



Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County Publication

February 2024



Join us for a...

4-H LEADER AND VOLUNTEER MIXER

March 12 at 6pm at the Roycroft Power House

Email mgw76@cornell.edu to register

It's Public Presentations Time!



Thursday, February 15 from 6-9pm – Revive Wesleyan Church (McKinley Campus) 4999 McKinley Pkwy, Hamburg, NY 14075

Saturday, February 17 from 9am-2pm – Revive Wesleyan Church (McKinley Campus) 4999 McKinley Pkwy, Hamburg, NY 14075

Saturday, February 24 from 9am-2pm – Revive Wesleyan Church (McKinley Campus) 4999 McKinley Pkwy, Hamburg, NY 14075

District Presentations*: Saturday,
March 23 from 9am-4pm –
Location TBD

**4-H Youth giving a public presentation:
If you have not received a yellow
postcard in the mail with
mgw76@cornell.edu as soon as possible.**

*The top-scoring 10% of Erie County youth will be invited to move forward and present at Districts



Important Information

4-Hers Giving a Public Presentation!

Important Information for 4-Hers Giving a Public Presentation!

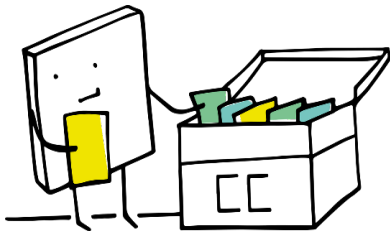
- Look out for a yellow postcard in your mailbox- this will let you know what time you're presenting
- Please arrive 15 minutes before your time *block*. Four youth are scheduled each time block. Showing up early to your time block will give you time to check-in and be ready to present if a spot opens up. This helps presentations run efficiently and smoothly
- **Familiarize yourself with the rubrics before presenting!**
 - There are different rubrics for the different types of presentations. The rubrics are available on our CCE Erie 4-H website under the "Public Presentation Resources" tab. Find rubrics in the green box on the right-hand side of the webpage.
 - <https://erie.cce.cornell.edu/4-h-youth-development/public-presentation-information-and-resources-for-participants-and-evaluators>
- For youth giving a food demonstration- look over the food demo specific resources on our website
- You are welcome to watch and listen to other 4-Hers presentations before or after your presentation. Show your support for your fellow 4-Hers!
- If you'd like to be a youth volunteer, you can earn community service hours. Email mgw76@cornell.edu to sign-up to volunteer.
- For those using a PowerPoint- many of you stated in registration that you will be bringing laptops that are able to connect to an HDMI cord. All youth giving a PowerPoint should, in addition to bringing their laptop, bring their presentation on a USB drive (or email to mgw76@gmail.com) in the event of technical difficulties.
- For youth giving interviews- you must turn in your completed application materials (resume, cover letter or essay, application) at least 2 weeks before your presentation date. Materials can be mailed to CCE Erie (21 S Grove St, East Aurora, NY 14052) or emailed to mgw76@cornell.edu
- Have fun! Presentations are a wonderful way to grow your confidence and public speaking skills, while teaching about a topic that you think is interesting!
- Email mgw76@cornell.edu with any questions regarding presentations

Email mgw76@cornell.edu with any questions regarding presentations



PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS – RESOURCES

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



<https://erie.cce.cornell.edu/4-h-youth-development/public-presentation-information-and-resources-for-participants-and-evaluators>

Public Presentations & Community Service!

**CALLING ALL ERIE COUNTY
4-H MEMBERS! JOIN US
FOR A COUNTYWIDE
COMMUNITY SERVICE
PROJECT!**



Revive Wesleyan Church is collecting food for their food pantry.

This is the church that hosts us for some of our Public Presentation Days.

We'd like to organize an Erie County 4-H community service project of food donations to Revive Wesleyan.

What food should I bring?

Visit Revive Wesleyan's sign-up link to look at food options:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4DABA82BA0F8CF8-food2#/>

Note: You do **NOT** need to "sign-up" online. This is just a list to give you ideas of what to bring. *A food item not listed online, but that the food pantry appreciates, is cookies!

How do I participate?

