

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



Put *Knowledge*
To *Work*



A WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

While many things have happened throughout this past year, CCE Steuben has been resilient and continued to serve the community with high quality evidence based education around the areas of agriculture, financial health and life skills, natural resources, nutrition and youth development. Our nutrition program served over 8,000 people in the SNAP Ed Southern Finger Lakes six county region and we are proud to be the lead agency for that work. Our Life Skills program hosted many workshops, including our ninth annual Women’s Financial Conference. In 2023, we started our Agriculture in the Classroom program where we have already reached thousands of students since September 2023 in the majority of Steuben County School Districts. We also impacted thousands of people with new and ongoing education and coordinated our second successful Farm Trail Day and Veggie Van series. We successfully served our seven county Finger Lakes region as the lead of the Shared Business Network with HR, IT and Financial services for our first year as we acquired the SBN in 2022. We could not have done this without the support of the Steuben County Legislature, community partners, CCE Administration, our funders, volunteers and the community – we are grateful for their time, talent and treasure.

In 2024, we are looking forward to many initiatives. We will host a fun and educational 4-H Showcase in July, where 4-Hers can show off their hard work that they have done throughout the year. We also plan to expand into more classrooms and schools for our Agriculture in the Classroom program through Steuben County. CCE Steuben will continue to provide quality education and meet the needs of the community while doing this.

We want to hear from you! If you are interested in our programs, have questions, or want to learn more, you are welcome to call/email/visit us. Our program advisory committee and board meetings are also open to the public and dates and times for those can be found on our website at www.putknowledgetowork.org.

We are grateful for your continued support of CCE and look forward to working with you in the future.

THERESA (TESS) MCKINLEY
CCE STEUBEN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

OUR MISSION

Cornell Cooperative Extension puts knowledge to work in pursuit of economic vitality, ecological sustainability and social well-being. We bring local experience and research based solutions together, healing New York State families and communities thrive in our rapidly changing world.

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A WORD FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

2023 was a very different year from the previous few years. The end of all Covid restrictions provided a chance to return to a more familiar way of conducting business. The Board of Directors was able to meet in person on a regular basis. Thanks to the County Legislature permitting a limited use of video conferencing, board members who were traveling could participate in the meetings. This allowed us to have a very active and engaged board.

Some highlights:

- Year two of the Veggie Van program was tremendously successful. We doubled the reach of the program which included serving urban areas.
- The Food Forest was planted at the Haverling Street Garden.
- The Master Gardener program was restarted.
- Year two of Steuben Farm Day saw the number of participating farms double.
- We determined to suspend our 4 H'ers participation in the 2024 County Fair. A controversial and difficult decision to make. The board felt that there were too many liabilities associated with continuing our association with the Ag Society under the current agreement. It was necessary for the safety of all concerned and will in the end benefit all especially the 4 H'ers. On a personal note, I am sorry that this was the last major business item I had to oversee.

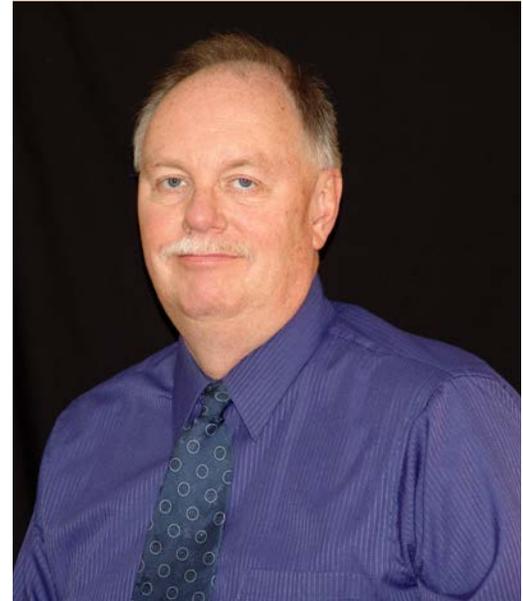
Thank you and goodbye:

2023 is my last year on the board. CCE has changed a lot over the past 7 years. When I joined the board, CCE was in their old facility, was a landlord in Bath, ran a meat locker in Corning, was adjusting to new employee requirements, amongst others. Today we are in new facilities, have solid financial investments rather than rental properties, an energized and expanded staff, new and improved programs, great support from the County Legislature, and so much more. The longer I served, the more I learned about the things CCE-SC does. Also, the more amazed I became at the skill and dedication of the staff and board members to the community they serve. It has been a pleasure to work with them and I express my sincere thanks to all. I will miss being part of CCE.



