

CHENANGO 4-H SNAPSHOT

WELCOME MICAELA

I'm thrilled to announce that Micaela Meseck has joined our 4-H team as a 4-H Educator. Micaela is a proud alumna of the Chenango County 4-H program and brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to our animal science offerings. While her specialty is dairy goats, she has hands-on experience with a wide range of livestock species, including dairy cattle. Her impressive achievement as a Super Showmanship Competition winner, demonstrating skill across six different species, speaks volumes about her dedication and versatility as an educator.

Micaela's strong agricultural background, dedication to youth, and positive energy make her a fantastic addition to our team. We're confident she will inspire and empower our youth, helping them grow through hands-on learning and meaningful engagement.

Message from Micaela:

Hi everyone! My name is Micaela Meseck, and I'm thrilled to be joining the Chenango County Cornell Cooperative Extension team.

My 4-H journey began when I was eight years old and quickly became a major part of my life. Through showing a variety of livestock, competing in knowledge competitions, participating in public presentations and Teen Council, and entering projects in the Case Building, 4-H provided me with countless experiences and lessons that I'll always be grateful for. Now, with my two children active in the program, I'm even more appreciative of the opportunities 4-H continues to provide and the positive impact it has on youth and families. I'm thankful for the opportunity to give back to the program that means so much to me and has shaped who I am today.

I earned my Bachelor's degree in Wildlife Conservation and have spent the past four years working as a Veterinary Assistant. I'm looking forward to helping youth learn through hands-on opportunities and inspiring them to explore agriculture while developing lifelong skills. I'm excited to work with the 4-H team and the Chenango County community to continue building a strong and engaging programs for our youth.





4-H Spotlights

4-H IS ROCKING IN CHENANGO COUNTY

With the new 4-H year beginning on Oct. 1st, there has been a lot of things to get excited about! Some sort of activity is happening every week so don't delay get your 4-H re-enrollment in so you don't miss out!

If you have something fun you want to share please send in your articles and pictures. We would love to include you in our next edition.



Send your articles and pictures to Rhonda at: rlt236@cornell.edu

4-H PROCLAMATION

National 4-H Week is an annual celebration in October that highlights the wonderful achievements of 4-H youth, inspires more young people to join, and welcomes new volunteers into the program. This October, we were honored to receive a proclamation from the Chenango County Board of Supervisors with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chenango County. This proclamation celebrates the dedication and contributions of our 4-H youth, volunteers, and educators across the county.

A special thank-you to The Jolly Ranchers for making delicious clover cookies for the board members, and Sadie L., who gave a wonderful speech and proudly accepted the proclamation on behalf of all Chenango County 4-H members!



HIDDEN PONDS HORSE LOVERS

Members of the Hidden Ponds Horse Lovers 4-H Club held a fundraiser to help a family in need. These kids did an amazing job and we can not thank them enough for all the work they did and the funds they raised. I know the family was very appreciative for what these youth did for them. We also want to thank the Tractor Supply for always being willing to support our 4-H youth.

On November 9th, the club made Hersey Kiss Turkeys as a community service project for the Area of Aging seniors to be handed out with their Thanksgiving meal.



RIBBON WRANGLERS

On October 26th the Ribbon Wranglers 4-H club had their annual fall party to welcome in the new 4-H year. It was a very chilly day but the kids had a great time playing games, eating donuts hanging from a string, hanging with their friends, playing with the kitties, and having great Halloween snacks.

In December the club had a wonderful time celebrating the holiday season through simple acts of creativity and kindness. The youth enjoyed baking pumpkin cranberry muffins, made festive simmer pots for someone special, and the kids signed greeting cards for individuals who may not receive Christmas cards during the holidays.



JOLLY GREEN GIANTS

The Jolly Green Giants had their meeting on November 15th. The kids focused on hosting the Leaders Tea and different roles of youth in the club. The members made a turkey craft with special thanks to "Rita" for her crafty expertise. Their next meeting is December 6th.

On December 12th, this club hosted the Leaders Association Christmas Tea. These 4-H'ers did an awesome job offering snacks to the attendees as a gesture of thanks for all they do for 4-H. They even did an amazing job auctioning off items that helped the Leaders raise funds that go back to youth scholarships, camps, awards, and more.



