Orleans County 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.

YESTERDAY...

TODAY...

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Growing Resources for ...

Since 1917, providing relevant, accessible, research-based information to grow confident youth and successful farms & gardens for a strong and healthy Orleans community.

TOMORROW
Leadership Message

Orleans County Cornell Cooperative Extension stands on the edge of a new era for the Association. In 2016, recently hired new educators developed new and re-newed programming in food preservation, gardening, nutrition, and regional agriculture. New volunteers came on board in Master Gardeners, Master Food Preservers, Master Forest Owners, 4-H, and the Orleans County 4-H Fair. Community partners were engaged in new ways including ARC, Job Development, and Headstart. The Trolley Building was re-newed with a new commercial/teaching kitchen funded by grants from the Genesee Valley Regional Market Authority and the East-Hill Foundation. New visions were created for a future WNY 4-H Science Center and a consolidated Food Stand. A new search for Association Leadership was launched after the relocation of Dr. Jennifer Wageser’s family. New ways of doing business were employed by moving all finance operations to the WNY Shared Business Network. In this report you will find many areas of “new and re-new” in the highlights of our 4-H Youth Development, Master Gardener & Horticulture, Master Food Preserver, EFNEP, and Agriculture 2016 programming.

As we look ahead to the Centennial Year of Orleans County Cornell Cooperative Extension - 2017, we hope you will join us as we look back at yesterday, celebrate today, and vision the future for another 100 years of Growing Resources for Tomorrow!

Ed Neal
President, Board of Directors

Deb Roberts
Interim Executive Director

2016 Financial Summary

Estimate of 2016 Operations Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>County</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriation</td>
<td>$ 232,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total County</td>
<td>$ 232,500</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>State</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>County Law 224</td>
<td>$ 50,157</td>
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<td>NYS Contracts</td>
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<td>Fringe Benefits</td>
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<td>Total State</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Federal</strong></td>
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<td>Smith Lever</td>
<td>$ 9,450</td>
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<td>EFNEP</td>
<td>$ 49,000</td>
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<td>Total Federal</td>
<td>$ 58,450</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Other Sources</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Enrollment &amp; program fees</td>
<td>$ 20,550</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants &amp; contracts</td>
<td>$ 54,539</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$ 37,780</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sales, Rentals, etc.</td>
<td>$ 236,149</td>
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<td>Total Other Sources</td>
<td>$ 349,018</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operations Funding</strong></td>
<td>$ 839,610</td>
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### 2016 Board of Directors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Edward Neal</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Albion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erin Anheier</td>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Holley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Bentley</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Albion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Zelazny</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Medina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary Blackburn</td>
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<td>Medina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ben Flansburg</td>
<td></td>
<td>Medina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vincent Flow</td>
<td></td>
<td>Holley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathy Harling</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jose Iniguez</td>
<td></td>
<td>Albion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tim Kirby</td>
<td></td>
<td>Albion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donald O’Keefe</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lyndonville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Pettit</td>
<td></td>
<td>Albion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We would like to thank the board for their leadership and dedication to the mission of CCE throughout the program year.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Extension Staff

