

MONTHLY PUBLICITY

DECEMBER 2020

Livingston County News

Genesee Country Express

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Country Folks

LIVINGSTON COUNTY NEWS

Livingston 4-H'er raises money for 5 organizations

SPECIAL TO THE LCN
Livingston County 4-H member Chaundacey Crane-Yackley raised nearly \$3,000 for local charities through a Sweet 16 Chicken BBQ Fundraiser.

Proceeds from the event, which totaled \$2,890, were donated to five organizations, including Livingston County 4-H, Teresa House, Rescue Pit, Hearthside Cats, and the Humane Society of Livingston County.

Chaundacey said she chooses the organizations because they "are near and dear to my heart, and shaped my life for the better."

Chaundacey and her mother, Colleen, whose birthdays are a week apart, always do a fundraiser for their birthdays.

While the pandemic initially led to the cancellation of Chaundacey's Sweet 16 birthday party and the family's annual fundraiser, it didn't stop them from celebrating and helping the community. Instead, they elected to combine the events and conduct their biggest fundraiser to date as a chicken barbecue.

The meal featured chicken, salt potatoes, baked beans, roll, and a cookie.

Ron Niedermair donated food and lent his cooking talents. Additional donations and support came from The



Pictured are Chaundacey Crane-Yackley, left, and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Livingston County Youth Development Team Leader Mark Wittmeyer.

Cake Place, Angry Rooster Deli, the Avondale Pub, Good Spirits Wine & Liquor, Sign Blazer Signs, Top Gun Dustless Blasting, and Livingston County 4-H.

Chaundacey said she was also grateful to her parents for all of their hard work. She credited her mom Colleen with organizing the fundraiser and her dad Trinity

with purchasing the necessary supplies.

Family and friends also helped out and/or donated items and baskets for the raffle. They included Danielle Pickett, Erin and Randy Crane, Isaac Knapp, Carrienne and Lauren Conge, Carol Crane, and Brian Crane.

"It was amazing to be able to hand over such large dona-

tions to five organizations," Chaundacey said. "With so many people wanting my mom and I to do this again, we have decided to try and make it happen next year. If this year and this fundraiser have taught me and my family anything, it's that in times of hardship, community coming together can make awesome things happen."



Connor Rodwell, back, is shown with his market hog. Also pictured is Tessa Rodwell, left, who also participated in the 4-H Market Animal Project which raises animals and donates the proceeds to charitable organizations.

Charity animal program benefits 4 groups

SPECIAL TO THE LCN
Four Livingston County 4-H members participated in the Charity Animal Program and donated the proceeds from their 4-H Market Animal Project to charitable organizations. The market animals were auctioned as part of the Virtual 4-H Livestock Auction this summer.

Rian de Wit and Tessa Rodwell each sold a pen of two market birds. Robert Loewke purchased Rian's for \$81 while Jennifer Note purchased Tessa's for \$195. After the sale, Rian and Tessa chose to donate

their proceeds to Begin Again Horse Rescue and Catholic Charities of Livingston County - Mt. Morris Food Pantry, respectively.

Alyssa Healy's market lamb was purchased by Marisa Teeter for \$310. Proceeds from the sale were donated to the Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York. Finally, Connor Rodwell sold his market hog to Swede Farms Inc. for \$1,125. The sale benefited the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Livingston County Ag in the Classroom Program.

This project is not only about how 4-H'ers use the proceeds from their project animal, but the learning process and skill development that takes place throughout the duration of the project, Extension officials said.

For a minimum of four months, 4-H youth take care of their animals every day. Members also have to complete project records and market their project animals to potential buyers.

Each member participated in virtual showmanship and market classes this year using video submission in which each project animal was judged independently.

"We are pleased to have four outstanding participants in this year's Charity Animal Program," said Youth Development Team Leader Mark Wittmeyer. "These four young adults truly exemplify what caring about and helping your community is. They have learned at a young age that it is very gratifying to give to organizations that help others in need."

For more about the Livingston County 4-H Program, contact Cornell Cooperative Extension of Livingston County at (585) 991-5420.

Livingston County names outstanding 4-H member

SPECIAL TO THE LCN
Ben Lyness has been named Livingston County Outstanding 4-H Member for 2020. This is the highest award given for 4-H achievement and overall involvement in the Livingston County 4-H Program.

