

Livingston Livewire

January 2026

Public Presentations

Friday, February 27th: 6:00pm

Saturday, February 28th: 9am, 10:30am, & 12:30pm

Livingston County Auditorium, Mt. Morris County Campus

Registration will OPEN 1/1/26 and CLOSE 2/13/26.

16 registration spots per session available. Each session will have 2 judging areas accommodating 8 presenters. Final schedule will be emailed to participants prior to event.

Questions? Contact Randy at rjs546@cornell.edu

For more information,
helpful tips, and
judging rubrics



Registration
Deadline:
February 13



Online Registration
Form

Types of Presentations

- CLOVERBUDS: 1-3 minutes. "Show and Tell." Use of Visual (poster/prop) is recommended
- ILLUSTRATED TALK: Use of visual aids to talk about a topic. Recommended for beginners. Good for all Ages
- DEMONSTRATION: Show how to do or make something. Recommended for beginners. Good for all Ages
- SPEECH: Deliver an original speech intended to persuade, motivate or inform the audience. good choice for ages 12+ who have done Demonstrations & Illustrated Talks
- DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION: Re-enact a piece of scripted material individually or in a team. Good choice for ages 12+ who have done Demonstrations & Illustrated Talks

- RECITATION: Recite a pre-written work using vocal inflection & body language. Good Choice for ages 12+ who have done Demonstrations & Illustrated Talks
- IMPROMPTU: Ready for a challenge? Pull a topic from a hat & use 20 minutes to prepare a presentation. Great choice for ages 13+ who have at least 2 years of experience in public presentations.
- COLLEGE OR JOB INTERVIEW: Prepare a resume & engage in a simulated interview process. Great choice for ages 14+ who would like practice & feedback before a real interview.

Public Presentations OR Horse Communications are 1 of the eligibility requirements for the 2A/3A Award Trips along with one other County Wide Event.

"Being able to effectively communicate ideas to a group of people is an extremely important skill to possess. Public presentations gives our 4-H kids a head start on mastering this important life skill."

- Gardner Low, 4-H Volunteer



Calendar of Events



DATE	TIME	EVENT
Jan. 7	5:30pm	Activity Night - Ozobots (Chip Holt Nature Center)
Jan. 8	5:30pm	Discovery Club (Chip Holt Nature Center)
Jan. 13	4pm	Puppets Alive Club (Chip Holt Nature Center)
Jan. 14	6pm	Poultry Club (Chup Holt Nature Center)
Jan. 15	5:30pm	Animal Activity Night (CCE Livingston)
Jan. 21	6pm	Teen Council (CCE Livingston)
Jan. 27	5:30pm	Building Challenge (LivCo Conference Center)
Feb. 10		Market Poultry Orders Due
Feb 10	4pm	Puppets Alive Club (Chip Holt Nature Center)
Feb. 11	6pm	Livingston County Nibblers (Chip Holt Nature Center)
Feb. 18	6pm	Teen Council (CCE Livingston)
Feb. 27	6pm	Public Presentations (LivCo Auditorium)
Feb. 28		Public Presentations (LivCo Auditorium)

CCE Livingston County will be closed
January 1st & 19th for holidays

TEEN FUN



4-H Members 12+ are invited to join our new offerings for learning leadership, comradery and fun! Questions and RSVPs to Randy (rjs@cornell.edu)

Coming up-

Wednesday, January 21st | 6:00-7:00pm
CCE Livingston Office

Welcoming in the New Year with a couple games and some planning on what should be the next Community Service Project. Coming up with Supply Lists for Teen Lead Activity Nights.

Wednesday, February 18th (Tentative)
6:00-7:00pm
CCE Livingston Office

Opening with a fun activity and begin planning for the Teen Council Spring Egg Hunt. Coming up with activity ideas for Egg hunt. Talking about another community service project to plan and how to start that project.

