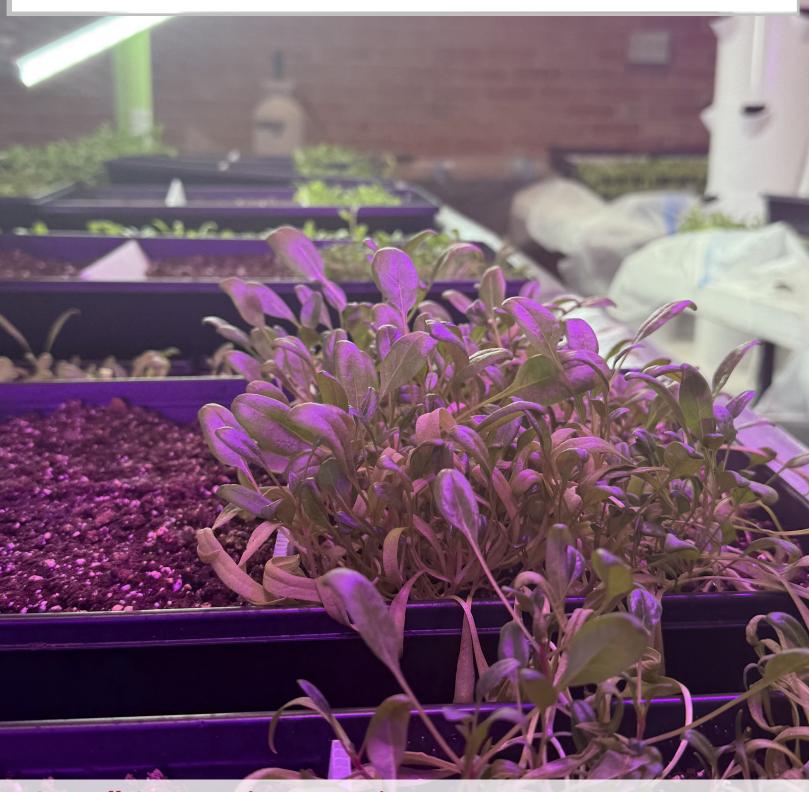
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautaugua County's

Extension Connection



Cornell Cooperative Extension Chautauqua County

October 2025 Volume 10 - Issue 10

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COVER: Find out why we have 100 trays of spinach growing in our office at our upcoming workshops!

Your picture could be on our next cover!
Send your submission to lpc33@cornell.edu



The Chautauqua County Extension Connection (USPS #101-400)

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SWNY Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program

CCE Chautauqua @ JCC Carnahan Center Jamestown, NY 14702 716-640-0844 swnyteam@cornell.edu

Lake Erie Regional Grape Program

6592 W. Main Road Portland, New York 14769 716-792-2800

Cornell Vegetable Program

480 North Main Street Canandaigua, NY 14424 585-394-3977 ext. 426

CCE - Chautauqua County

@ JCC Carnahan Center 525 Falconer St. PO Box 20 Jamestown, NY 14702-0020

Phone: 716-664-9502 Fax: 716-664-6327

Association News

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Bart Nickerson Dairy
Aaron Carlberg Goat
Roxanne Young Dog

David Schauman Beef, Meat Animal Sale

Kasey Fanara Horse Marie Warner Snack Bar

Jamie Smith Exhibition Poultry
Melissa Winton Market Poultry

Kim Chapman Rabbit Louis Smith Hog Shawn Huntington Sheep

Cassie Skal Teen Ambassadors

From the Office of the Executive Director

As the leaves begin to change even earlier than normal this season, we are proud to continue offering exceptional programs serving the county's youth, those in need of nutritional assistance and our agricultural producers. We have so many wonderful programs happening, and we hope you can attend. We hope to see you at our upcoming Agriculture workshops (including composting, soil sampling, succession planting, and windowsill gardening topics with



giveaways!), nutrition classes and youth development events coming up this fall. We also recognize that many of our partners and farmers are very busy with harvest upon us and encourage everyone to take in the most beautiful and memorable moments of the autumn season, while staying safe through evening harvests and sharing the road with heavy farm equipment.