Ben has been involved in the 4-H Program since he was 5 years old. During his 4-H career, he has been active in several project areas and participated in a number of county events - including Public Presentations, Produced in New York, and the Fair.

Over time, Ben's interests focused more and more on animal science - particularly the swine industry. In fact, his last several Public Presentations have focused on swine-related topics. On any given summer you can find him in the animal barns at the fairgrounds (both county and state), caring for and showing his animals, and sharing this love by mentoring other members of the 4-H program.

Ben continues to use the

skills he has learned in 4-H and apply them to other aspects of his life. He recently interviewed to attend Rochester Arc & Flame. During the interview, he used his public speaking skills to answer questions in a logical and fluent manner. The hard work and responsibility he developed while in 4-H were on full display during the interview and he was accepted into the program. Ben's interviewer complimented these skills and acknowledged that he is a well-rounded individual.

Youth Development Team Leader Mark Wittmeyer said, "I have watched Ben grow from a quiet and shy 5-year-old 4-H Cloverbud into a very competent young adult 4-H member who has served as a volunteer, mentor, resource and leader for numerous younger 4-H members and their families. Ben truly exemplifies what an Outstanding 4-H Member should be and is very well-deserving of this honor."



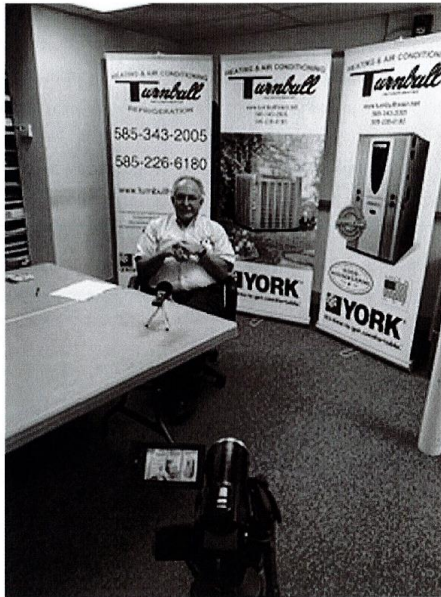
Ben Lyness, center, was named the 2020 Outstanding 4-H member in Livingston County. He is pictured with 4-H Educator Renee Hopkins, left and Youth Development Team Leader Mark Wittmeyer, right.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY NEWS

Virtual career readiness for GLOW kids

ONLINE PLATFORM: Site features information on 34 career possibilities for region's students

By BRIAN QUINN
bquinn@batavianews.com
Nov 17, 2020



SUBMITTED PHOTO Bill Hayes, president of Turnbull Heating & Air Conditioning, does an interview for the GLOW with Your Hands virtual platform.

BATAVIA — GLOW with Your Hands was unable to gather hundreds of students at the county Fairgrounds as it did in September of last year. At least it was able to bring them together to hear from area employees using a virtual platform.

In the process of developing a 'best practices' piece to website, pathways for students are outlined what of these careers say you should take algebra. As an says 'Math is important, algebra in particular.' It allows work in the world."

the ability to host an in-person GLOW with Your Hands

as well. It's not going to stay 34 careers. The goal is for

The Daily News what they've done so far with the

11th, 10th and 11th grades. I have also asked tech and Keshequa Central School District High School can be useful to seniors, generally it is most effective in y virtual classroom, students have unlimited time to

Central School District, said, "The business class, to give students an in-depth look at the different ig and the skilled trades.

ident interested in these types of career opportunities.

re earnings they could make, what type of education d the future opportunities for the career of interest," ps need to be after high school if they would like to 'the teacher/students need to access the information.

nefit from the platform, but added, "I would say the public is equally important. I see 'ce for parents and guardians."

al.com website gives parents a chance to explore career options and have deep, th their children, she said.

greater public is important to make this successful," she said.

rn to a live GLOW With Your Hands event Sept. 28, 2021, at the county Fairgrounds.

to launch with 34 careers. We hope to add to it every single year. I see this website anion piece to the live event at the Fairgrounds," Winters said.