STUART K. SAMMIS

PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Stuart Sammis, President
Beth Walter Honadle, Vice President
Jason Jordan, Secretary
Bill Joint, Treasurer
Hilda Lando, Legislative Representative
Fred Potter, Legislative Representative
Adam Hughes, Cornell Representative, State Specialist
Amey Rusak
Allison Lavine
Gabe Smalt

Change is inevitable in life. You can either resist it and potentially get run over by it, or you can choose to cooperate with it, adapt to it, and learn how to benefit from it. When you embrace change you will begin to see it as an opportunity for growth.

-Jack Canfield-

OUR TEAM



TESS MCKINLEY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



ROBERT W. SHIRLEY III
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
DIRECTOR
FINANCE/OPERATIONS



JOHN BOUWENS
FINGER LAKES SBN
FINANCE LEAD



KELSEY JAMES
FINGER LAKES SBN
HR LEAD



SCOT MANTELLI
FINGER LAKES SBN
IT LEAD



MELISSA EDWARDS
COMMUNICATIONS
COORDINATOR



ANNE ZSCHOCHÉ
ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT



JENNY GROEN
4-H/YOUTH
DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAM LEADER



MICHELLE CHASE
4-H/YOUTH
DEVELOPMENT
EDUCATOR



STEPHANIE MCKINLEY
AGRICULTURE IN
THE CLASSROOM
EDUCATOR



STACY HOUSWORTH
LIFE SKILLS
EDUCATOR



SUSAN WALKER
AGRICULTURE &
NATURAL
RESOURCE
EDUCATOR



JUSTINE PATTERSON
DIRECTOR
SNAP-ED NEW
YORK SO. FINGER
LAKES



KATIE WEIGLE
ASSESSMENT &
EVALUATION
NUTRITIONIST



KELSEY MONKS
SENIOR
NUTRITIONIST
SNAP-ED NEW
YORK SO. FINGER
LAKES



AMY HEALE
SNAP-ED
NUTRITIONIST



MARGARET LUND
CORNELL
VEGETABLE TEAM



HANS WALTER-PETERSON
FINGER LAKES
GRAPE PROGRAM



KATELYN WALLEY-STOLL
BUSINESS
MANAGEMENT
SWNY DAIRY
LIVESTOCK & FIELD
CROPS



AMY BARKLEY
LIVESTOCK
SPECIALIST
SWNY DAIRY
LIVESTOCK & FIELD
CROPS



CAMILA LAGE
DAIRY
MANAGEMENT
SWNY DAIRY
LIVESTOCK & FIELD
CROPS



KATELYN MILLER
FIELD CROPS &
FORAGE
SWNY DAIRY
LIVESTOCK & FIELD
CROPS



KELLY BOURNE
ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT
SWNY DAIRY
LIVESTOCK & FIELD
CROPS

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

Allison Lavine, Savona - Chair
Joe Casterechino, Prattsburgh
Chris Comstock, Savona
Kevin Peterson, Corning
Cody Lafler, Bath
Ed Merry, Arkport
Emily Brennan, Avoca

