



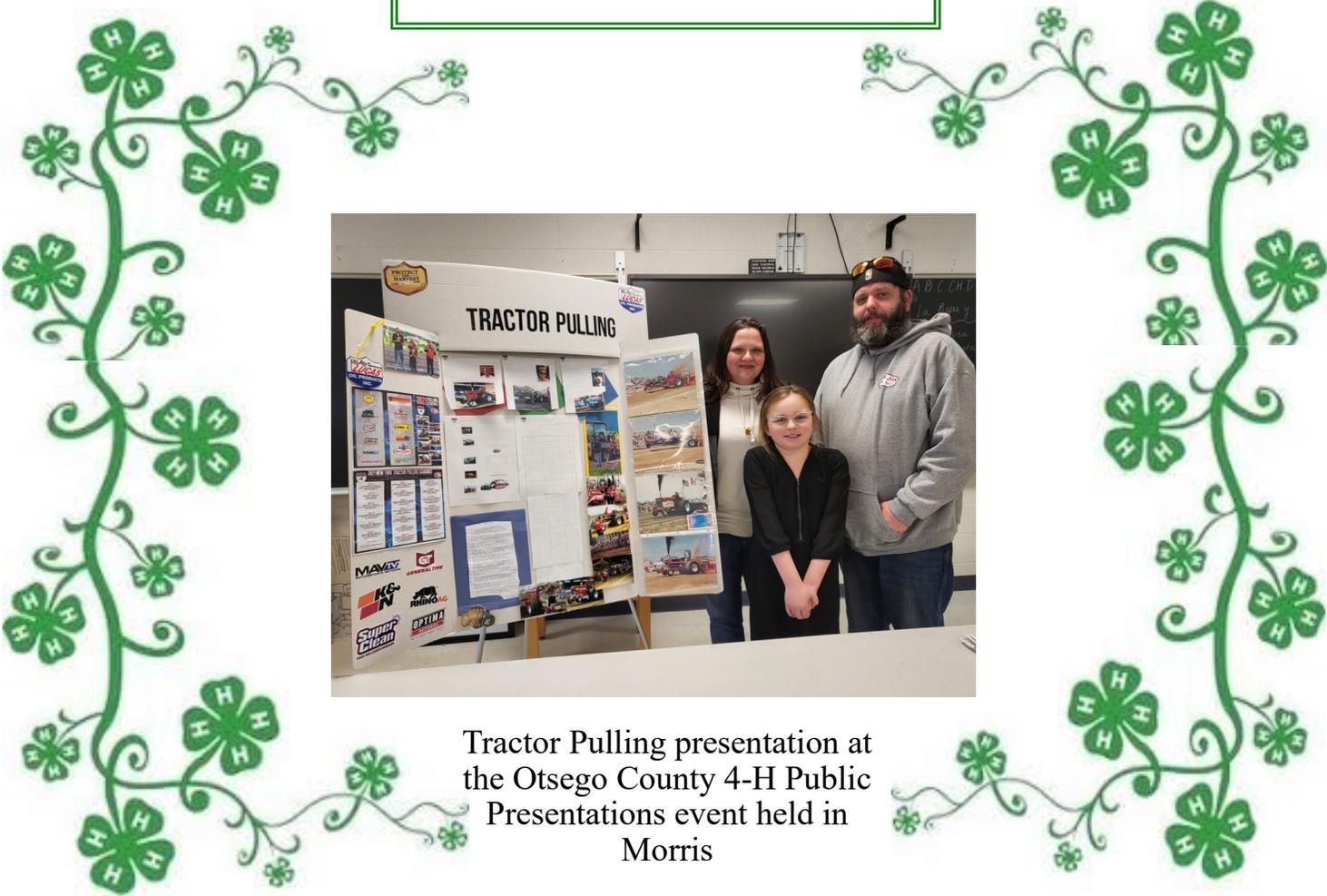
Otsego County 4-H Newsletter



*A Publication of Cornell Cooperative
Extension Schoharie and Otsego Counties*

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Schoharie and Otsego Counties

March 2024



Tractor Pulling presentation at the Otsego County 4-H Public Presentations event held in Morris

4-H is a **community** of **young people** across America who are learning **leadership, citizenship** and **life skills.**

**Cornell Cooperative Extension
Schoharie & Otsego Counties
4-H Youth Development Staff**

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4-H Youth Development Mission Statement

The mission of Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development is to build youth-adult partnerships to enable youth to become fully engaged in their learning process. New York State 4-H is a leader in enabling youth to develop the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and abilities to become productive citizens and is a catalyst for positive change to meet the needs of a diverse and changing society.

