GOALS:
• Provide research-based programs through Extension and collaborate with community agencies in order to promote and educate Livingston County residents on the importance of eating well and being active.

In 2016, the Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) reported that 39.8% of adults are obese. Comparatively, 35% of Livingston County adults are obese. Although Livingston County is ranked 12th (out of 62) in the New York State healthy county rating (Robert Woods Johnson Foundation 2019), we still have a long way to go.

The need for nutrition awareness and education have never been more necessary. Health educators must instruct parents on healthier lifestyles so they can model this behavior to their children and use theory-based nutrition programs with children in order to break the cycle. Our nutrition program collaborates with and advises education programs that are presented through other Livingston County agencies and professionals. It is in this way, working to modify the community environment, that we can be most successful as an instrument of change.

NUTRITION EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS:
Our Nutrition Educator has been busy working in the community to help improve the nutrition status of Livingston County residents. Activities include:

• Active involvement in the Livingston County Department of Health Be Well in Livingston Committee, the Livingston County Food Security Council, and the Livingston County Diabetes Coalition. Additional involvement in the Livingston County Department of Health Community Health Assessment Leadership Team - monitoring the Community Health Improvement Plan for the next three years.

• Serving as a consultant on the Geneseo Central School District Wellness Committee and advisory to the PEP Grant at Caledonia-Mumford Schools. Facilitated a safe environment for all students, providing nutrition and food safety-related programs as requested.

• Grocery store tours continue to be available to community groups who want to improve their food choices and save money. Community group nutrition education presentations are available upon request and have been provided to numerous groups this year. Of special interest - the use of the “instant pot”. Several classes were presented throughout the county and have been well attended.

CCE Livingston County continues to contract with the Livingston County Office for the Aging for registered dietitian consultant services for the Senior Nutrition Program. A new contract for this service was signed earlier this year. This includes nutrition education and counseling to program participants (ages 60+), assisting in planning and performing nutrition analysis of the menus served, monitoring the food service kitchen and congregate mealsites for food safety, and working with groups in the community to improve the nutrition status of seniors. This collaboration has resulted in the delivery of 7,000+ units of nutrition and health education to more than 650 County residents (ages 60+). Individual nutrition counseling was provided to over 140 individuals. As the number of seniors in the county continues to grow, this number is expected to increase annually. In addition, our educator continues to monitor and address concerns regarding the chilled meal delivery service for home-delivered clients. This has resulted in providing meals with improved nutritional value, quality, and food safety. The site where the food is prepared was also brought back to Livingston County this year - a positive for both the senior meal program and meal recipients. Quarterly surveys of program recipients are administered for satisfaction as well as to seek input.

This collaboration is ideal because OFA and CCE share many of the same missions. Our goals of improving community nutrition allow us to serve on many of the same committees. While OFA focuses on seniors, CCE continues to have a role in educating groups of all ages in the benefits of good nutrition and a healthy lifestyle.

We have seen a need for individual nutrition counseling of individuals and families at risk for poor nutrition outcomes. The program has focused on those who traditionally “fall through the cracks” in receiving nutrition services from other agencies or organizations. Services provided include nutrition education/counseling, grocery store tours and shopping tips, basic cooking lessons, counseling for special nutritional needs, and more. This program has continued to remain strong and receive referrals from county agencies for persons in need of individualized nutrition education from a registered dietitian, which is not available elsewhere in the county.

Finally, our educator continues to have a presence at the Foodlink Curbside Markets, providing both nutrition education and demonstrations utilizing seasonal produce. Pressure canner gauge testing and resources for safe canning practices are also provided.
GOALS:
• To provide leadership in planning, implementation, and evaluation of educational programs in Family and Consumer Science and other relation issues in Livingston County
• To coordinate regional program efforts in cooperation with other programs

PARENT EDUCATION PROGRAM:
This year our parent education program continued to provide services to families referred through county agencies and those seeking guidance and assistance independently. Our Youth Bureau/OCFS funding was renewed for a second year. We even received a $600 donation from Livingston County Department of Social Services to ensure that Livingston County families can take parent/caregiver education classes at no cost.