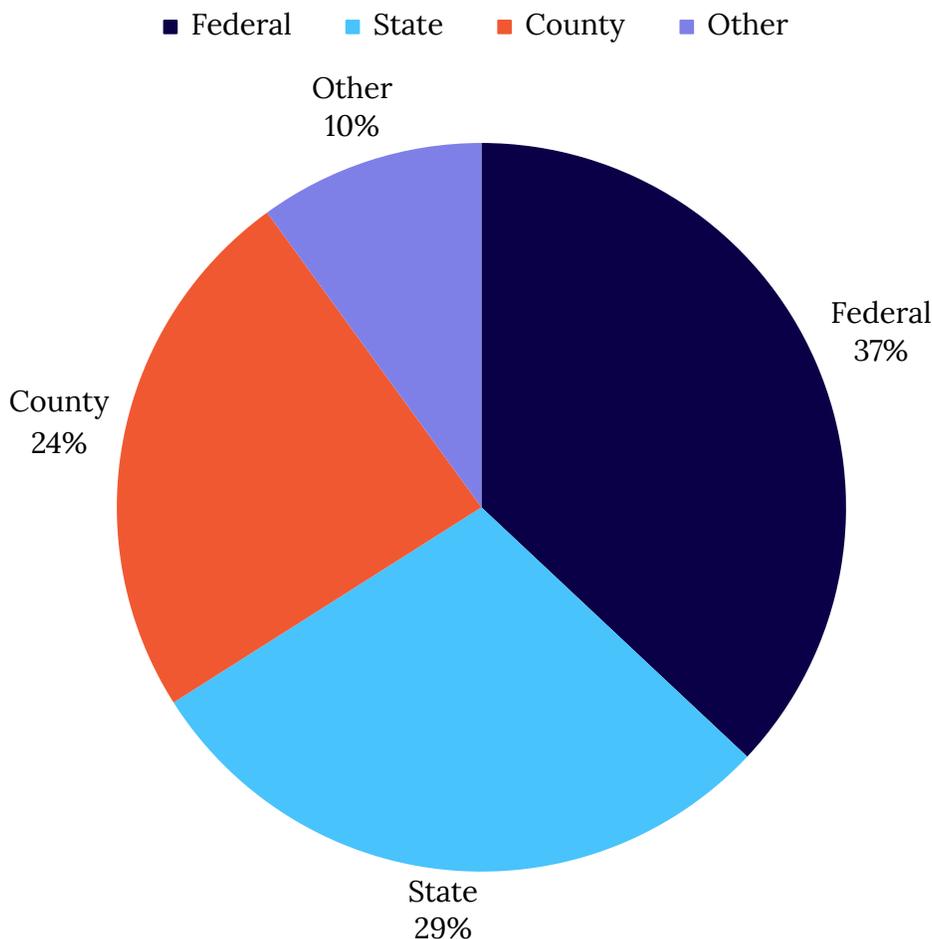
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Gabe Smalt, Bath - Chair
Melonie Coley, Wayland - Vice Chair
Robin Robarge, Hornell
Penny Kephart, Campbell
Alissa Cary, Bath
Hannah Bush, Cohocton
Jerry Stewart, Bath

COMMUNITY HEALTH & FINANCIAL WELL BEING

Amey Rusak, Bath - Chair
Krystle Blencowe, Painted Post
Steve Olix, Hornell
Stacey Wing, Bath
Walter Konopski, Painted Post
Lisa Zawrotny, Bath
Meghan Smith, Hornell

2023 SUMMARY OF RESOURCES & SUPPORT



Federal - \$742,153.17

Smith-Lever Funds	\$27,245.80
SNAP-Ed Program	\$643,491.34
RHSE Grant	\$9,123.00
Moved Forward Grant	\$469.14
EFNEP Nutrition Program	\$61,823.89

State - \$568,791.06

County Law 224	\$96,495.49
Container Gardening Grant	\$34,243.49
Heat Smart FLX South	\$3,000.00
State Fringe Benefits	\$435,052.08

County- \$474,000

Steuben County Appropriation	\$409,000.00
In-Kind Value of Space Allocation	\$65,000.00

Other Support Sources- \$200,452.76

Enrollment & Program Fees	\$14,317.87
Contributions	\$47,235.48
Sale of Equipment, Printing Reimbursement, Rental Income, Sale of Publications, Fundraising, and Dividend and Interest Income	\$87,718.35
Specialist Contract Support from Cornell University	\$16,213.24
Special Projects (funded by local agencies or other sources)	\$34,967.82

Total Support - \$1,985,396.99

*Numbers based on 2022 Financial Information

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Steuben County is a subordinate governmental agency with an educational mission that operates under a form of organization and administration approved by Cornell University as agent for the State of New York. It is tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The association is part of the national Cooperative Extension System, an educational partnership between County, State and Federal governments. As New York's land grant university, Cornell administers the system in the state. Each Cornell Cooperative Extension association is an independent employer that is governed by an elected Board of Directors with general oversight from Cornell. All associations work to meet the needs of the counties in which they are located as well as state and national goals.

