

THE WYOMING COUNTY

4-H NEWS

4-H NEWS | VOLUME 64
FEBRUARY 2026 - MARCH 2026 | ISSUE 1



COME JOIN OUR TEAM! CCE Wyoming County is Hiring! Ag in the Classroom Educator

This position will have a specific focus on:

- School-based programs, including Agriculture in the Classroom and Dairy in the Classroom Farm to School initiatives in collaboration with CCE Farm to School partners and Central School System contacts
- 4-H STEAM programming in coordination with the 4-H STEAM Committee
- Responsibilities will also include assisting in development of summer day camps and Wyoming County Fair related events.

Master's degree with experience relevant to the role of the position. Bachelor's degree plus 4 years transferrable, relevant, evidence-based research experience may substitute.

Apply by scanning the QR Code or visit: <https://wyoming.cce.cornell.edu/jobs>

Applications will be accepted until 11:59 PM on February 17, 2026



WYOMING COUNTY

4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STAFF



Caron Gala

Executive Director

Ext. 127 | ceg256@cornell.edu

Holly Harwood

4-H Program Manager

Ext. 118 | hmh62@cornell.edu



Sarah Clark

4-H Educator

Ext. 112 | sac347@cornell.edu

Stephanie Czerniak

4-H Educator

Ext. 115 | sal294@cornell.edu



Alesia Ackerman

Senior Administrative Assistant

Ext. 110 | aea92@cornell.edu

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wyoming County

4-H Youth Development Program

36 Center Street, Suite B

Warsaw, NY 14569

Phone: 585-786-2251

Fax: 585-786-5148

wyoming.cce.cornell.edu/

Office Hours: M-F 8:30AM - 4:30PM

2026 4-H Program Committee:

Leo Vranich

Craig Hardie

Louise Herrick

Melissa Blaisdell

McKenna Broughton

Stella Glosser

BreAnne Forti

Teen Representatives:

Morgan Capen

Vera Cooper

Ashley Youngers

Nicolas Driver

IN THIS ISSUE

CALENDARS

PAGE 3 -4

COUNTY-WIDE CLUB MEETINGS

PAGE 5

4-H FOCUS

PAGE 6

LEADERS CORNER

PAGE 7

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

PAGE 8

CLUB FEATURES

PAGE 9

FASHION REVUE

PAGE 10

DELICIOUS DESTINATIONS

PAGE 11

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

PAGE 12

INTERVIEW WITH...

PAGE 13

HORSE

PAGE 14

DAIRY

PAGE 15

POULTRY

PAGE 16

LIVESTOCK

PAGE 17

GOATS & MORE

PAGE 18

DOGS

PAGE 19

FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4-H FUNdraiser Sale - Sunday, February 1st - Friday, February 13th						
	Rabbit Ears/ Eggers Club Meeting ** 6:30pm Tractor Program 7:00pm; Larry Romance & Son, Arcade				County Wide Sewing Club** 4:30pm-7:30pm	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
4-H FUNdraiser Sale - Sunday, February 1st - Friday, February 13th						
	Tractor Program 7:00pm; Kelly's Garage, Perry		Dairy Jeopardy ** 6:30pm	Goat Club Meeting ** 6:30pm		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Hiking Club 2:00pm; Letchworth, NY	Horse Bowl Reschedule ** 5:00pm CCE Office Closed	Public Presentations ** 5 - 8:00pm	STEM Camp ** 10 - 11:30am County Wide Sewing Club ** 9:00am-12:00pm Secretaries Report Due			Public Presentations ** 9:00 - 11:30am
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Master Builders Club Meeting; *6:30pm Tractor Program 7:00pm; Java Farm Supply, Java		Dog Committee Meeting ** 6:30pm	Public Presentations ** 5 - 8:00pm		

** Indicates that
meeting is held at the Agriculture and Business Center
36 Center Street, Warsaw, NY

Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by calling the 585-786-2251 no later than 10 days prior to the event to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements. Requests received after this date will be met when possible.

MARCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Poultry Showing Workshop ** 6:30pm Rabbit Ears/ Eggers Club Meeting ** 6:30pm Tractor Program 7:00pm; Monroe Tractor, North Java	3 What's the cost of the cookie ** 5:30pm	4	5 Equine CPR & First Aid 6pm - Arcade Fire Hall	6	7 March Dog Madness, Cornell District Dairy Bowl Livestock Skill-A-Thon ** 9:30am
8	9	10	11	12 Goat Club Meeting/Goat Jeopardy ** 6:30pm	13 Giant Vegetable Orders Due	14 WNY Equifest Hamburg Fairgrounds
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Fashion Collective, Cornell
AG LITERACY WEEK - MARCH 16TH - MARCH 20TH						
WNY Equifest Hamburg Fairgrounds	Dairy Judging 101 ** 6:30pm Horse Committee Meeting ** 7:00 pm	County Wide Sewing Club ** 5 - 7:00pm	Secretaries Report Due			
22	23 Master Builders Club Meeting; *6:30pm	24 Leaders' Assoc. Meeting ** 7:00pm	25 Livestock Committee Meeting ** 7:00 pm	26	27	28 Hippology ** 9:00AM Dairy Discovery Cornell, Ithaca District Presentations Erie County
29	30 Market Broiler Chick Orders Due FCS Committee Meeting ** 7:00 pm	31 County Wide Sewing Club ** 5 - 7:00pm	<p>** Indicates that meeting is held at the Agriculture and Business Center 36 Center Street, Warsaw, NY</p> <hr/> <p>Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by calling the 585-786-2251 no later than 10 days prior to the event to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements. Requests received after this date will be met when possible.</p>			

