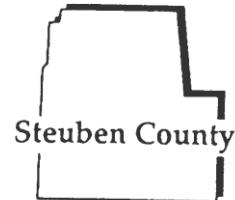




# 4-H Steubenite



A Publication of Cornell Cooperative Extension - Steuben County  
[www.putknowledgetowork.org](http://www.putknowledgetowork.org)

January/February/March 2026

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Steuben County

## 2026 STEUBEN COUNTY 4-H SHOWCASE

July  
23rd-25th

HENDERSHOT  
HAFLINGERS

5869 Clinton Rd Cameron Mills, NY

**Full schedule [online!](#)**

**January** Ownership Deadlines (Due January 1) & ID Papers (Due January 2) for Market Beef Steers, Beef Heifers, Small Frame Beef Steers, Dairy Steers & Dairy Feeder Steers (Class #2)  
 Dog Obedience Classes Tuesdays 5pm-6pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 <b>HAPPY NEW YEAR!</b> Office Closed  <b>Ownership Deadline</b>	2 <b>Market Beef Steers/Heifers &amp; Market/Feeder Dairy Steer ID's Due</b>	3
4  Horse Workshop @CCE 1-3pm	5	6	7	8	9 <b>Market Poultry Orders Due to CCE</b>	10
11  Dairy& Livestock Workshops @CCE 1-3PM Public Presentation Workshop 3-4:30	12	13	14	15 <b>4-H Program Advisory Committee Mtg. 5:30pm</b>	16	17
18  Horse Workshop @CCE 1-3pm  YQCA Training Troupsburg Firehall @530pm	19 <b>ML King Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b>	20	21	22	23	24
25  Dairy& Livestock Workshops @CCE 1-3PM	26 <b>Robotics @ 6pm</b> <b>CCE Office</b>	27 <b>YQCA Training @ CCE Office 6pm</b>	28	29	30	31  Horse Judging @ Alfred U 830-4pm

*The Cornell Cooperative Extension Office is located on the second floor of the Steuben County Annex Building, 20 East Morris St, Bath, NY 14810  
 Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday Phone: 607-664-2300*

**4-H Program Committee**

Hannah Bush.....Cohocton  
 Melonie Coley.....Wayland  
 Scott Folckemer.....Bath  
 Penny Kephart.....Campbell  
 Melissa Wheaton.....Kanona  
 Vacancy 1.....TBD  
 Vacancy 2.....TBD

**Legislative Representatives:**

Hilda Lando .....Corning  
 Fred Potter.....Troupsburg

**4-H Program Staff:**

Jenny Groen, 4-H Program Leader  
 Steph Waters, 4-H Program Educator  
 Anne Zschoche, 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinator

**February-** Public Presentations Feb 21<sup>st</sup>

Dog Obedience Classes – Tuesdays 5pm-6pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Dairy & Livestock Workshop @CCE 1-3pm	9 <b>Robotics @ 6pm CCE Office</b>	10	11	12	13	14 
15 Horse Workshop @CCE 1-3pm	16 <b>Presidents Day Office Closed</b>	17 Sylvester Quality Meats Tour 10am- 1pm	18	19	20 Sylvester Quality Meats Tour Snow Date	21 <b>Public Presentations 9-3@CCE Office</b>
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

**March-** Dog Obedience Classes – Tuesdays 5pm-6pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Horse Workshop @CCE 1-3pm	2	3	4	5	6	7 <b>Regional Horse Extravaganza</b>
8	9 YQCA Training Howard @6pm	10	11	12	13	14 <b>District Dairy Bowl &amp; Livestock Skillathon</b>
15	16 <b>Robotics @ 6pm CCE Office</b>	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 <b>Robotics @ 6pm CCE Office</b>	31				

## **STAY UPDATED BY CHECKING THE FOLLOWING !!**

### **Website: [www.putknowledgetowork.org](http://www.putknowledgetowork.org)**

Click on the 4-H Youth Development Tab! New items are appearing on the web site frequently. We will keep you informed of upcoming events and changes by posting them on the web site as soon as we get them.

### **Steuben County 4-H Facebook Page**

A Facebook page has been created for Steuben County's 4-H Program. Like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/steuben4H](http://www.facebook.com/steuben4H)!!

### **\*\*MONDAY MEMOS\*\***

Don't forget to check your email for the bi-weekly Monday Memos! You will automatically start receiving these once your enrollment form is turned into the office! If you aren't receiving them, be sure to check your spam/junk folder or notify the 4-H Office!



YQCA will enhance the educational experience of youth, improve the care of food animals and provide a higher level of food safety to consumers, along with character building. A YQCA certificate will be **required by each youth to show an animal at the 2026 4-H Showcase.**

To register for a course that is already scheduled please visit [yqcaprogram.org](http://yqcaprogram.org) If youth attend the In-person training offered by Steuben County 4-H the \$3 fee or can be taken online for \$12.

#### **Course Dates:**

January 18th 5:30pm-7pm at the Troupsburg Fire Hall

January 27<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm- 7:30pm at CCE Office

March 9<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm-7:30pm at the Howard Community Center

More courses will be offered dates TBD

## **Steuben County 4-H Committees**

### **4-H Horse Advisory Committee**

The 4-H Horse Advisory Committee provides input to the staff about the needs of the program and the youth it serves. Join us via Zoom on **January 14<sup>th</sup>** to begin planning the 2025-2026 Program Year! This committee typically meets 1 -2 times a year. If you are interested in attending this meeting, please contact Jenny Groen at 607-664-2576/ [jmg422@cornell.edu](mailto:jmg422@cornell.edu) for the zoom link.

