## 2019 Annual Report



Photo by: Justin Maul

# Cornell Cooperative Extension Cattaraugus County

Education Center, 28 Parkside Drive, Ellicottville, NY 14731 Phone 716-699-2377



#### **Don Wild, CCE of Cattaraugus County Board President**

If you are looking for knowledge and dedication to all things agriculture, look no further than Don Wild. Don Wild, the current President of CCE of Cattaraugus County, has been involved with CCE, in many different counties for over 50 years.

He had the opportunity to work for USDA's "Soil Conservation Service", which in 1992 became the "Natural Resource Conservation Service" (NRCS) for 40 years. While he had many different position titles, his focus was always on assisting rural landowners in Western New York on their land and family goals.

Following that service, his specialty, after retirement, was grazing, forage management and livestock. At this time, he was appointed to the CCE Board of Directors, which at that time

was merged with Allegany County as a two county association. After 6 plus years on that board representing Cattaraugus Counties' interest, the organizations split back into separate associations where he was again appointed by peers to serve on the new board. Currently, CCE of Cattaraugus County is completing its fourth year as a new association. Wild was appointed president of the board this past February after the sudden death of his long-time friend Butch George.

Aside from his service with CCE, he also, upon retirement, took on a seed dealership that allows him to remain in contact with farm families he served years before in both Cattaraugus and neighboring counties. In addition to all this, he continues to grow and produce vegetable crops, small fruits and small livestock for direct sale to regular customers and at the Olean Farm Market. Wild Acres Family Farm is the last chartered farm associated with the REAP group that sells Saturdays in Olean.

Without a doubt, his favorite memory of CCE was when he was stationed in Essex County way back in 1974. He read a bio of a new home economist Essex County CCE had recently hired. His excuse to visit that office was to obtain "information" for the large garden he had planted that year. That home economist was his future wife, Sharon. They were married four years after meeting and have been married for the past 41 years.

His vision for CCE in the future is to continue to move forward serving neighbors with the tools and information they need. The youth programs continue to grow and the new agricultural team is off to a great start. In closing, he noted: "As we grow, we need to constantly keep our sponsors and cooperating agencies aware of our activities. I can't thank enough all our volunteers we have in all departments. CCE continues to be what our volunteers make it to be."

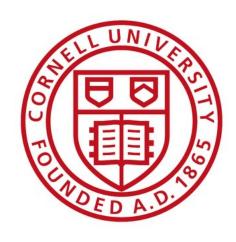
Thank you, Don, for your dedication and many years of service to the CCE organization and to the agricultural community!

The objectives of this Association are: To provide for a subordinate governmental agency consisting of an unincorporated organization of residents of Cattaraugus County in cooperation with Cornell University and the United States Department of Agriculture; an in accordance with Subdivision 8(b) of Section 224 of the County Law as amended. Also, to extend the educational resources of Cornell University and the New York State Colleges of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Human Ecology and Veterinary Medicine, the Land Grant University system and other educational institutions, to the people of Cattaraugus County to foster economic, social and environmental improvement of its individuals, families and communities

#### **Statement of Activities**

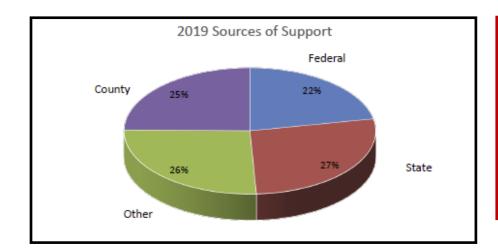
Cornell Cooperative Extension Assoc. Cattaraugus County
Consolidated
10 Months Ended
12/31/2019

	ANNUAL BUDGET
REVENUES, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT:	
FEDERAL	
Federal Grants/Contracts	61,835.00
Smith/Lever	101,950.00
STATE	
State 224	41,864.00
Fringe Benefits	161,483.00
OTHER GRANTS/CONTRACTS	
COUNTY	
County Appropriation	184,900.50
CONTRIBUTIONS UNRESTRICTED	
Contributions	8,733.00
INVESTMENT EARNINGS	
Interest	150.00
PROGRAM/OPERATING REVENUES	
Program Fees	16,450.00
Advertising/Subscription Income	2,500.00
Enterprises	290.00
Sales - Fund Raising	173,956.55
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED REVENUES	754,112.05