UPCOMING COUNTY WIDE CLUB MEETINGS

WYOMING COUNTY EGGERS & RABBIT EARS CLUBS

Monday, March 2, 2026

6:30pm at the Ag & Business Center

* Poultry Showing Workshop with Rick Hare*

Monday, April 6, 2026

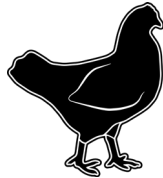
6:30pm at the Ag & Business Center

Monday, May 4, 2026

6:30pm at the Ag & Business Center

Monday, June 1, 2026

6:30pm at the Ag & Business Center



COUNTY WIDE SEWING CLUB

all meetings held at the Ag & Business Center

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

9:00am - 12:00pm

Advanced Sewers only

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

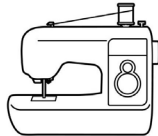
5:00pm - 7:00pm

Beginner Sewers only

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

5:00pm - 7:00pm

Advanced Sewers only

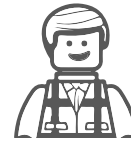


HIKING CLUB

Sunday, February 15, 2026

Letchworth State Park - 2:00pm

Registrations are required- contact Stephanie with any questions at 585-786-2251 x 115 or sal294@cornell.edu



MASTER BUILDERS

- Lego Club -

Monday, February 23, 2026

6:30pm at the Ag & Business Center

Monday, March 23, 2026

6:30pm at the Ag & Business Center

Monday, April 27, 2026

6:30pm at the Ag & Business Center

Monday, May 18, 2026

6:30pm at the Ag & Business Center



CAPRINE KIDS COUNTY WIDE GOAT CLUB

Thursday, February 12, 2026

6:30pm at the Ag & Business Center

Thursday, March 12, 2026

6:30pm at the Ag & Business Center

Thursday, April 9, 2026

6:30pm at the Ag & Business Center

WINTER CANCELLATION POLICY

*Here are some guidelines about weather closings
and cancellations for Wyoming County 4-H*

If a meeting or event is going to be cancelled, we will notify WCJW - 1140AM, 100.9FM, 103.7FM, 104.9FM, and 105.5FM. They list cancellations on air and via their Facebook page.

Cancellations will also be listed on the Wyoming County 4-H Facebook page by 4:30pm on the day of the event. Sometimes the weather is bad in one part of the county and not in others; please use your judgement when deciding to travel. Rescheduling meetings is very difficult so if at all possible, meetings and events will be held.

4-H OFFICE FOCUS!

Holly Harwood

Tell us a little about yourself: I'm the 4-H Program Manager with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wyoming County. I work with youth, volunteers, and community partners to provide hands-on learning opportunities that help young people build life skills, confidence, and leadership. In addition to program management, I work directly with livestock, farm safety, and shooting sports programs. My husband, Damon, and I have two teenage daughters Emily and Mary (who are both heavily involved in 4-H and school activities.)



What is the most rewarding part of your work here at CCE Wyoming? The most rewarding part of my job is watching youth grow—seeing shy members gain confidence, leaders emerge, and kids realize they are capable of more than they ever thought! Knowing that 4-H experiences can have a lifelong impact makes everything we do worthwhile.

If you were a currently a 4-H member, what project area would you like to participate in and why? I would love to participate in livestock projects because that is what I used to do when I was in 4-H. I raised and showed beef, sheep, and pigs. These projects teach responsibility, problem-solving, and work ethic, while also building strong connections between youth, their animals, and the agricultural community.

Sarah Clark

Tell us a little about yourself: I am a 4-H Educator focused on Family & Consumer Sciences, as well as the horse and dog programs. I am married and a proud dog parent to two pups. I enjoy baking, cooking, and reading in my free time. I also love getting outdoors, when the weather is warm!



What is the most rewarding part of your work here at CCE Wyoming? The most rewarding part of my job is seeing positive outcomes from the work I am part of—whether through volunteer growth, programmatic successes, or the joy of watching youth develop over the years into excellent 4-H members and confident individuals.

If you were a currently a 4-H member, what project area would you like to participate in and why? If I were currently a 4-H member, I would choose to participate in dog obedience and agility with my dog because she is young and I would love to learn how to work better together while having fun. I would also enjoy the Produced in New York Food Contest since I can't get enough of cooking and sharing recipes.



LEADERS CORNER

SAVE THE DATES!

4-H Spring Leaders' Association Meeting
Tuesday, March 24, 2026 at 7:00pm
Ag & Business Center

4-H Fall Leaders' Association Meeting
Tuesday, September 29, 2026 at 7:00pm
Ag & Business Center

LEADER REMINDERS

If you have not done so already, please make sure your volunteer leader re-enrollment is turned in to the 4-H office. If you need a new copy, email Alesia at aea92@cornell.edu or call the 4-H office.

Any volunteer who has yet to complete the required annual Sexual Harassment Prevention Training for CCE Volunteers will be receiving an email from the 4-H office. This online training video training is mandatory for ALL current CCE volunteers and is to help ensure a safe, productive CCE environment for all.

ENROLLMENT REMINDERS

NEW member enrollments are due to the 4-H office by March 31st to participate in the market/meat animal swine, lamb, goat, and poultry auction projects.

