have a copy. Read it together. Plan exhibits they will bring to the fair; and what preparation the exhibit will need.
- Assist members to fill out their entry blank and exhibit tags COMPLETELY, prior to the fair. It makes for a much smoother day; and less stress on everyone if you come with all your paperwork completed ahead of time.
- Explain the conference evaluation style of judging to members. Conference judging helps the member feel at ease and in a more receptive frame of mind. Conference evaluation is often easier for the judge. The member gains a greater benefit from the experience. Conference evaluation eliminates the question of why an item received a certain ribbon, therefore, making the evaluation of project work more educational.
- Explain the Danish System. Within the Danish System, each exhibit - be it a birdhouse or a flower - is compared to the ideal for the exhibit given the exhibitor's experience & age. Exhibits are not placed in a ranking, rather each item is judged on its own merit. Participants receive either a blue ribbon (excellent), red ribbon (good) or a white ribbon (worthy). Green ribbons (participation) are distributed to exhibits that are display only. The emphasis is placed on the process of learning, not necessarily the end product.

REMEMBER, it's a well-known fact (with historical basis, ask any old 4-H member) that those who take an active part in the fair have more FUN!!!

*Reminder* STATE FAIR 4-H EXHIBITOR ENTRY CARD

Any 4-H exhibits chosen for NYS Fair must have the Exhibitor Entry card and include the Exhibitor Entry Statement filled out and returned to 4-H staff by the end of Herkimer County Fair PRIOR to picking up your exhibits. They both need to be included on every NY State 4-H Youth Building exhibit that will be evaluated. Only exhibits with entry cards and statements, filled out completely and attached by August 22, by 11 am, can go on to the State Fair. The Exhibitor Entry Statement is a fillable pdf form, found here: http:nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/events/Pages/StateFair.aspx that can be filled out on a computer and printed, or printed as a blank form and filled out by hand. The State Fair Exhibitor Entry Cards will be on green card stock. Please toss or recycle any old entry cards you have.
4-H PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS AND MAKE N’ TAKES AT THE HERKIMER COUNTY FAIR

The 4-H office would like to encourage 4-H clubs to do a Public Presentation and/or Make ‘N Take activities at the County Fair August 16 - 21.

If there is a project your club worked on during the year, please consider demonstrating what you learned in the youth building for the public. Pick whatever day and time works best for you. We can help you with ideas and supplies if needed.

The county 4-H is again holding smoothie challenges during the fair. Please plan to help showcase 4-H in the exhibit building by participating in interactive activities with the general public.

Contact Wendy to reserve your time.

4-H HORSE SHOW

July 23
Morrisville State College

Herkimer and Madison Counties will once again hold a joint 4-H Horse Show at Morrisville State College. This show will determine who will represent Herkimer County at the NYS Fair 4-H Horse Show.

In order to participate at this show, you must have turned in your Horse ID Certificate (to the 4-H Office) and have had a riding level evaluation completed by June 1. If you are competing to go on to the NYS Fair, you must have also turned in your completed “Blue Book” to the 4-H Office by June 1. Watch your email for more information regarding the show, including the rules and entry information.

Please contact Alycia Schick at CCE Madison County at (315) 684-3001 with any questions.

4-H DAIRY FITTING AND SHOWMANSHIP CLINIC

On May 21, nineteen youth from Herkimer and Oneida Counties participated in 4-H Dairy Fitting and Showmanship clinic held at Windex Farms in Schuyler.

Youth rotated through different stations to learn all there is about selecting, preparing and presenting your dairy calf for show.

A big thank you to the Windecker Family for hosting and to Stacy Collins, Jessica Hula-Fredericks, Kayla Windecker and Bryce Windecker for all presenting and sharing their time and talent.

4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.
YOUTH BUILDING PREMIUM BOOK CHANGES

As you are thinking of projects to complete for Fair time, there are some changes and additions to the NYS Fair 4-H 2016 Youth Building Fair Book for certain projects. (Premium Book) in the exhibit classes.

