



Otsego County 4-H Newsletter



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

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Schoharie and Otsego Counties

January 2024



**Members of the Helping
Hands 4-H Club working
on their apple projects**

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

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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:

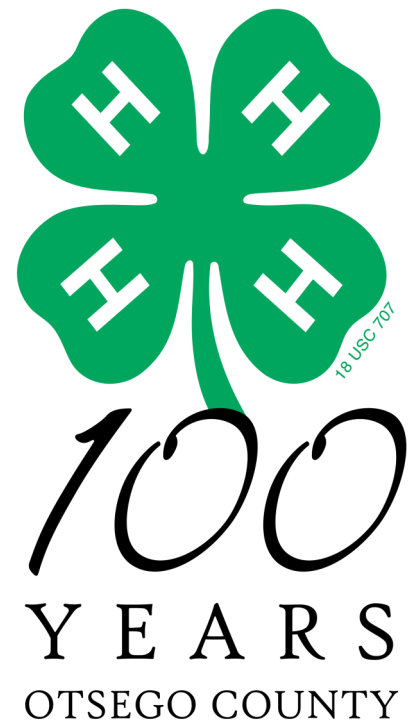
- Practice effective problem-solving and decision-making skills
- Possess positive work attitudes and skills
- Value diversity
- Accept community and social responsibility
- Contribute to positive relationships with families, peers, and community
- Demonstrate communication and leadership skills
- Value 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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across **America** who are learning
leadership, citizenship and
life skills.



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Cornell Cooperative Education Center

123 Lake Street, Cooperstown, NY 13326
(Education Center/ mailing address)
Phone: 607-547-2536 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
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 2023-24



JANUARY	2024
1	New Year's Day, CCE Offices closed
11	NYS 4-H Virtual Dairy Bowl Practice, 7:00p.m., Zoom
15	Martin Luther King Day, CCE Offices closed
21	4-H Dairy Bowl Practices Kick Off, 1:00p.m., Springfield Center
24	NYS 4-H Livestock Summit, 7:00p.m., Zoom
25	4-H Information Night, 5:30p.m., Rowe House, Oneonta
25	NYS 4-H Virtual Dairy Bowl Practices, 7:00p.m., Zoom
27	4-H Dog Agility Workshop, 9:00a.m., Hessian Hill Farm
28	4-H Dairy Bowl Practice, 1:00p.m., Springfield Center
31	NYS 4-H Livestock Summit, 7:00p.m., Zoom
FEBRUARY	
1	4-H Earn-an-Animal applications due
1	4-H Livestock Auction Beef forms due to the 4-H office
4	4-H Dairy Bowl Practice, 1:00p.m., TBD
7	NYS 4-H Livestock Summit, 7:00p.m., Zoom
8	NYS 4-H Virtual Dairy Bowl Practices, 7:00p.m., Zoom
10	4-H Public Presentation Workshop, 9:00a.m., Rowe House, Oneonta
11	4-H Dairy Bowl Practice, 1:00p.m., TBD
15	4-H Information Night, 5:30p.m., CCE Education Center, Cooperstown
18	4-H Dairy Bowl Practice, 1:00p.m., TBD
19	President's Day, CCE Offices closed
21	NYS 4-H Livestock Summit, 7:00p.m., Zoom
22	NYS 4-H Virtual Dairy Bowl Practices, 7:00p.m.
24	4-H Public Presentation, 9:00a.m., Morris Central School
25	4-H Dairy Bowl Practice, 1:00p.m., TBD
28	NYS 4-H Insects & Critters of NYS, 6:30p.m., Zoom
28	NYS 4-H Livestock Summit, 7:00p.m., Zoom
29	NYS 4-H Virtual Dairy Bowl Practices, 7:00p.m., Zoom
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
29-30	NYS 4-H Dairy Discovery, Cornell University

4-H Club News



4-H Members of the **America's Funniest 4-H Club** spent their afternoon hiking at Willy's Cider Mill.

