

May 11, 2020

Volume 1, Issue 6

CCE

Saratoga County

Cornell Cooperative Extension

NEWSLETTER

EXTENSION UPDATES

4-H Project Joy



Cornell Cooperative Extension of Saratoga County is ensuring all members of our community are feeling “connected” during this pandemic. Residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities are at high risk at this time can feel isolated from family and friends. Saratoga County [4-H Project Joy](#) is a Community Service Project designed to help bring smiles to their faces. Leland Bunting, 4-H Club Coordinator, and Julie Curren,

4-H School Outreach Coordinator collaborated with 4-Hers from across Saratoga County to create a video comprised of individual video submissions. These have been compiled and sent by link to Activities Directors in these facilities who can share it with their residents. The goal of this project is to let our seniors know they are thought of and hopefully it can bring them a smile.



Together We Will Continue to Grow

During these uncertain times, a few things remain certain—the rain will fall, the sun will shine and together we'll continue to grow. To everyone on the frontlines, [we salute you](#). [#StillFarming](#)

American Farm Bureau



Buy Local at Farmers' Markets

Many Saratoga Farmers Market vendors are offering preorders to make your visit to the market quicker. If you are unable to go to the market, there are also many other ways to purchase from the vendors. [Find here Saratoga Farmers Market spreadsheet with what is known from the vendors so far](#). This spreadsheet is continuously being updated as more of the vendors figure out how to best serve their customers - so check back often!



If you do not see a vendor listed in the spreadsheet yet, please see the [web-site](#) for a complete listing of vendor contact information.



Cornell Cooperative Extension
is pleased to partner with
New York State Agriculture and Markets
to provide



New York State Hand Sanitizer and Face Coverings
At No Cost to Farmers

Hand sanitizer is available - 4 gallons to a box (with pump)

Face coverings available (packages of 5)

Curbside Distribution

Wednesday, May 13 & Thursday, May 14, 2020

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Distribution in the Capital District will take place in the following locations:

Warren County Fairgrounds, 353 Schroon River Road, Warrensburg, NY 12885

Contact Amy Sabattis: (518) 668-4881, als77@cornell.edu

Washington County Fairgrounds, 392 Old Schuylerville Rd., Greenwich, NY 12834

Contact Brian Gilchrist: (518) 746-2560, btg5@cornell.edu

Schaghticoke County Fairgrounds, 69 Stillwater Bridge Rd., Schaghticoke, NY 12154

Contact Bernie Wiesen: (518) 421-2360, bw27@cornell.edu

CCE Saratoga County 4H Training Center, 556 Middleline Road, Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Contact Susan Beebe: (518) 588-7667, skb11@cornell.edu

CCE of Albany County, 24 Martin Rd., Voorheesville, NY 12186

Contact Lisa Godlewski: (518) 765-3500, lav4@cornell.edu

CCE of Columbia and Greene Counties, 479 Route 66, Hudson, NY 12534

Contact Evon Antonio: 518-622-9820 x111, ea353@cornell.edu

You must register in advance so we can plan on having enough supplies at each pickup point.

Please Register [HERE](#)

(Registration includes contact information, pick up site & estimated quantities requested)

**Farmers picking up will need to wear their own face coverings and bring their own pen.
Supplies are limited.**

Eastern New York Commercial Horticulture Program

Signage for COVID market operations is ready!

The package provides a number of signs with positive messaging for markets to help customers understand the market guidelines and processes as we operate through this public health crisis. The signs are available in a number of sizes – 8.5” by 11”, A-Frame, and sized for social media usage. There is no charge to you for using the signs other than printing what you need! [Access the full signage kit](#)

Best Management Practices for U-Pick Farms

U-Pick is a critical direct marketing approach for many of our farms and provides customers with a unique connection to fresh produce grown close to home. In light of what we understand about the spread of COVID-19, new management practices will be needed to protect your farm team and your customers.

