“PUTTING KNOWLEDGE TO WORK FOR OUR COMMUNITY”
The strength of our programs and the expertise of our staff continue to be recognized throughout the state, resulting in continued support of our existing programs while allowing us to develop new initiatives through a number of grants. We have also been able to deepen our ties with campus.

As you will read about inside, four major grants/contracts enabled us to continue to support key elements of our nutrition program and expand the after school program at South Seneca. A NYS Ag and Markets Farm to School grant is supporting our efforts to bring fresh local produce into the schools. A NYS Department of Health grant through the Genesee Valley Educational Partnership is supporting Mo’s efforts with worksite wellness. A contract with the Finger Lakes Eat Smart NY (FLESNY) program from Wayne CCE enabled us to hire a full time nutrition educator this summer to work with Farmers Markets, food pantries, and youth serving sites. Finally, a contract with South Seneca CSD has given us the chance to have 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade 4-H Clubs as well as a Middle School STEM Club as part of an Extended Day/Violence Prevention grant. We will also be developing a career exploration program for middle and high school students there.

Our staffing remained relatively stable. Sara Schrader left at the end of 2015 when funding ended, but found a job with FLESNY. We went without a frontline nutrition educator until Sue Petersen was able to join us as the Summer Farmer’s Market educator. We then hired Sue for the F2S position and in January she will also have 10 hours a week to devote to general nutrition education thanks to an increase in funding from the Seneca County Board of Supervisors.

Our ties with campus continue strong, resulting in benefits to Seneca County and SCCCE. A Design Connect group provided some information for the Board of Supervisors on the Seneca Army Depot; two groups of students from a communications class assisted with developing Climate Change and general awareness education materials; and our work with Cornell’s Department of Natural Resources and the DEC saw the new Deer Management Pilot study meetings take place in Ovid. CCE Director Dr. Chris Watkins joined us on the Supervisors’ Ag Tour and was impressed with the diversity of the County’s agriculture and the expertise of our local and regional teams.

And this expertise is recognized by others. Mo received a Program Excellence through Research Award from the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences through her work with the Wild Harvest Table and Rachel Williams received a National 4-H Distinguished Service Award. 2016 was also the year Ave was up for re-appointment and after an in-depth review he has been reappointed for 4 years by the Board and Director of Extension. Ave has also been asked to serve on the statewide CCE Strategic Planning Committee and chairs the Administrative Management Group for the FL Grape Program.

As we say every year, this report can only skim the surface of all that goes on with SCCCE. Please call, stop, or look at our website if you would like to know more about our programs. For the most up to date information, “Like” us on Facebook and listen to us on the first Thursday of the month at 8:36 in the morning on WGVA, 1240 AM or 96.1 FM.

We will be hitting the ground running in 2017. Thank you to all of our staff and volunteers, especially those who help us teach, support us in the office, and provide guidance as members of the Board of Directors. Without your hard work, our Association’s efforts on behalf of the people of Seneca County would not be possible. And thank you to all of you who take our classes, call with questions, make suggestions and participate in our programs. It is our sincere privilege to bring information and programs from across the Land Grant system to you so that you can have that information to make your life better.

Phil Griswold  W. Averell H. Bauder
Board President  Executive Director
**Donors & Partnering Organizations:**