#### **Our Partnerships:**

Supported by a federal, state, and local government partnership, the national land grant system, and Cornell University, CCE's professional staff engages New Yorkers in research, outreach and educational programs that transform communities. These resources are distributed through our local Cattaraugus County Extension Program



#### **Our Mission**:

Cornell Cooperative Extension puts knowledge to work in pursuit of economic vitality, ecological sustainability and social well-being. We bring local experience and research based solutions together, helping New York State families and communities thrive in our rapidly changing world.

#### **2019 Board of Directors**

Don Wild, President

Nathan Blesy, Vice President

Kelly Reed, Treasurer

Jessica Golley-Halftown, Secretary

Diane Clayson Susan LaBuhn, Legislator

Erin Lamouret Norm Marsh Lisa Pawlowski Don Telaak

**Extension Specialist** Renee Lynn Smith

**Agriculture Program** 

Don Wild Nathan Blesy

Don Telaak

**Cattaraugus County Animal Project Chairs** 

Eric Clayson, Livestock Chair Sherry Charlesworth, Livestock Secretary

Tim & Dana Pence, Alpaca Jeff & Vicky Williams, Beef

Courtney Charlesworth, Beef Bryan Bailey, Dairy

Kerri Martin, Dairy Jennifer Herman, Dairy

Robin Degenfelder, Dairy Arissa Hitchcock, Dairy/Livestock

Amanda Elsholz, Dairy Steer Michelle Conhiser, Goat

Alisha Hurlburt, Goat Kristen Dunham, Horse Co-Chair

Cheri Stady, Horse Co-Chair Marcia Stang, Sheep/Horse Secretary

Megan Connelley, Horse Linda Murphy, Poultry/Rabbit

Crystal Duffy, Poultry/Rabbit Brian & Melissa Schrantz, Sheep

Dean & Amy Hayes, Swine

#### 2019 Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS Committee

Laura Land Priscilla Snider

Sharon Wild Nancy Olejniczak

#### **2018 Shooting Sports**

Herb Buffum

#### 4-H Youth Development

4-H is the largest youth development organization in the nation. The 4-H program provides youth the opportunity to develop essential life skills that help them build self confidence and the leadership skills needed for success. With the countless opportunities that this organization offers, youth involved in the program can build life skills to be used as they become the makers, doers, and leaders of tomorrow.

Essential to the development of our youth, Cattaraugus County has a strong club and volunteer base, as well as communication tools. With our quarterly Clover Minder Newsletter, Facebook page, and email list serve we are able to spread news and information, quickly, throughout the county.

For the 2018-2019 4-H Program Year, Cattaraugus County had 422 enrolled youth participating in a wide variety of hands -on projects.

#### Cloverbuds

"The 4-H Cloverbud Program is a special part of Cooperative Extension's 4-H Youth Development Program. Tailored to the developmental needs of five to eight year olds, it provides an exciting introduction to the 4-H club experience. The educational component of a Cloverbud club meeting consists of activities rather than projects. A Cloverbud activity focuses on developing a single concept and/or skill. Cloverbud clubs do not conduct nor participate in competitive events. Five to eight year olds are sensitive to criticism and do not accept failure well. Cloverbud clubs follow a set of program guidelines based on developmental appropriateness. While Cloverbud activities relate to the same set of program areas, as do projects for older members, they are designed to suit the cognitive, social, emotional and physical development of children within this age group."

-NYS 4-H Cloverbud Leader Handbook, Cornell Cooperative Extension, 6/2003

Cattaraugus County had 81 Cloverbuds registered last year















#### Clubs

Being a part of a club, members learn the 4-H pledge and are encouraged to use the 4 "H's", their Heads, Hearts, Hands, and Health in all disciplines that can benefit their community. Cattaraugus County, currently has 16 active 4-H Clubs. Of our enrolled youth, about half are enrolled as a Club member, while the remaining half elect to participate as Individual members.