April (at first dog meeting) - New members must be enrolled to participate in Dog Obedience Project.

NEW members may enroll until June 1st to participate in most other 4-H project areas and exhibit at fair.

Re-enrolling members - if youth enroll after November 30th of the program year, an additional \$5/youth late fee will be added to their enrollment cost.

New Members - if youth enroll after April 15th of the program year, an additional \$5/youth late fee will be added to their enrollment cost. (new members are defined as not being enrolled in the previous program year.)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

4-H Fundraiser

Sunday, February 1st - Friday, February 13th

2026 Wyoming County Fair Dates

August 15th - 22nd

2026 NYS Fair Dates

August 26th - September 7th

View more upcoming events at:
<https://wyoming.cce.cornell.edu/events>

CHECK YOUR EMAILS!!!

THE WYOMING COUNTY 4-H
PROGRAM SENDS OUT IMPORTANT
INFORMATION FREQUENTLY BY EMAIL
BLAST!

CHECK YOUR JUNK FILE AS THEY MAY BE
SORTED THERE! IF YOU ARE NOT
RECEIVING ANYTHING, PLEASE CALL THE
4-H OFFICE AT 585-786-2251.

PLANNING A FUNDRAISER?

- Any 4-H club that is planning to raise funds for club activities, apparel, supplies, etc... needs to submit a "Request for Permission to Raise Funds in the Name of 4-H" form (Took L-20 in the Leaders' Handbook) to the 4-H office.
- Forms should be submitted to the 4-H office at least 30 days prior to the proposed fundraising date for approval.
- Fundraising events where food is prepared and sold, need a "Community Dinner Permission" from the Wyoming County Health Department. Contact the 4-H office at 585-786-2251 for info on this simple process.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

★ 2026 ★

The Public Presentation Program is often called one of the most rewarding 4-H experiences. It helps members research topics, organize ideas, create visuals, and build effective public speaking skills. With each presentation, youth gain confidence, poise, and lifelong skills useful for school, careers, and beyond. Starting early and continuing throughout a 4-H career helps these skills grow through practice and experience.

Public Presentation dates are listed below. There is a maximum registration for each event date. To secure the date of your preference, we recommend getting your registration in before the deadline!



Tuesday, February 17, 2026

5:00 - 8:00PM

Held at: The Ag & Business Center



Saturday, February 21, 2026

9:00 - 11:30AM

Held at: The Ag & Business Center



Thursday, February 26, 2026

5:00 - 8:00PM

Held at: The Ag & Business Center

Please complete the registration form enclosed in this newsletter and return it to the 4-H office by Monday, February 9th.

INCENTIVES

AGE AS OF JAN. 1, 2026

Beginner

Ages 5 - 10

**Free choice prize
for completion!**

Junior

Ages 11 - 13

Free choice prize for completion!
OR a free ticket to the Genesee
Country Museum, or a Charcoal
Corral Gift Card

Senior

Ages 14+

Free choice of prize for completion! OR a
free ticket to the Genesee Country Museum,
or a Charcoal Corral Gift Card OR a
4-H sweatshirt (blue ribbon winners only)

FOR HORSE PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

The 4-H Horse Communications contest allows qualifying youth to showcase public speaking and communication skills through horse-related topics. Judged alongside the presentation program, participants must register for either Horse Public Presentation or Horse Communications. Options include individual or team presentations, public speaking (no visuals), videotaped presentations, and impromptu speaking. For rules and approved topics, see the NYS website: <https://cals.cornell.edu/nys-4-h-animal-science-programs/state-events/contest-resources/nys-4-h-horse-communications>

SELECTION PROCEDURE FOR DISTRICT PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Members interested in District Public Presentations must indicate this on the registration form. Judges may also recommend outstanding presenters. Youth with top scores and county judge endorsement will be invited to the district event.

Note: Western District Public Presentations will be held March 28th in Erie County.

SAVE YOUR PUBLIC PRESENTATION POSTERS

Planning to exhibit your poster or present at the Wyoming County Fair? Save your poster!

Posters must be at least 14" x 22" (both sides allowed). Multiple posters count as one exhibit. Posters will be judged on content, organization, clarity, illustrations, visual appeal, and readability.

FAIR CLASS: SECTION 20, CLASS 156

We Want to Feature Your Club!

Help us spotlight the great things happening across our 4-H clubs! We're looking for short write-ups and photos of club meetings, community service projects, events, workshops, and member achievements to feature in upcoming 4-H News issues.

Submissions can be sent anytime—this is a great way to share your club's story and inspire others across the county. Please include the club name, a brief description, and names (if applicable) with photos.

Send submissions to wyoingcounty4h@cornell.edu. We can't wait to highlight all the amazing work you're doing!



Photos to the left: The Zoo Crew went to The Cloisters on Saturday, December 13th. It was definitely a worthwhile and rewarding experience. The kids played bingo with the residents and visited with them after. We brought treat bags and Christmas cards for everyone. We also brought a bunch of new socks, slippers, blankets, scarves, gloves, and hats. The residents got to pick from the items



for bingo prizes and we left the rest for staff to distribute to anyone who wanted or needed them. We had such a great time! It was awesome watching the kids interact and make connections with them. The residents seemed very happy and enjoyed the company. There were a couple that asked (repeatedly) if we would come back some time. One of the gentlemen we met was a "cow doctor" in Warsaw and Perry – Gale Harvey.