On any day that Public Presentations are taking place at Revive Wesleyan, bring non-perishable food items to the church.

Dates and times:

Thursday, February 15 from 6-8pm, Saturday, February 17 from 9am-1pm, Saturday, February 24 from 9am-1pm

Not giving a Public Presentation but still want to participate? No problem! Bring food items to Revive Wesleyan (McKinley Campus) during any of the dates and times listed above. After dropping off your food, you're welcome to hang out and watch your fellow 4-Hers present!

Contact mgw76@cornell.edu with any questions regarding food donation

General 4-H Calendar Snapshot for 2024



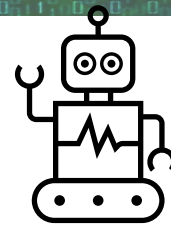
*This list is a work in progress and will be updated in each 4-H Monthly Newsletter.
Please contact Maddie with any questions (mqw76@cornell.edu or 716-652-5400 x 130)*

- ✓ February 15 – Public Presentation Day
- ✓ February 17 – Public Presentation Day
- ✓ February 24 – Public Presentation Day
- ✓ February 27– Monthly Workshop (STEM Night)
- ✓ March 16 – Monthly Workshop (Beginner sewing part 1- tentative date)
- ✓ March 12 – 4-H Leader and Volunteer Mixer
- ✓ March 20 – 4-H Alumni Meeting
- ✓ March 23 – District Public Presentation Day
- ✓ April 1 – ShoWorks (fair registration) opens
- ✓ April 2 – Food in Community Launch Meeting (Zoom)
- ✓ April 13 – Monthly Workshop (Beginner sewing part 2- tentative date)
- ✓ April 18 – Monthly Workshop (Intermediate sewing)
- ✓ April 25 – Glads for 4-Hers Meeting
- ✓ May 3 – Textile Revue
- ✓ May 15 – 4-H Alumni Meeting
- ✓ May 19-21 – Capital Days
- ✓ June 26-28 – Career Explorations
- ✓ July 17 – 4-H Alumni Meeting
- ✓ August 7-18 – Erie County Fair
- ✓ August 11 – Talent and Fashion Show
- ✓ August 13 – Chef Challenge
- ✓ August 18 – STEM Challenge
- ✓ August 21-September 2 – New York State Fair
- ✓ September 30 – Last day of 2023-24 4-H year

Updated February 2024

4-H STEM Night

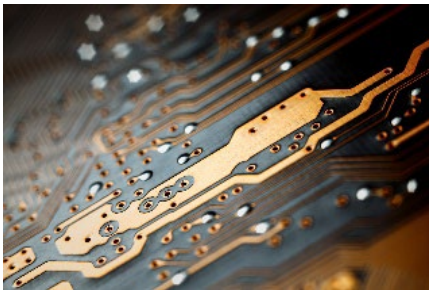
Tuesday, February 27th - 6:00-7:30pm
Roycroft Power House, 39 South Grove St.



Experience a wide range of hands-on science, technology, engineering, and math activities led by 4-H educators, volunteers, and teen leaders! Learn about electricity, robotics, and much more!

All ages welcome.

Sign up by e-mailing Sara at sej57@cornell.edu.



Coming soon...

Sewing Workshop



We will be having a 2-part beginner sewing workshop to make pajama pants on 1 Saturday in March and 1 Saturday in April. Stay tuned for specific dates! This will give participants a project to enter in the 4-H Textile Revue (May 3rd)

Email mgw76@cornell.edu to be put on an "interested" list!

Did you sign up for Glads for 4-Hers?

If yes, please mark your calendar for our informational meeting and glad pick-up date

Thursday, April 25 from 6:30-8:00pm at the Roycroft Power House

Email mgw76@cornell.edu to RSVP

4-H Textile Revue

Friday, May 3rd

from 5:30-8pm

Roycroft Power House



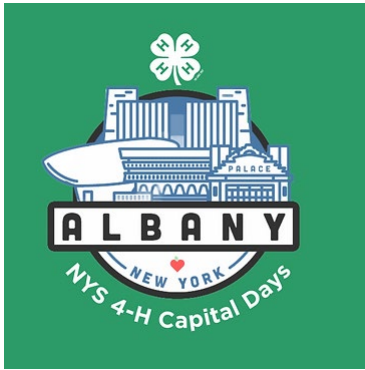
Participants will bring a textile item that they've created (sewn, knit, crocheted, etc.) to be evaluated by volunteers. The night will end with a fashion show!



