



Erie County

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County Publication

December 2024



A Message from Maddie

Hi Erie County 4-H,

In case you haven't heard, I'll be leaving my job with 4-H at the end of this year. I'm going to be taking some time to travel the country (and hopefully do a lot of hiking, camping, and reading!) before moving somewhere new in the fall. While I'm excited for this new adventure, I'm so sad to be leaving Erie County 4-H. Over the past 2 years, I've been able to see first hand what an amazing community exists within Erie County 4-H and I'm so grateful to have been a part of it.

I wanted to thank everyone I've met and worked with during my time here. Thank you 4-Hers for inspiring me with your creativity and hard work and for being such a great group of young people to work with and learn from. Thank you club leaders and volunteers for all of the time you commit to creating positive experiences for young people and for all of the knowledge you've shared with me. Thank you parents and guardians for helping your 4-Her be involved in this program. Thank you everyone for all of the laughs, fun events, and good times.

I can't wait to read the newsletters to see what's going on with Erie County 4-H in the future. I hope to be back to visit (and maybe even volunteer!). 😊

Best,

Maddie



It's Public Presentation Season!

What are Public Presentations?

What is the 4-H Public Presentation Program?

The purpose of the 4-H Public Presentation Program is to help youth speak confidently in front of others. Through the process of preparing and delivering a presentation, youth develop skills needed to choose a topic, research their presentation topic, organize ideas in logical order, develop visual aids, and deliver information in interesting and creative ways to impact their audience. With each public presentation, there is an increase in communication skills, self-confidence, poise, and knowledge. 4-H Public Presentations teach life skills that will be useful in young peoples' future educational, social, and career pursuits.



As youth progress and grow each year, they are challenged to try one of the more difficult types of presentations, to use more advanced technology in their presentations where appropriate, and/or to venture into unfamiliar topics or presentation styles.

Participants can choose from the following types of presentations:

- *Demonstration*: This type of presentation requires you to talk while working on something. It can be cooking, sewing, building, etc.
- *Illustrated Talk*: This is slightly more formal, using a poster or technology to help you relay your message.
- *Speech*: For the more experience speaker, you do not use posters or technology to get your point across.
- *Dramatization/Recitation*: A fun, confidence building experience -- it is like acting only with no props.
- *Job interview*: For ages 15 and up, cover letter and resume required. Learn useful job interview skills.

Public Presentation Dates for 2025

Registration for presentations is required. Register here:

https://pub.cce.cornell.edu/event_registration/main/events_landing.cfm?event=publicpresentations2025-2-2-2_214

Thursday, February 6 from 6-8pm – Northwest Amherst Community Center

Saturday, February 8 from 9am-2pm – Beyond Learning Center (Depew)

*Thursday, February 13 from 6-8pm – Revive Wesleyan Church (McKinley Campus)

*Saturday, February 22 from 9am-2pm – Revive Wesleyan Church (McKinley Campus)

District Presentations**: Saturday, March 29 from 9am-2pm – Revive Wesleyan Church (McKinley Campus)

*Horse Communications dates

**The top scoring Erie County 4-H presenters will be invited to move forward and present at Districts

WANTED: Public Presentation Evaluators



Would you like to be involved in one of Erie County 4-H's most influential programs for youth?? Join our Public Presentations evaluator team!!

We are looking for volunteers who enjoy working with youth and are interested in helping them improve their public speaking skills. Evaluators would need to attend at least 1 presentation day (weeknight and weekend options). No experience needed- we'd love to see new faces! Training will be provided, and you can request to be paired up with an experienced evaluator.

We are also looking for a few volunteers who have experience conducting interviews!

If you would like to help our youth thrive in public presentations, please contact Tammi (tlk6@cornell.edu or 716-652-5400 x 132) to be put on an interest list.

Public Presentation Workshop – Tuesday, January 21 from 5:30-8pm

This workshop provides an opportunity for youth to give a practice run of their presentation before their actual presentation in February. Volunteers will listen to your presentation and give you feedback on what you're doing well and what you can improve upon. This will be at the Roycroft Power House in East Aurora.

