4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.

**LOOK WHAT’S COMING UP:**

### May

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>“Connecting with Kids” Workshop, CUCE Oneida County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Animal Crackers, Cornell University</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>4-H Club Secretary reports due</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Dairy Judging Clinic, Morrisville College</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Pheasant Chicks Pick Up</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>4-H Dairy Goat Clinic, Newport, Noon</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Conservation Field Day, KOA Middleville</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Memorial Day - CUCE Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Oneida County 4-H Rabbit-Cavy Show</td>
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<td>4-H Horse and large animal non-ownership certificates due to 4-H Office</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>4-H Horse project animal record (blue) books due to 4-H office</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Farmers’ Museum Junior Livestock show entries due to 4-H Office</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Farm/Home Safety Day, Frankfort Fairgrounds</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>Junior Dairy Leader Applications due</td>
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<td>Career Explorations, Cornell</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Independence Day CUCE closed</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>4-H Club Secretary reports due</td>
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<td>13-15</td>
<td>Farmers’ Museum Junior Livestock Show</td>
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<td>19-20</td>
<td>4-H Horse Show</td>
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Happy Mother’s Day
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### 4-H HONOR SECRETARIES

Congratulations to the following 4-H Club Secretaries for turning in their March reports by April 5th:

- **Tim Livingston**, Barnyard Buddies 4-H Club
- **Tess Hitchcock**, Cow Belles 4-H Club
- **Cheyenne Knuth**, Dolgeville Ears and Tails 4-H Club
- **Christina Farda**, Horse’N Around 4-H Club

### 4-HERS HELPING THEIR COMMUNITY

The desire to help others is a trait 4-H Club Leaders can nurture in their club members. Youth who are given opportunities to participate in community service projects and experience the good feelings that result, are more apt to continue to serve their communities throughout their lifetime.

Individuals, who assist others in need without materialistic compensation to themselves, demonstrate the essence of community service. Let the 4-H office know what your 4-H club is doing in their community (be sure to include a photo)!

### NEW ENROLLMENTS

In addition to those listed in our previous 4-H Facts Newsletters, the 4-H office has received the following 4-H enrollments:

- **Charlene Mykel**, Member, Salisbury Center
- **Devon Mykel**, Member, Salisbury Center
- **William Peplinski**, Independent, West Winfield

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4-H Connects Kids to Cornell
**CLOVERBUD ACTIVITY**

**Insect Safari**

Help children find and observe as many of the insects listed on this sheet as you can. When a child finds an insect or evidence of an insect, have them show it to you so you can put a sticker beside the insect name on this sheet. Remember this is an adventure - explore and discover what is out there. Most of all, HAVE FUN!!

Find and observe one of each of these kinds of insects:

- Grasshopper
- Cricket
- Butterfly
- Fly
- Caterpillar

Did you see any other kinds of insects? Can you name them?

As you are looking for insects, what kinds of things do you see them doing?

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**JUNIOR DAIRY LEADER PROGRAM**

If you know of youth in your area or regions who have an interest in learning more about dairy careers and leadership development, the Junior DAIRY LEADER program may be for them. The program is a yearlong program for young people who are 16-19 years old and have an interest in the dairy industry, career planning and their own personal and professional development. The program starts in late September with a 7-day trip to Madison, Wisconsin to tour the Wisconsin dairy industry and to attend the National 4-H Dairy conference and ends the following August with a graduation ceremony and presentation. We will have 8 to 9 workshops in the program year.

Printable brochures and applications are available at this website [http://www.ansci.cornell.edu/prodairy/youth/index.html](http://www.ansci.cornell.edu/prodairy/youth/index.html)

Our 9th class of Junior DAIRY LEADER'S will be graduating this August at the Empire Farm Days.

Applications are due by JUNE 30th. Please contact Debbie Grusenmeyer at 607-255-0656 if you have questions or concerns about the program or application process.
The Barnyard Buddies and the Barnyard Cloverbuds 4-H Clubs’ March meeting began with information on the upcoming public presentations at the end of this month. We also learned about animal care. Jack Scherer’s mom and dad invited us to their house where they have horses and puppies. They explained to us how to take care of each animal. Although we weren’t able to go out to the barn because of the extremely wet weather, we did have the opportunity to hold 5 week old Jack Russell puppies while we learned about them. We found out that they are not only really cute, but that there is a lot of care involved with raising them. The meeting was a lot of fun and very informative.

In February the Cow Belles 4-H Club talked about dairy judging at the Woroby’s and who is going. We also talked about Public Presentation and who is going. Wasayla Mower and Victoria Treadwell want to volunteer. In March we talked about Ag Literacy Day, practiced our presentations and started our Achievement books.