Through 4-H Youth Development, youth will:

- Practice effective problem-solving and decision-making skills
- Possess positive work attitudes and skills
- Value diversity
- Accept community and social responsibility
- Contribute to positive relationships with families, peers, and community
- Demonstrate communication and leadership skills
- Value lifelong learning

Cornell Cooperative Extension values:

- 4-H Youth development as the focus of all youth development activities
- Partnerships for supporting, conducting, and extending the program
- Volunteerism as a cornerstone of the program



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123 Lake Street, Cooperstown, NY 13326
(Education Center/ mailing address)
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Monday through Friday

31 Maple Street, Oneonta, NY 13820
(Outreach office)
Phone: 607-433-2521
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - Monday, Tuesday, and Friday

Website: <http://cceschoharie-otsego.org>



4-H Calendar Events 2023-2024



MARCH	
3	4-H Dairy Bowl Practice, 1:00p.m., TBD
8	NYS 4-H Insects & Critters of NYS, 6:30p.m., Zoom
9	4-H Regional Hippology & Horse Bowl, 9:00a.m., Greene
9	4-H March Dog Madness, 9:00a.m., Cornell University
10	4-H Dairy Bowl Practices, 1:00p.m., TBD
13	NYS 4-H Insects & Critters of NYS, 6:30p.m., Zoom
16	4-H Regional Dairy Bowl, 9:00a.m., Oxford
20	NYS 4-H Insects & Critters of NYS, 6:30p.m., Zoom
18-22	Ag in the Classroom, "I Love Strawberries!"
23	4-H Livestock Auction Orientation, 9:00a.m., TBD
25	DEC 4-H Day Old Pheasants Chick order due
27	NYS Livestock Virtual Judging Series, Introduction to Livestock Judging & Market Cattle, 7:00pm
29-30	NYS 4-H Dairy Discovery, Cornell University
April	
3	NYS 4-H Livestock Virtual Judging Series, Judging Market Swine, 7:00pm
4	4-H Dog Agility Workshop, Hessian Hill Farm, Berne, 9:00am
5	4-H Regional Livestock Skill A Thon, 6:00p.m., Broome County
10	NYS 4-H Livestock Virtual Judging Series, Judging Market Sheep & Goats, 7:00pm
13	NYS 4-H Horse Bowl, Cornell University, Dept. of Animal Science, Morrison Hall, 8:00am
17	NYS 4-H Livestock Virtual Judging Series, Judging Breeding Cattle, 7:00pm
18	4-H Livestock Auction Meeting, The Rowe House, Oneonta, 6:30pm
20	4-H District Public Presentations & Horse Communications, Dewitt School, Ithaca, 10:00am
23	4-H Advisory Meeting, The Rowe House, Oneonta, 6:30pm
24	NYS 4-H Livestock Virtual Judging Series, Judging Breeding Swine, 7:00pm
27	4-H NYS Dairy Bowl, Beginner, Junior & Senior, Morrison Hall, Cornell University,
May	
1	NYS 4-H Livestock Judging Virtual Series, Judging Breeding Ewes and Does, 7:00pm
2	NYS 4-H Virtual Dairy Judging Series, 7:00pm
3-5	STAR (State Teen Action Retreat), 4-H Camp Shankitunk, Delhi, NY
4	Animal Crackers, CALS Animal Science, Morrison Hall, Ithaca, 8:30am
8	NYS 4-H Virtual Poultry Judging Series, Biology and Physiology of Production Hens, 7:00pm
9	NYS 4-H Virtual Dairy Judging Series, 7:00pm
15	NYS 4-H Virtual Poultry Judging Series, Handling Hens, and Placing Classes, 7:00pm
16	NYS 4-H Virtual Dairy Judging Series, 7:00pm
15-17	Spring 4-H In-Service, Cornell University
18	NYS 4-H Horse Communications Event, Morrison Hall, Cornell University, 9:00am
19	4-H Horse Evaluations, Horse Rings, Otsego County Fairgrounds, Morris
19-21	NYS 4-H Capital Days, Albany, NY
22	NYS 4-H Virtual Poultry Judging Series, Placing Classes Practice, 7:00pm
27	Memorial Day, CCE offices closed
June	
5	4-H Horse Evaluations, Horse Rings, Otsego County Fairgrounds, Morris
11	Pullorum Clinic, Martin Hall, Otsego County Fairgrounds, 3-5pm
18	4-H Advisory Meeting, The Rowe House, Oneonta, 6:30pm
19	Juneteenth, CCE offices closed
26-28	NYS 4-H Career Explorations, Cornell University

4-H Club News



Ewes & Friends 4-H Club in the month of March learned how to finger crochet starting with simple chains and we look forward to using our new skills to build bigger creations--keep an eye in Martin Hall!