#### Volunteers

Cattaraugus County is extremely proud to have over 66 registered volunteers who work with the young people in our 4-H Program. Many of our volunteers are home grown 4-Hers that have gone through the program and have returned to give back to our community. Volunteers provide an encouraging atmosphere for our 4-Hers, they lead workshops, act as mentors, and help guide our 4-H members with the many animal, leadership, STEM and life skills projects we offer.

#### **Youth Market Sale**

In the 2019 we had 154 4-Her's participate in the Youth Market Sale at the Cattaraugus County Fair. This program teaches young farmers all aspects of raising an animal, preparing it for market, budgeting their funds and marketing their animal to prospective buyers who must come to the fair to view and bid. A total of 16 beef steers, 12 dairy steers, 17 goats, 27 lambs, 92 hogs, 15 turkeys, and 31 pairs of chickens were shown and sold. Support from the local business community and residents helped our young farmers to bring in \$192,418.20. These funds are returned to the 4-H members to allow them to hopefully see a profit and repay their expenditures for the care and food for their animal. Most participants immediately begin setting their plans for the purchase of an animal for the next years' Market Animal Program.

#### **Committees**

Volunteers from across the county make up the various committees that meet regularly to plan for upcoming events, problem solve, assist with educational clinics and workshops, and chaperone activities and trips. A great deal of effort is put forth to grow and enhance the overall 4-H program. Our Livestock, Horse, Dairy, and Family & Consumer Sciences (FACS) Committees meet regularly to reflect on the past year and look ahead to plan for the current 4-H year. All of these committees are under the guidance of our Youth Development Committee. This committee works to provide insight on the programs our county offers and work together to recommend new programs for our youth.









#### **Cattaraugus County Fair**

The Cattaraugus County Fair is the end of year showcase for our 4-H youth and their annual projects. It is also a wealth of learning and teaching moments for our 4-H participants and the general public. In addition to showing animals and other projects, our 4-H children had countless opportunities for public speaking, leadership opportunities, cooperation with and support of their peers, interaction with people from all walks of life, and dealing with finances and budgeting. These are just a few of the major life skills that have helped shaped our 4-H members into the young people they strive to be. 279 children exhibited 620 animals and 800+ other Ag, Family and Consumer Science and/or STEM related projects, in the Youth Building.





#### **4-H Career Explorations**

Career Explorations is a three-day event for youth on the Cornell University campus. The purpose of this program is to provide youth with exposure to academic fields and career exploration, to develop leadership skills, to provide hands-on experience in a college setting and to introduce you to Cornell University. The event is made up of two grade specific tracts: **University U** for youth entering grades 8 - 9 and **Focus for Teens** for youth entering grades 10-12. **University U** exposes youth to a variety of program areas. **Focus for Teens** allows participants to select a specific interest area. Topics included Women in Science, Where Life and Engineering Meet, Astronomy and Environmental Engineering.

Cattaraugus County was proud to send 13 representatives this year. The hands on learning opportunities, as well as the leadership and team work that was fostered created an atmosphere where youth were able to broaden their horizons and gain many important life skills. The ability to interact and share this experience with other young people from across our County and State was invaluable.

#### **Public Presentations**

Public Presentations are perhaps one of the most beneficial and rewarding experiences that 4-H has to offer. They allow young people to develop strong communication skills, as well as gaining invaluable experience presenting and speaking to a large group. Participants do research, learn to organize and present their information and respond to questions. Presentations can be demonstrations, illustrated talks, formal speech, recitation or dramatic interpretation. This year a total of 79 Cattaraugus County youth participated at our county level and of those, 8 were selected to participate in the Western District Competition in Erie County and 6 were selected to participate in the Regional Horse Communications Competition in Allegany County.

#### Pheasant Raise and Release Program

Pheasant hunting has a long tradition as one the most popular small game hunting activities in New York. DEC's Small Game Hunter Survey indicates that about 23,000 hunters harvest over 50,000 pheasants statewide, while spending almost 106,000 days afield annually. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2006 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, small game hunters spent approximately \$600 per person per year on trip and equipment related expenses in 2006, contributing millions of dollars to the state economy.

