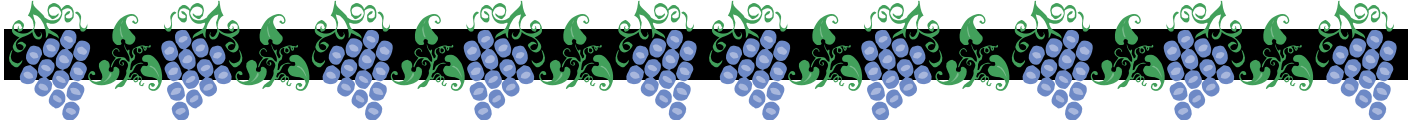


www.warren4-h.org

Family Grapevine
Information for 4-H families
November/December 2024



From the Desk of
the Agent

We've MOVED!!!!



We are finally in our new home at
3 Shotwell Drive, Belvidere!

Office hours and phone numbers have
stayed the same!

We will be having an open house once
we finish unpacking. Stay tuned for
more details!



WE **R** HERE WHEN YOU NEED **US**



Reminders

The Next 4-H Leaders Association Meeting

January 29, 2025 7:00 pm via Zoom
All registered Warren County 4-H leaders are welcome.

If you prefer a hard copy mailed to your address, please call the office and confirm your updated contact information so we can send you a paper copy. We will only send paper copies to those families that contact us. We hope that 4-H families take advantage of the Grapevine online and help us save the environment.

The Jr. Breeder loan program

a great program for young adults already participating in 4-H to acquire livestock via a low-interest livestock loan. Contact the 4-H office for the forms and additional information.



Going to Rutgers?????
Going to miss 4-H????
No Need! You can join the Collegiate 4-H Club
They do much to support 4-H in NJ

Our Mission

The Rutgers Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development program uses a learn by doing approach to enable youth to develop the knowledge, attitudes, and skills they need to become competent, caring, and contributing citizens of the world.



This mission is accomplished by using the knowledge and resources of the land grant university system, along with the involvement of caring adults

Family Grapevine
Bi-Monthly Newsletter
Rutgers Cooperative Extension
165 County Route 519 South
Belvidere, NJ 07823
(908) 475-6502
www.warren4-h.org

Alayne J. Torretta, County 4-H Agent
Michelle Teitsma, 4-H Program Associate
Alex Zolla, 4-H Secretary

Mark Your Calendars!

Teen Council
November 14, 2024
December 12, 2024

The next Teen Council meeting will be on Thursday, November 14th from 7-8 pm at the NEW 4-H Office (3 Shotwell Drive). Teen Council is open to youth in 8-13th grade.

Thursday, December 12th will be our Teen Council cookie bake! This meeting will be from 6-8pm.



Ignite Summit

March 12-16, 2025

Deadline to apply: **November 15, 2024**



Imagine. Immerse. Ignite.



**March 12-16, 2025
in Washington D.C.**

Join the NJ Delegation for a 4-day experience where high-school aged teens connect, make memories and find their spark by exploring the best 4-H has to offer in STEM, Agriscience, Healthy Living, Career Readiness and Emotional Well-being.

Applications due by **November 15**



To apply go to
<https://go.rutgers.edu/mcq38tpi>
or scan the QR Code



Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Boards of County Commissioners. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.



Winter Gathering

December 7, 2024

The Winter Gathering is the cold-weather summer reunion, open house, and camp family holiday party! It's also a great opportunity to introduce new friends to 4-H Camp. Enjoy some wintry crafts and campy activities.



This years gathering will be held on Saturday, December 7th at the 4-H Camp from 2-6pm.

Winter Gathering Registration

For more information, please visit:

<https://nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu/flyers.html>



Cupcake Wars & Expo

December 7, 2024

Make, Bake, and Decorate!



**NJ STATE 4-H
CUPCAKE WARS
& EXPO**

FREE!

MAKE, BAKE, DECORATE
December 7, 2024

FREE!

Ted Blum 4-H Center, 310 Milltown Rd, Bridgewater

ALL 4-H MEMBERS IN GRADES K - 13

CUPCAKE EXPO
MEMBERS IN GRADES K-3

CUPCAKE WARS
MEMBERS IN GRADES 4-13

**BAKE CUPCAKES AND
LEARN HOW TO DECORATE**



A TEAM COMPETITION

1:00 - 3:00

**JUNIORS: 10:30 - 4:00
SENIORS: 12:30 - 5:30**



Any questions, email hb479@njaes.rutgers.edu

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Boards of County Commissioners. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.