I'd like to take a moment to invite you to our upcoming Annual Meeting, slated for Saturday, October 25th at our office (JCC Carnahan Center, Jamestown). This year, we will be offering a unique opportunity to get to know us while we build a fun filled day of workshops, food, and celebration. Our day will begin with Spinach centered learning opportunities with learning options for the entire family. We will then offer free lunch, a brief Annual Meeting, and a keynote presentation given by Mary Beth Debus, our iCap consultant who has been helping us to better restructure our organization. In the afternoon, we will celebrate our 4-H youth with an awards ceremony, complete with ice cream and photo opportunities.

Saturday, October 25th will be an open-house style, fun-filled day to celebrate all that we have to offer here at CCE-Chautauqua. You will find additional details regarding this event throughout this newsletter. You will also be receiving an invitation in the mail, if you have any questions, please reach out to our office at 716-664-9502. We hope to see you there.

As always, we're grateful for our staff, stakeholders, and community members for their continued dedication to the communities that make up Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautauqua County.



Chautauqua County Agricultural News

8th Annual Chautauqua Farmer-Neighbor Dinner Held

The 8th annual Chautauqua Farmer-Neighbor dinner was held at "The Grandview of Ellington" on August 19th. Over 260 were in attendance to enjoy and celebrate Chautauqua County agriculture. The dinner, prepared by 3 C's Catering of Kennedy and dessert, prepared by The Cornerstone Restaurant and Bakery of Sherman, incorporated locally sourced products from Chautauqua County agricultural producers and local businesses.

The goal of this event was to help open the lines of communication between farmers and neighbors and educate about the farming community in Chautauqua County. Dennis Webster and Cassandra Skal served as the Master and Mistress of Ceremony for the event and provided insightful agricultural statistics for the County.



Multiple awards were presented to recognize local leadership, excellence, and innovation in agriculture. Chautaugua County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) presented their Chautauqua County Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM) Farm of the Year to Mid-Knight Dairy, LLC of Jamestown. Mid-Knight Dairy, LLC is owned and operated by John and Laura Knight and their daughter Julia and husband Travis Olmstead. The farm started in 1963 and have seen many changes over the last 60 plus years. In 2020 the farm began no-till corn planting and in 2023 the farm went to notill grain drill planting. In 2023, a concreate manure storage was constructed using grant funding from Soil and Water and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Manure is now more efficiently utilized and in 2024 the farm started using manure injection to prevent nutrient runoff. Originally recognized in 2010 for their on-farm enhancements, SWCD felt the farm's continued push for balancing agricultural production and watershed awareness deserves to be recognized and highlighted a second time.



The Chautauqua Farmer-Neighbor Committee presented three awards during the event. Richard (Dick) Kimball of Dewittville received the Friend of Agriculture Award. Dick along with wife Joan, son Seth, daughter Heather and her husband Mike operate Country Ayre Farms, LLC. In 2008, the Kimball family had the opportunity to purchase a farm in Chautauqua County and move from their current facility in Massachusetts. In Massachusetts, Dick had a passion for serving the agricultural community which continued when he moved to New York. He became active with the Chautauqua County Farm Bureau serving as the president for eleven years and as the District 1 State Director for NY State Farm Bureau for six years. These roles allowed Dick to advocate for agriculture in Albany and Washington, D.C.



Double A Vineyards, Inc. of Fredonia was recognized as this year's Agricultural Impact Award. Dennis and Sue Rak along with their sons, Adam and Abram operate nearly 1,000 acres focused on vineyards (500 acres), produce, and nursery stock. The nursery business has grown to be the largest part of the operation, currently producing approximately four million plants a year with over 150 grape varieties and a variety of

berry stock. These products are sold to wineries and commercial growers across the United States. Double A's nursery stock has helped advance the industry and increase other farmers' production. The entire family has taken an active role serving on both industry and community boards to help impact both local and national policy.

IronVine Farms of Portland operated by the McCausland Family was the recipient of the Agricultural Innovator award. Having begun as a grape farm in 1999, the farm has expanded and diversified to include an equine facility (2002), beef operation



(2017) and farmstand (2019). The McCausland's tout efficiency striving to have several purposes for any piece of equipment. The equipment needed for farming has always s been expensive, so the idea of some of it only being used a few weeks each year to the McClausland's to figure out where it could be used in other endeavors.