2026 4-Hemlock Fair Theme

BEACH

Welcome to “FAIR-a-dise”

County-Wide Club Meetings

Puppets Alive

We explore puppet making & puppetry theatre, with each year's focus defined by youth members' interests & abilities. Members learn new skills incrementally through guided group activities and independent exploration.



Second Tuesdays, 4-6 PM
Chip Holt Nature Center

- January 13, 2026
- February 10, 2026
- March 10, 2026
- April 14, 2026
- May 12, 2026
- June 9, 2026
- July 14, 2026

Open to all Livingston County 4-Hers

INFORMATION: beesandland@gmail.com

Poultry Club



UPCOMING MEETINGS

January 14
March 11

This club is open to all enrolled 4-H'ers and we meet at the Chip Holt Nature Center at 6 pm. If you're interested, come check it out. Come to one or all meetings - just RSVP to Jessica Gramkee at jgramkee@gmail.com before the meeting in case of cancellation.



Cooking with Ron

Classes have started, but contact Ron if you are interested!

Bring ideas to create a menu! At the end of the session we will be making that meal and serving it to people you invite. Example; breads, soups, hors d'oeuvres, main course, desserts etc.

After the menu is made, we will be testing your senses of smell and taste! You will sample a variety of spices. Next you can mix spices in a sauce to create what ever your imagination comes up with.

Contact Ron at 585-747-7251 with questions or to RSVP

LIVINGSTON COUNTY NIBBLERS

This club is open to all enrolled 4-Hers and we meet on Wednesdays at 6pm in the Chip Holt Nature Center. If you're interested, come check it out. Come to one or all meetings - just **RSVP to Jessica Gramkee at jgramkee@gmail.com** before the meeting date in case of cancellation.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

February 11
April 8
May 6



JOIN THE
NIBBLERS
FACEBOOK
GROUP FOR
UPDATES!



What's Going On In 4-H?

4-H DISCOVERY CLUB

Interested in joining a 4-H Club?! Join the Discovery Club! We will focus on a different topic or upcoming event every month!

Open to ALL ages.



Join us for watercolor painting! Using watercolors, oil pastels, and salt, we will create a fun winter painting!

RSVP by January 5th to Jenn at jls669@cornell.edu

January 8th | 5:30pm-6:30pm
Chip Holt Nature Center, Lakeville

ROBOTICS ACTIVITY NIGHT! Learn Coding through Ozobots!

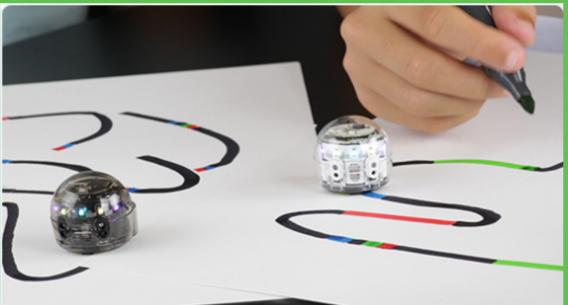
Join Randy to work with Livingston County 4-H's Ozobots. They are small robots that will help learn some of the basics of coding using a color coding technique that is special to Ozobots! We will continue to learn more about programming the Ozobots from October!

When: Wednesday, January 7th 5:30-6:30

Where: Chip Holt Nature Center in Lakeville

RSVP by January 5th.

There will be a limit to 12 youth. Make sure to RSVP quickly!



Are you up for a building challenge?

Do you want to test your skills as a problem solving engineer?

Join Randy on Tuesday, January 27th at 5:30 in a building block challenge to test your skills as an engineer to see who can build the tallest brick tower at the Conference Center in Mount Morris near the CCE Office.

You will be working in teams of 2 to problem solve how to build the tallest strong, and stable, tower. Each team will get the same amount of bricks for this challenge.

RSVP by Wednesday, January 21st to Randy (rjs546@cornell.edu) Maximum of 20 youth.



LIVINGSTON
COUNTY 4-H

Stay Tuned
COMING SOON

Produced in New York

FRIDAY, APRIL 24TH, AND
SATURDAY, APRIL 25TH

Livonia United Methodist Church

Keep a look out for more information regarding registration in coming emails and Livewire!



