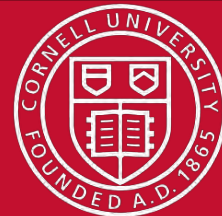


Cornell Cooperative Extension Cayuga County



2019 Annual Report

Dear Friends and Supporters of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cayuga County:

Our 2019 Annual Report showcases some of the many educational opportunities offered by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cayuga County in the past year. At its core extension is a cooperative effort between county, state, and federal governments to bring researched based programs in agriculture, nutrition, 4-H youth development, natural resources and environment, and community development to the citizens of Cayuga County.

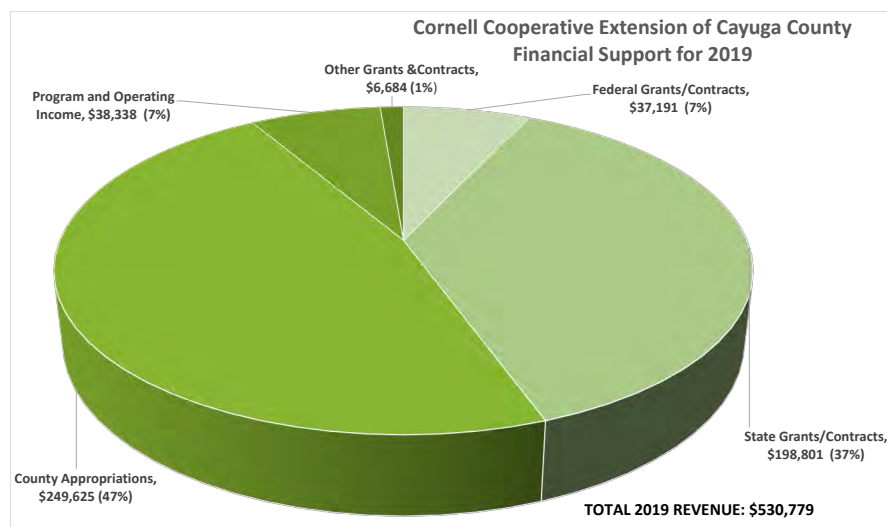
The Board of Directors spent much of their time in the last year developing a plan for a relevant, resilient extension association in Cayuga County. Our staff demonstrated a high level of commitment to our program participants and extension work. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cayuga County could not have done all it did this year without the dedication of our volunteers. From helping with a specific event to serving as a 4-H Club Leader to staffing the Master Gardener hotline, volunteers are key to our ability to meet the needs of our stakeholders.

Looking forward to 2020, CCE Cayuga's first priority is developing relevant and impactful programs in our areas of expertise. To that end, the association will strengthen our existing partnerships with Cayuga County government, community groups and organizations, and develop new partnerships that allow us to reach new audiences that may be unfamiliar with extension. CCE Cayuga will also cultivate relationships at Cornell University to bring information grounded in science to meet current and future challenges faced by farms, families, and communities in Cayuga County.

Sincerely,

Emily Robertson
Board President

Daniel Welch
Associate Director



MEET OUR 2019 BOARD

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

Nutrition

Gardening and Nutrition Education at Booker T. Washington Community Center

Booker T. Washington Community Center (BTW) is located in the Southwest quadrant of the City of Auburn. Each year, the center provides services for over 200 youth registered in afterschool programs; over 1,000 individuals seeking health insurance and 13 seniors in the senior program. The summer day camp at BTW serves youth in grades 1-6 and allows them to participate in activities that focus on strengthening academic skills, physical activity, and lots of recreational activities like gardening, cooking, and sports.

Students in the afterschool program laid out, filled, and planted six 4' x 8' raised beds. Finger Lakes Eat Smart New York and the Montezuma Audubon Center contributed funding to the materials for the raised beds. CCE Cayuga conducted weekly garden education with the youth, using Dig In! and Great Garden Detective curriculums. Each week, approximately 12 youth would attend gardening sessions. CCE Cayuga also conducted weekly nutrition activities, using the Serving Up My Plate curriculum to show youth how to use all the vegetables they were growing.

Brandon Wakeman, program director for BTW said, “The community garden...has been a huge asset to our programming. Most importantly, many of the children involved in the gardening and nutrition lessons have taken their knowledge home to their families, which will help to produce a whole new generation of gardeners.”



Agriculture

CCE Cayuga’s educational activities in agriculture support Cayuga County’s \$287.8 million farming sector. Cayuga County is #2 in NYS for sales of milk and grain (corn & oilseeds), and # 7 in sales of nursery and greenhouse products. .