This year's event would not have been possible without the support of our many sponsors including our Barnraisers: Chautauqua County Farm Bureau, Chautauqua County Sheriff Quattrone, Farm Credit East, ACA, Five & 20 Spirits and Brewing & Mazza Chautauqua Cellars of Westfield, Good Grass Farm of Mayville, and Terra Firma Systems of Sherman. The Chautauqua Farmer-Neighbor Dinner is held annually and is always looking for new sponsors and producers to contribute. Interested parties can contact Cassandra Skal at cassandra.skal@farmcrediteast.com to be added to next year's contact list. The Chautauqua Farmer-Neighbor Committee is a collaboration between public and private businesses supporting agriculture and local producers.

Have you heard?
There's a "new trade" in town!

Announcing NYS's appoval of Butcher Trade and Apprenticeship



Learn more about the NEW
Butcher registered apprenticeship in this
open forum discussion with project partners

Thursday Oct 7 pm on Zoom

All are welcome to join in the Butcher trade open forum

- Learn about the **new registered Butcher apprenticeship program** from NYS Dept. of Labor
- Learn how to host an apprentice and about the advantages and supports provided to your business
- Review the outline of the work processes, knowledge, skills, and training hours outlined for the new registered Butcher apprentiship
- Open forum discussion on how this new apprenticeship program can play a critical role in filling a workforce shortage and to professionalize a trade in the ag sector

Please RSVP to receive the meeting link and a copy of the apprenticeship booklet and trade outline

RSVP to:

Kimberly LaMendola klamendola@southerntierwest.org 716-945-5301 x2211

OR

Amy Barkley amb544@cornell.edu 716-640-0844



For questions, accommodations, or more information contact: CCE-Chautauqua at 716-664-9502 or chautauquaag@cornell.edu



Tractor Operations and Safety Training



Freeville, NY

Join us for a two-day, hands-on training in tractor operations and safety at the Homer C. Thompson Reasearch Farm October 6-7, 9am-5pm. This course combines classroom instruction with practical experience on multiple tractor models. Support for lodging is available and lunch will be provided both days.

Free for NY Veterans

ogister today by scanning the QR code below or vistina: tinyurl.com/



FOTractorSafety

This event will be hosted by the Cornell Small Farms Program's Veterans in Agriculture Project, Farm Ops, at the Homer C. Thompson Farm locacted

LEARN:

- · Essential Safety Techniques
- · Proper Operation of a Variety of **Tractors**
- Attachments and Implements 101

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Compost 101 Workshop

Chautauqua County



FREE COMPOST BINS TO THE FIRST 25 REGISTRANTS

What You'll Learn:

- **Essential Composting Techniques**
- How to understand the lifecycle of a compost pile
- Understand the role of microbes, carbon and nitroaen
- **Hands on Pile Building** Activity (bring your compostables from home!)

Event Details:

- October 2nd
- 6:00-7:00 PM
- 525 Falconer St. Jamestown, NY 14702

RSVP & Questions to: chautauquaag@cornell.edu

> **FREE CLASS!** (RSVP PREFERRED)

A SMART CHOICE

at 133 Fall Creek Rd, Freeville, NY 13068, Please contact Farm Ops at 607.261.6412 or rm2283@cornell.edu if you have any questions.

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♥ 716-664-9502 ⊕ chautauqua.cce.cornell.edu

SUPPORTING LOCAL IN THE FALL/WINTER

While visits to local farm stands and markets may be a little warmer in the spring and summer, there are plenty of opportunities to shop local during the 'off-season'. Check out these farms and farmers markets for your continued local needs!