FORM, under the various career paths featured, there were multiple video interviews er path.

ith Your Hands in terms of the filming was handled by primary by Karyn Winters ... and firector of education to employment initiatives at the Livingston County Area Chamber th our committee chairs to reach out to employers and create opportunities to develop ommittee was developing the concept for the virtual categories, we identified or. For the agricultural sector, we had ... Bernadette Harwood. She is the ag in the vingston County Cornell Cooperative Extension. Bernadette would reach out to these n and vision of GLOW with Your Hands virtual and the response from businesses was

ed individuals within their organization whom they wished to feature in the videos, in their industries.

al tool for students and educators, it is a great opportunity for employers to develop 'local employers ... they are struggling with these four industry sectors (agriculture, anufacturing and skilled trades) to find employees to fill these jobs," she said. "The tive is not just to benefit students. It's to benefit local companies and improve the we find is there are stigmas or stereotypes attached to these industries and we need pportunities that exist. We need to re-educate students and parents because the : careers is excellent.

ual.com) expands the experience with innovative, on-demand exploration of egiional economy, benefit all students in Genesee, Livingston, Orleans, and ity Economic Development Center (GCEDC) said. Schools received early access website starting Nov. 2. The full website has launched to the public, and ncouraged to immerse themselves in the platform. The four areas featured in riculture, food production, advanced manufacturing and skilled trades. and fabrication, welding, concrete and masonry, project manager, food nal nutritionist, and commercial driver's license (CDL) driver.

careers students can read more about on the virtual platform. They may click rem to a page showing "Career Overview": a description of the what CDL gs — an average annual income of \$33,745, education/training requirements, own, "Career Pathway" shows a student middle school and high school : well as colleges and their training programs.

achers, we've talked to companies who offer these positions. State and get information about the potential growth of a position 10 years from 10 icular job position?" said Karyn Winters, director of the Genesee County

ush has been to get the word out to superintendents and administrators. e mailed us back, saying what an awesome resource this is, just commending ambitious project," Winters said. "We did a soft launch Nov. 2. We decided to fter the election was concluded. Outreach to the public was Nov. 9.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY NEWS

4-H volunteer of the year is recognized

SPECIAL TO THE LCN
Alissa de Wit-Paul has been named the 2020 Livingston County 4-H Volunteer of the Year.

She has been an active volunteer and club leader with the Livingston County 4-H Program for 5 years. Members of her club consistently and actively participate in a broad range of 4-H events, activities, and program areas each year. They are encouraged to explore new interests, try something different, and pursue greater challenges. This is especially evident by her club's partaking in new county activities as well as participating in regional and state contests and opportunities.

Alissa may quite well be 4-H's biggest advocate and promoter! You can often find her touting the benefits of 4-H and encouraging families to enroll in the program.

Her contribution and impact to our 4-H Program does not end at being a successful 4-H club leader. She is also a key volunteer and valuable resource for numerous county programs. She has shared her knowledge, skills, and passion for public speaking by

providing workshops for Public Presentations and Horse Communications. Her valuable input and advisement to the small animal program has helped it grow and flourish in recent years. She has assisted with numerous Animal Activity Nights and small animal clinics and opened up many of her club activities to others in the county. She has also fostered interest and participation in the Egg Prep & BBQ contests, as well as, many of the state animal science contests - including Horse Bowl, Hippology, Poultry Science, Avian Bowl, and Rabbit Decathlon.

4-H Youth Development Team Leader Mark Wittmeyer said, "Alissa is a nurturing club leader, a reliable volunteer and resource for many county events and activities, and one of 4-H's biggest advocates and promoters. Our 4-H Program is truly fortunate to have her share her many skills and passions with our youth. She is well deserving of this honor and we look forward to many more years of Alissa making positive contributions to our 4-H members and program!"



Alissa de Wit-Paul, center, is presented with the volunteer of the year award by 4-H Educator Renee Hopkins, left, and Youth Development Leader Mark Wittmeyer, right.

SUMMER SHOWCASE

Livingston County 4-H lists results

With COVID-19 leading to the cancellation of the Hemlock Fair, the Livingston County 4-H Program organized an all-virtual fair experience where members could share their projects and receive feedback from judges.

Twenty-three 4-H members and eight Cloverbuds participated in the 2020 Summer Showcase with more than 260 colorful and handcrafted exhibits.

Youth were able to connect with judges via Zoom, reflect on the learning they experienced, and receive recognition for work.

