



RHINEBECK, NY

Aug. 19-24, 2025

YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE SPECIAL

a supplement of

Southern Dutchess News

NORTHERN
DUTCHESS NEWS
& Creative Living

BEACON FREE PRESS



Flourishing Farmers

Flourishing Farmers provides an inclusive and personalized 4-H club experience for students with special needs. This year, members of the club will be presenting their work at the Dutchess County Fair's "Think Differently Day" from 9 a.m. to noon on Aug. 21 in the Livestock Show Ring.

See story on page 12



Veterinary goals for Jenna Lawrence

Jenna Lawrence says she knew she wanted to be a veterinarian since she was in kindergarten. As a member of the John Jay High School FFA, Lawrence not only educates others on farming, but she also participates in a variety of competitions at the New York State FFA Convention.

See her story on page 4



Addison Stapf's leadership skills

Addison Stapf will be showing two market goats at this year's Fair and she is a Dutchess County Livestock Sale representative. She has been a chapter officer of the Pine Plains FFA chapter for two years and is president of the Goats and Glory 4-H club.

See her story on page 38

Youth in Agriculture Special

a supplement of the
Southern Dutchess News, Northern Dutchess News and Beacon Free Press
84 East Main St., Wappingers Falls, NY 12590
845.297.3723

Publisher: Albert Osten

General Manager: Curtis Schmidt

Editorial/Creative Director: Kate Goldsmith

Editorial Assistant: Kristine Coulter

Advertising Representatives: Jeff Ohlbaum,
Jaimie Rodriguez, Richard Wambach

Editorial interns: Kaeleigh Banda,
Morgan E. Maier, Alexander Tsahalidis

*We wish to thank all the clubs and organizations
that contributed content to this supplement.*

DAILY FAIR HOURS & ADMISSION PRICES:

Tues-Sat 10 AM-10 PM • Sun 10 AM-8 PM

All Rides Run Daily: Tues-Sat 11 AM til Closing • Sun 11 AM-8 PM

ADULTS: (12+) \$20

Seniors (65+) and Military with ID: \$12 (walk-up window only)

RIDE ALL DAY WRISTBAND \$40

Children 11 and under are admitted FREE

Parking is FREE

DAILY SHOWS

(except where noted)

Rosaire's Racing Pigs
(Map #53)

Noon • 4pm • 6pm • 9:30 pm

Saturday-Sunday

11:30am • 2pm • 4pm • 6pm

Hilby the Skinny German
Juggle Boy (Map #3)

2pm • 4pm • 6:30pm

Pawstar's Frisbee Dogs
(Map #47)

Noon • 3pm • 6:30pm

Two by Two Animal Haven
(Map #46)

12:30pm • 3:30pm • 7pm

Dock Dogs (Map #45)

Tues-Thurs 3pm-6pm

Fri-Sun 10am-6pm

Off Axis Stunt Show
(Map #49)

11:30am • 2pm • 5pm

Rosaire's Racing Pigs. *Courtesy photo*



JEANNETTE'S FRIED DOUGH



Jeannette's Fried Dough and Fried Treats

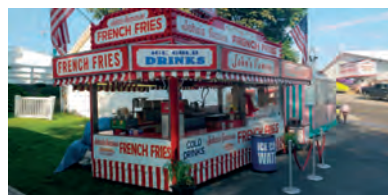
18 Different Specialty Toppings
Variety Of Fried Goodies: Oreos,
Cheesecake, PB&J, Twinkies
and More! We Fry It All!

Cotton Candy & Various Cold Drinks

**Jeannette's and John's Famous has
been serving fairs for over 75 years.**

**LOCATED AT L-0
ON THE FAIR MAP!**

John's Famous FRENCH FRIES



John's Famous French Fries Toppings Various Cold Drinks



**Come and Enjoy Fresh & Tasty Fair Food
John's Famous French Fries stand
this year at the 2025 Dutchess County Fair
LOCATED AT TRACKSIDE SPOT 27
ON THE FAIR MAP!**

The name you **know** and the name you **trust**

WILLIAMS

Lumber & Home Centers

845-876-WOOD

www.williamslumber.com



Lumber • Building Materials • Windows & Doors •
Paint • Power Tools • Hand Tools • Electrical •
Power Equipment • Plumbing • Heating • Hardware •
Kitchen & Bath • Housewares • Lawn & Garden •
Outdoor Living • Giftware • Boots & Apparel •
And so much more!

Rhinebeck | Hudson | Hopewell Junction | Tannersville | Red Hook | Pleasant Valley | High Falls

FFA and beyond – Jenna Lawrence has true commitment to agriculture

By Kaeleigh Banda

Growing up on a dairy farm has immersed John Jay High School student Jenna Lawrence in a life of animals and agriculture. Her lifetime of knowledge and experience has earned her the respect of her peers, leading to her selection as the 2025-2026 president of the John Jay High School chapter of Future Farmers of America (FFA) at the young age of 15.

Lawrence's family owns the Stormfield Swiss Farm in Wappingers Falls. The farm produces dairy products such as milk, cream and yogurt, which are sold through Hudson Valley Fresh. This year, Lawrence's family and the DeForest family won the Farm Family of the Year from the Dutchess County Agricultural Society for their work at Stormfield Swiss.

Lawrence said she knew she

wanted to be a veterinarian since she was in kindergarten.

As a member of FFA, Lawrence not only educates others on farming, but she also participates in veterinarian science competitions at the New York State FFA Convention.

"FFA has definitely helped me with my public speaking," Lawrence said. "It's also helped me with my vet science knowledge because I'm competing in the competition, so I'm studying a lot for that."

Lawrence's commitment to agriculture extends far beyond FFA. She is a member of the Eastern New York Holstein Club, the Northern Dutchess Dairy 4-H Club, the Northern Dutchess Dairy 4-H Club and the Junior Fair Board for the Dutchess County Fair. This past year, Lawrence had the honor of winning the Legacy Award for the Guernsey breed of cows which is the first-place award in the state.



Jenna Lawrence is a member of the Eastern New York Holstein Club, the Northern Dutchess Dairy 4-H Club, John Jay High School FFA and the Junior Fair Board for the Dutchess County Fair. *Courtesy photo*

Through her 4-H club, Lawrence also won first place in master showmanship at the 2024 Dutchess County Fair. Lawrence said that each year she has to pick which cows are best to show based on detailed criteria.

"I like to show really big cows," Lawrence said. "They also have to look proportionate – if you see a cow with short legs and a long torso, the cow's not going to win."

In addition to competing, Lawrence spends most of her Fair days in the barn with her family and cows.

"I've been going to the Fair every year since I was born," Lawrence said. "I like to talk to people who come through my barn and ask questions about the animals. I love meeting new people."

Within John Jay's FFA chapter, Lawrence had demonstrated leadership even before she was elected president. Mary Jane McFarland, co-advisor of John Jay FFA, said Lawrence has always been able to fill in when other officers were not present.

"Jenna's dedication to our chapter has been enormous from freshman year to the present day," McFarland said. "She's leading the way to show how our future officers should be, as far as the way that she's able to run a meeting. Her leadership skills are defi-

nately top-notch."

Next year, Lawrence wants to continue to grow in her leadership by applying for the state and district officer positions. Lawrence's dedication to FFA can also be seen through her FFA degrees. She earned her Greenhand Degree and her Chapter Degree, and she is now working toward her New York State and National Degrees. Earning these degrees involves community service hours, running meetings, cultural experience and more.

Between years of living on the farm and her extensive involvement in agricultural curricula, McFarland said Lawrence's experience and passion are huge additions to the FFA chapter.

"I've seen her energy with the kids and her excitement," McFarland said. "When we're doing things within the community, I've seen her be able to project that energy onto the other members and get them excited to partake in what we're doing. She's inspiring to the other kids."

Despite still being in high school, Lawrence has already built an impressive résumé in both farming and veterinary science. Among her many pursuits, she said her involvement with FFA has been especially impactful.

"FFA is very nice and welcoming," Lawrence said. "It's easy to get into, hard to get out of."

ALL HEART BAKING CO.

Come try our delicious shortbread cookies at
the Dutchess County Fair!

Building D, Booth 81
August 19-24, 2025

Follow us on Instagram for a behind the
scenes look at our Fair preparations!



Instagram handle: @ALLHEARTBAKINGCO



ALL HEART

Eclectic Shortbread

made with heart

BAKING CO.

**We love the Dutchess County Fair & all the
YOUTH activities & events of 4H and FAA
Groups supporting Education in Agriculture.**



DAVE'S TREE SERVICE

DOCTORS OF TREE SURGERY

**A Certified Arborist who protects the homeowner with 5 Million Dollars
Liability Insurance and Workers Compensation Insurance certificates!**

845-706-7211

**• SURGERY • REMOVAL • FEEDING • CABLING • CLEARING
• STUMP GRINDING • BRACING • TRIMMING • CAVITY WORK**

**RESIDENTIAL
LICENSED
INSURED**



**COMMERCIAL
FREE
ESTIMATES**

www.davestreeservice.us

**One Of The Only Doctors That Still Makes House Calls
*HAVE YOU HUGGED YOUR TREE TODAY?***

From 'Dogtober' to bees & chickens -

By Rebecca Cossa
Agriculture Teacher
FFA Advisor,
Dutchess BOCES

Students in Dutchess BOCES Careers in Animal and Plant Sciences program contribute to the school and larger community in many ways throughout the two-year, state-certified career and technical education program, which incorporates the National Future Farmers of America (FFA) leadership focus.

This past year, they raised money for the Dutchess SPCA through a "Dogtober" event after learning about dogs they had up for adoption through posters made for the event by the Graphic Arts and Design students. Upon paying an entry fee, classmates could "Pin-the-bone" and dress up a toy dog after adopting it. Students and staff were also encouraged to drop off pet food, towels and bowls.

In March, they traveled to Albany as part of lobby day to push for increased agricultural education funding and meet with Sen. Rob Rolison.

They also designed and created centerpieces for public occasions, including the Dutchess BOCES Distinguished Graduate Recognition Breakfast, read to students and conducted an activity for Agriculture Literacy Week at Salt Point Center and participated in the Dutchess County Fair and the New York FFA Convention. For the holidays, they helped spread joy by hosting a cookie decorating day for other students at the Career and Technical Institute and teaching them how to make boutonnières.

The program

Students in the program are responsible for maintaining the program's bees, chickens, rats and snails as well as a year-round greenhouse. Last year, students



Students in the Careers in Animal and Plant Sciences Program make floral centerpieces for public events. Opposite page: As part of a research project, students examined which probiotic bacteria are best for horses. Courtesy photos

conducted the program's second honey harvest and bottled the honey to sell as part of an FFA fundraiser.

The rigorous program emphasizes head/heart/hands-on learning experiences and provides students with opportunities to customize their learning. It includes math, English and science credits. Articulation agreements are in place with SUNY Cobleskill, Morrisville and Dutchess Community College.

During the first year, students cultivate an understanding of the diverse and profitable fields of agriculture. Units include: Landscape Architecture, Veterinary Sciences, Floral Design, Wildlife Management, Research and Technology, Animal Production, Agribusiness, Animal Behavior, Arboriculture & Tree Climbing, and Plant Production. To supplement classroom experiences, students go on monthly field trips. Last year, a trip to Westminster Dog Show was reinstated and there were also trips to the Philadelphia Flower Show, colleges, and local businesses and organizations. These trips help

demonstrate the relevance, accessibility and real-world viability of featured careers.

In their second year, students write college essays, complete applications and apply for financial aid in time for early deadlines. Students gain and demonstrate industry knowledge and skills through weekly work-based learning placements, which also act as FFA supervised agricultural experiences.

Last year students worked at the SPCA, Rivendell Riding Academy, Pleasant Valley Animal Hospital and the greenhouse at Adams Fairacre Farms in Wappingers.

In their senior year, students design and conduct an in-depth, full-year research experiment project. Projects completed in 2024-25:

- Compared the growth rate of aquaponic systems using fish and shrimp
- Looked at which flower species grew best in hydroponic systems
- Examined data about men under 30 and the propensity toward dog abuse

WWW.CONWAYSUSA.COM Celebrating 47 Years!

0% FINANCING

ON ALL STIHL PRODUCTS

STIHL Zero-Turn Lawn Mowers **Now in Stock!**

The STIHL RZ560 is a zero-turn mower with a 60" mowing deck and 27 hp Briggs & Stratton® engine.

\$500 INSTANT REBATE

CONWAY'S

LAWN & POWER EQUIPMENT

Route 9, 7235 South Broadway, Red Hook, NY

845-758-8134

Visit us at www.conwaysusa.com

Store Hours: M-F 7:30-5, Sat 7:30-3:00, Sun Closed

2021 BEST OF THE MID-HUDSON

best

Finalist

We are proud to honor The FAVOR Program

*Veteran Discount Program

We want to be your power equipment dealer!

Dutchess BOCES FFA students do it all

The rigorous program emphasizes head/heart/hands-on learning experiences and provides students with opportunities to customize their learning.

- Compared the engagement activity of rats living communally vs. independently

- Spoke with veterinarians about their preference for in-house vs. sending out lab tests

- Researched the best bacteria for a horse probiotic, dependent on the pH of the host environment (a horse's stomach)

This year I had the opportunity to mail letters my first class (2020) wrote to themselves five years ago. I've already heard back from

several students and look forward to hearing back from future program graduates. The Dutchess BOCES Careers in Animal and Plant Sciences Program recruits creative, deep-thinking, open-minded students that want to explore plant and animal topics to inspire their interests and abilities, as well as a desire to improve their leadership skills.

For information or questions, email rebecca.cossa@dcboces.org.



Your Moola is in good hands with us.

Bank of Millbrook customers know who they are dealing with:
We were born and raised here.
We are your neighbors and friends.