- 4-H Friends 4-H Club
- Alpha Kappa Gamma
- Allen & Patricia Gessner
- Allen & Trudy Woodard
- Amazon Smiles
- Barbara Rosencrans
- Barbara Sessler Memorial Fund
- Bill & Sheila Velte
- Buckley-Wolf Scholarship Fund
- Buckskin Bowmen’s Club
- Bundschuh’s Greenhouses
- Cayuga Lake Creamery
- Cayuga Lake Wine Trail
- Cayuga Ridge Winery
- Charlie and Marchael Heitmann
- Christ Episcopal Church, Willard
- Cider House
- Cobblestone Farms Winery & Vineyard
- CCE Associations of Livingston, Ontario, Schuyler, Steuben, Tompkins, Warren, Wayne, & Yates Counties
- Design Connect, Cornell University
- Don & Lisa Freier
- Don Cobb
- Eldon and Marilyn Jensen
- Empire Farm Days
- Finger Lakes Cider Alliance
- Finger Lakes Culinary Bounty
- Finger Lakes Health
- Finger Lakes Land Trust
- Finger Lakes National Forest
- Finger Lakes Radio Group
- Firehouse Distillery
- Five Point Correctional Facility
- Frank & Marlene Looturco
- George and Alison Rooney
- Goodnature Products, Inc
- Good Search
- Ian Merwin/Black Diamond Farm LLC
- Interlaken, Lodi, Ovid, Romulus, Seneca Falls & Waterloo Summer Rec Programs
- Interlaken, Lodi, Ovid, Seneca Falls, and Waterloo Libraries
- James and Ellen Hughes
- Janice Serven Memorial Fund
- Jeffrey and Anne Cassim
- Jeffrey Trout
- Jerome & Ruth Marshall
- Jim & Mary Fravil
- John Jahna
- John & Rhonda Dickenson Family
- Kevin and Rhoda Martin
- Knapp Winery & Restaurant
- Kuneytown Sportsmen’s Club
- Lively Run Goat Farm
- Lost Kingdom Brewery
- Lyons National Bank
- Meadville Pumpkin Farm
- Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge
- Morton Buildings, Inc
- Morton Buildings, Inc
- Mose Fisher
- Muranda Cheese Co.
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- NYS Agricultural Experiment Station
- NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets
- NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- NYSERDA
- NYS Pork Producers
- NYS Troopers
- North Seneca Ambulance
- NuCO2 Supply, LLC
- Ovid Fire Department
- Ovid/Willard Lions Club
- Ovid Big-M
- Pleasant Garden
- Pure American Honey
- Red Jacket Orchards
- Renee Smith Rice Award for Poultry education
- Romulus, Seneca Falls, South Seneca, and Waterloo Central School Districts
- Rusty Tiller
Seneca County Cornell Cooperative Extension is supported by a unique partnership of county, state and federal governments. This support includes both direct dollars into the operating budget and indirect dollars paid in the form of fringe benefits, university resources and special project funding by Cornell University utilizing both federal and state monies. Other sources of revenue include program participation and enrollment fees, outside grants and contracts, restricted contributions and interest income.

**GRANT FUNDING SOURCES**

- America’s Farmers Grow Communities
- Cornell University Community and Regional Development Institute (CaRDI)
- Cornell University Cooperative Extension
- Federal Government
- Finger Lakes Health
- Genesee Valley Educational Partnership
- New York State
- New York State Dept of Ag and Markets
- NYS 4-H Foundation
- Seneca County Youth Bureau Golf Tournament
- Wal-Mart

**Donors and Partnering Organizations Continued**

- Sauder's Market
- S2AY Rural Health Network
- Schrader’s Meat Market
- Schmidt Farm
- Seneca Cayuga Arc
- Seneca County Departments: Emergency Services; Health; Human Services; Office for the Aging; Planning & Community Development; Real Property Tax Services; Workforce Development; Youth Bureau
- Seneca Co Agricultural Society
- Seneca Co Agriculture Enhancement Board
- Seneca Co Board of Supervisors
- Seneca Co Chamber of Commerce
- Seneca Co Farm Bureau
- Seneca Co Head Start
- Seneca Co Industrial Development Agency
- Seneca Co Literacy Committee
- Seneca Co Partners for Children, Youth, & Families
- Seneca County Shopper
- Seneca Co Soil & Water Conservation District
- Seneca Co United Way
- Seneca Co Beef Producers
- Seneca Co Substance Abuse Coalition
- Seneca Falls Community Center
- Seneca Falls Development Corporation
- Seneca Falls Farmers’ Market and Vendors
- Seneca Falls Kiwanis Club
- Seneca Falls Rotary Club
- Seneca Falls Farmers’ Market and Vendors
- Seneca Lake Wine Trail
- Seneca Meadows/IESI
- Seneca Towns Engaging People For Solutions (STEPS)
- Sharon Nelson Memorial
- Sharon Secor and Reed Balewski
- Shelley Fletcher
- Standing Stone Winery
- Steve Luce
- Steve, Nicole and Luke Ferrara
- Stuart Sheppard
- Three Brothers Winery
- Tastes of Wine Country
- Tastefully Simple
- Thirsty Owl Wine Company
- Tie Dye Dreamers 4-H Club
- Tractor Supply Center, Seneca Falls
- Vance Metal Fabricators
- Waid's Honey
- Wagner Valley Brewing Co.
- Walter and Doris Wolf
- Waterloo Container
- Waterloo Celebrate/Commemorate Committee
- Waterloo Rifle and Pistol club
- Waterloo Rotary Club
- Waterloo VFW Women’s Auxiliary
- Wegman’s
- Westwind Farms
- William and Rilla Taylor

**2016 Revenue $766,358**

Seneca County Cornell Cooperative Extension is supported by a unique partnership of county, state and federal governments. This support includes both direct dollars into the operating budget and indirect dollars paid in the form of fringe benefits, university resources and special project funding by Cornell University utilizing both federal and state monies. Other sources of revenue include program participation and enrollment fees, outside grants and contracts, restricted contributions and interest income.

**VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTION**

211 volunteers contributed 9143 hours valued at $215,409 in support of Seneca County Cornell Cooperative Extension.
Agricultural Economic Development

Agriculture is the number one industry in Seneca County and SCCCE is a major support for our local farms through our Agricultural Economic Development Specialist, Derek Simmonds, and the four Agriculture Specialty Teams. Seneca County leverages dollars by bringing high level expertise to the county with these regional teams specializing in vegetables, grapes, dairy, livestock, field crops, and small farms. Seneca County is serviced by 19 individual specialists, (see separate reports).

Our Finger Lakes Craft Beverage Conference has become an annual event, providing valuable information for those starting out in these budding industries and well as those who are well on their way. The innovation and diversity of our workshop programming continues.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>2016 Programs</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Farm visits and consultations</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Distribution of direct farm marketing brochure</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Experience the Farms of Seneca County”</td>
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<td>• Corn Congress at the Holiday Inn</td>
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<td>• Soybean &amp; Small Grain Congress at the Holiday Inn</td>
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<td>• “Celebrate Seneca County Agriculture” at the Seneca County Fair</td>
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<td>• Seneca County Agriculture Report radio program</td>
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<td>• Log-Based Mushroom Production Workshops</td>
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<td>• Finger Lakes Craft Beverage Conference</td>
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<td>• Seneca Produce Auction Assistance</td>
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<td>• Beginning Maple Production workshop</td>
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<td>• Currents, Gooseberries and Other Minor Small Fruit Workshop</td>
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<td>• Farm Truck Safety Meeting</td>
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<td>• Collaboration with Seneca County Farm Bureau on ‘Planes and Grains’ Event</td>
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<td>• Seneca County Supervisor’s Agriculture Tour</td>
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<td>• Finger Lakes Agriculture Report radio program</td>
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<td>• Nut Grove Walk</td>
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<td>• Vineyard Tailgate Meetings</td>
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<td>• Pawpaw and Persimmon production Workshop</td>
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<td>• Vegetable Pest &amp; Cultural Management Field Walks</td>
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Harvest NY Spreads Brewery Supply Chain Information

The 2013 Farm Brewery Law jumpstarted the craft beer industry in NYS. In order to receive a Farm Brewer license, beer brewed by farm brewers must be made with a certain percentage of New York grown inputs. Until 2018, at least 20% of all ingredients must be from New York. After January 1, 2018, the percentage increases to 60% and in 2024, the percentage increases to 90% of all ingredients.

Previously, only a few farmers grew malting barley or hops, there were no malt houses, and just 95 licensed brewers in the state. In June 2015, there were 250 licensed brewers in NY, 8 operating malt houses that were selling product to brewers and 32 farmers growing malting barley. This was a new industry in New York. Malting barley was a new crop for farmers and the best varieties and management practices were not known for NY’s climate. Malt houses were new businesses without access to technical assistance and testing support. Farm brewers were small to start and without a long history of brewing. These startup challenges for the stakeholders within the supply chain created many questions about the industry’s long term needs.

As the industry continued to grow, farmers needed to know how much demand there would be for New York grown inputs, malt houses needed to know how much malt brewers would need and brewers needed to know what types of NY-grown products would become available. Since this market was new there was no long-term data to help guide this new industry which led to projections on quality, quantity and price based on the best available information at the time. Harvest NY Specialists Newbold and Thayer with a number of collaborators including SCCCE’s Derek Simmonds, set out to gather this information resulting in a final report, on the Harvest NY’s website.

Since the completion of the brewery supply chain analysis, Harvest NY has presented at many winter educational events describing the information found in the report. The malting barley supply chain analysis evaluated information from all stakeholders within the industry. Disseminating this information across many educational programs and conferences last winter, including the FL Craft Beverage Conference, helped Harvest NY and its collaborators reach over 850 growers, maltsters, brewers, and agribusiness providers, thereby providing up-to-date information on price, quality and quantity allowing the stakeholders to make informed decisions as they grow alongside the industry.