Ewes and Friends 4-H Club standing with their club banner met for our monthly meeting in February. We learned about the experiences of our members who completed public presentations, reviewed officer roles, discussed fundraising opportunities, and learned about yet another use for milk--we made and enjoyed vanilla "ice cream" (which is actually custard since the recipe contains eggs)!



4-H Members of the **Springfield High Meadows 4-H Club** meeting was held to learn about Dairy Judging.

WELCOME NEW 4-H CLUBS
Otsego Busy Bees & Delsego 4-H Club



Fields and Flats 4-H Club went to a local sap house and learned how to harvest and boil sap at their February meeting. The meeting wrapped up with the clubbers enjoying pancakes with some freshly made syrup.



4-H Otsego County

Congratulations Evelyn Kersmanc

On Saturday, February 24, 2024, **Evelyn Kersmanc** from **Otsego County** was named the 2024-2025 New York State Dairy Ambassador during a ceremony at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Syracuse Destiny USA in Syracuse, N.Y. Evelyn formerly served as the Otsego County Dairy Ambassador since spring of 2023. As New York State Dairy Ambassador, she will serve as a spokesperson and advocate for dairy farmers by attending special events to engage with and educate consumers on the nutritional benefits of milk and dairy foods, how farmers care for their cows and their land in order to produce a sustainable product, and the importance of the dairy industry to the New York State economy.



WKTV Channel 2, Women Wednesday honoree brings us to a farm in Jordanville, where Amy Augur-Doody's work is 24 hours a day.

She takes care of her cows, her family and her community with a smile.

"I was shocked," Augur-Doody said of winning the distinction. "I've seen a few of the segments...It's an honor to sit with some of those other women who were showcased, and I feel I'm just an ordinary person."

Augur-Doody is anything but ordinary.

"I am a dairy farmer, a registered nurse at Bassett Medical Center—been there 15 years and been farming since 2007," she said.

Her resume doesn't stop there, however.

"I am also a 4H leader for the Springfield High Meadow group here in Otsego County," she said. "I sit on the Owen D. Young school board, and I am a board member of the OHM Holstein Club."

She's also a wife and mother.



Along with her husband and three kids, they operate Augur-Doody Farm in Jordanville.

"We milk 40 cows, registered Holsteins, Jerseys," she said.

They also have beef, lamb and chicken for sale at their farm stand. "We are the definition of a small family farm," she said.

"It's hectic," she explained. "I get asked that a lot. How I do everything. I tell everyone one day at a time, lots of coffee." At Bassett, she prepares patients for surgery. "That's, like, an eight-hour day for that, and then, afterward, it's time for chores again," she said.

"Every day, regardless, Monday through Sunday, seven days a week, twice a day, the cows have to get milked and the animals all have to get fed and cared for," she said. "That's including major snow storms. Just a couple of weeks ago, we lost power for 20 hours, so we were running on generators for that long." It's hard but rewarding work. "This brings me peace," Augur-Doody said of working on the farm. "Working, feeding the animals, caring for them—you get a new calf born or even new sheep."

This fifth-generation farmer has noticed that women in agriculture is a growing trend.

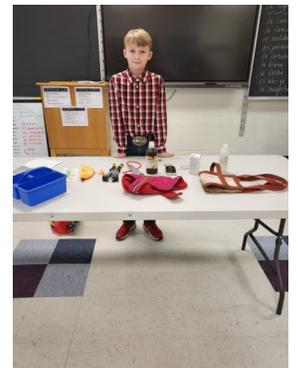
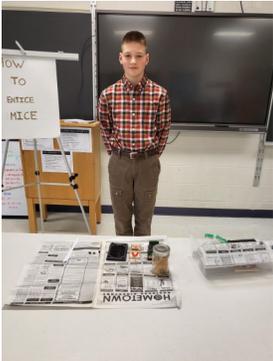
But that wasn't always the case. "When we first started out—2007, 2008—salesmen would always come to talk to my husband, which is fine, but there are certain things that I do that they didn't realize," she explained. Augur-Doody's best advice to the ladies in the industry is, don't let someone tell you that you can't do something.