POSTERS AND 3-DIMENSIONAL DISPLAYS – All exhibits must include a written summary to help evaluator understand purpose and/or outcome. If you had an outstanding poster for your recent Public Presentations, please consider entering it at the Herkimer County Fair.

WOOD SCIENCE – Reclaimed Lumber - Must state origin of lumber/wood used. This would be the new class to enter your project, for all of you that made a sign at the Barn sign workshop. Recycled Wood Projects - made from pre-existing items made into a new useable form. (Ex: a bed headboard into a bench). Both projects will be evaluated according to woodworking standards.

Fine Arts and Fine Crafts - Ceramics have been added back here rather than in Hobby Crafts. While beginning jewelry has been put in Hobby Crafts, only original jewelry or jewelry exhibits made with purchased materials using more creative and intricate forms to string the beads should be put in Fine Crafts.

Hobby Crafts and Home Environment - CRAFTS - Exhibits are based on projects that focus on a particular topic area and specific learning goals over a period of time. An exhibit can be made from a commercial kit or pattern. This gives a youth the chance to explore new craft areas. If an exhibit takes a short time, multiple items may be exhibited and displayed nicely to create one exhibit. Recycled Craft - items made, remodeled or renovated from recycled material example: picture framed covered in seashells, sculpture made from recycled plastic bags. Please include where the recycle material came from on Exhibit Entry Statement.

YOUTH BUILDING JUNIOR SUPERINTENDENTS

Junior Superintendents (JS) help with a little bit of everything during the State Fair in the 4-H Youth Building. They work for a minimum of 8 hours between 8 a.m. to 11 p.m., and reside in the youth building dormitories.

Preference for the JS positions will be given to enrolled 4-H members who will have reached their 16 birthday within the calendar year and have not reached their 19 birthday before Jan. 1 of the current year.

JS receive a premium of $40 dollars a day. JS in their first year will only be scheduled for up to one week. Application letters are to be mailed to the State 4-H Office by July 1 (spots can all be filled before this date; apply early). If you are interested, please contact Jenn or Wendy.

2016 HERKIMER COUNTY LOCAL FOODS MAP

Now available from CCE of Herkimer County in East Herkimer; and is being distributed to organizations and businesses throughout Herkimer County and the Mohawk Valley including all of the Mid-York libraries and farmers' markets located in Herkimer County. To view an online version of this map, please visit http://bit.ly/HerkCoLocalFoodsMap2016

There are 62 producers on the map along with nine Farmers’ Markets this year.

The benefits of “eating local” are many including fresher foods that taste great and are often more nutritious than foods that have traveled many miles and days to get to your table. Also when you buy directly from local farmers, your dollars stay within your community and strengthen the local economy which helps preserve farming as a livelihood and rural landscapes as farmland too.

For more information or to pick up a map, please call Cornell Cooperative Extension at (315) 866-7920.
WANTED: TEENS TO PARTICIPATE AT THE 2016 NYS FAIR

2016 Youth Building Theme: “4-H Grows Here.” Herkimer County’s is covering a booth during the first time period, August 25—28.

State Fair will be here before we all know it and plans are in place for many exciting activities to take place this year in the Youth Building. Herkimer County 4-H is looking for teens (13 years and up by January 1, 2016) who would like to help out with our Herkimer County interactive display in the Youth Building during Herkimer County’s time period at State Fair. Teens will stay at the State Fair dorms. All participants will receive a premium of $10.00 per day to offset expenses.

State Fair teen leader opportunities for youth (13 years and up by January 1, 2016) include:

**County Booth** – Teen Leaders work with activities in your county booth that engage the public. You can organize your own activities, or sign up for selected hands-on activities that have some funding or supplies.

**Teen Evaluators** – Teens assist judges with the evaluation of projects in Food, Clothing, Home Environment, Communication and Expressive Arts, Horticulture, Art Objects, Visual Arts and Photography and Science and Technology.