### **4-H Small Animal Advisory Committee**

The 4-H Small Animal Advisory Committee will be meeting **January 11<sup>th</sup>** to begin planning for the 2025-2026 Program Year. This committee typically meets a few times a year and provides input on activities and program needs related to the Small Animal Species (Poultry, Waterfowl, Rabbits & Cavy). If you are interested in attending, please contact Jenny Groen at 607-664-2576/ [jmg422@cornell.edu](mailto:jmg422@cornell.edu)



## County Public Presentations for 2025-2026

February 21<sup>st</sup> 9am-3pm

CCE Office Bath, NY

Register at <https://form.jotform.com/253084056248155>

Question: What helped you, as a 4-H member prepare most for the adult world?

Answer: "Completing Public Presentations! Since it prepared me to organize information and be able to get up in front of a group at work, in the community or at a club meeting and feel comfortable."

-ALL 4-H members ages 8 & up as of January 1, 2026 are REQUIRED to participate in the Public Presentation Program in order to receive project completion.

-Cloverbuds are **strongly encouraged** to do a presentation, but it is not mandatory.

-There are two options for public presentations, the **County & Club Level**

**County Level:** Present your public presentation to local volunteer judges.

**Club Level:** Present your public presentation at a Club Meeting where your club leader will be the judge.

-The Club Presentation is meant to be just a "stepping stone" for a year or two, and then the member needs to attend at the county level.

-All Members (except Cloverbuds) giving presentation at the county level will be considered for district level presentations.

-Club presentations do not give public presentation award trip status to members.

Information on preparing for presentations is on the web. If an individual or a club would like help with any part of the public presentation process, please contact the 4-H office. Arrangements can be made to give you or your club the help that is needed.

Planning information can be found [here](#)

Planning sheet can be found [here](#).

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### 4-H Public Presentation Workshop

January 11<sup>th</sup> 3-4:30pm

@ CCE Office Bath, NY

A how-to for leaders, parents & presenters. Join us to learn about the different types of presentations, topic selection, planning a presentation, and tips for delivering a presentation. We will also review the scoring sheet and rubric.

This is a perfect time for first-time presenters up through seasoned presenters looking for a new type/format or presentation.



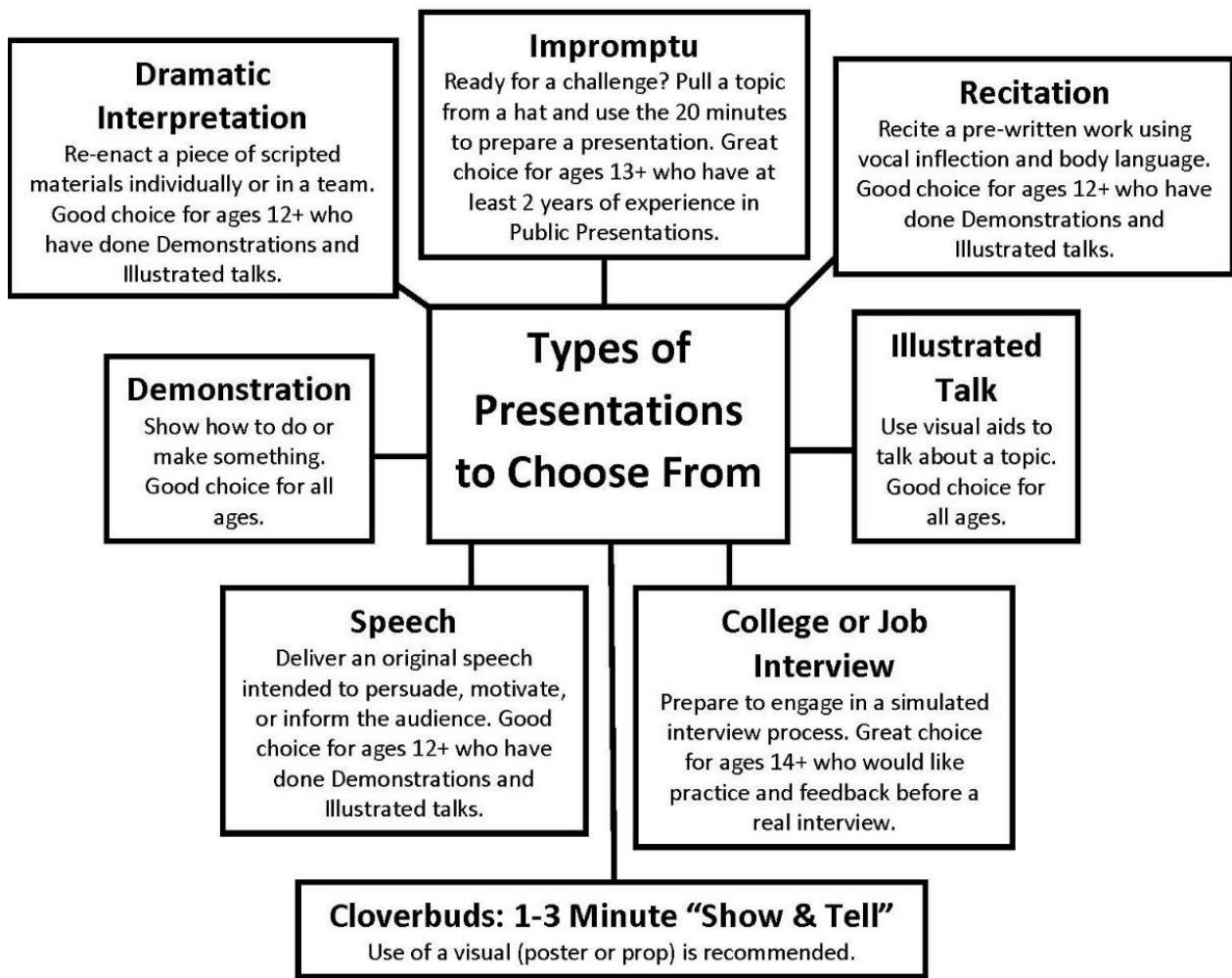
Register Here: <https://form.jotform.com/253626043708154>

# Types of Presentations

Public Presentations is one of our larger county events with 4-H members of all ages participating. By preparing and participating in a Public Presentation, youth will

**Develop poise ♦ Build confidence ♦ Gain leadership skills ♦ Develop reasoning skills**  
**Learn to organize their thoughts in order to get their point across**

Participation in this county-wide event also helps qualify youth for many of the Award Trips offered through the 4-H Program. So why not get started. Just pick your topic; prepare an outline; practice, practice, practice; and present.