At the Finger Lakes Craft Beverage Conference in Waterloo, pictured (from left to right): Derek Simmonds (conference organizer, CCE Seneca County), Steve Miller (New York Extension Hops Specialist, CCE Madison County), Mike Stanyard (Malting Barley Specialist, NYNW Dairy Team) and Elizabeth Newbold (CCE Harvest NY)
FINGER LAKES GRAPE PROGRAM (FLGP)

The Finger Lakes Grape Program is a regional extension program of CCE serving the grape and wine industry of the Finger Lakes. The FLGP provides unbiased, research-based information to the region’s grape growers in areas including vineyard and pest management practices, new vineyard establishment, farm business management, marketing and business development and more as a means of supporting the industry’s growth and long-term sustainability. It maintains a Teaching Vineyard at Anthony Road Winery where ongoing research is conducted and new management practices can be explored.

For the past four years, the Finger Lakes Grape Program has hosted informal ‘Tailgate Meetings’ at vineyards across the Finger Lakes. These meetings were held every two weeks during the growing season, allowing for plenty of opportunity to address issues as they emerged throughout the season. Ten meetings were held in total, and attendance at those meetings increased by 25% over those held in 2015.

As the 2016 drought deepened in the Finger Lakes, the Tailgate Meetings provided a forum for growers to discuss challenges they were facing on their farms as those problems were developing, leading to prompt implementation of solutions. The meetings allowed FLGP educators and Cornell viticulture researchers to help 199 grape growers and other members of the community recognize symptoms of drought stress, share strategies to mitigate drought effects, and have their questions answered. Six growers reported making changes on their farms to deal with drought stress as a direct result of what they learned. Of the meeting participants that responded to a follow-up survey about this year’s meetings, 89% reported learning new information at a meeting, and over 90% stated that based on their experience they would attend a Tailgate meeting in the future. Several participants expressed appreciation of the grower-to-grower interactions they had. One respondent wrote, “Thanks for the great season. Very good info in a difficult year.”

Grape Team Members: Gillian Trimber, Hans Walter-Peterson

2016 Agricultural Tour

In October, SCCCE, with help from the Seneca County Farm Bureau, organized the Supervisor’s Tour of Agriculture. This biennial event gives local decision makers a chance to see a cross-section of agriculture in Seneca County. This year’s event had five stops. We started at Jeff Trout’s Farm where Jeff and Mike Stanley from CCE’s Northwest New York Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Team spoke about growing malting barley and Cornell’s Malting Barley Trails. Next we visited the Mose Fisher Farm and his farm supply store, where Mose and Judson Reid, from the Cornell Vegetable Program spoke about growing high tunnel tomatoes and the economic impact of the Seneca Produce Auction. Our third stop was the Westwind Farm Egg Sorting Facility, where Peter DeCloux, from Westwind, and Nancy Glazier from CCE’s Northwest New York Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Team spoke about Seneca County’s poultry industry and poultry biosecurity. Then we moved on to the Just Serendipity Farm, where Jim Fravil, from Just Serendipity Farm, Brad Huffines, from the Hector Grazing Association and Nancy Glazier spoke about Seneca County’s beef production and the Hector Grazing Association. Our last stop of the day was the Thirsty Owl Wine Company, where John Cupp from Thirsty Owl and Hans Walter-Peterson from Cornell’s Finger Lakes Grape Program discussed the Finger Lakes grape growing industry and new technologies being used in the region. This tour provided local decision-makers, as well as our special guest, CCE System Director Chris Watkins with valuable information about many of the issues our farmers are dealing with and helps them to understand the diversity and economic impact of agriculture in Seneca County.
Improving Malting Barley Production Practices to Meet Industry Needs

The resurgence of malting barley production spurred on by the growing craft beer industry has kept the NWNY Team busy determining the best management practices to maximize barley yields under current NY growing conditions. Approximately 2,000 acres of malting barley was harvested in NY in 2016. Half of these acres were grown by producers in the NWNY region. Establishing which barley varieties grow best under NY growing conditions has been a top priority. Three variety trials were established across NWNY this year, including the Jeff Trout Farm in Seneca County. A Malting barley twilight tour was held on June 23rd. Twelve producers and four malt houses went on a guided tour of all the winter malting barley varieties being evaluated. They also were updated on current fertility, disease management, harvest, and drying recommendations. We will need to triple the current malting barley production by 2019 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.