Scholarships and Financial & Assistance Opportunities

Please check our website(erie.cce.cornell.edu) for scholarship opportunities, we will post them as they become available.

[4-H Scholarship and Financial Assistance Opportunities Page](#)



LAST CALL FOR APPLICATIONS - NYS 4-H Capital Days May 19-21, 2024 – 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. **Application deadline has been extended to February 12, 2024.** The form can be found on our website. **Interested? Apply today!** Contact Tammi at tlk6@cornell.edu with any questions.

4-H RESOURCE ALERT!



Are you a club leader looking to add new activities
to your meetings?

Independent Member looking to try something
new?

Check out this *free* resource!

Utah 4-H has a webpage that has FREE curriculum to download. The curriculum covers over 80 different topics, and each curriculum booklet includes multiple activities. These booklets also connect the topics and activities to the “Experiential Learning Model” which encompasses the “Learn By Doing” aspect of 4-H that helps youth thrive.

For free curriculum, visit this link or scan the QR code:

<https://extension.usu.edu/utah4h/discover>



The 2024 Erie County Fair Book is now available, for both [4-H Livestock](#) and [4-H Youth Development](#)!

You can find the books on the [Erie County Fair website](#) under the “Competitions” tab
Looking at the books now will give you an idea of what projects you would like to enter at the fair this summer.

*The links for ShoWorks (how you enter projects) will not be live until April 1



Erie County 4-H

Spring Hanging Basket & Geranium Flat Fundraiser for Clubs & Individual Members

March 1 –31, 2024

- ◆ Proceeds from the Spring Hanging Basket and Geranium Flat fundraiser will go directly to clubs or individual members to support 4-H club activities & projects.
- ◆ 4-H participants will be selling 10” hanging baskets and flats of geraniums.
- ◆ **Tally Order forms and payment** (made out to CCE of Erie County) must be received in the 4-H Office no later than **April 5, 2024**.
- ◆ Members that belong to a club must order through their club leader.
- ◆ Members that are not affiliated with a club may also participate on their own.
- ◆ Pick-up by Clubs & Members will be Friday, May 10 from 3:00–6:00 p.m. in the Riding Arena at Bippert’s Farm, 5240 Clinton Street, Elma, NY 14059

This fundraiser is a great way to earn funds to support your club projects or to assist with a live-stock project. Profit information will be coming with all the paperwork.

Watch your email box for all the information. If you are interested in helping on the day of delivery, we will gladly accept volunteers to help with the unloading, sorting and loading of the plants.

Hanging Baskets are locally grown by Zittel's

Perfect for Mother’s Day!



Please contact the 4-H office with questions—(716)652-5400 ext. 132 or email erie4H@cornell.edu



Livestock Notes

February 2024

Not much time has passed since our last news, please read on to plan your calendar.

Attention all the livestock youth who show pigs, lambs, chickens, turkeys, market rabbits, meat goats and steers.

Please register for the Marketing Workshops at <https://forms.gle/WycPBeGK5JV3ZB2q9>

Workshop sessions will be at the Ag Discovery Center at the fair on:

- Tuesday, January 23
- Monday, February 12
- Wednesday, March 6

All youth selling must attend at least 2 of the 3 workshops being offered and participate in the dinner on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, along with the submission of 2 bidder forms. Mark your calendar now to attend the workshops and learn about the details.



Volunteers make our programming happen. If you are interested in helping with any aspect of the Market Auction, email Tammi to be put on the list.

Some ways you can help are:

- Join the 4-H/FFA Livestock Auction Roundup committee – help with the planning of the event on April 17.
- Lend your support at the fair to be a book runner at the auction.
- Lend your support at the fair to oversee the entrance and exit gate for the auction ring.
- Lend your support at the fair to assist with the bidder refreshment table.