"I drove tractors with the best of them, I've worked on equipment with the best of them," she said. "Being in farming, you have to be optimistic and be happy-go-lucky. It's easy to get knocked down. You put that behind you and move on."

4-H Public Presentations



CLOVERBUDS
Cloverbuds are younger members of the 4-H Program with club projects and activities designed especially with their ages and stages in mind. Cloverbud members are encouraged to “Show & Tell” about something they’ve learned through 4-H Cloverbud work. The expectation is that Cloverbuds will reap the same benefits from Public Presentations as older 4-H members.



Public speaking is one of the most important life skills 4-H members learn in 4-H. 4-H Public Presentations teaches youth how to effectively communicate. Youth that learn how to express their thoughts clearly to the people they interact with on the job, in school, or at home will be a more valued employee, a better student, and a more understood family member. 4-H alumni credit 4-H Public Presentations as the edge that places them above their peers in both college and professional careers.

4-H Public Presentations

On Saturday, February 24, Seventeen Otsego County 4-H Members presented their demonstrations and illustrated talks to volunteer evaluators from across the county. The youth members walked away with knowledge and skills they learned during the evaluation process that will help them be public speakers in the future.

Congratulations to all of the members who participated!

Presenters

Gilbertsville Dairy Club

Kristena Barringer
Lacey Short
Henry Underwood
Gavin Underwood

Ewes & Friends

Alice Kennedy
Edmund Kennedy
Robert Kennedy
Pauline Kennedy

Helping Hands

Emma Peck

Fields & Flats

Lee Lindsey
Olivia Hartman

America's Funniest 4-Hers

Gracelen Jones
Alemea Weston
Mikah Velten
Winnie Shepardson

Independent

Lilly Cleaveland

Evaluators

Marlene Brooks

Debra Dutcher

Room Host

Emma Peck

Registration Table

Lori Peck



Congratulations to Winifred Shepardson, Emma Peck and Mikah Velten for advancing on the District Presentations, being held on April 20 in Ithaca.



4-H Upcoming Events STAR (State Teen Action Retreat)

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Friday - May 3

5:30 p.m. Arrival & Registration
 6:00 p.m. Dinner
 6:45 p.m. Adult Orientation
 7:00 p.m. Opening Ceremony
 8:30 p.m. Friday Night Activity
 10:15 p.m. Free Time & Snacks
 11:00 p.m. LIGHTS OUT

Saturday - May 4

7:30 a.m. Breakfast
 8:30 a.m. Roundtable # 2
 9:30 a.m. Workshop
 11:00 a.m. Workshop
 12:00 p.m. Lunch
 12:50 p.m. Roundtable # 3
 1:30 p.m. Workshop
 3:00 p.m. Free Time & Snacks
 3:20 p.m. Workshop
 4:20 p.m. Roundtable # 4
 5:00 p.m. Prepare for Dinner
 5:45 p.m. County Photos
 6:30 p.m. Dinner
 7:30 p.m. Keynote Performance
 8:30 p.m. Dance @ Cafeteria and events,
 8:30 p.m. Movies & Games @ Lodge
 10:00 p.m. Free Time & Snacks
 10:45 p.m. Return to cabins.
 11:00 p.m. LIGHTS OUT

Sunday - May 5

7:30 a.m. Breakfast
 8:30 a.m. Roundtable # 5
 9:15 a.m. Community Service
 10:30 a.m. Roundtable # 6
 11:30 a.m. Closing Ceremony

REGISTRATION & WEBSITE

- STAR is open to 4-H teens 13 to 19 years of age, and their adult chaperones.
- Extension Educators are responsible for registering all program participants. Contact your county 4-H office for more information.
- Registrations are due no later than April 14th!
- Registration Cost: \$125 per person (covers meals, workshop supplies and more).

For more information and/or to register contact:

Teresa Adell
 Otsego County 4-H Educator
 tla47@cornell.edu
 607-547-2536 ext 225
REGISTRATION DEADLINE
 IS APRIL 12, 2024

CELL PHONE ETIQUETTE

...At the request of Teen Planning Committee members....we ask that cell phones be turned off during programming. There are several breaks, including lunchtime, where you are able to take texts and phone calls.