Fredonia Farmers Market

Winter Market 321 E Main Rd Nov-April Saturdays 10 am to 1 pm







Jamestown Farmers Market

Winter Market 410 N Main St Jan-May

Saturdays 9 am to 1 pm









884 NY-394 Kennedy, NY Winter Hours Vary

Indoor store; frozen berries; popcorn; maple syrup and Christmas Trees

www.facebook.com/abersacres







Carlbergs Farm Stand

1982 Peck Settlement Road Jamestown, NY Winter Hours Vary

Winter CSA; mushrooms; milk; meat products and more facebook.com/Carlbergfarmproduce











2361 Wait Corners Road Sherman, NY 14767 Open Year Round, Daily 8 AM to 8 PM Meats, mushrooms, cheese and more

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. Parmers' Market Nutrition Program



Peterson Farm

3260 Fluvanna Ave, Jamestown, NY 14701 Nov- Dec: 10 AM to 5 PM Jan-May, Wed-Saturday, 10 AM-5 PM **Meat, cheeses, value-added products, baked goods**



2943 Open Meadows Rd.
Ashville, NY, United States, New York
Fresh Thanksgiving Turkeys
(pre-order now!)

www.goodgrassfarm.com

Stand Fast Farm

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(pre-order now!)

https://www.standfastbeef.com

Coan's Dusty Acres

1199 Frew Run Rd Frewsburg, NY, United States, New York **Christmas Trees, Wreaths and more**

Haff Acre Farm

5065 W Lake Rd, Mayville, NY, United States, New York

Christmas Trees, honey and more





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09/12/2025

Emily Reynolds

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What's Bugging You? Webinars

Each month, NYSIPM experts share practical information and answer questions on using integrated pest management (IPM) to avoid pest problems and promote a healthy environment where you live, work, learn and play.

All webinars are scheduled for 12:00 - 12:30pm on the first Friday of each month.

October 3: Winterize your home orchard Feeding friendly insect 4*

In this event we're focusing on fall tasks that are good IPM practices. Cleaning up your home orchard can mean fewer pests to attack your tree fruit in the spring. Fall is also the right time to plant seeds or seedlings of perennial wildflowers that feed friendly insects.

November 7: Understanding indoor cockroaches/ Invasive tawney field cockroach

Several cockroach species are found in homes, and each one tells a story of why it's there. Learn to distinguish different indoor cockroaches, and stick around to hear about the newest cockroach invader in the Northeast.

To register please go to: https://
nysipm.cornell.edu/whats-bugging-you/first-friday
-events

If you want to rewatch one of our seminars you can find them in our YouTube playlist at https://tinyurl.com/4p7k6y4y



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"... haven't found anything else that works this well."



— Dale Covert



COVERT DAIRY, Dale and Laura Covert, WEST WINFIELD, N.Y. Grazing Dairy, 65 cows, SCC 190,000

PAIGEBROOK JERSEYS 15,000M 4.7F 3.6P, 5 straight generations on farm DALCO HOLSTEINS 18,000M 4.0F 3.3P, 4 straight generations 200,000 lifetime

"I have continued using Udder Comfort™ for over 15 years because I've tried them all and haven't found anything else that works this well. Udder Comfort works fastest and is most effective.

"We use it on fresh and prefresh. We start spraying udders 1x/day 10 days before calving. Our first calf heifers do so much better coming into milk with softer udders, and they are more comfortable. If we see any swelling or flakes, or a cow not milking out the way I like, we go to Udder Comfort," says Dale Covert of West Winfield, New York.

Dale milks 65 registered Holsteins and Jerseys with purebred Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Dutch Belts, Fleckvieh, Guernsey, and Lineback in the herd too. Longevity, performance, A2, and polled are part of his balanced breeding program that has achieved some milestones.

Dale bred 4 straight

Holstein generations over 200,000 lifetime and has 5 straight homebred Jersey generations on the farm: heifers with 4 dams milking, including a 3-yr-old VG88 and her 3 dams EX91, 92, 90.

UDDER COMFORT*

Quality Udders Make Quality Milk



For external application to the udder only, after milking, as an essential component of udder management. Always wash and dry teats thoroughly before milking.

Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District Newsletter

Northcrest Business Center, 220 Fluvanna Ave, Suite 600, Jamestown, NY 14701

Phone: (716) 664-2351 Ext 5 Email: chaut-co@soilwater.org

Board Meetings are held the third Wednesday

of each month at 8:30 AM

Board of Directors: Fred Croscut, Pierre Chagnon, Bruce Kidder, Allen Peterson, Lisa Vanstrom

SWCD Staff: David Spann, District Field Manager Cassandra Pinkoski, Grant Specialist Greg Kolenda, District Field Technician Gage Lindell, District Field Technician

NRCS Jamestown Field Office: Robert Nothdurft, Resource Conservationist

Autumn Leaf Management

A large portion of solid waste found in landfills across the United States consists of autumn leaves. Many times, fallen leaves are seen as a burden by landowners, when in fact they are a precious resource when returned to the earth. There are several environmentally friendly autumn leaf management options to consider:

Mulch: Use a mulch mower or lawnmower to chop leaves into small pieces. Leaving mulched leaves and grass clippings on your lawn will reduce fertilizer requirements significantly. Be sure to remove your mower bag and skip raking if you wish to enhance your lawn with rich organic leaf matter. Please keep in mind that you may need to make more than one pass if you are using a lawnmower and that you may also need to mow more frequently in order to keep the leaves manageable so that you do not damage your lawnmower.

Use leaf mulch to nourish mulch beds, trees and shrubs by adding 3 to 6 inches (8-15 cm.) of the mixture evenly to the top of mulch beds and around trees and shrubs.

Compost: Add autumn leaves and year end grass clippings to your compost bin and let the leaves and clippings do their magic.

Taken from article: "What to Do with Fall Leaves" -GardeningKnowHow.com **Garden Enrichment:** Leaves can be rototilled or plowed directly into garden soil in the autumn. The leaves should easily decompose prior to spring planting time. Add a small amount of granular fertilizer to the soil to speed up the decomposition process.

Leaf Mold: If you have an overabundance of autumn leaves and have storage space available, pack the leaves (either shredded or whole) into large plastic yard bags. Moisten the leaves, seal the bag securely, and store them in a cool, dark place. In a couple of years (or less if the leaves are chopped or shredded) you will have rich leaf mold that will do wonders for your flower beds and vegetable garden.





Cloverleaf Express



Interested in becoming a 4-H Animal Science Committee Member?

Most committees are looking for members, especially Market Poultry.

Market Poultry is also looking for a chairperson.

If you are interested in serving on any committee, please submit a letter of interest to Jeff.

If you have questions, please email Jeff at jrt284@cornell.edu or call 716-664-9502, ext. 215.

Send us your pictures and stories!

We love seeing photos of your club and project activities, so we've made a place for you to easily share them with us. Just go to https://bit.ly/4-HPhotos and select the photos you'd like to upload on your phone or computer!

FAQ's About 4-H

Who can enroll in 4-H?

Youth must be 5 years of age and no older than 18 years of age as of January 1, 2026 to participate in 4-H this year.

Where can I find youth or volunteer enrollment paperwork?

Enrollment forms are available at club meetings, animal project meetings, from the 4-H Office, or online:

bit.ly/2026EnrollmentForms. Contact the 4-H Office if you would like enrollment information mailed or emailed. **Re-enrollments** are due by November 1st or will be charged a late fee.

What does it cost to participate in 4-H?

\$20.00 per child not to exceed \$60.00 per family. The enrollment fee can be paid by cash or check payable to "CCE", or via PayPal on our website.

What programs are available in Chautauqua County 4-H?

We offer Animal Science programs, Clubs, and Family Consumer Science Opportunities. Youth can complete a variety of opportunities based on their interests.

What role do volunteers play in 4-H programming?

Volunteers are key to the success of 4-H programs. Volunteers must complete enrollment paperwork each year as well. Enrollment forms are available at the 4-H Office or by visiting https://bit.ly/2026EnrollmentForms. Members of the community interested in volunteering can contact the 4-H Office at 716-664-9502 ext. 214.

4-H Awards Ceremony

October 25, 1:00 PM JCC Carnahan Center Theater

You're invited to the 2025 4-H Awards ceremony which will be held as part of the CCE Open House event on October 25, 2025.

The day is open-house style, so you're welcome to attend whichever sessions you'd like.

11am: Spinach Success-ion Educational Workshops and Giveaways.

12pm: Free lunch and CCE Annual Meeting Featuring a keynote from our iCap consultant Mary Beth Debus.