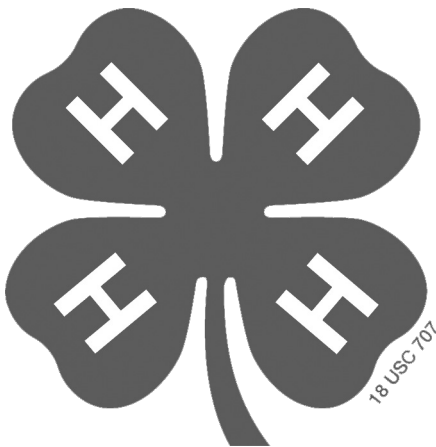


Photo to the right: Members of a new club, Community Builders, created these awesome snowman measuring sticks, as one of their first 4-H projects.



WYOMING COUNTY 4-H FASHION & TEXTILE REVUE

'Threads of Fashion - 250 Years in the Making' Important Dates to Remember

Fashion Revue Packets are available online and at our office! Email or call us for detailed information or questions!

Friday, April 10th

Entry blanks and commentary sheets due for April 16th and April 25th judging.
Please return entry blank and commentary sheet to the 4-H Office.

Thursday, April 16th

Evening clothing evaluation judging option
6:00PM-8:00PM Ag & Business Center (36 Center Street, Warsaw)

Saturday, April 25th

Day clothing evaluation judging option
9:00AM-10:30AM Ag & Business Center (36 Center Street, Warsaw)

Friday, May 8th

7:30PM Clothing Revue @ Ag & Business Center, Warsaw

Cover Design Contest

If you are a 4-H Member, you can enter a cover design for the
2026 Clothing Revue Program!

Your cover design should reflect this year's
theme *"Threads of Fashion - 250 Years in the Making"*

Please note: Your cover design must be 8 1/2" by 5 1/2" and should be made with black ink on paper (no computer generated covers, please!) Mail or bring in your design to the Wyoming County 4-H Office by April 11th.

Sewing Machines & Serger Available

The 4-H Office has several sewing machines as well as a serger available for individual members or clubs to use in preparation for Fashion Revue.



Delicious Destinations

Exploring Foods Around The World!

Monday, April 13th 6:30pm setup, 7:00pm program begins

Ag & Business Center, Warsaw



Explore the different cuisines around the world, along with their cultures and heritage!

There are hundreds of cultures and cuisines across the globe, we challenge you, as 4-H independent and club members, to select a country and research the origins of the foods they eat and their culinary histories and traditions!

It's easy! As a club (or independent member), pick a nation in the world you are interested in exploring! Over the next several months, gather information on the region's cuisine, including styles of cooking or special dishes, and the history or origins of the food item(s) or recipes. You may choose a country or region of the USA.

As an opportunity to highlight what members learn from participating in this experience, Wyoming County 4-H will host a 'Delicious Destinations - Exploring Foods throughout the World' event on Monday evening, April 13th, 2026. In planning for an evening that will be interesting and enjoyable for everyone, your club (or independent members) should be prepared to:

- Share samples of a food/dish that is representative of your region/city with other participants.
- All food samples must be prepared prior to the event, and prepackaged for distribution.
- Plan a short presentation (5 minutes max) to share what you have learned with others.
- Put together a small display highlighting what you learned by participating in the project (i.e. posters, photographs, clothing, recipes, etc.)

Pre-registration is required as spacing is limited. This will provide a great opportunity for everyone to discover 'delicious destinations' by sampling foods and sharing information, without leaving Wyoming County (or even the room)! Call the 4-H office for questions or to sign up by April 6th!



SECRETARIES HONOR ROLL

Congratulations to the following club secretaries for turning in their reports in on time to the 4-H office:

NOVEMBER in by December 17th

3 + 2 🌸 Natalie Bartholomew

Creek Road Pioneers 🌸 Ian Johnson

American Angels 🌸 Teigan Batt

Wolcott's Horse Haven 🌸 Rayan Curry

Tiger Cubs 🌸 Sophia Gonzalez

DECEMBER in by January 21st

3 + 2 🌸 Natalie Bartholomew

Creek Road Pioneers 🌸 Ian Johnson

WyCo Wanderers 🌸 Raymond Hess

Remember

Secretary reports are due to the 4-H office by the third Wednesday of the following month. Reports for January reports are due by February 18th, February reports are due March 18th, March reports are due April 15th and April reports are due May 20th. Please make sure all clubs are turning in a Secretary report; it is a nice way for the 4-H office to see what clubs are doing! You can drop them off at the 4-H office, mail them, or email them to aea92@cornell.edu

FYI: The Secretaries Monthly Report is available online:

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/assets.cce.cornell.edu/attachments/52/SecretariesMonthlyreportcombinedfillable.pdf?1395071894>

UPCOMING SCHOLARSHIPS

NEW YORK FARM BUREAU 2026 AGRICULTURAL YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Deadline 4/1/2026

<https://nyfb.org/programs/promotion-education/scholarship>

FARM CREDIT EAST SCHOLARSHIP

Deadline 3/19/2026

<https://www.farmcrediteast.com/Scholarship/>

NYS GRANGE - THE DENISE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Deadline 4/15/2026

<https://nysgrange.org/education-opportunities/>

Scholarship details can be found on our website at: wyo-ming.cce.cornell.edu/4-H.youth-development/projects-activities/awards-scholarships



If you are looking for a fun 4-H project that is both challenging and rewarding look no further.

