



# SENECA COUNTY 4-H BILLBOARD

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Vol 60 No 5

Seneca County Cornell Cooperative Extension

May, 2006

## Land of the **Giants...**



## **Pumpkins!!**

Seneca County Cornell Cooperative Extension this fall will be having a Giant Pumpkin Contest. So all youth we are counting on you to grow "the giant pumpkin". The weigh in will be in October, so start planning your growing strategy today. For information on growing pumpkins contact the Seneca County Master Gardeners at 315-539-9251. Don't forget to plant other vegetables and flowers that you can enter in the Seneca County Fair. More information on this to come.

## **Youth Community Action**

We know that individuals and groups are doing great things within communities throughout New York State. Whether it's education, service, community service, service learning or community development, we in the 4-H office want to know what's happening. We'd like to hear about your stories, celebrate your successes and learn something about what your club went through to accomplish their goals. We'd also like to share your story with others in the 4-H Billboard and with the State 4-H Office as a showcase of the possibilities. For more information on YCA go to <http://nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/program/YouthCommunityAction>.

SENECA COUNTY 4-H BILLBOARD is published by Seneca County Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Program. Contact the office for enrollment information. Information provided herein is for educational purposes only. Any reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no endorsement by Cornell Cooperative Extension is implied.



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Chairperson: Linda Jahna  
Vice-Chairperson: Lisa Freier  
Secretary: Diana VanDonsel  
Additional Members: Lois Jensen, Karen Lewis, Sue Leisenring, Kathy Sigrist, Sandy Tarr; Youth Reps: Jessica Heusler, Louie Freier

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President: Calynn Schibley  
Vice-President: Ashleigh Leisenring  
Secretary: Heather Tarr  
Treasurer: Andrew Schibley & Charles Hardin  
News Reporter: Jessica Heusler  
Song & Rec Leaders: Sarah Goodman, Emily Thayer

OUR MISSION: *The Cornell Cooperative Extension educational system enables people to improve their lives and communities through partnerships that put experience and knowledge to work.*

#### **Thank you to our sponsors:**

***Five Star Bank of Geneva  
Community Bank of Waterloo,  
Ovid, Interlaken and Seneca  
Falls***

Seneca County Cornell Cooperative  
Extension provides equal program and  
employment opportunities

## Spring Garden Workshop



Wednesday – May 3, 2006

7-8:30PM

Cornell Cooperative Extension

1581 Route 88N, Newark, NY 14513

Each 45 min. workshop will be offered twice unless otherwise noted. Register, some are limited.

A. Terrariums – create a miniature garden in a jar

B. Flowers – make a simple flower arrangement - \$5

C. Cooking – make a delicious dish using the herb and vegetable of the year, dill and green beans

D. Prepare your Vegetable for the Fair – learn how to prepare your vegetables and fill out entry cards for county and state fair,

E. House Plant – plant a house plant and watch it grow for the fair (bring a 6 inch pot)

F. Butterfly House – make a wooden Butterfly house from a kit that you paint at home and hang in your garden to supply a home for your winged friends. \$6, Session 1 only.

G. Tea-Cup Bird Feeder – make a simple bird feeder out of a cup and saucer \$4

H. Homemade Insect Repellent – Learn how to make two different natural insect repellants.

You will take home samples of each along with recipes \$2, no Cloverbuds, Session 1 only.

I. Table Top Bird Bath – Make a Birdbath out of terra cotta that can be painted a home \$4, Session 2.

J. Plant in a Jar – Make a planter from an old jar that would be a great Mother's Day gift \$3, Session 2.

Call 315-331-8415 to register.

### **Teen Council Meeting**

**May 1, 2006**

**7 PM**

**Seneca County CCE Office**

# Katie's Community Corner

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"I pledge my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service..." Community service is an important part of the 4-H program. We emphasize it through the pledge, at club meeting, community events, and countywide programs. Involvement in community service activities helps members develop caring attitudes and responsibility, as they learn to share with others.

Many types of projects are appropriate even for Cloverbuds. Key things are: keep the project active and keep members involved for best results. Food drives are a popular activity for clubs. They are more exciting when kids are involved getting pledges and practicing their jumping jacks. One club in Ohio made it a party by inviting parents and relatives to watch and cheer. The 15-minute limit for jumping jacks keeps energy levels and meeting time reasonable.