The program added new classes to our repertoire of evidence-based parent education. Our Parenting Educator now offers: Active Parenting: First Five Years, Children 5-12, and Teens; Parents Apart; PASTA; Discipline Is Not a Dirty Word; and P.S. It Works: the Magic Years (B-4) and the Middle Years (5-12); and Baby Care Workshop.

We also successfully debuted our first two-generation program “Families in Action: Parents & Teens” at the Avon CSD. This was a collaborative effort with the local Council on Alcohol & Substance Abuse’s prevention program.

SCHOOL-BASED FAMILY EDUCATION:
The school-based family education program continued to offer programs to area schools. Our educator visited Mt. Morris and Dansville CSD - and expanded into Avon CSD in the spring. This fall we returned to Mt. Morris CSD with a new offering, P.S. It Works! In the coming months, we hope to expand our program to yet another school district and plan a possible collaborative effort with Caledonia-Mumford or York CSD.

ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES WORKGROUP:
This year, our Parent Educator attended 26 hours of Trauma Champion’s training as part of Livingston County’s Trauma Informed Communities initiative. This training was provided through University of Buffalo’s School of Social Work.

Our educator also completed the Youth Mental Health First Aid certification program, a training about preventing youth self-harm, and a two-day workshop on building community resilience. The knowledge and skills learned within each training will be utilized in the delivery of our parent education programs. We also hope to bring awareness and trauma-informed approaches to all CCE Livingston County programs, as well as other human service agencies and organizations within the county.

Looking forward, the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Livingston County staff will spend the next year learning about trauma, assessing our practices, and adopting trauma-informed approaches using the Trauma Informed Organizational Change Manual.
TRAFFIC SAFETY EDUCATION

GOALS:
- To provide injury prevention education programming to reduce the severity and number of childhood injuries in Livingston County
- To collaborate with other agencies to offer comprehensive injury prevention education programming for Livingston County residents
- Collaborate with other agencies to offer a comprehensive program that is accessible, meets the needs of Livingston County residents, and impacts traffic safety issues in our community by reducing the number of traffic fatalities and injuries

In 2019, the Traffic Safety Education Program successfully delivered educational programming to over 5,500 community members through a collaborative effort with local law enforcement, public health and transportation agencies, public and private school districts, and others. Community members also accessed program information and education through social media and printed publications.

Programming relating to traffic safety and injury prevention was offered using a variety of presentation methods, in various settings, and to individuals and groups with diverse backgrounds.

NEW PROGRAM EDUCATOR:
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Livingston County welcomed Jaime Johnson as their new Traffic Safety Educator in January 2019. Jaime holds a B.S. degree in Biological Sciences from SUNY Geneseo and a M.S. degree in Healthcare Administration.

CHILD SAFETY FAIR & CONTEST:
The 17th Annual Child Safety Fair was held April 15, 2019 at the Dansville Elementary School with over 150 attendees.

This year’s event included representatives from more than 20 local agencies in areas of public health and safety, community outreach and education. Vendor tables featured interactive activities with prizes and encouraged discussion on a variety of topics.

Organizations that participated in this year’s event include CCE Livingston County’s Parenting Education Program and Master Gardeners, Livingston/Wyoming WIC program, Fidelis Care, MVP Healthcare, Excellus BC/BS, Livingston County Sheriff’s Office, Kid Start, New York State Police, Livingston County Department of Mental Health, Roswell Park’s Tobacco-Free GLOW, Chances and Changes, Inc., Dansville Police, Fire and EMS, and more.

A ceremony was held at the fair for winners of the 17th Annual Safety on Wheels Coloring/Writing Contest. Over 340 entries were received from Livingston County students in 3PK-6th grade. Our grand prize winner received a new bicycle, helmet, and bicycle accessory kit. First place winners received a new bicycle and helmet while second place winners also received a new bike helmet.

The bikes and accessories for this year’s contest were purchased with donations from numerous community organizations and individuals.

CARFIT:
In September, our program collaborated with Livingston County Office for the Aging, AARP, Noyes Health, and the Livingston County Health Department to offer a CarFit event at the Lakeville Fire Department Training Grounds. Held in conjunction with Noyes Health’s Fall Prevention event, our program provided education to 10 senior drivers on the safe operation of their vehicle. We also offered an
introduction to some tools and techniques that may help seniors continue to drive safely, longer.

