**4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

Thirty-three Herkimer County 4-H members exhibited their animals at the 67th Annual Farmers Museum Junior Livestock Show in Cooperstown along with other 4-H members from the nine-county region.

Twenty-three 4-Hers attended the rabbit and poultry clinic held at the 4-H Office to teach youth the proper way to care for and prepare their rabbits and chickens for show.

Forty-two 4-H members from Herkimer and Oneida Counties participated in the 1st Annual Mohawk Valley 4-H Dairy & Livestock Sale at the Herkimer County Fairgrounds. Seven youth then sold a total of three hogs, three dairy steers and two beef steers in the auction that culminated the event.

Sixty-three Herkimer County 4-H youth participated in various animal shows while 40 youth exhibited their 4-H projects in the youth building at the Herkimer County Fair. Twenty-two youth also participated in the Livestock Skillathon/Dairy Challenge Contest.

At the NYS Fair, youth exhibited 4-H projects in the youth building, worked as Teen Leaders and participated in the robotics challenge, dairy challenge and dairy judging contests.

4-H members participated in a nine week Shooting Sports safety course at the Ilion Fish & Game Club.

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**AGRICULTURE PROGRAM**

The CNVDFC team is working with a NY Farm Viability grant for selecting malting barley varieties. A field day was held at a farm currently growing variety trials. All plots have now been harvested for yields and samples have been sent to a lab for malting quality analysis.

Sixty people participated in an “open house/drive yourself tour” of twelve dairy farms that have transitioned from tie to free stall facilities. Many stopped at multiple farms.

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**HUMAN ECOLOGY PROGRAM**

Creating Healthy Places (CHP) summer intern, Shae-Leigh Paparella-Voorhees interviewed farmers, market managers and farmers to prepare a report to summarize farmers’ market accomplishments; identify gaps; and plan sustainability projects after the CHP grant ends in 2015.

"Rethink Your Drink" presentations were shared at eight Summer Feeding Programs in Cold Brook, Poland, Ilion, Mohawk, Herkimer, Little Falls, and West Winfield reaching 279 youth and staff.

Eighteen “Enjoy Local Produce” tasting demonstrations were presented at nine Farmers’ Markets in Herkimer County reaching over 1585 consumers.