## Remember the four “P” of presenting:

**P#1 – Plan** – Select a topic about something you are interested in telling people about or learning more about. Think about your topic and plan what you want to say, how you will show the audience “how-to” if it is a demonstration .

**P#2 – Prepare** – After you have selected a topic, think about how you will present the topic. Prepare a poster (unless it is a public speaking), various steps of the finished product or other visuals that will help you explain your topic to give an effective presentation.

**P#3 – Practice** - Practice, practice, practice! The more you “run through” your presentation, the easier it will be on the actual presentation day.

**P#4 – Present** – Present your 4-H Presentation at the club level or at the County Level in February!



## 4-H District Public Presentations

All county level public presentation participants have the opportunity to be considered for the 2026 District Public Presentations Contest on April 11<sup>th</sup> at the Manor Intermediate School in Honeoye Falls. Additionally, county level horse public presentations will also be considered for the Region 2 Horse Communications Contest held at the same time and location. Registration information will be shared with those youth who are identified by the county evaluators as candidates for the contests.

### NYS 4-H Capital Days

4-H Capital Days is a NYSACCE4-HE sponsored event that gives youth an opportunity to meet and interact with legislators and tell their 4-H story. 4-H Capital Days creates awareness of career opportunities in New York State government, better understand state government, and network with delegates from other counties. Delegates are chosen by their county 4-H program. 4-H Capital Days dates are May 17 - 29, 2026 in Albany!

Teen Planning Committee Applications are available on the [state website](#) and must be signed by the county 4-H Educator. Youth do not have to have attended in the past, though it is helpful, and they have to be available for conference calls/zoom for planning before the event.



Please contact Jenny if you have any questions or are interested in applying for the planning committee or in attending the 2026 Capital Days. Discounted prices available



### 2026 Market Beef/Dairy Steers & Beef Heifer Identification/Ownership Online Entries Due

**January 1, 2026:** Ownership Deadline for Market Beef Steers, Beef Heifers, Small Frame Beef Steers, Dairy Steers & Dairy Feeder Steers (Class #2)

**January 2, 2026:** Identification Information, Photos & Quality Assurance Forms Due online via FairEntry for Market Beef Steers, Beef Heifers, Small Frame Beef Steers, Dairy Steers & Dairy Feeder Steers (Class #2)



\*These entries must be completed, in order to be eligible to enter these market animals in the 2026 4-H Showcase\*

**Market Heifers shown in market beef classes are not eligible for beef breeding classes & must follow the same rules and regulations as market steers.**

YQCA Certificate must be included with Fair Entries Due by July 1, 2026

## **What Information will I need to ID my animal?**

1. Animals Name
2. Animals Current Tag #, RFID Tag # or Tattoo #
3. Animals Breed
4. Animals Birthdate
5. Animals Beginning Weight
6. Animals Owners Name(s)
7. Photo of Side #1 of Animal
8. Photo of Side #2 of Animal
9. Photo of Animals Head (Including Tag #)
10. Completed YQCA Training dated no more than a year old from the July 23rd



## **Online Animal Identification Entry Steps**

1. Login/Create an account in [Fair Entry](#)
2. Select Applicable Division for Animal (Market Beef, Market Beef Heifer, Small Frame Market Beef Steer, Dairy Steer)
3. Choose Applicable Class for Animal (Market Beef Steer Divided by Weight, Market Beef Heifer Classes Divided by Weight, Small Frame Market Beef Steer 700-900, Dairy Steer Classes Divided by Weight, or Dairy Steer born Sept. 1-Dec. 31 of previous year)
4. Add Animal & Animals Information (Name, Current Tag/RFID Tag/Tattoo #, Breed, Birthdate, Owners Name(s) & Beginning Weight)
5. Continue/Review/Complete Outstanding Records
6. For each Animal entered, Answer the set of Questions
7. For each Animal entered, Upload Animal Photos (Side 1, Side 2 & Head Photo with Tag #)
8. Continue-Continue to Payment-Continue
9. **SUBMIT** (If you don't hit submit, your entry will not be completed)
10. When your entry is submitted correctly, you **WILL RECIEVE** a CONFIRMATION EMAIL

## **4-H Dairy Quiz Bowl**

The *primary objective* of 4-H Dairy Bowl Contests is to provide an opportunity for youth to demonstrate their knowledge of dairy related subject matter in a competitive setting where attitudes of friendliness and fairness prevail.

The Dairy Bowl Program is designed to encourage youth to increase their knowledge of dairy by learning life skills as they prepare for contests - critical thinking, decision-making, problem solving, communication skills, listening skills, speaking skills and independent thinking. They experience the value of teamwork, character building, and goal setting. Youth also gain knowledge in dairy nutrition, milk quality, herd health, breeding and genetics, marketing, dairy foods, calf raising and knowledge of all cattle breeds.

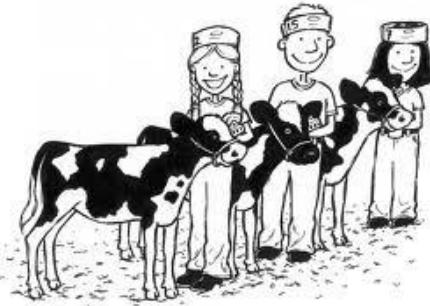
*You don't have to own dairy cattle to participate in dairy quiz bowl.*

Age of contestants is as of January 1, 2026:

Beginner: 8-10 years old

Junior: 9 - 13 years old

Senior: 14- 18 years old.