The list goes on – if you have something you feel could be improved or changed, join the committee to help us give our bidders a five-star experience. Email Tammi to be added to the planning committee list at tlk6@cornell.edu

4-H Dorms: Yes - we are still looking for a male and female chaperone to provide a safe place for our 4-H members who need to stay at the fair. We would love to be able to offer the 4-H dorms to our members for the 2024 fair, however we

Livestock Calendar Snapshot

contact Tammi with questions

tlk6@cornell.edu

* Represents an addition

- February 12 – Marketing Meeting #2, 6:30 pm ADC at the fairgrounds.
- February 15 – Public Presentations @ Revive
- February 17 – Public Presentations @ Revive
- *February 20 – Poultry meeting (2024 chicken and turkey orders taken) 7 pm at the Powerhouse.
- February 22 – County Dairy Bowl 7pm
- February 24 - Horse Communications and Public Presentations @ Revive
- February 26 – Bits & Bridles 7pm, Powerhouse
- March 1 – Beef Rope Halter video due
- March 2 – District Dairy Bowl, Pioneer
- March 2 – County Hippology
- March 2 – March Dog Madness, Cornell
- March 4 – Swine Orientation, 6:30 pm Powerhouse
- March 6 – Marketing Meeting #3 6:30 pm at the ADC fairgrounds
- March 9 – Regional Horse Bowl
- March 9 – March Dog Madness – Cornell
- March 11 – Sheep Orientation 6:30 pm Powerhouse
- March 15 - Bidder Dinner RSVP due for 4-H participants
- March 23 – District Public Presentations
- March 18-22 – Ag Literacy Week
- March 23 – District Public Presentations
- March 29 – Bidder RSVP closes online
- April 5 – Bidder forms due to 4-H office
- April 6 – Regional Horse Communications
- April 13 – State Horse Bowl, Cornell
- *April 14 – Western District Goat Bowl
- April 17 – Bidder Dinner – 4-H/FFA Livestock Roundup
- April 27 – Regional Hippology
- May 4 – Animal Crackers, Cornell
- May 18 – State Horse Communications, Cornell
- *June 27 – Goat Fitting and Showing, Alexander
- July 8 – Erie County Fair Entries close

need male and female chaperones. If you are 21 and older and interested in chaperoning our 4-H members during the fair, please contact Tammi Kron (tlk6@cornell.edu) as soon as possible. The Beats are willing to help our new chaperones learn the ropes to provide a safe place for our members to stay during the fair.

2024 Enrollment: Hopefully, everyone has submitted your 2024 enrollment paperwork. If not, please contact Tammi as soon as possible at tlk6@cornell.edu if you want to participate. Know of someone who wants to join – we are accepting new members.

Public Presentations: It is Public Presentation time!!! February is an exciting month for all our members and especially for me. I love the opportunity to chat with you at public presentations and to see you rewarded for your hard work. Public Presentations are the one 4-H activity that truly prepares you for your future. I am hopeful that you are all practicing your presentation and feeling comfortable and confident. You are the teacher – show off your skills and knowledge about the topic you selected.

2024 Erie County Fair Schedule and Fair Book: The livestock sections of the 2024 Erie County Fair book have been posted to the fair website. Check out the sections under competitions. Be sure to read all the rules and regulations so you are prepared for the fair. If you would like to see the livestock schedule you can see that in the same tab. Be sure to check the date in the lower right corner to be sure you are looking at the most up-to-date schedule as we have moved a couple of things around.

Market participants in the Beef, Sheep, Swine, Poultry, Rabbit, and Goat programs: Please be sure to read important meeting information at the beginning of the livestock notes. Mark your calendar for the dates listed for the Marketing Meetings, you will need to attend 2 of the 3 offered along with the dinner and submit 3 bidder forms. Marketing meeting dates are at the beginning of the Livestock Notes.

Beef: March 1 – verification of your steer being able to walk comfortably with the rope halter is due. This can either be a video or a sign off by a committee member that they have seen you walk your animal.