**Association**

Deborah Roberts, *Interim Executive Director*

Kim Hazel, *Sr. Ag/Hort Administrative Assistant*

Katie Oakes, *Horticulture Educator*

Robert Batt, *4-H Youth Development Educator*

Amanda Mrzywka, Abi Smith, & Natalie Mrzywka, *AmeriCorps Interns*

Missy Call, *4-H Administrative Assistant*

Natalie Heller, *EFNEP Nutrition Educator*

Howard Watts, *Buildings and Grounds Manager*

**Regional Staff**

*Western Shared Business Network*

Shawn Tiede, *WSBN Executive Director*

Donna James, *Finance Coordinator*

Harold Coller, *Finance Assistant*

April Brown, *Finance Assistant*

Kimberly Amey, *Human Resources Coordinator*

Melissa Youngers, *Human Resources Transactions*

Jenn Davis, *Information Technology Coordinator*

*Lake Ontario Fruit Program*

Matthew Wells

Tessa Grasswitz

Craig Kahlke

Mario Miranda-Sazo

*Cornell Vegetable Program*

Julie Kikkert

Christy Hoepting

Robert Hadad

Judson Reid

Darcy Telenko

*Northwest NY Dairy, Livestock, & Field Crops Team*

Mike Stanyard

Jerry Bertoldo

Libby Eiholzer

Nancy Glazier

John Hanchar

Joan Sinclair Petzen
4-H Program Highlights

4-H Clubs reached 422 youth, ages 5 to 19, using 89 enrolled 4-H leaders and volunteers. 73 4-H members participated in Public Presentations giving presentations. 4-H youth exhibited over 3,000 exhibits at the Orleans County 4-H Fair which was attended by over 26,000 people in the course of the week.

4-H prominently featured in the schools. Participation in Ag Literacy shared apple oxidation experiments with several schools while assemblies on food additives and processing reached students grades K-12 in Holley. Through Conservation Field Days, partnerships with a wide variety of individuals and organizations reached every sixth grade student in Orleans County, providing them with information on local environmental issues and careers. The Kendall School 4-H club enjoyed their second year with many members joining other traditional 4-H community clubs as well.

4-H youth never took a break and the year was filled with many other events including; Teen Recognition, HPDC’s new Horse Show Series, Clothing Review, State Fair, Achievement Night, Jr. Council Holiday Trip, Produced in NY cooking demos, 4-H Week, Displays at the Tractor Supply Paper Clover Week, Dog Camp, Horse Camp, 4-H Capitol Days in Albany, The State Teen Action Representatives Retreat, Cornell Career Explorations, Camp Wyomoco and The DEC Camp.

Orleans County 4-H expanded its reach into the online world with 599 likes on Facebook for the youth development program, 2,376 for the fair. Weekly emails to program enrollees or “4-H Friday Facts” continue to give 4-H families weekly updates.

Youth's Eye for photos recognized at State Fair

Evaluation at fairs serves as a way for youth to learn about their projects areas and improve in them, for Amelia Sidonio it was a chance to discover her own secret skills. Amelia had only just received a camera from her family as a gift last year and had been taking pictures on trips with her family. When fair time came around she decided to enter some photos just to see how they would do when evaluated. At the local fair professional photographer Bruce Landis immediately was drawn to three of her photographs which he would send onward to the NYS Fair. Again at the fair evaluators were drawn to Amelia's photographs, each of the two judges were showing a photo to the other when they realized they were taken by the same youth. Fortunately Amelia and her family were at the fair and able to spend a half hour talking to the evaluator about photography clubs in our area, conventions she could attend and other ways to grow her skills. Amelia and her family are excited about photography and plan to follow through with many of his suggestions as she continues to develop her photography and her passion for the art grows.
Dairy Club Freshens the Program

2016 was a year of rebirth for the Orleans County 4-H Dairy Program. New leaders Chrissy Bloom and Zack Welker had reached out to youth and developed a program based on their schedules and interests. The year started for the dairy program with a successful fundraiser event of a roast beef dinner. They were able to sell 200 dinners and promote the program to attendees. This dinner allowed for the program to fund two new experiences for you in the summer. The first was a promotion of the dairy industry in the form of nightly “moo juice cafes” where youth sold milk samples at the fair for a nickel. They walked around the food court area to do this while promoting 4-H and the dairy industry. The second addition to the program was the calf scholarship. Using funds from the dinner two animals were purchased, a heifer and a bull calf, for youth to apply for and to win. These animals will be shown at the 2017 fair by the youth and the dairy program plans to continue this with two new animals next year.

New and Veteran Volunteers Team up for Fair

The 2016 fair would experience change as many of the veteran volunteers with the fair retired from leadership positions and a new group of brand new volunteers stepped into leadership positions. With the retirement of the fair manager, fair chair and electrician as well as several other positions there was a great deal of uncertainty starting this year’s event. However as the volunteers embraced the opportunities for growth as part of the program including attending conventions, webinars and in person training they grew more confident. Those veteran volunteers who remained developed solid relationships and were energized by new volunteers.