We care about the same things:
our families, our communities and
our collective prosperity.
And, yes, our cows and farms too.

Stop by one of our branches and
let us know how we can help you.

BANK OF MILLBROOK

The Strength of Relationships



(845) 677-5321

BANKOFMILLBROOK.COM

MILLBROOK • AMENIA • MILLERTON
PINE PLAINS • STANFORDVILLE

MEMBER FDIC

George T. Whalen III
President
*Loves cows & farming
Former 4-H Dad*

George T. Whalen IV
Senior Vice President, Lending
*Loves cows & farming
Dutchess County 4-H Alumnus*





SAY HELLO TO
A NEW LEVEL
OF CARE AT
PREMIER!

 Proudly Serving Our
Community for 15 Years!



At Premier Medical Group, we believe that healthcare should treat the whole person, not just the symptoms.

That's why we offer comprehensive and compassionate care in a range of specialties, including:

- Urology
- Gynecology
- Cardiology
- Rheumatology
- Neurology
- Podiatry
- Nephrology
- Gastroenterology
- Internal Medicine
- Plastic Surgery
- Dermatology
- Pulmonology
- Endocrinology

With over 100 providers and specialists, and convenient office locations throughout the Hudson Valley, we're here to provide the care you need when you need it.

Say goodbye to the frustrations of traditional healthcare and hello to a new level of care at Premier Medical Group.

CONVENIENT OFFICE LOCATIONS:

Poughkeepsie, Fishkill, Hopewell Junction,
Wappingers Falls, New Windsor,
Newburgh, and Kingston

Tel: 1-888-632-6099 | PremierMedicalHV.com

La Togge Nubi Alpi Saan Goat Club is a family affair

At 56 years old, La Togge Nubi Alpi Saan is one of Dutchess County's oldest 4-H clubs. The club name is derived from the names of breeds of dairy goats: LaMancha, Toggenburg, Nubian, Alpine and Saanen.

Co-leaders Pat Miglio, Katherine Mustello and Deb Scannell enjoy sharing their love of dairy goats with 4-H members. The club focuses on all breeds of dairy goats, but some of their members show multiple species.

Club activities cover care and showing of dairy goats, but some

of the member's favorite projects involve cooking. A La Togge Nubi Alpi Saan specialty is Chocolate Goat's Milk Gelato, and making Irish Soda Bread each March is a tradition.

As one of 4-H's smaller clubs, it feels more like a family, and milestones like birthday's are always celebrated. All three leaders are proud to say that members who grew up in the club are very successful - with careers as varied as a lawyer, physical therapist and author.



La Togge Nubi Alpi Saan members include Jackelyn Miglio, Kelsey Bennett and Adeline Miglio in front. In back are leaders Pat Miglio, left, and Katherine Mustello. *Courtesy photo*

Red Hook High Roboraiders set for performance at Fair



Red Hook Central High School's robotics team, the Roboraiders, will present highlights from their 2025 season at the Dutchess County Fair in Building E. This will include their robot "Dolomedes," which won the Control Award at the NYS First Tech Challenge Regional Competition. The team will also feature its 3D printer and other hands-on activities. On Friday, August 22, the Roboraiders will welcome John Jay High School's Jaybots to the fair for some friendly scrimmage, giving fair-goers a true sense of what a robotics competition is like. *Courtesy photo*

Northern Dutchess Dairy member sets and achieves valuable goals

Hello, I am Coghlan Mullen. I am 14 and an upcoming freshman at Stissing Mountain High School in Pine Plains, where I am active in the local FFA and currently serve as the Vice President of the 2025-2026 officer team.

I am a member of the Eastern New York Holstein club, and the Northern Dutchess Dairy 4-H club.

I have been active in the Dutchess County 4-H program for as long as I can remember. Showing as a Cloverbud was one of my favorite things to do at the Dutchess County Fair. Since then, I have grown to become a better individual because of 4-H. I have met many people, tried many different things, and participated in many different community service

opportunities. I really enjoyed 4-H, so when I first was in middle school, I chose to join the Pine Plains FFA, because I enjoyed the agricultural aspect of 4-H. Now I am active in both programs, educating and serving my community.

At the 100th New York State FFA Convention in Syracuse, my team won the Junior Quiz Bowl. I had set this goal in 6th grade when my team won 2nd place in Buffalo, because I had wanted to do better. Then, in June of 2025, my cow, Bellatrix, had scored 90, which I had gotten before, but this one was different. This time it was a bred and owned calf. I was very proud of these achievements, and I hope to make and set even more goals as my 4-H and FFA chapter unfolds.

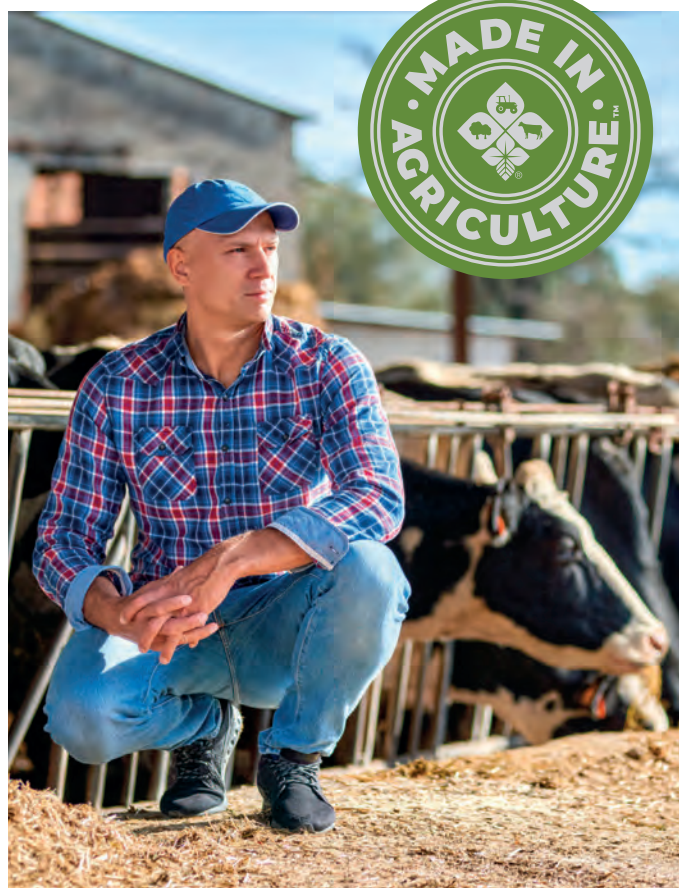
FOR TODAY'S GENERATION AND FOR TOMORROW'S, TOO!

Whether working with calves today or growing corn tomorrow, future farmers can be confident that Farm Credit East is always close by — as a rock-solid lending source and as a dependable business partner year in and year out.

Scholarships for Higher Education and FFA Students

FarmStart for beginning entrepreneurs Young, Beginning, Small and Veteran Farmer Incentives

GenerationNext Management Development



FARM CREDIT EAST

800.562.2235 | farmcrediteast.com

Here Comes the Beef members emphasize education, interaction

By Kaeleigh Banda

Here Comes the Beef 4-H group is an immersive club that teaches its members about the local beef industry. Students support the club by organizing fundraisers, visiting local beef operations and participating in local shows.

Every first Tuesday of the month, the club meets in Millbrook where co-leaders Amanda Preciado and Amanda Skuza run meetings and activities. In addition to the leaders, the student leadership consists of four members including Riley Mahaffey as president, Natalie Shultz as vice president, Corra Di Blasi as secretary and Henry Skuza as treasurer. This year, the club has 13 members ages 5-18.

For the last two years, the club has done community service at Stonewood Farm in Millbrook.

Stonewood Farm is a nonprofit organization that grows vegetables, herbs and more. They work

with Cardinal Hayes home and the local food pantry so the kids go to the farm to help weed the gardens, grow food and harvest berries.

In addition to service, some of the members compete with their agricultural knowledge. This past year, five kids went to The Big E and won grand champion heifer, reserve champion heifer, grand champion steer, reserve champion steer and third overall steer, just to name a few.

At the Fair, the members of Here Comes the Beef participate in shows and spend time in the barn with their animals. Skuza said there are always at least two kids in the barn to talk to anyone interested in learning more about the animals.

"They can intelligently answer the public's questions and keep the public educated on beef cows," Skuza said. "It teaches the kids to interact with people they don't know and educate them. ... We really focused on education the last two years."



In addition to service, some of the Here Comes the Beef members compete with their agricultural knowledge. This past year, five kids went to The Big E and won grand champion heifer, reserve champion heifer, grand champion steer, reserve champion steer and third overall steer, just to name a few. *Courtesy photo*

Here Comes the Beef members learn about where their food is coming from and what it takes to raise a beef cow in a hands-on way. Preciado said the beef kids have to get up and feed, wash and care for the animals every day which teaches them valuable lessons.

"Having the beef cattle is an

all-year-round project," Preciado said. "It's commitment, so we teach kids about commitment and follow through. Also, the responsibility of taking care of their animal. That animal relies on them to survive, and teaching them that life skill is probably one of the most important things our kids have gotten out of 4-H."

Flock of Feathers to show Silkies at Fair

By Alexander Tsahalidis

When you think of a chicken, you probably think of a rooster crowing, hens clucking, and eggs. In the Flock of Feathers 4-H club, each chicken is all of that and more.

"My kids first got involved after an embryology project in school," says Lisa Sassi, the leader of Flock of Feathers. "They wanted to know what would happen to the chickens when they were done." Every year the club selects a different breed of chicken to raise and show, so that the members have a similar experience. This year they're showing Silkies.

"Silkies are unusual birds,"

says Sassi, "their feathers don't have barbs on them, so they're kind of fluffy."

The difference in feathers means that preparing them for shows can be different, as well. This year the club attended a Silkie clinic and worked with master breeders and exhibitors Billye Davis and Pinnie Sears to learn how to best show their chickens. The members also attended a second clinic where they learned about how chickens are judged, and how to select which birds to show, from Ryan Zuill, a junior judge that will also be judging their chickens at the Dutchess County Fair.

Preparing the chickens for the fair is a lot of work.

"We start by dipping them in an animal-safe insecticide about a week before the fair," says co-leader Jessica Ippolito. "Then a few days before we show them, we put them in a bucket of soapy water and clean them off."

After that, the chickens are brought to the fairgrounds for judging on the Sunday before the fair. This year, 20 members will be showing for a total of over 100 birds including heritage breeds, geese, and turkeys.

There's an app for that...

Download the free Dutchess Fair App

iTunes: Download from
the iTunes Apps Store

Android: Download from the Google
Apps Store



Learning and community service lead the way for Pigs for Kids

Welcome to Pigs for Kids 4-H club. Pigs for Kids is the oldest active hog club with an added goat division, making Pigs for Kids the home of the newest goat club. Members range in age from 5 to 16 years old. Club meetings usually begin with the Pledge of Allegiance and the 4-H pledge.

Members are active in all areas of community service with special emphasis given to our Veterans. Members give thanks to Veterans with monetary donations from fundraisers and cards made and sent for the holidays. This year, the Pigs for Kids worked together and participated in several fundraising events, including two yummy bake sales, one at Tractor Supply in Amenia and the other at Blue Seal Feeds in Fishkill. They also participated in a Community Day at Hackett's Farm Supply.

Besides donating to the veterans this year, they also donated money to Dutchess Outreach food pantry, the Hudson Valley Animal Rescue and Sanctuary (HVARs), the 4-H goat advisory, the 4-H hog advisory and the 4-H Exhibit Hall at the Fair.

Pigs for Kids members are a diverse group having many interests and showing other animals such as poultry, cows and horses. Meetings are fun and educational. Members and their families learn more about their project animals, as well as other outside interests.

The members were asked what they would like people to know about them. They replied that they work as a group, they work hard, they help each other and would like to thank their families for supporting them.



Pigs for Kids includes, back row from left, leader Sue Skuza, members Ryder Fitzpatrick, Hailey Dini, Amelia McGarry, Rebecca Garrand and Autumn Scalia. In front are from left, Gunther Marshall, Huxley Hawks and future members Jack Skuza and Aaliyah Skuza. Missing members Sienna Carpenteri, Kendra Carpenteri, Jessa Carpenteri, Alex Garrand and co-leader Cindi Hawks. *Courtesy photo*



Matt's

AUTO BODY

SALT POINT, NEW YORK

845-266-5450

1930 Salt Point Turnpike
Salt Point, New York
www.MattsAutoBody.com



We are here to help.
Contact us to see what we can do for you.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24-Hour Towing • Auto Body Repair | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collision Work • Glass Replacement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Custom Restoration • Custom Art Services |
|--|---|---|

We proudly support:



Flourishing Farmers club provides fulfilling experiences for students with special needs

By Kaeleigh Banda

Flourishing Farmers provides an inclusive and personalized 4-H club experience for students with special needs. The club commits itself to providing a space where everyone can flourish. This year, members of the club will be presenting their work at the Dutchess County Fair's "Think Differently Day" from 9 a.m. – noon on Aug. 21 at the 4-H Livestock Show Ring.

Think Differently is an initiative launched in 2015 by former County Executive Marc Molinaro to foster a more inclusive and supportive community for individuals with disabilities. On Think Differently Day, the fair provides accessible features to make the fair enjoyable for everyone.

The day begins at 9 a.m. to allow attendees to enjoy the Fair

before the crowds arrive. There will also be sensory-sensitive hours on the carnival midway. Throughout the Fair week, Think Differently staff will host a sensory-friendly quiet space available from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Livestock Hill in the Cornell Cooperative Extension tent.

Students in Flourishing Farmers work on their projects for the Fair throughout the year. Members can collaborate with five local farms, including Harlem Valley Homestead Group, Stony Kill Group, Hidden Hollow Farm Riding Group, Hope Rising Group and Clover Brooke Farm Group.