Teen Leaders & Teen Evaluators earn a $10.00 premium each day. Each program day is to include a minimum of a 6-hour shift. Roles are assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis. Spots can all be filled before this date, so apply early. Sign up is due by August 1. Contact Wendy at the 4-H office for more details.

UTICA ZOO GARDENING PROJECT

On Sunday, May 22, 4-H members and volunteers from the Herkimer County 4-H program came together to create raised garden beds and to plant flower beds and containers, at the Utica Zoo.

The raised beds were placed in their new location, leveled with stone, and filled with compost soil made right at the zoo. 4-H members and volunteers planted the raised beds with sunflowers, catnip, lettuce, kale, and sweet potatoes.

At the same time, flowers under the welcome sign and many containers throughout the zoo were also planted with new annuals. 4-H members and volunteers weeded around the welcome signs at the entrance of the zoo and prepared the beds for new flowers. Some old bushes were trimmed back and old roots removed to get the areas ready for planting. There were enough flowers to fill 10 container planters along the many paths within the zoo.

Herkimer County 4-H will be providing volunteers to maintain these gardens for the summer months along with zoo staff, right up to the fall harvest. Many 4-H families and volunteers will be coming in weekly to weed and water the new garden beds. Zoo staff will be helping 4-H members harvest the garden produce throughout the summer month to feed to the many zoo animals.

4-H members and volunteers who participated included: Virginia and Paula Culver; Wendy and David Richardson; Kristy Downes; Jenn, Ellie and Natalie Collins; Karen Vosler; Kaylin, Aubree, and William Keiffer.
**Travis Allen** is a graduating senior from Fort Plain High school. He has been a Herkimer County 4-H member of the Occupational Hazards 4-H club for 1 year. Travis participated at the County 4-H Public Presentations event. Travis has also traveled to Boston, New York City and visited the Statue of Liberty. Travis would like to get a job doing standup comedy after High School.

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**Aliandra Gifford** is a graduating senior from Mount Markham High school. She has been a Herkimer County 4-H member of the Occupational Hazards 4-H club for 2 years. Aliandra participated at the County Public Presentations event and National 4-H Week, sold cheese for the county fundraiser, and completed a rock painting. Aliandra is also active with HARC, and loves to bake. She plays basketball, soccer, indoor track and gymnastics. Aliandra is completing her GED and will be doing Project Search in the fall. She will be starting at Florida State College at the beginning of 2017.

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**Mercedes Lewandrowski** is a graduating senior from Notre Dame Jr/Sr High school. She has been a Herkimer County 4-H member of the Merry Moos 4-H club for 4 years. Mercedes also participated with Dairy showmanship and she was the Merry Moos club secretary. Mercedes activities at school with Varsity Girls Tennis, Yearbook Staff and National Honor Society. Mercedes will be attending Cornell University’s College of Agriculture and Life Sciences in the fall. She will major in Animal Science and also plans to go on to a career in research, ideally in the field of immunology. Over the summer, Mercedes will get a part-time job to earn money for college, and will continue to work on her family’s dairy farm.

**Marissa Padula** is a 2016 graduate of Frankfort-Schuyler High School. In the fall she will be attending SUNY Fredonia to obtain her bachelor’s degree in Music Education, and will further her education to grad school to obtain her master’s in Music Therapy. Marissa is a Herkimer County 4-H member of the Schuyler Hillbillies 4-H club for the past 9 years and participated in the 4-H Government Intern Program. Marissa has shown at the Herkimer County Fair. She is also active at school with Key Club, National Honor Society, FBLA, Jazz Band, Select Chorus, Show Choir, All-County Band/Orchestra/Chorus, All-State Band/Orchestra

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**Sal Uricola** is a graduating senior from Owen D. Young High school. He has been a Herkimer County 4-H member of the Occupational Hazards 4-H club for 1 year. Sal participated in County Public Presentations and rock painting. Sal also enjoys ATV riding, outdoor activities and working on small engines and machine parts. Sal is planning on working after high school.