SHOOTING SPORTS

The Shooting Sports program continues to grow. The instructors have been fundraising in order to purchase more equipment and updated to accommodate the increase in numbers. The instructors continue to shift their time between archery, air rifle, .22, and air pistols so that there is enough space for all of the 4-H'ers interested in the program.



SPOOKY SLIME SCIENCE

On October 9th, 4-H'ers got messy with science while learning all about slime! During this hands-on program, youth explored what makes slime slimy and experimented with different recipes to create fun, gooey mixtures. Once their slime was just right, they added googly eyes and glow-in-the-dark bugs to give it a spooky Halloween twist!



HIKING CLUB

On October 4th, Nicole and a group of 4-H'ers hit the trails at Pharsalia Woods State Forest for an afternoon of outdoor adventure! The kids had a blast spotting different types of mushrooms along the way and even got the chance to climb over fallen trees. The hike wrapped up with a visit to the pond, where everyone enjoyed the view from the observation platform.



SKILL-A-THON

An awesome group turned out for Friday nights first 4-H Skill-a-Thon practice. Skill-a-Thon is a great opportunity for 4-H'ers to learn about a variety of livestock animals. This group will cover things like breeds, meat cuts, feeds, and so much more. Any 4-H'er is welcome to take part in this group. The group met again on Nov. 14th, to learn basic nutrients, animal needs, judging, and played breed bingo. Special Thank you to Andy from Louis J Gale and sons, for allowing us to take over 20 feed samples that will be used for identification.



COMPOSTING

On November 17th, 4-H invited a guest speaker Kim from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation to bring youth a hands-on Composting 101 program! Participants learned the basics of composting, why it's important for the environment, and how to start their own compost at home. From food scraps to garden waste, 4-H'ers discovered how to turn everyday materials into nutrient-rich soil while helping reduce waste.



CURIOUS KIDS

The Curious Kids 4-H club met for their first meeting of the year. They held officer elections, made healthy brownies, and planned their December community service project (Angel tree) and plans for their next meeting. This club is growing with the addition of new members.

At their December meeting, some of the 4-H members took part in the Angel Tree community service project at Walmart. They choose names from the tree and then went shopping for items needed for the families in need.



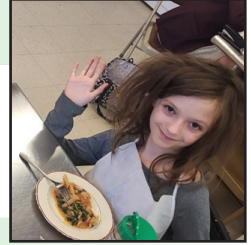
ACHIEVEMENT DAY

Achievement Day is celebrated in October to recognize all of the accomplishments 4-H'ers had over the previous year. A big group turned out this year to help us celebrate. Think ahead for this year by starting those project record sheets now, so when September rolls around you are ahead of the paperwork. Each project area is listed on the CCE web page under 4-H Youth Development.



AROUND THE WORLD-ITALY

On October 17th, 4-H youth joined in the kitchen to learn all about Italy and celebrate National Pasta Day! We started by discussing some fun facts about Italy, discussed the different types of pasta, and then got right into cooking a healthy whole grain pasta dish with a creamy tomato and spinach sauce. The program and pasta dish were both a hit!



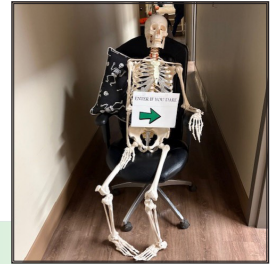
PUMPKIN CARVING

On October 20th, 4-H'ers gathered to carve and paint pumpkins to celebrate the season! Some freehanded their designs, while others used stencils to create their masterpieces. All in all, the kids had a blast and took home their beautifully decorated pumpkins to display for fall.



BOO BASH

This year's Halloween Boo Bash was a frightfully fun success! We were thrilled to welcome five local organizations, each bringing their own festive and engaging game, activity, or craft to share. In addition to the themed tables, guests enjoyed a temporary tattoo and craft station, while Snap-Ed mixed up a grab-and-go trail mix and 4-H cooked spooky hotdog "fingers" in the kitchen. It was a fun-filled event for everyone who attended, and we're already looking forward to next year's spook-tacular celebration!