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

SUSAN WALKER - SMW272@CORNELL.EDU

FARM TRAIL DAY

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Steuben County held its second annual Farm Trail Day event during September 2023! CCE of Steuben uses Farm Trail Day to help promote local agriculture, increase awareness of the multitude of farm products made and sold locally all-around Steuben County, and educate the community on various agricultural production.

The 2023 Farm Trail Day trail had nine agritourism businesses and farms representing our region. Participating farms were encouraged to provide tours, sell their products, and promote their own farm to visitors for the full day event. Explore Steuben was an essential sponsor for this event and the promotional video they created masterfully highlighted the day's events! CCE Steuben put tremendous effort into promoting this day to the public via Finger Lakes Farm Country, social media, news, and to all Steuben County schools to encourage families as well as the public to attend the tour-ready farms! To encourage participation CCE Steuben offered a prize drawing among those who visited at least three farms. The nine farms highlighted during this event each offered products such as apples, produce, cheeses, ice cream, butter, meat (beef, chicken, lamb, and pork), eggs, cow/goat milk, goat milk soap, hand-made fiber goods, apparel, pumpkins, gourds, squashes, baked and preserved goods, and raw honey to name a few.

Over 1800 people participated in the 2023 Farm Trail Day event. It has become not only a fun-filled day in our region, but also improves the visibility of the agriculture and agritourism industries, which are integral components of our local economy, culture, and history. Farm Trail Day, introduces many individuals, often for the first time, to agriculture products made and sold right in their own communities as well as to farms they may never have known were present in our region. Overall, the 2nd Annual CCE of Steuben Farm Trail Day was a fun and successful endeavor that received positive responses from the community and continues to receive farm participation requests for the future years of this annual event.



FARMS

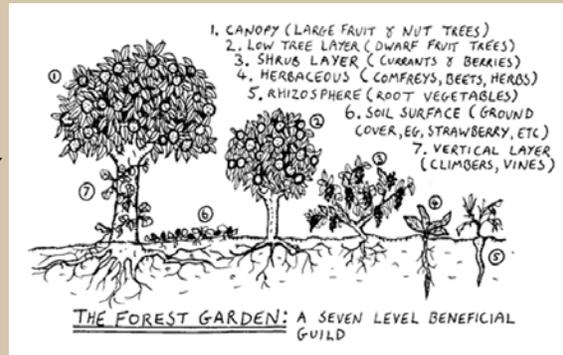
AUTUMN MIST ALPACA FARM
BLUEBIRD TRAIL FARM
CROOKED LINE FARM &
ORCHARD

EVERMORE FARMS
HEMLOCK RIDGE FARM
LOWERY FAMILY FARMS

MUD CREEK BISON RANCH
STEWART'S FAMILY FARM
ZIEGENVINE HOMESTEAD

HAVERLING STREET COMMUNITY PARK

Permaculture gardens are designed with the principles of Seven Layer Ecology to imitate nature while creating a sustainable landscape that benefits everything from the microorganisms in the soil to the humans and animals that enjoy it. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Steuben County planned and implemented a Permaculture Learning Garden on approximately 1,300 square feet within the Haverling Street Community Park in the Village of Bath, NY. This garden was funded by Cornell Garden Based Learning and was completed with the assistance of Village of Bath employees, CCE-Steuben staff, board members, and Master Gardeners. A garden layout and planting plan was developed, and informed by site assessments including pre-planting soil analysis and solar assessments.



During Spring of 2023, the CCE-Steuben Permaculture Learning Garden was planted using a variety of food forest species as well as a variety of native flowering plants and shrubs. The balance of a forest ecosystem is achieved in seven layers of vegetation and food forest garden or permaculture design attempts to mimic this balance through the incorporation of food, fruit, and nut producing plants within these layers.