Nolan Bravo, crops lead at Harlem Valley Homestead, works with the Flourishing Farmers members who partner with HVH. Each 4-H season, the members get to engage with different aspects of



Students in Flourishing Farmers work on their projects for the Fair throughout the year. Members can collaborate with five local farms. *Courtesy photo*

agriculture. Bravo said that this season's project is gardening, so the kids have learned to take care of their garden, water and weed.

Outside of the main project, Bravo said he wants the experience to be personalized to what each kid is interested in on each given day.

"A lot of the time, the kids will work on their project for a few minutes, but then they'll want to go do something else," Bravo said. "And rather than try to make them stay, we try to be flexible and just let them enjoy the wide-open spaces, be outside, throw their rocks in the pond and admire the animals. We let it be about them and what they like to do."

Stacey Lynch-Adnams, executive director of the Stony Kill Foundation, helps host members of Flourishing Farmers at Stony Kill Farm. Lynch-Adnams said the physical accessibility of the farm's facilities is important to the Stony Kill community and the Flourishing Farmers students.

"Our farm and barn have always been accessible, but since this winter, we have upgraded our barnyard to include an accessible walkway that allows visitors of all abilities access to our hogs, chickens and turkeys," Lynch-Adnams said. "We also have an accessible

trail at the north end of our property and our farm lane that connects both ends of the farm allows visitors of all abilities to access both points."

While Stony Kill Farm did not host any members this year, Lynch Adnams said the farm previously worked with six members who were all from the Cardinale Hayes Home, which serves those with special needs in honor of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary.

"Unfortunately, we have not met this year, but we will be meeting next month in August, and we will hopefully have our members at the fair again this year," Lynch-Adnams said.

This year, the group of Flourishing Farmers students that visits HVH is small, but Bravo said this provides more opportunities for him to build trust with the kids and connect with them.

"We have one returning student this year, and I think my relationship with him is one of the things that's been the most rewarding," Bravo said. "He's nonverbal, and when we first started, his mom had to manage him a lot, but now, he'll want to hold my hand. ... He trusts me. He enjoys my company, even though we've never spoken a

continued on page 16

Handcrafted Leather Made Just for You (and Your Dog!)

CUSTOM LEATHER CREATIONS

5295 Route 28
Mt. Tremper, NY
845-688-5748

From rugged hunting gear to elegant jewelry, our custom leather creations are built to last and made to order.

www.CustomLeatherCreations.com

DC Sheriff's Office to feature variety of opportunities at Fair

Sheriff Kirk Imperati has announced that the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office will once again be at the Dutchess County Fair. The Dutchess County Sheriff's Office exhibit will be located in the Infield area of the fairgrounds and will be staffed during Fair hours.

This year's exhibit has been revamped and will feature opportunities to meet Deputy Sheriffs, Correction Officers and members of the UAS (Drone) and K-9 Units. It will have interactive displays including new virtual reality simulators, and the Child ID program, with Child IDs being offered 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. each day that the Fair is open.

The exhibit will also feature information on The New York State Sheriff's Association "Blue Envelope" & "Yellow Dot" pro-

grams, Project Lifesaver, The Dutchess County Sheriff's Office & DCDS PBA NERLEEA Youth Cadet Program, and much more.

The Sheriff's Office will once again be conducting K-9 demonstrations on the track near the Grandstands. This year's demonstrations will also feature the DCSO UAS (Drone) unit. These demonstrations aim to highlight the capabilities of each unit and how they work together in law enforcement.

The demonstration schedule is as follows:

- Thursday Aug. 21 at 12 noon and 4 p.m.
- Friday Aug. 22 at 12 noon and 4 p.m.

Visiting the tent display at the Dutchess County Fair to get more information about the above programs, see the department's array



The Dutchess County Sheriff's Office continues its popular K-9 demonstrations at the Fair this year. *Courtesy photo*

of equipment, capture free photos with your family, meet Sheriff's Office staff, and learn more about

other exciting programs, services and career opportunities at the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office.

hackettfarmsupply.com



Proudly supporting all things agriculture since 2005

GOOD LUCK AT THE FAIR!



845-266-3494
2297 SALT POINT TPKE
CLINTON CORNERS, NY 12514

John Jay FFA excels, keeps growing with Van Wyck Junior High connection

By Maryjane McFarland

For the John Jay FFA Chapter, the 2024/2025 was stellar! A big shout out to Co-presidents Sophia Seifert and Matt Mulligan and their officer team for providing inspired leadership this past year. In our short 5-year history our membership has more than doubled. We had our usual fundraising activities, most notably Springfest at the end of April. Given the bad weather forecast, the event was held in the gymnasium. Numerous vendors were present and a good time was had by all. Come see us next year!

We participated in Ag Literacy week, visiting two elementary school classes at Brinkerhoff Elementary and Fishkill Plains Elementary Schools. The FFA members read "The Pie That Molly Grew," by Sue Heavenrich. The students also planted their

own seeds to watch grow.

Our connection to the Van Wyck Junior High School is now in place. We thank Wilson Castro, Principal, and Teacher, Matt Stella, who will now be advising FFA meetings at the Junior High for our younger students.

We had 8 students who earned their Greenhand Degrees this year, which means they are planning their Supervised Agricultural Experiences.

Matt Mulligan earned his Chapter Degree and Empire Degree this year, and Jenna Lawrence earned her Chapter Degree, as well.

We competed in our District 2 competitions at Schoharie Valley as well as the Eastern SubState Competition in Schuylerville.

Like most FFA chapters, the State Convention in Syracuse was the high point for the year (and the reason for all that fundraising). For

John Jay FFA it was a big success:

The NYS FFA Association hosted its 100th annual convention from Wednesday, May 7th through Friday, May 9th at the New York State Fairgrounds. The John Jay FFA Chapter attended with 18 members, their largest group to date, adding to the more 3,400 students and guests on site.

Day #1: A sea of blue jackets greeted NYS Agriculture Commissioner, Richard Ball, as he cited New York as the fastest growing FFA state in the nation. New York has added 104 new chapters since 2016 and has more than doubled its membership during that time to about 12,000 currently. There are 224 FFA chapters in New York State.

Jenna Lawrence, Chapter Historian, submitted a digital chapter scrapbook for judging and finished 3rd in the State! In addition, Jenna won the Dairy Breed

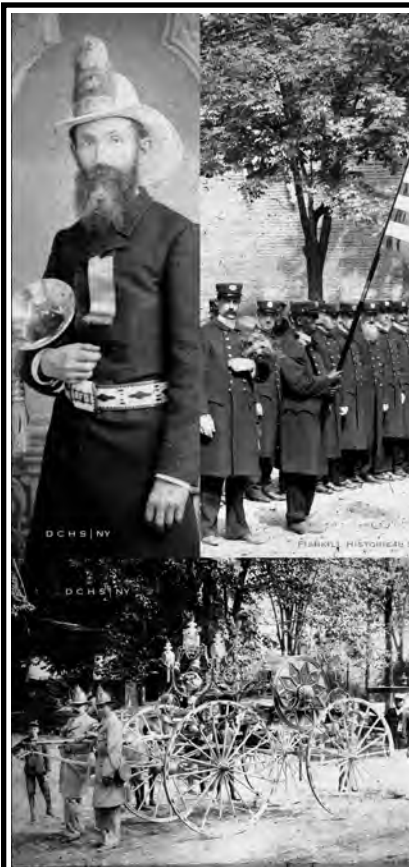
event for the Guernsey Breed. The award is based on in-depth knowledge of the dairy industry generally and the Guernsey cattle breed specifically.

Day #2: Matt Mulligan opened session #2 by singing the National Anthem a cappella. Prior to session, Matt Mulligan and Carley Bagdonas were 1st and 2nd, respectively, by audience acclamation, in the impromptu and all important Lip Sync Competition. Matt also was a member of the FFA State Chorus.

The Floriculture teams (2 of 54 entered) and Veterinary Science team (1 of 61 entered) all competed. Competition was stiff. All achieved Honorable Mention.

Chapter Secretary, Hrudya Talasila, submitted the Secretary's notebook for judging including all agenda, minutes and correspondence for the year, winning 1st place!

continued on page 15



See Us at the Firefighting Museum of Dutchess County's New Building at the Dutchess County Fair!

An exhibition that's a collaboration of the
Dutchess County Historical Society
Rhinebeck Fire Department
Firefighting Museum of Dutchess County

We are delighted to have been able to lend our support to the Firefighting Museum of Dutchess County's new building at the Dutchess County Fair through the creation of a special exhibition. Check it out!



Always at www.dchsnyny.org.



At 3 p.m. Governor Hochul participated in a groundbreaking ceremony and made remarks dedicating a new FFA building at the New York State Fairgrounds.

Day#3: During the last business session of the convention, Matt Mulligan and more than 200 other students from around the state, were awarded their Empire Degrees. Matt was then installed as one of the 6 statewide officers for the NYS FFA Association having been elected Sentinel earlier this year. Matt's parents, Camille and John Mulligan, as well as Dr. Dwight Bonk, Superintendent of the Wappingers Central School District, looked on with pride. Matt will be traveling throughout the State in the coming year to events large and small as he executes his duties culminating in the 2026 NYS FFA Convention.

In addition to these Chapter highlights, students participated in a wide variety of demonstrations and workshops related to food, agriculture and natural resources. Presentations were made by FFA officers from other states including New Mexico, Arizona, Idaho, Texas and North Carolina.

FFA, historically known as

Future Farmers of America, has evolved to address far more than production agriculture. With over one million members, it is the largest youth-run organization in the country with chapters in all 50 states. While production agriculture remains a major focus, the scope of FFA has evolved to include topics such as leadership skills, public speaking, food science, food distribution and logistics, business management, floriculture, aquaculture, forestry and resource management, scientific research and mechanics to name just a few. There really is something for everyone!

Under the leadership of Jenna Lawrence as President, we can't wait to see where our new slate of officers takes us in the coming year.

Lastly, we would like to thank those who continue to support us and make our chapter possible including: Wappingers Central School District Administration, Dutchess County Dairy Committee, Dutchess County Agricultural Society, SPRINGFEST Vendors, Clover Brooke Farm, Hudson Valley Fresh and the New York State FFA Association.

John Jay FFA

continued from page 14



John Jay High School FFA students participated in state events, above, and chapter officers, below, led the way. *Courtesy photos*



1181 ROUTE 55
LAGRANGEVILLE
NY 12540

SHIPPING
NATIONWIDE

845-454-7108



WWW.ZOESICECREAMBARN.COM

Top Dogs activities include training, breed education and variety of projects

By Kaeleigh Banda

Top Dogs 4-H club takes being a “dog person” to another level. Dutchess County’s only canine 4-H club is Top Dogs, which is located in the Amenia area. Kids ages 10 and older can join the club and learn about canine care, training and handling.

Cathie Morton and Ann Sartori serve as the co-leaders of Top Dogs this year, and their job is to guide the nine members of the club through their canine training and 4-H learning. Each month, the club holds two meetings: one includes members and their dogs working with a trainer, while the other focuses on a project or special event. This September, they will be accepting new members to join the club.

Leadership opportunities are

also extended to students in the club. This year, Juliette Gerstle is president, Maddie Sartori is vice president, Zoey Barto is secretary and Natalie Kenny is treasurer.

Throughout the year, students participate in a variety of activities, including dog training, breed education, training tips, beaded projects, painting and scrapbooking. They also give back to others through community service, including a canine walk-a-thon, making handmade holiday cards for area nursing home residents during the holidays and volunteering at the “Fur the Love of Dogs” fundraiser benefiting Upstate Pups of NY and Bleu’s K9 Rescue.

Morton said she was 5 years old when she joined 4-H, and now her daughter has joined 4-H as well. Morton started Top Dogs



Top Dogs members are shown at the Dutchess County Fair, where they demonstrate what they and their dogs have learned in the performance areas of agility, obedience, rally, and grooming/handling/showmanship. *Courtesy photo*

because two other canine groups at the time were full, and she wanted to get involved with canines within 4-H.

“Having been involved with 4-H now for almost 45 years, I can look back on the variety of skills I learned throughout my time as both a member myself and as a leader now,” Morton said. “4-H has introduced me to many people and resulted in long-lasting friendships, as well as a sense of belonging to a larger community.”

After a full year of hard work, the students in Top Dogs attend a culminating event at the Dutchess

County Fair where they can demonstrate what they and their dogs have learned in the performance areas of agility, obedience, rally, and grooming/handling/showmanship. Morton said students can also take a costume class where they can create a themed costume for themselves and their dogs.

“I encourage people to join the 4-H community – it builds confidence with public speaking and community engagement,” Morton said. “There is so much to learn and so many opportunities available no matter your interest.”

Flourishing Farmers

continued from page 12

word, which I think is one of the greatest takeaways of working with the 4-H group.”

This personal connection that Bravo built with this student is not only meaningful for them, but also for the student’s parents.

“His mom has always explained that he doesn’t get invited to parties or school groups, so to have that space where he can

connect with other kids and other people and feel welcomed and safe to be making those connections on his own, is also very special for her as a parent to see,” Bravo said. “It’s been a very fulfilling experience.”

Any families interested in joining Flourishing Farmers can visit the Dutchess County 4-H webpage to learn more.



Cool Critters learn about animals, take part in community service

By Debbie Scannell

Cool Critters is a 4-H Club in Dutchess County whose members are working with rabbits and guinea pigs. The members range in age from 5-19.

We are fortunate to have members that are multi-generational. It is so much fun to see the members I have had in the past now bring their children back to become members.

We not only learn about the care and breeding of our animals, but much more. Community service is very important, and we have been making Easter Baskets and Halloween Bags to donate to the local food pantries, plus food for animals and people.