### **Regional Dairy Bowl Contest**

Date: March 14, 2026

Location: Jordan Hall at Geneva NY Agri-Tech

Want to compete? Reach out to Steph at

[sah399@cornell.edu](mailto:sah399@cornell.edu)

## What is Livestock Judging?

Livestock judging is the process of ranking beef, sheep, swine, and meat goats classes from top to bottom, based on their bone structure, muscle, body capacity, body composition, and performance.

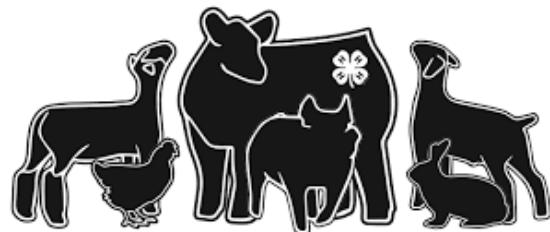
Livestock Judging develops the following life skills: critical thinking, organization, time management, public speaking, self confidence, self motivation, team building and competition.

4-H members 5-18 years old are eligible to participate.

**Cloverbud members 5-7 years old** (as of January 1 of current year) who are interested in learning may participate **only if they are accompanied at**

**all times by a responsible adult who is at least 21 years old who will be accompanying them the entire time.**

*You don't have to own an animal to participate in this event!*



State Contest takes Place at State Fair  
Interested in competing? Reach out Steph at  
[sah399@cornell.edu](mailto:sah399@cornell.edu) to get signed

## What is Livestock Skillathon?

### **Objectives of the Livestock Skillathon:**

- 1) Provide youth with the opportunity to blend knowledge and skills acquired in livestock judging, demonstrations, care and exhibition of animals into one activity
- 2) Provide youth who have no opportunities for livestock ownership with an opportunity to learn about the importance of livestock and their products to the environment and economy
- 3) To encourage youth to continue expanding their knowledge and participation
- 4) To recognize youth for their total involvement in and comprehension of the livestock industry
- 5) To instill ethical values, good sportsmanship and product evaluation skills

For more information and resources visit  
<http://4h.ansci.cornell.edu/events-2/nys-fair/livestock-skillathon/>

### **3 Livestock Skillathon Components:**

- Written quiz
- Identification
- Team questions

**Common Topics:** Nutrition, Health, Breeding, Management, Genetics & Current Industry Topics, Identify Retail Meat Cuts, Livestock Feeds, Breeds & Complete a Quality Assurance Exercise

Livestock Skillathon is a great way to learn about beef cattle, sheep, swine & meat goats. 4-H members 5-18 years old are eligible to participate!

*You don't have to own an animal to participate in this event!*

## Regional Livestock Skillathon Contest

Date: March 14, 2026

Location: Jordan Hall at Geneva NY Agri-Tech  
Want to compete? Reach out to Steph at

**•STEUBEN COUNTY 4-H•**  
**LIVESTOCK & DAIRY**  
**WORKSHOPS**



**UPCOMING WORKSHOPS FOR**  
**DAIRY BOWL & LIVESTOCK**  
**SKILLATHON**

- January 11<sup>th</sup>: Breed IDs, Body Anatomy, @ CCE
- January 25<sup>th</sup>: Feed ID, Equipment ID & Nutrients @ CCE
- February 8<sup>th</sup>: Livestock & Dairy Judging @ CCE
- February 17<sup>th</sup>: Meat ID-Sylvester Quality Meats Westfield, PA
- February 22<sup>nd</sup>: Vaccines & Injections/Housing @ CCE
- March 8<sup>th</sup>: Practice Day @ CCE
- March 14<sup>th</sup>: District Dairy Bowl & Livestock Skillathon @ AgriTech in Geneva

**LOCATION: CCE STEUBEN**  
**20 East Morris Street, Bath, NY**  
**from 1-3pm**  
**unless otherwise noted on**  
**Registration Page.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT US!  
**SAH399@CORNELL.EDU OR 607-664-2571**

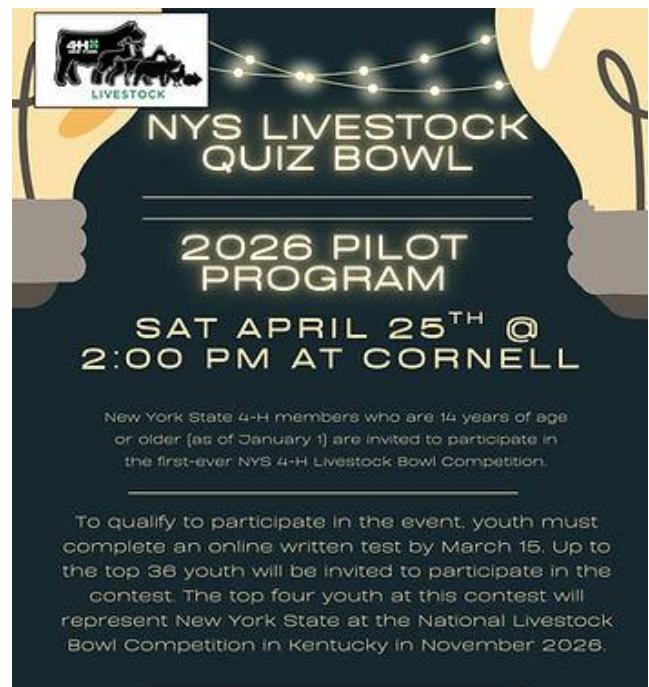
## NYS 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl

New to 2026, NYS 4-H will be hosting a 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl. The program is developed around the National Level and NYS is hoping to put together a team to compete at Nationals. The event will take place right after the State Dairy Bowl, so participants will be able to compete in both. More information will be coming out over the next few months.

Contest Rules will be adapted from the National Livestock Quiz Bowl and will be available early to mid February.