The DEC, in cooperation with Cattaraugus County Cooperative Extension, held an educational workshop last winter for all those interested in the Pheasant raise and release program. 1,070 pheasants were distributed to 16 Cattaraugus County 4-H families and community members. This is up from 660 chicks, but still remained at 16 families from 2018.

DEC has a long history of propagating pheasants to help meet the demand for pheasant hunting opportunity. Wild populations of this introduced species have reached all-time lows. Without propagation and release programs by DEC and private entities, pheasant hunting opportunities would not exist in New York State.

#### Safe at Home Safe Alone

Cattaraugus-Little Valley Elementary once again participated in this program. 64 youth and 5 adult volunteers participated in the program. The children receive a youth book at school and instruction by persons trained in the program which is filled with real life situations that could occur when home alone, along with information on life skills that enable a child to cope with these situations. After about 6 hours of instruction time at school is complete, the children will be able to access the workbook at home as a resource. There is a Parent Guide that is available through PDF format that parallels the youth book that many parents find helpful in making the decision whether their child is ready for self-care. This is always a family decision and depends on many factors. Every child develops differently and it is recommended to start with small blocks of time.

#### **Incubation Project**

For the third year in a row, we have successfully incubated and hatched chicks during the county fair. About 25 chicks and 8 ducklings hatched towards the end of the 2019 fair week out of 50 eggs, yielding a 66% successful hatch rate. 4-H members in the poultry program then take the chicks home and raise them as their own. In 2018 we were just shy of a 70% success hatch rate. This has helped grow interest in the poultry program for our youth and has been a good education tool for the general public.



4-H is a community of young people occupance across America who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills.

#### **Ag Literacy**

Ag in the Classroom is a hands-on learning opportunity for elementary age students in grades  $3^{rd} - 5^{th}$  to learn new things about the Agricultural Industry. Each March, volunteers across the state read to students during Ag Literacy Week. This year's book was *On the Farm at the Market*, written & illustrated by G. Brian Karas. This book took students on an interactive journey of how food gets from the farm to the market. CCE of Cattaraugus County partners with Cattaraugus County Farm Bureau each year to reach as many youth as possible to spread the joys of Ag! Together with great cooperation from 11 schools, 46 classrooms, and 14 volunteer readers a total of 907 youth were able to actively learn and participate in hands-on activities to get a better sense of where their food comes from and how it ends up on their table.

#### **New York State Fair Participation**

Dairy: 2 youth Goat: 2 youth

Horse: 23 horse/youth combo

Dairy Judging, Livestock Judging, and Livestock Skillathon: 12 youth

Sheep: 1 youth

Youth Building: 32 youth with 182 projects

#### New Programming

#### Ag in the Classroom

In February 2019 we received a \$5000 grant that allowed us to host a Teacher In-Service for 15 educators on the Agriculture in the Classroom Curriculum. Towards the end of the program year, we formed relationships with 7 schools in the county that will allow us to expand on future programming such as embryology, lending libraries for curriculum and supplies for lessons, and Ag Literacy Week.













The Cornell Vegetable Program is a Cornell Cooperative Extension partnership between Cornell University and CCE Associations in 14 counties: Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Monroe, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Oswego, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne and Yates in 2019.

The team of Vegetable Specialists provides educational programs and information to growers, processors and agri-business professionals, arming them with the knowledge to profitably produce and market safe and healthful vegetable crops.



Elizabeth Buck | 585-406-3419 cell | emb273@cornell.edu

fresh market vegetables, weed management, and soil health

food safety & quality, organic, business & marketing, and fresh market vegetables

Julie Kikkert | 585-313-8160 cell | 585-394-3977 x404 office | jrk2@cornell.edu processing crops (table beets, carrots, lima beans, peas, snap beans, sweet corn)

Judson Reid | 585-313-8912 cell | 315-536-5123 office | jer11@cornell.edu greenhouse production, small farming operations, and fresh market vegetables

Christy Hoepting | 585-721-6953 cell | 585-798-4265 x38 office | cah59@cornell.edu