4-H Members of the Occupational Hazards 4-H club who are 2016 graduating seniors
4-H Conservation Day

On May 25, over 700 sixth grade students from 11 Herkimer County schools participated in the Annual 4-H Conservation Field Day School Enrichment Program at the Diamond Mines KOA Campground in Middleville.

Participating schools included Central Valley (Jarvis), Dolgeville, Herkimer, Herkimer BOCES, Little Falls, Mt. Markham, Oppenheim-Ephratah/St. Johnsville, Owen D Young, Richfield Springs, St. Francis de Sales, West Canada Valley.

The students visited 15 stations; and each received a tree seedling donated by the New York State DEC Saratoga Tree Nursery.

The stations and presenters included: Lost in the Woods / FR Piersma and FR Hoag / NYS DEC Forest Rangers; Job Duties and Responsibilities of Modern Day Conservation Officers / ECO Lucas and ECO Hutton/ DEC Police; Conservation in Our Forests / Michael Marsh, Scott Healy, Jessica Mosher and Mary Kay Allen / NYS DEC Lands and Forests; Tree Planting / Gerry Smithson / Herkimer County Soil and Water Conservation District; Herkimer Diamond Quartz Crystals / Herkimer Diamond Mines; Fisheries Management in NYS / Amy Hoyt and Steve Case / NYS DEC Fisheries; Whitewater Paddling for Fun and Safety / Dale Gates, John Foutch and Craig Stewart / West Canada Paddlers; Fire Prevention Fighting / Roger Neff / NYS Office of Fire Prevention and Control; Deer Management and Aging / Steve Heerkens / NYS DEC; NYS Fur Bearing Animals / Bill Ballou, Harian Moonan & Dale Wheeler / NYS Outdoorsmen Hall of Fame; Wastewater Treatment Process / Alvin Montana II and Maurice Luck / Herkimer County WWTP; Soil Conservation / Ryan Huggins and Rachel Radicello / Herkimer County Soil and Water Conservation District; Recycling / Jamie Tuttle and Emily Albright / Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority; Bee Keeping / Jake Schieferstine / Mid-York Bee Keepers; Pet Responsibility / Ed View / Herkimer Humane Society.
Dylan Dyn was busy boiling sap this month! He has tapped 26 trees and had a great season. He built a small evaporator that ran off of propane. He has made 2 gallons so far and hopes to expand for next year's season with a larger set-up.

Dylan, Laken and Anna also held a planning meeting at a neighboring farm to discuss next year's 4H project animals. Each 4-H member purchased 2 laying chicks of various breeds. They are currently working on building nesting boxes and hope to have future “fair-worthy” poultry to enter at the Herkimer County Fair.

On April 28, Chloe and Brooklyn Williams attended the 4-H Barn Wood workshop. April 30th, Madesen, Denten, and Logan Spellman attended the "Showing for Growing" workshop at Oakfield Farms. Rebecca Elwood, Madesen, Denten and Logan Spellman also attended the 4-H Beef Clinic held at Sarah Hardy's.

On May 15, at Tractor Supply Co. in Herkimer, the Merry Moos and Mini Merry Moos 4-H club held their annual chicken barbecue fundraiser for the Alicia Kennedy Memorial Scholarship.

The Milk Shakers 4-H club met in March at the Brewer’s home. The group discussed their bake sale and Jason Brewers’ employer will again sponsor T-shirts for the 4-H club members. 4-H members stayed after the meeting to make maple syrup. The 4-H club will donate a portion of the proceeds to a local family/person.

Kids Lego Robotics 4-H club participated in an event called Robot Riot put on by the First Lego League at SUNY POLY on May 14. Kids Lego Robotics 4-H Club competed in both the Grand Prix Robot races and the SUMO Competition. Five 4-H club members and their club leader and volunteers practiced for weeks to build and test the NXT Lego Robot for this event. They had so much fun and are looking forward to participating at the NY State Fair 4-H Robotics Challenge in August.
The 4-H Government Intern Program, sponsored by the Herkimer County Legislature and administered by Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development Program of Herkimer County, concluded another successful semester. Ten students from three Herkimer County school districts participated by exploring current issues and learning more about the functions of their county government through the committee system. Students reviewed issues, toured county facilities, interviewed county legislators, and attended a county legislature meeting.