This year’s fair had the highest attendance of the last three years despite record heat, problems were at a minimum and the team of volunteers is excited and even eager for more growth next year. The youth members of the committee best captured the feel for this new team when they reflect on the fair “everybody got along and we did a great job together.”
Horticulture Program Highlights
OCCCE hosted Master Gardener Training in the spring of 2016. The course consists of 16 three hour classes taught by the Horticulture Educator, experienced Master Gardener Volunteers, industry professionals, as well as other Cornell/CCE staff. A total of 16 participants graduated from the program.

Master Gardener Events that had been postponed in 2015 made a comeback for 2016! Master Gardeners hosted a successful Spring Education Day in early April. The annual “Down the Garden Path” Garden Tour was revived in July 2016, featuring 6 private gardens in Medina and Albion, allowing 70 participants to experience differing gardening styles. The Speaker’s Bureau, a program that offers gardening classes to the public through various venues (libraries, garden clubs, retirement communities, etc) was also re-instated.

A new event, A “Mother’s Day Fairy Garden Class” was held the Saturday before Mother’s Day. 20 participants were able to showcase their creativity designing small gardens to take home. The event was a big success and is in the planning stages for 2017 as well!

The Master Food Preserver program, renewed by the training in Fall 2015, established several seasonal food preservation public workshops. Between the workshops, informational library classes, and a presence at the local farmer’s market, the Master Food Preserver program mentored home food preservers in the art and science of safe food preservation.

Both programs established Facebook pages, incorporating the positive attributes of social media exposure in with the traditional modes of community outreach.

ARC of Orleans Helps Beautify CCE Orleans Grounds
Katie Oakes, Horticulture Educator, linked up with the ARC of Orleans to beautify the grounds at Orleans County CCE. ARC of Orleans put together a workgroup of participants particularly interested in gardening and, with the guidance of the horticulture educator, the workgroup was responsible for the maintenance of several gardens on the property. Katie offered short tutorials on planting (bedding plants generously donated by Navarra’s Greenhouse), weeding, watering, and entomology which the workgroup then incorporated in their twice weekly work sessions. The program gave the ARC participants a sense of pride and accomplishment to watch the progress of the gardens from early spring through the height of the summer growing season. By Fair week, the gardens at Orleans County CCE were in the best condition that they have ever been in with minimal staff time invested. The ARC workgroup’s efforts made a huge impact on the beautification of the gardens.
Two Master Gardeners Expand Their Involvement in CCE

A young couple who joined the Master Gardener Program in 2015 have discovered new avenues within CCE to utilize their individual talents and passions. Colin Butgereit who completed MG Training in Spring 2015 has a great interest in home food preservation. He completed Master Food Preserver training in Fall 2015 and has gone on to take a leadership role in the program during the 2016 MFP Workshop season. His confidence in food preservation and knowledge of local farms and growing seasons make him a great resource for community members looking to expand their own knowledge of home food preservation. Colin's wife, Jena Buckwell, also completed MG Training in Spring 2015. She is passionate about sustainability and nature preservation, and those interests led her to complete Master Forest Owner Training in September of 2016. Jena has already extended that knowledge to forest owners in Orleans County, through an informational class as well as mentoring through emails and handouts. Jena's role as a MFO volunteer for Orleans County will certainly be an asset to the rural community.
**Expanded Food & Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP)**

The nationwide Expanded Food & Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) is continuing to grow in Orleans County. The program includes nutrition education in several capacities, such as Healthy Children Healthy Families, which combines nutrition and parenting education, a Diabetes program called FAB (Finding A Balance), Healthy Cents, which zeroes in on the financial aspect of nutrition, ESBA (Eating Smart, Being Active), also with supplemental lessons During Pregnancy and Feeding Your Baby, and Youth programs, as well. These programs consist of 6 to 8 sessions with hands-on activities, visuals, inexpensive homemade recipes, and food tastings, being held at various locations throughout the county such as churches, libraries, and agencies. Research shows that over time healthy habits were created within most families of the participants and positive changes occurred. Nutrition Educator, Natalie Heller, continues to serve Orleans and Genesee Counties.