Thank you for this requested respect.



MAY 3RD-5TH, 2024

**4-H CAMP SHANKITUNK
 DELHI, NY**



WHAT IS STAR?

STAR is a premiere youth voice opportunity modeled after the National 4-H Conference. We invite 4-H teen leaders to apply to serve as a planning team member, they select an adult partner and serve to plan the STAR event. STAR is a fun-filled weekend which helps to invigorate 4-H programming across NYS and showcases positive youth development, experiential learning, agriculture, sustainable food systems, STEM, and civic engagement workshops.

Roundtables are modeled after the 4-H pillars and help youth to do a deep dive in the topics outside of the hands-on workshops. We also have a community service, keynote speaker, dinner/dance and ice cream social.

WHAT SHOULD YOU BRING?

- Cool-weather Sleeping bag, warm blanket
- Toiletries and towels,
- Clothes (sometimes you get messy at STAR so bring some clothes you don't mind getting dirty).
- Camera + extra batteries
- Water bottle and/or Mug
- County banner/poster
- Healthy snack (your county will receive a notice as to what the snack is).
- An open mind, positive, and respectful attitude
- An item to of your choice to donate: details will be on your registration post card.

Please label all your personal items with name and county—we don't want anything to get lost or misplaced!

GROUND RULES

- Create a welcoming environment for all
- Bring your best self
- Honor diversity...yours & others
- Create a safe environment
- Be a team player
- Participate fully
- Be a positive role model

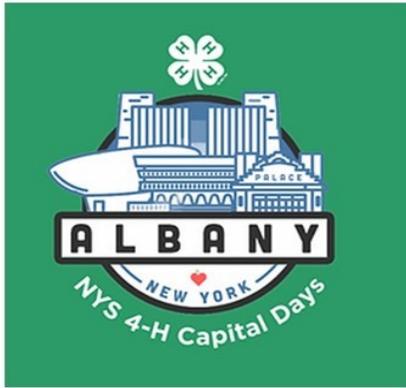


DRESS CODE

Dress is typical casual wear—please choose wisely what you wear—everything should be 4-H appropriate. We are encouraging you all to wear the provided t-shirt. Dress code applies to both youth and adults.



4-H Upcoming Events



NYS 4-H Capital Days



May 19-21, 2024

- To achieve a better understanding of the New York State policy process.
- To gain a better understanding of state and local government connections.
- To provide delegates the ability to meet with legislators and tell their 4-H stories.
- To create an awareness of career opportunities within the New York State Government.
- To meet and exchange experiences with delegates from other counties.

Join us in person in our state capital, Albany, as we get acquainted with our state government and connect with other teens from across the state! Visit the Assembly and Senate Chambers, tour the Capitol building and learn all about its history, visit the NYS Court of Appeals. Choose an agency you can interact with that you would like to know more about: Department of Ag & Markets, Department of Corrections, Department of Health, Department of Education, and Department of Environmental Conservation. Then schedule a visit with your Assemblyperson and Senator and tell your 4-H story. Add in live games and the chance to win prizes!

14 years or older
Cost per participant is
\$275
Scholarships
available
Please contact 4-H
Office for application



Registration due
by April 22.
To register or
more information
contact:
Teresa Adell
tla47@cornell.edu

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Cornell Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities. Accommodations for persons with special needs may be requested by contacting Cornell Cooperative Extension Schoharie and Otsego Counties prior to a program.

4-H Upcoming Events

Animal Crackers
All Creatures Great & Small



NYS 4-H Animal Science

Cornell
CAL S

2024 ANIMAL CRACKERS

"ALL CREATERS GREAT AND SMALL"

Beef, Dog, Horse, Swine



Saturday, May 4, 2024

The NYS 4-H Animal Science Team is pleased to announce 2024 Animal Crackers, "All Creatures Great and Small", on Saturday, May 4, 2024, on the Cornell University campus. This year's program will highlight Beef, Dog, Horse, and Swine topics.

Interesting, educational, hands-on activities are planned to make Animal Crackers a memorable learning event.

Participants will have the opportunity to learn about Beef, Dog, Horse, and Swine biology and management while having fun participating in a variety of interactive activities with 4-H'ers from across NYS. 4-H youth 8-12 years old or those with beginner to intermediate knowledge of the covered species are invited to participate.