Educations of the public is also important. We try to get out to local events as much as possible and teach individuals about our club.

Cool Critters 4-H members work with rabbits and guinea pigs. The members range in age from 5-19 and are involved in a variety of community service projects. *Courtesy photo*



Come See Us!

845-876-2071
info@brookmeadecommunity.org

**Schedule your guided tour of our ALL NEW
Medical & Social Adult Day Healthcare Program
at Meadows in Rhinebeck NY**

Our program is a medical and social model led by caring professionals with experience in providing medically-supervised care and companionship for individuals with the goal of preventing or delaying cognitive and physical decline of aging, socialization, and remaining independent in your home while providing respite for your loved one.



THE COMMUNITY AT
BROOKMEADE

Goats & Glory: A year of learning, giving & growing

By Brooke Tibbetts

It's been a busy and impactful year for the Goats & Glory 4-H club! From hands-on learning to heartfelt giving, these members have been working hard both in and out of the barn. They've spent the year diving deeper into the world of goats – from understanding proper nutrition to learning the do's and don'ts of kidding season, these youth are actively growing their knowledge and confidence.

This spring, the club welcomed two representatives from Poulin Grain for an engaging, interactive session on goat nutrition. Members split into small groups and created feed mixes tailored to different types of goats and their needs – turning learning into a hands-on experience and embodying the 4-H ideal of

“Learning by Doing.”

The learning continued with a special visit from Danielle Corolei, who shared her expertise on preparing for kidding season, what to expect during birth, and how to care for does and kids afterward.

In a powerful act of generosity, the club hosted a fundraiser at Williams Lumber and Home Centers to support the Smith family, who tragically lost their barn and entire goat herd in a fire. The Smiths have long supported many club members by providing market goats and mentorship. The fundraiser raised over \$1,500 to help them rebuild.

Several members have also had success in the show ring! Madeline Klay (pictured with her sister) won her showmanship class at the Progressive Dairy



Learning, showing and fundraising combine to provide a great growing experience for members of the Goats & Glory 4-H Club. *Courtesy photos*

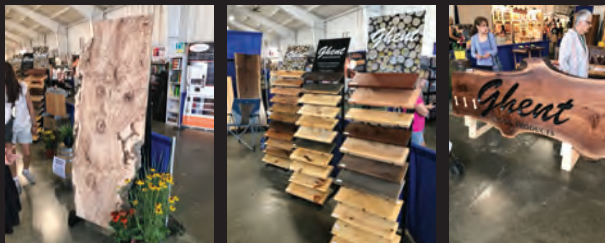
Goat Show, while Addison and Robert Stapf earned Grand and Reserve Champion Showman titles at the Youth Dairy & Meat Goat Show.

As the Dutchess County Fair approaches, members are hard at work preparing their goats for the show ring and livestock sale —

practicing showmanship, talking with buyers, and making sure their animals are in top condition.

Whether they're mixing feed or making a difference, these members show what 4-H is all about, learning, community support, and having fun along the way.

COME SEE US AT THE DUTCHESS COUNTY FAIR!



COME VISIT OUR BOOTH & SAY HI,
WE'RE OVER AT C-41!

Ghent
WOOD PRODUCTS

CUSTOM MILLWORK • FLOORING • KILN DRIED SOFTWOODS,
HARDWOODS & EXOTICS • MULCH & WOOD CHIPS • PANELING
RECLAIMED WOOD • ROUGH CUT PINE & HEMLOCK • SIDING
STONES • TABLETOPS & GLUE-UPS • TRUSSES

(518) 828-5684 • 1262 RTE 66, GHENT, NY
GHENTWOODPRODUCTS.COM

Spread your wings and fly - a hands-on journey by Dragons and Damsels 4-H Entomology Club

In their own backyards of Dutchess County, members of the Dragons and Damsels 4-H Club raised butterflies from egg to Monarch Butterfly - *Danaus plexippus* - and are learning about the importance of the varieties of native swamp and common milkweed that supports the life-cycle of Monarch Butterflies.

Club members Grace and Cole, led by the President of the Club Margot LaPorte, collected common milkweed growing locally, and under careful guidance, raised the caterpillars on fresh milkweed leaves until they formed a beautiful gold speckled chrysalides, and watched patiently as the adult butterflies emerged.

Club members observed and documented the different growth stages and noted time frames for each stage with photos and notes.

The natural milkweed habitat has been dramatically affected by land development, herbicide use and less unmowed land, which are factors attributed to the sharp decline in our beautiful pollinators.

Milkweed is vital to the existence of the Monarch butterflies and an essential food source along migration paths. Milkweed is the only plant on which Monarch Butterflies lay their eggs and the preferred food source for the caterpillars. Milkweed sap contains cardenolides (a toxic compound) that Monarchs feed off of and absorb. These toxins stay in their bodies, making both the caterpillars and the butterflies distasteful to predators.

By the end of the season, dozens of Monarchs were released to migrate.

LaPorte states that she "felt a great sense of joy knowing she



Dragons and Damsels members identify insects at the Farm and Home Center in Millbrook. *Courtesy photo*

had made a difference, helped educate others and released healthy Monarchs. We can all help save the Monarchs!"

If you have a sunny part of your yard, plant native Swamp Milkweed or Common Milkweed, leaving the area unmowed.



DUTCHESS COUNTY YOUTH LIVESTOCK SALE



**The Dutchess County Youth Livestock Sale will be held
Saturday, 8/23/2025 @ 4 pm**

**This sale highlights our youth involved in the 4H and FFA
organizations though out the county.**

The Sale will be held on Livestock Hill in the Show arena.

Thank you to our many sponsors!



www.dutchessfair.com or 845-876-2789

Kids 4 Kids members learn and practice community involvement

By Morgan E. Maier

At Kids 4 Kids, responsibility and community are core elements, both for personal growth and raising goats.

The Kids 4 Kids 4-H Club provides education on showing, handling, and general care for goats. The youth have entered their goats in other local shows to further prepare for this year's Dutchess County Fair. Sally Graybill has been a 4-H leader for 40 years, and emphasizes the value of life skills in such involvement.

Kids 4 Kids promotes volunteerism in growing its participants' social and personal responsibility. From walking dogs at the SPCA and donating to food drives, to volunteering at churches and Graybill's farm, Owl-Ridge Dairy Goat Farm, students are deeply engaged with their community – and one another. In their current cohort of 10, they have learned to work together, to learn together. Student officers include president Juliette Gerstle; vice president Maeve Lomoriello; secretary Caitlyn Cassidy; and treas-



Kids 4 Kids members include from left, Juliette Gerstle, Jessa Carpentier, Kendra Carpentier, Savannah Bishop, Sienna Carpentier, Sabrina Gerstle, Maeve Lomoriello, Landon Mishk and Hayden Agne in front. *Courtesy photo*

DOCK DOGS



Watch these amazing canines show off their diving skills on Tuesday through Thursday, 3-6 p.m., and Friday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. *Courtesy photo*

urer Noah White.

This year Dr. Gillian Ferguson, who has practiced veterinary medicine in the Hudson Valley and beyond, held a talk on kidding, or birthing. Here, the students learned about emergency kidding and the unexpected ways a birth could go. The group also learned the signs to look for in deciding to call emergency services. Expecting the unexpected is a main learning component at Kids 4 Kids, which teaches more than

the animals' daily upkeep.

Graybill has stepped in this year to lend a hand to leader Irene Decker. Between the two, there are nearly 90 combined years of 4-H experience. Decades have been spent promoting life skills that stem from being comfortable in the care of another living being. "[The kids] do learn a lot about what's important in life, and how to deal with tricky situations when they come up, and not panic," said Graybill.



Dutchess Scuba Diving LLC

FULL SERVICE SCUBA DIVING CENTER

1164 Rte. 9G • Suite 3 • Hyde Park, NY 12538

• TRAINING • SALES • REPAIR • TRAVEL

845-444-9015 • 845-444-9016 fax

DutchessScubaDiving.com

We offer discounts to current & retired armed service members, law enforcement officers & emergency service/first responders

WHERE YOUR UNDERWATER ADVENTURE BEGINS!

RETURN THE FAVOR

Proud Business Supporter of Our Veterans

Homespun Hangout: Learning vital skills and helping in the community

By Kaeleigh Banda

Homespun Hangout is a 4-H group in Hopewell Junction that focuses on life skills. Members of the club learn how to garden, sew, bake, cook and more. Some of this year's projects included learning how to make butter and sewing a tote bag on sewing machines.

Niki Henry, the club leader, learned about 4-H through her stepdaughter about three years ago. Since then, she started Homespun Hangout to provide a general interest group to the Hopewell Junction area.

This year, there are 13 kids in Homespun Hangout ages 8-13. The student leaders of the group include Mia Henry as president, Thomas Palmer as vice president, Jenny Palmer as secretary, Angelina Gragnaniello as treasurer, Jacob Hamilton as sergeant at arms, Caitlin Kuciamba as historian, Gio Gragnaniello as reporter, Mallory Kramer as recreation leader and Elizabeth Hamilton as photographer.

Henry said the skills the kids learn in Homespun Hangout are considered dying-out. The number of children who learn how to

sew is decreasing with time, so passing along these skills keeps them alive for another generation.

For community service this year, the kids filled the tote bags they sewed with snacks and hygiene supplies, and then they handed them out to the homeless in Poughkeepsie.

"All the kids have said that they would like to go back to Poughkeepsie to hand out again," Henry said. "Visiting the homeless prompted a whole discussion on different scenarios, decision-making and how sometimes it's out of our control. It was very thought-provoking for them."

Henry said she taught the kids how to make candles, which are typically something they would buy at the store. But now, they know how to mix different types of waxes to make different scents, they learned what is in a color and what is toxic versus not.

"[Homespun Hangout] opens kids' eyes to how you make different things," Henry said. "Especially when we're doing community service, [the kids] are just learning to be helpful and good citizens. They'll grow up and want to help other people."



Homespun Hangout members work on their cooking and baking skills and hand out coats during a community service project. *Courtesy photos*



Compliments of

DUTCHESS COUNTY POMONA GRANGE #32

**Visit our Grange Family Snack Bar in
Building D
at the Dutchess County Fair!**

~Serving Delicious Meals at the Fair since 1946~



How does 4-H fit into your life?

It's all about learning & participation

By Carolyn McGraw

Dutchess County 4-H has a legacy among many communities within the county. Since 1913, Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCEDC) has responded to the needs of county residents with research-based education and community partnerships. 4-H, the flagship program of the land-grant Cooperative Extension system across the country, is easily recognizable and carries a reputation of positive youth development (PYD) that produces “dam good kids.”

According to a large-scale longitudinal study backed by the National 4-H Council, 4-H youth are four times more likely to contribute positively in their local communities, twice as likely to engage or study STEM fields, and

twice as likely to make healthier choices.

Hopefully you have enjoyed the accounts, stories and highlights from many of the 4-H clubs housed in Dutchess County. It's clear that Dutchess County 4-H youth can experience a wide variety of 4-H activities at the club, county and regional levels. But it is easy to read these stories and be intimidated or not see exactly how you or your children could get involved. 4-H is for everyone in every corner of this great county. Bear with me while I explain how you and your family can join our Dutchess County 4-H family.

Youth: who this is all for

Dutchess County 4-H is open to all youth within the county that meet the age restrictions (5-18 years old) as of January 1 of the current year. With such a signifi-

cant age range of youth served, 4-H professionals and volunteers are trained in how to design activities that are developmentally appropriate for the ages and stages of the kids involved.

Youth between the ages of 5-7 years old are known as Cloverbuds. Cloverbud activities are focused on building confidence, exploring new things and building relationships with new friends and caring adults. These youth have opportunities to exhibit animals or crafts, but the focus is education not competition.

Once Cloverbuds hit 8 years old, they're ready for the big leagues! They can compete with their peers, if they choose, and attend club, county, regional, state or even national 4-H activities and events. All 4-H curricula are designed to be developmentally appropriate for each targeted age range. Some 4-H clubs have age restrictions, so reach out to 4-H staff or club leaders if there is a particular club you're interested in.

Living on a farm or having a background in agriculture is not at all a requirement to join 4-H! You can join 4-H clubs in Dutchess County where youth do hands-on experiential learning activities about sewing, entomology, crafts, gardening and more. These clubs meet during the year to learn new skills, hone their craft and prepare entries for the Dutchess County Fair. Be sure to stop in the 4-H Exhibit Hall near the main entrance to admire all their hard work!

Dutchess County 4-H also has a number of active 4-H clubs that focus on animals. Owning an animal is not a requirement to join any of these 4-H clubs, and some may offer a sponsorship or leasing program. This entails coordinating with another animal owner to borrow an animal to exhibit at the Dutchess County Fair. Cheer on our hard working 4-Hers as they exhibit their animals at the Dutchess County Fair when you visit!

Maybe nothing so far has sparked your interest. There are endless possibilities to start new 4-H projects or clubs if there is enough interest from youth and adult volunteers to lead it. Short-term special interest (SPIN) clubs meet on a condensed schedule and focus on one specific topic or program area. If there is a topic you are interested in exploring through 4-H, reach out to the CCEDC 4-H office.

Volunteers: it doesn't happen without them

The biggest limiting factor of what 4-H everywhere can offer is our 4-H adult volunteers. All 4-H activities and clubs need adults to volunteer their time to organize and support the 4-H clubs they lead. Dutchess County 4-H volunteers commit hundreds of hours of volunteer time each year, all while raising families and working or volunteering with other community organizations. This county has a number of 4-H volunteers that have been a part of our Dutchess County 4-H family for several decades and generations. 4-H simply does not happen without these incredibly valuable adult volunteers. Thank you!