"I thought it went amazing! All of my judges gave me great critiques and feedback for later projects," said Lily Sharp, who has been involved in 4-H for five years. "I felt like I was actually less stressed as there weren't really ribbons connected to anything, and instead I was able to focus and soak in the helpful critiques that each judge gave me for the future."

The following 4-H members participated in this year's Summer Showcase: Eli Barrett, Julianna Braun, Marshall Braun, Chaundacey Crane-Yackley, Audrey de Wit, Rian de Wit,

Victoria Charlebois, Estelle Dumuhosky, Fiona Gelb, Alyssa Healy, Merissa Huffman, Carly Lang, Aydan Low, Bethany Mason, Claire Paul, Colten Potts, Courtney Potts, Julie Renner, Ella Sexton, Howie Sexton, Lucy Sexton, Lily Sharp, and Teagan Werner.

The following Cloverbuds exhibited at the Showcase: Madelyn Coty, Tucker Drum, Lenore Dumuhosky, Nathalie Gelb, Kiara Gramkee, Kyle Harvey, Elizabeth Mensinger, and Katie Paul.

Judge's Choice award winners were Julianna Braun, Victoria Charlebois, Chaundacey Crane-Yackley, Rian de Wit, Fiona Gelb, Aydan Low, Bethany Mason, Ella Sexton, Lily Sharp, and Teagan Werner.

Judges and teen evaluators included Pat Auinger, Peggy Auinger, DeLisa Drum, Bekah Finster, Dwight Folts, Jessica Gramkee, Bernadette Harwood, Tim Hayes, Margaret Linsner, Sarah Linsner, Becky Minnich, Michelle Wolgast, Chaundacey Crane-Yackley, Alyssa Healy, Aydan Low, and McKenzie Low.

CCE Livingston County to host virtual annual meeting on Dec 1

SPECIAL TO THE LCN
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Livingston County has scheduled its annual meeting as a virtual even, starting at 6 p.m. Dec. 1.

"The community is the most important component of our annual meeting," said Extension Executive Director Jolie Spiers. "Experimenting with a virtual format this year allows for maximum participation. Please visit our links to help elect three new members to our Board of Directors and then join us on Dec. 1 for the results and to learn more about how CCE educators are

adapting their programming to meet the needs of our community during these unique times."

To vote, visit <https://bit.ly/BODVote>.

To register for the meeting which will be conducted via Zoom, visit <https://bit.ly/LivAnnMtg>.

The event is free and open to the public. If you have questions about the annual meeting, voting or registration, contact CCE Livingston County office at (585) 991-5420 or (585) 335-1752 email or livingston@cornell.edu.

LCN – MASTER GARDENER COLUMN

Keeping interest in early winter

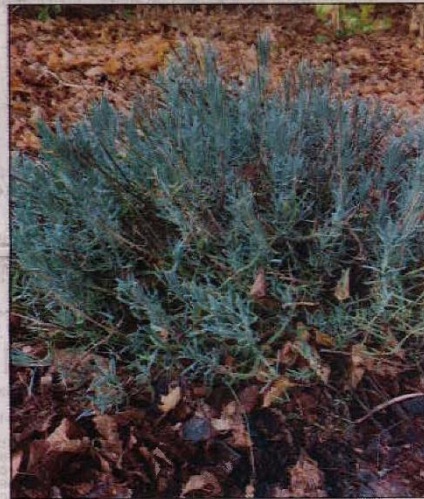
MASTER GARDENER



JULIE BROCKLEHURST-WOODS

While we've had incredibly warm weather in November, it feels now like winter weather is gradually settling in. I've finally finished mulching and moving the leaves around, as well as most of the other garden clean-up. Several people have asked me for advice regarding the spring-like growth on their plants this fall, but I have no suggestions. I expect we will be seeing some below-zero temperatures this winter, which will certainly kill this growth. These plants will likely survive this damage, but flowering will probably be reduced. I noticed tips of daffodil foliage peeking out of my soil, which I will cover with leaf mulch.

I have not cut down all perennials in my gardens. Each fall I repeat my clean-up mantra: if it stands up, leave it. Plant stems not only provide food and shelter for beneficial critters, they also look lovely when covered with snow. A smooth blanket of snow can



Lavender retains its fragrant needle-like leaves through most of the winter.

also be lovely, but it is not particularly interesting nor inspiring for your garden in the upcoming season.