Tactical Ag (TAg) Teams: Educating the Next Generation of Corn Growers

This year’s TAg Team consisted of a young group of seven Seneca County corn producers who collectively grew and managed 3,200 acres of corn grain on the family farm. This was a unique TAg as it was requested by many of the participants’ parents who had been through the program 15 years ago. Participants completed twelve hours of in-field and classroom training covering crop production and IPM practices with a focus on weed, disease, and insect pest sampling and management. Participating producers benefited from the educational materials and timely sampling techniques to make the most economical crop and pest management decisions to maximize their corn production. Participants learned how to correctly identify, sample, assess, and apply different management tools on potential corn pests and make management decisions based on economic thresholds. Pre and post-tests were given at the first and last meetings of the season. Collectively, participants increased their general knowledge of corn management from 37% to 78%; an increase of 52%.

Team members: Mike Stanyard, Jerry Bertoldo, Libby Eiholzer, John Hanchar, Joan Sinclair Petzen, Nancy Glazier, Cathy Wallace

Cornell Vegetable Program: High Tunnels, High Impact

By working with the Cornell Vegetable Program (CVP), high tunnel farmers, including those in Seneca County, are increasing profits by thousands of dollars through improved pest management and the implementation of soil/nutrient Best Management Practices (BMPs). Season extension—use of technology to protect crops from adverse weather—has become an important part of the New York vegetable industry. In the last census there were over 435 season extension operations, a 100% growth from the previous 5 year period; a statewide value of $30 million. Growers have found high tunnels (low-to-minimally heated greenhouses) to be a profitable investment through earlier crop maturity, higher total yield and quality as well as disease and insect management. NYS is now the national leader in number of winter farmers markets, and high tunnels are credited for this success in a recent USDA report. The CVP has been at the forefront of high tunnel/greenhouse research and Extension in NY, receiving over $250,000 in funding over the last year alone to work on nutrient management, disease control, grafting and economics. One of the primary roles the CVP has played in season extension has been in disease management. Protected environments reduce common diseases of tomatoes by eliminating leaf moisture from rain and splashing soils. However, other diseases are favored by the tunnel environment. Leaf Mold, can drastically reduce tomato yields. The CVP has conducted resistance trials and published 3 peer-reviewed papers on varietal disease susceptibility to Leaf Mold. A project in collaboration with the NYS Agricultural Experiment Station will further our understanding of the disease genetics and epidemiology, but most importantly improve farm profitability by identifying key management steps. In addition to diseases, the CVP has led statewide efforts on insect control in greenhouse vegetables. Insect management in winter greenhouses is complicated by cold temperatures and short days. The CVP recently completed a 4-year NESARE sponsored project examining insect control in the colder months. As a result of this project, 24 winter greenhouses high tunnel growers adopted biological control methods to manage pests with an average increase in revenue of $2,465. To perform outreach in these subject areas, the CVP manages a YouTube channel with over 30,000 views as well as an active Twitter account, serves as the official managers of the Cornell High Tunnel webpage, completes hundreds of farm visits per year, and attends local, national, and international speaking engagements.

Team members: Julie Kikkert, Robert Hadad, Christy Hoepting, Judson Reid, Darcy Telenko

CVP.CCE.Cornell.edu
2016 saw a new county recycling provider, Cardinal Disposal. We teamed up with the County Recycling office to produce a new county recycling guide and in January placed it in the Seneca Shopper, which is delivered to all homes in Seneca County. We again ran “clip and save” half page ads in the Shopper in April and November and the United Way issue of The Reveille Between the Lakes that goes to every county household listing what can be recycled in the county. www.senecarecycles.org continues to provide recycling education for county residents including a search link to find out how and where to recycle almost anything.

Seneca GR&EEEN, Generating Recycling and Energy Education

Now, the Association’s teen peer education group in the areas of recycling and energy presented to every county 6th grader at Outdoor Education Field Day and also was responsible for the 4-H Sustainable Energy booth at Empire Farm Days. Several of the group also did this at State Fair. Many of our educators graduated in 2016, leaving us serious recruitment and training to do in 2017.

Through Engaged Cornell a group of senior engineering communication students from Professor Rick Evans’ class developed brochures and a social media campaign to provide information about Climate Change. This was information that we wanted to get out as part of our Natural Resources mission but simply have not had the staff or time to do. We met several times with the group, including a visit to the office and they gathered information and resources from Cornell and other research based sources to develop the materials. We will launch this in 2017. Other projects are planned with the same professor in the future.

