

CHENANGO 4-H SNAPSHOT

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!





4-H Spotlights

4-H IS PREPPING FOR THE COUNTY FAIR!

Please remember to have all of your paperwork ready for county fair! Note the change in the fair schedule!
No need for double entry cards for your Case Building projects!

If you don't see an article on an event you took part in, be sure to check out the photos, your bound to be in one!

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



WELCOME INTERN GARRETT PHELPS to CCE

Hi, my name is Garrett Phelps, and I am excited to be the summer intern for the Chenango County Cornell Cooperative Extension this summer. I grew up in Lewis County, New York, but I was deeply involved in my local 4-H group while attending high school in Jefferson County. I participated in showing dairy and sometimes beef, and I was also active in FFA and the Grange.

I am currently working towards my Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Business at SUNY Morrisville. This summer, I am particularly looking forward to the County Fair and assisting with various 4-H events. I am eager to deepen my understanding of the agricultural industry in this county and contribute meaningfully to the community.



CASHMERE GOAT CLINIC

On Sunday, April 26, a group of Chenango County 4 H'ers had an amazing opportunity to visit Kato En Farm for a hands on learning experience all about cashmere goats! Youth learned where cashmere comes from and how it's harvested using special combs, then got to practice the harvesting process themselves. They also explored what happens next by spinning the fiber on drop spindles and even creating their own bracelets and necklaces from the cashmere they collected.

A huge thank you to Nadya and her family at Kato En Farm for hosting us and for providing such a welcoming, engaging, and educational experience. We truly appreciate your time, knowledge, and generosity!



EARTH DAY

On Earth Day, 4-H'ers rolled up their sleeves to help clean up the raised garden beds at CCE! We moved around the garden and tackled each garden bed to get it prepared for the growing season. This hands-on service project was a great way to give back, learn about caring for our environment, and get excited for another season of gardening!



PLANT APPRECIATION DAY

April 13 was International Plant Appreciation Day and 4-H'ers gathered to explore the life cycle of plants learn what plants need to grow and thrive, and discussed why they're so important to our world. Participants then got hands-on by planting their own flowers to take home and care for. Afterwards, everyone got to indulge in a "dirt and worms" dessert to end the program! This was a 2 fun, educational way to welcome spring and nurture a love for gardening!



LEARN TO SEW / SEWING SPECTACULAR

2026 was an extremely successful year for the Learn to Sew program. Over the course of two months, we were able to serve 61 youths all wanting to learn sewing skills. This program has expanded over the years from its small beginnings of a few youths to the numbers we have today. We have an awesome group of volunteers that give of their time to help with this program which could not take place without them. One fantastic fact is that four of our older 4-H'ers that have been a part of sewing for years stepped up and volunteered to help the young kids learn as they have learned. That's what 4-H is all about! We ended our program with a Sewing Spectacular on May 1, where 4-H'ers could walk across a stage to show off their projects, this event gives youth a chance to show off their hard work. This was a big event this year with approximately 75 in attendance which included 4-H'ers and adults.



SHOOTING SPORTS

Shooting Sports youth were anxious for spring so that they can get outside to hold their activities in good weather. The warm weather often brings in new group of 4-H'ers eager wanting to join this activity. It can be a challenge to hold archery, then air rifles, .22's, and air pistols inside, but the program continues to be a success even through the winter months. Our certified instructors continue to emphasis safety throughout this whole program.



NYS HORSEBOWL / HORSE JUDGING COMPETITION

On April 18th seven Chenango County youth traveled to Cornell for the NYS Horsebowl competition. Katie F. and Abby-Lynn P. were on the region 4 junior team placing 2nd. The senior team made up of Maria F., Sophie R., and Noah B., also took home 2nd place ribbons. In the individual placings Maria F. received a third place which qualified her for a place on the National team if she chooses. These 4-H'ers did a wonderful Job!



NYS DAIRY BOWL

On April 25th, five Chenango County 4-H members represented the region at the New York State Dairy Bowl Competition. Youth competed across beginner, junior, and senior divisions, demonstrating strong knowledge and teamwork. Team results included a 4th place finish for the Beginner Team (Leland E. and Margaret G.), a 4th place finish for the Junior Team (Rinoa B.), and a 2nd place finish for the Senior Team (Elizabeth V. and Thomas H.). Individual achievements included Margaret G. placing 8th in the Beginner division and Elizabeth V. earning 1st place in the Senior division. As a result of her performance, Elizabeth will advance to represent New York at the National Dairy Bowl Competition. Sincere appreciation is extended to volunteers Julia Goodwin and Matthew Hanahan for serving as coaches for the Beginner and Senior teams. Their time and commitment were instrumental in the success of this program.