GRATITUDE CRAFT NIGHT

On November 7th, 4-H youth gathered to honor Veterans Day by creating heartfelt cards for local veterans. We discussed the importance of the holiday and the significance of recognizing those who have served. The cards will be hand-delivered to the New York State Veterans Home in Oxford. In addition to making cards, youth reflected on what they're grateful for and created "gratitude jars" to take home and continue filling throughout November. It was a meaningful and uplifting program for all!



NO-BAKE DESSERTS

4-H'ers gathered to explore a variety of no-bake dessert recipes using unique ingredients like avocado and tofu. Youth measured out ingredients to make Vanilla Tofu Pudding and Chocolate Avocado Mousse—both kid-tested and approved! Along the way, they practiced kitchen skills and discovered that healthier ingredients can still make delicious treats.



PAINT YOUR OWN POTTERY

On December 5th, 4-H youth got together at a local pottery studio to paint their own pottery. We had 16 in attendance and everyone got to choose a piece of pottery, picked their favorite colors in order to create a one-of-a-kind design. The kids had so much fun!



HOLIDAY CARD NIGHT

Holiday Card Craft Night was a huge success! 4-H youth used their creativity and imagination to design beautiful holiday cards for their loved ones. The room was filled with laughter and festive spirit as members experimented with different art supplies, learned new techniques, and shared ideas with one another. It was a wonderful way to kick off the holiday season and celebrate the joy of creating together.





MASON JAR SNOW GLOBES

Author - Sarah@The Farmwife Crafts

Ingredients:

- Small glass jar
- Small animal figurine
- Distilled Water
- Glucerin or clear dish soap
- Glitter
- E600 glue



Instructions:

1. Glue the animal figurine to the lid of teh jar using E600 glue (its waterproof). Allow the glue to dry completely.
2. Fill the glass jar with water. Add the glitter and a few drops of glycerin.
3. Screw the lid on tightly to the jar. Shake and enjoy!



WREATHS AND DECORATIONS

Is it too cold outside? Do you feel stuck indoors with nothing to do? Try making one of these fun projects with things you may have just lying around the house.

Bow Tie Noodle Wreath Card

Supplies needed:

- Mini bow tie noodles or other fun shaped pasta
- Green paint
- Paintbrush
- Green glitter
- Red ribbon
- Glue



Start by painting all the noodles with green paint and shake with green glitter. Once the noodles are completely dry, glue them into a circle on a piece of white card stock. Tie a bow with a ribbon and glue it on the bottom of the wreath! Makes a nice gift card.

PUZZLE PIECE ORNAMENTS

Supplies Needed:

- Small Puzzle Pieces
- Red Paint
- White Paint
- Green Paint
- Paint brushes
- Glue
- Green twine, ric rac, or thin ribbon
- Small Jingle Bell
- Red Puff Paint



Let's start with the Candy Cane Ornament:

Start off by painting your puzzle pieces! I painted both sides so that if the ornament can be seen from the back it still looks pretty! I painted 6 pieces of each color, red and white. Once dry, use your glue to adhere them together in the shape of a candy cane. When the glue dries, add a loop with your ric rac or ribbon. Just find a hole created by the puzzle pieces and loop it through there!

Now let's move onto the Wreath Ornament:

For the wreath I tried a different method. I glued the pieces together FIRST and then painted. After the green paint dried, I used a tube of puff paint to make the tiny berries! Once everything was dry I used some ribbon along with a tiny jingle bell left over from my Cork Rudolph Ornament from last year to make the hanger.



4-Hers STAYING ACTIVE

COMMUNITY SERVICE

ARTS AND CRAFTS

SHOOTING SPORTS

HORSEBOWL/HIPPOLOGY

DAIRY BOWL

BUG CLUB

KIDS IN THE GARDEN

PRESENTATIONS

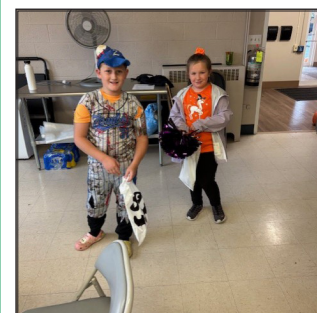
SEWING PROGRAM

HIKING CLUB

ANIMAL PROJECTS

AND

MUCH MORE!