BICYCLE SAFETY RODEOS:
Thirteen bicycle rodeos were presented in 2019. Groups of 20-150 students in Avon, Caledonia, York, Dansville, Geneseo, Nunda and Livonia participated in these fun and educational outdoor events as part of their summer recreation programs. Rodeos were also hosted by KidStart, Pride & Joy Child Care Center, Kids Club Child Care Center, and Annie’s Ark.

Children in need of a helmet (or whose helmet had visible damage or did not fit properly) were issued a new, properly-fitted helmet, purchased, in part, by a donation from the Livingston-Wyoming Arc Foundation. Following the educational component of the rodeo, children used what they learned to navigate an obstacle course that included road hazards, a crosswalk, and traffic signs and signals.

Educational assistance and support was provided by the Geneseo, Nunda, Dansville and Caledonia Police Departments and the Livingston County Sheriff’s Office. A 17-year-old employment trainee from the Livingston County Workforce Development Summer Youth Employment Program also assisted our educator. In total, more than 750 students and 175 adults participated in these events. More than 300 new helmets were issued to children across the county.

HELMET HEROES PROGRAM:
This annual safety helmet compliance program kicked off in July and continued through the month of August. The Caledonia, Mt. Morris, Dansville, and Geneseo Police Departments; the Livingston County Sheriff’s Office; and the New York State Police distributed coupons for a free Slurpee treat to 50 children who were “caught” wearing a helmet. The gift certificates were provided courtesy of 7-Eleven Corporation’s “Operation Chill” program.

CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY:
The Child Passenger Safety program provides information to parents and caregivers on how to properly use and install car seats, booster seats, and seat belts. This year, the program coordinated events and activities for the Child Passenger Safety Program across ten permanent fitting (inspection) stations.

Eleven Child Safety Seat Check events were offered across Livingston County - including two events held during National Child Passenger Safety Week (September).

Altogether, 208 child safety seats were inspected by certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians. One hundred eighteen safety seats were replaced for being “unsafe” and an additional 75 safety seats were issued to income-qualified families through the Low-Income Car Seat Distribution Program. This year, additional car seats were purchased for the program through a donation made by Wentworth Motors in Dansville.

The Traffic Safety Education program is funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration with a grant from the New York State Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee and by donations.
GOALS:

- To contribute to a sustainable agriculture production industry in Livingston County through educational programs addressing productivity and profitability issues with environmental management considerations
- To assist county residents with home and home environment maintenance with knowledge about energy, conservation, pest identification, and environmentally sound management alternatives, plant selection and maintenance, indoor air quality management, waste reduction and management, and water quality production

MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM:

Master Gardeners continue their outreach activities with requested presentations for local groups. Community events, Farmers’ Markets, site visits, and classes connect people to CCE resources. A Master Gardener column is published in the Livingston County News - further identifying CCE as a resource for gardening information. Master Gardeners collaborated with the Genesee Valley Penny Saver in a gardening-related Q & A activity printed in that publication throughout the summer.

TOPICS OF INTEREST:

Hemp is receiving increasing interest from growers. New markets for hemp have opened up after a recent wave of legislation. Malting barley continues to draw attention from prospective growers. We provide resources for farmers to evaluate potential and how to grow these crops.

PEST PROBLEMS WITHIN THE COUNTY:

Emerald ash borer stays in consideration as a problem for individuals and communities. Progression of the infestation in the state is told with announcements of regulatory activity involving quarantines and movement of wood products. Progression has reached a point where serious decision making for management and removal of declining trees is necessary. Updates on assessment for action such as utilizing pesticides and pesticide selection are made as they evolve for landscape trees worth saving.

The Hemlock Wooly Adelgid infestation advances. The tree is critical as habitat and efforts are increasing to minimize the losses and effects by pesticide and predator insect management. Pesticide treatments are available. Information has been given in our publications.

NWNY TEAM:

Field Crop Specialists sent Crop Alerts to 800+ members of the industry - covering pest/disease outbreaks, weather impacts on crop management, timely tips, and more. Field Crop Specialists are also in lead positions for developing malting barley varieties and researching commercial hemp as a potential crop for NYS.

Forage Congress was held in Mt. Morris for a third year. The agenda was developed with input from the NWNY Team’s Dairy & Field Crops Advisory Committees.