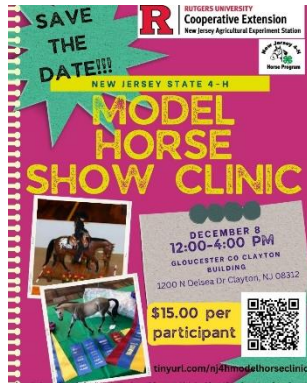


4-H Model Horse Show Clinic

December 8, 2024

The 3rd annual 4-H Model Horse Show Clinic will take place on December 8th from 12-4 PM at the Gloucester County Clayton Building 1200 N. Delsea Drive, Clayton. Open to all 4-H members and their friends!

Come learn the ins and outs of Model Horse Showing, how to customize your models, to create background scenes, tips and tricks to make your models look the best they can be, and even make some tack! Workshop cost is \$15.



[Registration Link](#)



Sewing & Crafting Workshop

December 30 & 31, 2024

Join Tracy Smith and Michelle Teitsma for a 2 day sewing & crafting workshop Monday, December 30 and Tuesday, December 31, 10am – 1pm. Projects include a table runner, quilted ornaments, and “no-sew” quilted trees! More details and registration will be available shortly!



Leadership for Life

New Jersey 4-H members in grades 9-12 who are members in good standing are invited to participate in a multi-level leadership program called the NJ 4-H Leadership for Life Program. Adapted from Ireland’s youth development program Foróige, the Leadership for Life Program is based on theories and principles of youth work, leadership development, and leadership styles.



Offered in three sequential modules, this program is aimed at equipping young people to explore their vision and passion and to develop such key skills as planning, decision-making, critical thinking, goal setting, and problem-solving.

Members must complete Modules 1 and 2 before they are eligible to complete Module 3. The Advanced Module is held during a 9-day travel experience to the Foróige Leadership for Life Conference at the University of Ireland in Maynooth, Ireland.

The *Leadership for Life* Program will be offered on the following dates during 2025. Modules 1-3 will be held at the Mercer County Extension Office located at 1440 Parkside Avenue in Trenton.

Module 1: January 11, 2025 \$75.00

Module 2: February 22, 2025 \$75.00

Module 3: March 15, 2025 \$40.00

Module 4: July 25 – August 2, 2025 University of Ireland at Maynooth

Information and registration for all of the NJ 4-H Leadership for Life Program Modules are available on the NJ 4-H Website at: <http://nj4h.rutgers.edu/leadership/leadership-for-life/>

Questions about the *Leadership for Life* Program can be directed to Camden County 4-H Agent Sharon Kinsey (sbkinsey@njaes.rutgers.edu) or Warren County 4-H Program Associate Michelle Teitsma (teitsma@njaes.rutgers.edu).



NJ 4-H Goat Extravaganza

January 4, 2025

Registration Deadline: December 4, 2024



RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
Cooperative Extension
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station

20TH ANNUAL
NJ 4-H
GOAT EXTRAVAGANZA
"Join us for an educational day filled with fun!"

! SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 2025
In case of inclement weather, check your email for postponement.
RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF MERCER COUNTY
(MERCER COUNTY OFFICE PARK, 1440 PARKSIDE AVENUE, EWING, NJ)

TO CELEBRATE OUR 20TH ANNIVERSARY, EACH YOUTH PARTICIPANT WILL RECEIVE A SPECIAL 20TH ANNIVERSARY T-SHIRT (FREE); WE'LL HAVE A FUN 20-GOAT SCAVENGER HUNT WITH PRIZES; AND SEVERAL ALUMNI WILL JOIN US FOR THE DAY!
ALSO NEW THIS YEAR, WE'LL COLLECT DONATIONS FOR IMPORTANT CAUSES! SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS.

Contact Chad Ripberger, County 4-H Agent, ripberger@njaes.rutgers.edu or 609-989-6830 for more info.

REGISTER by December 4!

Goat Extravaganza will include:

Goat Art Contest

Morning:

- Goat Poster Contest (4 youth per mixed-county team)
- Workshop for Parents/Leaders

After lunch, members enter one of these two events

- Goat Skillathon (all coverbuds will do skillathon)
- Goat Quiz Bowl (4 youth per team)

Ice cream social with prizes!

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Boards of County Commissioners. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers-New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.

For more information, please visit the state 4-H goat website:

<http://nj4h.rutgers.edu/goats/extravaganza/>

Simple and quick [online registration](#) is due by Wednesday, December 4.



