



Otsego County 4-H Newsletter



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

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Schoharie and Otsego Counties

January/February 2026



**NO GOATS NO GLORY
4-H CLUB MADE GOAT
CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS**

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**

Teresa Adell
4-H Association Subject Educator
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4-H Resource Educator, Schoharie
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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



The *Otsego County 4-H Newsletter* is published eleven times a year by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Schoharie & Otsego Counties.

Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for providing equal program and employment in accordance with applicable laws.

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



JANUARY	
29	NYS 4-H Dairy Bowl Practices, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom
30	4-H Horse Bowl Kick Off, 6:00 p.m., Rowe House, Oneonta
31	4-H Dairy Bowl Kick Off, 1:00 p.m., Springfield Community Center, Springfield Center
FEBRUARY	
1	4-H International Day, Southside Mall, Oneonta 1:00 p.m.
1	4-H Livestock Auction Beef forms due to the 4-H office
2	4-H Earn-an-Animal applications due
3	NYS 4-H Horse Educational Series, Horse Bowl, 6-7 p.m., via Zoom
4	NYS 4-H Livestock Summit, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom
5	4-H Secretary Report due to 4-H Office
5	NYS 4-H Horse Career Series, 6:30-7:30 p.m., via Zoom
6	4-H Horse Bowl Quiz Practice, 6:00 p.m., Rowe House, Oneonta
7	4-H Earn An Animal Interviews and Orientation, Rowe House, Oneonta, 10:00 a.m.
7	4-H Valentine Arts & Crafts Workshop, 1:00 p.m., Rowe House, Oneonta
10	NYS 4-H Horse Educational Series, Hippology, 6-7 p.m., via Zoom
10	4-H Teen Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom
11	NYS 4-H Livestock Summit, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom
12	NYS 4-H Horse Career Series, 6:30-7:30 p.m., via Zoom
12	NYS 4-H Dairy Bowl Practices, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom
13	4-H Horse Quiz Bowl Practice, 6:00 p.m., Rowe House, Oneonta
16	Presidents' Day observed, CCE Offices closed
17	NYS 4-H Horse Educational Series, Communications, 6-7 p.m., via Zoom
17	4-H Leaders Meeting, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom
18	NYS 4-H Livestock Summit, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom
19	NYS 4-H Horse Career Series, 6:30-7:30 p.m., via Zoom
19	NYS 4-H Dairy Bowl Practices, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom
20	4-H Horse Quiz Bowl Practices, 6:00 p.m., Rowe House, Oneonta
24	NYS 4-H Horse Educational Series, Judging, 6-7 p.m., via Zoom
24	4-H Superintendents Meeting, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom
25	NYS 4-H Livestock Summit, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom
26	NYS 4-H Horse Career Series, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
26	NYS 4-H Dairy Bowl Practices, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom
27	4-H Horse Quiz Bowl Practices, 6:00 p.m., Rowe House, Oneonta
28	4-H Public Presentations, Morris Central School, 9:00 a.m.
MARCH	
4	NYS 4-H Livestock Summit, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom
5	4-H Secretary Report due to 4-H Office
6	4-H Horse Quiz Bowl Practices, 6:00 p.m., Rowe House, Oneonta
7	4-H Public Presentations, 9:00 a.m., CCE Extension Center, Cobleskill
7	4-H March Dog Madness, Cornell

4-H Club News



No Goats No Glory met in November and learned how ultrasound can be a helpful tool for farmers.

In December they learned the breed standards of goats, and practiced a goat bowl. They made goat ornaments for the Christmas tree.

Ewes & Friends met in December. They elected officers, had a cookie exchange, and did some sledding!



In December Otsego County 4-H members decorated the 4-H buildings at the Morris Fairgrounds for the Holiday of Lights **THANK YOU!!**

4-H Upcoming Meetings Events



4-H Teen Council

The Otsego County 4-H Teen Council is a county-wide group that invites youth 13 years old and older to experience leadership, citizenship, trust, financial management, and work with others through an informal self-governance style.