Other groups have focused on nursing homes and health care centers for special projects. Members get creative with "Thinking of You" cards using supplies like construction paper, recycled greeting cards, markers, glitter pens, 3-D pens, foam shapes, stickers, decorative-edge scissors, and glue. They have also filled gift bags with personal care items and made place mats for dinner trays. Collecting items for animal shelters, women's shelters, and overseas troops. Helping with gardening and community beautification projects, and making fleece blankets for nursing home residents are some other project ideas.

One countywide project in Ohio has focused on safety and health education. All 4-H members were able to participate in the 4-H Takes a Stand poster contest. Members were asked to create posters, focusing on one of these themes: sportsmanship, health, safety, profanity, smoking, or drinking. The posters were to remind people to make good behavior decisions while maintaining a safe and welcoming environment for youth and families at the county fair.

Consider publicizing your service projects through the newspaper and radio. Do not forget the 4-H Billboard. You will want lots of pictures to share with members, media and others. Some service projects are sponsored by individual clubs; others are a group effort or countywide activity. The goal is to provide many opportunities for all 4-ers to participate in service activities.

Community service is fun, builds teamwork, friendships, and encourages understanding and acceptance. Remember to live the 4-H Pledge through community service.



## 4-H Items for Sale

4-H T-Shirts - \$7.00

4-H Takes You Places Water Bottles - \$1.50

Other Assorted Water Bottles - .50

Fitness Counts T-Shirts - \$5.00

4-H Mugs - \$ 2.00

CCE Mugs - \$2.00

Bread Warmers - \$10.00

Garden Markers Large - \$7.00

Garden Markers Small - \$5.00

4-H Hats - \$4.00

Centennial 4-H Bears - \$5.00

The 4-H Office will be offering a limited selection of 4-H apparel from the National Supply catalog and Glory Bee for pre-order with payment for a limited time. See Toni for more information.

## Attention 2006 Presentation Presenters

Attention all 2006 Presenters whether you participated in the annual Produced in New York Foods Contest and/or the annual Public Speaking Presentations, your talent is needed. Seneca County Cornell Cooperative Extension would like you to come and do your presentation at the Empire Farm Days held in early August. So contact **Linda Lawrence** at the CCE office for more information.

# The Garden Patch

Spring has arrived and with the warm weather, thoughts of having full and colorful gardens with flowers and vegetables arrive. Growing things all start with a seed, but what makes a seed grow? Are seeds alive or not what appears to be lifeless is actually capable of coming to life? What conditions are required?

What might be the advantages of remaining hard and dry, unassuming, and “asleep” for long periods of time? In a dry, inactive state, seed can survive adverse conditions such as freezing temperatures, drought, or fungus attacks, which the adult plant could not. Imagine what would happen if seeds did not have this ability and, for instance, germinated in the fall right before a cold winter.



The tough outer layer, or seed coat, protects the seed and the young plant or embryo inside. The embryo consists of a preliminary root, shoot, and one or two seed leaves called cotyledons, which store food for the embryo. Some seeds also have endosperm tissue that contains food reserves to nourish the young plant until it can make its own food using light energy.

Seeds are like people they have needs that must be met if they are to thrive and grow... Seeds will break dormancy when they have an ample supply of water, optimum temperatures, and a well-aerated soil or other spot in which to dig in.

Seeds absorb water, which activates enzymes that in turn, make the stored food available to the embryo. As water is absorbed, it often doubles in size, the coat splits, making oxygen in the soil available to the tiny plant. The energy that drives the seedling's cells to quickly divide and grow. In a heavy or saturated soil, there is too little oxygen available to support this crucial step and the seed may rot.

The tip of the root, emerges first from the seed, and anchors the plant and allows it to absorb water and nutrients. The young shoot then begins to grow, relying in the early stages on food supplies from the cotyledons and endosperm. The first leaves come through the soil,

the plant finally shifts to making its own food through photosynthesis. The greater the stored food supply, (large seeds) the deeper a seed can be planted and survive until the plant begins producing its own food.

Warmth is required for germination and growth. The ideal range of temperatures varies with different seeds. For example, tomatoes require warmer temperatures and lettuce needs cooler in order to germinate.

Germinating seeds are not dependent on sunlight to produce energy, in some cases light can trigger or prevent germination. Often, small-seeded species require light. Consider the advantages of this adaptation. Imagine what would happen if small seeds were buried deeply in the dark soil. Without food reserves required to reach the surface, seeds would sprout and die. Needing light ensures that buried seeds will remain dormant and survive to sprout when conditions are right for germination.

Here are some things to think about when getting ready to plant seeds in the garden.