The **Helping Hands 4-H Club** met to experience some apple goodness in an "All Things Apple" meeting. They started with an apple walk, getting to taste 7 different apple varieties and choosing their favorite. They then made apple soap and finished by making yummy caramel apples decorated with their favorite toppings. Everyone left with at least one piece of apple knowledge they didn't have at the start of the meeting.



The **Ewes and Friends 4-H Club** made homemade Mozzarella cheese. We started with 1 gallon of store bought whole milk and 1 gallon of raw milk from a local farm store, and ended up with 2 quite different products, and a lot of leftover whey! Raw milk whey and mozzarella on the left, store bought milk whey and mozzarella the right (and combined whey in the middle). The kids all loved it - the mozzarella on the right was smoother and less salty, and on the left was closer to a string cheese texture and saltier, due to the amount of salt used and kneading/stretching during the formation stage.

4-H Club News



In November and December the **Garrattsville Greywolves** focused on woodworking making wreaths and a tree to use as part of their holiday decorations.



The **Gilbertsville Dairy Club** held their October meeting at the Fellowship Hall in Gilbertsville. They did a recycled project using milk jugs and created Halloween Lanterns. They also made stuffed pumpkins filling tissue paper with some candy treats.

4-H Events

OTSEGO COUNTY 4-H MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN THE NORTH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK EXPOSITION IN LOUISVILLE

The New York State 4-H Livestock Program is proud to announce that this year they had two teams participate in the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Kentucky. New York State 4-H had teams participate in Livestock Skillathon and Livestock Judging contest. This year the Skillathon contest had 22 state teams from across the country participate, the largest number of teams ever, and 34 state teams participate in the Livestock Judging Competition.

This year's Livestock Judging contest consisted of 11 classes of animals including beef, sheep, swine and meat goats. Beyond just judging, every contestant then had to give 4 sets of reasons on justifying their placings to the judges.

The Livestock Skillathon contest consisted of both individual and team questions. The team had to answer questions on quality assurance, livestock nutrition and animal performance and marketing. For the individual portion of the contest 4-H members had to participate in six stations including Hay evaluation, wool evaluation, Breeds of livestock, equipment used in the livestock industry, meat cut identification and a quality assurance problem.



Participating in the 4-H Livestock Judging Competition for 2023 was Max Pullis from Otsego County, Anna Hawkes from Herkimer County, Evelyn Kersmanc from Otsego County and Laken Dyn from Herkimer County. This year's team was coached by Kate Preston from Madison County.

This year's 4-H Livestock Skillathon participants included Olivia Maslyn from Ontario County, Evelyn Kersmanc from Otsego County, Anikka Parshall from Ontario County and Wyatt Wadams from Ontario County. This year's team was coached by Amy Pyra from Ontario County. Congratulations to Evelyn on placing 6th high individual in Quality Assurance and to Annika on placing 10th high individual in Evaluation.



4-H Events

2023 NY State 4-H Dairy Teams earn National Title and high honors this Fall in Dairy Quiz Bowl, Junior Dairy Management, and three Dairy Cattle Judging Contests

The **Junior Dairy Management contest** is a skill-a-thon event covering at least 9 different areas of the dairy field. Here in New York, we call this our Dairy Challenge contest. Youth at all age levels can participate on a local level at their county fairs, and later at the state contest held at the N.Y. State Fair, which is coordinated by the Cornell PRO-DAIRY Program and selected County Cornell Cooperative Extension Youth Educators. The top 4 senior level youth become the N.Y. State 4-H Dairy Management Team to compete at the Junior Dairy Management Contest held at the All-American Dairy Show in Harrisburg, PA. The Dairy Challenge and Junior Dairy Management Contest are educational activities that provide participants an excellent opportunity to evaluate top quality animals, receive experience in evaluation and decision-making, and demonstrate knowledge and skills in dairy management through stations in dairy cattle selection, linear trait analysis, diseases and biosecurity, dairy cattle health and management, meats and dairy product evaluation, feed management, identification of grains, forages and by-products, biology of lactation and mastitis, dairy product evaluation, facilities, farm safety, and farm business management. This well-rounded approach benefits our dairy youths learning and our dairy producers of the future. The 2023 NY State 4-H team took top honors with a 2nd place finish at the Junior Dairy Management contest. The team members were Nathan Foss, Wyoming Co, Evelyn Kersmanc, Otsego Co, Julia Vunk, Otsego Co., and Hadessa Adsit, Oswego Co. The team was



2023 NYS 4-H Dairy Judging Teams

New York sends out three different teams of dairy judges each Fall.