The Caring for the Land Learning Circles designed for female landowners renting land to farmers continued. ‘Conservation Values - Your Land is Your Legacy,’ and ‘Conservation & Farmland Leasing: Talking with Your Farmer’ were hosted in Mt. Morris. The Conservation Values Learning Circle activity is offered as part of Great Lakes Conservation Connect, a project partnership between American Farmland Trust, the NWNY Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops Team, and the Wood Soil & Water Conservation District. New York Women’s Learning Circles are supported by the Great Lakes Protection Fund.

A program addressing how to get your farm business in compliance with NYS Sexual Harassment Regulations with resources developed by Cornell Ag Workforce Development was presented in Livingston County.

SOIL HEALTH FIELD DAY:

A Soil Health Field Day was held at Macauley Farms, LLC in Mt. Morris. “Cover Crop Mixes & Inter-seeder Demonstrations” shared practical, field-tested demonstrations of advanced soil regenerative practices and “Partnering for Improving Soil Health on Rented Land in Livingston County” targeted dairy, field and specialty crop farmers. Producer John Macauley has adapted regenerative practices on the family’s multi-generational farm and is an advocate for agriculture to move into this crop management. This event was part of the “Landowners & Farmers Working Together for Clean Water in the Great Lakes” project, a collaboration between American Farmland Trust, the NWNY Dairy Livestock & Field Crops team, the Genesee River Watershed Coalition of Soil & Water Conservation Districts, IPM Institute, and Utah State University - funded by the Great Lakes Protection Fund.

MASTER FOREST OWNERS (MFO):

Our Master Forest Owners continue a youth education and firewood fundraising project for interested non-profit organizations. Members cut and split firewood donated by Wagner Hardwoods at a MFO’s property in Avon. A program was also held to learn about the hydrologic study within the Conesus Watershed being conducted by students at Livonia High School through ESF in the High School programming.
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HELP SUPPORT THE
Cornell Cooperative Extension | Livingston County
AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM PROGRAM

NYS cut funding for rural schools.
Leading to a $50,000 loss in our Ag in the Classroom budget.

Mission: To foster awareness, understanding, and appreciation of how
agriculture impacts our everyday lives.

The Agriculture in the Classroom program serves all Livingston County
schools, reaching students in Pre-K through 12th grade. Our educator
and staff visit classrooms with innovative science-based lessons on various
agricultural subjects. Last year, the Livingston County Ag in the Classroom
program reached over 20,000 youth contacts! We taught more than
1,000 lessons in over 275 classrooms!

Please help support our program!
To donate please detach and fill out the information. All donations are tax deductible.
You will receive documentation for your tax records.

Name (Business Name): ________________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________________________

Donation Amount: $ ______________________

Please mail to: CCE Livingston c/o Ag in the Classroom
3 Murray Hill Drive, Mt. Morris, NY 14510
Any questions? Contact us! 585-991-5420 | 585-335-1752

Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal
program and employment opportunities.
GOALS:
- To provide agriculture instruction and resources to school classrooms throughout the county
- To promote the agriculture industry in the county
- To collaborate with other agencies for more agricultural exposure to the public
- Help students and communities understand the connections between agriculture, the environment, and people.

This year our program reached over 20,000 student contacts - teaching over 1,000 lessons in more than 275 classrooms. Our staff members traveled over 7,000 miles to the schools in Livingston County.

Popular lessons/topics (number of students): Christmas Trees - 2,675; Popcorn - 2,472; Earth Day - 2,361; Ag Literacy - 2,098; Apples - 1,936; and Birds - 1,834.

AGRICULTURAL LITERACY:
We had another successful Agricultural Literacy event reaching over 2,100 youth! This year’s featured book, On the Farm, At the Market, focused on food as it made its way to a farmer's market. Students learned the processes some foods make before they can get to the kitchen table!

Our volunteer readers included New York State Assemblywoman Marjorie Byrnes, Senator Patrick Gallivan’s Community Representative Annie Chwiecko, members of Livingston County Farm Bureau, members of the CCE Livingston County Board of Directors, and more.

FARM/CAREER EVENTS:
Farm tours were a huge success again this year and larger than ever! Mulligan Farms of Avon hosted the tours organized by our program. With nearly 350 Kindergarteners and 150 eighth graders from 6 Livingston County school districts, the event and collaboration with the Mulligan family was praised by both students, teachers and parents.