The meetings will be the second Tuesday of every month via Zoom

1/13/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
2/10/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
3/10/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
4/7/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
4/5/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
5/5/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
6/9/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
7/14/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
8/11/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
9/8/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
10/6/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
11/10/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
12/1/26	6:30pm, via Zoom

Please contact Teresa Adell, tla47@cornell.edu for Zoom link

607-547-2536, ext 225

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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 Meetings Events



2026 4-H Club & Independent Leader Meetings

4-H Club & Independent Leader meetings will be held on Tuesday's every month to connect with the 4-H office about upcoming events, 4-H youth and volunteer opportunities and to share tips & tricks on 4-H club meetings and events.

These meetings will be via Zoom on the following dates

1/20/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
2/17/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
3/17/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
4/14/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
5/12/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
6/16/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
7/21/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
8/9/26	1pm, in person Martin Hall
9/15/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
10/20/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
11/17/26	6:30pm, via Zoom
12/8/26	6:30pm, via Zoom

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4-H Upcoming Events



4-H ARTS & CRAFTS VALENTINE DECORATIONS WORKSHOP

VALENTINE CRAFTS

Learn how to make these Valentine Crafts a heart tree hanging ornament, candle holders, beaded keychains and button heart hanging ornament.



Saturday, February 7, 1 pm The Rowe House, Oneonta

Class Fee-\$5, class is limited

**Sign Up Early! Deadline is December February 5
Registration required,**

Teresa Adell, tla47@cornell.edu

607-547-2536, 433-2521

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4-H Upcoming Events

4-H Public Presentations



Public Presentation Day

Saturday, February 28, 2026 9a.m. Morris Central School

Registration is required by Friday, February 20

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

Make Up Presentation Day—Saturday, March 7, 2026 9a.m.

CCE Extension Center, 173 S Grand Street, Cobleskill

Registration required by February 20,

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 INTERNATIONAL DAY



Take a Trip around the World without leaving Otsego County

4-H clubs will pick a country that they are interested in and learn about the food (bring samples to share), customs, clothing and share with the audience.

May include:

Games, flags, musical instruments, posters, art, pictures, sing a song, demonstrate a dance, wear country's national costume or share some learned language, also history and geography.

Participants are invited to "travel" to the different countries by visiting the local 4-H club tables, earning punches to a passport, for a prize!



Sunday, February 1, 2026 1:00pm

Southside Mall Community Room, Oneonta

Pre-registration is required

Contact Teresa Adell, tla47@cornell.edu

Or 607-547-2536 x225



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4-H Upcoming Events

Otsego County 4-H Dairy



QUIZ Bowl



KICK-OFF EVENT

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 31
1:00PM**

**SPRINGFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER
129 Co Rd 29A, SPRINGFIELD CENTER**

**TOPICS: DAIRY CATTLE BREEDS AND DAIRY PRODUCTS
INCLUDING TASTE TESTING SAMPLES AND DESSERT!**

Open to all Otsego County 4-H members - not just dairy project participants!
Learning sessions will take place weekly during February and early March and will include interactive presentations such as hands-on activities, dissections and farm visits. Each session will then include a separate time to practice questions in preparation for the district dairy quiz bowl event, which is scheduled for March 21st in Oxford.

Participation in learning sessions may be considered when determining teams for the district dairy quiz bowl event.

QUESTIONS?
Holy Pulis
Otsego County 4-H Dairy Bowl Volunteer Coordinator
315-750-5847
holypullis@gmail.com

REGISTER BY JANUARY 26
Teresa Adell
Otsego County 4-H Office
607-547-2536, ext 225
tla47@cornell.edu

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NYS 4-H Virtual Dairy Bowl Practices!

Join youth from across the state on Thursdays in January & February from 7 - 8pm and participate in virtual dairy bowl practices, hosted by the NYS 4-H Dairy Committee.



**• January 15
• January 29
• February 12
• February 19
• February 26**

Register here:
<https://bit.ly/2026DairyBowlPractice>



2026 MARCH DOG MADNESS

MARCH 7TH, 2026

9 am - 4 pm

\$25/person

Lunch provided

Registration required by February 27!

To register please contact your CCE Educator!