New this year! We invite 4-Hers who have not finished their presentation yet to come to this workshop. There will be space for you to work on your presentation and receive help and feedback from volunteers. You also may find it helpful to listen to your 4-H peers give their presentations.

Pre-registration is required. Register here:

https://pub.cce.cornell.edu/event_registration/main/events_landing.cfm?event=publicpresentationworkshop_214



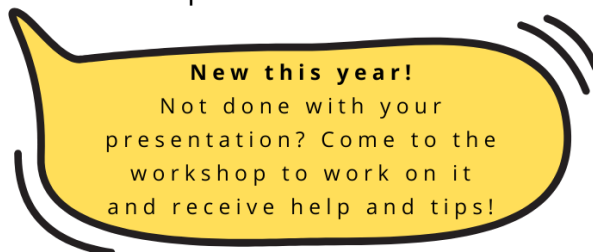
ERIE COUNTY 4-H

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS WORKSHOP



ROYCROFT POWER HOUSE IN EAST AURORA
TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025 5:30-8PM

- Practice giving your presentation
- Receive feedback from evaluators
- Listen to other presentations
- Ask questions!



New this year!
Not done with your presentation? Come to the workshop to work on it and receive help and tips!



**SCAN TO
REGISTER**

4-Hers - We need YOU!



Public Presentations!

We are looking for 4-H members who would like to learn more about public presentations while gaining *community service hours* that can be used for school or other requirements. There are a couple of roles you can fill during any of our Public Presentation Days:

- **Runner**- Carry public presentations evaluation forms from presentation rooms to the tally room (you don't actually need to "run" 😊)
- **Junior Evaluator**- Sit with evaluators and learn what they are looking for to give out "5"'s to a presenter. This may help you learn what to work on for your own presentation! This is also a great way to meet and interact with fellow 4-Hers while learning about some cool topics.
- **Junior Room Host**- Introduce a presenter to their audience and their evaluators

Youth are welcome to volunteer for a couple of hours (when they aren't giving their presentation) on the same day that they sign up to present. Youth are also welcome to sign up to help on a day that they are not presenting.

To sign-up, please indicate you'd like to help on your presentation registration online form, or email erie4H@cornell.edu

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS – RESOURCES



Resources available for youth and evaluators
on the 4-H page of our website:
erie.cce.cornell.edu

Did you know that Erie County 4-H is on Instagram and Facebook??



Follow us to see 4-H updates, opportunities, and event pictures!

Facebook: "Erie County 4-H"

<https://www.facebook.com/erie4hny/>



Instagram: "@erie4h"

<https://www.instagram.com/erie4h/>

THE ERIE COUNTY 4-H PUBLIC PRESENTATION PROGRAM

Presents



PEER EVALUATION



4-Hers 14 and up, would you like to try something NEW
this year during Public Presentations?



Photos by [Brooke Cagle](#), [Elliott Reyna](#) and [Anna Vander Stel](#) on [Unsplash](#)

What is peer evaluation?

- Peer evaluation is the opportunity for youth to observe and evaluate each other by giving presentations and providing feedback within their group.

How does it work?

- You will be in a room with three other 4-H members. All four 4-Hers (yourself included) will give their presentation to each other.
- You will complete a brief evaluation form for each presentation that you will share with your peers giving each other feedback.
- Two adult evaluators will also be in the room who will share verbal feedback and complete the regular rubric, then give you a point score to decide your ribbon color.
- This whole experience will take approximately two hours.
- There will be a required, brief pre-event virtual orientation to help you feel prepared.

Why participate?

- Get feedback directly from fellow 4-H peers, in addition to adult evaluators.
- Gain experience in evaluating and giving feedback.
- Get community service hours – since you'll be benefiting other 4-H members through your feedback, participating in this format can count toward school service hours.

How do I sign up?