National Rules can be found here:

<https://youthlivestockcontests.org/4-h-livestock-quiz-bowl>



## Seeking Adult Volunteers for the 4-H Tractor and Machinery Operation Certification Program

The National Safe Tractor and Machinery Operation Program (NSTMOP) is a project of Hazardous Occupations Safety Training in Agriculture (HOSTA) for youth ages 14 and 15. Subjects covered include general agricultural safety, tractor and equipment operation, and highway transportation. Youth 14 and 15 are certified after successfully passing a fifty-question written knowledge test and successfully passing both an operating skills test and a pre-op/driving test.

**The Steuben County 4-H Program is seeking adult volunteers to become trained online in National Safe Tractor and Machinery Operation in order to become an instructor and help instruct local youth. Adults must complete a current background check with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Steuben County. Please contact Steph if you're interested!** The Hazardous-Occupation Order for youth under 16 makes it unlawful to hire or even permit without pay any youth under the age of 16 to participate in any work activities listed as hazardous, unless:

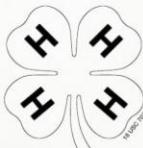
1. The youth is employed, either with or without compensation, by their parents or legal guardian, **or**
2. The youth 14-15 years old has a training certificate which provides an exemption from certain hazardous work activities.

The Tractor and Machinery Operation Program allows for youth under the age of 16 who successfully completes the program to engage in agricultural work activities below if they are 14-15 despite the fact the activities are listed as "agricultural work activities classified as hazardous for youth under 16".

**Tractor Operation** - This training allows youth who successfully complete requirements to: operate a tractor over 20 PTO horsepower, or connect or disconnect an implement or any of its parts to or from such a tractor. **Equipment Operation** - This allows youth who successfully complete requirements to operate or assist to operate the following equipment: hay mower, hay baler, forage harvester, forage blower, feed grinder, crop dryer, auger conveyor, the unloading mechanism of a non-gravity type self-unloading wagon or trailer, corn picker, cotton picker, grain combine, power post-hole digger, power post driver, a non-walking rotary tiller, potato digger, or mobile pea viner. This includes starting, stopping, adjusting, feeding, or any activity involving physical contact associated with the operation of the equipment listed. Youth must have satisfied all the requirements for the Tractor Operation and must have completed a total of at least **24 hours of instruction**. More information about the program can be found at <https://extension.psu.edu/national-safe-tractor-and-machinery-operation-program>

## 2025-2026 Horse Show Requirement

Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Steuben County



# ALL ABOUT HORSES

4-H Horse Workshops are open to enrolled 4-H members 8 -18 who are interested in learning more about horses! Registration for each date is required.

#### Dates:

**January 4<sup>th</sup>** - Breeds, Colors, Part ID @ CCE

**January 18<sup>th</sup>** - Disciplines @ CCE

**January 31<sup>st</sup>** - Horse Judging @ Alfred University

**February 15<sup>th</sup>** - Horse Vitals, Wounds & First Aid  
(build a take-home kit!) @ CCE

**March 1<sup>st</sup>** - Tack ID @ CCE

**March 15<sup>th</sup>** - Feed & Nutrition @ CCE

#### Location:

CCE Steuben, 20 East Morris St, Bath, NY from 1-3 p.m. unless otherwise noted

For more information contact us!  
[jmg422@cornell.edu](mailto:jmg422@cornell.edu) / 607-664-2576

**Horse Bowl** – is a fast-paced, fun, horse knowledge competition that uses buzzers and can be more easily compared to game show Jeopardy. There's a wide range of topics covered including: basic grooming, genetics, tack and equipment, riding, stable management, breeds, history, etc.! Contestants are split by age/experience levels: Novice – 8 & 9 years old OR 1<sup>st</sup> year up to 14; Junior – 10-13 years of age; Senior – 14 and up. Juniors and Seniors are eligible for the State Competition if they receive qualifying scores at the Regional Contest. County practices will be set up if there is enough so PLEASE contact Jenny at the 4-H Office if you'd like to participate!

**Watch Monday Memos for dates starting in January!! If anyone is interested in coaching or being a guest speaker for our practices, please contact Jenny – [jmg422@cornell.edu](mailto:jmg422@cornell.edu) or 607-664-2576**

**4-H Members Participating in the Horse Project Please Note:** Members must **participate in one county level or beyond Horse Educational Event** (i.e. Public presentations, Horse Quiz Bowl, Hippology, or Horse Judging) or attend alternate “educational events” and do a one-page written report on what they saw and learned to receive educational credit **to be eligible to participate in any Steuben County 4-H Horse Shows. CLOVERBUDS ARE EXEMPT FROM THIS REQUIREMENT.**

**Public Presentation Credit** - Horse members will receive credit towards showing if they give a public presentation on a horse related topic at the **county event or** by completing a **club level** presentation and turning in the evaluation form with a summary/outline of the presentation.

**County Level Credit for Horse Bowl or Hippology** - For a Horse member to receive county level credit for Horse Bowl or Hippology they **must attend at least 3 of the practice sessions.**

**Regional Credit** – To receive regional credit 4-H members must participate in the regional contests.

## Horse Bowl & Hippology

**Hippology** – is a slightly slower paced, hands-on horse knowledge competition where youth rotate through various stations. These stations include: slides, written test, horse judging, tack ID, breeds, nutrition, parasites, confirmation, and team problem (JR/SR only). The levels for this competition are the same as Horse Bowl: Novice – 8 & 9 years old OR 1<sup>st</sup> year up to 14; Junior – 10-13 years of age; Senior – 14 and up. Juniors and Seniors are eligible for the State Competition if they receive qualifying scores at the Regional. County practices will be set up if there is enough so PLEASE contact Jenny at the 4-H Office if you'd like to participate!