Well Deserved Recognition. 2016 marked 4-H Youth Development Resource Educator Rachel Williams 10th anniversary with Seneca County CCE. Over that time she has taught thousands and mentored hundreds of youth; served on state, regional and national committees including as President of the NYS 4-H Educators Association; This year she was the recipient of the National 4-H Distinguished Service Award. Everyone who knows Rachel knows her dedication to youth and to giving them the best support she possibly can as they grow and develop into true leaders. She puts in long hours and always strives for excellence. We are lucky to have her as part of our staff and the envy of those around us. Congratulations, Rachel!!!!
4-H Program Spotlight

**Seneca County CCE 4-H continues to Grow True Leaders.** It has been a successful year of working across program areas to focus on the NYS 4-H Mission: **4-H connects youth to hands-on learning opportunities that help them grow into competent, caring, contributing members of society.** Bringing 4-H Youth Development and life skill development to a variety of youth, through multiple content areas, in a variety of settings makes a difference that can last a lifetime.

**South Seneca School District 4-H After School**

2016 was a year of growth with our 4-H After School work. The beginning of 2016 we found ourselves happily continuing our Cornell Cooperative Extension and 4-H Youth Development connections with the 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students at South Seneca Elementary in a once a week program. Starting in September 2016 we had the great pleasure of beginning work in a district wide After School program funded by a NYS Department of Education 5 Year Extended School Day/School Violence Prevention Grant.

As a partner agency we have taken our charge of providing after school and career development programming seriously. The grant allows us to have four different groups; 3rd grade, 4th grade, 5th grade and Middle School that meet once a week for 2 hours, 1 day per week after school. Additionally, the funding and partnership will allow us to work on career exploration and career development with South Seneca Middle and High School students.

Thus far, we have explored areas of STEM and Healthy Living with the youth. Up to 23 students in Middle School and a total of 50 students in Elementary school have explored the science of flight and technology with the 4-H National Science Experiment, **Drone Discovery** and a variety of scientific principles as explored through hands-on chemistry experiments. Middle School students have also had the opportunity to participate in **Choose Health: Food, Fun & Fitness (CHFFF)** and **Choose Health Action Teen (CHAT)** training.

This Healthy Living program work was made possible by a Seneca County Youth Board grant and United Health Care: Food Smart Families grant funding. The continuity of the program has aided in furthering life skill development such as; communication, teamwork, problem-solving, planning, and organization in these youth. The 4-H After School participants recognize their connection to 4-H Youth Development and regularly recite the 4-H pledge. They are proud of their connection to the youth development program of Cornell Cooperative Extension and through multiple opportunities to explore science and healthy living they consider options for their future as contributing members of the workforce and community.
4-H Program Spotlight

The Rewards of Training Teens in Work and Life

For the past 4 years we have had the distinct pleasure of working with Devin Rogers and DaiQuan Kingston. Devin and DaiQuan first came to us as employees of the Seneca County Workforce Development Summer Employment program in 2013. We have been fortunate that they have continued with us as 4-H Assistants since then. It has been distinct pleasure to watch them grow in their confidence and willingness to step outside of a comfort zone. They are able to take the lead and self-start on projects. They know that their thoughts and opinions are valued and are not afraid to share. Both of these young men are Seniors in High School this year, Devin at South Seneca and DaiQuan at Waterloo, and without a doubt they will be missed as they go on to College in the Fall. They are members of the Seneca County Cornell Cooperative Extension family and their contributions are valued and appreciated. We are hopeful that the connections they have made while working with us has enriched their lives. We are confident they have enriched ours.

Delaney Lukowski is a 10 plus years 4-H member who graduated this year form Mynderse Academy. Delaney is a true leader who demonstrates a respectful manner and positive attitude in all situations. With her maturity, thoughtfulness, dedication and meticulousness in all she commits to, she is a role model for youth of all ages.

Among her leadership positions throughout her years as a 4-H member Delaney served as a State Fair Junior Superintendent, State Teen Action Representatives Retreat (STARR) Facilitator and Planning Committee Member, and State Capital Days Committee Teen member. For the past two summers she joined us on staff as a summer assistant. She initiated the desire to serve in this capacity and was an invaluable asset, working to develop our new online newsletter among many other projects. This year she served on the annual 4-H Cornell Career Explorations Planning Committee as well as a Focus Assistant as over 500 Middle and High School students from across NYS visited the Cornell University campus in June for this annual program.
LIBRARY DISPLAYS

The Master Gardener volunteers (MGV) partnered with all five libraries in the county (Interlaken, Lodi, Ovid, Seneca Falls and Waterloo) to have timely gardening information available to county residents. Master Gardener volunteers came up with a different theme for each month of the growing season, starting in March and ending in October.