[This document](#) provides recommended practices and communication strategies for U-Pick operations for the 2020 season.

Virtual ‘Office Hours’ for Commercial Vegetable Growers

Join us for Zoom meetings on Thursday nights from 7-8pm with any commercial vegetable questions you may have. You can also call in at: 1-646-518-9805, meeting ID: 450 507 028. Also accepting pre-submitted photos and questions at vegofficehours@gmail.com.

[Join the Zoom Meeting](#)

Virtual ‘Office Hours’ for Commercial Berry Growers

Join us for Zoom meetings on Thursday afternoon from 12:30 – 1:30pm. Occasional invited speakers, or just questions for specialists.

Click link below to join the Berry Office Hours [Join the Zoom meeting](#) or dial by phone: 1-646-518-9805, Meeting ID: 955 1458 6018.

Produce Safety Alliance Remote Grower Training

The PSA is temporarily allowing remote delivery of PSA Grower Training Courses during the COVID-19 pandemic. This policy will be in effect until July 31, 2020, with the potential for extending this date pending updates on the pandemic. [More Information](#)

USDA Farmers to Families Food Box

As part of the Coronavirus Farm Assistance Program Secretary Perdue announced on April 17th that the USDA is exercising authority under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act to purchase and distribute up to \$3 billion of agricultural products to those in need. USDA will partner with regional and local distributors, whose workforce has been significantly impacted by the closure of many restaurants, hotels, and other food service entities, to purchase fresh produce, dairy, and meat.

[More Information](#)

Childcare Funding Available for Children of Essential Workers

NYS announced on 4/24/2020 that child care scholarships will be available for child care expenses for essential workers; which includes food processing and farm employees.

[See Full Information and Scholarship Parent Application](#)

CCE Eastern NY Commercial Horticulture| [Website](#)

Virtual Horse Symposium



Due to events of COVID-19, CCE Equine will be taking our regularly scheduled Horse Symposium and delivering it virtually to the equine world. [Registration is required.](#)

On the couch, at your desk, with your family, or as a little well deserved me time; Join CCE Equine as we unveil our Virtual Horse Symposium 6-Week Series.

Every Thursday at 6:00 pm for 6 weeks, you can have a front row seat to some of the equine industry's leading professionals in and out of the saddle. The first 3 classes are as follows:

Thursday, May 14 at 6:00 pm

Emergency Planning for the Horse and Barn Owner
with Sarah E.J. Collier, JD, Associate Advisor John G. Ullman & Associates, Inc.

Thursday, May 21 at 6:00 pm

Hoof Care for the Horse Owner
with Ashley Gasky, CF, APF-I, Farrier

Thursday, May 28 at 6:00 pm

Maintaining Your Pastures and Hay Fields for Horses
with Kevin Ganoe, Cornell Cooperative Extension Area Field Crop Specialist

For more information contact Brianna Hughes at bh548@cornell.edu



Spring Vaccines for your Horse

Article by Danielle Smarsh
Equine Extension Specialist, Assistant Professor in Equine Science

As the days get longer, many horse owners and horse enthusiasts are eager to begin training for the show season or to get out on the trails. But before you load up your horse and haul them to a fun event, you should ask yourself, "Is my horse up to date on their vaccines?"

Why Vaccinate Your Horse?

Have you ever stopped to consider why we vaccinate our horses - or ourselves, or our dogs and cats? Vaccines are meant to create and maintain immunity against specific diseases. In other words, vaccines are meant to reduce an animal's risk of getting sick, and if they do get sick after vaccination, then the severity of the disease should be lessened and they may be less contagious. The vaccine is usually a modified, weaker version of the disease you are trying to prevent. When the vaccine is given to your horse, their body creates antibodies to fight this "mock disease", and these antibodies will stay in the body for a period of time after the vaccination. Now your horse is armed with a defense system ready to go if they do encounter the actual disease!