On the Public Presentation registration page to select **Peer Evaluation** for either Saturdays of 4-H Public Presentation Days (Feb 8th or 22nd). The 4-H Office will follow up with you to confirm the time block of your group.

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County provides equal program and employment opportunities. Accommodation for persons with special needs may be requested by contacting Sara Jablonski at 716-652-5400 ext. 142 or sej57@cornell.edu by January 22nd.



ERIE COUNTY 4-H

OFFICER TRAINING

Come learn about the roles of officers in 4-H clubs

Open to current AND aspiring 4-H club officers

Wednesday, January 8
6-8pm
East Aurora



Register using the
link or QR code

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County provides equal program and employment opportunities. Accommodations for persons with special needs may be requested by contacting Sara Jablonski at 716-652-5400 ext. 142 or sej57@cornell.edu by January 2, 2025

Link to register:

https://pub.cce.cornell.edu/event_registration/main/events_landing.cfm?event=clubofficertaining_214

General 4-H Calendar Snapshot for 2024-25

This list is a work in progress and will be updated in each 4-H Monthly Newsletter.
Please contact Sara with any questions (sej57@cornell.edu or 716-652-5400 x 142)

- ✓ December 10 – Holiday Craft Night
- ✓ December 11 – Public Presentation Kickoff meeting
- ✓ December 14 – Hiking series – Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve
- ✓ January 8 – Club Officer Training
- ✓ January 21 – Public Presentation Practice Night
- ✓ March 29 – Western District Public Presentations
- ✓ May 1 – Enrollment forms for new members due
- ✓ May 18-20 – 4-H Capital Days (trip to Albany- email tlk6@cornell.edu)
- ✓ July 7 – Fair entries due online (both YDB and animal projects)
- ✓ August 2 – Youth Development Building Evaluation Day
- ✓ August 3 – YDB Set-Up Day
- ✓ August 6-17 – Erie County Fair
- ✓ August 18 – YDB Pick-Up Day
- ✓ August 20-September 1 – New York State Fair
- ✓ September 30 – Last day of 2024-25 4-H year





Livestock Notes – December 2024

Happy Holidays! I am excited to have the opportunity to work with you in 2025. I hope you all have a safe and memory making holiday season!

Note from Tammi: Please note that I will be on vacation December 19 through January 1 returning on January 2, 2025.

It's Public Presentation time – anyone showing any animal at the fair is required to participate. Please be sure to check out the Public Presentation information at the beginning of this edition of the 4-H News. Details regarding dates, times, location and registration links will be found there.

Livestock Marketing Workshops are back! We are excited to offer a great program to continue to support you in your market strategies to secure bidders for the fair to support you and your projects.



All 4-H members participating in the market auction are required to attend 2 out of the 3 workshops.

01 Workshop #1 - Wednesday, January 15, 2025 6:30 p.m. ←

Marketing 101 - What you need to know to prepare for a successful auction. This session is for all 1st and 2nd year auction participants.

Marketing 201 - Designed for our seasoned members who participated in the 2024 program. We will start with a reflection of what you learned and experienced and begin building to prepare you for the 2025 auction.

02 Workshop #2 - Monday, February 10, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. ←

Marketing 101 - We will focus on how to secure bidders, materials, elevator speech.

Marketing 201 - Members will experience the bidder side of the auction.

03 Workshop #3 - Thursday, March 6, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. ←

Marketing 101 - We will prepare you for the fair, what to expect, how to interact with the public and check in on your marketing strategy. You will have an opportunity to practice talking with a bidder.

Marketing 201 - You will participate in bidder interaction and conversation, further developing communication skills.

04 Bidder Dinner - Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. ←

Wrap it up! - Put your skills to work. Youth will invite potential bidders to join them at our Bidder Dinner. The dinner is designed to allow youth and bidders to interact in an informal setting to have further conversations about their projects. A formal presentation will be given along with a question and answer session, we will wrap the evening up with a fun activity.

All workshops will take place at the Ag Discovery Center at the Erie County Fairgrounds. The Bidder Dinner will take place at the Grange Building.