Beef



Workshop 1: Body Condition Scoring (BCS) - Beef cattle have requirements for energy, protein, minerals, vitamins, and water just like us. Did you know there is a scoring system that visually evaluates the amount of condition (subcutaneous fat) an animal is carrying and the nutritional status of an animal. Let's give BCS a try and see if our animals are getting adequate groceries.

Workshop 2: Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) - It's our commitment to food safety, animal wellbeing, and beef quality. Developing a good health program can reduce drug residue and injection site damage to quality meat cuts. But when we do have to treat, it's all about location

Horse



Workshop 1: Off to the Races! Participants will learn about two different types of footing that horses race on: Dirt flat track and Harness track. Each participant will get to create tubes with their own footing for both the harness track and the flat track and why different footing is important for horse health and rider/driver safety.

Workshop 2: No Hoof, No Horse! A local Farrier will come and discuss the art of caring for a horse's hoof. They will go over different tools, what a farrier's day looks like, discuss parts of the hoof, and how to care for a hoof.

Dog



Workshop 1: Nose Work. We will discuss training, grooming and/or animal assisted activity training. And the use of dogs in scent detection, including in the sport of nose work. Several teams of handlers and dogs will do nose work demonstrations in different locations around Morrison Hall.

Workshop 2: Is that Normal? Participants will learn about the difference between a normal healthy dog and what is abnormal. Each participant will learn how to take a dog's temperature, pulse and respiratory rate. They will learn how to restrain properly, when to call the vet and what they should have in their at home first aid kit.

Swine



Workshop 1: Fine Swine: A Day in the Life of a Pig: Daily Care and Housing for a Healthy Pig.

Participants will design a daily observation checklist for pig health and safety following a discussion of healthy pig behavior, looks and movement. Then they will work in small groups to decide the best way to set up a pig pen keeping manure management in mind.

Workshop 2: Fine Swine: A Day in the Life of a Pig: Ear Notches and Walking Hogs Participants

will learn why we notch a pig's ears, how to read the notches, and make their own pig ear headband with notches that match their birthday. They will also learn how to walk pigs.

Registration: \$25 per youth and \$15 per adult, Animal Crackers t-shirts for youth participants will be provided, adults may purchase t-shirts at the door. Lunch is provided for both youth and chaperones. All groups must have at least one chaperone.

Register with the 4-H office; Teresa Adell, tla47@cornell.edu, 607-547-2536 ext 225

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS APRIL 25

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Cornell Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities. Accommodations for persons with special needs may be requested by contacting Cornell Cooperative Extension Schoharie and Otsego Counties prior to a program.

4-H Upcoming Events



NYS 4-H VIRTUAL POULTRY JUDGING SERIES

MAY 8TH, 15TH AND 22ND

May 8th, 7 p.m. - Biology and Physiology of Production Hens

As hens move through their life phases, they experience a number of physiological shifts as their bodies prepare, sustain and eventually cease laying eggs. Learn what causes these changes and how to identify them. This information will be useful as students begin structuring their oral reasons.

May 15th, 7 p.m. - Handling Hens and Placing Classes

In this lesson, we'll use live examples of hens to review handling flighty birds and how to remove birds from cages. We'll also use examples of hens from red and white production strains to review how to place birds and how to back up those decisions with oral reasons.

May 22nd, 7 p.m. - Placing Classes Practice

Students will be given free online practice classes through livestockjudging.com to score and provide oral reasons on their own. This week's lesson will review the answers to those practice classes, provide the explanation as to why the classes were placed that way, and provide the opportunity for students to get their questions answered.

To Register Visit:

<http://tinyurl.com/yc8sbysa>

Any questions contact

Brian Aukema at bj14@cornell.edu



Register at <http://tinyurl.com/yc8sbysa>

4-H Upcoming Events

NYS 4-H LIVESTOCK VIRTUAL JUDGING SERIES

Wednesday Nights at 7:00 p.m.
March 27 to May 1

MARCH 27 - Introduction to Livestock Judging and Market Cattle

APRIL 3 - Judging Market Swine

APRIL 10 - Judging Market Sheep and Goats

APRIL 17 - Judging Breeding Cattle

APRIL 24 - Judging Breeding Swine

MAY 1 - Judging Breeding Ewes and Does



Summit Speaker - Rylan Laudan

Laudan grew up in eastern Kansas showing and judging livestock at regional and state level. His passion for livestock judging came later in life when he found a coach that was willing to invest in him as saw his potential as an evaluator. Growing up, he found the most success in the show ring with swine, this grew his passion for the industry and inspired him to continue to work with youth to better thier experiences within the industry. In the judging circuit his greatest accomplishment was being named an All-American Livestock Judge at the National Contest in Louisville, Kentucky.