We held our second Ag Career Day at York Central School in collaboration with school staff and many of our area's agricultural employers. Roughly 350 students from the York and Mt. Morris school districts attended the event. Volunteers from the agricultural community shared information about their career (and other related careers) with students in 6-10th grade. We appreciate the support of our community in the shared goal of helping students understand the diversity/scope of our local agricultural industry.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT:
The program’s 50+ volunteers that assisted with the York CSD Ag Career Day, Ag Literacy, and our Farm Tours deserve a big thank you for their dedication and support.

Special thanks to the Livingston County Soil & Water Conservation District for donating 2,000 trees for our Earth Day lesson and the Genesee Valley Educational Partnership’s Conservation Program for cutting 2,000 tree cookies for the Christmas tree lesson. We would also like to thank Upstate Niagara, Farm Credit East, Livingston County Farm Bureau, the New York Corn & Soybean Association, and Lamb & Webster for their contributions!

SUCCESS IN THE CLASSROOM:
This program is helping to bridge the gap between the sciences taught in the classroom and used in agriculture, the farms and farmers, agricultural employers, and our students. Students are recognizing the connection from the farm to the store to their home, as well as the science behind the agriculture industry. Students are excited to share with us the knowledge they have learned from previous lessons and how they are applying that knowledge! If you have a story to share with us, please visit http://bit.ly/2OxqNED to fill out our impact survey.

Thank you to New York Senator Patrick Gallivan, former New York Senator Cathy Young, the Livingston County Board of Supervisors, and Livingston County Farm Bureau for supporting the funding for this program.
**GOALS:**
The four Hs (head, heart, hands, and health) represent four basic human needs: independence, belonging, generosity, and mastery. Research shows that youth whose basic human needs are met in positive ways are likely to grow into active citizens and contributing members of their families and communities. 4-H Youth Development helps children fulfill these needs and provides a framework on which they can build self-confidence, responsibility, and generosity.

4-H Youth Development intends to strengthen the following life skills in young people:

- Effective problem solving and decision making skills
- Positive work attitudes and skills
- Valuing diversity
- Accepting community and social responsibility
- Demonstrating communication and leadership skills
- Valuing life long learning
- Practicing healthy and safe lifestyles
- Science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) skills
- Career exploration

**4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS:**
In the 2018-2019 project year, there were 320 youth enrolled in 4-H. Of this number, there were 79 Cloverbuds (ages 5-7) and 71 Independent members. There are 24 clubs in the program. A total of 111 volunteer leaders worked with young people to teach them skills in such project areas as public speaking, nutrition, clothing construction, arts and crafts, outdoor education, horse, livestock, small animal care, horticulture, and science and technology.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS & HORSE COMMUNICATIONS:**
At County Public Presentations and Horse Communications, 79 youth gave presentations on topics related to their 4-H work. Eight youth presented specifically on horse-related topics. Seventeen of the presenters were Cloverbuds. All eight youth who presented on horse-related topics qualified for Regional Horse Communications. Thirteen members had the opportunity to present at District Public Presentations where five won Top Presenter Awards and two received Judge’s Choice Awards. One member participated in Regional Horse Communications and qualified for/attended the State Horse Communications Event. This program continues to help youth develop skills and self-confidence in public speaking.

**PRODUCED IN NEW YORK:**
Produced in New York is a silent cooking demonstration that encourages youth to cook and bake with locally grown foods, review nutritional information, and learn new cooking/baking skills. Participants are evaluated on their overall demonstration skills, finished product, and meal plan. This year, there were 50 participants at the county level, with eight chosen for the State Fair.

**CHIP HOLT NATURE CENTER:**
CCE continued its collaboration with the Town of Livonia and the Chip Holt Nature Center (Vitale Park, Lakeville). The mission of the collaboration is to provide interpretive and outdoor recreational programming to the public (and schools) for the stewardship of Conesus Lake and the Finger Lakes ecosystem.

The program year kicked off in March with “Marsh
Madness”. The Seneca Park Zoomobile entertained 100 Livonia CSD fourth graders with its “Amazing Animal Adaptations” program. The day concluded with an interpretative marsh walk at the southern end of Conesus Lake.