Any adult can go through an application and screening process to volunteer with 4-H. Contact the CCEDC 4-H office to speak with a 4-H staff member about the process and the types of 4-H volunteer positions that are offered. There are needs for small commitment roles like public presentation evaluators, medium commitment roles like 4-H project volunteers that teach just one project for a club, or large commitment roles like 4-H club leaders. Talk with 4-H staff members about how 4-H can fit into your lifestyle. We welcome new volunteers who want to share their talents and passions with our 4-H youth!

For more information about Dutchess County 4-H, call CCEDC at 845-677-8223 or email ccedc4-h@cornell.edu

SABELLICO'S CONGRATULATES THE FUTURE LEADERS OF DUTCHESS COUNTY AGRICULTURE.

*We Are Your Local Grower
Buy 'Em Where They're Grown*

(845) 226-5943

www.sabellico.com

Organic Vegetable and Herb Plants, Annuals
Perennials, Trees, Shrubs & Roses in Season
Holiday Plants: Mums, Poinsettias, Easter Plants
Tropical Plants and Dish Gardens
Full-Service Floral Shop
Open Year Round



Sabellico
Greenhouses & Florist

33 Hillside Lake Road
Hopewell Junction, NY
Growing Since 1950

VISIT US AT THE DUTCHESS COUNTY FAIR

FAIR SPECIAL
\$1,000 OFF
Premium Hearing Aids

Hearing loss often happens gradually — many people don't even realize it's affecting them. A simple hearing test can make a big difference in how you connect with the world around you.



Byron Campisi, HIS
Hearing Instrument
Specialist

WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- **FREE** Hearing Evaluation
- **\$1,000 OFF** Premium Hearing Aids
- **30-Day Money-Back** Guarantee
- **LIFETIME** Care

FAIR SPECIAL COUPON

Booth
B-121

 **CALL (845) 762-3668**



POUGHKEEPSIE

RHINEBECK

NEWBURGH

WAPPINGERS FALLS

LAKE KATRINE

HOPEWELL JUNCTION



Hudson Valley
Hearing Aid Center
A Part Of Beltone

 **Beltone™**

Foster's AT THE FAIR



Come cool off and enjoy our full service inside dining or our outdoor garden area perfect for families and large parties.

**Steamers
Full Bar
Frozen Cocktails
Indoor/Outdoor Dining
Beer Tent With Live Music
Our Famous London Broil**

Family Friendly

**Be sure to stop by
and see us at the
179th Dutchess County Fair!!
(Located near KiddieLand)**

Horse Shows feature lots of equine action with variety of riders



Wyatt Goss rides "All That Jazz" in the barrel-racing competition. The Dutchess County Fair will host six full days of competitions in the horse arena. *Courtesy photo*

If you enjoy watching equine shows and performers, then don't miss the Horse Shows at the 179th Dutchess County Fair.

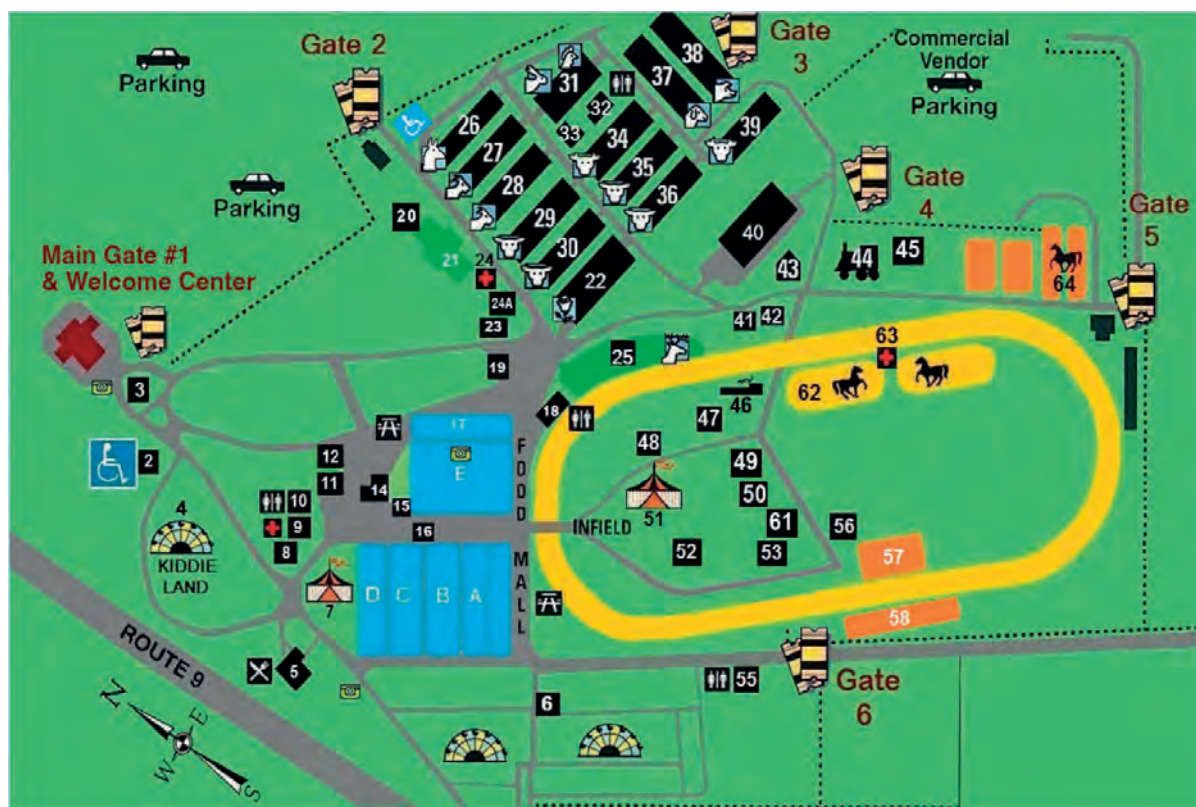
DC Fair Horse Show Manager Lisa Ritter says the fair will be hosting six full days of action packed Horse Shows.

"Come see all the kids ride on Tuesday in the Youth Only Horse Show. Wednesday, Thursday and

Friday will see our English horses with jumping shows," said Ritter.

She added, "We are super excited to have the Donkeys and Mules join us again on Friday, as well and then we gear up for the weekend with our Driving Horses on Saturday morning, our Western horses on Saturday afternoon and our fast-paced Barrel Racers close us out on Sunday."

FAIRGROUNDS MAP



01 WELCOME CENTER – Main Gate
 02 Wheelchair & motorized Scooter Rentals
 03 Welcome Center Stage -
 Hilby the Skinny German Juggler
 04 Kiddie Land & Children's Fun Zone
 05 Foster's at the Fair – sit down restaurant
 06 Power's Carnival & Guest
 Relations/Ride Redemption
 07 Specialty Beverage Tent
 08 Rock N' Rest & Safe Kids Place
 09 **First Aid +**
 10 Restrooms
 11 State Police / Lost & Found
 12 State Police Dive Tank
 14 Administration Bldg
 15 Souvenir Booth
 16 Information Station **TD**
 17 Rest Area & Oktoberfest Beer &
 Wine Garden
 18 Restrooms
 19 Fairgrounds Café & Horticulture Crossroad
 20 A Fair Shake – Best Milkshakes Ever!
 21 4-H Exhibit Hall &
 Think Differently Area **TD**
 22 Horticulture & Landscapes **TD**
 23 Memorial Garden
 24 **First Aid +**
 24a Butter Sculpture
 25 *First Bite Fishing Tank* - Wildlife Area
 26 Goat Barn
 27 Goat Barn

28 Goat Barn and Show Tent
 29 Dairy Cattle Barn
 30 Dairy Cattle Barn
 31 Poultry & Rabbit
 32 Livestock Show Office & Restrooms
 33 Milk House
 34 Livestock Show Ring **TD**
 35 Dairy Cattle Barn
 36 Dairy Cattle Barn
 37 Sheep Barn & Wool Work Room
 38 Sheep/Pig Barn & Show Ring
 39 Open Beef Barn
 40 Century Museum Antique Village
 41 Cider Mill
 42 Sugar House
 43 One Room Schoolhouse
 44 Train Station
 45 Dutchess County Fireman's Museum
 46 Dock Diving Dogs
 47 Two by Two Animal Haven
 48 Pawstar's Frisbee Dogs
 49 Off Axis Stunt Show
 50 Wheels of Agriculture Game Show
 51 Salute to Agriculture & Dairy Birthing Tent
 52 Commerford's Petting Zoo,
 Pony and Camel Rides
 53 Rosaire's Racing Pigs
 55 Restrooms
 56 Grandstand Side Bar
 57 Rhinebeck Bank Main Stage
 58 Grandstand Seating

61 AgriGolf
 62 Horse Arenas **TD**
 63 **First Aid +**
 64 Horse Barns

***Buildings A,B,C –**
 Commercial Exhibits & Vendors
***Building D -** Specialty Foods &
 Grange Exhibits
***Building E -**
 NEW!!!! Play with Giants
 Arts & Crafts, Honey
 & Maple Exhibits & More! **TD**
 (Closes at 9pm*)

TD = Think DIFFERENTLY

Spitters Club spins colorful year with fiber arts and outreach

By Brooke Tibbets

Dutchess County's 4-H camelid club, known as "The Spitters," have been getting creative – and colorful – this year as they explore the world of fiber arts. From wet-felting soap to needle-felting landscapes and fuzzy friends, members have been diving hands-first into new skills and embracing the 4-H "Learning by Doing" motto.

While many members don't exhibit at the Dutchess County Fair, they're still hard at work. Between helping out on the farm, enjoying llama/alpaca hikes and caring for sponsor animals, the youth have also been experimenting with natural dyeing techniques. They've dyed fiber, tie-

dyed shirts using plant-based colors, and learned how everyday ingredients can be turned into beautiful, wearable art.

Many members spend their weekends giving back – working with animals and sharing their knowledge with the public. These outreach events give the youth a chance to strengthen their public speaking skills, teach others about llamas and alpacas, and connect with people who may have never met a farm animal before. Each time they explain the difference between a llama and an alpaca, their confidence in both their knowledge and communication skills grows.

In the spirit of giving, the club adopted three families for the holidays. Using club funds,

continued on page 27



Members of The Spitters 4-H club have been involved in fiber arts and learned how everyday ingredients can be turned into beautiful, wearable art. They have also taken part in a variety of community fundraising activities. *Courtesy photos*



**"Good Luck to
ALL 4-H and
FFA Members
at the 2025
Dutchess
County Fair"**

**-From
Everyone at
Reardon Briggs**

**REARDON
BRIGGS**
CO. INC.

Lawn & Garden Equipment

SALES PARTS SERVICE
2448 Route 44, Pleasant Valley, NY
845-677-3100
www.ReardonBriggsLawnMower.com

Spitters 4-H Club

continued from page 26

members purchased gifts to help brighten the season for families in need. It's another way these compassionate youth are putting their values into action and making a difference beyond the barn.

Though The Spitters won't be in the barns at the fair, you can catch them in action at the New York State Sheep & Wool Festival, held the third weekend in October. Club members will be helping run demonstrations, giv-

ing talks about fiber animals, participating in the Parade of Breeds, and – a crowd favorite – competing in the infamous Leaping Llama Contest! Don't miss the chance to see these members in action, jumping with their llamas, alpacas (and sometimes even fiber goats).

From fiber to fairgrounds, and farm to community, this club is proof that there's more than one way to be a 4-H'er.

**GOOD LUCK TO ALL EXHIBITORS
AT THE DUTCHESS COUNTY FAIR**
from all of us at the
*Northern & Southern Dutchess News
and Beacon Free Press*



Kitchen Doctor



Cabinet Refacing



Before



After

Tired of the old, outdated cabinets in your house? A full kitchen remodel to replace old cabinets and update the footprint is no small task—and it's pricey. There is an alternative: CABINET REFACING! You get all the benefits of the fresh look of new cabinets but with less work and cost.



Drawer boxes:
Dove tail, self and soft
close drawer glides.

Cabinet organizers:
Garbage bins, spice racks,
pullout shelves.



Cabinet hardware:
Knobs, pulls, cups, concealed
soft closing hinges.

Counter tops and back splashes:
Granite, quartz, solid surface, tile.



Cabinet refacing is a smart, affordable alternative to a full kitchen remodel—by removing your existing doors and drawer fronts, updating the cabinet surfaces, and installing brand-new fronts, you can give your kitchen a fresh new look without the time, mess, or high cost of replacement

**To schedule a showroom appointment,
Call 845-236-3500 or visit us at
<https://kitchendoctor.org>.**

Workshops, farm visits, local fairs: Golden Fleece – one lamb at a time

By Haley McCord

The Golden Fleece 4-H Sheep Club is more than just a group of young livestock enthusiasts – it's a tight-knit farming family where learning, leadership, and responsibility take center stage. Based in Dutchess County, this 4-H club focuses on raising and showing sheep, but the impact goes far beyond the barn.

Members, ranging from 5 years old to high school seniors, get hands-on experience in caring for sheep, including feeding, preparing their animal for show, and health management. Through workshops, farm visits, and local fairs, these young learners develop skills in animal husbandry and gain confidence in public speaking, record-keeping, and teamwork.

A core part of the Golden Fleece experience is participation in county and state fairs, where members showcase their animals and compete in showmanship and market classes. These events offer a chance to demonstrate hard work and dedication while learning how to handle pressure and communicate with judges and peers.

But the club isn't all work. The Golden Fleece 4-H Sheep Club also emphasizes fun, service, and community. Members often participate in service projects such as food drives and educational outreach at schools they go to. Club meetings blend learning with camaraderie, creating a welcoming environment for everyone, regardless of experience level. Some members who do not have animals on their property are still given a chance to engage in our club meetings to gain knowledge and experience with our members.