Robert Hadad | 585-739-4065 cell | rgh26@cornell.edu

onions, cabbage, broccoli, and pesticide management

Margie Lund | 607-377-9109 cell | mel296@cornell.edu

potatoes, dry beans, and post-harvest handling and storage

VEGETABLE SPECIALISTS

VegEdge is the highly regarded newsletter produced by the Cornell Vegetable Program. It provides readers with information on upcoming meetings, pesticide updates, pest management strategies, cultural practices, marketing ideas and research results from Cornell and Cornell Cooperative Extension. VegEdge is produced every few weeks, with frequency increasing leading up to and during the growing season.

#### PROGRAM ASSISTANTS

John Gibbons | 716-474-5238 cell | jpg10@cornell.edu

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Sarah Vande Brake | sv483@cornell.edu

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#### ADMINISTRATION

Peter Landre | pti2@cornell.edu

Steve Reiners | sr43@cornell.edu

Cornell Cooperative Extension Cornell Vegetable Program

#### PRECISION AG SPECIALIST

Ali Nafchi | 585-313-6197 cell | anafchi@cornell.edu

For more information about our program, email cce-cvp@cornell.edu or visit us at CVP.CCE.CORNELL.EDU



Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities

#### CCE - Master Gardener Program

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautauqua County is looking for new volunteers to enroll in the Master Gardener Core Training this spring at Jamestown Community College.

Enrollment is open to residents of Chautaugua, Cattaraugus and Erie counties.

Contact Cornell Cooperative Extension at 664-9502 or email Emily Reynolds at eck47@cornell.edu. Cornell Cooperative Extension makes agriculture and horticulture knowledge work in pursuit of economic viability ecological sustainability and social well-being for a rapidly changing world.

## Lake Erie Regional Grape Program

A cooperative program between Cornell and Penn State Universities, Cornell Cooperative Extension Associations in Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Erie and Niagara Counties, Penn State Extension – Erie County, NYS IPM Program, National Grape Cooperative, Constellation Brands, Walker's Fruit Basket and growers of the Lake Erie Grape Industry

LERGP Home Pages: http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu; http://lergp.com Phone: 716.792.2800



#### **Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP)**

Nutrition insecurity is a significant national health concern, especially among low-income populations that disproportionately experience poor health. Often associated with food insecurity, nutrition insecurity is characterized by poor nutrition, limited physical activity, and unsafe food practices. The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) is the nation's first nutrition education program for low-income populations and remains at the forefront of nutrition education efforts to reduce nutrition insecurity of low-income families and youth today.

The EFNEP Program provides nutrition education to low-income families and children in counties throughout New York State. A series of eight classes is offered to adults in a variety of settings.

Workshop series include:

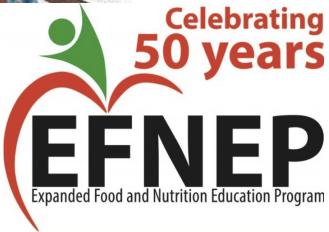
Easting Smart Being Active
Family Nutrition Education Curriculum
Finding a Balance Diabetes
Healthy Children, Health Families
Healthy Cents

If you or your organization are interested in scheduling classes, please call your local nutrition educator: Gayle Patterson at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cattaraugus County @ 716-699-2377 ext. 109 or at gsp72@cornell.edu











SNAP- Ed is a nutrition education and obesity prevention program for low-income youth, adults, and seniors living in Western New York. Western New Yorkers eligible to receive SNAP or other means-based programs like Medicaid or TANF. SNAP-Ed participants learn fun and easy ways to eat more fruits and vegetables, drink fewer sweetened beverages, and be more physically active. Free workshops, cooking classes, grocery store tours, and community events support these messages throughout the year.

SNAP- Ed engages partnerships to maximize impact on the environments where people learn, live, eat, play, shop,

work and worship. SNAP-Ed also facili-tates trainings and assessments for Smarter Lunchrooms; a movement to create lunchroom environments that make healthy food choices the easy choice for students. Healthy corner store initiatives; which bring healthy food options into convenience store settings, are also conducted via the SNAP-Ed program.