Vaccines are created for specific diseases for a few different reasons. A disease might have a high fatality rate, such as tetanus. Or a disease might be highly contagious and easily spread from horse to horse, such as influenza or strangles. Finally, a disease may have the possibility to spread across different species (these are called zoonotic diseases), such as West Nile Virus or rabies...[finish reading the article to find out what vaccines are available for your horse.](#)



image source: pixabay.com

Buy Local at Saratoga County Farms

Willow Marsh Farm

Monday—Tuesday **Closed**
Wednesday—Friday **10am –6pm**
Saturday **10am-5pm**
Sunday **12pm-5pm**
(518) 885-8731
343 Hop City Rd
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

King Brothers Dairy

Home delivery available
Monday—Saturday **9am-7pm**
Sunday **12pm-5pm**
kingbrothers.deliverybizpro.com
(518) 695-6455
311 King Rd,
Schuylerville, NY 12871

Old Saratoga Mercantile

Place orders online, with curbside pickup only.
*schedule curbside pickup time
Monday –Friday **9am-6pm**
Saturday—Sunday **9am-5pm**
www.oldsaratogamercantile.com
(518) 695-3678
1120 NY-29,
Schuylerville, NY 12871

Wm. H. Buckley Farm

Curbside pickup is available
Friday **9am to 4pm**
Saturday **9am to 4pm**
Sunday **9am to 4pm**
www.buckleyfarm.com
(518)-280-3562
946 Saratoga Road
Ballston Lake, NY 12019

Smith Orchard

Pie Shop closed but Orders available with scheduled pickup
Monday **9am-6pm**
Tuesday **Closed**
Wednesday —Saturday **9am-6pm**
Sunday **9am–2pm**
(518) 882-6598
4561 Jockey Street
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Greenfield's Forever

Self Service
Monday –Sunday **8am-5pm**
(518) 265-1322
236 Wilton Rd.
Greenfield Center, NY 12833

Saratoga Apple

Store is open; Curbside pick up is available.
Friday & Saturday Pop up dinners are available from *Vashti's kitchen delights*
vashtiskitchendelights.com
Monday –Sunday **9am-6pm**
(518) 695-3131
1174 NY-29,
Schuylerville, NY 12871

9 Miles East

Order meals and schedule delivery's online
subscriptions.9mileseast.com
(518)-810-3731
adam@9mileseast.com



Maple Valley Farm

Call ahead to place order
Monday –Sunday **10am-4pm**
(518) 654-8775
84 Harris Rd.
Corinth, NY 12822

Sugar Oak Farms

Online orders available for scheduled pick up and delivery within 10miles
Store Open Thursdays
10am-1pm & 7pm-9pm
www.sugaroakfarms.com
(518) 288-8653
50 Atkins Rd.
Malta, NY 12020

Maple Hill Farms

Open Monday– Sunday **8 am-5pm**
(518) 863-4188
167 Tennantville Rd.
Edinburg, NY 12134

Nightingale's Maple Farm

Monday-Saturday **12-6pm**
Sunday **Closed**
(518) 882-9334
4888 Jersey Hill Rd,
Amsterdam, NY 12010

Thomas Poultry Farm **NEW**

Monday-Friday **7am-12pm**
Saturday **9am-2:30 pm**
(518) 695-3427
411 Stonebridge Road
Schuylerville, NY 12871

Educational Programs for Parents/Caregivers

The Magic Years

Four-part parenting education program for parents/caregivers of children **ages 0 - 4-years-old**. Topics include understanding the stages of child development, the benefits of nurturing routines at home, and managing parent & child stress. Different parenting styles, and strategies to implement positive discipline techniques will be discussed. This current version will also include tips for parents on managing within the current COVID-19 crisis.

Program is offered **via Zoom on Tuesdays & Thursdays at 11:00 am**. Participants are awarded a certificate of completion upon attendance and completion of all four sessions.



Registration is required participants will be provided with the meeting

information. Contact Maria at mkd59@cornell.edu or text 518-598-9937 to register.

The Virtual Strengthening Families Program

The Virtual Strengthening Families Program is a parenting education program for parents/caregivers of **school-age youth – teens**.

Topics include understanding child/teenage development, common youth challenges and how to help youth navigate their world. Ideas on how to improve family communication skills, keep kids safe online, and positive youth and family activities that can help during this challenging time will be shared.



The Virtual Strengthening Families Program is offered **via Zoom on Wednesdays at 11:00 am** on an ongoing basis. Participants are awarded a certificate of completion upon attendance and completion of all four sessions.

Advance registration is required. Upon registration, participants will be provided with the meeting information. If the use of cellphone data is a concern, participants may also call into the program to participate. Contact Maria at mkd59@cornell.edu or text 518-598-9937 to register.

Lessons and online driving skills for the young driver

This program will provide insight into what your teen is learning as part of a simulation-based, driver training course. The purpose of this program to allow you to follow along with your teen as they learn safe driving techniques .

Each lesson in this program will share the same techniques your teen would learn in a classroom setting. The difference being, your teen will interact directly with a simulator to gain hands-on experience using various driving techniques. In this program, you will not need to drive and there are no tests to take, so enjoy.

Follow the [link](#) for lessons and online driving skills for the young driver.

Login is: **parentcompanion2020**



Homesteaders & Self-sufficiency

CCE Saratoga educators have created an [educational webpage](#) where people can learn all aspects of becoming self-sufficient and what it means to have a homestead. The informational platform brings together agriculture (Livestock & Animal Husbandry, Food Preservation & Preparation, Hunting & Gathering, and Planting & Growing recourses.



HOMESTEADING Video Series



CCE Saratoga County is pleased to announce a brand new virtual series for Homesteading and Self-sufficiency. This 8-week video series will be hosted on our website www.ccesaratoga.org with a new video released every Wednesday starting May 13th.

For more information or questions, email Nicolina at nvf5@cornell.edu

TOPICS include.....



Adding Livestock to a Homesteaders Backyard

Wednesday, May 13



Natural Resources: Edible Foraging

Wednesday, June 10



Annual Vegetables

Wednesday, May 20



Backyard Chickens 101

Wednesday, June 17



Perennial Vegetables

Wednesday, May 27



Water Bath Canning 101

Wednesday, June 24



Permaculture and Homesteading

Wednesday, June 3



Fermenting Vegetables

Wednesday, July 1

Food Preservation Education via Zoom by Diane Whitten

The first in a series of CCE Saratoga County food preservation classes was offered via Zoom on Friday, May 1. Sheltering in place has disrupted all of our normal operating procedures which prompted me to offer food preservation in a new way which I had never considered in the past. By all accounts it was a success with 75 participants attending the class on Freezing Vegetables, including Asparagus and Rhubarb. The presentation included a Powerpoint, plus two short videos that showed blanching green beans, and packaging rhubarb in both the dry pack and tray pack methods.

You can view the recording at this [link](#).

For more information on preserving rhubarb and for some rhubarb recipes [click here](#).

Future Zoom presentations will cover boiling water canning, pressure canning, pickling, dehydrating, fermenting, making jams and jellies.

Those who are interested can follow us on Facebook, www.facebook.com/CCEsaratoga, look on our Events page on line, or email me (dwhitten@cornell.edu) to be put on my direct food preservation notification email list.

Test your Soil's pH

Spring has sprung, which means its time to test your soil and get it prepared for planting, whether for lawn, vegetable or flowers.

April - May is the time to test your soil pH to determine if it is within the preferred range of 6.5-7.0. If not, recommendations will be given to either apply lime to increase the pH or apply sulfur to reduce the pH.

TAKING A SOIL SAMPLE ...THE CORRECT WAY

For most situations (Lawn, vegetable garden, ornamentals, etc.), the soil should be sampled every 2 to 3 years. For situations involving high-value cash crops or soils under intensive use, it is recommended that the soil be tested prior to planting the crop.



Soil samples may be taken at any time during the year; however, avoid extremely wet soil conditions unless absolutely necessary. It is recommended that successive samples from a given situation be taken about the same time of year.

- (1) Using a garden spade or shovel (if available, a soil probe or auger works best) slice into the soil to a depth 4-6 inches.
- (2) Take a one-inch-thick slice of soil from the side of the hole. Repeat this process to obtain 5-10 samples, randomly taken, depending on the size of your lawn or garden.
- (3) Combine all samples into a clean container and mix thoroughly, removing any plant debris or stone.

ONE CUP OF SOIL IS ALL THAT IS NEEDED FOR pH TESTING (IF SENDING FOR COMPLETE ANALYSIS 2 CUPS ARE NECESSARY). Avoid as much hand contact as possible as it may alter the true pH of the soil.

- (4) If your soil is wet, you will need to let it dry. Let it dry naturally. **DO NOT** dry in a conventional or microwave oven.
- (5) Label samples for proper identification (ie: back lawn, vegetable garden). Include your name, address, daytime phone number, and email address.

Samples can be brought to the Cornell Cooperative Extension Office, 50 West High Street, Ballston Spa for testing. There is a fee of \$1.00 per sample for pH testing. Currently the turn around time for samples is a max of one week. **Please use the Soil Sample Drop Off Box located in front of the building entrance.**



PLEASE NOTE



Cornell Cooperative Extension of Saratoga County is no longer accepting soil samples needing nutrient analysis testing that requires being sent to AGRO-ONE. In an effort to cut down on the number of handlers, we ask that you send your samples directly to them. Please [visit their website for directions](#).

We will continue to accept samples for pH testing only. If you have any questions, email Jessica Holmes, jmh452@cornell.edu.

Agronomy 4-H Project Area Hot Sheet



Get your hands dirty in agronomy! Find out how soils, bugs, beetles, and more affect your crops. Whether its corn, soybeans, wheat, hay, or silage, 4-H agronomy helps you learn what makes plants grow. FREE

[Agronomy 4-H Project Area Hot Sheet](#)



Mrs. Curren's 4-H Happy Place

Mrs. Curren is bring 4-H School Outreach to elementary students through her "4-H Happy Place." [Mrs. Curren's 4-H Happy Place](#) is a place to extend the fun and learning usually experienced in the classroom ... just in your home. The 4-H Happy Place is designed with you and your family in mind. Everyone is encouraged to participate. All programs are specially designed by Mrs. Curren to be age appropriate for elementary students with some adult help required at times. Keep checking [Mrs. Curren's page](#) for updates.



Saratoga Trail BINGO Challenge

The [Saratoga County Trail Challenge](#) has been going through a transformation. There are now Bingo cards for 10 trails throughout the county. There are also extended learning pages that are being uploaded that can be printed or used online. The pages highlight a sampling of the most common things seen while walking in the woods in Saratoga County. Included are realistic coloring pages, information on trees and links to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology for bird identification. The images in the coloring pages can be colored on line as well as on paper and links can be accessed on smartphones and used on the trail.



Create Your Own Pollinator Garden

Pollinators, such as honey bees, butterflies, and birds, move pollen from the male flower (or male part of a flower) to the female flower (or female part of a flower) in order to bring about fertilization. This results in the creation of seeds and the fruit surrounding the seeds. In other words, more flowers.



Mrs. Curren has created a web-based learning unit called "[Create Your Own Pollinator Garden](#)". The series has videos to instruct you on container and raised bed gardening, as well as, information on soil and how to make your own. Mrs. Curren also talks about different types of seed to use in your pollinator garden and how to plant them. "Making a Raised Bed Garden " by Jessica Holmes, CCE Saratoga Agriculture Educator is the next topic in the series.

Build Your Own Bluebird Nest Box

23 Bluebird nest box kits were picked up at the 4-H Training Center on Wednesday May 6, 2020.

If you missed the event and wish you build a bluebird nest box of your own, visit our [website](#) to get plans, and follow along with the videos.



4-H Virtual Field Days (Teachers Only)

4-H VIRTUAL Animals, Food and Agricultural Life Field Day will feature videos from farmers in Saratoga County presenting life cycle and care videos about horses, goats, chickens, cows, sheep, pigs and more.

There has been an overwhelming response. A flyer has been sent to the 1st-3rd grade teachers and within 24 hours 57 replies from 23 different elementary schools from around the county have requested the 4-H Virtual Animals, Food and Agricultural Life Field Day package.

The Field Day package includes 10 age appropriate video presentations, follow-up questions, vocabulary list and a Farm to Table Coloring Book in pdf format. It will be delivered to teachers Monday May 11th

4-H Virtual Environmental Field Day will feature 10-minute presentations by agencies and professionals in Saratoga County on subjects such as aquatic macroinvertebrates, by DEC, Safety in the Woods by Adirondack Search and Rescue, Eastern Bluebirds by Greg Stevens 4-H, The Hudson Water Fish Advisory Go Fish! Program by Diane Whitten, DEC Forestry and more!

Videos are currently being compiled and the flyer for that will go to teachers Monday.

Want to Join 4-H?

Saratoga County 4-H is as diverse as the members of our communities! It is a fun, hands-on, youth development program.



4-H is...an American Idea - the world's largest dynamic, informal educational program for young people based on demographic principles. The real essence of the 4-H movement is defined by three goals.

Even though our programming has been impacted by COVID-19, we are still taking new 4-H members. If you or someone you know would like to become a 4-H member, you can call and leave a message for Leland at 518.885.8995 or email glb76@cornell.edu.

4-H Enrollment Forms

Become a 4-H Leader

4-H volunteer leaders are the core group of every successful 4-H program! As a 4-H volunteer leader, you play a key role in helping young people grow as individuals, acquire new knowledge and skills, and become active members of their communities. You will gain personal satisfaction and pride in knowing you have contributed significantly to the personal development of youth.



All potential adult 4-H volunteers must go through our screening process and introductory education class. Contact Leland Bunting at the 4-H office for a leader information packet.

4-H Facebook

Visit our Saratoga County 4-H Facebook page for virtual activities and 4-H happenings. There are plenty of activities to enjoy.



4-H Teen Zoom Meet-Ups and Virtual Interstate Exchange

Saratoga County 4-H Teen Council is hosting weekly Zoom meet-ups for our 4-H Teen members so that we can all stay connected while social distancing. Each week we talk about things that are going on in our lives, share ideas for staying busy and play fun games.

We are also arranging Virtual 4-H Teen Exchanges with other states. All teens are invited to participate in these fun exchanges and meet new 4-H friends from across the country!

If you would like more information about how to join these meet-ups, please email Leland at glb76@cornell.edu

Teen Council is a countywide group specifically for teen members. Its purpose is to help teen 4-H'ers develop



leadership skills, while helping to build a strong, county 4-H program that benefits all members and volunteers. Teen Council members meet monthly to plan and implement 4-H educational programs, as well as community service, fund raisers and social activities.

Any enrolled 4-H member ages 13-18, is eligible to join Teen Council. New members can join at any time during the year. If you would like more information about how to join these meet-ups, please email Leland at glb76@cornell.edu

Saratoga County 4-H Alumni Facebook Group

We are excited to announce the launch of our Saratoga County 4-H Alumni Group. We hope this group will help our 4-H Alumni