1pm: 4-H Awards Ceremony with ice cream social to follow and photos by CCE staff.





Chautauqua County 4-H Green Tie Affair

Sunday, February 22, 2026 Chautauqua Harbor Hotel



3pm: Basket Raffle and Bake Sale 5pm: Dinner with Pie Auction to follow

We are looking for about 15 YOUTH interested in baking pies for the auction - reach out to Lynne if you're interested!

Stanley Weeks Scholarship

Applications due 10/7 to the Extension Office

Applications available at https://bit.ly/2025StanleyWeeks

This scholarship is for youth entering an agriculture-related field.



2025-2026 4-H Enrollment

Enrollment forms are available at the Extension Office, on our website, or at https://bit.ly/2026EnrollmentForms

Open enrollment starts October 1st.

The yearly fee is \$20 per youth, not to exceed \$60 per family.

Thank you to United Way of Chautauqua County for reducing our enrollment fees!



Give your old stuff new life at 4-H

4-H needs donations of some materials for new programs.

Contact Sarah Hatfield if you have questions at (716) 664-9502 ext. 216 or at sph76@cornell.edu. Thank you!

- Old denim jeans (holes are ok!)
- Silk neckties
- LEGO bricks (brand-name)
- Wool roving (even little scraps are good)
- An old blender (it has to work!)
- A variety of eggs (different colored chicken, turkey, pheasant, quail, duck, etc.)
- Old leather jackets or gloves
- Small headed hammers
- Wooden cutting boards
- Animal pelts/hides (domestic or wild rabbit, fox, coyote, bobcat, sheep, cow, deer, etc.)

2025-26 Beef Meeting and Enrollment

October 16, 6:30 PM: First Beef Meeting

October 31 Deadline to Enroll

Any 4-H'er interested in joining the Beef Project needs to contact Dave Schauman at 716-487-9650.

4-H'ers must have their steer or heifer by the end of October.



Thank you, 4-H Volunteers!

Volunteers are the ones who really make things move at 4-H. Thank you all for everything you do, from hauling pens to teaching children to wrangling animals, 4-H couldn't run without your help.

October 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Rabbit Committee 6:30pm - records	2 Dairy Committee 6:30pm Ex Poultry Comm. 6:30 pm	3	4
National 4-H week begins	Goat Committee 6:45 pm	7 Stanley Weeks Scholarship Applications Due	Dog Committee 6:30 pm Hog Committee 6:00 p.m.	9 Sheep Committee 6:00 pm Sheep Project 7:00 p.m.	10	11
12	13	Horse Committee 6:30 pm	Dog Project 6:30 pm	16 Beef Project 6:30 pm Beef Committee Following	17	18
19	Goat Project 6:30	21	22	23 Rabbit Project 6:30pm	24	25 CCE Open House 11am - 3pm 4-H Awards 1pm
26	27	28	29 Exhibition Poultry Project 6:30pm	30	31	

November 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	Goat Committee 6:45 pm	4 By Happy Dilection Down	Hog Committee 6:00 pm Beef Committee 6:30 pm Ex Poultry 6:30pm	Dairy Committee 6:30 pm	7	8 Beef Weigh in and Tags
9	Rabbit Committee 6:30 pm	Horse Committee TBD VETERANS DAY	Sheep Committee 6:00 pm Sheep Project 7:00 pm	13	14	15
16	Goat Project 6:45 pm	Dog Project 6:30 pm Exhibition Poultry 6:30 pm	19	20	21	Beef Hoof Trimming Tentative
23	Rabbit Project 6:30 pm		26	27	28	29

Animal Project News



Sheep Project

Meetings

Thursday, October 9 Thursday, November 13

All committee meetings at 6pm and project meetings at 7pm unless otherwise noted

Committee Chair: Shawn Huntington shuntington@randolphcsd.org



Horse Project

Committee Meetings

Tuesday, October 14 Tuesday, November 11

Project Meetings

TBD

*ALL meetings are at 6:30 PM unless otherwise noted

Committee Chair: Kasey Fanara blondieshort24@yahoo.com



Rabbit Project

Committee Meetings

Wednesday, October 1st - records Monday, November 10

Project Meetings

Thursday, October 23 Monday, November 24

ALL meetings at 6:30 unless otherwise noted

Committee Chair: Kim Chapman kchapman4574@gmail.com



Dog Committee

Wednesday, October 8th Wednesday, November 12

Dog Project

Wednesday, October 15th Wednesday, November 19

All Project and Committee Meetings at 6:30 PM

Committee Chair: Roxanne Young ryoung6825@outlook.com

Exhibition Poultry Project

Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 2nd—records Wednesday, November 5