Swine: Swine Orientation will be held on Monday, March 4, 2024, at 6:30 pm at the Powerhouse, 39 S. Grove Street, East Aurora. We will be reviewing the program and doing a hands-on activity.

Sheep: Sheep Orientation will be held on Monday, March 11, 2024, at 6:30 pm at the Powerhouse, 39 S. Grove Street, East Aurora. We will be reviewing the program and doing a hands-on activity.

Sheep and Meat Goat members: Saratoga County is hosting a Champion Choice Camp on Sunday, May 19th in the Ballston Spa area. This camp is a Nationally recognized camp that focuses on taking kids to the next level in the show ring and in preparing their animals for show. Youth bring their own animals and learn everything from teaching the brace, showmanship techniques in the ring, desensitizing their animals, nutrition and fitting of their animal. The camp is for youth interested in Meat Goats and Sheep. Each youth should bring their own animal with them. Registration space is limited. Cost is \$150.00 per species, register at <https://www.championschoicecamps.com/>. If you participate and submit a report, you will earn a meeting credit. I have heard wonderful reviews about this program.

Poultry: Our first poultry meeting for 2024 will be held on Tuesday, February 20 at 7 pm at the Powerhouse, 29 S. Grove Street, East Aurora. We will be taking your market chicken and turkey orders, discussing our community service project, and doing a fun activity.

Llama/Alpaca: This year our 4-H show will be joining in on the Open Show. There will be open classes followed by our 4-H classes. Be sure to enter online through the 4-H Llama/Alpaca section. If you are showing in the open show, you will enter under the open class entry section as well.

Dairy, Working and Meat Goat Orientation was held on Tuesday, January 30 at 6:30 p.m. Our goat program has grown. It was great to see everyone, and I look forward to the coming year.

Goat Bowl – We will be hosting a District Goat Bowl on Sunday, April 14. Location is currently being secured. Start studying now on all goat topics so you are prepared for the event.

Goat Fitting & Showing: Mark your calendar for our Goat Fitting & Showing meeting for Thursday, June 27 at 6:30 p.m. at the farm of A. Hayne/C. Saraceni. We will be discussing all 3 goat programs and get you prepared for a successful day in the showing. Stay tuned for more details as we get closer to June.

Dairy Cattle: Dairy Bowl practice sessions have begun. They will take place on Thursday evenings at the Langford Firehall from 7-8:30 p.m. We will hold our County Dairy Bowl contest on Thursday, February 22 and the District Dairy Bowl Contest will be held on Saturday, March 2 at Pioneer School. If you would like to participate in dairy bowl, please contact Carl Niefergold at carlniefergold1368@gmail.com

Dog Program: We are excited that our 2 county dog clubs are accepting new members. Our one club meets in the Orchard Park area and the other meets in the Northtown's (Tonawanda area) Do you have a family dog that your 4-H member would like to learn more about and teach some tricks, or to be more obedient? Contact Tammi for leader contact information at tlk6@cornell.edu

Dog Bowl Invitational: Saturday, February 24, 2024, Alfred State College Farm, Teams typically consist of 4 members but everyone is invited. Tentative Schedule: 9:30 Registration/Check-In, 10:00 First Rounds, Noon: Lunch (provided), Possible tours of A-State campus, Agriculture Building and Veterinary Technology, 1:00 Final Rounds. Contact: Kathi KChampliss@aacapps.com or chamblisk@gmail.com. for more information and to sign-up. Please register by Feb. 10 for lunch count.

March Dog Madness is coming to Cornell on March 9, 2024, contact your leader or Tammi for details.