Guided by committed adult leaders and supported by local agricultural organizations, the Golden Fleece 4-H Sheep Club continues to be a cornerstone of youth development in the area. Alumni frequently credit their time in the club for helping them develop lifelong skills in leadership and responsibility by teaching our members about important skills they will carry on with themselves in this program.

As agriculture evolves, the Golden Fleece 4-H Sheep Club remains a proud example of how tradition and innovation can thrive together – one lamb at a time.



Above are three of Golden Fleece club seniors that will be aging out of the program. We as a club would like to thank you for your service to our organization and we wish you luck on your future endeavors. *Courtesy photo*

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

www.sdutchessnews.com

The Original - 44 Years

RED HOOK DINER



"Historic" Village Diner

Arleen, Melissa and Sam

We love 4H & FAA Kids /Families & DC Fair!

Eat-In, Take Outs Tue-Sat 6am-8pm Sun 6am-2pm Closed Mon

845-758-6232 Call ahead for all take-out orders

7550 North Broadway—Red Hook, NY

www.historic-village-diner.com



Visit us at Booth C19

Norwex (C19)

Check out all things clean!

- Pet Products
- EWG-verified Skin Care & Laundry Products
- Safe and Effective Enzyme Cleaners
- NEW Products just released



Request

SAMPLE





Website

COMING TO RHINEBECK THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!



THE WONDERLAND OF LIGHTS

DRIVE-THRU LIGHT SHOW



Dutchess County Fairgrounds RHINEBECK, NEW YORK

WHERE WONDER MEETS ILLUMINATION!

Immerse yourself in a spectacle of hundreds of expertly crafted light displays that will transport you to a whimsical wonderland that delights the entire family!

NOVEMBER 28 – DECEMBER 29

5 – 9 PM ON SELECT DATES

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: [**@thewonderlandoflights**](#)

SCAN HERE

for event dates
and to buy
your tickets!



TheWonderlandOfLights.com



**Support Agriculture
in Dutchess, Putnam &
Westchester Counties**

Join Today at NYFB.ORG



**A community of farmers and individuals
who care about the future of local agriculture**

Meet our Board of Directors

Isaac Coon - President
dairy

Mark Soukup - Vice President
maple, hay

Amanda Dykeman - Secretary
Equine

Mark Doyle - Treasurer
brewery, vegetable, pick your own

Meagan Stephens -
Young Farmer Chair; sheep

Delbert Lee -
Arborist

Mary Stephens - Pro-Ed
Chair sheep

Chip Barrett -
equine, canine

Mark Adams -
nursery stock

Lara Schroeder -
equine

Paws of Clover – where 4-H is for the youth and taught by the youth



Paws of Clover members support one another – and the wider community – all year long. They write Valentine's letters to veterans on holidays and promote donations for food and coat drives, among other acts of service.
Courtesy photo

By Morgan E. Maier

All are welcome to Paws of Clover, where the goal is to keep 4-H going and growing. Here, members are joining a hands-on team – one that shares peer knowledge about rabbit and cavy (guinea pig) species, and builds skills and friendships throughout the year. In the words of the students: “Paws of Clover helps build up confidence to public speak and show who you really can be.”

While leader Lisa Henry and members' parents preside over club operations, the meetings are entirely run by the junior officers. President and historian Bella Tropea preps younger members for the Dutchess County Fair, including grooming, nail trimming, and showmanship. One recent meeting provided a tattoo demonstration. Students learned the best locations for identifying marks, and placement of a secondary identification if judges cannot read it the first.

Tropea and vice president Mia Henry have earned state ribbons with their 4-H record books; their

feedback helps others improve on their own. Mia and Bella share tips on best practices with younger members as they lead the team meetings. Each week brings a different topic related to care, fairs, or community. Paws of Clover also nurtures students' creative sides with crafts. Led by Matt Potter and his mother, lessons center on repurposing materials, from windchimes to bat houses. Paws of Clover members support one another – and the wider community – all year long. They write Valentine's letters to veterans on holidays and promote donations for food and coat drives, among other acts of service.

Five students will show their animals for Paws of Clover at this year's Fair. Others prepare to show at ARBA (American Rabbit Breeders Association) events in the tri-state area. If they aren't showing, members stay involved with fair preparation, equipped with the knowledge learned over the past year.

“4-H is for the youth, but it's also taught by the youth,” said Lisa Henry.



No one can surely
predict the future.

But we can protect it.

We value what's important.
After all, it is our business
to look after you.

Experience the confidence
and peace of mind that
comes from partnering
with the company
that has been insuring
our community for
over 40 years.

How Is Your Tomorrow?

INSURANCE SOLUTIONS FOR EVERYDAY LIFE.

From Farms to Contractors, Personal to Business...



HOME • FARM • BUSINESS • AUTO • LIFE
384B MAIN ST CATSKILL NY | 518-943-3333 • F 518-943-3334

Bryan.Frisbee@American-National.com

Pine Plains FFA: Cultivating leaders of tomorrow

*By Stephanie Rhoades
Ag Science Instructor,
Pine Plains FFA advisor*

FFA (Future Farmers of America) plays a vital role in shaping the future of agriculture and our communities. FFA provides students with hands-on learning experiences, leadership development, and career training to prepare members for success in a wide range of industries. The Pine Plains FFA is doing just that ... FFA members have opportunities to build leadership skills, career skills, and to serve their community – all of which will make them the leaders of tomorrow!

FFA encourages responsibility, hard work, and teamwork. Members gain practical skills and leadership skills by participating in Career Development Events (CDEs) and Leadership Development Events (LDEs). The Pine Plains FFA had several students compete in events throughout the past year. Members competed in the Dairy Foods CDE and the Meats CDE at SUNY Cobleskill. Our Dairy Foods team was made up of Kayla French, Hope Miller, Coghlan Mullen, and Tatum Osofsky. Lia Zampko, Ryan Ambrose, and Lauren Ambrose were on the Meats team.

We also members compete in CDEs and other leadership events at the State Convention in Syracuse, NY. Hope Miller was a

State Finalist for the Dairy Breed Award for Holsteins. We had a Senior Quiz Bowl team made up of Addison Stapf, Kayla French, Hope Miller, and Grace Wolfmann. Our Junior Quiz Bowl team was made up of Coghlan Mullen, Aerie Sommerville, Jaden Cotte, and Liam Bathrick. This team took first place at the state level! Bobcat Stapf and Eli Howley competed in Junior Tool ID.

We also had students compete in individual Leadership Development Events at the District level. Jaden Cotte competed in Junior People in Agriculture. Addison Stapf, Kayla French, Coghlan Mullen and Hope Miller all competed in Extemporaneous Public Speaking. These competitions provide students with transferrable leadership and industry skills, which will help them be successful in their future careers. Congratulations to all who competed!

Beyond technical knowledge, FFA instills confidence and character. It helps young people find their voice, lead with purpose, and serve their communities. The previously mentioned Leadership Development Events help instill this confidence and character.

Another way FFA members grow and develop leadership skills is by serving as Chapter Officers. We have an exceptional officer team for the upcoming school year. Hope Miller is our



Above: Addison Stapf and her brother Robert "Bobcat" Stapf. Opposite page: The state winning Junior Quiz Bowl team includes (from left) Liam Bathrick, Coghlan Mullen, Jaden Cotte and Aerie Sommerville. Right: Hope Miller was a State Finalist for the Dairy Breed Award for Holsteins. *Courtesy photos*



PRIZED PEPPERS

Community members submit their produce to be judged in the Horticulture competition at the Fair. This photo from 2023 shows a blue ribbon-winning display of peppers grown by John Neilson of Red Hook. *Photo by Curtis Schmidt*



Pine Plains FFA

continued from page 32



President. She will be a Senior this year and this is her second time serving as President. Coghlan Mullen is the Vice President as a 9th grader in FFA. Addison Stapf is our Secretary. Kayla French is Treasurer. Aidan Chase is Reporter. Jaden Cotte is Sentinel. Lauren Ambrose is our Student Advisor. Tatum Osofsky is Parliamentarian. Grace Wolfmann is Historian and Liam Bathrick is our Webmaster. This team of students will work together to lead the chapter in meetings and FFA events... all while developing their own public speaking abilities and individual leadership styles.

Whether a student becomes a farmer, teacher, scientist, or business leader, FFA lays the foundation for a lifetime of growth and service.

The Pine Plains FFA participates in several events throughout the year to foster this growth and service. We start the year with our annual Ag Fair – taking place Columbus Day Weekend. One of the biggest highlights of the Ag Fair is our partnership with local dairy farms to teach elementary students to show. Millerhurst, Lo-Nan and Ronnybrook host fourth

and fifth grade students two weeks before the Ag Fair to teach them how to show dairy calves. In addition to the Dairy Show, we have a horse pull and tractor as well as other livestock and exhibits in our gym.

Following the Ag Fair, we serve the community by participating in our elementary school Boo Bash and by assisting with setup in November for the Pine Plains Decorating Day. We participate in community parades and even help the Pine Plains Garden Club plant with students from the Landscaping and Horticulture classes. All these events allow us to give back to the community and connect the community to FFA and agriculture.

In a world that increasingly relies on innovation in food, agriculture, and natural resources, FFA is more important than ever. It cultivates not just crops—but the next generation of problem-solvers, leaders, and changemakers. Our FFA chapter is one of four in Dutchess County cultivating young people to become the future leaders in agriculture and our communities! With that being said, don't forget to thank a farmer and support your local FFA.

WWW.UPSTATEPINES.COM
RECREATIONAL CANNABIS DISPENSARY

UPSTATE PINES

7345 S BROADWAY, RED HOOK, NY

OPEN 7 DAYS/WEEK

OCM-RETL-24-000224, CANNABIS CAN BE ADDICTIVE

NOW DELIVERING!

FOR USE BY ADULTS 21 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN AND PETS. IN CASE OF ACCIDENTAL INGESTION OR OVERCONSUMPTION, CONTACT THE POISON CENTER AT 1-800-222-1222 OR CALL 9-1-1. PLEASE CONSUME RESPONSIBLY.

Pigs R Us: It's all about learning and helping out

By LeeAnn Hejnal
Volunteer club leader

The Pigs R Us 4-H Club is truly a family affair. Although we're a bit smaller than usual this year, all three members are siblings, whose father was a member of this club during his youth, and their grandfather was one of the original club leaders when the club was created over 30 years ago.

The kids work hard all year preparing for the Dutchess County Fair, which includes learning about nutrition, animal health, and identification practices. They also learn about the ideal characteristics of their hogs for each show they enter, and hone their showmanship skills both at home and at other shows leading up to the fair. The kids enjoy their time at the fair, competing and making

friends with the other exhibitors, without realizing the life skills they are learning along the way.

I enjoy volunteering for our 4-H program, as I was also a member of this club for 10 years as a kid. 4-H is a great program that teaches kids the importance of good sportsmanship, work ethic, responsibility, leadership, and community service. Every year our members dedicate hours of

their time decorating hay wagons to participate in the Red Hook Parade of Lights in early December, as well as planting flowers at the Red Hook Firehouse every spring in preparation for Memorial Day. I have the privilege of watching these kids grow into thoughtful, hard-working members of the community and am impressed every year at just how much they learn and grow.

'ThinkDIFFERENTLY Thursday' returns to the Dutchess County Fair on Aug. 21

Dutchess County Executive Sue Serino and Dutchess County Fairgrounds President Andy Imperati invite individuals and families with physical and developmental disabilities to enjoy "ThinkDIFFERENTLY Thursday" at the Dutchess County Fair on Aug. 21. Attendees can enjoy the fair before the crowds arrive, with a special early gate opening at 9 a.m. and sensory-sensitive hours on the carnival midway from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Additionally, inclusive events will be available throughout the entire week of the fair.

Serino said, "We are thrilled to continue our partnership with the Dutchess County Agricultural Society and support our county's ThinkDIFFERENTLY initiative, making the Dutchess County Fair even more accessible to all, regardless of ability. Every year, 'ThinkDIFFERENTLY Thursday' highlights our shared commitment to access and inclusion, providing a joy-filled, respectful experience

for attendees of all abilities. We encourage residents and visitors with disabilities to take advantage of this great opportunity to ease into the Fair day with a sensory-friendly atmosphere."

On "ThinkDIFFERENTLY Thursday," individuals with physical and developmental disabilities and their families can enter the Fair an hour early, before the official 10 a.m. opening. They can explore the animal barns on Livestock Hill and the Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County 4-H Exhibit Hall ahead of the crowds. While not all attractions and exhibits will be open at 9 a.m., this soft opening allows families to start their day at the fair in a calm and quiet environment.

The Powers Great American Midway area will open with limited rides, at 9:30 a.m. and will be sensory-sensitive until noon. Flashing lights, music and other sounds and noises will be lowered or turned off throughout the morning, giving guests the opportunity

to enjoy rides without the distractions that lights and sounds can cause. The early midway opening means shorter wait times for rides, making it easier for those who need extra time or have difficulties with crowds.

Additional happenings on "ThinkDIFFERENTLY Thursday" include:

- ThinkDIFFERENTLY & 4-H's Flourishing Farmers Showcase at 4-H Livestock Showring at 9 a.m.; and

- ThinkDIFFERENTLY & Hidden Hollow Farms All Abilities English Horse Showcase at the Horse Show Arena, exhibiting horses and their riders with disabilities, at noon.

All week long, fairgoers are encouraged to check out ThinkDIFFERENTLY exhibits and projects submitted by individuals of all ages with disabilities, including GrowDIFFERENTLY, a recycled garden art exhibit in the Horticulture building.

Imperati said, "Since its incep-

tion in 2016, 'Think DIFFERENTLY Thursday' has grown into a beloved tradition during Fair week, eagerly awaited by many. We are thrilled to continue our ThinkDIFFERENTLY partnership and make the Fair a welcoming and enjoyable experience for all."