All plants don't go dormant at the same time. As I write this we have had multiple short periods of below-freezing temperatures, yet some plants appear untouched. Plants with silver-gray foliage seem to be most resilient in my yard, including lavender, culinary sage, and artemisia. A bonus with these plants is that deer don't touch them. They all thrive without

supplemental water (only rainfall), growing in full-sun locations.

Artemisia Powis Castle is my current favorite: it produces no flowers, just delicate, fern-like foliage. It's durable branches will remain upright all winter, though the leaves will gradually dry and shrivel after several freeze cycles. To avoid a scraggly look I like to prune it back to about six inches in spring, once I see new growth on the stems. I have planted three of these quite

close together to create a shrub-like mass.

Lavender is a much-beloved plant which some people have difficulty growing successfully, especially surviving the winter. The secret may be well-drained lean soil, whereas many people have gardens with enriched, moist soil. Lots of sun may also be critical. It can be sheared back in fall to remove spent blooms and tip growth, but significant pruning should wait until new growth is visible later in the spring.

Culinary sage is very easy to grow, also in lean soil and sunny conditions. Small plants are readily available in spring at many garden centers with other herbs. Buyers may not realize that it is a durable perennial. It blooms in late spring with abundant purple/blue flowers, and re-blooms a couple more times if I deadhead and we receive a good rain. Some of the leaves dry and shrivel, but many silver/green leaves persist through the winter. We enjoyed fresh sage in our Thanksgiving stuffing, and look forward to having it available in cold winter months.

Julie Brocklehurst-Woods has been a Master Gardener Volunteer with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Livingston County since 2002. She enjoys helping all gardeners become successful gardeners, especially helping people identify tools and strategies to prioritize and simplify their gardening tasks. She will answer gardening questions by email: JulieBW48@gmail.com.



Canary Wings, a variety of new angel wing begonias, has chartreuse leaves with dark red flowers that contrast beautifully and will cascade gracefully while developing enough height to be a wonderful focal point.

New Year good time to plan garden

MASTER GARDENER



JULIE BROCKLEHURST-WOODS

Is there a difference between resolutions and plans? I'm thinking that resolutions are made to start a new year, then quickly abandoned. Plans are made whenever I like, generally when there is something specific I want to accomplish. The winter solstice, which is occurring on the day I am writing this, is another reflective event in some cultures which can include planning for the new season.

Winter solstice is a traditional time to plant seeds for some gardeners. Winterovers who sow perennial seeds in winter for spring germination may put in their first seeds on this date. Usually these are planted in recycled containers, then placed outdoors, or in a sunny window of an heated garage. The container serves as a mini greenhouse, enabling earlier growth.

I have been gradually making plans for my gardens in the upcoming year. I don't keep a garden journal, but I do keep a

running document on my iPad noting ideas for future reference. My plan for the upcoming year is to put more of these tasks on my calendar. While the pandemic gave me more gardening time due to fewer other activities, I'm finding that I am forgetting some tasks that used to be almost automatic. Sigh, I'm not old, but getting older.

I already have plans for my two big pots out front: one in part-shade near my front door, and the other in mostly sun, where the front sidewalk meets the driveway. I love the new angel wing begonias, there are so many varieties! One that has received a lot of attention is Canary Wings. It has chartreuse leaves with dark red flowers that contrast beautifully. It will cascade gracefully while developing enough height to be a wonderful focal point.

I also have plans to include more annuals in my big back border. I have a wide variety of plants in this bed, but definitely a gap in July. Last fall I dug out the blue star (amsonia) that was gradually encroaching on my other plants. I plant to start seeds for Cosmos and

zinnias, which are pretty deer resistant, to fill this space. Once established, these plants often don't need supplemental water. Their tall flowers are easily seen at a distance.

For insurance against deer damage, I will continue to use tomato cages placed horizontally on the ground, secured by a plant stake, to protect these annuals. These cages have been quite effective in reducing deer damage in my most vulnerable gardens. Deer are startled easily, and the fact that these objects juggle with the slightest ridge I believe encourages the deer to move on. They are not easily seen at a distance.

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LCN – MASTER GARDENER COLUMN

November prime-time to start woody cuttings

MASTER GARDENER



**JULIE
BROCKLEHURST-
WOODS**

November is more of a clean-up month than a time I start new projects, but it is actually optimal time to start woody cuttings for some plants.