The six week summer youth program provided educational activities for youth ages 4-12. Hands-on activities focused on nature crafts and experiments based on different nature themes each week. There were 660 youth and 343 adult contacts during this program.

4-H LIVESTOCK AUCTION:
The Livingston County 4-H Livestock Auction was held at the Hemlock Fair on July 20th and raised over $49,000. Altogether, 20 market hogs sold for an average price of $5.24 per pound; 5 market lambs averaged $5.35 per pound; 4 market beef averaged $1.99 per pound; and 29 pens of two market birds averaged $395 per pen.

Open to the public, the auction provided individuals and businesses the opportunity to acquire fresh, top quality meat and chicken while supporting a worthwhile youth activity.

The 4-H Livestock Auction is the culmination of a 9-month project for market beef animals, a 3-month project for market hogs and lambs, and a 10-week project for market birds. The 4-H market animal program helps youth develop valuable life skills in many different ways. 4-H members who complete a market animal project learn how to manage, feed, and fit an animal to produce a high quality product for the consumer. Complimenting this, 4-H members are also learning business skills such as financial management, marketing, and record keeping that enables 4-H members to track profit/loss on their project.

CHARITY MARKET ANIMAL PROJECT:
Three 4-H members raised market animals and donated the proceeds of the sale to a local worthy charity of their choice. Michaela Bugman and Trevor Rossborough each sold a pen of two market birds and Katie Cooper sold her market hog to benefit their designated charities.

Michaela’s birds, purchased by Bugman & Son’s, Inc., helped raise $1,000 for the Livingston County Center for Nursing & Rehabilitation Memory Care Unit Activities Fund.

Trevor’s birds were purchased by Salada Enterprises, LLC for $600. The proceeds will benefit the Wildlife Educators Coalition in Avon.

Katie Cooper’s market hog was purchased by Genesee Construction Service, Inc. (Larry & Mary Ann Merle) for $1,925 and donated back for sale to benefit the Livingston County 4-H Program. The hog was then purchased by Power & Construction Group, Inc. for $1,575. Altogether, $1,575 will be donated to the Livingston County 4-H Program and $1,925 will be donated to Golisano Children’s Hospital in Rochester.

4-H HORSE CAMP:
The annual 4-H Horse Camp was held at the Hemlock Fairgrounds on June 25-30 with 26 members attending. The mission of the camp program is to provide a positive, fun, youth development experience.

The priority themes for the camp are:
• A sense of mastery in horsemanship and riding
• A sense of belonging to a group that shares a passion for horses
• A sense of responsibility and ownership as it relates to a 4-H Horse Project

The Junior Assistant Program links experienced teens with younger campers. Seven Junior Assistants developed valu-
able leadership skills while serving as leaders and mentors. They helped plan, deliver, and supervise the many activities of camp.

The camp program utilizes Livingston County’s many talented and dedicated volunteers to provide a quality, fun, and educational experience for youth interested in horses.

**NEW YORK STATE FAIR PARTICIPANTS:**
Eleven Livingston County 4-H members represented the county in various 4-H shows, contests, and activities at the 2019 New York State Fair. Members entered a cumulative 60 animal science classes and received numerous Danish awards, top ten placings, and championships. Congratulations to all our participants:

- **Cavy**: Carly Lang
- **Poultry**: Audrey de Wit, Rian de Wit, Emily Vattimo
- **Swine**: Ben Lyness
- **Sheep**: Michaela Bugman
- **Horse Shows**: Ryan Bosch, Sarah Bosch, Abby Graham, Elizabeth Giuliano
- **Hippology**: Audrey de Wit
- **Avian Bowl**: Audrey de Wit, Rian de Wit, Emily Vattimo
- **Poultry Science**: Audrey de Wit, Rian de Wit, Emily Vattimo
- **Rabbit Decathlon**: Audrey de Wit, Rian de Wit, Chaundacey Crane-Yackley
- **Empire Swine Youth Scholarship**: Ben Lyness

Livingston County was well represented in the 4-H Youth Building with 74 exhibits, three Teen Leaders, 1 Produced in New York participant, two 4-H Chicken BBQ Contest participants, and one Egg Preparation Contest participant. Entries included baked and canned goods, photography, woodworking, fine arts, clothing and textiles, horticulture, and more. Thirty-eight blue ribbons, 9 red, 1 white, and 26 participation ribbons were collected. In addition, three exhibits received a Purple Rosette.