The CCE-Steuben Permaculture Learning Garden needed a polished aesthetic for a community garden on Village property while still being representative of a Food Forest design that invited the community in to interact with the plants and other components of the garden. The garden was finished with mulch and a stone walking path to ensure the community could enjoy the garden and harvest edible plants and fruits as they develop in the coming years. An interpretive style sign was installed to highlight what a permaculture or food forest garden is and what plants are present on one side while displaying a root zone planter on the opposite side that allows plants to be planted and root development to be observed through a transparent

glass pane. This root zone planter will allow visitors to view the development of plants from roots to tops providing an interesting focal point as well as opportunities for Master Gardener volunteers to educate children's groups. The garden will also have individual plant signage throughout that identifies each major permaculture plant species and some of the native flowering plants. These signs help educate while attracting attention to the garden. An estimated 1,800 or more visits by community members to the park and garden occur throughout the year. The garden is visited daily by community members coming to enjoy the garden while walking the trail, taking their dogs to the dog park space, or playing a game of pickleball with friends. Each visit is an opportunity to spread knowledge and stimulate interest through the interpretive signs and available edible garden components. The CCE-Steuben Permaculture Learning Garden will be continually maintained and efforts to improve and enhance the garden will be made each growing season by the CCE-Steuben Agriculture and Natural Resources Program Leader. The Haverling Community Park will be evaluated for other potential projects such as educational interpretive signage and play equipment along the walking path, and a community garden raised bed location. In the future, educational programming for adults and youth will be developed for the CCE Permaculture Learning Garden to spread knowledge of permaculture practices, sustainable landscape and the importance of native plants.

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Steuben County
Permaculture Learning Garden

PERMACULTURE SEVEN LAYER ECOLOGY
 Permaculture gardens are designed to imitate nature while creating a sustainable landscape that benefits everything from the microorganisms in the soil to the humans and animals that enjoy it.

NATIVE PLANTS
 Plants that are considered native are growing naturally, without human introduction, in a region, ecosystem, or habitat. As climate change occurs, plants have been adapting and expanding their native range. Also called indigenous, these plants are normally well adapted to our regional climate, soils, and light conditions. However, as we change the natural environment by building homes, manicuring lawns, and introducing invasive and cultivated plants, we alter the natural environment so native plants may struggle to thrive as they once could.

CAN YOU SPOT THESE NATIVE PLANTS?

- Wild Geranium
- Blue Wood Aster
- Red Columbine
- Green-headed Coneflower
- Foam Flower

PERMACULTURE SEVEN LAYER ECOLOGY

1. A canopy layer that consists of tall trees and nut trees.
2. A sub-canopy layer consists of dwarf fruit and nut trees.
3. A shrub layer of fruit-bearing such as currants and berries.
4. A herbaceous layer of ordinary and medicinal herbs, companion plants, lawns and poultry-hung plants.
5. A ground cover of edible plants that function as a living mulch.
6. A rhizosphere layer with root crops.
7. A vine layer of stems and climbers.

VOLUNTEERS

Adams, Paulette
Alexander, Susan
Andrews, Donna
Apgar, Darlene
Baker, Sarah
Ballam, Amanda
Baran, Deborah
Barrett, Darlene
Bartholomew, Ronald
Bixby, Chad
Bixby, Jennifer
Blencowe, Krystle
Boccia, Kathie
Bolton, Pamela
Bolton, Victoria
Bottum, Brandi
Braden, Peggy Jo
Brandow, Avery
Brennan, Emily
Brewer, Paula
Brothers, Christie
Burdin, Rhonda
Bush, Hannah
Cansdale, Chelsie
Cary, Darrell
Cary, Alissa
Castrechino, Joe
Cessna, Amanda
Chandler, Laura
Chase, Jonathan
Chilson, Sabrina
Coley, Melonie
Comstock, Christopher
Conklin, Angel
Conti, Kendall
Costello, Kevin
Daley, Kara
Davis, Lauren
Dekay, Bonnie
Dekay, Scott
Dinunny, Kate
Dinunny, Jason
Dockstader, Vicky
Dockstader, David Jr.
Eckler, Laura
Edwards, Thomas
Farley, Victoria
Folckemer, Kelsey
Folckemer, Scott
Foote, Raven
Gois, Susan
Goodison, Robert