2026 Workshops include:

- Pick 2 of the following 3:
 - Canine Reproduction, Responsible Breeding Practices and living with an intact dog!
 - Your Dog, the Scholar: Discovering Canine Thinking Power!
 - Hunting and Sporting Dog: Is your Dog a good candidate?
- Each Participant will attend each of the following:
 - Green Eggs and Ham Agility, Train for Agility Anywhere, Anytime!
 - Understanding Canine Body Language and Applying that Knowledge to your Training.
 - Pawsitive Learning Meeting, 4-H Dog Meeting without a Dog!

For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/4h66Oak>

For questions contact Brian Aukema at bja14@cornell.edu



4-H DAIRY EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl-Held in March. Opportunity for 4-H youth to demonstrate their knowledge of dairy related subject matter in a competitive setting.

Beginner Division -youth ages 10 and under as of January 1.

Junior Team-youth ages at least 9 and less than 14 years old as of January 1.

Senior Team-youth must be at least 14 years old as of January 1 and not pass 19 by January 1 of current year.

4-H Dairy Challenge-An Educational activity for 4-H youth to test their dairy management knowledge and skills, evaluate top quality animals, and receive experience in evaluation and decision making to further their success in the dairy industry. Contest activities consist of youth rotating through different stations within their division. Youth will be tested on general knowledge in the following designated areas: dairy judging, farm and food safety, nutrition and feeds, housing and facilities, dairy products, health and diseases, reproduction, farm business management, records.

4-H Dairy Discovery-Held in March-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 state wide event is for youth ages 14-19.

4-H Dairy Judging & Tours-These educational event helps you to develop a skill for selecting animals based on body conformation and breed characteristics. 4-H Dairy Judging Tours are planned throughout the year.

NYS Junior Dairy Leader-the Junior Dairy Leader program is intended to reach youth between the ages of 16-19 who have an interest in exploring careers in the dairy industry through hands-on experiential learning. The program presents youth with a realistic view of the dairy industry as a viable and profitable progressive business sector, while also building personal and professional skills. The program consists of a series of workshops that focus on multiple facets of the dairy industry, personal development and technical skills. Opportunities included:

- Representing New York at the National 4-H Dairy Conference
- Interaction with Dairy Producers and Agribusiness Professionals
- Resume Development
- On-Farm Production Management Experiences
- Leadership Development and Team Building
- Dairy Farm and Production Facility Tours in the Northeast and Wisconsin
- Technical Skills Seminars in Herd Health, Calf Care, Dairy Nutrition, and Artificial Insemination

4-H Horse Events



OTSEGO COUNTY 4-H HORSE QUIZ BOWL

Kick Off Event Friday, January 30, 6-7:30pm
The Rowe House, 31 Maple Street, Oneonta
Will meet every Friday from January 30 to March 20,
District Horse Quiz Bowl will be Saturday, March 21st in Greene

Horse Quiz Bowl is an exciting opportunity for 4-H youth with a passion for equine to showcase their horse knowledge in a competitive, jeopardy-like contest.

This contest involves a series of questions that are asked either of a specific individual or a team. Participants use a buzzer system to 'buzz' in first and answer questions. These questions might be in the form of a regular question, toss-up, or bonus depending on the half of play. There are a variety of subject areas covered: general equine terms, the horse industry, feeding and care, and anatomy.

MUST REGISTER WITH THE 4-H OFFICE
TERESA ADELL, tla47@cornell.edu
607-547-2536 ext 225, 607-433-2521

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NYS 4-H HORSE EDUCATIONAL ZOOM SERIES

We are thrilled to share the NYS 4-H Horse Educational zoom series! You will hear from our educational coaches directly in these sessions!

Open To NYS 4-H Youth!

Join Us On:

2/3: Horse Bowl	2/10: Hippology
2/17: Communications	2/24: Judging

Time: 6:00pm-7:00pm

Registration required by 1/28:
https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/educationalzoomseries_127
Email Jessica Tyson at jms943@cornell.edu with any questions!



NYS 4-H HORSE CAREER ZOOM SERIES

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HAVING YOU JOIN US FOR OUR NYS 4-H HORSE CAREER ZOOM SERIES! WE WILL BE JOINED BY 4 SPEAKERS FROM THE EQUINE INDUSTRY! OPEN TO 4-H YOUTH ACROSS NYS!