Questions?? Contact Tammi Kron at tlk6@cornell.edu

Livestock Interviews: Mark your calendar to attend one of the livestock interview dates to fulfil your animal show requirement. Dates they will be offered are: Tuesday, July 1, Thursday, July 17, Wednesday, July 23 and Monday, July 28. More details are coming later in the year.

Fair Entries will close on Monday, July 7, 2025.

Beef: Projects officially begin as of January 1, 2025. Please remember to submit your market steer registration paperwork along with a copy of your BVD certificate to the 4-H office by Monday, January 6, 2025. Enrolled members have received a reminder email with the paperwork, and it was also distributed at the orientation. Have questions, email Tammi at tlk6@cornell.edu.

Dairy Cattle Orientation will be held on December 9 at 6:30 p.m. at the Power House, 39 S. Grove Street, East Aurora 14052. We made Mozzarella Cheese and reviewed the program requirements and members suggested meeting topics.

Dairy Bowl practice sessions will begin after the New Year. If you would like to be a part of dairy bowl practice sessions and participate in the contest, contact Carl Niefergold at carlniefergold1368@gmail.com for all the details. The Western District Dairy Bowl will be held on Saturday, March 1, 2025, at Pioneer school.

Goat Orientation – Dairy, Working and Meat - will be held in March 2025. Our orientation will kick off the new year and we will share changes to the program and have a fun activity.

Sheep and Swine – while we currently do not have any meetings to schedule, now is a great time to begin to think about your public presentation, remember those will be here come February. Remember to get your 2025 enrollment paperwork and fee into the 4-H office by November 1.

Poultry – Our first poultry meeting will be held in February. We will take orders for market chicken and turkey projects. Tentatively, Tuesday, February 18, 2025.

Rabbit – Flopper Hopper Rabbit club meetings will be starting in the new year. We are currently securing a facility to hold the meetings at. If you are interested in learning about rabbits and cavies and want to be a member of the Flopper Hoppers, please email Tammi at tlk6@cornell.edu and I will connect you with Kelly Weaver our leader. Stay tuned for more information that will arrive at your email or in the next 4-H News.

Dog -Do you have a family dog? Make it a 4-H project. The Erie County 4-H program has 2 dog clubs that are accepting new members between the ages of 5-18. The Ridge Rovers meet in Orchard Park and the Buffalo Barkers meet in Tonawanda. Our leaders do an exceptional job in offering education around grooming and handling, agility, obedience and community service projects. Contact Tammi for more information.

Shooting Sports – The NYS 4-H Shooting Sports project fosters responsibility and helps youth acquire knowledge, skills, abilities and the opportunity to develop social skills, leadership techniques and community service opportunities. New York State 4-H certified volunteer instructors supervise each 4-H Shooting Sports program. Safety is a primary concern. Youth and adults are trained to know, practice and adhere to the tenets of firearm safety and handling. Are you at least 12 years old and interested in learning more? Contact Tammi Kron to be connected to our club leaders. The Erie County Sharp Shooters meet at the Tonawanda Sportsman Club the first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m.

Horse

Upcoming Opportunities: As the new year approaches, keep in mind all of the events that happen early in the year:

- Saturday, January 18 – Horse Bowl (new date – location TBD)
- Thursday, February 13 and Saturday, February 22 – Horse Communications and Public Presentations at Revive
- Saturday, March 8 – County Hippology, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, West Falls, 10 a.m.
- Saturday, March 22 –Regional Horse Bowl – Niagara County CCE
- Saturday, March 29 – Regional Horse Communications, at Revive along with District Public Presentations
- Saturday, April 5 – State Horse Bowl - Cornell

- Saturday, April 26 - Regional Hippology, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, West Falls, 10 a.m.
- April – Evaluations, date to be determined
- May – Evaluations – to be determined
- Saturday, May 17 - State Horse Communications – Cornell
- Monday, June 23 – Mandatory Fair Meeting - zoom
- June/July – Club Horse Shows – tentative dates – June 7 – Training Clinic, June 14 – Sardinia Saddlers Show, June 28 – TriColor Equestrian Show, July 19 – Hillside Riders Show, June 26 – Wild Wind Riders Gaming Show
- Monday, July 7 – Erie County Fair Entries due.
- August – Erie County Fair – August 10-13, 2025, and NYS Fair

Stay tuned for more information as dates are confirmed for the 2025 program year.