The team representing NYS 4-H Dairy Cattle Judging at the National contest in conjunction with the World Dairy Expo in Madison Wisconsin was Annika Donlick, Cortland Co, Justin Wolfe, Otsego Co., William Andrew, and Matthew Richenburg both of Wayne Co. The team placed 6th overall 2nd with Justin in 5th for placing of classes and Annika was 9th in oral reasons. Dr. Douglas Waterman coached the team.

4-H Otsego County



Jump Start Your 4-H Experience



2024 4-H Information Nights

Interested in Otsego County 4-H?

Find out information on how to join
and/or start a 4-H club
for youth ages 5-19.

4-H Information nights will be held

Thursday, January 25, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

The Rowe House, 31 Maple Street, Oneonta

Thursday, February 15, 2024 at 5:30pm

CCE Education Center, 123 Lake Street, Cooperstown

Pre-registration is required. Contact Teresa Adell at
607-547-2536 ext 225, 607-433-2521 or email tla47@cornell.edu

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4-H Public Presentations



Public Presentation Day

Saturday, February 24, 9 a.m.

Morris Central School

Registration is required by Friday, February 16

Must Register with your 4-H Club Leader

Independent 4-H members, register with

Teresa Adell, tla47@cornell.edu, 607-547-2536 ext 225, 607-433-2521

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4-H Otsego County

What's Bugging You? Insects & Critters of NYS 4-part virtual series.

Brought to you by The Youth Nature and Outdoor Environment Program Work Team.

Virtual Zoom Sessions will be held at 6:30pm on:
Wed. Feb 28, Wed. March 6,
Wed. March 13, & Wed. March 20

What makes an insect an insect? And are they different than bugs? This group of animals is the most diverse on the planet with an estimated 5.5 million species, of which only 1 million are known and identified. They outnumber humans in every way and affect our daily lives in many ways for good and for bad. Join us for 1 session or for all 4!

Each session will be 45-minutes and jam-packed with educational fun. This series will unravel the mysteries of insects, with experts from Cornell University, Albany Pine Bush Preserve & 4-H educators presenting this program.

Register with QR Code:



WHAT'S BUGGING YOU?

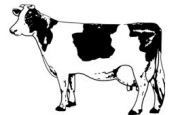
Interested in this series?
For more information
or to register, please use this link

[https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/
YNOEinsects_208](https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/YNOEinsects_208)

DAIRY DISCOVERY WORKSHOP

Friday, March 29-Saturday, March 30, 2024

@ Cornell University



DAIRY DISCOVERY WORKSHOP:

For more information on this event, please contact Cornell at the following link: <https://cals.cornell.edu/pro-dairy/our-expertise/youth/dairy-discovery-workshop>

The annual Dairy Discovery program provides New York youth with fun, hands-on science oriented learning experience on dairy production and management topics which feature the unique facilities, industry professionals, and staff of Cornell.

This year's topic:

- Dairy Herd Health and Management
- Calf and Heifer Production Management
- Quality Milk and Milk Production
- Whole Farm Management Planning
- Maximizing the Feed Management Program.