SNAP-Ed provides educational materials for youth, adults and senior citizens. These workshops are conducted at multiple locations throughout Cattaraugus County. Lead Nutritionist Melinda Drabant could be found teaching in schools, grocery stores, libraries, low income housing sites, food pantries, soup kitchens, community centers, Job Readiness Training Centers, churches, the YMCA, and at the Cattaraugus County Department of Social Services. Melinda regularly provides displays, recipes, and food tastings, along with education, at farmers markets, wellness fairs, and other community events. As a goal of the SNAP-Ed program, Melinda is always using simple recipes with ingredients that are low cost, easy to find, and seasonal.

While the SNAP-Ed target audience is low income families and individuals who qualify for or receive benefits through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), all of the people who engaged in SNAP-Ed educational programming provided through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed) learned easy new ways to make healthier food and beverage choices, stretch their food dollars, and to become more physically active.

During the 2019 fiscal year, SNAP-Ed emphasized a regional marketing campaign to promote "Small Changes Make a Big Dif-ference" highlighting that a healthy lifestyle is built one small healthy decision at a time. This campaign utilized

television, bill boards, and other types of media to reach the target population and share programmatic resources. SNAP-Ed is funded by the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) which is committed to reducing food insecurity and hunger, fostering self-sufficiency, and improving health outcomes for low-income New Yorkers.













#### **Farm to School**

Farm to School in Cattaraugus County currently operates in Franklinville Central School District and Hinsdale Central School District, which are partnering on a state grant to fund the project. CCE is working with the staff, faculty, and students in these districts to develop a Farm to School program that fits the needs and organization of each school.

Elements of Farm to School include assisting districts in identifying and procuring locally grown and produced food products for the cafeteria, promoting local food and healthy eating in the lunchroom and throughout the school, classroom activities and presentations, and other educational opportunities such as field trips, farmer visits, and gardening projects for students. Many of these initiatives are either being planned or have already been implemented.

In this school year alone, over 40 classroom visits featured Farm to School lessons and activities, on topics such as agriculture, school gardening, taste testing foods, nutrition, and food systems. Schools have implemented programs featuring local food in the cafeteria such as NY Thursdays, Try It Tuesdays, and Harvest of the Month, with much more being organized for the months ahead.

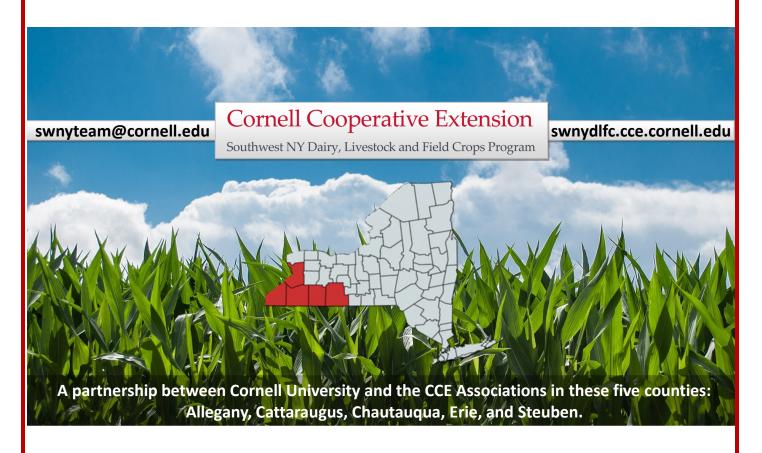
Serving local food from area farms in schools is a win for the region economically, as money spent in WNY largely remains invested in local businesses here in our communities. Additionally, districts that purchase at least 30% of their food from local farms receive reimbursement from the state for doing so. The youth of our county stand to benefit as well, as students who participate in school lunch receive the benefit of fresher, healthier ingredients in their cafeteria. When paired with educational opportunities about nutrition and agriculture, students will be better equipped to make informed choices regarding food for the rest of their lives.

CCE Cattaraugus is excited about the growth of this program, and the possibility of creating stronger connections between farms, farmers, schools, and the families and communities of WNY.