JOIN US ON: 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26
FROM: 6:30PM-7:30PM

REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY 1/28:
https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/horsecareerzoomseries_127

EMAIL JESSICA TYSON WITH QUESTIONS: jms943@cornell.edu



NYS 4-H HORSE MODEL HORSE VIRTUAL SHOW

This is an introductory show to model horse photo showing intended to be a fun learning experience.

This show is open to NYS 4-H members only. Entries will open March 7th and close on March 12th.

Ribbons 1-6th will be awarded in each class and will be mailed!

Visit this link for class list and more details:
<https://cornell.box.com/s/sf4bm5awgdaukpzv9q4enmvjmt5ylqu>

Show questions can be sent to Jini at:
jgroen@empireaccess.net

4-H Livestock Events



2026 NYS 4-H LIVESTOCK SUMMIT
FEBRUARY 4TH TO FEBRUARY 25TH @ 7 P.M. VIA ZOOM

- February 4th - Hit the Ground Running: Start your Swine Project Strong!
Katelyn Cain- Manager of Industry Relations- National Pork Board
- February 11th - Turning Livestock into Careers: Meat Science Opportunities!
Ethan Scheffler, Meat Lab Manager, Dept of Animal Science at Ohio State
- February 18th - The G.O.A.T. Guide, Raising Goats 101!
Jennifer Bassman, Owner, Heritage Haus Farm
- February 25th - Next-Level Show Calves: Skills, Strategy & Preparing for the Eastern Regional Angus Show
Nicole Tommell, Junior Angus Association of NY Advisor and Board Member
- March 4th- More Than the Show Ring: NYS 4-H Livestock Opportunities and Brand New Quiz Bowl!
Brian Aukema- NYS 4-H Livestock Specialist

To Register scan or visit link below:
<https://cornell.zoom.us/j/92527463537?pwd=8dH3vyEeEGz7sk9ZFX4XmMTUTxn4b81>

For more information contact Brian Aukema at bja14@cornell.edu



NYS LIVESTOCK QUIZ BOWL

2026 PILOT PROGRAM

SAT APRIL 25TH @ 2:00 PM AT CORNELL

New York State 4-H members who are 14 years of age or older (as of January 1) are invited to participate in the first-ever NYS 4-H Livestock Bowl Competition.

To qualify to participate in the event, youth must complete an online written test by March 15. Up to the top 36 youth will be invited to participate in the contest. The top four youth at this contest will represent New York State at the National Livestock Bowl Competition in Kentucky in November 2026.

More information will be coming in the next few months. The New York State 4-H Livestock Contest will follow the National Contest rules. For rules and sample questions, visit <https://youthlivestockcontests.org/>. Additional information will be shared with County Educators, and a virtual Zoom meeting will be held in early February.

4-H Earn-An-Animal Timeline

Applications Available- December, 2025
Application Deadline- February 2, 2026
Applicant Interviews- February 7, 2026
Recipient Orientation- February 7, 2026
Show Project Animal- July/August 2026
Project Records Due- August 9, 2026
Reimbursement- November 2026

The program

The 4-H Earn-An-Animal program allows for Otsego County youth ages 8-18(as of January 1) to earn funding towards a project animal to raise and show as their own. This program requires dedication from the youth member and support from their guardians. Youth accepted to the program will not only learn how to care for their animal, they will experience the process of researching, selecting and purchasing an animal. Through the 4-H Earn-An-Animal Project, 4-H youth will further develop their planning, time management, organization, and record keeping skills.

Otsego County 4-H Earn-An-Animal



Animals available and award amounts

Meat Poultry
Laying Hen
Rabbit
Sheep
Swine
Goat
Dairy Calf
Beef Calf

4-H Earn-An-Animal participants are required to complete objectives before receiving reimbursement for their project animal. Objectives include: showing their animal at The Fenimore Farm Junior Livestock Show and the Otsego County Fair, displaying a presentation board of their project at the fair, and completing 4-H project records.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

February 2, 2026

For More 4-H Earn-An-Animal Information Contact:

Teresa Adell

4-H Educator

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Schoharie & Otsego Counties
123 Lake Street
Cooperstown, NY 13326
Email: tla47@cornell.edu
Phone: (607)547-2536 ext. 225
(607)433-2521

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<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

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