I have a dwarf variegated Rose of Sharon called Sugar Tip which I like very much, and I'd like to have another. It's blossoms are quite small and dense, only an inch or so in diameter. The deep red color contrasts beautifully with the leaves. The density of the blossoms seems to prevent Japanese beetle damage.

The best time for cuttings is right after this plant drops its leaves, about November 1 until the ground freezes. It's roots continue growing during this time, so it will grow new roots most easily since it is not putting energy into leaves.

The process for successful cuttings is more specific than how I take cuttings from plants during the summer, but not difficult:

Prepare your potting soil;



JULIE BROCKLEHURST-WOODS/SPECIAL TO THE LCN

This dwarf variegated Rose of Sharon 'Sugar Tip' is now being propagated indoors on a heat mat.

it should be moist but not soggy, like a sponge. Pots should be about 4" wide.

Cuttings should be about 6" long with the diameter of a pencil.

Immediately place cuttings in water so they don't dry out.

Cut just below and just above a leaf node, the place where a leaf was attached.

The upper cut should be slanted, and the bottom cut should be straight. This assures you that the top and bottom don't get reversed.

Use a pencil to poke a hole in your potting soil for the cutting.

Dip the moist bottom end in rooting hormone, knock off the extra powder.

Put your cutting in the



JULIE BROCKLEHURST-WOODS/SPECIAL TO THE LCN

This Rose of Sharon is too big for this spot. Starting a cutting for a new plant is easier than transplanting this very large shrub.

hole, at least 2" of the cutting should be above the soil.

Firm the soil gently to hold the cutting upright.

I placed my pots on a heat mat, which I already had for starting seeds in the spring.

This isn't absolutely necessary, but will enable roots to grow more quickly. My pots are checked daily to

since they have no leaves.

After about two weeks I will very gently tug on a cutting or two. If I feel any resistance at all, I stop pulling, new roots have probably begun to form. New roots will likely form within about a month or so. Without extra heat, it will take longer, depending on the temperature.

I will turn off my heat mat after a month or so, and let the soil dry out more between waterings. At some point I am going to see a leaf or two emerge above the soil surface, and then need to start providing adequate light. Most of the windows in my home have folding tables in front of them for plants in winter months. I guess they are all going to get a little more crowded in a few weeks.

Julie Brocklehurst-Woods has been a Master Gardener Volunteer with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Livingston County since 2002. She enjoys helping all gardeners become successful gardeners, especially helping people identify tools and strategies to prioritize and simplify their gardening tasks. She will answer gardening questions by email: JulieBW48@gmail.com.

make sure they aren't too dry. After a few days, your pots will probably need more water if they are in a warm spot. These cuttings do not need strong light

LCN – MASTER GARDENER COLUMN

Master Gardener: November prime time to start woody cuttings

By Julie Brocklehurst-Woods
Master Gardener
Nov 21, 2020



Julie Brocklehurst-Woods/Special to The LCN This dwarf variegated Rose of Sharon 'Sugar Tip' is now being propagated indoors

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LCN – MASTER GARDENER COLUMN

Master Gardener: Keeping interest in early winter

By Julie Brocklehurst-Woods
Master Gardener
Dec 6, 2020



Julie Brocklehurst-Woods/Special to The Livingston County NewsArtemisia Powis Castle is still attractive after multiple frosts and freezes.

While we've had incredibly warm weather in November, it feels now like winter weather is gradually settling in. I've finally finished mulching and moving the leaves around, as well as most of the other garden clean-up. Several people have asked me for advice regarding the spring-like growth on their plants this fall, but I have no suggestions. I expect we will be seeing some below-zero temperatures this winter, which will certainly kill this growth. These plants will likely survive this damage, but flowering will probably be reduced. I noticed tips of daffodil foliage peeking out of my soil, which I will cover with leaf mulch.

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pruning shears

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LCN – MASTER GARDENER COLUMN

Gift ideas for gardeners



JULIE BROCKLEHURST-WOODS/SPECIAL TO THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY NEWS

A variegated succulent called Kalanchoe, Jingle Bells does fine over winter in a bright window. The flowers are pretty long-lasting, but it won't re-bloom unless it gets some sun.

We are heading into the thick of the holiday season, with gardening pushed to the background. Many garden writers offer gift suggestions, and I try to give some thought to that.