NYS 4-H Virtual Livestock Judging Series

To register for this program, visit:

<https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYkdOyrqT0sHda14qtMqZQlh7d9qvjQx3i1>



SOUTH CENTRAL
REGIONAL LIVESTOCK
SKILL-A-THON
COMPETITION



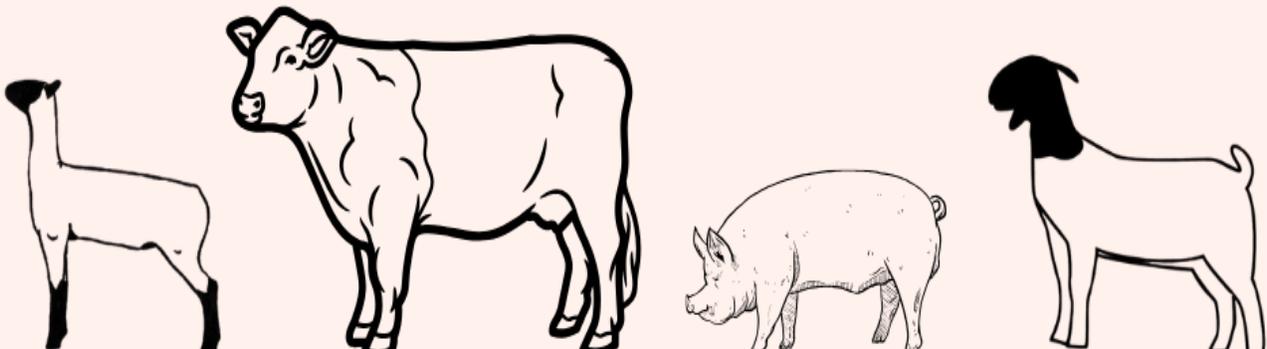
April 5th, 2024

Registration begins at
5:30 pm

Contest starts at 6:00 pm

CCE Broome

To Pre-register contact your local 4-H
Office, Pizza will be provided to
participants



VIRTUAL 4-H DAIRY JUDGING SERIES

Inviting all youth and coaches to this Dairy Judging workshop series with Dr. Doug Waterman and Kevin Ziemba. Both are experienced in judging cattle and coaching state 4-H and Collegiate teams.

**MAY 2
MAY 9
MAY 16**

TIME: 7:00 - 8:00 PM

**Register at:
<https://bit.ly/3wPiGM5>**

**CONTACT DEBBIE GRUSENMEYER
WITH ANY QUESTIONS AT
DJC27@CORNELL.EDU**



4-H Otsego County



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Amanda Licata 607-437-9738
amandalicata@yahoo.com

LOCAL DAIRY AMBASSADOR PROGRAM ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERS Otsego County Dairy Promotion Committee is accepting applications for the local Dairy Ambassador program.

This opportunity is open to young men and women of school age who live in Otsego County and have a connection to the dairy industry.

As a member of the Otsego County dairy promotion team, Dairy Ambassadors serve to promote dairy products and make a local connection between farmers and consumers. Participants receive training in communications and marketing and develop professional skills that will last a lifetime!

The New York State Dairy Ambassador program is funded through New York dairy farmers, through their checkoff promotion dollars and administered through American Dairy Association North East. The program's goal is to develop youth advocates for the dairy industry. The program aims to build critical professional skills and confidence of young individuals who are passionate about the dairy industry. Individuals will gain experience collaborating with a team, knowledge of ADA North East promotion and marketing programs, and will participate in sessions led by experts in public speaking, social media, team building and leadership.

To learn more, or to receive an application, contact Amanda Licata at amandalicata@yahoo.com



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4-H GROWS HERE

**Cooperstown
 Office Hours
 Open Monday through Friday
 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
 Oneonta
 Office Hours
 Monday, Tuesday & Friday**



6M
 Six million kids nationwide
 are learning how to be
 better humans in 4-H.



Support local 4-H youth development by reducing our publication and mailing costs. Your ad is viewed by nearly 400 youth, parents, and volunteers.

Contact Cornell Cooperative Extension at (607)547-2536 ext 225 for more Information.