### Southwest NY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Program



#### **Contact Our Specialists**



Business Management Katelyn Walley-Stoll 3542 Turner Road Jamestown, NY 14701 716-640-0522 kaw249@cornell.edu

- Farm Business Summaries
- · Financial Management
- Production Economics
- Risk Management
- Business Planning
- Market Analysis
- Employee Management



Field Crops and Forage
Josh Putman
28 Parkside Drive
Ellicottville, NY 14731
716-490-5572
jap473@cornell.edu

- Soil, Water, and Nutrient Management
- Forage & Grain Production
- Variety Selection
- Soil Analysis
- · Fertility Recommendations
- Pest & Disease Management



Dairy Management Alycia Drwencke 20 East Morris Street Bath, NY 14810 517-416-0386 amd453@cornell.edu

- · Calf and Heifer Management
- Dairy Records Analysis
- Herd Health
- Animal Nutrition
- Facilities Planning
- Reproductive Management



Livestock and Small Farms
Amy Barkley
21 South Grove Street
East Aurora, NY 14052
Phone Number Forthcoming
amb544@cornell.edu

- Beef, Sheep, Goat, and Poultry Production
- Beginning Farmer Support
- Pasture and Grazing Management
- Meat Quality Trainings
- Product Consistency and Marketing

#### Early Successes - Sexual Harassment Prevention for Farm Owners



In light of the October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Sexual Harassment Prevention Training Requirement for *all* NY employers, SWNYDLFC Farm Business Management Specialist, Katelyn Walley-Stoll, decided to offer a series of informal discussions and presentations across the region with a goal of raising awareness, in addition to newsletter articles and printed resources. These event advertisements have been connecting people with the Business Management Specialist position as a resource for navigating these new requirements and managing employees. The team's discussions had representation from farms with a total of over 350 employees. Farms have continued to reach out for resources and clarification. Discussions on labor regulations will become even more important as the new Farm Labor Laws go into effect in 2020. Walley-Stoll will be prepared to offer trainings and support to farm owners and managers.

#### Cornell Cooperative Extension

Southwest NY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Program

swnyteam@cornell.edu

#### **Cornell Cooperative Extension**

Southwest NY Dairy, Livestock and Field Crops Program

swnydlfc.cce.cornell.edu



A partnership between Cornell University and the CCE Associations in these five counties:
Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, and Steuben.

**Needs Assessment:** With a goal to visit more than 100 farms in the first 6 months of the program, the Southwest New York Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program will develop an understanding of the specific needs in our region. This needs assessment will inform future programming and research. The team is working to network with farms and agribusinesses to build valuable relationships across the region and direct connections to Cornell University.

**Future Programming:** Be on the look out for future programming from SWNYDLFC that will include Pesticide Trainings, Information on New Labor Laws, Updates on Practical Applications of Dairy Herd Research, and support to people interested in starting or growing their farm.

#### **Executive Director's Report**

We have been very busy during 2019 and are very proud of our accomplishments. Thanks to the Cattaraugus County Legislature, the Southwest Regional Agriculture Team was establish and CCE is a part of the 5 county region. The Legislature committed to support our share for five years. There are 4 Specialists that will cover areas of Business Management, Field Crops, Dairy and Livestock. Josh Putnam, the Field Crops Specialist, is housed at our CCE in Ellicottville.

A Farm to School program was created with Franklinville and Hinsdale Schools. Jesse Meeder is the coordinator and works closely with the school cafeteria managers to insure that locally pro-

duced products are used in their school cafeterias. Meeder has also been instrumental in working with teachers and students promoting good health and nutrition.

A Regional Navigators grant through the American Farmland Trust allowed us to sponsor nine workshops in the county to aid those interested in agriculture and farming.

Our 4-H, EFNEP and Eat Smart NYS programs continue to grow. This year at the County Fair we had a record number of entries in both animals and projects. A Youth Market Sale grossed a record \$191,000.

All this would not be possible without a tremendous staff, many volunteers and a great Board of Directors.

#### Díck Rívers



Innovation Action Impact



# Cornell Cooperative Extension Cattaraugus County



Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities.