



4-H Highlights

APRIL 2021

4-H Walkathon
Saturday, May 22nd, 2021
 at the
4-H Training Center
 or
Virtually
Pre-Registration Required
 Register Here
https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/4HWalkathon2021_241

2021 4-H Walkathon

The 2021 Saratoga County 4-H Walkathon is a-go! This year will look a little different from the past several years, but we are looking forward to a great event. Remember that all proceeds from the Walkathon go to support the 4-H Training Center.

This year's Walkathon will be held at the 4-H Training Center on Saturday, May 22nd. All participants will need to Register for a 1 hour time slot, with an option for "virtual" participation.

This year we will also be offering some new opportunities such as a "Family Registration" which will make it more affordable for families with more than 3 immediate members to participate, as well as a "Horse Only" time slot!

Registration is open now through May 1st. Register by visiting the following link:
https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/4HWalkathon2021_241

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

April

- 10th– Teen Council– Virtual
- 10th– 4-H Public Presentations (In-Person)
- 12&14– 4-H Public Presentations (Zoom)
- 17th– 4-H Chicken BBQ
- 24th - Teen Council Meeting (In-Person)

May

- 1st– STARR
- 8th- Teen Council Meeting-Virtual
- 16th- Birdhouse Due Date
- 22nd - Walkathon
- 22nd– Teen Council (In-Person)
- 19th-22nd Capital Days

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4-H Teen Council Donates to Local Organizations

“I pledge my hands to larger service” is a phrase that all 4-H members are very familiar with. Saratoga County 4-H Teen Council has been putting these words into action through recent community service activities. At their February meeting, Teen Council members made fleece “tie blankets”, and these blankets were recently donated to local service organizations including Wellspring in Saratoga Springs, and the Veteran and Community Housing Coalition in Ballston Spa. In addition to making blankets, members also brought food and toiletry items to their meeting, and these items were donated to LifeWorks Community Action in Ballston Spa.

Community Service opportunities such as these are just one way that Saratoga County 4-H is working to achieve its mission of “creating caring, competent and contributing members of society”.



Upcoming 4-H Teen Council Dates!

Saratoga Teen Council is open to all 4-H Teens! If you are new to 4-H Teen Council, we would love to have you participate in our upcoming events!

Saturday, April 10th: 4-H Teen Council Business Meeting via Zoom

[https://cornell.zoom.us/j/99706104764?
pwd=cXF4NGRORlVsbWtDZlJjWDFvSktZQT09](https://cornell.zoom.us/j/99706104764?pwd=cXF4NGRORlVsbWtDZlJjWDFvSktZQT09)

Saturday, April 24th: In-Person Paint and Snack

Register at:

<https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/TCAprilPaintandSnack 241>



4-H CHICKEN BBQ

Saturday, April 17th

\$14
1/2 Chicken
Baked Potato
Coleslaw
Dinner Roll
Smith Apple Pie
Bottle of Water



CCE Office
50 W. High
St
Ballston Spa
Drive-Thru
Service

Register Here
https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/4HBBQApril_241

Spring 4-H Chicken BBQ

Building on the overwhelming support from the fall BBQ's, we are looking forward to holding our first 4-H Chicken BBQ of 2021.

This event is sponsored by the 4-H Leaders Association, and all proceeds go to support the Saratoga County 4-H Program.

Register at:

https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/4HBBQApril_241

Saratoga County 4-H Robotics Check Out the Robovines FTC Team YouTube Channel!

The Saratoga County 4-H Robotics program has been busy this winter. Both the “First Tech Challenge” Teams, the Robovines and HazMatrix have been participating in virtual matches. If you have ever wanted to see what our FTC teams do, the Robovines team has started filming their remote matches and have their own YouTube Channel.

To view their channel you search YouTube for “RoBoVines Ftc 6955” or can visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/RoBoVinesFtc6955/featured>



4-H Families: Sponsor a Pie for the BBQ

Hello 4-H Nation! As most of you have seen, we are having a BBQ to support the 4-H Program on April 17th. We are asking our 4-H families to consider sponsoring a pie for the BBQ.

Pie sponsorships are \$9 each, and checks for pies can be made out to "4-H Leaders Association" and sent to our office at 50 W. High St, Ballston Spa, NY 12020.

Thanks for helping keep 4-H Strong in Saratoga County!



4-H Robotics and COVID-19

Adapt and Move Forward!

By: Lisa Russell, Robovines Club Leader

Saratoga County 4-H has continued to run their FIRST robotics program despite COVID. For the last 4 years, Saratoga County 4-H has run a large robotics program. They have had over 100 youth involved every year. They have run a drop-in program that grew into a program using Lego EV3's and OZobots for youth ages 5 to 10 years old. This program ran every Wednesday night and served youth from all over Saratoga County. In addition, there were two FIRST Tech Challenge teams and one FIRST LEGO League team that represented Saratoga County 4-H.