## 2026 4-H Market Chicken & Turkey Projects

Steuben County 4-H members (ages 8-18 as of January 1, of current year) will have an opportunity to raise market chickens and/or turkeys to be consigned to the Steuben County 4-H Market Sale to be held on Saturday, July 25, 2026 at the Steuben County 4-H Summer Showcase. There will be a class in the 4-H Poultry Division for Market Chickens Consigned and a class for the Market Turkeys.

4-H members will be allowed to enter **two pens of 2 chickens in the market chicken consigned class and sell the two pens of 2 market chickens through the sale.** 4-H members will be allowed to enter 2 turkeys in the market turkey consigned class and sell 2 market turkey through the sale. It is recommended that 4-H members purchase more than 4 market chicken chicks or 2 market turkey poult in case of fatalities. Animals cannot be entered in both market classes and breeding classes. **Only birds receiving a Blue/Excellent Ribbon will be sold through the 4-H Market Sale on Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026.**

### Again for 2026!

Showmanship - If the market chicken(s)/turkey(s) are the only poultry/waterfowl that a 4-H member are exhibiting at the Summer Showcase then the 4-H member must participate in the Market Poultry Showmanship Division or market poultry premiums will be withheld. This class may require the handling of a market animal, and will also include questions related to poultry production and poultry science topics. The 4-H Office is happy to help you! Please contact us with any questions!



### Ordering Chicks through the Office:

4-H members interested in exhibiting and consigning market poultry **can place their order through Cornell Cooperative Extension of Steuben County by Friday, January 9th for Turkeys or Chickens. Orders are limited to enrolled 4-H members and each member may only order 12 chicken chicks and 6 turkey poult.** You will need to make arrangements to pick up the market chicks on the day(s) they arrive or your market chicks will be given to someone else. Pick up date will be confirmed closer to delivery. Turkeys and Chicks will NOT come in on the same date. Turkey's will be available sooner as they take longer to mature. **The 4-H Office will receive notice that chicks are from a Pullorum-Typhoid Free Flock so you will not need to have your market turkeys or chickens pullorum tested.**

Members can purchase their own Market Chicks, but Turkeys **MUST be hatched March 31<sup>st</sup> or later; and Chickens hatched May 19<sup>th</sup> or later! Proof of hatch date must be provided with Showcase entries if not ordered through the 4-H Office!** 4-H Cloverbud members can place an order for the market chickens/turkeys but **Cloverbuds are ineligible to participate in the Market Program.** Refer to the Market Chicken/Turkey Help Sheets on the web at <http://putknowledgegetowork.org/4-h-youth/4-h-program-areas/small-animals>.

Place order for chicks at

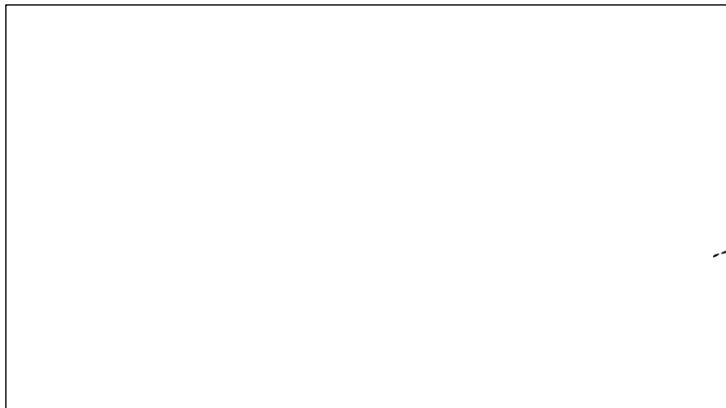
<https://form.jotform.com/253275809837066>

Or Contact Steph @ [sah399@cornell.edu](mailto:sah399@cornell.edu) or 607-664-2571.

## 4-H Market Rabbit Project

Steuben County 4-H members (8-18 years old as of January 1, 2026) will have an opportunity to raise meat rabbits to be consigned to the Steuben County 4-H Market Animal Sale to be held on Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup> at the Steuben County 4-H Summer Showcase. **4-H Cloverbud members are ineligible to participate in the Market Animal Project.**

Meat Rabbits can be a purebred American Chinchilla, Argente Brun, Bevern, Blanc de Hotot, Californian, Champagne de Argent, Cinnamon, Crème de Argent, Flemish Giant, Florida White, Giant Chinchilla, Harlequin, Palomino, New Zealand, Satin, Silver Fox **or a cross of these breeds.** Two (2) market rabbits can be entered in the Roaster Class and must be 5-8 pounds and under 6 months of age; entries are consigned to the 4-H Sale. If the Roaster rabbits are under 5 lbs or over 8 lbs they cannot be sold through the sale but could be entered in the Pet Class if you do not already have 6 entries in Sections I-III. Rabbits' ages are computed as of the opening day of the showcase, Thursday, July 23, 2026. **Only Rabbits receive a Blue/Excellent Ribbon will be sold through the Market Animal sale on Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026.**



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### New York Farm Bureau Offers Scholarships to Students Who Plan to Pursue an Ag-Related Future

New York Farm Bureau is encouraging high school seniors who will continue their education to prepare for a career, in some way connected to the diverse agricultural industry to apply for the New York Farm Bureau Agricultural Youth Scholarship. District Winners will receive \$250. State Scholarship awards are \$3,000 for first place and \$2,000 for second place.



Students applying must have a family Farm Bureau membership or a Student Farm Bureau membership. Students are required to complete an application on the NYFB website, and submit a brief 300-500 word essay discussing an issue facing agriculture in their county, explaining how they think NYFB can support members who may deal with this issue. We suggest that they visit the NYFB website [www.nyfb.org](http://www.nyfb.org) to learn more about Farm Bureau.