Re-enrollment forms for the 2024-2025 – did you get your form in, or do you know of someone who wants to become a 4-H member? If the enrollment fee is a financial hardship for your family simply ask for it to be waived. Enrollment forms are available in the 4-H office or by using this link <https://erie.cce.cornell.edu/resources/4-h-2024-25-new-member-youth-enrollment-forms>.

Congratulations to our 4-H members who competed at the Eastern National 4-H Roundup 2024



Traveling to Louisville, KY in early November as members of the NYS 4-H Hippology, Horse Bowl and Judging teams were Jacob Leitzen, Samantha Parsons, Charlotte Parsons and Julia Mauro. We wish to congratulate Jacob Leitzen as he placed 2nd individual with 132 points on the written Hippology contest and was a member of the 2nd place team overall, 5th individual

in the stations, 3rd place team and ended up being the Reserve High Individual Overall, and a member of the Reserve Overall Hippology Team – CONGRATULATIONS Jacob!!

In the Horse Bowl competition, Samantha Parsons placed 8th overall and Charlotte Parsons placed 9th overall.

Julia Mauro competed in the Horse Judging Contest, a very competitive contest. Congratulations on your accomplishments Julia!

We are proud of all our Erie County 4-H members who represented NY State, and also our county.



(more photos on the next page)

More Photos From The Eastern National 4-H Roundup 2024



Youth Citizen Scientists Needed

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Surveying!

Saturday, January 18, 9:30 am-12 pm

Emery Park- 2084 Emery Road

South Wales, NY 14139

Location to be shared after registration

The Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) is an important tree species considered valuable to our local ecosystems. These trees provide stream habitat for trout species, create habitat for countless native plant and animal species, and their presence enhances outdoor recreation experiences. Unfortunately, these majestic trees are under attack from the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA), an invasive, aphid-like insect who attacks the tree by attaching itself at the base of a needle. HWA multiply quickly and when too many HWA attack a hemlock tree, the tree will die, usually in 4-7 years.

Engaged citizen scientists are important to detect HWA and help to slow the spread of this insect and preserve hemlock forests. The early detection of emerging infestations allows appropriate management actions to be taken. We need help from volunteers like you and your family!



We will start indoors to learn about hemlock trees, HWA, and invasive species reporting tools before heading outside to look for them in the park.

Please register in advance at

https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/CCEERIEHWASurvey_214

Attendees are encouraged to dress appropriately for the weather. Wear warm layers and sturdy footwear.



Questions can be directed to Sharon Bachman (sin2@cornell.edu)

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Erie County

Photos Credit: Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org and U.S. Forest Service, Steve Norman.



Join Teen Ambassadors in 2025

Calling all 4-H members ages 13 to 18!

- Do you want to:
 - Build your confidence?
 - Meet new people?
 - Help others?
- Do you need community service hours for school?
- Do you want something to add to your resumé for college applications?

Then the 4-H Erie County Teen Ambassadors is a perfect fit for you! We hold monthly meetings, with a mix of virtual and in-person meetings, starting in January. The Teen Ambassadors will be involved in activities that help the larger 4-H program, such as the Food in Community Program and Public Presentations.