- THE FACTS -

- The seeds for Atlantic Giants, sunflowers and mini pumpkins are provided by GrowMark.
- Seeds and started plants are provided by Dave Duboy and friends.
- There is no cost to members.
- To complete the project youth will need to bring one specimen to Giant Vegetable Weigh-In in October.

If you are interested in participating fill out the registration form by going to https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/4HGiantVegetable2026_256, scanning the QR code or email it to sac347@cornell.edu. All orders need to be at the 4-H Office by March 13th. Seed pick up will be in May.



STEM CAMP DAY

Wednesday, February 18th

10AM – 11:30AM

Ag & Business Center, Warsaw

4-H ages 8+

Free to all participants

Come play and learn with various STEM activities on your holiday break!



Breakout rooms will include ozobots, snap circuits, 3-D pens, and a special STEM challenge for older youth. Rooms will be divided based on the ages of participants.

Register by February 10th to take part in this fun camp day by calling 585-786-2251.

Interview with CCE Wyoming County Board member Kathleen Parker

Why did you want to be involved in the Cooperative Extension?

I think I'm a little bit different from some of your other board members and volunteers because I did not grow up with 4-H. I married into 4-H. My husband's family has been in 4-H for years and I got involved because we had kids, and that was what the family did. No regrets, absolutely. I am totally happy with that decision because it gave my kids some life skills that will stay with them forever.

What impacts you most from our strategic plan?

What I feel impacts me most, looking at the strategic plan, is more the Ag side of things for a couple reasons. Number one, we have a big problem with obesity in the world. And, you know, a big part of the Ag program and also FCS (Family and Consumer Science) is nutrition, but also growing your own food, and all the programs that are around that so that people can provide for themselves. They can learn to produce their own honey, have their own gardens, and preserve their own food. All those things I see as really important.

And you know, I'm in health care. There's more and more concern about what people are consuming chemical-wise and plastic-wise. So, we're going back to that purity (of ingredients) to avoid all the chemicals that we see in mass production.

I think, where our society or our world is going, people need to learn how to be self-sustainable. Whether it's basic sewing skills or cooking and nutrition and growing things. And recently, I was really impressed with the number of programs that are available from the Ag department.

When you were a child, did you have interests that would have grown better in 4-H?

Sewing. My mom worked for an interior designer making draperies and was a very talented seamstress. She tried to teach me and that was very challenging. So, it would have been nice to have a different resource for learning. And the baking or cooking aspect of things would have been nice to have. But I mean, I'm a city girl, so it wasn't about the animals. And when we came here, even though Brian had raised and

showed cows, that wasn't something he necessarily pushed with the kids. They kind of gravitated towards that family and consumer science type stuff. What's a major obstacle you've encountered when trying to pursue something you're trying to learn? For me, it's my schedule and making the events that are offered.

What part of 4-H judging do you like most?

There's a lot of things about judging in 4-H that are really nice. It's having an opportunity to interact with the kids and seeing what they're doing. Talking about what they could be doing, also. A big part of it is encouragement for the kids. It's not just judging what they've brought, but it's also encouragement for the future.

What can we do to help create interest in young adults?

Meet them where they're at and help them make some productive decisions about what they're doing currently.

What do you think the most important resources are for us at CCE to go after in the next couple of years (related to the areas that you're interested in)?

This works where we're at right now, but a facility that is more conducive to public presentations and the Produced in New York contest. You know, having a kitchen and that kind of thing. So, the facilities, for one thing, and financially, the money to hire the staff we need.



HORSING AROUND



Horse Certificates must be in file on the 4-H office for each individual horse and rider combination to be used in 4-H events. Certificates are available online at wyomingcounty4h.com or in the 4-H office.

All 4-H members participating in the horse program must fill out an Acknowledgement of Risk Form with appropriate horse activities checked. This was part of your enrollment packet this year. This paperwork must be on file in the 4-H office in order to participate in any 4-H riding activities. Call the 4-H office with any questions.

Make sure up to date Rabies & Coggins paperwork is on your person at shows! Copies need to be submitted to the 4-H office with fair entries by July 15th!

Watch your email for supplemental event dates!

To be eligible to show at the Wyoming County Fair in 2026, youth must attend at least one educational opportunity, denoted by asterixis on the calendar. Youth must sign the registration sheet and stay for the duration of the event to receive full credit.

NEW *Wyoming County 4-H Horse Project Handbook is available at our office or online!*

WYOMING COUNTY 4-H 2026 HORSE EDUCATIONAL EVENTS CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

- *** Public Presentations & Horse Communications:** Ag & Business Center (see page 8)

MARCH

- *** First Aid:** Thursday, March 5th, 6pm
Arcade Firehall
- *** Hippology:** Saturday, March 28th, 9am
Ag & Business Center

APRIL

- *** Buffalo Raceway Tour:** Saturday, April 25th, 11am

MAY

- *** Trail Clinic:** Date TBD

JUNE

- *** Jumping Clinic:** Date TBD
- *** Rider Evaluation:** Tuesday, June 9th, 6pm
Diana Henry's, Bliss
- *** Rider Evaluation:** Friday, June 19th, 6pm
Wolcotts, Warsaw
- *** Rider Evaluation:** Monday, June 29th, 6pm
Bridgman Stables, Varysburg

JULY

- *** Progressive Horse Clinic:** Date TBD
• *Fair Entries Due by July 15th!*

FIRST AID CLINIC

Thursday, March 5th, 2026 at 6:00PM

Arcade Firehall, 145 North St, Arcade, NY 14009

Educational opportunity for horse project members! Learn about basic first aid, applicable when you are out riding in the arena or on the trail!