SKILL-A-THON

On April 17th , nine Chenango County 4-H members traveled to Broome County to compete in the Regional Livestock Skillathon Competition. This event assesses youth knowledge in beef, sheep, meat goats, and swine across a variety of topic areas, including feeds, meat cuts, equipment, breed identification, and animal health. The competition consists of three components: a written exam, a team problem-solving activity, and hands-on identification stations. All of our participating 4-H'ers did an excellent job, with several placing in the top ten within their respective divisions.





BUG CLUB

On April 21 the Bug Club began its meetings for the season at CCE. There were 12 youth that met to investigate the life of bees. At this first meeting these kids enjoyed making bee houses that they could take home and put on their property to give the bees a safe habitat. After the bee houses were completed, they were asked if they would like to draw some t-shirt ideas so the club could make a new shirt design for this year. In June these kids met at Galena Park for a lesson on pinning and a little time to gather bugs. We always finished our time with a few tasty cricket snacks.



BLACK WELSH MOUNTAIN LAMB PROJECT

On May 14th, several 4-H youth participants were selected to receive Black Welsh Mountain ewe lambs as part of a hands-on learning opportunity focused on raising and exhibiting a heritage sheep breed. Participants applied for the program and have now begun their projectwork, which will include animal care, management, and preparation for showing. This project was made possible through the generous donation of lambs from A Jo Ann Rodda Farm. Their support provides meaningful experiential learning opportunities for youth while also contributing to the promotion and preservation of the Black Welsh Mountain breed. Youth participants have expressed strong enthusiasm as they begin this project and are actively engaged in developing the skills necessary to successfully raise and showcase their animals in the coming months.



SWINE CLINIC

A 4-H Swine Clinic was held on May 19th at the fairgrounds, providing youth with a comprehensive, hands-on learning experience to prepare for the upcoming show season. During the clinic, participants received instruction on key topics including swine show preparation, ear notch identification, basic swine anatomy and meat cuts, appropriate show attire, and effective showmanship techniques. Following the instructional portion, youth applied their knowledge by working directly with pigs, allowing them to practice handling and presentation skills in a real-world setting. This clinic was made possible through the support and expertise of the Fairchild family, who generously contributed their time, knowledge, and animals. Their involvement greatly enhanced the educational value of the program. Participants demonstrated strong engagement and enthusiasm throughout the evening, gaining confidence and building essential skills as they prepare for the show ring.



4-H DOG PROGRAM

The 4-H Dog Program held its initial meeting on May 22nd at the CCE office, with youth participants gathering to help shape the direction of the program for the year. During the meeting, participants discussed their interests and goals, which led to the development of a planned series of dog obedience classes. The first class was held at the fairgrounds on June 19th, 2026. In addition, there was discussion regarding the potential to host a dog show following the county fair. Ideas were also contributed to enhance the educational experience of the program. A "breed spotlight" component was established, where a different participant will share information about a selected dog breed at each meeting. At this first meeting, Mariah L. presented on Rough Collies. Additional opportunities discussed included potential field trips to observe dog shows and the incorporation of guest speakers to present on topics such as veterinary care and other aspects of dog ownership and management. Overall, the meeting was well attended and highly interactive, with youth demonstrating strong enthusiasm in shaping the program's offerings.



DAIRY GOAT FITTING / SHOWMANSHIP

On May 30th, a Dairy Goat Fitting and Showmanship Clinic was held, engaging 14 4-H youth in a hands-on educational experience designed to prepare them for the upcoming fair. During the clinic, participants received instruction on show-day preparation, including appropriate attire, required equipment, and key information to study in advance. Youth also practiced essential skills such as hoof trimming, body clipping, and proper showmanship techniques in the ring. Each participant received an informational study packet to support continued learning and preparation at home. The clinic was well attended and provided valuable practical experience, helping youth build confidence and develop the skills necessary for successful participation in dairy goat shows.



CRAFT NIGHTS

4-H has had a variety of craft nights. Starting with a Mothers Day, then Open crafts, painting wood items, and candle making 101. Craft time is a fun way for youth to get creative! From slime or choosing your own craft project to a direct projects like candle making, these nights are always filled with fun and imagination!