**EFNEP Highlights**

25% improvement in the consumption of fruits & vegetables
33% improvement in the consumption of whole grains
41% improvement in the consumption of low-fat dairy
90% improvement in My Plate
27% improvement in physical activity
14% improvement in soda choices

Some participant comments:
- “Roasting instead of deep frying-Cutting down on high sugars and salt”
- “Added more fresh fruits and vegetables-Check labels for fats and sugar”
- “Started going to the gym-Looking at calories in food labels”
- “Eating better-Cutting up veggies to think about foods to eat the day before”
- “More water-Less junk food-More exercise”
- “Cut back on soda intake”

Maintained several partnerships including the Ministry of Concern, Community Action, the Cavalry Tabernacle Church, and the Salvation Army.

Formed new partnerships with Job Development, Headstart, Liberty Partnership, Genesee County Mental Health, and the Assembly of God Church.
Success with Healthy Snack Choices
A young mother wanted to learn ways to feed her son healthy snacks and meals. After our sessions together she was enthusiastic about trying what she learned and would often share stories of something she tried with her son. She was very excited when he helped her cut up raw vegetables and put them in containers in the fridge to have healthy snacks for the week! As a result of participating in our program she was very happy to have learned some easy ways to prepare healthy meals and some new ideas for healthy snacks for her family. Her son now helps her choose healthy snacks by pointing out the snacks that have a lot of sugar in them and together they talk about what snacks are healthier.

Master Food Preserver Program Revitalized
Following the Master Food Preserver Training in September 2015, Katie Oakes coordinated with recent trainees and certified Master Food Preservers to set in place a series of program meetings and workshops open to the public. The group presented a booth at the local farmers market three times, held two informational classes at a local library, and hosted several hands-on training workshops in the newly renovated CCE kitchen. The public participation numbers were low to start the season, but through educational outreach at the libraries, more visibility on social media, and word of mouth, the final workshops were at maximum capacity.
Cornell Vegetable Team:  CCE Featured during National Onion Association Tour

For the first time in over 25 years, the National Onion Association (NOA) held its annual summer convention in Western New York on July 13-16. Cornell Vegetable Program Onion Specialist, Christy Hoepting and Cornell University Entomologists, Dr. Brian Nault and M.Sc. candidate, Ashley Leach featured Cornell’s unique brand of on-farm applied research and Extension programming during a tour of the Elba muck. Over 120 attendees that hailed from onion growing regions across the United States, Canada, England, New Zealand and Australia participated in the event. Hoepting shared her exciting new research results for post emergent control of ragweed in a lively demonstration of her herbicide trial, which was conducted on-farm at Mortellaro and Sons. The tour stop was very well received with attendees rushing into the trial to take photos of the best treatments and was cited as “adding significant educational content to the event” by NOA Executive Vice President, Wayne Mininger. Other tour stops featured Cornell’s onion thrips research and onion scouting programs. Mark and Max Torrey of Torrey Farms, and Emma Long of CY Farms (and former CVP Summer Intern!) described onion production in the muck as they showcased some of their onion fields. An earlier tour stop featured Lee Shuknecht and Sons, Inc. who build onion harvesters in Elba that are sold internationally. Earlier in the week at the NOA convention in Niagara Falls, Nault gave a presentation on the Cornell Onion Thrips Management Program, and Maureen Torrey, Owner of Torrey Farms in Elba, was the keynote speaker. NOA tour to the Elba muck and CVP onion research was featured in the Sept/Oct issue of Onion World: http://tinyurl.com/onionworld-NOA. The Batavian online newspaper also covered the story: http://tinyurl.com/thebatavian-NOA.