Goodison, Laura
Goodwin, Victoria
Gorman, Elizabeth
Gottschall, Gwen
Hargrave, Karen
Hargrave, Alicia
Hargraves, Craig
Hargraves, Regina
Harkleroad, Katrina
Havens, Amy
Havens, Daryl
Heagy, Jennifer
Herrington, Addie
Herrington, Cynthia
Herrington, James
Hill, Zachariah
Hoad, Lydia
Holden, Betty
Honadle, Beth
Hosmer, Shelby
Housworth, Stacy
Hurd, Rachel
Hurd, Joshua
Irvine, Amy
Jacobson, Renee
Jacobson-Evans, Kyra
Johnson, Edith
Joint, William
Jordan, Jason
Jorritsma, Leslie

Kaszczynec, Jane
Kelly, Richard
Kephart, Penny
King, Jessika
Knoll, Jacklin
Knoll, Jessica
Konopski, Walter
Krisher, Mackenzie
Lafler, Cody
Lally, Pamela
Lavine, Allison
Leids, Pepi DVM
Lewis, Amanda
Lisi, Mary
Mack, Sarah
Mahany, Gary
Mann, Wendy
Mays, Denise
McCarthy, Michelle
McCarthy, Joseph
Merry, Ed
Nadjadi, Robert
Nadjadi, Stacy
Nieves, William
O'brien, Anna
Olix, Steve
Owens, Ainsley
Perkins, Jade Marie
Peterson, Tim
Peterson, Kevin

Place, Maggie
Potter, Krystal
Potter, Jack
Potter, Fred
Pound, Darlene
Pound, Richard
Quigley, Gwen
Rathbun, Phyllis
Rheinstein, Jacob
Ricci, John
Robarge, Eric
Robarge, Robin
Rusak, Amey
Sammis, Stuart
Schultheiss, Ilean
Schwingel, Susan
Sherer, Linda
Slayton, Erin
Slayton, Jonathan
Slayton, Jessie
Smalt, Gabriel
Smith, Brian
Smith, Meghan
Smith, Karen
Spencer, Darlene
Stark, Paula
Staron, Kim Marie
Stewart, Jerald
Stewart, Kristen
Stillman, Alice
Strom, Danielle
Thorne, Laura
Tichenor, Joan
Towner, Christine
Travis, Heaven
Underhill, Erin
Unterman, Erica
Van De Bogart, Michelle
Van Otterloo, Bridget
Walker, Donna
Walker, Julie
Welch, Karen
Wetherill, Lynn
Wheaton, Melissa
White, Heather
Wing, Stacey
Winiesdorffer-Sonnefeld,
Pamela
Zawrotny, Lisa
Zschoche, Ashlee
Zschoche, Philip
Zyla, Valorie

Volunteers



Always
Needed
FOREVER

Appreciated

OUR PARTNERS

Platinum Partners

Bath Rotary
Bath Trailblazers
Boots & Clover
Brokaw, Christina
Byrnes, Marjorie
Corning Incorporated Foundation
National Fuel
Raab, Kelly
Serv U FCU
Steuben Conservation Club
Steuben County SCOPE
Steuben Farm Bureau
Steuben Service Youth Fund
Wilkinson, Cindy

Partners

Armstrong
Bath Rod & Gun
Bauer, Phylis
Chase 'In A Dream Farm
Clark, Anne & Michael
Corning Rotary
Cortwright, Tom
Country Bumpkins
Country Crossroads Feed & Seed LLC
CoyKendall, Ella Mae
Egle, Donald
Foster, Lori
Gilstrap, Leslie
Hemmingway, David
John Wallace Farms
Joint, William
Jones, Brian

Kramer, Becca
Lando, Hilda
Lavine, Allison
Leids, Pepi
Lottery Hill Vineyard
McCarthy, Joe
McCarthy, Michelle
McKinley, Tess
Merry, Ed
Radigan, Daniel
Rathbun, Phyllis
Rio Vista Veterinary Hospital
Robarge, Robin
Robinson, Randy
ROLA Farms Inc.
Root to Rise Wellness Center
Savoca, John

Shirley, John
Shirley, Robert
Smalt, Gabe
Stewart, Kristen
Steuben Youth Bureau
Streeter, Robert
Stutzman Farms
Sunny Acres Farm
Symonds, Loree
Taft, Roy
Tom Edwards Construction LLC
Tucker, Curtis Jr.
Vaughan, Karissa
Volz, Eric
Wade, Carroll
Zschoche, Phil

“Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success.”