**The application deadline is April 1. For scholarship information and the application please visit <http://nyfb.org/programs/promotion-education/scholarship>**

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## 2026 NY Agricultural Literacy Week

March 16 - March 20

In celebration of New York agriculture, volunteers and CCE Staff throughout the state will read a book with an agricultural theme to elementary students, with a focus on second grade classrooms. Farmers, FFA and 4-H members, adults engaged in a career in agriculture, and engaged in our food system volunteer to enthusiastically engage your students in a paired hands-on activity related to the book to extend learning. The book will be donated to the school or classroom library with a bookplate recognizing the donor and our celebration of New York Agricultural Literacy Week. 3,100 books were donated last year with over 103,000 students participating in the book reading and related hands-on activity.

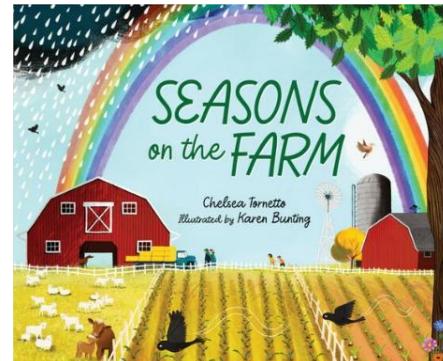
Local community members often sponsor a book to a local participating classroom or library for \$15.

If you are interested in donating, please contact Cornell Cooperative Extension of Steuben County at 607-664-2300 or visit

<https://secure.qgiv.com/for/saalwb>

Further information can be found at

<https://ny.agclassroom.org/programs/literacy/>



## **National Agriculture Day: March 24, 2026**

**National Ag Day is a day to recognize and celebrate the abundance provided by Agriculture.** Every year, producers, agricultural associations, corporations, universities, government agencies and countless others across America join together to recognize the contributions of agriculture. Join us as we honor agriculture for providing safe, abundant and affordable products, a strong economy, a source of renewable energy, and a world of job opportunities. For more information about celebrating National Ag Day, go to <http://www.agday.org/>. The site includes fun facts, links to other sites, resources, and planning guide.

## **2026 4-H Spring Garden Meeting**

All 4-H members, leaders, and parents are invited to attend the annual 4-H Spring Garden Meeting.

**Date:** April

**Location:** TBD



Please plan to attend the annual spring 4-H garden meeting. Tips will be presented on both flower and vegetable gardening and how to exhibit them at the 4-H Showcase.

In addition, we will have some fun hands-on activities to get a jump start on your gardening.

Free seeds will be available to 4-H members to use in their gardens. Registration information will be available soon! Questions contact: [sah399@cornell.edu](mailto:sah399@cornell.edu) or call 607-664-2571

## 2026 Clothing Evaluations and Revue

It's time to get out your sewing machine, choose your clothing project, and get sewing! The clothing revue will be here before you know it. Here are the important dates.

We are looking for your input (adults and youth) to plan this year's event! Please contact Jenny if you are Organizational leaders, project leaders interested in helping plan this year's event!



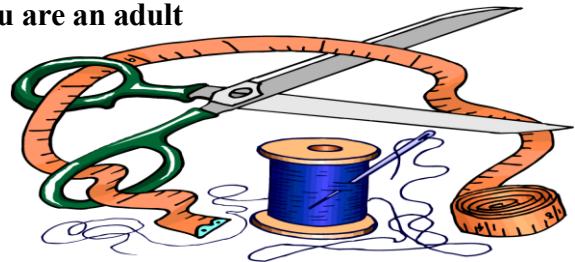
and independent families will be sent a packet with more information closer to this year's event. The information will also be posted on the 4-H web site.

If you have any further questions, contact Jenny at [jmg422@cornell.edu](mailto:jmg422@cornell.edu) or 607-664-2576.

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### We Need You and Your Ideas for the 4-H Clothing Revue

The **2026 4-H Clothing Revue** will be scheduled as a **late spring event this year**. If you have an idea for a theme for this year's revue or suggestions about the Revue or **if you are an adult or teen (13-18) and would like to serve on the planning committee**, please contact Jenny at the 4-H Office! The planning committee meets only two times, once to get the event planned and just before the revue, to get everything finalized.



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### Cornell Fashion Collective Runway Show

Every year, Cornell students showcase their design skills and creativity through the Cornell Fashion Collective runway show at Barton Hall. Check the website below for more information on the annual show. Also the final schedule and ticket sales will be announced via their website, <http://www.cornellfashioncollective.com>. This is a fun experience for youth engaged in 4-H Clothing & Textiles

If interested in attending or have more questions, please contact Steph at [sah399@cornell.edu](mailto:sah399@cornell.edu) or 607-664-2571





## **DOG OBEDIENCE CLASSES**

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Steuben County's 4-H Program is currently offering dog obedience classes for youth. **Classes are typically held every Tuesday from 5:00-6:00 pm at the Howard Community Building.**

**To Participate in the 4-H Showcase Dog Show you must attend at least 3 dog obedience classes throughout the October 2025-2026 program year.**

**4-H members and dogs who attend the NYS 4-H Dog Show must participate in the 4-H Showcase Dog Show. Dogs must be at least six months old to be exhibited at the 4-H Showcase or the NYS Fair.**

**Please see the following requirements necessary to complete PRIOR TO ATTENDING ANY OBEDIENCE CLASSES:**

- 1) **Complete the NYS 4-H Dog Registration form**  
<http://bit.ly/nysdogregistration>
- 2) **Provide the CCE Office with a copy of the dogs current rabies certificate**
- 3) Youth ages 5-18 as of January 1, 2026 must be enrolled in the Steuben County 4-H Program before attending classes

All dogs must conform to the rules and regulations of the Livestock Health requirements as determined by the Department of Agriculture and Markets. Dogs must have current vaccinations for rabies, distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus and leptospirosis (as appropriate for their age). It is highly recommended to also have your dog vaccinated for Bordetella and parainfluenza virus. Participants should consult their veterinarian for further information about these vaccines as well as internal and external parasite control programs.