The MGV's have in the past done various workshops at the county libraries during the growing season. Some are well attended and some are not so we decided to try something different in 2016. We created display boards for each library in the county (they are about 2' tall x 1 ½' and used small easels to put them on with a plastic holder for some fact sheets) with a different topic related to gardening for each month from March to October.

Some of the topics included starting your seeds, choosing your site, reading a seed packet, container & small scale gardening, composting, mulching, best varieties, bugs, weeds, watering and finally putting your garden to bed. The displays were changed at the start of each month.

Each month the board contained a bullet point sheet highlighting the different topics for the month and displayed a picture related to each topic. A fact sheet pertaining to each topic was placed in the plastic holder next to the display for people to take home with them to read at their leisure.

There was also a small card that people could take attached to the board with information on how to contact a MGV with questions for individual help. A different MGV was responsible for each library display and also acted as their contact person. Libraries were encouraged to add information to displays with recommended reading pertaining to each monthly topic.

DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

The demonstration garden was once again an important project for the MGV group. This year the demonstration garden focused on some unusual and different vegetables which were planted in the nine 3x3 foot raised beds. There were some “experimental” unnamed potato varieties from the Cornell potato breeding program, sweet potatoes, Malabar and New Zealand spinach, and some pole beans. Some not so unusual vegetables included green peppers and late blight resistant tomatoes.

The garden was started three years ago in what was an empty field at the west end of the North Seneca Ambulance building on North Road in Waterloo. The area now has composting, twelve raised beds full of vegetables, herbs, and fruit, a butterfly garden, and blueberry plants in tubs. Master Gardeners plant and maintain the garden. The gardens are a collaboration with Cornell University’s Department of Horticulture and part of their statewide Cornell Garden-Based Learning Vegetable Variety Trial (VVT). The project aims to gather data to help Cornell create their recommended list of vegetable and herb varieties for New York State gardeners. Each county that participates then rates the vegetable and herb varieties via the Vegetable Varieties for Gardeners citizen science online forum at http://vegvariety.cce.cornell.edu/

A composting demonstration area is the newest part of the garden to be finished. There are various stages of the composting process represented, with signs and information about how to best accomplish this at home.

We held an open house on August 23rd which was attended by over 30 people. Many MGV’s were there to show the attendees what was growing and answer any questions. The attendees were curious about many of the “unusual” varieties and some plan to grow them in their own gardens next season.
At a Glance- The Human Ecology Nutrition Program at SCCCE was awarded two highly competitive New York State grants for work in Seneca County this year— a NYS Ag & Markets Farm to School grant and NYS DOH Creating Healthy Schools and Communities grant. Other food and nutrition programs that continued were The Wild Harvest Table, Food Preservation workshops, a monthly radio nutrition interview with Ted Baker on Finger Lakes radio group, nutrition activities with area schools and youth organizations, the Farmers Market Nutrition Program, and nutrition education to the public in a number of venues like Empire Farm Days, news articles, Waterloo’s Celebrate/Commemorate Memorial Day, and other local health fairs and festivals.

Farm to School— SCCCE was awarded the NYS Agriculture and Markets grant for the calendar years of 2016 and 2017 to integrate local farm-fresh foods into the school meal system and promote nutrition education in schools with the goal of increasing literacy around nutrition, health, and local agriculture. Two fruit sectionizers were purchased for each Seneca County school cafeteria to slice NYS apples based on research from Cornell’s Smarter Lunchroom program which found students increased fruit consumption by 73% when they could slice it. We are also introducing new menu items that include local produce, such as “Butternutty Mac n’ Cheese”, and offering taste samples and recipes for families. Along with nutrition education, SCCCE is working with producers and distributors to increase access to local produce for the schools. As part of this grant, we hired a Farm to School Educator, Sue Petersen, to work 15 hours a week on the project.

Worksite Wellness— Through Genesee Valley BOCES, SCCCE was awarded the worksite wellness community piece of the NYS Department of Health’s Creating Healthy Schools and Communities grant for Seneca County. As part of this grant, lunch and learn workshops about eating healthy at work and information about shopping at the local farmers market were offered to local worksites. We also helped a healthy vending policy get passed for vending machines at the Seneca County Office building. FY2016 was the first year of this five year funding stream for worksite wellness in Seneca County.
The Wild Harvest Table