Animal Science



Animal Activity Night

MARKET POULTRY

Interested in the market poultry project or want to learn how to raise market poultry? Join us for an overview of how to participate, project requirements, & an introduction to raising market poultry

**January 15th | 5:30-6:30pm
CCE Office**

****NEW LOCATION FOR JANUARY****

RSVP by January 12th to Jenn at
jls669@cornell.edu

SAVE THE DATE

**4-H HORSE
COMMUNICATIONS
CONTEST**

Contest Information →

- ✓ **Tuesday, March 6, 2026**
- ✓ **6 pm @ the CCE Office**
- ✓ **Watch the February issue of the Livewire for registration**

QR Code

****ATTENTION ALL HEMLOCK FAIR 4-H ANIMAL EXHIBITORS****

Pre-Fair Educational Activity Requirement

All Dairy & Livestock and Small Animal exhibitors exhibiting at the Hemlock Fair are **required to complete one 45-minute animal-related educational activity by July 1st**. Cloverbuds are exempt:

- This requirement is for all members exhibiting at least one of the following species: Rabbit, Cavy, Poultry (Fancy & Meat Birds), Dairy, Beef, Goat, Sheep, or Swine
- Only 1 activity required regardless of the number of species being exhibited
- Failure to complete this requirement on time will result in forfeit of all fair animal premiums for the species listed above
- An activity can include any of the following:
 1. Any Livingston County 4-H Animal Activity Night participated in during current 4-H Year
 2. Participation in the Livingston County 4-H Public Presentation Program (**MUST be an animal-related presentation**)
 3. Any county, regional, state or Cornell University-sponsored 4-H animal science activities
 4. Independent 4-H animal activity pre-approved by a 4-H educator. A completed Pre-Fair Educational Activity Form must be completed and submitted with this option. Form may be found at <http://cclivingstoncounty.org/resources/pre-fair-educational-activity-form>. Examples may include researching an animal-related topic of interest, attending an animal show, participating in a hands-on animal experience with a knowledgeable adult, watching videos/presentations on raising/showing an animal, etc. Contact Mark or Jenn regarding one of these ideas or if you have one of your own.

If you are willing to work with us, we will work with you to complete this requirement! Questions? Contact Mark at mjw16@cornell.edu | 585-991-5441 or Jenn at jls669@cornell.edu | 585-991-5439.



Animal Science



Market Poultry Project

Meat birds will be part of the 4-H market animal program and 4-H Livestock Auction at the Hemlock Fair. This project is ideal for members interested in raising a market animal but may be restricted by space, facilities, or finances.

The meat bird project will follow the rules found in the 2026 4-H Livestock Sale Rules



Please read this document carefully before committing to the project! There are a couple of new rules highlighted in the document.

Exhibitors consigning market poultry only and no other species may sell 2 pens of 2 birds. Exhibitors consigning meat birds and another species may only sell 1 pen of 2 meat birds.

All participants will have to complete ONE Pre-Fair Educational Activity to be eligible to sell their meat birds at the fair!

All birds must be purchased through the 4-H program to be eligible for the meat bird project and sale.

Tentative Show & Crating Date:
Sunday, July 12

Tentative Delivery:
Week of May 11th

**Order Deadline:
February 10th**

Cost: TBD

Order Minimum Per Youth:

- If selling 1 pen: 6 Chicks
- If selling 2 pens: 8 chicks

You will receive an email when we have an exact delivery date.
Chicks must be picked up at the CCE Office on the day they are delivered

**Orders MUST be submitted online.
Scan the QR Code**



Questions: Contact Jenn (jls669@cornell.edu)

What's Going On In 4-H?

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The Creative Fiber Arts Revue Event Will Not Be Held This Year

Due to decreasing participation as of late, we have made the decision to cancel this event.