Apply here:

 [/reg.cce.cornell.edu/teenambassadors2025_214](https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/teenambassadors2025_214)

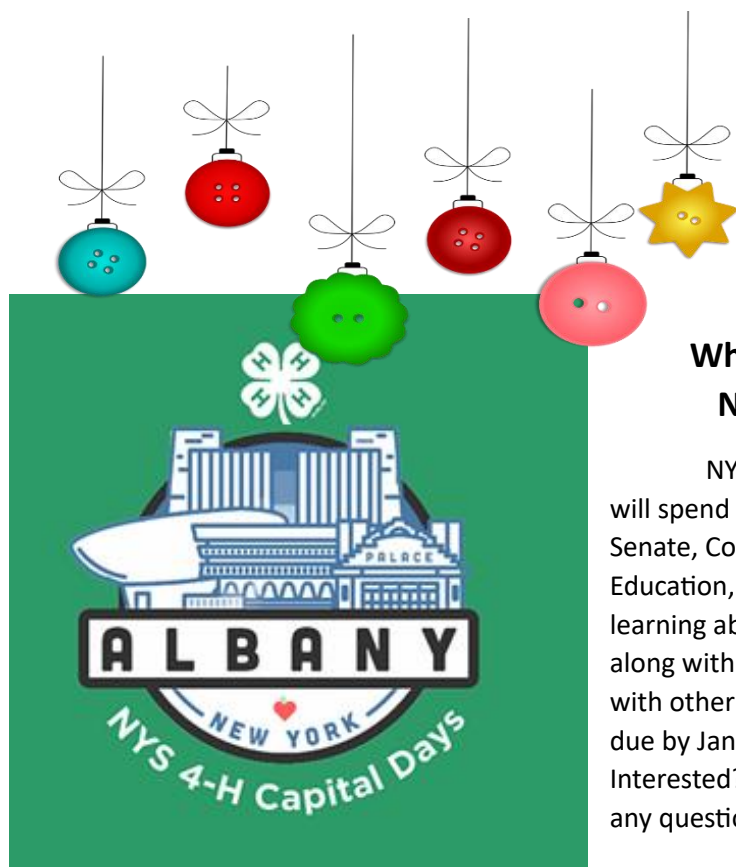
Here are videos featuring two of our Teen Ambassadors talking about experience:

Brandon : <https://youtu.be/ZyxcAjrJ3Fs>

Tony: <https://youtu.be/x2ybduArjPs>



their



NYS 4-H Capital Days May 18-20, 2025 Who wants to learn about and experience our New York State government firsthand?

NYS 4-H Capital Days is open to all youth grades 9-12. We will spend 2 full days at your NYS Capital experiencing the Assembly, Senate, Court of Appeals, and many state agencies (Dept of Ag, Education, Health, DMV, Parks and Recreation, Corrections), learning about career opportunities and how a bill becomes a law along with time to meet with your legislature and senator and work with other 4-H members from across the state. Applications are due by January 31, 2025, and can be found on our website. Interested? Apply today! Contact Tammi at tlk6@cornell.edu with any questions.

NEW FOR 2025 FROM THE NE REGIONAL VOLUNTEERISM TEAM



These programs are structured to offer connection, engagement, and networking for 4-H volunteers from all 11 states the Northeast Region. Zoom sessions start with "connection before content" with fun icebreaker games and conversation. The main session topic is led by experts, 4-H staff, or volunteer panelists. Volunteers work in breakout sessions to share ideas and learn from one another.

PREPARING FOR YOUTH ENGAGEMENT: January 22nd -6:30-8 pm

4-H is hands on learning! Have you ever spent hours preparing a hands-on learning experience for youth to then have it fall flat? You might be missing one key ingredient - youth engagement! Join us as we explore the key elements of youth engagement and practical strategies to move from working for youth to working with them!

BUILDING CONNECTIONS FOR SUCCESS: February 19th -6:30-8 pm

While it may seem challenging to navigate the organization and feel connected to the broader 4-H community, you have the power to make a difference. Join us to learn how dedicated 4-H volunteers have faced these challenges head-on through uplifting social gatherings, informal mentoring, and strong community connections. Enhance your leadership skills by building meaningful connections that inspire and empower.

GROWING BEYOND THE RIBBON: March 19th -6:30-8 pm

Join us to explore how the Danish System can be used as a strategy to cultivate youth who continue to grow and thrive. Take a closer look at what those colored ribbons mean and learn strategies to cultivate youth thriving by meeting youth where they are and guiding them to their next level of growth.