HIPPOLOGY CONTEST

Saturday, March 28, 2026 at 9:00AM

Ag & Business Center, Warsaw

We will have stations for horse judging, tack, feeds, breeds, anatomy, etc. Anyone 8+ who is enrolled in the horse project is encouraged to participate!

WNY
Equifest

MARCH
14 & 15
2026

WNYEQUIFEST.COM

4-H members are invited to take part in this event, Western New York State's equine showcase. Whether you are the most experienced horsemen or only admire horses from a distance, WNY Equifest will bring you closer to the equestrian community. We welcome horse enthusiasts, owners, trainers, clinicians, riders and vendors to gather to celebrate the horse industry in New York State.

Free admission, grounds are open 9:00am-4:00pm on both days! The American Angels Wyoming County 4-H Drill Team will be performing on Sunday the 15th. Come cheer on our local team!!

DAIRY DISCOVERY

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2026

**COST: \$20.00 - COVERS LUNCH, HANDOUTS
AND MATERIALS**

This statewide program for youth ages 14 to 19 years-old is held all day Saturday, March 28th at Cornell University. Youth learn about dairy careers by rotating through a series of hands-on stations that focus on specific aspects of the dairy industry. This is a great opportunity for youth to explore fields in dairy and connect with industry professional on campus.



To register, call the 4-H office or email Stephanie at sal294@cornell.edu by March 1st!

DAIRY JEOPARDY

**Wednesday, February 11, 2026
from 6:30 - 7:30PM**

Ag & Business Center, Warsaw

Dairy Jeopardy is a dairy knowledge competition that allows youth to compete as individuals. Styled after the popular television game show, questions are similar to those as in Dairy Bowl. The contestants demonstrate their ability to think on their feet and wager points based on their knowledge of topics ranging from "Bovine Health" to "Breed All About It" (questions about the different breeds of dairy cattle) to "Milk, Natures Perfect Food" and "TMR the mixer".

Call the 4-H office at 585-786-2251 or email Stephanie at sal294@cornell.edu to register by February 6th.

***This event will satisfy the educational
requirement for exhibiting 4-H dairy at the 2026
Wyoming County Fair***

Dairy Judging 101

Monday, March 16, 2026 at 6:30PM
Ag & Business Center, Warsaw
Youth ages 8-18

Join Stephanie for some fun interactive games to help youth learn the basics of dairy judging! Youth will learn the body parts of the cow, what the ideal cow looks like, and how to judge a class. We will have youth feeling confident to go dairy judge. Call the 4-H Office to RSVP by March 13th.

**** This will fulfill the educational requirement needed to show dairy cattle at the 2026 Wyoming County Fair****

Dairy Cattle Judging

**Check out the April/May 4-H News for
Spring contest dates.**

Call the office at (585) 786-2251 if you have any questions.



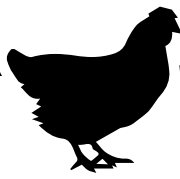
NYS 4-H Virtual Dairy Bowl Practices!

Join youth from across the state on Thursdays
in January & February from 7 - 8pm and
participate in virtual dairy bowl practices,
hosted by the NYS 4-H Dairy Committee.

- January 15
- January 29
- February 12
- February 19
- February 26



Register here:
<https://bit.ly/2026DairyBowlPractice>



2026 4-H MARKET POULTRY PROJECT

This opportunity allows members to raise broiler chickens, exhibit them before the fair and then sell them during the 4-H Meat Animal Auction in August.

Broiler orders due: March 30th

Broiler pickup: approximately June 8th

Broiler show: Saturday, August 1st

Community service component: donation of two processed birds to local food distribution programs in Wyoming County.

Complete program guidelines are available on the 4-H website. Participants must meet Meat Animal enrollment deadlines, in addition to register for this program by March 30th.

Minimum of 6 chicks, maximum of 8 chicks per participant, not including donation birds. **Cost:** \$2.50/chick, not including donation chicks. Two donation chicks will be added to your order at pick up.

Orders are due no later than March 30th via paper form or you may also register for the program online:

https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/WYCO4-Hmarketpoultry_26_256



4-H MARKET CHICK ORDER FORM

NAME _____

AGE _____ PHONE _____

OF CHICKS _____

PULLORUM TESTING FOR POULTRY

All poultry (except waterfowl) exhibited at the Wyoming County Fair will need a valid Pullorum Certificate for 2026.

If you have a flock of 10 or more birds, we strongly recommend doing onsite testing to join the NPIP Program (National Poultry Improvement Plan). This will provide you with a valid 1-year certificate.

The onsite inspections take place in April and May for flocks. Individual bird testing will take place at the fairgrounds, on **July 14, 2026; 5 to 7pm**. Please contact the 4-H office for more details regarding the NPIP testing.

From Coop to Champion: Poultry Showing Workshop

Monday, March 2, 2026

6:30pm

Ag & Business Center, Warsaw

Rick Hare is an American Poultry Association and American Bantam Association Judge with years of experience evaluating a wide variety of poultry breeds. Join us for this interactive workshop to learn how to prepare and present your bird to its full potential in the show ring. Youth participants are encouraged to come ready with questions about their 4-H poultry projects.