Horse Program:

Horse Specific dates to add to your calendar: * = Addition

February 15 & 17 – Public Presentations at Revive

*February 23 – Hippology Registration closes – register online

*February 24 – Horse Communications and Public Presentations at Revive

February 26 – Horse Clinic – Bits & Bridles, 7 p.m. at the Powerhouse, 39 S. Grove Street, East Aurora

March 2 – County Hippology Contest – St. Paul's Lutheran, West Falls

March 9 – Regional Horse Bowl – Cattaraugus County

April 6 – Regional Horse Communications – Alleghany County

April 13 – State Horse Bowl – Cornell

April 27 – Regional Hippology – St. Paul's Lutheran, West Falls

*April 28 – Evaluations and Riding Clinic #1, Blakestone Stables

*May 4 – Evaluations and Riding Clinic #2, Blakestone Stables

May 18 – State Horse Communications – Cornell

*June 1 – Training Show at Stagecoach

*June 15 – Sardinia Saddlers Horse Show at Blakestone Stables


*June 29 – Tri Color Equestrians Horse Show at Stagecoach

*July 8 – Fair entries due online

*July 13 – Wild Wind Riders Horse Show at Stagecoach (note date change)

*July 27 – Hillside Riders Horse Show at Stagecoach (note date change)

Reminder: To be eligible to show at the fair you need to have a current rider evaluation, participate in a public presentation/horse communication, participate in one educational event (Horse Bowl or Hippology), attend 1 of the many clinics offered, participate in 1 county club horse show and submit your fair entry.

 **DON'T FORGET: Bit & Bridle Clinic:** We are pleased to announce that we will be holding a clinic that will focus on bits and bridles on Monday, February 26, 2024, from 7-8 p.m. at the Powerhouse, 39 S. Grove Street, East Aurora (this is the building next door to our offices). The timing of this clinic is perfect as it will give you knowledge to help you with Hippology. Come join in the fun and learning. We hope to see you there.

Horse Bowl was a success! We held our county horse bowl on Saturday, January 27 with 85 youth in attendance – it was great to see everyone! Special thank you to the Wild Wind Riders for hosting the event and to Joanne Campbell for your continued guidance throughout the day. Thank you to Sonya Mauro for coordinating all the food. A huge thank you to the Wiesmore family for everything to make the day a success and for securing Fellowship Wesleyan for the event. The

4-H Program appreciates everyone who helped to make the day fantastic! Members that received ribbons for placing in the top 10 in each division (Sr., Jr., Novice) are invited to participate in the Regional Contest on March 9. Please be sure to accept or decline the invitation when you receive an email from the 4-H office.

Horse Communications and Public Presentations are here. I wish you all the best of luck. Everyone who registered for a horse communication should have received a yellow post card in the mail. If you did not, please contact Tammi as soon as possible. A reminder to horse communication participants. I will extend an invitation to participate in the Regional Horse Communication event to those who are in the top 4 placings in the county communications. The regional event will take place on Saturday, April 6 in Belfast.

Hippology: Our county Hippology contest will be on Saturday, March 2, 2024, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, West Falls. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. with the contest to begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. Please watch your email for the link to sign up for snacks and beverages, there will be a \$5 fee to cover pizza for lunch. To register for Hippology please use this link: https://pub.cce.cornell.edu/event_registration/main/events_landing.cfm?event=County_Hippology3-2-2024_214

ERIE COUNTY 4-H EVALUATION & RIDING CLINIC



Sunday, April 28, 2024 and Saturday May 4, 2024, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Blakestone Stables 12260 Savage Rd. Sardinia, NY 14134
\$5 registration fee (per day) – Lunch will be available



The Erie County 4-H Evaluation & Riding Clinic is a special opportunity and event hosted by our good friends the Sardinia Saddlers. At this event all Erie County 4-Hers can bring their horses, get a lesson from an area professional and receive their 2024 4-H Riding Evaluation.

How do you know if you need an evaluation?

1. Any 4-Her who plans to show this summer at the Saturday shows and/or the Erie County Fair, that has not been evaluated previously, needs to be evaluated before they enter the show ring.
2. 4-Hers who are joining 4-H for the first time as Cloverbuds or Walk-trotters need to be evaluated.
3. If a Walk-trot or a Novice Rider has ridden in either of those divisions for two years, they need to be evaluated to move up to the next level.
4. If a Walk-trot or Novice rider won a performance Championship at Year End Awards the year before, they need to be evaluated to move up to the next level.
5. If a 4-Her, of any level, is riding a new horse this year, they need to be evaluated.

So, if you fall into one of these categories – now is a great time to get evaluated. In addition, you can receive a free riding lesson from an excellent area professional! Blakestone Stables has great facilities for this activity and they are planning a terrific event for you!! Register today – spaces are limited.