4-H MARK YOUR CALENDARS



For more information about the following programs and to register - Email Nicole at nrs98@cornell.edu or visit our Facebook page: **Chenango County 4-H Youth Development**. Check each event for the correct contact information..

4-H ENROLLMENT

The 4-H enrollment process is now underway for the 2025-2026 4-H year. We have a new enrollment form for youth and volunteers. We are hoping to get these enrollments taken care of earlier than in the past. So, if you know of youth or volunteers let them know they need to re-enroll. **Volunteers paper form only** and youth can enter on the 4-H online program or paper copy but be sure to upload your consent forms.

HIPPOLOGY every Fri. starting on Jan. 2nd, 6:00pm - 7:30pm

Any 4-H youth ages 5-18, come join the fun as we begin the Hippology / Horsebowl sessions. If you are a 4-H'er that loves horses and you would like more information about Hippology and Horsebowl contact Rhonda: rlt236@cornell.edu
Regular Hippology/Horsebowl sessions begin every Friday night at 6 pm beginning in January and go through March. Please register once for these sessions.



DAIRY BOWL every Thurs. night starting on Jan. 8th, 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Come join the fun as our new 4-H educator Micaela begins the Dairy bowl program. Every Thursday night starting on Jan. 8th. It is sure to be a "Moooving" experience as you learn all about dairy cows from the inside out! If you'd like to sign up, or have any questions, please **reach out to Micaela at mm3589@cornell.edu**!



HEALTHY BAKING – OATMEAL COOKIES Jan. 8th, 4:30pm – 5:30pm

Let's start the new year off right with some healthy baking! Join us on January 8th to make delicious and nutritious oatmeal cookies. 4-H'ers will discuss the importance of healthy eating, practice following a recipe, measure ingredients, and—of course—sample their creations!



PUBLIC PRESENTATION CLINIC Jan. 10th, 10:00am - 12:00pm

Join us at the CCE building on Saturday, January 10th to learn the basics of giving a great public presentation! 4-H'ers will learn how to choose and research a topic, manage their time, create an organized poster, and much more.



OUTDOOR COOKING Jan. 10th, Feb. 14th, Mar. 14, 10:00am – 12:00pm

Every second Saturday of the month – Ages 12+

4-H'ers, get your taste buds ready for another round of delicious Outdoor Cooking! Mr. Richard is breaking out the recipes and heating up the cast iron for another outdoor cooking program. If you are interested in joining this program or would like more information, please **contact Richard: turrellr@protonmail.com**.



CAKE DECORATING with Kelly Banks Jan. 14th, 5:00pm – 6:30pm

Join us on January 14th with special guest Kelly Banks, owner and head pastry chef of Kelly Banks Cakes. Kelly has over 20 years of experience hand-crafting delicious, beautifully presented cakes and baked goods and is excited to share her expertise with 4-H youth! **Space is limited, so please sign up early.**



SHOOTING SPORTS Jan., 18th, Feb. 15th, Mar. 15th, 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Every third Sunday of the month – Ages 9+

The 4-H Shooting Sports program teaches youth the fundamentals of firearm safety using archery, air rifle and .22 rifles. Our newest instructors are now certified in air pistols so qualified youth will be able to add this to their experience. For more information or to sign-up, please **contact Richard: turrellr@protonmail.com**.



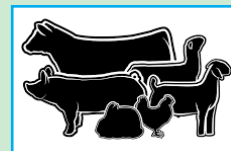
RABBIT CARE & SHOWMANSHIP CLINIC Jan. 24th, 2:00pm

Discover how to properly care for your rabbit. Micaela will share with you how to prepare your rabbit for showmanship. For more information and to register **contact: Micaela at mm3589@cornell.edu** Several animal clinics on a variety of species will be coming up so keep an eye out. Watch for updates on Facebook.



CHOOSING A MARKET ANIMAL date and time TBA

Micaela will be offering a clinic in Jan. or Feb. on how to choose the right market animal for you. No matter what type of species you are looking for there are important things you should know. Join her as she walks you through the how to's of selecting your animal.



4-H HIKING CLUB Feb. 7th, Mar. 7th, 9:00am

Join us for 4-H Hiking Club, meeting the first Saturday of every month at different parks and forests across Chenango County! Each outing offers youth the chance to explore new trails while learning about hiking etiquette, practicing mindfulness in nature, and identifying local plants. It's a great way to stay active, build outdoor skills, and connect with the natural world—one hike at a time!