-Henry Ford-

4-H/YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

JENNY GROEN - JMG422@CORNELL.EDU
MICHELLE CHASE - MLC353@CORNELL.EDU



4-H CLUBS

- 129 Clinics and Workshops
- 2 new clubs formed
- 300+ youth enrolled
- 2 youth competed in National Level Events
- NYS Shooting Sports Teen Ambassador

STATISTICS

4-H COUNTY & STATE FAIR

- 2,000+ County Fair Entries
- \$111,000 4-H Livestock Sale
- 111 Youth Building Projects sent to State Fair
- 18 Youth Participated at State Fair

AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM

- Program started up in September
- New Educator Hired
- 7 school districts participating with more reaching out for 2024
- Approximately 1,800 students for AITC

“I would not be able to complete my job as a customer service rep for a local seed company without the critical skills I learned by being a part of the 4-H Program. I am so thankful for the years I spent in 4-H; I only wish I had joined even sooner. From club and county presentations to touring local colleges like SUNY Cobleskill (Agribusiness Career Conference) and Cornell (Career Explorations) and different teen activities (STARR) they really opened my eyes to the range of jobs related to the ag industry. I also learned problem solving individually and as part of a team through different contests like Hippology which have really been helpful in my job. Before 4-H I wasn't comfortable talk to strangers and having a conversation was difficult for me, but now thanks to the public speaking, teamwork and problem solving skills, I feel well equipped to be successful. 4-H has done nothing but improve me as a person and grow my confidence. I am thankful everyday for it.”

“All the skills that I have learned in 4-H have helped me grow as a person and will continue to help me in the future. I look forward to future years.”

“This year, 4-H gave me the opportunity to make friends with people that share the same interests as me and challenge myself. Some of my best friends are people I met in 4-H.”



Breaking News

↓ **NEW PROGRAM** ↓



Agriculture in the Classroom is a program that provides evidence based agriculture instruction, resources, and supplemental science activities to school classrooms. AITC helps students understand the connections between agriculture, the environment, and food production. One of the main goals is to promote the agriculture industry.



**7 Participating
School Districts**



38 Classes

NYAITC envisions a day when educators, students, and communities in New York:

- Recognize the connection between agricultural production and the daily consumption of food and fiber products
- Appreciate the economic, social, historical, and scientific significance of agriculture in our local and global society
- Understand the complexity of today's agriculture and food systems
- Explore the many career opportunities in all areas of agriculture and food systems



**629 Students
reached**



**1,065 minutes &
counting spent
in classrooms**



SOUTHERN FINGER LAKES SNAP-ED

JUSTINE PATTERSON - JEC445@CORNELL.EDU
KATIE WEIGLE - KNW38@CORNELL.EDU

KELSEY MONKS - KEM337@CORNELL.EDU
AMY HEALE - ACH279@CORNELL.EDU



STATS - STEUBEN COUNTY

230 PROGRAMS

DIRECT EDUCATION

INDIRECT EDUCATION

2,760 PARTICIPANTS

34,541 PARTICIPANTS

- 177 Adult Participants
- 2,571 Youth Participants
- 12 Unknown Age Participants

Fruit and Vegetable Prescription Program (FVRx) of th SNAP-Ed New York Southern Finger Lakes Region



SUMMARY OF PROGRAM

- Partnership with Keuka Family Practice in Steuben Co. & Finger Lakes Community Health in Yates Co.
- Prevent Chronic Disease through nutrition education
- Administer vouchers for fresh produce to reinforce healthy behaviors
- Teach residents how to cook and shop in an affordable and healthy way

ISSUES/NEEDS

- Healthy Eating
- Food Security
- Physical Activity
- Preventive Care
- Expense of Nutritious Food