To register you may do one of the following:

- Email Jennifer Barber at blakestonerider1@aol.com
- Call Jennifer Barber at 716-698-7083



When registering Jennifer Barber will give you a time slot along with directions for your arrival.

It is important to note that parking at the facility in April/May will be limited. Please remember that Blakestone Stables values their lawns and hay fields (stay off of them). You will be told where to park your trailers and vehicles and we ask you follow what is asked.

Are you interested in an equine career? Need to find out the details? Join in on the Equine Career Day on Sunday, March 10, 1-4 PM at the Niagara County CCE facility, 4487 Lake Ave, Lockport. Professionals that will be present are Veterinarian, Veterinary Technician, Saddle Fitter/Tack Repair, Judge, USEF Show Steward, Show Clothes Designer,

Professional Horse Hauler, Tack Store Owner, Trainer, Barn Owner with more to add on. The professionals will be available so youth can circulate around the room asking questions and gathering information. The "presenters" will simply answer questions, presenting the pros and cons of their career.

Niagara County is hosting its annual Tack Swap on Friday, Feb. 23, 7-9:30 PM.

Dressage Clinic: the WNY Dressage Assoc. will be holding a free clinic at the Niagara County 4-H Horse facility on April 21. This is open to any youth and is free, but you must put down a deposit which will be refunded when you ride. All horse members received an email on 1/29 with all the details.



Are you interested in joining the Shooting Sports 4-H club?

4-H Shooting Sports is a comprehensive non-formal education, recreation, and competitive program focused on Positive Youth Development. 4-H Shooting Sports program utilizes the safe and responsible use of firearms to address youth social issues related to STEM, healthy living, and civic engagement.

In doing so, the 4-H shooting sports program provides opportunities for youth to gain valuable skills, practice leadership, and build relationships with non-parent adults. These three critical factors are the building blocks that enable youth to achieve mastery, feel a sense of belonging, explore independence, and act generously. When youth are engaged as resources worthy and capable of development, rather than objects to be fixed, they become competent, confident, connected, caring, character-driven, and contributing members of society. **Is your interest sparked?** Our Erie County Sharp Shooters meet the first Tuesday of each month at the Tonawanda Sportsman Facility. We have 6 trained adults that would love the opportunity to work with more youth. The meetings are always filled with instruction and hands-on opportunities at each meeting. Need more information, reach out to Tammi at tlk6@cornell.edu and I will connect you with the club leaders.



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

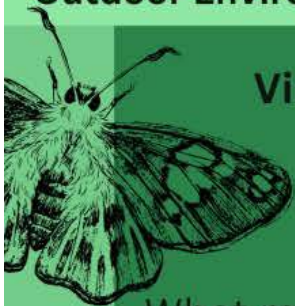
Brought to you by The Youth Nature and
Outdoor Environment Program Work Team.

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:



Do you want to host an exchange student from Japan?



New York State 4-H, in partnership with the States' 4-H International Exchange, is inviting you to the opportunity to host a Japanese delegate for 4 weeks during the summer, from Mid July thru Mid August.

Every year New York requests a certain number of delegates to host and works to find host families for those delegates within the 4-H population. Delegates range in age from 12-18 (most are 12-14) and do not speak much English. Traveling and staying with an American family is about the full immersion of the delegate into American Culture. Therefore, the host family must have a child of the same age and gender as the arriving delegate.

If interested in this program, you can find out more at this site: <https://www.nys4-h.org/international-exchange>.
Please contact Autumn Lavine at the NYS 4-H Office with questions or to express interest at:
aml84@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/>

WEBSITE: erie.cce.cornell.edu

On January 20 the Erie County Crafters met to make nine patch pillows. While the cloverbuds made tie pillows and bead critters. Can birdfeeders are our next activity.



CLUB CORNER

Erie County Crafters

On January 20 the Erie County Crafters met to make nine patch pillows. While the cloverbuds made tie pillows and bead critters. Can bird feeders are our next activity.

Signed, H. Rose, Reporter