Members will be able to enter all creative fiber arts projects at the fair and have them evaluated during Exhibit Building Judging

New York State Guernsey Calf Scholarship

The Calf Scholarship Award Program is sponsored by the New York State Guernsey Breeders Association for the purpose of encouraging those who do not presently own Guernseys to become involved with the Guernsey Breed. A purebred Guernsey Calf will be awarded to the applicant who shows interest in the Guernsey breed and who has demonstrated the capabilities of developing the animal to its fullest potential. Applicant must be age 9 – 15 as of January 1st of the application year. You do not have to belong to 4 – H, FFA, or a breed club to participate.

Applications are due March 1st. More information and an application may be found at



New for 2025-2026 from the NE Regional Volunteerism Team



2025-2026 4-H VOLUNTEER CONNECTIONS

These programs are structured to offer connection, engagement and networking for 4-H volunteers from all 11 states in the Northeast Region. Zoom sessions start with 'connection before content' with fun ice breaker games and conversation. The main session topic is led by 4-H experts, 4-H staff, or volunteer panelists. Volunteers work in breakout sessions to share ideas and learn from one another.

READY, SET, GOAL! JUMPSTART YOUR 4-H YEAR!: Nov 19 - 6:30-8 pm
This session is designed to be interactive, energizing, and practical - giving 4-H volunteers tools and ideas to help youth set meaningful goals and help guide their efforts effectively for the year.

RECOGNIZING ACHIEVEMENT, INSPIRING GROWTH: Jan 21st - 6:30-8 pm
Hear inspiring 4-H stories including those recognized through the National 4-H Salute to Excellence Award. Come celebrate success, learn from peers and strengthen your own impact. Come away with inspiration and new ideas for recognizing volunteers in your program.

AI FOR 4-H: WHAT TO KNOW AND HOW TO USE IT: Feb 18th - 6:30-8 pm
This webinar will share an introduction to artificial intelligence, ideas for 4-H volunteers, and pitfalls to avoid. No matter your current level of experience, there will be information for you. You will learn what generative AI is and what it is not through real examples of how it might support your 4-H work.

MOVING INTO A NEW ERA OF LEADERSHIP: Mar 18th - 6:30-8 pm
In this session, you will learn how to partner with teen leaders to support the 4-H agenda. We will explore strategies for collaboration and share real-world examples from the Maryland and D.C. 4-H programs.

REGISTER NOW

<https://extension.umaine.edu/4h/volunteer-connections/>

What's Going On In 4-H?

Did You Know

Possible Trips and Awards!

Cloverbud 2A Trip
3A Trip
Tween Trip
STAR (or STARR)
Cornell Career Explorations
Capitol Days
Cobleskill Agri-Business
Career Conference
First Year 4-H'er Award
Project Pins
Animal Science Project Record
Awards
Horsemen of the Year
Outstanding 4-H'er
Russel B. Ace Memorial
Scholarship



Trips and Awards
Descriptions
Summary Book



Did you know that there are many trips and awards you can earn in 4-H?

Here's what you need to start doing NOW!

- Check out the list of all award trips and recognitions along with criteria and requirements using the QR code on the left!
- Choose the ones you want to earn
- Make a plan to fulfill criteria and requirements of each award including doing needed 4-H project work and participating in activities/events.
- Start working on your required 4-H Summary Book now documenting your 4-H project work and activities/events. It's a lot easier to work on it throughout the year then all at once at the end of the year.
- 4-H Summary Books can be found using the QR code on the right!
- Just remember that the 4-H Trips & Awards Application and completed 4-H Summary Book are due in September.

Questions? Contact Randy at rjs546@cornell.edu

Cloverbud Summary Book NOW AVAILABLE

There is now a version of the 4-H Summary Book available just for Cloverbuds!

Parents/guardians and leaders can help Cloverbuds record their 4-H experiences and reflect on them using this book

Cloverbuds who submit completed books by the year-end Trips & Awards deadline will be recognized at 4-H Achievement Day with a certificate and prize!



4-H Club Reports & Articles Wanted!