FIRST® inspires young people to be science and technology leaders and innovators by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that build science, engineering, and technology skills, that inspire innovation, and that foster well-rounded life capabilities including self-confidence, communication, and leadership.

In this year of COVID, Saratoga County 4-H was forced to pause the drop-in program due to being unable to safely bring the number of people that come to the program together. The program will resume when it is safe to do so, hopefully in the Fall of 2021.

But the FIRST teams of Saratoga County 4-H have continued to operate. Beginning in August, Saratoga County 4-H and their robotics leaders came up with a protocol that would safely bring the youth involved back together. This protocol has included masks, social distancing and strict cleaning of the area being used. When building a robot, youth wore their masks and worked at long tables to distance as well as possible.

In September, a Saratoga County 4-H team, Robovines virtually hosted the FIRST TECH Challenge kick-off. They had teams and youth from all over New York virtually learn what the new challenge would be. They also set up the field and held a Q & A with all the teams being able to see the field. This was the first time that Saratoga County 4-H started to have youth together and it was very successful.

After Kick-off, both Saratoga County 4-H FTC teams, Robovines and Hazmatrix began to build their robots. They have met on separate nights in the same 4-H building. The protocol has been masks and social distancing. After each meeting, the teams carefully wipe down the tables and common surfaces to prepare for the other team.

When COVID numbers increased, Robovines, who has 8 members broke their team down even more and only met with half the team at a time. Both teams have continued to meet safely.

FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) teams work to build an 18" by 18" robot that runs on a 12' by 12' field. This year all New York State FIRST teams have gone to remote competitions. FIRST has had to pivot the way competitions are run and have provided their teams with a remote platform to compete in. The field has gotten smaller to an 8' by 12' field and instead of 4 robots on the field, there is only 1. Teams are required to score themselves and submit their scores.

The second part of FTC is a judging part where teams meet with judges and share what they have accomplished in their season both robot and outreach-wise. This year that platform needed to change as well. Teams meet with judges via Zoom and share what they have done. Both teams will have competitions in March, April and May.

Saratoga County 4-H also has a FIRST LEGO LEAGUE (FLL) team that competes every year. This year's team met twice a week to build a robot with a LEGO EV3 and to solve a problem of getting people to be more active which FIRST gave them as a challenge. The B-Spa Beasts came up with an app that would track people's activity and share it with gym teachers while the students continued to be virtual in school. Their robot competes on an 4' by 8' field and has challenges that their robot needs to do autonomously.

"We were greeted at every meeting with youth excited to be able to do something normal" says Saratoga County 4-H Leader Lisa Russell. "The kids were beating us to our meetings because they were anxious to get started." We appreciate that Saratoga County 4-H saw the value to keeping the doors open for our youth and giving them something to be excited about.

Horse News!

Dear 4-H Horse Community,

We at Saratoga County 4-H are eager to get outside, get together in-person, and get some activities and events out there. Although, there is a lot of hope that in person events will increase, we do not know what this next summer season will look like for the 4-H horse program.

As of right now, 3/22/2021, there are no plans for State Fair or other State Events. We can expect events like Horse Bowl, Hippology, and Horse communication to be virtual at the STATE level.

That being said, please be on the look out for county or regional events. If we can be in person, we will do our best to make it happen.

In the meantime, the Saratoga County 4-H Horse Program needs your help! We have amazing volunteers and staff that want to see this program grow. We are actively seeking more volunteers to help us with this endeavor. If you have a passion for your local horse community and want to be a part of this program contact Brianna at 518-885-8995 or bh548@cornell.edu

Upcoming Horse Events

June 6th: Horse Evaluations

June: 15 Horse Evaluations

Pullorum Testing

Poultry other than doves, pigeons, and waterfowl must be tested annually for pullorum within 90 days of the fair. The walk in clinic at the Saratoga County Fairgrounds will be held on **June 29th from 11:00-2:00pm** in the Townley building. There is no cost for this required testing.

Alternatively, the poultry owner may present certification that the birds originated directly from a pullorum clean flock. The flock test must have been done within one year of the fair. Owners with large numbers of birds may also request an on-farm flock test rather than transport birds to a walk in clinic.

Call (518)321-5002 before May 1st to apply for an on-farm test.





4-H Tractor Safety

We are excited to again be offering our spring HOSTA Tractor Safety Program. The Capital District 4-H Tractor Safety event for 2021 will feature a mix of virtual and in-person programming.

Participating youth will learn essential safety skills, gain hands on experience with tractors, skid steers & UTV's, and earn their HOSTA safety certification once they pass the written, skills & tractor driving operation tests

Youth 14 & 15 years old are required to have a NSTMOP certificate when employed on farms & agribusinesses that includes operating equipment.

Youth participants must be at least 14 years old as of May 1.

The cost to participate is \$30 for 4-H members, and \$35 for non-members, which includes the cost of enrollment in 4-H.

For more information including meeting and testing dates/times, please visit:

www.ccesaratoga.org/4-h/tractor-safety

National Volunteer Week

Every year, hundreds of people give their time, talent and energy to help strengthen the 4-H community of Saratoga County. Our volunteers range from children/teens to older adults, to businesses and local organizations, and all share the act of choosing to make a difference. With your help, we are achieving extraordinary results!