- Why are seeds planted at different depths?
- What would happen if we planted the same type of seed at different depths?
- Does the size of the seed correlate with ideal planting depth?
- What type of soil mix is best for starting seeds?
- Based on seed needs, why might some types of soil be better for seed sprouting?
- How do different types of seeds germinate?
- How can we determine the best germination temperatures, light conditions, or spacing for different types of seeds?
- Why do roots grow down and shoots grow up?
- Can this response be influenced or changed?

## **Youth Community Action**

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## **Susquehanna 4-H Judging Tour**

Saturday, May 6, 2006

9:30AM Registration at Antique Valley Jerseys, Greene, NY

1PM Awards Presentation

Contact Janet by April 25<sup>th</sup> to pre-register 607-334-5841 ext 12

## **Showmanship Clinics**

Beginners and advanced youth are encouraged to attend for their specific species.

May 16 – Rabbit and Poultry – Livingston County Cooperative Extension Office, 7PM

May 18 – Goat – Caledonia Fairgrounds, 7PM

May 24 – Horse Margy Holyst and Dan Hill's stable, 7PM

May 25 – Livestock – Jeff & Terry Bennett's 7PM

If you are interested in attending any of these clinics contact Katie for directions.

## **Rabbit and Cavy Breeders Association Shows**

May 13, 2006 - Finger Lakes RBA at the Seneca County Fairgrounds,  
Waterloo

May 20, 2006 - Northern Lites - Gouverneur

June 3, 2006 - Mohawk Valley RBA – Frankfort

June 10, 2006 - Broome County – Ithaca

June 17, 2006 - TARBA - Cortland

## **Rabbit Study Group**

The Wayne County 4-H Rabbit Study Group continues to meet and welcomes youth of all ages and experience level. The group meets every other Tuesday from 6:30 to 8:00PM at the Wayne County CCE building in Newark. Upcoming meeting dates are May 9, 23 and June 6, 20. If you are thinking about getting a rabbit or showing a rabbit at the Fair, this is a great time of year to join in. Contact Derek Poole at 315-576-3448 for more information.

## **2006 Livestock / Small Animal Clinic & Tailgate Sale**

Saturday, May 20, 2006

10AM to 2PM

Wayne County Livestock and Small Animal Clinic and Tailgate Sale. Come and learn how to select a project animal. If you already have one you are encouraged to bring your rabbit, cavy, or bird for evaluation before show season. If you have animals or equipment to sell, bring them too.

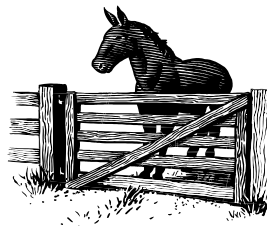
Contact the Wayne County CCE 4-H office for more information



## **Poultry – Pullorum Testing**

Anyone intending to bring poultry to the Seneca County Fair need to have pullorum testing done before the fair. Certification is needed showing that a negative Pullorum-typhoid test has been conducted within 90 days of the Fair or a certificate is needed showing that the birds originated from a US Pullorum typhoid clean flock or a flock which has had an official test in the previous two years. (doves, pigeons & waterfowl are exempt) Contact the NYS Department of Ag and Markets Vet Art Sherman at 315-585-6349 to schedule your flock to be tested.

## **Frank Bell: 3 Day “Gentle Solutions” Clinic**



May 13-15, 2006

Trinity Stables at 1263 Acomb Road, Dansville

Frank Bell (the Horse Whisperer) is a world-renowned trainer who used a system that transforms the horse’s distrust into trust and the horse’s problems into accomplishments. Soon the horse is give to Bell exactly what is wanted and doing so out of a willingness to please. Spectators \$35/day or \$65 for 2 days, Riders Monday \$ 99 or Sat. & Sun. \$325 for more information call Laura Anderson – owner 585-507-9644, for reservations call Gael Orr 585-346-3310.



## Cloverbud Connections

Go ahead take a hike! Get out of here!

Well, taking a hike or a walk with our 4-H Cloverbud groups and clubs is just the right thing to do as nature comes springing into life.

We can stimulate and enhance practically all of our 4-H Cloverbud life skill goals by taking a hike with a purpose. Advancing physical mastery skills are obvious with the gross motor activity needed for walking. Other skills such as getting along with others are necessary to walk and observe nature as a group, while self-confidence is nurtured through understanding and learning about the environment that surrounds the Cloverbud youth.

So what kind of walk or hike do you want to take with your Cloverbud Kids? In a "Young Children issue, Janet Humphreys (2000) suggests six types of walks / hikes with a focus for children to experience. Here they are:

**Theme Hikes** – focus is on a particular theme –such as colors, shadows, seeds, insects, rocks, or whatever you and the group decide.

***Sense Hikes*** – *explore the senses, what smells, sights, sounds, etc. do you encounter on the walk.*

**Weather Hikes** – focus on whatever weather is occurring, check out the sky, wind, or rain that might be going on at the time of the hike.

***Search-for-Life Hikes*** – *look for all types of life that is presenting the air, nest in the trees, tracks, burrow holes, etc.*

**Intellectual Hikes** – focus on processing or gaining new information, change in seasons, and path directions with a compass (north, south, east, west).

**Clean-the Environment Hikes** – clean up nature. Take along trash bags and plastic gloves. Talk about how pollution can be a problem.

*Source: Scott D. Scheer, PhD State Extension Specialist, Preadolescent Education 4-H Youth Development, The Ohio State University*

## Cookie Time



Thanks you to the following who participated in the 4-H Cookies Sale. 4-H Friends, 4-H Tie Dye Dreamers, Adventure Kids, Bluebirds, Clever Crafty Clover Club, Country Critters, Creation Kids, Eagle Adventurers, Li'l Angels, Perry City Prancers, Rainbow 4-H Explorers, Teen Council, and The Titans. You sold 919 packages of cookies. The top selling club was Li'l Angels with 118 packages. Top sellers were Brianna Halsey of Li'l Angels and Lindsay Carson of Clover Club both with 53 packages. Each receives a 4-H Campership.



## Marching Time

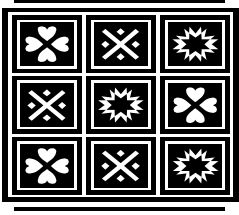
May is the start of parades and of course Memorial Day. The Waterloo Birthplace of Memorial Day Celebrate Parade is scheduled for Saturday, May 27, 2006. Come be a part of this annual event and show your 4-H spirit. The 2006 theme is "American Flags" – so bring your flag, club banner and join the fun. Parade line-up begins at 10:30AM (location to be determined). Contact the CCE office to let us know if you will be participating.

# Leaders' Meeting

***May 15, 2006***

***6:30 PM***

***Seneca County CCE Office***



## Quilts for Kids

**“Quilts for Kids” is a project provides children in crisis with something special. The quilts are made from fashion fabrics. 4-H members and friends can take fabric and turn it in a one-of-a-kind keepsake. Local organizations such as the Red Cross and the Salvation Army take the finished quilts and present them to children who are in need due to illness or trauma. This project is not terribly difficult and can be relatively inexpensive to do (the 4-H office has fabric that can be used for this project and basic quilt patterns) and basically the only cost is your time.**

## New State Fair Contests

**NYS 4-H Chicken & Turkey Barbecue Contests** – Friday, August 25, 2006. Open to youth 14 years of age and older. Youth participants must have been pre-approved by County Extension Office in order to participate. See State Fair Premium Book. Program Rules & Regulations can be found on NYS 4-H Web page. See also: National Egg & Poultry Conference web site at: <http://ulisse.cas.psu.edu/Nat4hpoultry/general.html>

**NYS Fair 4-H Egg Preparation Contest** – Friday, August 25, 2006. Open to any 4-H member who has been pre-approved to participate by County Extension Educator. Program Rules & Regulations can be found on NYS 4-H web page. See also, National Egg and Poultry Contest overview see: <http://ulisse.cas.psu.edu/Nat4hpoultry/eggprep.html>

***The Produced in New York Apple Contest is sponsored by the New York State Apple Producers in cooperation with the New York State 4-H Youth Development program. This is a great opportunity for youth to demonstrate their food preparation skills while promoting a tasty recipe that features New York State Apples. During this contest, individual 4-H members juniors (8-12) and seniors (13-18) WILL PRESENT A "SILENT DEMONSTRATION" along with others in the contest. Evaluation is on demonstration skills, finished product, and completed menu planning sheet. Presentation time is 40 minutes and posters are not required. Contact Katie for further information or go to <http://nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/program/events/documents/AppleContestRulesandRegs.doc>***

## Region II Horse Communications Contest



The Region II Horse Communications contest was held on Saturday, April 1, 2006 in Canandaigua. The Horse Communications program requires 4-H youth to develop a presentation on a horse related topic of their choice. The youth are judged on delivery style, organization of delivery and accuracy of information. There are two main differences in Horse Communications and Public Presentations. In communication the time limit varies by junior level and senior level, points are taken off for too short and for being over. The other major difference is that you have three judges whose scores are added together to have your grand total with the highest total receiving first place and so on.

Independent 4-H Member, Kristin Maki of Newfield in the Senior Public Speaking Category, represented Seneca County. Kristin's speech was entitled "Good for the Inside" and talked about the benefits of therapeutic riding for those that disabled and those that work with the program. Kristin finished strong with a 2<sup>nd</sup> place and will be representing Region II and Seneca County at the state competition on May 13, 2006 at Cornell University

## 4-H Sewing Camp

4-H Sewing Camp was held during the months of March and April. The Beginner and Novice level campers concentrated on learning sewing terminology, how to read a pattern and basic sewing skills. They each completed two projects a pair of lounge / pajama pants and a pillow featuring a nap. Campers were: Calynn Schibley, Jordan Osborne, Alexandra Montroy, and Trisha Henry. In April, the more experience campers consisting of both teens and adults learned the importance of accurate cutting, pinning, stitching and quilting terminology while completing a nine block quilted wall hanging or lap quilt. Campers were Ashley Tarr, Deb DiLallo, Sandy Tarr, and Jessica Heusler. Look for these projects to be exhibited at the annual Seneca County Fair.

# Seneca's Top Presenters



Seneca County 4-H had 12 top presenters participate in the Finger Lakes District Public Presentations on Saturday, April 1 in Canandaigua. The youth following did their public presentation in front of evaluators, youth, friends and family from the following counties – Wayne, Cayuga, Livingston, Steuben, Yates, Ontario, and Monroe.

Presenters were:

Andrew Schibley, Caitlyn Smith, Jessica Heusler, Joanna Reigle, Jordan Osborne, Kiersten Hendirx, Kristin Maki, Lindsay Carson, Naomi Reigle, Sam Dickenson, Sarah Dickenson, and Zachary Ramirez. Receiving Top Thirty Presenter Awards were Jordan Osborne, Kristen Maki and Sarah Dickenson. The Top Thirty Presenter Awards (the top 30 scorers). The Judges Choice awards were presented to (selected by each judge, who chooses the youth they thought had the most outstanding presentation), recipients were Sarah Dickenson, team presenters Naomi and Joanna Reigle and team presenters Kiersten Hendrix and Caitlyn Smith.

Assisting with the presentation event as judges were: Debra DiLallo, Delia Olufsen, Cara Leigh Battaglia, and Rachel Williams. Dusty Ward; 4-H member was a runner for the tally room. Sarah Dickenson was a room host.

## Public Presentation Program

Applications will be available June 1, 2006 and due to the 4-H office by July 1, 2006.

Other opportunities for youth to help at the State Fair is to have your club sign up to work in the county booth teaching a project to young fairgoers.

## What Does It Take to Win a 4-H Award Trip?

4-H members ages 13 to 19 have the opportunity to travel to places such as Albany, Washington D.C., New York City, Toronto, Canada and spend time at Cornell University. Members who do a public presentation at the annual 4-H Presentation Day and do two other county events get to participate in the 3A trip.

In 2005 –2006, teens had the opportunity to learn about careers, watch Olympic jumpers, see the Lincoln Memorial, and meet with state Legislators. These trips are sponsored partially through the 4-H Trips and Awards Fund. The 4-H Award Trips are lots of fun. It is an honor for youth to represent their county on these trips, to meet new people, and to learn new things. How does Seneca County 4-H Youth Development afford to pay for these trips? Proceeds from the 4-H Dairy Bar, fundraisers such as the cookie sale, and the silent auction at the county fair help to contribute to these events.

To receive an Award Trip an application needs to be completed and submitted to the 4-H office along with year-end project record forms. Also award recipients need to be contributing to the fund-raising process whether they sold cookies or spend some time in the 4-H Dairy Bar.



## **State Fair Teens**

There are numerous opportunities for State Fair Teen Leadership participation. Seneca County is at the New York State Fair August 28 to August 31, 2006.

### **County Display / Booth workers**

#### **Teen Evaluators**

Foods  
Clothing  
Horticulture  
Visual Arts – Photography  
Science, Technology & Engineering  
Home Environment/Consumer Education/Child Development

#### **Teen Assistants**

Poultry & Avian Sciences  
Horticulture

#### **Teen Leaders**

##### **Horse Teen Leaders**

4-H Press Corp  
4-H Welcome Booth  
Poultry & Avian Sciences  
Emcee / Master of Ceremonies / Host  
Animal Science - for beef, dairy cattle, dairy goat, dog, poultry, rabbit, sheep & Swine –  
selected directly by show superintendents and counties