**Please contact Steph for further information.**



## **March Dog Madness**

The 2026 March Dog Madness is happening on campus on March 7th! Be sure to mark your calendars and spread the word to your 4-H Leaders and any youth interested in the dog program. The committee is working hard on putting together another awesome event. Stay tuned for more details and registration info, coming in mid-January.

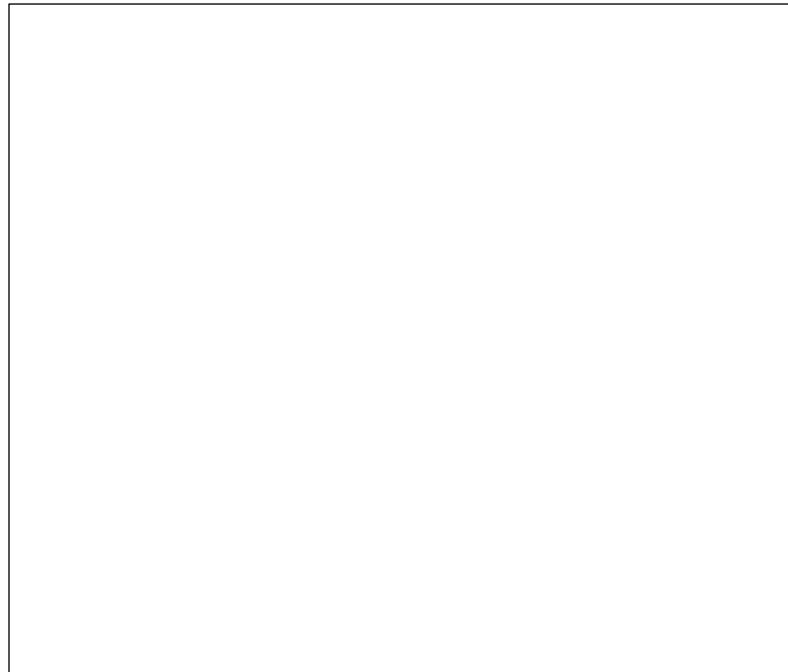


## Robotics Club

We will be holding a series for Robotics starting January 26<sup>th</sup> and running every other Monday until April. Each session will lead into the next so it is important that you attend each one. You can register at the following link:

<https://form.jotform.com/253373649108159>

If you have any questions please contact Steph at [sah399@cornell.edu](mailto:sah399@cornell.edu) or 607-664-2571



## Fall Cheese Fundraiser

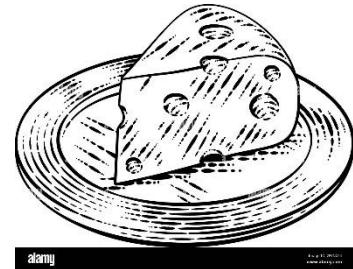
The 2025 Fall Fundraiser featured Cuba Cheese, Wilson's Snack Sticks and Golden Age Cheese Curd. This year's sale total exceeded \$39,000! This fundraiser help to support the 4-H Activity Fund, which provides the funds for the many trips and awards that benefit 4-H members. Individual 4-H club treasuries also benefit from the sales. Thanks to each 4-H member who participated in the fundraiser!

Congratulations to the following 4-H members who were recognized as the top sellers.

### 2025 COUNTY FUNDRAISER TOP SELLER AWARDS

1. **Addison Brewer-\$3,545.50**  
Junior-Barnyard Bandits
2. **Audrey Waters-\$2,679**  
Junior-Country Bumpkins
3. **Jan Waters-\$1,521.75**  
Cloverbud-Country Bumpkins
3. **Emelia Schubmehl-\$1,196**  
Cloverbud-Willing Workers
4. **Colton Cicon \$1,130**  
Cloverbud-Boots & Clover/Country Clovers

**Top Junior(8-13):** Addison Brewer  
**Top Senior (14-18):** Jaiden Corbitt



**Top Cloverbud(5-7):** Jan Waters

Congratulations to all for your hard work! A special "Thank You" to all leaders and parents who helped to motivate, collect money, sort products, and transport products for the 4-H'ers!

### 2025 Achievement Night Awards

On October 18<sup>th</sup>, over 130 volunteers, parents, youth and staff gathered at the Friends of Howard Community Building to celebrate a great 4-H year! It was a wonderful time to get everyone together and enjoy a wonderful evening.

Complete Awards and Details can be found on our website: <https://putknowledgegetwork.org/youth-development>



## Fall Programs:

### 4-H Makers Markets

On November 22<sup>nd</sup> we had seven tables with 4-H vendors set up between the Howard Craft Show and Woodhull Winterfest. Products and items were created, packaged, displayed and sold by the young entrepreneurs.



### String Art Class

In October and December we held String Art Classes for the youth. The youth got to pick out a design and make the image come to life with string. They worked on their fine motor skills, patience and problem solving skills.



### Partnering with Master Gardeners



In November our youth worked along side some Master Gardeners to make **Pumpkin Centerpieces** for their Thanksgiving tables. Special Thank You to Lowery Family Farms for donating all the pumpkins.



To kick off the holiday season, our youth also created **Evergreen Wreaths**. Special Thank You to Empire Evergreens in Painted Post, NY for donating all the greens.

## Holiday Hangout 2025

On December 13<sup>th</sup> 27 youth came out for our annual Holiday Hangout. This year we made evergreen centerpieces, crafted Dried Orange Mobiles with grapevines, sewed hot pads, decorated a cake, made a healthy Banana Oatmeal Cranberry dessert, built and painted snowmen, used a felting technique to make ornaments, and learned origami to make Poinsettias. The day was full of creativity, laughter and smiles all around.

Thank you to our teen volunteers that helped the littles at various stations.

Another HUGE shoutout to our Volunteers who helped make this event possible!

Mel Coley, Renae Coley, James McKinley, Melissa Wheaton, & Alevea Beers.