Since I am getting older and a little less mobile, I look toward gifts that save labor and time. How about a gift certificate from a landscaper?

Some landscapers offer only mowing and other clean-up tasks, but a local business made my edging maintenance easier. For \$300 they dug out ditches 2 to 3 inches deep around all of my garden beds in the early fall of 2019. I filled the ditches with wood chip mulch, and in 2020 I spent far less time on this back-breaking task. Grass and weeds that grow into these chips are far easier to remove. Three or four times this season I used my hand edger to clean up the lawn-side edge with far less

MASTER GARDENER



JULIE BROCKLEHURST-WOODS

time and effort. I expect the wood chips will decompose and I will need new ditches dug about every three years.

I have tried a few different tools over the years for edging, but none really reduced my labor. Power edgers are available, but the one I purchased only cut a slit in the ground, and cut off grass blades that had strayed out of bounds. Good edging will remove the roots, and only need to be done a few times each year. I have a string trimmer but don't use it because I have unintention-

ally damaged far too many plants with it.

My hand edger is now my friend again. I'm still using one I purchased more than 20 years ago. It has a T-style handle, and a half-moon blade which I keep sharpened to slip more easily into the ground.

Christmas plants also make great gifts. Poinsettias are lovely, but often don't last long in our warm, dry homes. The new novelty I noticed last year is the waxed amaryllis. The wax coating preserves moisture so you don't need to put it in a pot or keep it watered. The roots have been cut off, so it can be displayed easily on a table, or tucked into an arrangement. Gardeners' Supply (online) even offers this plant in a wire cage that can be displayed upside-down, suspended from the ceiling.

There are some disadvantages: They cost at least twice as much as traditional

amaryllis bulbs. These flowers only last about three weeks, compared to about six weeks for the others. The bulb would be unlikely to re-bloom, and it is offered in a limited number of varieties.

A variegated succulent Kalanchoe, Jingle Bells, also caught my eye at Country Max in Geneseo. They were kind enough to allow me to take photos of Christmas plants for this article. I have grown this plant for two to three years now. Some succulents require growlights over winter, but this one does fine in a bright window. The flowers are pretty long-lasting, but it won't re-bloom unless it gets some sun.

Julie Brocklehurst-Woods has been a Master Gardener Volunteer with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Livingston County since 2002. She enjoys helping all gardeners become successful gardeners, especially helping people identify tools and strategies to prioritize and simplify their gardening tasks. She will answer gardening questions by email: JulieBW48@gmail.com.

COUNTRY FOLKS

B14 • December 28, 2020

COUNTRY FOLKS WEST

Livingston County 4-Her raises money for five local organizations

Livingston County 4-H member Chaundacey Crane-Yackley held a Sweet 16 Chicken BBQ Fundraiser and raised \$2,890. The proceeds from the event were then donated to five worthy organizations - Livingston County 4-H, Teresa House, Rescue Pit, Hearthside Cats, and the Humane Society of Livingston County.

"All of the proceeds went to local organizations that are near and dear to my heart - and shaped my life for the better," she said.

"My mother and I always do a fundraiser for our birthdays," added Chaundacey. "Since our birthdays are a week apart, it's easy to do."

While the pandemic initially led to the cancellation of Chaundacey's Sweet 16 birthday party and the family's annual fundraiser, it didn't stop

them from celebrating and helping the community. Instead, they elected to combine the events and hold their biggest fundraiser to date - a Chicken BBQ.

This year's meal featured chicken, salt potatoes, baked beans, roll and a cookie.

Thank you to The Cake Place, Angry Rooster Deli, the Avondale Pub, Good Spirits Wine & Liquor, Sign Blazer Signs, Top Gun Dustless Blasting and Livingston County 4-H for their generous donations and support. Special thanks to Ron Niedermaier for donating food and lending his cooking talents.

Chaundacey was also grateful to her parents for all of their hard work. She credited her mom Colleen with organizing the fundraiser and her dad Trinity with purchasing the necessary supplies.

Family and friends also

helped out and/or donated items and baskets for the raffle. Danielle Pickett, Erin and Randy Crane, Isaac Knapp, Carrienne and Lauren Conge, Carol Crane, and Brian Crane all provided their support at the event.