Students included Steven Bergin, Harry Gibson, and Cody Keeler, from Central Valley Academy; Wally Szarek from Poland High School; Ally Cooper, Allie Evans, Megan Greene, Carissa Huber, Luke Monroe, and Carter Lawrence from Town of Webb High School.

Key presenters involved in the success of this program included: Steve Dietz of the P.I.N.S. Unit; Herkimer County Sheriff Chris Farber; Lou Christie and Connie Shepherd from the Board of Elections; Linda Patten from the Department of Social Services; Herkimer County District Attorney Jeff Carpenter; Mike Scalise of Probation; Herkimer County Clerk Sylvia Rowan; and Family Court Judge John Brennan.

At the final session, the interns staged a simulated legislative mock meeting and provided presentations on current issues confronting county government. Topics discussed were Visible help and Police presence, Small Business Web page Development, Creating an Uber Service in Town of Webb. Youth thanked all of the participating Herkimer County Legislators for their visits and help in researching topics that made the program an engaging experience.

Ten 4-H members from Herkimer and Oneida counties visited Kelley Meats in Taberg. The 4-H'ers learned about the different cuts of meat and how they are graded (prime, choice, select).
**VET SCIENCE**

Fifteen youth from Herkimer and Oneida counties had the opportunity to learn more about veterinary science.

The program gave youth the ability to identify different breeds of animals, interpret an animal’s behavior, describe the different roles of animals, identify nutrients in feeds, explain the purpose of body systems, measure medication properly, make your home safe for pets, and explain what veterinarians do while describing the tools they use.

**CONNECTING WITH KIDS - AG IN THE CLASSROOM**

Food Systems, School Gardens, and Your Students was the topic for Connecting with Kids workshop held in Oneida County. Parents, teachers, social workers and even youth took part in Ag in the Classroom workshop.

Agriculture is an important industry in New York State, and food is at the forefront of our minds each and every day. The students sitting in our classrooms today could be at least four generations removed from the farm. While agriculture today is becoming increasingly efficient, to the point that we need fewer farmers to grow and raise enough food to feed our increasing population, it leads to a deep disconnect to what happens in agriculture.
4-H BEEF CLinic

On April 2, twenty youth from Herkimer, Oneida and Otsego Counties participated in a 4-H Beef Cattle Fitting and Showmanship Clinic at Hardy Farm in Mohawk.

Robert Groom, an Angus Beef Farmer from Lyons, NY was the clinician for the day. Robert started the morning by teaching the 4-H members how to evaluate their animal before they start grooming them to get them ready for show. Following the evaluation process, Robert demonstrated how to properly clip the hair on the animals and then turned it over to the 4-Her's to try their hand at clipping. The 4-Hers worked in groups of four to clip a beef animal to the best of their ability. Following the clipping process, Mr. Groom taught them how to use adhesive (similar to people using gel/hairspray) to keep the hair where you want it.

The day concluded with participants learning how to properly show beef with a mock show and pointers from Mr. Groom. 4-H members participating in the clinic where, from Herkimer County: Riley Brewer, Hailey & Hannah Carnright, Dylan & Laken Dyn, Rebecca Elwood, Anna Hawkes, Hayden Shaver, Denten, Logen & Madesen Spellman; from Oneida County: Luke, McKenzie & Troy Brayman, Eleonore & Natalee Collins, Abigail Wratten; from Otsego County: Abbie & Jenna Gregory and Molly Watson.

4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.
The North Central District 4-H Public Presentation event was held on April 16 at CCE Oneida. Sixteen presenters from five counties shared their Demonstrations Interviews and Recitations in front of six judges.