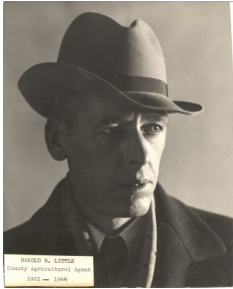
**SARATOGA COUNTY
4-H ALUMNI**



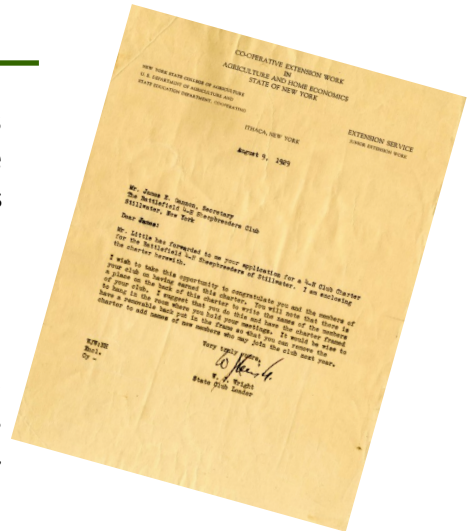
connect with their fellow 4-H'ers! If you are a former Saratoga County 4-H'er, please join in on the fun.

First 4-H Clubs in Saratoga County

H.B. Little, the County Agricultural Agent (*pictured to left*), along with James Gannon pioneered the first 4-H club in Bemis Height, Saratoga County in the March of 1929 with six members: Andrew Gannon, Francis Gannon, James



Gannon, Edna Rogers, Ashbel Rogers, and Lloyd Rogers. James E. Gannon was selected as local club leader and the group decided to call themselves "The Battlefield Sheepbreeders." The name was later changed to the "Battlefield 4-H Club." (*Right: Letter to James E. Gannon from W.J. Wright, State Club Leader congratulating the Battlefield 4-H Sheepbreeders on receiving a 4-H Charter; dated August 9, 1929.*)

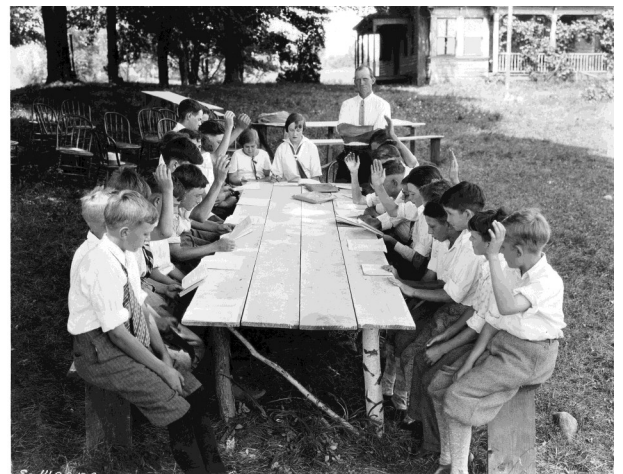


In the spring of 1930, H. B. Little who was then County Agricultural Agent for the county, cooperating with the Harmony Corners Farmers Club organized an agricultural and homemaking club. James Arnold of West Charlton was selected as local leader for the boys club and Miss Eva Armer was selected as local leader for the girls club. Miss Armer continued to serve as local leader of the Harmony Busy Bees 4-H club until 1954. (*Harmony Corners boys and girls clubs pictured rights*)



A homemaking club formed at Wagman's Ridge in 1931 with Mrs. Fred Peck as local leader, and Mrs. Sara Washburn started a club in Gansevoort in the fall of 1935.

The early 4-H clubs reflected the gender roles of the 1920s and 1930s by offering club activities in farming such as raising animals and keeping record books for the boys. The girls participated in food preservation and clothing projects, along with other homemaking activities. The early leaders hoped that the 4-H clubs would help prepare youth living in rural communities to become better farmers and better citizens.



In January 1937, the Directors of the Saratoga County Farm & Home Bureau Association selected the following committee: Elmer Smith, Charlton; William B. Perry, Saratoga; and Mrs. William W. Crawford, Harmony Corners to study the interest in club work.

At the annual meeting in December 1937, the constitution and by-laws of the Saratoga County Farm and Home Bureau Association were amended to include the 4-H Club Department.

Wild Bird Art Contest—Open to the Public



Our friends in Warren County are doing a Wild Bird Art Contest if any of our members are interested:

As people are seeking activities to do at home, Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) of Warren County is introducing a virtual wild bird art contest. The program will be open to youth and adults, with several age categories and participants can be from anywhere within New York State. The contest will begin April 20 and end May 20.

CCE would like to share the following sites to help beginners and even experienced artists hone their skills. Here are some resources:

<https://www.drawinghowtodraw.com/.../drawing-a-bird-robin-wi.../>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rzxRWTv237M>

<https://www.artistsnetwork.com/.../draw-birds-draw-realistic.../>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4jV7TVUJdHw>

<https://www.audubon.org/.../november-december-2.../how-draw-bird>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RcNWFctmOKI>

<https://johnmuirlaws.com/drawing-birds/>



Deadline: All entries must be submitted in one of two ways: emailed to John Bowe at jfb32@cornell.edu as a jpeg or PDF file OR mailed to CCE of Warren County Attn: John Bowe 377 Schroon River Road. Emails must arrive by midnight on May 20th. Mailed entries must be postmarked no later than May 19th.

Rules:

- The work can be no larger than 8.5" x 11".
- This must be an original piece started and completed within the contest entry dates and deadline dates.
- Each participant is limited to one entry. You may complete several and select your best one to enter.
- You must sign and date your entry (cursive is NOT required).
- You may use any style you choose (e.g., water color, pen & ink, pencil, oils, acrylic, etc) that can be rendered on a the specified paper dimensions.
- We encourage you to use New York native species, but will accept any WILD species (no domestic birds).
- There will be four age categories: Cloverbud Youth ages 5-7, Youth 8-12, Youth 13-19, and Adults over the age of 19 as of April 20, 2020.
- The judging will be done by a group of volunteers (youth and adults) selected by Cornell Cooperative Extension.
- A participant may also be a judge, but will not be allowed to judge their age category to prevent any perceived favoritism.

Disclaimer: By submitting an entry or entries to this contest, you are giving permission to Cornell Cooperative Extension of Warren County permission to use your image on our Facebook, website, blogs, and in any public displays we can arrange for this entries.

Prizes: Cloverbud (5-7) youth will each receive a Participant ribbon and no overall winner will be selected. For Youth 8-12, 13-19, and Adults Over the age of 19, the top recipient will received a \$10 gift certificate to Hobby Lobby.

Identification

Oriental Bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)

- Woody vine that grows around itself to form strong hold. Bark has dark spots. Distinct orange roots.
- Alternate, smooth, round or egg-shaped leaves with distinct veining.
- Yellow capsules develop in August. Burst open in fall to show bright red fruit. Fruits last through winter.



Swallow-wort (*Vincetoxicum* spp.)

- Elongated, oval leaves grow opposite on stem
- Small, pale pink or black (depending on species), star-shaped flowers emerge in early summer.
- Long, narrow pods appear after flowering and release seeds with white fluff in late summer.



**INVASIVE SPECIES
MANAGEMENT**
CAPITAL REGION



Help us find these species in your area using iNaturalist!

1. Download iNaturalist on a smartphone or tablet. Set up an account using your email and a password.
2. Once the app is downloaded, tap the "more" icon at the bottom of the screen. Tap "projects" then search "Capital Region PRISM Invasive Species Tracker." This will make sure you are apart of the group!
3. Go outside! Look around and see what you can find.
4. If you think you have found an invasive species, like bittersweet or swallow-wort, tap the "observe" icon at the bottom of the screen.
5. Snap a picture of the invasive and select the species you think you found.
6. Tap "projects" on the observe screen and select the invasive species tracker.
7. Share!

For more information on invasive species in your area, visit www.capitalmohawkprism.org

Website and Social Media

Click the photos to be navigated to each of our Facebook accounts:



CCE Saratoga



4-H



CCE Equine



Agriculture
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