The Dolgeville Ears ‘N Tails 4-H Club held a business meeting. First we went over the fundraiser. We still can’t figure out what to do for the 4-H fundraiser. We delivered the Easter cards to Parkside. The elderly really enjoyed them. For new business we studied in the fullest detail diseases and prevention for rabbits and cavies. Our leader Mrs. Wilson showed us how to clip the nails of cavies and rabbits. We also learned that the biggest prevention of diseases is a clean cage and lots of clean water. We got the seeds from the Farmers’ Museum. Now we are just waiting for good weather to plant them.

During the month of March, the Foxy Trotters were very busy. We were able to attend a clinic about first aid care for horses at the Leatherstocking Equine Center. We learned about emergencies like colic, leg injuries and many more. Some members were able to give shots and wrap legs. We also had a cooking meeting and learned how to make homemade pizza and ice cream. The Foxy Trotters hosted a multi-county showmanship clinic at Winding River Farms. We had over forty 4-Hers attend and learn all about showmanship. It was a huge hit!

In March the Horse’N Around 4-H Club decorated blown eggs. Lisa Pasick, Justine Kulhowvick, Lindsay Denhoff, Jessica Scalise, and Lexi Grower participated in the Leatherstocking Horse Clinic on March 1. Lindsay Denhoff, Justine Kulhowvick and Lisa Pasick participated in the Horse Bowl Contest on March 8.

The Little Falls 4-H Friends 4-H club met on March 17th to make dog biscuits that we will be donating to the Herkimer Humane Society. Members present were: Laurel Brodkorb, Keegan Connolly, Mary Kathryn Connolly, Hilary Creater, Shelby Creater, Dylan Hapeman, Phillip Mosher, and Matthew Treusdell. We are really excited about planning our visit to the Humane Society on Thursday, April 10th to tour the facility and donate the biscuits we made. We may even get to feed and walk the animals!

On March 27th, members of our club participated in the County Public Presentations at Herkimer BOCES. Those participating and what they presented, were as follows: Laurel Brodkorb (How to Care For and Groom Horses), Hilary Creater (How to Make Homemade Ice Cream),
4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.

**SPOTLIGHT ON 4-H PROJECTS**

A monthly feature highlighting various 4-H projects or project areas. Included will be a summary of the projects, educational objectives and what could be included to teach these objectives to youth.

**Gardens of Fabulous Flowers**

This project is intended for 4-H leaders or for advanced, older 4-H members. The guide is divided into three sections: “Annual Flowers”, “Perennial Flowers” and “Spring – and Summer – flowering Bulbs.” Each section presents general information on the subject for the leader, followed by one or two lessons to be conducted with group members. Each lesson contains a list of materials, a full description of the activities, and suggestions for simple experiments that extend what members have learned.

Flower gardening is a popular project, which you can begin in late winter by sowing seeds indoors and continue through autumn by planting hardy bulbs. Members will learn about selecting annuals, starting annuals from seed, pillow-pak gardening, planning and planting a garden, preparing the soil, weeding, mulching, watering, cultivating, propagating perennials by seed and division, stem cuttings, etc.

**Reminders by June 1st**

- Non-owned project animal lease agreements are due to the 4-H office.
- Horse blue books are due to the 4-H Office.
- Farmers’ Museum Junior Livestock Show Entries due to the 4-H Office

**Due Before the Horse Show!!!**

Riding evaluations are due to the office on everyone who will be participating in any county offered horse shows or clinics. Please contact your leader to get these completed as soon as possible. The forms can be found at http://www.anisci.cornell.edu/4H/horses/ under “Riding Level” evaluation forms.

**Pheasant Chicks**

The pheasant chicks will be here on Tuesday, May 13th. If you ordered pheasants, please be at the 4-H office no later than 9am on the 13th to pick them up.

Thank you.

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In March some members of the Schuyler Hillbillies 4-H club went to the Dairy Bowl regional competition in Watertown. They included Dan Upson, Kayla Windecker, Jordan Upson, Willow Simmons, and Andy Chlus. In April we discussed the pancake breakfast for our community service project May 4th from 9-12 at the Schuyler Fire house and also we will have a can drive.

If you would like to see your 4-H Club’s activities listed here, please make sure that your monthly Secretary Reports are received at the 4-H office on or before the 5th of every month.
**PUBLIC PRESENTATION WORKSHOP**

Did you enjoy doing your public presentation? Do you want to continue to improve it? The next step after our county event is to go on to the district public presentation event at the state fair. We can send three juniors (aged 9-12) and three seniors (aged 13 -19).

Any traditional (sorry, no cloverbuds) member who did a presentation at our county event on March 26 at Mt. Markham or March 27 at Herkimer BOCES is eligible to go on to the district event by participating in one-on-one workshops to help improve your presentation. The first meeting for those interested is scheduled for Wednesday, May 28th at 6 pm in the 4-H Office. Please call JoAnn for complete details.

**AG LITERACY DAY**

Beth Mosher read to the children at Benton Hall for Ag Literacy day.

**4-H CLUB HOUSE**

“What is a 4-H Project?”

A project is a planned series of learning experiences through which youth develop knowledge, skills and/or attitudes.