HarvestNY Team

An innovative Cornell Cooperative Extension team, funded by New York State, that focuses on workforce development & business expansion projects that increase profitability & investment in key sectors of NY’s agriculture industry. Harvest NY Specialists respond to emerging issues and develop new opportunities using the research of Cornell University, the resources of CCE, & relationships with partnering organizations statewide. Harvest NY Specialists are located across Upstate & WNY with varying specialities working to maximize agriculture economic development opportunities. Current staff include: Carl Moody-Regional Dairy Processing in CCE Erie County, Lindsay Pashow-Ag Business Development & Marketing in CCE Franklin County, Judson Reid-Vegetables in CCE Yates County, Timothy Terry-Farm Strategic Planning Specialist in CCE Wyoming County, Cheryl Thayer-Local Food Distribution & Marketing in CCE Erie County, Mackenzie Waro-Livestock Processing & Marketing in CCE Otsego County, and Anika Zuber-Regional Dairy Processing & Marketing in CCE Jefferson County. For more information about current projects & opportunities visit the website at www.harvestny.cce.cornell.edu.
Lake Ontario Fruit Team: Harvest Maturity Program

The Harvest Maturity Program (HMP) tests apple ripening indicators for over 20 varieties. The HMP helps growers determine when to pick apples in a short harvest window that maximizes quality, storability, and profit. Apple samples are collected across the region each week during apple harvest. Ripening indicators are measured including internal ethylene production, firmness, sugars (brix), and starch index. Data is compiled and sent to fieldsmen, growers, and storage operators for weekly conference calls. Harvest timing recommendations for each variety are made in weekly Harvest Maturity Reports (HMR’s) and sent to 70 subscribers. Subscribers say that the reports help them “get a handle on harvest maturity to pick apples for maximum returns and fruit quality.” An incorrect decision regarding harvest timing and duration of storage can reduce the value of apples from premium fresh fruit worth $9-$25/bushel to $1-$2/bushel, the value of juice. The HMP impacts on quality and value of over 20 million bushels of apples produced by 300 farms, including over 11.5 million bushels of apples in storage, with a utilized value of ~ $160 million. With the 2016 season having the worst drought in 50 years after spring freezes and cooler than normal weather, the Harvest Maturity Program monitored many difficult issues. The extreme stresses put on orchards slowed maturity and produced small fruit, coloring issues, and difficulty predicting maturity. Research will continue on post-harvest and storage effects of this challenging season.

NWNY Dairy, Livestock, & Field Crops Team: Improving Malting Barley Production Practices

The resurgence of malting barley production spurred on by the growing craft beer industry has resulted in a lot of work being done to establish best management practices to maximize barley yields under current NY growing conditions. Malting barley acres have slowly increased over the past 3 seasons and there were approximately 1,800 acres harvested in NY in 2016. Over half of these acres were grown by producers in the NWNY region. Cornell plant breeder Mark Sorrells and his staff have been planting variety trials across NY to determine the best varieties for New York conditions. These varieties are secured from malting barley breeding programs across the U.S. and evaluated for their malting qualities and yield. 3 variety trial locations were established in NWNY this year. A malting barley twilight tour was held with producers and maltsters on June 23rd at Harris Farm in LeRoy. 12 producers and 4 malt houses went on a guided tour of all the winter malting barley varieties being evaluated. They also were updated on current fertility, harvest, and drying recommendations from Mike Stanyard and disease management from Cornell plant pathologist Gary Bergstrom. Working one-on-one with every barley producer in the region has been beneficial in helping to determine what is working and what is not. We have been collecting all current producer management practices along with soil and grain samples to come up with recommendations for successful barley production in NY. We will need to triple the current malting barley production by 2018 to meet the standards set by the NY Farm Brewery Law that beer brewed under the farm brewery license must utilize 60% NY grown ingredients.
I would like to contribute to ongoing Extension programming in our county:

I would like to make this contribution of $______________(Please make checks payable to OCCCE)

☐ for ____________________________________________________________________________ (specific purpose)

☐ in honor of____________________________________ ☐ in memory of____________________________________

Please notify: Name:___________________________________________
Address:_____________________________________________________________________________
City:_________________________ State:_______ Zip:__________

My name:___________________________________________ Email:____________________________
Address:_____________________________________________________________________________
City:_________________________ State:_________ Zip:__________
Phone #:________________________

Thank you for helping us in Growing Resources for Tomorrow

Contributions are tax-deductible and any amount is appreciated!