ThinkDIFFERENTLY staff and ambassadors will also host a sensory-friendly quiet space throughout Fair week for those who may need a quiet space to get away and regroup. This space, located on Livestock Hill in the Cornell Cooperative Extension tent, will be open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Visitors needing sensory assistance can visit the Fair information booth, across from the Fair souvenir booth, or visit the ThinkDIFFERENTLY/4-H tent on Livestock Hill.

For more information and a full schedule of the Dutchess County Fair's events, see dutchessfair.com/the-fair.

Little Stitchers actively promote sewing skills and much more

By Alex Tsahalís

When was the last time you had to sew, knit or crochet? It's probably been a while if you ever did it at all. If you did do it, there's a decent chance you learned how to do that and other domestic skills in a home economics class.

"I don't want the fiber arts to die out" says Jill Salmela, leader of the 4-H Little Stitchers club. "I started this club this year as a fiber focused club, but I plan on slowly introducing other home economics skills that schools aren't really teaching anymore."

Salmela started the club after her daughter expressed interest in the fiber arts and she noticed there was not a 4-H club for them. Some of the future skills that will be taught in the club include learning to cook meals and making grocery lists.

This year the club worked on several different fiber-related projects. They learned to knit scarves, embroider, crocheted granny squares, worked on a



Members of the Little Stitchers 4-H club are shown selecting fabrics for sewing projects. *Courtesy photo*

group weaving project, and learned to sew garments.

"Sewing was our longest project," says Salmela. "The kids started out as beginner sewers and in May we were able to have a fashion show showcasing their work. They took a lot of pride in it and it was great to see how hard they worked."

Members also took a field trip

to Unshattered, a local non-profit that makes handbags out of upcycled materials and learned about how the bags are made. To wrap up the year, the club held a tea party designed to teach members

how they should act at a tea house. "They learned about table etiquette, how to set a table, and which fork and spoon to use for which course," says Salmela. "They really liked it."

GRANDSTAND ENTERTAINMENT

Tuesday, August 19 • 7:30 pm
Roots & Boots
\$50 + convenience fee

Wednesday, August 20 • 7:30 pm
Cheap Trick
\$50 + convenience fee

Thursday, August 21 • 7:30 pm
Get the Led Out
FREE with paid admission to the Fair

Friday, August 22 • 7:30 pm
George Birge
FREE with paid admission to the Fair

Saturday, August 23 • 7:30 pm
Forever Seger
FREE with paid admission to the Fair

Sunday, August 24 • 4:00 pm
Miami Sound Revue
FREE with paid admission to the Fair

ALL HEART BAKING CO.

Come try our delicious shortbread cookies at
the Dutchess County Fair!

Building D, Booth 81
August 19-24, 2025

Follow us on Instagram for a behind the
scenes look at our Fair preparations!



@ALLHEARTBAKINGCO



ALL HEART

Eclectic Shortbread

made with heart

BAKING CO.

Southern Dutchess Dairy club members

By Alexander Tsahalidis

How often do you consume dairy products? It's probably often. You might have cream in your coffee at breakfast, cheese on your sandwich at lunch, and butter on a baked potato during dinner. In the Southern Dutchess Dairy 4-H club, dairy is all they think about.

"We hold the distinction for being the longest-running 4-H club in Dutchess County," says Trish Nelson, who's been the leader of Southern Dutchess Dairy for the past 31 years, "My father, Ray Vail, founded it in the 1950s, and it was one of the first clubs for an individual species."

During meetings, members of the club travel to local farms and learn how to take care of dairy cattle. One of the highlights of this year was when they went with several other 4-H cattle clubs to a farm in Stormville for a work-

shop. During their time at the workshop they learned how to clean and repair clippers and blades, halter making, and artificial insemination.

"We do everything we can to make sure everyone is prepared to show cattle," says Emily Coon, the president of the club.

One of the events members show at is the annual ENY Holstein club Black and White show, where Coon won reserve intermediate show this year.

"We also spend a lot of time preparing to show cattle at the Dutchess County Fair," says Travis Miller.

The fair has several dairy cattle shows each year, including a 4-H dairy showmanship show. This year the 4-H show will be on Aug. 19.

"Sometimes we pick up new members at the fair, as well" says Nelson. "They see the dairy show and want to get involved."



The Southern Dutchess 4-H Dairy Club holds the distinction for being the longest-running 4-H club in Dutchess County. Trish Nelson has served as a leader of Southern Dutchess Dairy for the past 31 years. Her father, Ray Vail, founded the club in the 1950s, and it was one of the first clubs for an individual species. *Courtesy photo*

VISIT US AT www.sdutchessnews.com
& LIKE us on Facebook:
Southern/Northern Dutchess News Group

Agriculture Schedule

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19TH

9:00 AM 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Showmanship, Barn 26

9:30 AM Junior Goat Show, Barn 28

10:00 AM 4-H Dairy Showmanship & Breed Show, Show Ring 34

1:00 PM Open Meat Goat Show, Barn 28

1:00 PM Oxen Pull Show, Ring 62

4:00 PM 4-H Hog Showmanship, Bred & Owned, Market Show, Barn 38

4:00 PM 4-H Canine Agility, Rally & Costume Class Show, Ring 34

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20TH

9:30 AM Open Goat Show,

Barn 28

9:30 AM 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Breed Show (Rabbit Livestock Sale Class), Barn 26

10:00 AM 4-H Sheep Show (Lamb Livestock Sale Class), Barn 38

10:00 AM Open Poultry Show, Barn 31

10:00 AM Junior Dairy Show, Show Ring 34

2:00 PM Junior Beef Show, Show Ring 34

4:00 PM Beef Livestock Sale Class, Show Ring 34

4:30 PM 4-H Beef Showmanship, Show Ring 34

6:00 PM 4-H Market Hog and Gilt Show (Hog Livestock Sale Class), Barn 38

6:30 PM Jackpot Heifer Show

Show Ring 34

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21ST

10:00 AM 4-H Grooming and Handling, Barn 28

10:00 AM 4-H Canine Obedience & Costume Class, Barn 28

10:00 AM Open Sheep Show: Meat Breeds, Barn 38

10:00 AM Open Dairy - Jersey, Show Ring 34

12:00 PM Open Dairy - Brown Swiss, Show Ring 34

1:00 PM 4-H Meat Goat Show (Goat Livestock Sale Class), Barn 28

1:00 PM Rabbit & Cavy Costume Class Cavy Award Ceremony, Barn 28

2:00 PM Open Dairy - Ayrshire, Show Ring 34

3:00 PM Open Dairy -Guernsey, Show Ring 34

4:30 PM 4-H Beef Steer & Heifer Show, Show Ring 34

7:00 PM Sheep Costume Class, Barn 38

7:00 PM Goat Costume Class, Barn 28

7:00 PM Open Jackpot Steer Show, Show Ring 34

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22ND

9:00 AM 4-H Dairy Goat Show, Barn 28

9:00 AM 4-H Dairy Goat Showmanship, Barn 28

10:00 AM Open Sheep Show, Barn 38

10:00 AM Wool & Natural Colored Breeds, Barn 38

continued on page 40

learn all aspects of dairy farming



**Brands You Trust.
People Who Know...**

Bird Food • Bird Feeders • Hay • Straw
Wood • Shavings • Grass • Seed
Soils • Mulches • Nursery

We will deliver product daily to the fair for the animal exhibitors! If you order by 2:00pm, it will be on site by 9:00am the following day. Call 845-876-1559 to order.

www.macsagway.com | [macsagway](#)

845-876-1559

FREE SOIL TESTING



Attention to detail, leadership skills lead the way for Addison Stapf

By Alexander Tsahalis

Addison Stapf has been raising and showing meat goats for six years. Her showmanship career started out in an unexpected place: horse camp.

"I was going to a camp and they had a couple of goats," she recalls, "One day an older girl came up to me and asked if I wanted to walk one around on a show collar." She then went home, told her mom she wanted to show goats, and has been raising and showing them ever since.

Preparing the goats for the ring is a complicated and time-consuming process that starts with gaining their trust.

"When they come to you, it's as if they know they're going to be slaughtered some day," she says. "They're skittish and scared."

Patience is the key to getting the goats to trust her, and Stapf spends time hanging out with the goats, getting them used to her.

"It's a very rewarding feeling when they finally open up to you," she says.

Once they've opened up to her, she moves on to getting them ready for sale.

"Raising your goat to have the quality of meat that the buyer wants is definitely a challenge because every goat is different," she says.

During the process she has schedules for feeding, giving supplements and exercising the goats, among other things. Feeding the goats is her favorite task, as she likes the thought that goes into balancing their feeding.

"You can really make or break your goat," Addison says. "And having the ability to change it like that is definitely something that's very close to me."

Addison's attention to detail has been paying off. Over the past

two years her goats have placed champion showman, reserve showman, and third overall doe. Her goats were also successfully sold at auction and she also had the chance to sell the grand champion goat. Her selling career continued this year as she has been named Dutchess County Livestock Sale representative. If people have questions about the sale of their meat goats, she'll be on hand to answer them.

Her greatest success overall though? "Being able to have a herd," she says. "We have a breeding program set up and we know our herd will continue to grow in the future."

When she's not working with her goats, Addison can also be found contributing to the clubs she's part of. She's currently the president of Goats and Glory, a 4-H club, and the secretary of the Future Farmers of America (FFA) at her school. As president of Goats and Glory, Stapf works with the group leader to help plan the club, and keep other members on track. In the club, members learn about the basics of meat goats, but they also learn about more complicated topics such as proper feeding during different parts of the goat life cycle.

During her time in the FFA, Addison has been amazed by the amount of different agricultural careers there are. It's caused her career plans to change several times (she originally wanted to be a vet), and she loves being part of such a large organization.

"I went to nationals for the first time last year. And you don't realize how many people are actually in it until you're there; but being able to tell people that I was the secretary is definitely something that I've looked forward to, and I hope that I just keep moving forward," she says.



Addison Stapf will be showing two meat goats at this year's Dutchess County Fair. During her care process, she has schedules for feeding, giving supplements and exercising the goats. *Courtesy photo*

"Addison has been a chapter officer for the FFA for two years now," says Stephanie Rhoades, the leader of the FFA and an Agricultural teacher at Stissing Mountain High School. "She served as the treasurer last year and was elected as secretary this year."

Club officers are responsible for outreach, running meetings and programs, and representing

their chapter at FFA events. Part of Addison's role as secretary also is outreach at the Dutchess County Fair.

"The officers help out with different tasks, such as they're going to help run this virtual reality tractor driving to promote FFA at the fair," says Rhoades. "So officers are the ones that kind of oversee that and try to encourage other members."

Many enriching experiences help Stony Ground youth grown & learn

By Kaeleigh Banda

Stony Ground 4-H club, located at Stony Kill Farm in Wappingers Falls, provides a well-rounded education in agriculture. Within Stony Ground, members can join a variety of project areas including poultry, bees, rabbits and caviar, art, sheep, entomology, and dairy.

Stony Kill Farm and Common Ground Farm partnered seven years ago to form a general interest 4-H club. Since then, the club has grown to include more project areas and is often at max capacity for the number of students that can join.

Co-leaders Kim Pennock and Stacey Lynch-Adnams work with the students to harness their creativity and interests while remaining true to the core of 4-H values. This year, the club has 28 students ranging from all ages 5-19. In addition to the adult leadership, the student officers this year are Mackenzie Phillips as president, Vivien Padoleski as vice president, Lyris Pennock as secretary, Tavin Pennock as treasurer and Aliyah Stanley as reporter.

Pennock was brought in as a leader because of her vast poultry knowledge. This year, she is the poultry leader and one of the sheep leaders. Her daughter and son both started in poultry, and since then have explored various other project areas.

In addition to monthly club meetings, each member attends meetings for their project area. While students can be in multiple project areas, Pennock said she recommends that students focus on one to start and add more as they progress. Some of the project areas allow the students to participate in showmanship competitions or shows. But, Pennock said that at the end of every season, the Dutchess County Fair is always something the kids look forward to.

"Their time at the fair is their culminating experience," Pennock said. "They all love it because it's their time to get together with people from other species and people that work with their own species, and a time to display their art and projects to the public."

Pennock said one of her favorite things about being involved in Stony Ground has been watching the kids' growth from Clover Buds to graduating seniors.

"Stony Ground is a wonderful, enriching experience, and it really has helped the youth who have joined our club," Pennock said. "Their ability to speak publicly, their confidence, their level of maturity and organization have grown exponentially since starting this program. It's really an opportunity to have a wonderful social outlet that you're passionate about, but also to really grow skills that can be used forever."



Stony Ground 4-H club offers opportunities for youth in a variety of areas, including poultry, bees, rabbits and caviar, art, sheep, entomology, and dairy. *Courtesy photos*



BUTTER SCULPTURE AT FAIR

Jim Victor & Marie Pelton are a Conshohocken, PA-based husband and wife team who create incredible, life-like sculptures out of butter and other foods. *Courtesy photo*



Understanding and preparation are keys for Little Paws members

By Morgan E. Maier

The Little Paws 4-H Club is committed to keeping cavy and rabbit care fun. No matter the younger members' experience with the animals, older members can be counted on to help their fellow team dive into the world of rabbits and guinea pigs.

In spring, the group took to the Germantown Library to read books to young ones, and give a lesson on rabbit care. President Tatiyana, an 8-year 4-H member, shared information about the animals while the children interacted with them. With fences lining the library floor, Little Paws offered an opportunity for children to sit with the rabbits while reading. A master showman, Tatiyana's expertise and knowledge are appreciated not just at community events, but also within the group meetings. At Little Paws, lessons in rabbit care are combined with

fun, as leader Gretta Tillman incorporates games and interactive elements into the group's operation.

"Bringing the animals [in] and doing hands-on makes sure that they can really understand their animal and have a good time with them," said Tillman.

Vice President Vladimir, a three-year Little Paws member, has started his own breeding program and can be counted on to teach peers about proper care and maintenance. The group's youngest member, Damon, lends his expertise in photography and guinea pigs, especially in teaching showmanship practices.

Alongside the experienced officers, the youngest members of Little Paws are spending the upcoming weeks preparing their record books. They refresh the knowledge of the year's learning and prepare them for judging. Care knowledge, health, ailment



The top priority for Little Paws 4-H Club members is proper care and condition of their animals, from the well-brushed coat to neatly trimmed nails. *Courtesy photo*

fixes, and other general knowledge may be thrown at the showmen during the fair, and preparation is key for success. Some show their animals for breed shows, a sort of animal beauty contest that judges entries on physical look and care. The top

priority is proper care and condition of the animal, from its well-brushed coat to neatly trimmed nails. At every step of the learning process, there is a common component, said Tillman. This group loves to have fun.

Agriculture Schedule

continued from page 41

10:00 AM Open Dairy -Holstein, Show Ring 34

1:00 PM Poultry Costume Class, Barn 31

12:00 PM Open Dairy Heritage Breed, Show Ring 34

2:00 PM Beef Youth Showmanship, Show Ring 34

2:30 PM Open Beef Show, Show Ring 34

4:00 PM Wool Garments & Leadline Classes, Barn 38

6:00 PM Open Swine Show, Barn 38

7:00 PM Dairy Showmanship Demonstration, Show Ring 34

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23RD

10:00 AM Little Britches

Showmanship, Show Ring 34

10:00 AM Dairy Youth Showmanship, Show Ring 34

10:00 AM 4-H Goat Obstacle Course, Barn 28

11:00 AM Parade of Sheep Breeds, Barn 38

1:00 PM Dairy Costume Class, Show Ring 34

1:00 PM Steer Costume Class, Show Ring 34

4:00 PM Youth Livestock Sale, Show Ring 34

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24TH

8:45 AM Ecumenical Church Service (Map #43)

10:00 AM Master Showmanship, Show Ring 34

10:00 AM Fleece to Shawl Contest, Barn 38

11:00 AM Hog Costume Class, Show Ring 34

12:00 PM 4-H Elite Showmanship, Barn 28

12:30 PM Grand Champion Costume (All Breeds), Barn 28

2:00 PM Parade of Dairy Champions, Show Ring 34

2:00 PM Beef & Dairy Herdsman Awards, Show Ring 34

3:00 PM Stick Pony Rodeo, Show Ring 34

HORSE SHOW SCHEDULE SHOW RING 62

8:30 AM Tuesday, August 19,

Youth Horse Show

8:30 AM Wednesday-Friday, 20-22, English Horse Show

10:00 AM Friday, August 22, Donkey & Mule Show

9:30AM Saturday, August 23, Open Driving Show

10:00AM Saturday, August 23, NYS Pony Pull

12:00 PM Saturday, August 23, Western Horse Show

9:00 AM Sunday, August 24, Gymkhana

10:00 AM Sunday, August 24, Blacksmith Contest

12:00 PM Sunday, August 24, Horse Pull Contest

PawStars promises lots of excitement

By Curtis Schmidt

What began as an avid search for exercise and activities for dogs has blossomed into one of the most popular attractions at the Dutchess County Fair.

Kara and Erich Steffensen started “PawStars” about 20 years ago as a canine disc performance and now they and their dogs entertain large crowds three times each day of the Fair.

If you enjoy watching and marveling at the athletic talents of dogs and fast-paced action, you don’t want to miss the “PawStars.” Stars of the show like “Jellybean,” “Crouton” and “Tater Tot” will have you cheering during the entire performance.

Kara and Erich currently have 13 dogs and 12 are rescues. They promote adoption and fostering as much as possible and have fostered over 80 dogs!

Kara says their journey began

with a search for fulfilling activities for their dogs. “Neither of us started out with ‘dogs in sports’ experience. We had dogs that we wanted to be well rounded and fulfilled. We started taking lots of classes and seminars,” said Kara. “We started taking some sport classes with our dogs and, after trying different sports, we fell in love with the sport of canine disc.”

She said training for each dog is different. “We start very simply with rolling a disc on its edge to see how much drive the dog has for it and we go from there. Some dogs are catching within hours, some weeks or months, and some never have the drive to play and prefer doing other things for exercise.”

The performances began at the Fair. “About 25 years ago, we were invited to play a sport called ‘flyball’ at the Fair,” said Kara. “We did that for several years with

a team of people and dogs. The Fair was looking for something a bit different to add and we started playing canine disc. Eventually, we started ‘PawStars’ about 20 years ago.”

Neither of them started in jobs with dogs/ animals, but they both loved it so much that their careers have both revolved around animals. Kara is the Animal Agent for All Creatures Great & Small and Erich is director of shelter operations at the Animal Farm Foundation.

Both Kara and Erich work full-time, so performing at the Fair provides a “luxury break” for them in their busy schedules.

“We also enjoy showing other people that they can get out and have fun with their dogs too,” said Kara.

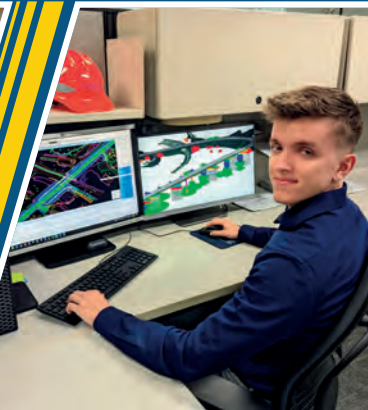


Erich Steffensen and “Crouton” practice their canine disc performance for the Dutchess County Fair. Photo by Curtis Schmidt

PawStar performances take place near the Salute to Agriculture tent at 12 noon, 3 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. every day at the Fair.

Hiring Maintenance Workers, Mechanics, Engineers, and More

JOIN THE TEAM



Visit us in the Infield Booth I-4



Learn more and search
all career opportunities

Recruitment@dot.ny.gov
(877) DOT-JOB1



Department of
Transportation

Grange exhibits, Family Snack Bar at Fair support community service and scholarships



Stanford Grange members are pictured at the Family Snack Bar at the Dutchess County Fair, which supports scholarships, sending our younger members to youth leadership conferences and sending delegates to the state Grange convention. The Grange also has competitive exhibits at the Fair. This year the theme is Faith, Hope, Charity, and Fidelity. *Courtesy photos*

By Alexander Tsahalis

The Dutchess County Fair has animals and displays from all sorts of individuals and groups. Many are also members of their local chapter of The National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, commonly known as the Grange.

The Grange movement began

in 1867. The goal was to unite and help farmers after the Civil War tore them apart. The Grange was often a key part of the local agricultural community. With the increase in urbanization things have changed.

“Since farms are disappearing and most people are not employed in some sort of agricultural field, the Grange has shifted its focus

from farming to community service and how we can make our communities better places to live,” says Ryan Orton, a member of the Stanford Grange #808 and the New York State Grange secretary. The Stanford Grange is active in community service, including sponsoring and hosting town Community Day, a food bank, a clothing bank and funding scholarships at Stissing Mountain High School.

One of the ways the Grange funds their programs is through their snack bar at the Fair. “The snack bar is run by the Dutchess County Grange and all of the county Grange chapters help out,” says Orton. “The money we raise goes toward the scholarships, sending our younger members to youth leadership conferences and sending delegates to the state Grange convention.”

Traditional Grange favorites

will be back from juicy hamburgers and hot dogs, salads and sandwiches made fresh daily, and our famous pies and cakes for dessert.

“We’re thrilled to be at the Fair to raise money for many of the Grange’s community service projects,” said Orton. “We offer great food and great prices that are affordable for the entire family. Hence our name: The Grange FAMILY Snack Bar!”

Near the snack bar you’ll find displays from the local Granges. The tradition of Grange displays at the Fair goes all the back to 1900, making this the 125-year anniversary of these displays.

“We just started a couple of years ago with the county Grange coming up with a theme that all the granges have to follow instead of each Grange picking whatever they want to do” says Orton. This year the theme is Faith, Hope, Charity, and Fidelity.



New sanitary upgrades added for 50th year of 'The Fair Shake'

The members of the Dutchess County Dairy Committee are celebrating the 50th year of providing their famous milkshakes at the Dutchess County Fair.

Now called "The Fair Shake," everyone's favorite Fair treat has the main goal of raising funds to provide scholarships to local youngsters wanting to further their education in the field of agriculture,

This year's scholarship winners are Gretah Kilmer and Jackson Crisp.

For 2025, The Fair Shake booth has been renovated with a variety of sanitary upgrades. Fair CEO Andy Imperati noted that new ceilings and walls have been installed, which can be easily sanitized each day. New water supply lines have also been installed, along with new milkshake blenders.

Malted Milkshakes will again join the regular flavors of vanilla, chocolate and strawberry.

All members of the Dairy Committee are Dutchess County Dairy Farmers. The current members are Harry Baldwin, Stephen

Van Tassell, Tim Marshall, Jim McCarthy, Sam Simon, Jennifer Deforest, Amos Coon, Brian Donovan, John Jackson and Isaac Angell.

Baldwin noted that the Dairy Committee of today and the famed milkshake booth are outgrowths of the late Dave Tetor's Cornell Cooperative Extension Program Advisory Committee.

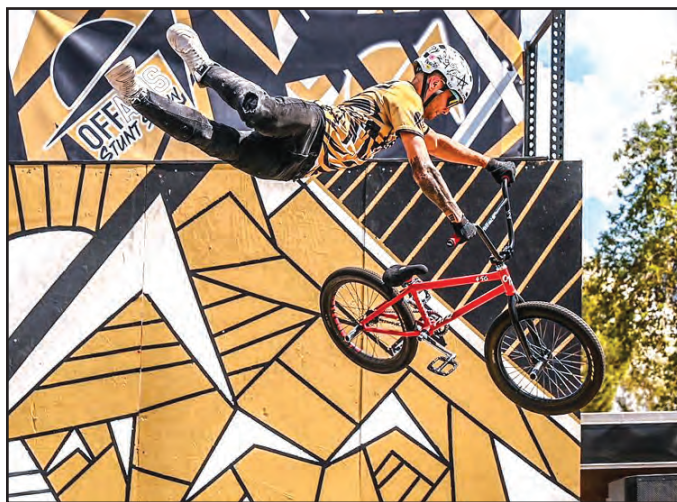
"Dave started as the Agricultural Agent in Dutchess County in 1973. Somewhere in the mid '70s, Dave came up with the idea of serving milkshakes at the Dutchess County Fair as a way to promote the Cooperative Extension here in Dutchess County," said Baldwin. "That first year we served them in a tent out back of the current 4-H building. Possibly the next year, it moved into the north end of the 4-H Snack Bar. In those early years, dairy farmers and family members manned the booth."

The original directors of the Dairy Committee included Vern Jackson, Albert Soukup, Timothy Marshall, Robert Perotti, plus Baldwin, Van Tassell and Tetor.



Dutchess County Dairy Committee members Stephen Van Tassell (left) and Harry Baldwin (right) check out the upgrades in "The Fair Shake" milkshake booth at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds. Photo by Curtis Schmidt

OFF AXIS GROUND SHOW



This high-energy performance includes a variety of exciting acts combined into one 20-30 minute show. The show features Off Axis' biggest stage acts BMX ramps and Trampwall, along with additional acts such as teeterboard or Trampwall Slam Dunk, parkour and hilarious comedy scenes. *Courtesy photo*

FAIR FAVORITES & EXTRAS

Salute to Agriculture, Dairy Birthing Tent (Map #51)
Commerford's Petting Zoo, Pony & Camel Rides (Map #5)
Butter Sculpture (Map #24a)
Century Museum Village, Antique Machinery & Blacksmith Shop (Closes at 9pm) (Map #40)
Bentley One Room Schoolhouse (Closes at 8pm) (Map # 43)
DC Firefighter's Museum (Closes at 8pm) (Map # 45)
Pleasant Valley Train Station (Closes at 8pm) (Map # 44)
Cider Mill & Sugar House (Map #41 & # 42)
Horticulture Building: Featuring Landscape & Flower

displays, Vegetables & Field Crops (Map # 22)
4-H Exhibit Hall (Map # 22)
Livestock Barns & Milking Parlor (Map #26 – 39)
State Police Dive Tank (Map # 12)
The Grandstand Sidebar (Map # 56)
Wildlife Area & First Bite Fishing Tank (Map # 25)
A Fair Shake – Best Shakes Ever! (Map # 20)
Powers Great American Midways & Guest Services (Map # 6)
Specialty Beverage Tent (Map # 7) Beer & Wine Garden (Map #17)



THE 179TH DUTCHESS COUNTY FAIR

AUGUST 19 THRU AUGUST 24

RHINEBECK, NY



ROOTS & BOOTS

SAMMY KERSHAW COLLIN RAYE AARON TIPPIN

TUES., AUG. 19 • 7:30 PM

CONCERT & ADMISSION COMBO—\$45



WED., AUG. 20 • 7:30 PM

CONCERT & ADMISSION COMBO—\$45



**GET THE
THE
DROP**
A CELEBRATION OF
"THE MIGHTY ZEP"

THURS., AUG. 21 • 7:30 PM

INCLUDED WITH PAID ADMISSION



**GEORGE
BIRGE**

FRI., AUG. 22 • 7:30 PM

INCLUDED WITH PAID ADMISSION



SAT., AUG. 23 • 7:30 PM

INCLUDED WITH PAID ADMISSION



SUN., AUG. 24 • 4:00 PM

INCLUDED WITH PAID ADMISSION

**Go To dutchessfair.com For Advance Tickets On
Admission, Ride-All-Day Wristbands And Concert Tickets**