REGISTER NOW

www.tinyurl.com/4HNERV2025



CLUB CORNER

Hillside Riders

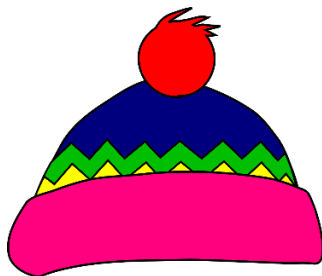


The Hillside Riders as their annual community service project go shopping for items to fill boxes for “Operation Christmas Child”. The club then packs the boxes and gets them sent out in time for the holidays. Every year our boxes are sent to different places in the world where people are suffering or needy. In 2023 our boxes were sent to South Africa. We found that although there are people in South Africa who are comfortable and well off, because of the aftereffects of years of racial discrimination in the country, there are still many people still needy and suffering.

OP Voyagers

On November 27th the OP Voyagers volunteered at Harvest House.

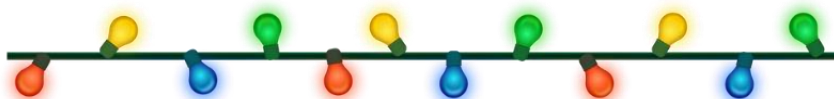
They sorted donations and put them on the floor.



Wild Wind Riders



On November 10, 2024, the Wild Wind Rider 4-H club went to visit the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto, Ontario. We went to see the Western Performance Day at the Royal Winter Fair. It was super fun, and we had the opportunity to watch barrel racing, pole bending, buddy pick up, bronc riding, bull riding, and the Canadian Flag Girls. The highlight was a meet and greet with Amber Marshall (from Heartland). Members had pictures with her along with the opportunity to meet her in person. We all had a great time and can't wait for The Royal Winter Fair in 2025.



Erie County Crafters

November was a busy month for The Erie County Crafters. The club welcomed new members, held officer elections, began the annual fundraiser and decided on community service projects for the upcoming year. Club activities included tie-dying, building bird feeders, sewing quilted holiday stockings and small engine repair. Under the leadership of President Isaac, the club presented a repaired leaf blower to the Elma United Methodist Church. The club is looking forward to both county events and club events in December!



NY Agriculture Youth Leadership Conference

Faith Michalovic

The conference was really good, and I had a really good time. We did a lot of workshops with getting to know each other and how to find career paths and ways to take action as leaders. It was an amazing experience to hear from the state officials and FFA state leaders and get to hear their stories. I was also able to find a group of friends when I went in knowing nobody I was able to connect with Jack Beyer, who is an FFA state leader. I was able to talk with my principal once I got back. She is giving me the chance to talk to the entire school and bring in Jack as a guest speaker to talk about his story with agriculture. Going to conference has put me in a good and high-up student role at Mount Mercy Academy, which is allowing me to speak up and teach my fellow students about agriculture and how it can play into anything.



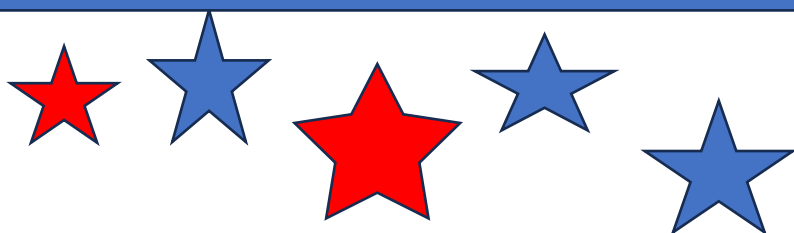
We visited the Indian Ladder Farm, that has over 90 acres of orchards producing over 40 varieties of apples. While we visited, they spoke with us about the process Sorting, cleaning the apples by hand and machinery that makes the cider, logging of the trees and different apple varieties. This was a great career opportunity. Our speaker, who went to college for agriculture, ended up using her science degree to work at the Indian Ladder Farm. She is responsible for maintaining the trees, monitoring diseases and all the data collection. I also enjoyed the opportunity to visit with the turkeys, chickens, donkey, cow and goats.