ASTRONOMY NIGHT

On May 28th, 4-H welcomed guest speaker Dr. Valerie Rapson for an out-of-this-world learning experience! 4-H'ers explored the unique properties of the planets in our solar system while examining real images captured by space telescopes and satellites. Afterwards, youth learned about the distances between the planets with an interactive game. This program surely sparked curiosity, strengthened STEM skills, and brought space science to life in a fun and memorable way.



Don't Forget our Fair theme! "Once upon a Fair"! What will you all come up with for the decorating contest. Don't forget to enter all of your exhibits in the Fair Entry program.

Please let us know if you need help entering.



4-Hers STAYING ACTIVE

COMMUNITY SERVICE

ARTS AND CRAFTS

SHOOTING SPORTS

HORSEBOWL/HIPPOLOGY

DAIRY BOWL

BUG CLUB

KIDS IN THE KITCHEN

PRESENTATIONS

SEWING PROGRAM

HIKING CLUB

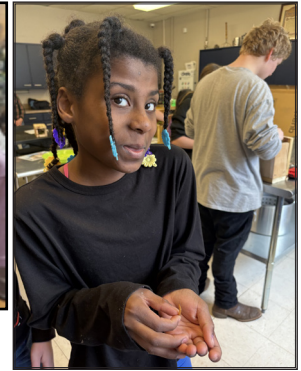
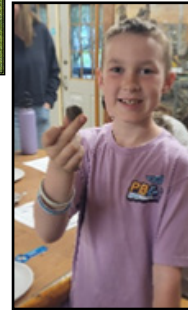
ANIMAL PROJECTS

AND

MUCH MORE!



18 USC 707





4-H MARK YOUR CALENDARS



4-H & CHENANGO COUNTY YOUTH, PHOTOGRAPHY BASICS - July 8th, 5:00 – 6:00pm

Come join 4-H and other Chenango County youth to learn about the art of photography! Guest photographer Zachary Meseck will provide an introduction to photography, including tips on composition, lighting, and capturing great outdoor shots. Youth will then have the opportunity to practice their skills by taking photos of their own. This outdoor event is sure to be both educational and fun for anyone interested in exploring photography! This program is open to youth beyond 4-H thanks to the Chenango County Youth Bureau.



WATER SAFETY - July 11th, 11:00-12:00pm

Now that summer has begun come join 4-H and the youth Bureau as we head to Kurt Beyer pool for a water safety program. If you are worried about being around backyard pools, lakes, or ponds and want to learn some safe ways to protect yourself and your friends then this program is for you! For more information contact Rhonda: rlt236@cornell.edu Please register: https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/4Handyouthbureauwatersafety_208

4-H HEALTHY BAKING - July 14th, 5:00 – 6:00pm

Let's dive into the kitchen with SNAP-ED to make a healthy blueberry oat crumble! Youth will practice important kitchen skills like measuring ingredients, following a recipe, and working together to create a delicious homemade treat. Along the way, Carol from SNAP-Ed will teach participants about healthy eating habits and the nutritional benefits of the ingredients being used. This hands-on program is sure to be both educational and tasty!

IN THE GARDEN – GARLIC - July 16th, 4:30 – 5:30pm

Back to the garden we go—this time with a focus on garlic! Youth will help harvest the garlic growing in the raised beds at CCE while learning about the growing process, plant care, harvesting techniques, and the curing process. Participants will also discover just how easy it can be to grow garlic at home. This program is open to youth beyond 4-H thanks to the Chenango County Youth Bureau.

4-H SHOOTING SPORTS - July 19th, Sept. 20th 1:00 – 3:00pm Third Sunday of the month, Ages 9+ NONE in August!

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.

4-H FUN NIGHT - July 30th, 4:30 – 6:00pm

Games, games, and more games! Come join Nicole and fellow 4-H youth for a fun-filled 4-H Fun Night—with pizza included! The evening will include outdoor games and a variety of interactive board games that are sure to bring plenty of smiles, laughter, and friendly competition! It's a great opportunity to relax, build friendships, and have fun together!

4-H & YOUTH BUREAU - BIRD WATCHING HIKE - August 1st, 5:00pm (Rain Date August 8th)

Join 4-H and Chenango Bird Club for a peaceful evening of bird watching! Youth will enjoy a leisurely hike along the scenic trails at Rogers Environmental Education Center while learning to spot and identify local bird species. It's a great opportunity to connect with nature, practice observation skills, and enjoy the outdoors with fellow 4-H'ers. Binoculars provided – or bring your own! This event is open to youth beyond 4-H thanks to the Chenango County Youth Bureau, so bring a friend!

4-H HEALTHY BAKING – September 9th, 4:30 – 5:30pm

Join us for another delicious 4-H Healthy Baking program as we make warm and comforting apple spice baked oatmeal! Youth will practice important kitchen skills like measuring ingredients, following a recipe, and working together while learning about healthy breakfast options. Packed with apples, oats, and cozy fall spices, this tasty treat is sure to be a hit!

4-H APPLE ORCHARD TOUR - September 12th, 10:00am

Join fellow 4-H'ers to learn all about apple farming in New York state! We'll gather at Chapman's Orchard in Oxford to get a tour of the farm, learn the ins and outs of running an apple orchard, and learn about the different variety's this small, family-run farm grows. This is a great learning experience for 4-H youth, and it's sure to be a tasty one!

ASTRONOMY NIGHT – STARGAZING w/ Valerie - September 18th, 7:30pm

Join 4-H and special guest Valerie Rapson for an evening of stargazing! Youth will gather at Boname Park to spot constellations, the moon, and stars in the night sky while learning fun facts about astronomy and the objects above us. This hands-on program is a great opportunity to explore space science and enjoy the outdoors after dark. Please note that if weather or sky conditions are not ideal for stargazing, the program will move indoors to the CCE building for a fun, astronomy-themed activity.

KIDS & KITES - September 25th, 5:00 – 6:00pm

Get ready for a colorful day of creativity and outdoor fun at Kids and Kites! Chenango County youth will have the opportunity to paint and decorate their very own kite and then watch their creations soar through the sky. This program encourages creativity, outdoor activity, and plenty of fun for youth of all ages! This program is open to the public thanks to the Chenango County Youth Bureau.

4-H FUN NIGHT - September 30th, 4:30 – 6:00pm

Let's get together and have some fun! Come join Nicole and fellow 4-H youth for a fun-filled 4-H Fun Night— with pizza included! The evening will include outdoor games and a variety of board games that are sure to bring plenty of smiles, laughter, and friendly competition! It's a great opportunity to relax, build friendships, and have fun together!

Name: _____ Date: _____

DIRECTIONS:
Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.

Fun at the Fair

N	A	Q	Y	B	I	A	F	K	A	C	O	D	B	P	K	H	T	X	C	Q
M	I	Z	Z	U	M	E	R	R	Y	G	O	R	O	U	N	D	Z	S	H	G
R	Z	B	G	A	J	A	Q	O	J	I	Z	B	U	A	O	Q	I	L	T	C
P	L	O	U	O	W	M	Q	D	L	L	E	M	O	N	A	D	E	G	O	N
B	L	U	E	R	I	B	B	O	N	L	O	A	F	H	E	X	O	R	O	J
F	E	R	R	I	S	W	H	E	E	L	E	Y	R	S	C	D	Y	Y	B	P
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N	E	T	N	N	S	I	G	B	M	C	D	C	U	N	A	T	V	M	M	P
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D	O	A	P	F	A	R	M	A	N	I	M	A	L	S	R	O	K	E	X	F
A	F	L	O	W	E	R	S	E	M	X	H	R	A	M	I	C	I	H	E	C
R	U	S	P	E	I	V	L	T	Y	N	D	I	V	X	I	V	F	W	X	A
A	X	M	J	F	A	U	H	L	K	S	T	S	E	T	N	O	C	Q	M	R
P	Y	D	N	A	C	N	O	T	T	O	C	Z	R	V	Z	I	G	X	B	U

BLUE RIBBON

BOOTH

BUMPER CAR

CANDY APPLE

CONTESTS

CORN DOG

COTTON CANDY

DISPLAYS

EXHIBIT

FAIRGROUNDS

FARM ANIMALS

FERRIS WHEEL

FLOWERS

FUN HOUSE

HOUSE OF MIRRORS

LEMONADE

MERRY-GO-ROUND

MUSIC

PARADE


POPCORN

ROLLER COASTER

SIDESHOW

SNOW CONE

TICKET



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Check out our Webpage or Facebook page for more upcoming events for the months of July, August, and September!

2026 Chenango County Fair

Important Schedule Updates

BIG CHANGE #1: DAIRY SHOWMANSHIP

Moved to Tuesday Evening
6:30 PM

Previously Thursday morning

Important Reminder:

Animal move in & Vet Check times:
 Monday: 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM
 Tuesday: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

If moving in on Tuesday, please plan ahead; time to prepare for showmanship will be limited.

Why the change?
 We are seeing youth win at younger ages and want to provide more opportunities to grow, develop skills, and spend time in the show ring.

MORE NEW OPPORTUNITIES!
 Previous Dairy Showmanship Winners CAN compete again within their normal age division

BIG CHANGE #2: LIVESTOCK SHOW SPLIT

To better support youth showing multiple species:

Wednesday – 11:00 AM **Friday – 8:30 AM**
 • Sheep • Swine
 • Meat Goats • Beef

All changes have been approved by the Barn Superintendents, the Chenango County Fair Board, and Cooperative Extension.



2026 Chenango County 4-H & Open Fair Schedule

Monday, August 10, 2026		
9:00am - 4:00pm	4-H Judging for Non-Perishable & Perishable Exhibits	HL Case Building
11:00am - 5:00pm	Dairy/Livestock Animal Vet Checks	Fairgrounds
Tuesday, August 11, 2026		
8:00am-12:00pm	Dairy/Livestock Animal Vet Checks	Fairgrounds
1:30pm	4-H Pet Show	Follett Show Ring
4:30pm	Market Animal Weigh in	Livestock Barns
6:00pm	Animal Exhibitor Meeting - Required	Follett Show Ring
6:30pm	4-H Dairy Showmanship	Follett Show Ring
Wednesday, August 12, 2026		
8:00am	4-H & Open Poultry Show	Livestock Show Ring
11:00am	4-H & Open Livestock Shows (Sheep, Meat Goats)	Livestock Show Ring
7:00pm	Chenango County Fair Parade	Fairgrounds
Thursday, August 13, 2026		
9:00am	4-H Dairy Goat Show	Livestock Show Ring
9:30am	4-H & Open Dairy Cattle Shows	Follett Show Ring
7:00pm	4-H Fun Activities	Follett Show Ring
Friday, August 14, 2026		
8:30am	4-H & Open Youth Horse Show	Horse Show Ring
8:30am	4-H & Open Livestock Shows (Swine, Beef)	Livestock/Follett Show Ring
11:00am	4-H & Open Rabbit Show	Follett Show Ring
6:30pm	4-H Livestock Auction	Follett Show Ring
Saturday, August 15, 2026		
9:00am	Open Dairy Goat Show	Livestock Show Ring
9:30am	Chenango District Jersey Cattle Club Show	Follett Show Ring
3:00pm	Super Showmanship Competition	Livestock Show Ring
5:30pm	4-H Fair Awards & Ice Cream Social	Follett Show Ring
7:00pm	4-H Dance with DJ Ryan	Follett Show Ring
Sunday, August 16, 2026		
9:30am	Chenango County Holstein Club Show	Follett Show Ring
10:00am	4-H Goat Judging Contest	Livestock Show Ring
5:00pm	4-H Premium Checks & 4-H Domestic Exhibits Released	HL Case Building

*** Check-in times are determined by NYS Ag and Markets and may be subject to changes ***

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 4-H Photography Basics 5:00-6:00PM	9	10	11 Water Safety 11:00am
FENIMORE FARM JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW						
12	13	14 4-H Healthy Baking 5:00-6:00pm	15	16 4-H In The Garden 4:30-5:30pm	17	18 Open Farm Day 10:00-3:00pm
19 Shooting Sports 1:00pm	20	21	22	23 Pond Science 4:30-6:00pm	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 4-H Fun Night 4:30-6:00pm	31	

***PLEASE CHECK THE EVENTS SOME HAVE AGE LIMITS!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
		 AUGUST				1 Bird Watching Hike 5:00pm	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10 All 4-H Judging for Nonperishables & perishables	CHENANGO COUNTY FAIR					15
16 NO Shooting Sports FAIR	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23 30	24 31	25	26	27	28	29	
			NY STATE FAIR				
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
		1	2	3	4	5 Hiking Club 9:00-11:00am	
			NY STATE FAIR				
6 NYS FAIR	7	8	9 4-H Healthy Baking 4:30-:30pm	10	11	12 4-H Apple Orchard Tour 10:00-12:00pm	
13	14	15	16	17	18 Astronomy Night 7:00pm	19	
20 Shooting Sports 1:00pm	21	22	23	24	25 Kids & Kites 5:00-6:00pm	25	
27	28	29	30 4-H Fun Night 4:30-6:00pm	 SEPTEMBER			

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