For instance, a member enrolled in a woodworking project might learn the safe and most effective way to use basic hand tools and gain experience in the selection of hardware and finishing materials while making a bird house. The knowledge and skills learned can be applied when making other wooden items in the future. It is this transferable knowledge and skill that is the essence of the project – not the finished product.

4-H projects always teach the “whys” as well as the “hows”.

Some projects, such as “consumer economics” or “citizenship”, do not result in the production of a tangible item, but are just as important to the overall growth and development of the child.

A “well-rounded” 4-H club program will include tangible and intangible products.

A trip to the apple orchard or making brownies is only one activity in a project and one step of the learning process and therefore, does not constitute a completed project.

**4-H DAIRY GOAT CLINIC**

The Lesniak family will be hosting a 4-H Dairy Goat clinic on Sunday, May 18 at 12 noon. Please call the 4-H office to register and for more information.
### 4-H Club News Reporters


Today March 1st we welcomed a new member Corey Carter from St. Johnsville. We also decided we would do a community service project of making Easter cards and passing them out at Parkside Court in Dolgeville on Good Friday. We also have to talk to Mr. Wilson about watching him boil sap in to syrup.

In the newsletter our leader read about the Urban Birds project. We now eagerly await our kits. They will be good at this time because it is Spring and birds are coming back.

On March 15th, we finished the cards. We passed them out and they liked them. We had two new members join on that day also, Charlene and Devon Mykel of Dolgeville.

Our next meeting is March 29th. A note for everyone robins are back. HAPPY EASTER!

### 4-H Oneida County Rabbit~Cavy Show

Saturday, May 31, 2008

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Oneida County, Farm & Home Center, 121 Second Street, Oriskany, NY. The show begins at 10 am (doors open at 8:00). Entry Fee: $1.50 per animal per class if registration postmarked by 5/17. $2.00 entry fee per animal per class if registration is postmarked after 5/17.

* All exhibitors must be 4-H members*

For more information and entry forms, please call Cornell Cooperative Extension office at 315-736-3394, ext. 107 or leave message at: (Lisa Parlato) 315-245-4206.

### Summer is Parade Time

Summer is the time for parades, carnivals, fairs, picnics, cookouts and warm weather fun of all kinds. Memorial Day is the traditional kickoff for summer activities, especially parades.

Have you planned your summer parade activities? Many towns host their own local celebrations - Little Falls Canal Days, Newport Firemens’ Field Days, Ilion Doo Dah Parade, Herkimer County Fair Parade - just to name a few. Fairs and parades go on all summer long. Why not take advantage of the opportunity each of these events presents to showcase 4-H in your community by participating? Be sure to take a photo and submit it for inclusion in our 4-H Facts newsletter.

The 4-H Office has an assortment of flags, clovers, banners, etc. to help you decorate your float or for your marchers to carry. Contact JoAnn at the 4-H Office to reserve your supplies.

### WANTED: 4-H Video & Audio by Youth

4-H youth often enjoy presenting, technology, talking with people, directing projects, video-editing, and developing their own projects. So, we are asking 4-H kids across NYS to create media projects that can be shared via the web. Information about this project can be found at: http://nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/Media4YOUth/Howto.htm Note that it doesn't HAVE to be video...maybe members want to prep a 4-H song and record it on an mp3 player and send us the file? There really is not a limit to creativity. Once you have something short, snappy, and of course 4-H appropriate, it should be sent to cjc17@cornell.edu. You can see what one Video/Audio Podcasting group at STARR created: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u9fNw7m8Jwo

4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.
SPECIAL NOTE TO 4-H MEMBERS WITH INTERNET ACCESS & E-MAIL

Please connect with us!

The 4-H staff wants you to get information that you need and want relating to your selected project areas! Staff often gets information and updates from a variety of land grant sources, mostly Cornell University. It is often difficult to share that information on a timely basis due to our lack of your email addresses and who is interested in what.

We ask you to please share your email address with us and tell us in what project areas you would be interested in receiving information. Review the 4-H Project List for categories of your choosing. Our goal is to set up various list-serves in project categories.

Either clip and return this form or email your information back to us at rjs86@cornell.edu and you will be added to the list-serves you have checked.

- Citizenship & Community Service
- Expressive, Creative & Visual Arts
- Consumerism, Clothing & Child Development
- Natural Resources & Environmental Science
- Healthy Lifestyles, Foods & Safety
- Personal Development & Leadership
- Plant Science
- Animals
  - Beef
  - Birds & Poultry
  - Cats
  - Dogs
  - Dairy
  - Goats
  - Horse
  - Rabbits & Cavies
  - Sheep
  - Swine
- Science and Technology

Your name

Email Address

"THE PURPOSE OF THE 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM IS TO ENABLE YOUTH TO DEVELOP KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES, ATTITUDES, AND BEHAVIORS TO BE COMPETENT, CARING ADULTS"

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