POULTRY CLINIC Feb. 22nd, at 11:00am

Micaela (**mm3589@cornell.edu**) is waiting for confirmation on a date and time for a Poultry workshop in February, so keep an eye out for updates. It's important to know how to prepare your poultry whether it is a chicken, duck, or turkey for fair time. Learn early so you are not caught off guard come fairtime. Come ready to ask questions.



OPEN CRAFT NIGHT Jan. 23rd, 5:00pm – 6:00pm

Time to get creative at Open Craft Night! Join Nicole and other 4-H youth to paint, decorate, and create. Whether you're painting a wooden craft, decorating pinecones, or making a one-of-a-kind masterpiece, come enjoy a fun evening of crafting and imagination!



BREAKFAST FOR DINNER Jan. 28th, 5:00pm – 6:00pm

January 28th is National Blueberry Pancake Day, so come celebrate in the kitchen with other 4-H youth! Learn how to make delicious homemade blueberry pancakes from scratch while practicing basic cooking skills like measuring, mixing, and safely using kitchen tools. Of course, we'll finish by enjoying our tasty creations together!



VALENTINES DAY CRAFT NIGHT Feb. 13th, 5:00pm – 6:00pm

Join us the day before Valentine's Day to make a special craft for your loved ones! Whether it's creating a handmade card or decorating a wooden heart, 4-H'ers will have the chance to get creative and make something from the heart. Everyone will go home with a unique, personalized gift to share with someone special.



SNOWSHOEING Feb. 21st, 10:00am *weather permitting*

Let's get together and enjoy the winter weather with some snowshoeing! 4-H youth will learn the basics of using snowshoes, practice walking on snowy terrain, and explore the winter landscape together. It's a great way to get outside, stay active, and have fun in the snow with friends! Equipment is limited so please sign up early!



HEALTHY BAKING – BANANA BREAD Feb. 23rd, 4:30pm – 6:00pm

It's National Banana Bread Day, so let's get into the kitchen and celebrate! 4-H youth will sharpen their baking skills by following a recipe, measuring ingredients, and working together as a team to create delicious banana bread muffins. Along the way, we'll talk about kitchen safety and the basics of baking—then enjoy tasting our warm, freshly baked treats!



PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS Feb. 28th, 9:00am – 3:00pm

Join in on the fun with Public Presentations! You'll build confidence and gain public speaking skills that will last a lifetime, all while sharing a topic you enjoy with others. Hear from our great, friendly, panel of judges as they listen to your presentations and share how well you did along with giving you pointers that will help in the future.



MORE AWESOME PROGRAMS COMING YOUR WAY!

HORSE SHOWMANSHIP CLINIC Mar. 8th, 1:00pm this showmanship clinic will be held at Hidden Ponds Stables. More information to follow.

INTRODUCTION TO SOAP MAKING Mar. 12th, 4:30pm – 5:30pm

Learn the basics of soap making on March 12th! 4-H youth will measure ingredients, follow a recipe, and explore the process of melt-and-pour soap making using all-natural, earth-friendly materials. Participants will get creative with colors, molds, and scents, and take home their own handmade bars of soap to use or share!

BIRD FEEDERS CRAFT NIGHT Mar. 18th, 5:30pm – 6:30pm

Join us on March 18th to make homemade bird feeders that 4-H youth can take home and hang up to help support neighborhood birds. Along the way, we'll talk about why birds need extra help in the winter and which foods are best for them. It's a fun, hands-on way to care for wildlife right in your own backyard!

Healthy Baking – Granola Mar. 24th, 5:00pm – 6:00pm

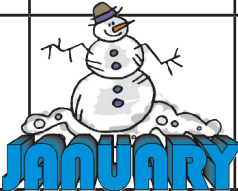

Ready to make an easy, healthy snack? Join fellow 4-H'ers to learn how to make delicious, nutritious homemade granola! This simple recipe is perfect for topping yogurt, packing in a lunchbox, or taking along on a hike.