4-H Grows Confidence and Career Readiness through Public Presentations. 4-H Public Presentations is a progressive program that allows youth participants the opportunity to advance to more challenging levels of evaluation through a coordinated series of events, each taking place in a different setting. Each time a presenter is evaluated, they then have an opportunity to fine-tune their presentation before taking it to the next level. The higher a participant advances, the more competitive the program becomes. It is through the evaluation process that 4-H members experience mastery, gain valuable skills in listening to the recommendations of others, and continue to develop confidence in themselves. Representing Herkimer County in the Junior Division, Abigail Reed received 1st place, and Fern Bick received 3rd place (8-12 years old). Jordynn Alesia received 2nd place, and McCaylia Plungis received 4th place for Senior Division (13-19 years old).

Jordynn Alesia and McCaylia Plungis have been selected to go on to the State 4-H Public Presentation event to be held on June 4, 2016, Morrison Hall - Cornell University.
On April 28, Herkimer County 4-H members participated in a 4-H Barn Wood Sign Workshop, held at the Herkimer Reformed church. Twenty-two 4-H youths, from Herkimer County painted and sanded a reclaimed wood sign to take home and display this summer at the Herkimer County fair.

Each workshop participant was given an assembled rough wood sign and sanding block. As the participants began transferring there chosen names to the wood, they learned that tracing on the line is not as easy as it looks. The kids then practiced with their painting skills to fill in the transferred lettering with paint. They also practiced sanding the rough edges and finished project to remove any imperfections.

4-H members were also taught the benefits of recycling wood, plastic bottles, and even newspapers, which were used in making this project. They were taught several ways to transfer lettering to a hard surface for different future applications. 4-H projects are more than a craft night, but a learning experience where members can master a skill and potentially become leaders in the project area in the future.

4-H members participating included: Tren, AnNi, and Nate Carroll; Brooklyn and Chloe Williams; Hayden and Kendra Shaver; Hannah and Hailey Carnright; Jordynn, Bo, Issac, Paige, and Luke Alesia; Logan and Lucas Humphreville; McCaylia, Broc, and Ben Plungis; Gabrielle Lewosko, Kaitlynn Fitch, and Alyson Casler.

4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.
Twelve students from six Herkimer County school districts visited Albany, on May 5, 2016, as a culmination of the 4-H Government Intern Program sponsored by the Herkimer County Legislature and administered by Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development.

The trip was chaperoned by Frankfort-Schuyler teacher Michelle Cleveland, Town of Webb teacher, Tim Leach, Herkimer County Legislator Peter Manno, and Cornell Cooperative Extension employee Wendy Richardson.

The students had a tour of the Capitol, and were welcomed by Senator Hugh Farley and Assemblyman Marc Butler. After having a dialogue regarding current issues confronting Herkimer County and New York State, The students were recognized on the floor of the NY State Assembly and watched the government in action. Assemblywoman Claudia Tenney spoke with the group about her role as a Republican in the Assembly and shared a little about the daily life of our state representatives. The group then visited the NYS Museum.

Front Row L to R: NY Assemblyman Marc Butler, Herkimer Legislator Peter Manno, Casey Hamlin, Julia Post, Marsala Bono, Michelle Cleveland; Middle Row L to R: Wendy Richardson, Wally Szarek, Robert Caivana, Jerry Pritchard, Alyssa Wadsworth, Rachael Huddleston; Back Row L to R: Tim Leach, Rebecca Sessions, Vicky Franco, Harry Gibson III, Jacob Bray
T-shirt Contest Theme: “4-H Grows Here”

- Please submit this page with the information filled out at the top along with your 8½ x 11 black and white drawing on a plain white sheet of paper.
- **No color** designs will be accepted.
- The word “4-H” **must** be on the t-shirt some where.
- Please **DO NOT** use the 4-H emblem as a watermark or “background”. For more details on the legal use of the 4-H Clover emblem, please contact the 4-H office.
- The winner will be announce in the August/September 4-H Facts
- The t-shirts will be available for purchase
- Anyone 4-H member volunteering in the Youth Building at the Herkimer County Fair will receive a **FREE** “4-H Grows Here” t-shirt.
- Please submit your design by June 15.
"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"

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