National Volunteer Week 2021 is April 18-24 and we honorably recognize all 4-H volunteers; leaders, committee members, evaluators, workshop and symposium helpers, teen assistants, envelope stuffers, BBQ cooks, trip chaperones, and the friendly faces at all events. Thank you to everyone who gives so selflessly for our wonderful 4-H Community!
Thank you Volunteers!

4-H For Leaders

4-H For Leaders– Spring Edition!

Mark your calendar and plan to participate in the next 4-H Leaders' Association meeting.

Date: Monday, May 10, 2021

Time: 6:30pm

Location: Cooperative Extension Office

Who: All adult leaders

Topic:

Spring has sprung and its never to early to talk about our upcoming Spring events. We'll also be sharing some new information with you.

Leaders, come on out!

4-H Capital Days 2021

4-H'ers (ages 13-18 as of January 1, 2021) you are invited to attend the 2021 NY 4-H Capital Days, April 27-29, 2021!

Cost: \$25.00 for youth participants (\$5.00 for Saratoga County Youth)

Join us from the comfort of your own home as we get acquainted with our state government and connect with other teens from across the state! Hear from both a state senator and assemblyman as you learn how our legislative branch works. Explore our judicial system by meeting a NYS Supreme Court judge, enjoy a live presentation from the Department of Corrections, and activities from the Cornell Law School. Finally, learn about the executive branch and local government. Then choose an agency you can interact with that you would like to know more about: Department of Ag & Markets, Department of Parks & Recreation, Department of Education, and Department of Environmental Conservation. Add in live games and the chance to win prizes!

Registration fee for youth includes a conference t-shirt, and other program materials that will be mailed prior to the program. There is no fee for adults to attend, though they may pay the registration fee to purchase the t-shirt if they wish.

For more for information: <https://nys4-h.org/capital-days>
or call the 4-H office at 518-885-8995

To register:

https://apps.cce.cornell.edu/event_registration/main/events_landing.cfm?event=capitaldays2021-2-2_211



May 1, 2021

VIRTUAL

9:00am—3:15pm

(with a 45 minute lunch break)

STARR, also known as the State Teen Action Representative Retreat, is typically an annual weekend experience for 4-H teens from across New York State to get together to build leadership skills as well as network with peers and adults from across the state.

STARR encompasses the best of team building activities, **youth community action & youth adult partnerships** in one fun-filled, fast-paced weekend. Participants gain new skills and knowledge by attending workshops of their choice, learning how to “make the best better” and participating in **awesome community services activities!**

Please join us for an exciting opportunity to gain new skills and knowledge all while making new **friends** and having **FUN!**

Call the 4-H office for more information



**Tractor Supply Paper Clover
April 28th-May 10th**

Stop in at your local TSC
April 18th-May 10th, donate to the
annual Paper Clover Drive, and help
support 4-H in Saratoga County!

Create #Opportunity4All With JOANN

JOANN and 4-H are once again teaming up to help ensure every kid has an equal opportunity to succeed by bringing 4-H to more kids nationwide. Visit any JOANN store now through April 30 to participate or [donate online](#)



CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF THE 4-H SCHOLARSHIP GOLF CLASSIC WE NEED YOUR HELP!



We made it!

It's hard to believe we've reached the 20th year for the 4-H Golf Classic. The 2020 4-H Scholarship Golf Classic is set for Saturday, June 5th at the Fairways of Halfmoon. Since its inception in 2001, the outing has continued to grow, allowing us to offer scholarships and provide an array of unique educational opportunities to our county youth. This year we once again invite you to become a part of this special fundraiser.

Our goal for 2021 is to once again reach \$10,000 and 100 golfers.

All golfers will receive commemorative 20th Anniversary items!

Do you know of anyone who can help us reach this goal? If so, sponsor letters, and brochures are located at the 4-H office or on our website @ www.ccesaratoga.org and click the Golf Classic logo. If you have any questions, please contact Greg Stevens at the 4-H office @ 518-885-8995 or grs9@cornell.edu.

Thank you!



April 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Teen Council Virtual
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Teen Council
25	26	27	28	29	30	

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Julie Curren, Extension Program Educator
Brianna Hughes, Extension Resource Educator
Leland Bunting, Extension Resource Educator
Kim Wilbur, 4-H Administrative Assistant

Program Committee

Jim Holbrook	Amsterdam
Paul Lasky	Ballston Spa
John Mancini	Ballston Spa
Kristine O'Rourke	Schuylerville
Donna Ringwall	Glenville
Meg Soden	Ballston Spa
Rachel Maxwell	Ballston Spa
Meg O'Leary	Saratoga Springs

Teens

Kohlby Himelrick	Gansevoort
Adrianna Drindak	Middle Grove

**Check us out on
Facebook!!!**



www.facebook.com/SaratogaCounty4-H



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