Chaundacey noted, "It was amazing to be able to hand over such large donations to five organizations. With so many people wanting my mom and I to do this again, we have decided to try and make it happen next year. If this year and this fundraiser have taught me and my family anything, it's that in times of hardship, community coming together can make awesome things happen."

To learn more about the Livingston County 4-H Program, contact Cornell Cooperative Extension of Livingston County at 585.991.5420 or 585.335.1752.



Livingston County 4-H member Chaundacey Crane-Yackley held a Sweet 16 Chicken BBQ Fundraiser and raised \$2,890. Pictured are Chaundacey Crane-Yackley and Youth Development Team Leader Mark Wittmeyer displaying the check from the fundraising efforts. Photo courtesy of Livingston County CCE

COUNTRY FOLKS

COUNTRY FOLKS WEST

December 28, 2020 • A21

Livingston County 4-H looking to grow membership in New Year

The Livingston County 4-H Program is looking to grow their membership to more than 300 youth for the 2020-2021 Program Year.

While COVID-19 limited in person programming this past year, 4-H educators worked diligently to provide members with the best experience possible. Programs and events that were previously held in person were adjusted and

offered virtually instead. As restrictions on gatherings lifted, programs were offered in multiple formats, in-person and remote to accommodate family preference.

Families have been appreciative of Livingston County 4-H staff for providing a wide variety of programming to members during such a difficult year. The hands-on activities keep youth engaged

and learning while also providing a way to connect with friends.

"Hands-on learning is at the core of the 4-H experience," said 4-H Educator Renee Hopkins. "With a little more preparation and creativity on our part, we are able to bring the hands-on experience to life - even in a remote format."

Moving forward, the Livingston County 4-H staff will continue to offer

programming in multiple formats. Plans are also in the works for additional activities that families will enjoy. If the pandemic requires the cancellation of in-person gatherings, program staff is ready to make the necessary adjustments.

"Through trial and error this year, we've learned how to keep our events lively and fun. We are ready to move programming back to remote-only

should the COVID situation change," said Hopkins.

Popular activities include monthly Activity Nights, Produced in New York Food Demonstrations, Public Presentations, Clothing Fiber Arts Revue, Horse Bowl & Hippology, Horse Camp, the 4-H Livestock Auction and the Hemlock Fair.

Enrollment is now open and runs through June 1. The cost to enroll in the

program is \$15 per child or \$40 for three or more siblings. New member paperwork is available on the CCE Livingston County website at <http://cclivingstoncounty.org/4-h-youth/joining-4-h-2>.

For more information on joining the Livingston County 4-H Program, please contact 4-H Educator Renee Hopkins at rh445@cornell.edu or 585.991.5444.

B2 • November 23, 2020

COUNTRY FOLKS WEST

CCE Livingston County to host Virtual Annual Meeting on Dec. 1

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Livingston County will host its Annual Meeting as a virtual event on Tuesday, Dec. 1 starting at 6 p.m. "The community is the

most important component of our Annual Meeting," said Jolie Spiers, executive director. "Experimenting with a virtual format this year allows for maximum

participation. Please visit our links to help elect three new members to our Board of Directors and then join us on Dec. 1 for the results and to learn more about how

CCE educators are adapting their programming to meet the needs of our community during these unique times."

To vote, visit <https://bit.ly/BODVote>. To register for the

meeting, which will be held via Zoom, visit <https://bit.ly/LivAnnMtg>.

The event is free and open to the public. If you have questions about the

Annual Meeting, voting or registration, contact CCE Livingston County office at 585.991.5420 or 585.335.1752 or livingston@cornell.edu.

GENESEE COUNTRY EXPRESS

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Livingston County 4Her raises money for local orgs

Staff reports

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Chaundacey Crane-Yackley, left, with Youth Development Team Leader Mark Wittmeyer.

[PROVIDED]

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GENESEE SUN

LIVINGSTON COUNTY 4-H LOOKING TO GROW MEMBERSHIP IN NEW YEAR!

BY SUN STAFF

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The Livingston County 4-H Program is looking to grow their membership to more than 300 youth for the 2020-2021 Program Year.

Genesee Local Offers

Beautiful New Listing in Livonia!

585-503-8750

by ReMax Hometown Choice

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12 Days of Christmas Holiday online Arts, Crafts &...

585-519-1927

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