**STARR:**
The State Teen Action Reps Retreat is an annual weekend for 4-H teens from across NYS to get together to build leadership skills, as well as network with peers and adults. Participants gain new skills and knowledge by attending workshops and participating in community service activities. The event is planned by teens and adults serving on the youth/adult STARR planning committee and is open to all NYS 4-H Teens. This year, eleven teens attended - including eight first-time participants. Two teens served on the Planning Committee.

**TEEN COUNCIL:**
Teen Council is a group of 4-H teens (ages 13-18) from across Livingston County. Regular monthly meetings, developed and organized by the Teen Council officers, offer the opportunity for teens to develop leadership, work as a team, socialize, and have fun. Additionally, teens select, prepare for, and participate in a variety of other activities meant to foster a sense of community and good citizenship. This past year, 16 members hosted a spring egg hunt; purchased, wrapped, and delivered gifts to the LCCNR; played BINGO at Morgan Estates, and held a trail clean-up at Babcock Park. The teens also continued to develop leadership skills through participation on various committees.

**TEEN EXCHANGE TRIP:**
Nine 4-H Teen Council members hosted 4-H members from Kittson County, MN in early August. Each teen was paired with a member of their 4-H Program - hosting them for the duration of the trip.

While in New York, Teen Council members visited Niagara Falls State Park, Minnehan’s Fun Center, and Corning Museum of Glass; watched the Attica Rodeo and an old time baseball game at the Genesee Country Village & Museum; kayaked the Erie Canal; spent the
day at Darien Lake and Hidden Valley Animal Adventure; explored Stony Brook State Park, the Mt. Morris Dam, and A & A Maple. McKenzie, a thirteen-year member of 4-H, has explored a variety of project areas and gained leadership skills through participation in numerous events and activities. As a result of her involvement the 4-H Program, McKenzie has gained valuable life skills that can be carried into adulthood. She knows how to care for animals, garden, sew, and cook her own food. During her time in 4-H, McKenzie has also taken part in events like Produced in New York (PINY) and Public Presentations at the district and state levels. These experiences have served to further develop her competence and confidence in her own skills. McKenzie has a long and varied list of contributions to not only the 4-H program, but her community as well. She has served on the 4-H Advisory and STARR Planning Committees; was elected Teen Council President; assisted in events like PINY, Bucket Brigade and Let’s Get Outdoors Day; and has participated in hours and hours of community service activities.

“I have gained a lot of confidence in myself and my skills because 4-H has opened so many doors for me,” she said. Reflecting on her own growth through the program, McKenzie states, “I have found that I am very comfortable in a leadership role because I have spent so many years in 4-H being given the opportunities I have.”

Her leader noted, “McKenzie always has a smile on her face and an awareness of those around her in need. Perhaps her best qualities are her ability to put people at ease, speak kindly and draw in teens who feel on the outside of a group.”

CREATIVE FIBER ARTS REVUE:
Fiber arts projects give members the opportunity to learn techniques such as sewing, quilting, felting, applique, etc. to manipulate fiber through one or more steps to a finished product. Creative Fiber Arts Revue is the county event in which a member’s completed fiber arts product (project) and skills are evaluated. Following the evaluation, members participate in the fashion revue portion of the event. This year, 17 members and 3 Cloverbuds participated in the event on April 16th at the Livingston County Auditorium in Mt. Morris.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS:
Participation in community service activities frequently call into action all four Hs identified in the 4-H Pledge. Most community service projects involve an aspect of learning and thinking (Head). Often, they include how to make something or learning about the needs of a local organization. When youth spend time devoted to improving an aspect of their community (Hands), greater loyalty (Heart), and a sense of worth (Health) are stimulated and supported. This year, seven 4-H clubs and five families sought to improve the communities in which they live by organizing food drives for local food pantries, signing Christmas cards for servicemen and women, making neck pillows for cancer patients, created holiday decorations for senior/assisted living sites, read to students during Ag Literacy, and more!