Rutgers Junior Animal Science Symposium & 4-H Animal Science Film Festival

March 29, 2025

Rutgers Junior Animal Science Symposium will be held on Saturday, March 29, 2025 at the Cook Campus Farm, Rutgers University, New Brunswick. Event includes hands-on workshops in equine, swine, sheep and goat, cattle, poultry, beekeeping, rabbit, cavy, small animals and an animal science video contest. Registration information to follow.

Contact amelia.valente@njaes.rutgers.edu if you have questions.



RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
Cooperative Extension
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station

The 10th Annual
Fun and Entertaining
4-H Animal Science Video Contest/Film Festival
Saturday, March 29, 2025

THIS YEAR - INCLUDES ALL 4-H ANIMAL PROJECTS - TAKE YOUR PICK!

The Film Festival will be held in the Round House at the Rutgers Cook Campus Farm as an afternoon session of the Junior Animal Science Symposium. To participate in the film festival, you must register for the Junior Animal Science Symposium. Registration for the symposium will be available at <http://nj4h.rutgers.edu/animals> in early 2025 (approx. Feb. 1).

Youth created videos are due March 3

To enter your video in the contest, [REGISTER ONLINE](#) by **Feb. 24**. You will then receive a link to use to upload your video and media release form(s). For more information, see <http://nj4h.rutgers.edu/animals/film-festival> or contact Chad Ripberger, County 4-H Agent, ripberger@njaes.rutgers.edu or 609-989-6830.

Entries must:

- be educational – must educate the audience on some aspect of alpacas, cats, cattle (beef/dairy), dogs, goats, herpetology, horses, llamas, poultry, rabbits, sheep, small animals, swine,
- be **3:30 minutes or less** (1-point deduction per second over 3:30),
- be uploaded by the end of the day, **March 3**,
- be the original work of **youth** in grades 4-13,
- be created from October 2024 - March 2025,
- include the names of all youth responsible for the creation of the video (credits – names and roles).

✓ The youth of the top scoring videos will receive awards at the film festival on March 29 at the Junior Animal Science Symposium.

✓ Videos will be scored on educational value, creativity, clarity, pacing, and technical quality – 20 points each, 100 total. See the video contest website for a description of the [judging criteria](#). A [tip sheet](#) and [winning videos](#) from prior years are also on the website.

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Boards of County Commissioners. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers-New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.



Horse News



Horse Leaders Meeting

The next Horse Leaders Meeting will be on Wednesday, January 15, 2025 at 7:30pm via zoom.



Equine Science Team

The Equine Science Team will begin practicing soon! If you are interested in participating please either e-mail Tracy Smith - bdtsmith@gmail.com or call (908)-887-2630.



2023-2024 Equine Science Team Members
(missing from picture: Claire Jones)



Year End Awards

The Willow Creek Western Horsemanship Award is sponsored by Joan Wolfe. It is given to a rider exhibiting horsemanship & improvement over the past 4-H year. 2024 recipient: **Amelia Garis**

The Sportsmanship Award, sponsored by Stacy Thomas, is presented to the 4-H'er who has

demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship in the overall activities of the 4-H horse program. Sportsmanship is defined as sportsman like conduct, such as courtesy, fairness, being a cheerful loser, and the willingness to encourage or console as well as assist other 4-H members. 2024 recipient: **Hayley Wargo**

The Guiding Light Award given in memory of Florence Kuipers, a former 4-H leader who was also a mentor and an inspiration to many 4-H youth. This award is given to a 4-H'er exhibiting Florence's qualities as well as a good sportsman who perseveres to Make The Best Better. 2024 recipient: **Alicia Garis**

The Outstanding Very Small Equine Award, sponsored this year by Tracy Smith, is given to a participant in the horse project area who has shown a VSE at the 4-H County Qualifying Show and/or the 4-H Horse Show at the Warren County Farmers' Fair and has demonstrated a willingness to learn, good sportsmanship, overall improvement in their VSE horsemanship skills, as well as exhibits a positive attitude. 2024 recipient: **Hayley Wargo**

The Warren County Challenge Award is sponsored by the WC Horse Leaders and is given to an outstanding senior 4-H member in the 4-H Horse program. This individual has shown leadership, citizenship and achievement qualities during their years as a 4-H member in Warren County. 2024 recipient: **Alicia Garis**





News!

RE-ENROLLMENT

With this new project year comes a new 4-H enrollment system, Zsuite.



The enrollment process for Club Members (youth) and Volunteers (adult club leaders) is similar. We're excited with the options Zsuite will offer us in the office as well as to club leaders.

Please go to <https://4h.zsuite.org/> and create a family profile to re-enroll.

An email was sent to all registered 4-H members with instructions on the new process. If you or your members have any issues creating a profile or re-enrolling, please contact the 4-H Office at 908-475-6502.