Project Meeting

Wednesday, October 29 Wednesday, November 19

*ALL meetings are at 6:30 PM unless otherwise noted

Committee Chair: Jamie Smith smith_jamie@mac.com



Beef Project

Committee Meetings

After Project Meeting on October 16

Beef Project Meetings

Thursday, October 16

ALL meetings are at 6:30 unless otherwise noted

Committee Chair: Dave Schauman chautcobeefprogram@gmail.com



Hog Project

Committee Meetings

Wednesday, October 8

Project Meeting

Wednesday, November 5



Special Note:

Iremind now needs to be downloaded as an app and an email address needs to be linked with it. The classroom code for hog project is

@hogpr

PLEASE download the app so you can get our announcements.

Any questions call/text Dawn 716-969-4310

*All meetings are at 6:00 PM unless otherwise noted.

Please note: One parent/guardian MUST attend meetings with their 1st and 2nd year members.

Committee Chair: Louis Smith 716-785-1890



Market Poultry Project

Committee Meetings

TBA

Market Poultry Project Meetings

None in Oct / Nov



Dairy Project

Committee Meetings

Thursday, October 2nd—records
Thursday, November 6

Dairy Project Meetings

None in Oct / Nov

Committee Chair: Bart Nickerson bjnick@windstream.net

Sign up for the new 4-H year!



Goat Project

Committee Meetings

Monday, October 6 Monday, November 3

Goat Project Meetings

Monday, October 20 Monday, November 17

ALL meetings are at 6:45 PM unless otherwise noted

Watch our Facebook page!

Committee Chair: Keith LaRoy Keithlaroy@yahoo.com



CHAUTAUQUA OPEN HOUSE



Saturday, October 25th 11am - 3pm

COME WHEN YOU CAN
STAY FOR A BIT, STAY FOR THE DAY

CCE @ JCC CARNAHAN CENTER 525 FALCONER STREET JAMESTOWN, NY 14701

11AM - SPINACH SUCCESSION WORKSHOPS
12NOON - LUNCH, KEYNOTE SPEAKER, ANNUAL MEETING
1PM - 4-H AWARDS CEREMONY & PICTURES
2PM - ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Master Gardeners

We Remember Wickie

A Tribute to "Wickie" Sharon Y. Stapleton, née Vogle, 1952 - 2024 By CCE-Chautauqua Master Gardener Volunteer, Dinah Hovey Presented at Evening in the Garden on August 20th, 2025



We remember Wickie.

Wickie Stapleton was our friend and a great gardening gal! She was a longtime Master Gardener and chairperson of our Demonstration Garden and Evening in the Garden committees.

She was a stalwart volunteer for our Help Desk service where Master Gardeners answer gardening questions and concerns from the public.

Wickie recruited us to present topical programs for our Evening in the Garden series. Many of us did not feel we were ready, but Wickie knew better. As a consummate teacher, Wickie knew it was her job to guide us to greater understanding of gardening topics and of ourselves and what better way to understand a subject than to teach it.

Wickie was generous with her time and talents. She had vast home gardening experience and knowledge. She started her gardening journey alongside her grandparents. She shared her knowledge with her grandchildren and with our Chautauqua County community.

Wickie introduced us to dehydrated tomatoes, seed saving, winter sowing, and vegetable powders. From her, we learned about the 'Juliet' grape tomato, a workhorse in many of our gardens. We learned about an early and productive pole bean, the 'Northeaster'. We learned that her favorite Swiss Chard was 'Fordhook Giant' and her favorite lettuce was 'Red Sails'. Her favorite seed company and catalog was High Mowing Organic Seeds, in Vermont.