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Participants trying new produce
- Increased fruit and vegetables being consumed
- Learned new ideas for cooking
- Lowered A1C and blood sugar for participant
- 85% of FVRx vouchers redeemed

LIFE SKILLS

STACY HOUSWORTH- SLH322@CORNELL.EDU

9TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S FINANCIAL CONFERENCE

Inspire to Action

BUILDING YOUR TOOLBOX FOR FINANCIAL SUCCESS

60 ATTENDEES



6 GUEST SPEAKERS

- Nancy Williamson
- Lisa Zawrotny
- Bethany Larrabee
- Jennifer Share
- Amy Irvine
- Kate Welker



8

VENDORS

- **Mary Beth Knowles**
Pampered Chef
- **Lynn Hayes**
Arbonne
- **Allison Lavine**
Ziegenvine
Homestead
- **Christina Marvin**
Meowvin Creations
- **Carolyn Harwood**
Scentsy
- **Bethany Larrabee**
Root to Rise
- **Becky Eason**
She Shed Creations
- **Doralee Ennulat**
Massage Therapist



After a successful 22-year career as a Financial Management Educator, Nancy Reigelsperger, retired from Cornell Cooperative Extension Steuben in July 2023. Her replacement, Stacy Housworth, has the new title of Life Skills Educator, to encompass all of the financial education of the previous position, along with new programming offering life skills education on a broad spectrum of topics.

This unit of CCE Steuben has provided financial education to approximately 200 community members of Steuben County with many different topics offered.

As this position develops under the new title, community outreach and education will be the focus of each session offered. If you have interest in programming for your group, please contact our Life Skills Educator at slh322@cornell.edu.

REGIONAL TEAM UPDATES

CORNELL VEGETABLE PROGRAM



Steuben County had six dry bean fields host western bean cutworm traps in a multi-county trap network run by the Cornell Vegetable Program this past summer. This year's trap network not only monitored western bean cutworm numbers in dry beans but tested different trapping features to help determine what types of traps, lures, and field positioning works best in trapping this pest. Results from this year's study will be used in years to come to help monitor western bean cutworm in dry beans in western New York so farmers know of pest pressure in their area and can make informed management decisions. In August, the Cornell Vegetable Program helped organize a Chipping Potato Twilight Meeting in Steuben County, with the help of CCE Steuben and Mahany Farms. Steuben County is the second highest producing county of potatoes in New York State, primarily growing chipping varieties, and local chipping potato growers look forward to this meeting as an opportunity to network with other growers and industry members as well as view the chipping potato variety trial.

SOUTHWEST NY DAIRY, LIVESTOCK & FIELD CROPS PROGRAM

For over a year now, SWNYDLFC has been helping an Amish farmer from Steuben County to plan and implement rotational grazing with water access for cows 100% of the time in each on his dairy. 2023 was his first year managing the cows under this system during the grazing season, and he already saw benefits in animal performance and plant and soil health.



A pasture walk at Heaven Scent Farm held in July focused on soil health and forage quality education using live demonstrations and data recorded at the farm to share information with 31 individuals. This program was a partnership with the team, CCE Steuben, and the SCNY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Team.

FINGER LAKES GRAPE PROGRAM

The Finger Lakes experienced one of the worst spring freeze events in history this year. On May 18, temperatures dropped below freezing for several hours in many locations, causing significant damage to young shoots that had just emerged. Damage estimates ranged anywhere from almost nothing to 100% injury. Staff from the FLGP visited many vineyards around the region to assess the amount of damage in the region this year, and has been communicating with federal, state and local officials and agencies, along with other ag organizations, on the status of this year's crop. Our estimate is that the grape crop in the region will be about 30% lower than average overall.



Regional Agriculture Programs provide the following to Steuben County:

- Specialists who are experts on specific topics to support farmers with up-to-date information on any questions or issues farmers may have. Specialists can make field visits to check out any issues and provide additional guidance.
- Regular communication to farmers on trends and new information pertaining to their specialty topics via publications and newsletters.
- Frequent education in person and online for farmers on trending topics and regular courses that provide accreditation.



Strengthening families

Empowering youth through 4-H



Innovating agriculture



Engaging communities



Encouraging healthy habits



Building financial literacy



Economic development



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