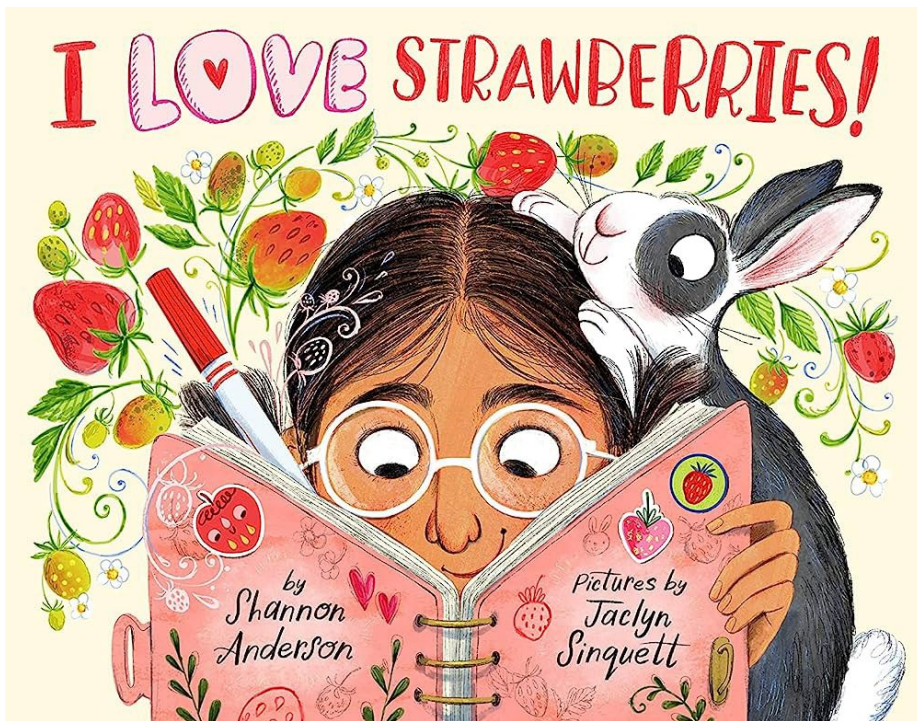
Youth who are 14 to 19 years of age on January 1 of the program year and have an interest in dairy cattle and production management are eligible and strongly encouraged to attend (with their parents or chaperones).

Contact Teresa Adell at the 4-H Office, 607-547-2536 ext 225, or tla47@cornell.edu

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4-H Otsego County



**Ag in the Classroom
March 18-22, 2024**

Agricultural Literacy Week 2024 follows the seedling to table journey of strawberries, as told through the experiences of a child.

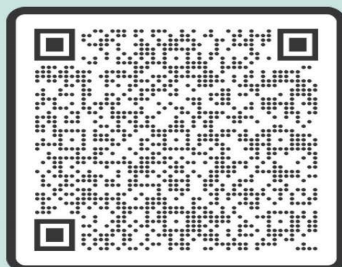
MARCH DOG MADNESS

**MARCH 9TH, 2024
9AM-3PM
FRANK B. MORRISON HALL, CORNELL UNIVERSITY**

\$25/person
Lunch provided
Registration required



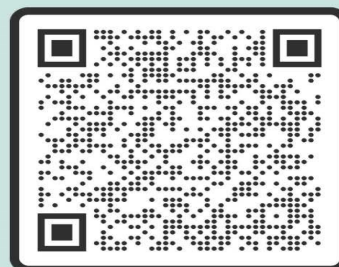
Tentative Schedule



<http://tinyurl.com/bdf2s69u>



Registration



<http://tinyurl.com/3cezhs7s>

CONTACT BRIAN AUKEMA, BJA14@CORNELL.EDU WITH QUESTIONS

For more information please visit <http://tinyurl.com/bdf2s69u>

4-H Otsego County



2024 4-H Day Old Pheasant Chicks Program

The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is once again distributing day-old pheasant chicks for rearing and release projects to qualified 4-H youths.

The rearing and release of pheasants requires a great deal of responsibility by 4-H youth and a leader and must be familiar with ***Pheasant Rearing Guide***, available at the 4-H office.

Applications must be submitted by March 25

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Any interested 4H'rs or club leaders should apply online at <http://dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/hunting/small-game/pheasant>

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL LIVESTOCK SKILL-A-THON COMPETITION
April 5th, 2024
Registration begins at 5:30pm
Contest starts at 6:00 pm
CCE Broome
To Pre-register contact your local 4-H Office,
Pizza will be provided to participants



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 123 Lake Street
 Cooperstown, NY 13326



Join us on
Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/otsegocounty4H>



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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
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



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.