Wickie Stapleton, our friend and colleague. A leader in our Cornell Cooperative Extension Service Master Gardener Volunteer Program. A mentor to new Master Gardeners. An advocate for gardening in our wider community. A teacher and a friend.

We miss you, Wickie Stapleton. We remember you. We will encourage and teach others.



Are You Getting The MOST Out Of Your Soil?

Come join us for a hands-on **FREE** workshop led by Katelyn Walley-Stoll to learn how to maximize your soil without the guesswork!

Whether you're a backyard gardener or managing acres of farmland, this workshop is for you!





(716)-664-9502 ext.203

chautauquaag@cornell.edu

Thursday, October 9th

● 6:00-7:00 PM

JCC Carnahan Center, Jamestown



Fall Quick Tips October 2025





Fall Fruits and Vegetables

Fall is here, and that means lots of tasty seasonal fruits and veggies! This is a great time to try something new or use your favorites in a different recipe. Right now, you'll see cauliflower, winter squash (like acorn and butternut), Brussels sprouts, potatoes, sweet potatoes, and beets. You'll also find plenty of apples and pears. Each of these foods has different vitamins, minerals, and fiber that your body needs. Eating a mix of colorful produce—sometimes called "eating the rainbow"—is a fun way to stay healthy.

Not sure about some of these? Give them a try! For example, many people think they don't like Brussels sprouts because they've only had them boiled or steamed, which can make them mushy and too strong in flavor. But roasting them is a game-changer! Just wash them, cut an "X" in the bottom stem, toss them with oil, salt, and pepper, and spread them out on a baking sheet. Roast at 425°F for about 20 minutes. Roasting makes them tender and brings out a delicious sweetness that might surprise you!



Eat Together, Eat Better

Eat Together, Eat Better this month by turning mealtime into family time!

- 1. Cook together Invite your child to help by rinsing fruits and veggies, setting the table, or turning off the TV.
- 2. Eat together Make mealtime special by focusing on each other. Try making it a "no phones" zone.
- 3. Talk together Ask fun questions like, "If you could invite anyone to dinner, who would it be and why?" or "What made you happy today?"

Sharing meals isn't just about food—it's about connecting, laughing, and making memories as a family.



This material is funded by Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program, USDA, and NIFA



Building Healthy Habits Recipe

Baked Apples and Squash

Serving size 3/4 cup

Makes 3 cups

Ingredients:

2 cups winter squash cubes

2 cups apple cubes

1 tablespoon vegetable oil

½ teaspoon cinnamon

1 tablespoon sugar

½ teaspoon salt

Directions:

- 1. Wash hands with soap and water.
- 2. Rinse fresh vegetables under running water before preparing.
- 3. Preheat over to 425 degrees.
- 4. In a large bowl, combine all ingredients. Toss to coat evenly.
- 5. Spread mixture on a baking sheet.
- 6. Bake for 20-30 minutes, or until squash is soft.
- 7. Refrigerate leftovers within 2 hours.

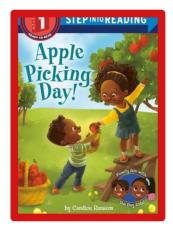
Nutrition Facts: Serving size: 3/4 cup, calories: 110; total fat: 3.5g; saturated fat: 0g; sodium: 290mg; total carbohydrate: 20g; added sugars: 3g; Protein: 1g; Calcium: 41mg; Potassium: 315mg, Vitamin C: 18mg Vitamin A: 374mcg

Source: FoodHero.org



Celebrate National Apple Month!

New York grows many different kinds of apples. This month, check out a local farmer's market to see which apples are grown near you. Or, try apple picking! Many orchards let you pick your own with your friends and family. Be sure to call ahead to check which kind of apples are ready. To find an orchard near you, visit: applesfromny.com



Kids' Book Nook

With your child, visit your local library and borrow "Apple Picking Day" by Candice F. Ransom and read it together. After reading, talk about different ways you can enjoy apples for a healthy snack!

Building Healthy Habits BHH

Meet Your Educator

Name: Wendy Alexander

Extension: Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautauqua County

(716) 664-9502 ext. 221 or wa66@cornell.edu







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