4-H Volunteer Ventures



The 4-H Volunteer Ventures Podcast examines the fun, but sometimes confusing, role of the 4-H volunteer. Connect with hosts Kelly Dziak and Laura Bovitz in this Facebook page ([4-H Volunteer Ventures](#)) to share your tips/tricks to support other volunteers as well as future episode suggestions.

The latest episode of the **4-H Volunteer Ventures** podcast is available and it's all about the 4-H Thriving Model! Give it a listen to learn about how we help youth find their ✨sparks✨ and thrive!

open.spotify.com/show/1R0A0chkVoqw64Mqycr7gX?si=34f3dc98b91b4c20



NJ 4-H Summer Camp Sign Up

Registration opens on November 15, 2024 for both:

The 75th summer at **L.G. Cook 4-H Camp**, New Jersey 4-H's overnight summer camp in beautiful Stokes State Forest. Join our caring, tech-free community for a one-week sleepaway session in July or our BIG 18 day session in August ... AND

The 3rd summer at 4-H Camp at Rutgers Gardens, our brand-new day camp program combining the social-emotional learning of 4-H Camp's friendly, communal experience with the educational opportunities of Rutgers Gardens.

Sign-up before December 31st to take advantage of our Early "Polar Bear" Registration Period. 4-H discount available to all 4-H members. More details and online registration at nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu! Call 973-948-3550 to reach the Camp Office with any and all questions.



Warren County 4-H is on Facebook!

Please join our Facebook Group: Warren County 4-H
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/942441635878633/> to stay up to date on news, events, and opportunities for Warren County 4-H members. This is a closed group so please request to join the group!

We also have a general public Warren County 4-H Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/warren4h/>



Results

Year End Recognition

Receiving Welcome to 4-H:

Mason Varga

Receiving Cloverbud Certificates:

Bryson Anema, Chance Anema, Daisy Bassin, Nathan Bassin, Connor Edwards, Hazel Ochs, Rowan Philhower, Bethany Sanchez, Luke Smith, Charlotte Thompson, Michael Thompson, Anastasia Waclawski, Felix Waclawski, Stella Weygand, Colton Waller

Receiving Merit Awards:

Natalie Marques, Mae Quick, Genesis Sanchez, Myla Sprangler

Receiving Achievement Awards:

Alicia Garis, Amelia Garis, Madison Hunt, Valentina Maza, Vincent Maza, Vivian Maza, Abby Smith, Own Smith, Arica Sodtalbers, Elizabeth Sodtalbers, Kerstin Voll, Amelia Waclawski, Hayley Wargo



Agriculture Awards were presented to Valentina Maza, Abby Smith, Owen Smith, Arica Sodtalbers, Elizabeth Sodtalbers, and Kerstin Voll



Willow Creek Horsemanship Award: Amelia Garis
Guiding Light Award: Alicia Garis



The Sportmanship Award: Hayley Wargo

The Challenge Award: Alicia Garis



Club Updates

Out of Our Shells

Members of the Out of Our Shells 4-H Club opened a Free Little Pantry at the First Presbyterian Church Outreach Center in Blairstown. Members secured donations from local businesses including David Prezioso, Prezioso Electric, LLC; Jody Thomas McKenna, Roxy Relics; Christian Fiume, Fitness Empire; Dianne Pannela, Barber on Main; The Freehill Family; Blairstown Dairy; Jennifer Mulligan, Cosmic Connections; Hema Persad, Nature's Harvest; Mr. Scott and Lisa Amon, Village Sundaes; Michael Alfieri, Frank's Pizza; and Louis Lopez, Pizza Express.

The club hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony for their new pantry on November 2, 2024.

About the Free Little Pantry:

Our pantry is for everyone! Our pantry is for those who need an item or for those who would like to give an item. Our pantry is for a hungry kid walking home from school or a home cook who forgot to buy a box of pasta. Our pantry is for everyone and we are excited to bring this to Blairstown!!



How does our pantry differ from other food pantries?

- Our pantry is small, limiting its quantity and variety but stocked with love from our club and community.
- Our pantry is local and easily accessible.
- We can help families who do not qualify for bricks-and-mortar food pantries. Most have hours of operation. Our pantry is open all the time! 24/7

If you or your club would like to donate nonperishable items, please contact the 4-H Office at 908-475-6502. They are looking for donations of canned

veggies, canned fruit, crackers, cereals, etc., as well as personal care items and paper goods.



We would LOVE to hear what your club has been up to! Please drop us a line or photograph!

**Got club news? Send it to
4-H@co.warren.nj.us**