4-H Club Leaders and Secretaries are encouraged to share their club happenings (meetings, projects, activities, events, etc.) with our 4-H community by submitting a brief report or write up for publication in the monthly Livewire. Reports/write ups should be submitted by the 15th of the month to Jenn at jls669@cornell.edu.

What's Going On In 4-H?

2025-2026 4-H ENROLLMENT

Enrollment is OPEN!



Age as of January 1, 2025:
Cloverbud: 5-7 years
4-Her: 8-18 years



Nov. 1st Enrollment Fees:
\$15/Youth
\$40/Family (3+ Youth)

Visit our website for a link
to the enrollment form!
OR scan the QR Code!



BE SURE TO READ THE
INSTRUCTION PAGE BEFORE
COMPLETING YOUR
ENROLLMENT FORM



Send payment (cash or check, payable to CCE Livingston County) to: 3 Murray Hill Drive, Mount Morris, NY 14510 Or use
our Paypal link found here: <http://ccelivingstoncounty.org/donate>
Click "Donate", set the amount, and include "[youth name] 4-H Enrollment" in the note section.

Interested in becoming an Enrolled Volunteer?
Applications can be found on our website or contact Jenn for more information!

DEADLINE TO ENROLL IN 4-H: APRIL 30TH





Cloverbud Corner



NO BAKE CINNAMON ORNAMENTS

Materials

1 cup ground cinnamon

1 cup applesauce

2 Tbsp. white glue

drinking straw (or large diameter treat stick)

ribbon or twine for hanging (optional)

Instructions

1. Mix cinnamon, spices (if using), applesauce, and glue in a large bowl until well blended. The mixture will become stiff. Use a little more applesauce if your mix isn't pliable (it should be like a pie or pizza dough).
2. Form the dough into a ball and place it on a sheet of wax or parchment paper. Let your little ones roll the dough to about 1/4 inch thick (3.5 cm).
3. Using cookie cutters, cut dough out in desired shapes. Our favorite Christmas spice ornaments are thicker shapes such as stars, bells, and trees.
4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 with leftover dough until you have used up as much dough as you can. There will be some left over you can use to make accent beads by rolling thick balls and piercing them with a skewer or thin straw.
5. For ornaments, use the straw to poke a hole at the top of your ornaments to thread the ribbon for hanging, keeping about 1/4 inch away from the top edge. If you're making magnets, skip this step.
6. Place ornaments on a flat surface to air dry; a cookie cooling rack works best. Let them dry for 48-72 hours, turning them over halfway through the drying period.
7. If you want to dry your DIY spice ornaments faster, place them in an oven at 200 degrees for about 2.5 hours.
8. Once they are dry, thread the ribbon or twine through the hole and tie in a knot.



Club News



Lightning Bolts Club Report

First we went over upcoming events then we made Christmas cards for the veterans at the Livingston County nursing home, we made a total of over 45 to go to the nursing home.

Submitted By Kiara Gramke



Clover Clicks Club Report

This month the club met at Vitale Park. We talked about how to take black and white winter photos. Spent some time getting photos. Our next meeting is in March.



Livingston County Nibblers Club Report

We started off the meeting with some rabbit decathlon questions. Then we went over the parts of a rabbit and cavy and some showmanship terms. We ended the meeting by making some simple enrichment toys for our pets. Our next meeting is in February.



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3 Murray Hill Drive
Mount Morris, NY 14510

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BE SURE TO READ YOUR JANUARY NEWSLETTER!



4-H GROWS HERE

This newsletter comes to you as part of the educational program provided by the Livingston County Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Program. It is prepared by the 4-H staff and published every month.

4-H Program Advisory Committee:

Christie Bugman	Callie Duryea
Nicole Christiano	Jessica Gramkee
Matt Cicero	Mary Mott
Megan Coty	

Teen Members:

Michaela Bugman
Victoria Charlebois • Lily Sharp

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**Cornell Cooperative Extension
Livingston County**