RSVP by Friday, February 27th by calling 585-786-2251.

This meeting will satisfy the educational requirement for showing both traditional poultry and market broilers at the 2026 Wyoming County Fair.

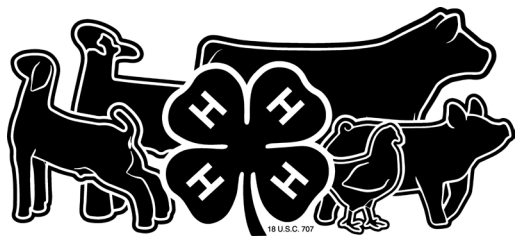
POULTRY PROCESSING 101

Saturday, May 9th beginning at 9:00am

HLW Acres, 1727 Exchange Street Road, Attica

Hermann Weber is offering a poultry processing workshop geared for 4-H members at his processing facility. He will cover all aspects of processing and regulations. There will be hands on components and participants will need to wear washable boots. A parent/guardian will need to accompany youth members during the event. Lunch will be provided. Please call the 4-H office with any questions or to register by May 1st for the meeting.

This meeting will satisfy the educational requirement for showing both traditional poultry and market broilers at the 2026 Wyoming County Fair.



MEAT ANIMAL PROJECT

4-H Meat Animal Project Weigh-In Dates are scheduled at the Wyoming County Fairgrounds in Pike

SWINE

Friday, May 1st from 4:00pm till 8:00pm
Saturday, May 2nd from 9:00am till 11:00am

LAMB & GOAT

Thursday, May 6th from 5:00pm till 8:00pm
(lambs should be weigh between 35 and 75 pounds)

Registration for time slots will be sent out via email and be advertised in the April 4-H News.

Yankee Beef Farm Tour

**Saturday, May 16, 2026
at 1:00PM**

Pee Dee Road, North Java

Yankee Beef Farm is a family-run farm and beef producer located in North Java, NY. They raise high-quality Angus beef and also offer other locally made products like pure maple syrup and goods from local producers in their farm shop.

We will tour the farm along with their new processing facility. Registration is required. Call the 4-H office by May 5th to participate.

This meeting will satisfy the educational requirement for showing beef, sheep, swine, auction poultry, and auction goats at the 2026 Wyoming County Fair.

Continuing Meat Animal Program Requirement



This online program is designed to provide an estimated 60 minutes of education each year and requires the passing of a series of three quizzes to earn certification. Each Wyoming County 4-H Meat Animal Project youth participant will be required to complete the online certification process (yqca.org) each project year. Proof of completion (certificate) must be submitted to the 4-H office. This requirement is **IN ADDITION** to the livestock educational event requirement outlined in the 2026 4-H meat animal rules.

There is a fee for the online program. 4-H Families may choose to pay for it on their own OR contact the 4-H office for a voucher/coupon for each youth member. Instructions for how to complete the online training can be found on our website: wyomingcounty4h.com. Please contact Holly in the 4-H office if you have questions regarding this requirement or would like to receive a voucher/coupon for youth participants. *Vouchers will be available starting February 9th.*

LIVESTOCK SKILL-A-THON

**Saturday, March 7th
at 9:30AM**

AG & BUSINESS CENTER, WARSAW

Pre-registration is APPRECIATED in order to plan for the event. Return the slip below or call the 4-H office by March 1st to register.

(This event will satisfy the educational requirement for showing beef, sheep, swine, auction poultry and auction goats.)

General Livestock Program Reminders:

Non-Auction Beef Sheep & Swine (Ages 8-18 as of 1/1/26): Youth members do NOT have to participate in the livestock auction project to show beef, sheep or pigs at the fair during 4-H shows. We have non auction showmanship, market classes, and breeding animal classes for these species. They are a great way to learn how to raise and show livestock before jumping into the auction program. To exhibit beef, sheep or pigs, youth members must complete one of the specified education events for the livestock program. Pre-registration in the form of a fair entry is also required by July 15th. Watch the June 4-H News for information and deadlines on fair entries. Youth do have an opportunity to exhibit at the NYS Fair. We have project learning materials available in the 4-H office on request.

DISTRICT GOAT BOWL

**Saturday, May 9, 2026
at 10:00am**

Ag & Business Center, Warsaw

We are offering 3 age groups:

- Cloverbud (5-7 yrs. Old)
- Junior (8-13 yrs. Old)
- Senior levels (14-18 yrs. Old).

You can register youth as teams or individual members. Teams are made up of 3-4 members of the same age group. Teams will compete in a round-robin format. In each round, youth will work together to answer individual questions, team questions, and toss-up/buzzer questions.

Study packets are available at the 4-H office. Registration is due to the 4-H office by May 1, 2026. Contact Stephanie with any questions at (585) 786-2251 or sal294@cornell.edu.

(This event will count as an educational opportunity to exhibit meat and dairy goats at the 2026 Wyoming County Fair)

**** 4-H PUBLIC PRESENTATION NOTE ****

Don't forget that doing a public presentation counts towards an educational event for one species!

There are three dates to choose from: February 17th, 21st, 26th. Topics don't necessarily need to be animal related (but are nice). The goal is to get you talking about something that you are interested in; which can increase your self-confidence, knowledge of your chosen topic, poise and much more...building essential lifelong skills!