SHEEP FARM TOUR Mar. 22nd, 12:00pm at Starlight Acres Solar Grazing

LEARN TO SEW PROGRAM

The learn to sew program begins in March (11th, 18th, 25th) with our 4-H cloverbuds, from 4:30-5:30pm. These are 5 to 7 year olds and yes they get to use sewing machines. There will be a meeting in March (TBA) for our 8 to 18 year olds to discuss projects for our April 6th - 8th Sewing program. This is a jam packed group so be on the look out for more information and to sign up. We fill up fast! For more information contact: Rhonda at rlt236@cornell.edu



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 CCE CLOSED	2 Hippology/ Horsebowl 6:00pm	3
4	5	6	7	8 Dairy bowl 5:30-6:30pm Healthy Baking 4:30-5:30pm	9 Hippology/ Horsebowl 6:00pm	10 Outdoor Cooking 10am Presentation Clinic 10:00- 12:00pm
11	12	13	14 Cake Decorating 5:00-6:30pm	15 Dairy bowl 5:30-6:30pm	16 Hippology/ Horsebowl 6:00pm	17
18 Shooting Sports 1:00pm	19	20	21	22 Dairy bowl 5:30-6:30pm	23 Craft Night 5:00-6:00pm Hippology/ Horsebowl 6:00pm	24 Rabbit Care 2:00pm
25	26	27	28 Breakfast for Dinner 5:00-6:00pm	29 Dairy bowl 5:30-6:30pm	30 Hippology/ Horsebowl 6:00pm	31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 Dairy bowl 5:30-6:30pm	6 Hippology/ Horsebowl 6:00pm	7 Hiking Club 9:00-11:00am
8	9	10	11	12 Dairy bowl 5:30-6:30pm	13 Valentine Craft 5:00-6:00pm- Hippology/ Horsebowl 6:00pm	14 Outdoor Cooking 10:00am
15 Shooting Sports 1:00pm	16	17	18	19 Dairy bowl 5:30-6:30pm	20 Hippology/ Horsebowl 6:00pm	21 Snowshoeing 10:00am
22 Poultry Clinic 11:00am	23 Healthy Baking 4:30-6:00pm	24	25	26 Dairy bowl 5:30-6:30pm	27 Hippology/ Horsebowl 6:00pm	28 Public Presentations 9:00-3:00pm
						

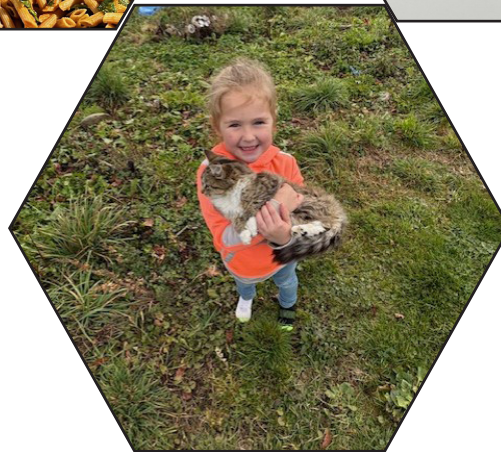
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8 Equine showmanship Clinic 1:00pm	9	10	11 Cloverbud Learn to Sew 4:30-5:30pm	12 Soap Making 4:30-5:30pm Dairy bowl 5:30-6:30pm	13 Hippology/ Horsebowl 6:00pm	14 Outdoor Cooking 10:00am	
15 Shooting Sports 1:00pm	16	17	18 Cloverbud Sew 4:30-5:30pm Bird Feeder 5:30-6:30pm	19 Dairy bowl 5:30-6:30pm	20 Hippology/ Horsebowl 6:00pm	21 Horsebowl Dairy bowl competition	
22 Sheep Tour	23	24 Healthy Baking 5:00-6:00pm	25 Cloverbud Learn to Sew 4:30-5:30pm	26	27	28	
29	30	31					

If you have any questions about the events in this calendar, please contact Whitney at: wdg43@cornell.edu

Chenango County 4-H
99 North Broad Street
Norwich, NY 13815



Non-Profit Org
US Postage PD
Norwich, NY 13815
Permit #46



Miss Whitney, Miss Nicole, Miss Micaela, and Miss Rhonda will continue to work hard keeping ideas coming your way, so send photos, we would love to know what you are up to! Send pictures and your articles to Rhonda: rlt236@cornell.edu