NY Agriculture Youth Leadership Conference

Brandon de Jong

I enjoyed my time at the conference. I liked getting to meet different people across the state, and I got to become friends with a lot of new people. It was interesting to hear the things other people did in their school's agriculture program or through FFA, 4-H, or MANRRS. I also thought the conference was very well organized in terms of scheduling events and bringing in people to talk. Out of the workshops, I think I enjoyed the mentoring tables the most, because I got to sit down and talk with people in a variety of agriculture industries. Overall, I thought the conference was a good experience, and I'm thankful to have had the opportunity to attend it.



Calling all 6th, 7th, and 8th Graders:

How can you make a difference in your community?



Start with an essay to the 2025 National Civics Bee®!

The National Civics Bee is a nationwide competition to encourage youth to contribute. Now NYS 4-H officially has a partnership with them!

Essays are due on **February 4, 2025**, and winners will be announced shortly after on **February 14, 2025**.

To submit an essay, you will have to create an account by following this link:

https://my.reviewr.com/NationalCivicsBee/site/NationalCivicsBee2025;jsessionid=14BA7F336136046F0AA8D3A44ACACCA6.2a?utm_campaign=partners&utm_source=ny4h&utm_medium=promos

Student Essay Guide: <https://civics.uschamberfoundation.org/student-essay-guide/>

4-H members whose essays are selected will then compete in four designated counties (Delaware, Monroe, Orange, and Staten Island). Awards, trophies, and cash prizes will be awarded.

If a 4-H member's essay places at the regional level, they will advance to a state-level competition in Albany, NY. Winners at the state level will advance to Washington D.C. to compete in the national competition.



Glads For 4-Hers Project

Every year the Western New York Gladiolus Society sponsors the Glads for 4-Hers program. They provide 4-Hers with gladiolus blubs to plant and grow. Members learn how to plant and care for the Glads under the direction of Meredith and Sally Hudson.

The 2025 workshop will held East Aurora, *(tentatively scheduled for late April, 2025)*. BULBS will be handed out at that meeting. In return for the Society's sponsorship, 4-Hers are encouraged to exhibit their project at the Erie County Fair.

First year participants will be required to pay \$5.00 for their first package (25 bulbs).

Returning members of the program may purchase packages(25 bulbs) for \$10.00 each.

If you are interested in participating, please complete the form, enclose your payment & mail it to:
CCE Erie County4-H Program – Glads for 4-Hers Program,
21 South Grove Street, Suite 300, East Aurora, NY 14052

Space is limited so please return your enrollment form AND payment – **no later than January 21, 2025**.
Bulbs will not be ordered unless your form and payment are received by this due date.

Please return the form below with your payment- **One for each 4-H participant**



Name _____ Email _____

Address _____

Town/City _____ Zip _____,

I have enrolled/ re-enrolled in 4-H for 2024: ____ Yes ____ No *(if no, you need to enroll in order to participate.)*

I AM A CLOVERBUD (age 5-7) Check one:: ____ Yes ____ No

____ This is my first year participating in Glads for 4-H- enclosed is \$5 for my first year package of bulbs. Checks "CCE of Erie County" (Please note: If you sign up as a first- year participant and fail to pick up your bulbs, you still will be considered a returning participant for the following year.)

____ I request _____ Package(s) of bulbs at \$10/each (25 bulbs per package). Checks "CCE of Erie County"

OR

____ I DO NOT need any more bulbs. I will use bulbs from my prior Glads for 4-H program years for this year's project.

____ I have participated in *Glads for 4-H* previously- list all years: _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

RETURN THIS PORTION WITH YOUR PAYMENT *(if applicable)* to:

21 South Grove Street, Suite 300

East Aurora, NY 14052

erie4h@cornell.edu

Return this form by January 21, 2025 if you wish to participate