The Wild Harvest Table Program is a unique as well as signature program for SCCCE that offers culinary advice and nutrition information for wild game and fish through a website, wildharvesttable.com, a Facebook Page, printed materials, and through hands-on workshops. It was started by SCCCE Nutrition Educator, Mo Tidball, and her husband, Dr. Keith Tidball who works in the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) at Cornell. Mo and Keith, along with Dr. Paul Curtis from DNR, received a Program Excellence through Research Award from the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences in September of 2016 for this work. Mo and Keith also were invited speakers about this work at the International Hunter Education Association annual meeting in Vermont in May. The Wild Harvest Table program highlights the strength of campus county partnerships and how local needs can both benefit from and drive research on campus. Presentations about the program were given to a state meeting of CCE Executive Directors, The Finger Lakes Shared Business Network’s annual training day, and a CCE system-wide webinar. Four species of wild game and fish (brook trout, Canada goose, ruffed grouse, and Eastern wild turkey) have had their meat analyzed for nutritional value and addition to the USDA National Nutrient Database for Standard Reference from Wild Harvest Table research.

Nutritional Facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Serving Size</th>
<th>2-3 legs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calories</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Daily Value</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Fat</td>
<td>10g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturated Fat</td>
<td>3g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trans Fat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cholesterol</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sodium</td>
<td>720mg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Carbohydrate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dietary Fiber</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sugars</td>
<td>5g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protein</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vitamin A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vitamin C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calcium</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the 5th year in a row, we were chosen to host a Dietetic Intern from Cornell as part of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics testing requirements. This past fall we were joined by Tarah Venn who was a true asset to our office, especially for Farm to School research work. Best of Luck, Tarah!
Design Connect Depot Study

When the Seneca County IDA announced that it was putting up for sale all of the remaining acres of the former Seneca Army Depot, the County Board of Supervisors indicated an interest in the former airfield property which is the location of a police and other emergency services training center. There were many questions surrounding the functions there, the cost of upkeep and possible use options that would be compatible with the training center while also bringing in revenue. SCCCE was able to solicit Design Connect students from Cornell to do a study to answer these questions. The students made several trips, met with stakeholders, and presented to a meeting of the Board of Supervisors. While the field was sold to another bidder, the report still proved useful to those involved and the county will be given control of the property immediately around the training site to continue its function.

Summer Farmers Market Nutrition Educators

By utilizing re-budgeted funds from Finger Lakes Eat Smart NY administered by Wayne County CCE, Seneca County CCE was able to employ a front-line nutrition educator, Sue Petersen, to work in the county from June through September 2016. Sue conducted workshops and public displays at the Seneca Falls Farmers Market, food pantries, churches, summer school programs and other venues throughout the county, reaching nearly 3,000 people with information on healthy eating and living. Participants demonstrated an increased interest in healthy recipes and eating healthy meals at home. These people would not have been reached without Sue's presence which was made possible through the collaboration between Wayne CCE's ESNY program and Seneca County CCE. We were also able to provide program supervision for other summer educators in Ontario/Livingston and Schuyler/Yates.

Natural Resources

This year we joined a new Regional Team to assist with our Natural Resources Programming. The Master Forest Owners Team.

The program provides trained and certified woodland owner volunteers to visit other owners and provide non-technical assistance in support of sustainable forest management. They also provide workshops on invasive species, organize forest walks. The regional director has assisted with our Outdoor Education Field Day and also appeared on our monthly show on WGVA to talk about the program and importance of forest health.

Deer Management in NYS

SCCCE partnered with the Department of Natural Resources Human Dimensions Unit and the NYS DEC on a pilot project to develop a new system to gather public input on the impacts of white-tail deer and how they should be managed. In early 2016 we hosted 2 webinars on deer natural history, impacts and management, and facilitated two focus group sessions in March in Ovid. Group participants gained an appreciation for the value of CCE and how it works with campus and other agencies to improve the lives of New Yorkers. The DEC also saw how the CCE system can work to help them advance their mission. The pilot is still being evaluated to determine its effectiveness as a new public input model for deer management.
Top Row:
W. Averell H. Bauder, Executive Director
Rachel Williams, 4-H/Youth Development Resource Educator
Miora Tidball, Human Ecology Resource Educator

Second Row:
Derek Simmons Agricultural Economic Development Resource Educator
Patti Battley, Home Horticulture Program Educator
Susan Coyle, 4-H Youth Development Community Educator

Third Row:
Nancy Lamberson, Finance and HR Manager
Sue Petersen, Farm to School Nutrition Educator
Christie Brewer, Senior Administrative Assistant

Cornell Dietetic Intern Tara Venn

The staff at the Seneca County Root Beer Float table at Empire Farm Days