OUTSTANDING 4-H MEMBER:
McKenzie Low is the Livingston County Outstanding 4-H Member for 2019. The Outstanding 4-H Member Award is the highest award given for 4-H achievement and overall involvement in Livingston County 4-H. The 4-Her must apply by writing an essay about how 4-H has influenced their life and have a leader recommendation. A plaque and $100 scholarship was awarded.
Therefore, it should come as no surprise that she is planning to pursue a college degree in social work and hopes to work with teenagers in the future. In fact, the most recent entry in her 4-H Summary Book states, “It is amazing to me the amount of confidence I possess because of the opportunities I have received and the people I have worked with. I believe that any high school teenager’s life would benefit from this opportunity, from the positive support generated within 4-H. I hope to bring that to my future career.”

McKenzie’s hard work, leadership and generosity make her most deserving of being named 2019 Livingston County Outstanding 4-H Member.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR:
Bob Oswald has been named the 2019 4-H Volunteer of the Year.

He has been an active volunteer with the Livingston County 4-H Program for more than 12 years. Even though Bob never had a child of his own in the program, he has treated every 4-Her like a member of his own family.

For Bob, 4-H is not an obligation, but rather a win–win proposition. As a project leader and fair judge, Bob has eagerly shared his skills, talents, and love for photography with members of the Livingston County 4-H Program. To his enjoyment, Bob has even been able to share his knowledge at the state level as a NYS Fair 4-H Exhibit Judge.

He truly relishes any opportunity where he can teach an enthusiastic young person about photography. He has the unique ability to capture a “snapshot” of a 4-H member that can tell a story of a thousand words. He can “frame” any moment perfectly in time with just one click. He can even turn an uncooperative and irritated market hog into a “picture” perfect portrait.

Bob is a behind-the-scenes staple at events such as the Hemlock Fair, 4-H Livestock Auction, and 4-H Achievement Day. His photos have been used in Livingston County 4-H marketing materials, posted on the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Livingston County website, shared on Facebook, and more!

Youth Development Team Leader Mark Wittmeyer said, “I would like to thank Bob for sharing his photography skills, talents, and passion with so many young people over the years. We would also like to thank him for serving as our resident program photographer - helping to capture and tell our 4-H story so wonderfully.”

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Livingston County and the Livingston County 4-H Program thank Bob for his years of dedicated service and the value he has provided the Livingston County 4-H Program.

ACTIVITY & VET SCIENCE NIGHTS:
Interest in 4-H Activity Nights and the Veterinary Science series continues to result in increased participation in 4-H events and activities at the county level.

General 4-H Activity Nights were held monthly at three locations around the county. Popular lessons included candy making, storytelling, crafts for community service, and DIY fabric paint. In total, 70 youth participated 139 times.


During our Veterinary Science series, youth learned the basics of animal anatomy and physiology and veterinary science. Popular topics included dissection, rabbit genetics, and a field trip to Alfred State’s Vet Tech Department. Overall, 53 youth took part in each of the five Veterinary Science Nights.

Participation in the animal science-themed activity nights and the veterinary science series led three youth to explore their interest in poultry and assemble a team to compete in both the NYS Fair 4-H Avian Bowl and 4-H Poultry Science Contest. Likewise, three individuals chose to participate in the NYS Fair 4-H Rabbit Decathlon. The teams were competitive in each contest.
We are heading into our seventh year of Regional Lead positions in Finance, Human Resources, and Information Technology. The Leads continue to provide strategic guidance, best practices, and problem-solving to the seven Associations in the Finger Lakes Shared Business Network: Livingston, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, and Yates.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:
- The Finance Leads team has continued its search for a new financial accounting system with the hope of having it in place for 2020. In preparation for this software, the past year has been spent working on the general ledger chart of accounts to accurately reflect our current and future needs.
- The HR Leads team, which includes Extension Administration HR staff, has been working with an outsourced vendor to conduct a salary study for all CCE Extension and Extension Administration positions. Information regarding the market data and the geographic broad bands that were developed were presented to the Executive Directors in September. EA HR Staff and the HR Leads will support the Executive Directors during their review of the data and how to apply it to their current compensation program. This program will become effective in December 2019.
- The IT Leads team has taken on a policy project which will span multiple years as we evaluate existing policies and create new ones to keep up with the ever-changing technological landscape. IT support efficiencies are increasing as staff become more aware of protocols and options, and work continues on the inventory/maintenance database system.
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