- ◆ Over 70 farmers attended 4 shop meetings on the following topics: mycotoxins in feed; dairy/beef crosses; corn silage hybrid trials; corn and soybean diseases. Shop Meetings are an opportunity to hear from local farms and industry experts, to encourage conversation and sharing amongst the county’s farms.
- ◆ 25 farmers attended Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Training in the late fall. BQA is a voluntary program focused on training cattle producers in management practices. The training is based on national guidelines and scientific research with the purpose of enhancing carcass quality and safety, thereby protecting the consumer confidence in our beef supply.
- ◆ Making sure farmers and agricultural professionals are updated about the new NYS Agriculture Labor Laws through individual contact and assisting with programs presented by Cornell University and Pro-Dairy.
- ◆ Dairy Advancement Program – Cost share funding (80%/20%) for projects to assist eligible Cayuga County dairy farms (under 300 cows) to engage professionals for financial analysis, benchmarking and business plans. Also, funding can be used for farmstead planning and development of environmental plans including Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans.
- ◆ 25 farmers and agricultural professional attended **Planning for Transition: A Resource Fair** in November. The resource fair is assisted new and beginning farmers, and farmers or landowners looking to transition their farm to the next generation with navigating the farm transfer process. Collaborative effort between NY Agricultural Land Trust Cayuga County Planning Board, Cayuga Community College and CCE of Seneca County.

Cornell Cooperative Extension enables people to improve their lives and communities through partnerships that put experience and research knowledge to work.

4-H Youth Development

Cooperative Extension of Cayuga County is the local connection to the nation's largest youth development organization. Through projects in Agriculture, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), Healthy Living, and Community Engagement; 4-H youth are learning hands-on skills that grow leaders. A few accomplishments from the 2019 4-H program include:

- ◆ 1,066 elementary students across the county learned about farming through a story and activities during Agricultural Literacy Week in March
- ◆ Lauren McCarthy, Cato was on the 3rd place team and placed seventh overall at the Eastern National Horse Round-Up in Louisville, KY!
- ◆ Youth Tractor Safety Certification- 8 youth successfully completed and received certification in the 2019 Youth tractor Safety Course offered every year. The course is offered to youth ages 14 thru 16 who wish to work on or off the family farm. 3 farms, one agri-business and BOCES assisted in the instruction.
- ◆ The 2019 County 4-H Banner Clubs are Sennett Saddle, Millard Fillmore and Rising Stars. Banner Clubs have a well-balanced, year-round program, and are involved in local, county, and state activities.
- ◆ 4-H youth participated in the State Teen Action Retreat, Career Explorations at Cornell, 4-H Capital Days in Albany, the Animal Crackers program at Cornell, and the NYS 4-H Agribusiness Career Conference at SUNY Cobleskill.



Environment

- ◆ Presented outreach efforts and information on the Dairy Advancement Program (DAP) to the Owasco Lake Management Council at monthly public meeting along with Karl Czymmek from Cornell Pro-Dairy. DAP provides 80% cost of service for environmental planning for dairy farms under 300 cows.
- ◆ CCE Cayuga instructed at the Cayuga County Soil & Water Conservation Field Days. Topic was "What is a Watershed?" 240 students and 24 teachers from school districts in Cayuga County.
- ◆ 1,130 households recycled electronics during the Electronics Recycling Event held in partnership with Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development.
- ◆ 255 households dropped off Hazardous Waste to be properly disposed of during a collection event sponsored by CCE Cayuga and County Planning.
- ◆ Master Gardeners logged a total of 260 hours during the busy spring and summer seasons fielding 159 phone calls and visits from residents regarding a variety of garden and home plants, weeds, insects, and diseases.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2019 FRIENDS OF EXTENSION...

Andrew White
Gary and Karen Gulliver

Their donations have helped us continue to deliver high-quality innovative programs that are vital to our local agriculture producers, families and community. For more information on becoming a

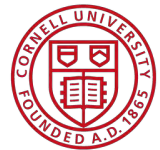
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MEET THE CCE STAFF

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Dan Welch

Interim Director

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Agriculture Program Educator

Ron Kuck

4-H Youth Development Program Educator

Erin Humphrey

Nutrition Program Educator

Becky Crawford

Office Coordinator

Peggy Lillie

Association Finance Coordinator

Cathy Heller

Maintenance

Dennis Rex

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Cayuga County Dept. of Planning & Economic Development
Cayuga County Farm Bureau
Cayuga County Parks Department
Cayuga County Soil & Water Conservation District
Cayuga County Solid Waste Management Program
Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES
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Finger Lakes Eat Smart New York
New York State Dept. of Ag & Markets
New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation
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Ward W. O' Hara Agriculture & Country Living Museum
Water Quality Management Agency