GOAT JEOPARDY

Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 6:30 PM
Ag & Business Center, Warsaw

Goat Jeopardy is a knowledge competition that allows youth to compete as individuals. Styled after the popular television game show, questions are similar to those asked in Goat Bowl. The contestants demonstrate their ability to think on their feet and wager points based on their knowledge of topics ranging from "Caprine Health" and "Breed All About It" (questions about the different breeds of goats).

Call the 4-H office at (585) 786-2251 or email Stephanie at sal294@cornell.edu to register. Youth must be registered by Friday, March 6th.

(This event will satisfy the educational requirement for exhibiting dairy and meat goats at the 2026 Wyoming County Fair)

SAVE *the* DATE



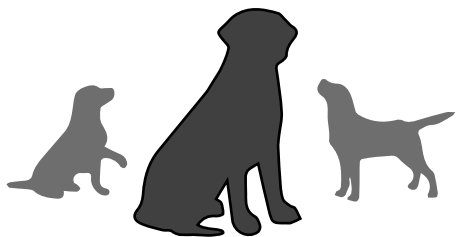
Cornell
Fashion
Collective



MAR 21 26
WORKSHOP, MINI TOUR, DINNER,
AND SHOW

CORNELL UNIVERSITY, MVR HALL & BARTON HALL

4-H members from across the state are invited to attend the 2026 "Cornell Fashion Collective" – showcasing the designs of undergraduate and graduate fiber design and management in the college of Human Ecology. Wyoming County 4-H members and their families will have the opportunity to attend a workshop, mini-tour, dinner, and the fashion show, Saturday, March 21, 2026. This is an amazing opportunity for our county youth to experience the fiber science department at Cornell University! This would be most appropriate for youth ages 14+. We have funds from the cake and pie auction to support overnight stay and transportation depending on interest. If you're interested in this opportunity, please contact Sarah Clark in the 4-H office at sac347@cornell.edu or 786-2251.



The Wyoming County 4-H Dog Obedience Program will begin in April 2026. Classes will meet weekly for 9 weeks. If you are interested in enrolling in the program, call the 4-H Office to request a brochure, or view online. Youth who selected "Dog" on their 4-H enrollment will receive a brochure in the mail in mid February. Below find the contact information for each site.



SITES & LEADERS (Call Leaders to Enroll)

ARCADE

Mindy Holland (716-353-6584)
contact after 5:00PM
1583 Green Road, Freedom
Tuesdays - 6:30

PERRY

Emelyn Bell, Bonnie Bowman,
Joan Sage & Claire Smith
(585-237-2998)
Perry Town Park, Perry
Thursdays - 6:30PM

FILLMORE

Alicia Oyer (585-610-6685)
9865 Council House Rd, Fillmore
Wednesdays - 6:30PM

BATAVIA

Katie Ellsworth (585-943-9574)
Countryside Canine, Batavia
Fridays - 7:00PM



2026 MARCH DOG MADNESS

MARCH 7TH, 2026

9 am - 4 pm

2026 Workshops include:

- Pick 2 of the following 3:
 - Canine Reproduction, Responsible Breeding Practices and living with an intact dog!
 - Your Dog, the Scholar: Discovering Canine Thinking Power!
 - Hunting and Sporting Dog: Is your Dog a good candidate?
- Each Participant will attend each of the following:
 - Green Eggs and Ham Agility, Train for Agility Anywhere, Anytime!
 - Understanding Canine Body Language and Applying that Knowledge to your Training.
 - Pawsitive Learning Meeting, 4-H Dog Meeting without a Dog!

For more information, visit
<https://bit.ly/4h66Oak>



For questions contact Brian Aukema at
bj14@cornell.edu

GROW MAKE SERVE THRIVE

"What's the Cost of a Cookie?"

Tuesday, March 3, 2026
5:30pm at the Ag & Business Center



Ages 8+, recommended for ages 8-12!
But ALL are welcome.
No cost!



Get ready to become a Cookie Cost Detective! Join us for a fun, hands on 4 H adventure where kids crack the mystery of what a cookie really costs. We'll measure, mix, investigate, and even set our own cookie prices. It's math, money, and munchies all rolled into one sweet experience.

RSVP to the 4-H office by Tuesday, February 28th.

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Wyoming County
4-H Youth Development
36 Center St, Suite B, Warsaw, NY 14569

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WARSAW, NY
PERMIT NO. 32

Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for providing equal program and employment opportunities in accordance with applicable laws.

AG LITERACY WEEK

MARCH 16TH- 20TH



Wyoming County schools will be participating in Ag Literacy Week, a week devoted to teaching young children about agriculture and why agriculture is an important part of our world. During the week of March 16-20, 2026 (National Ag Week), volunteers throughout NY will visit classrooms to read a book with an agricultural theme, lead an activity based on the book and talk to students about agriculture. The book will then be donated to the school and library.

THIS YEAR'S BOOK

Throughout the year, life on a farm is filled with growth and joy, patience and renewal. On a farm, each season arrives with new jobs to do—crops to plant, animals to tend to, and fields to harvest. Readers get an insider's look at what spring, summer, fall, and winter look like on a family farm, from adorable baby animals to rumbling tractors and pumpkins to pies. This sweet, rhyming story is perfect for young readers, whether their home is on a farm or not!

A big thank you to Wyoming County Farm Bureau for sponsoring this book. The book will be read in every second-grade classroom in the county. A book will also be donated to the school's library. If you are interested in being a classroom reader, call Stephanie at the 4-H office at 786-2251 or email at sal294@cornell.edu.

