Here at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Allegany County, our team of dedicated staff, selfless volunteers and enthusiastic Board Members ensure that we can provide the resources needed to respond to the vital needs and interests of our community. Proudly, CCE staff remains committed to effecting positive changes in Allegany County year in and year out. And, with a ripple effect, CCE’s combined efforts of commitment and honest endeavors spread outward incrementally, generating positivity and possibility where it did not exist before.

For the times they are a-changin’.... And it calls for an updated financial structure. Here at CCE, we have grown an awareness of the necessity to secure grants and funding opportunities. This effort has allowed for us to increase the diversity and scope of our programming, to partner with additional agencies, and broaden our impact on peoples’ lives.

We also rely more than ever on our supporters as we address the continuing needs of the communities we serve. It is essential that we maintain the valuable programming we administer, while at the same time plan for the future, so that the work we do in Allegany County may continue seamlessly.

Regionalization efforts continue to be successful in reducing the operating costs of the nine Western New York Associations. The Shared Business Network (SBN) shares Leads for Finance, Human Resources and Informational Technology. Allegany County Cooperative Extension benefits from the expertise of these individuals at a shared cost. Our new Ag Team, the Southwest New York Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops Program have four agricultural specialists covering a 5-county region who will use their knowledge and talents to positively impact our agricultural community.

In conclusion, sincerest thanks to the Allegany County Legislators and County Executive for their ongoing support. I consider it a privilege to serve as your Executive Director working with a committed Board, devoted staff and skilled volunteers to deliver these much-needed programs.

Respectfully yours,

LAURA HUNSBERGER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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CASSANDRA BULL
Farm-to-School & Ag in the Classroom Educator

PATTY AMIDON
SNAP Education Program Manager

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Family, Health & Well-Being EFNEP Program Educator

Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and that provides equal program and employment opportunities.
THE 4-H DEPT.

In 4-H, we believe in the power of young people. In 4-H, kids complete hands-on projects in areas like health, science, agriculture, and civic engagement in a positive environment where they receive guidance from adult mentors and are encouraged to take on proactive leadership roles. Kids experience 4-H in New York through in-school and after-school programs, school and community clubs, and 4-H camps.

FUN 4-H FACTS

- 11th grade has the most active members
- Rabbit & Cavy projects are the most popular 4-H Animal Project area.
- Food Science is the most popular non-animal 4-H Project area.
- More than 50% of all members participate in the Public Presentation program.

JOB & LIFESKILLS BOOTCAMP

The program was designed to give students "a leg up" on seeking and retaining employment, as well as building necessary life skills to balance home/life.

LIFE SKILLS TAUGHT:
- Resume workshops
- Practice Interviewing for jobs
- Skill identification

STORY PROJECT

This program is a regional initiative where students are challenged to produce an agriculturally-related project that can be applied to a future career.

STEM SKILLS TAUGHT:
- Invasive species
- Bats in the environment
- Human impacts on wildlife

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR WEEKLY UPDATES:
FACEBOOK.COM/ALLEGANYCOUNTY4HPROGRAM
FOCUSING ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

DAIRY PRODUCTION

Dairy remains the largest agricultural sector in Allegany County. In the past 12 months, 65% of dairy operations have attended programs and/or received services offered through extension. “Pasture walks” or on-farm programming allows farmers a chance to see other operations and exchange management ideas and methods.

UNDERSTANDING REGULATIONS

Understanding regulations for direct marketing of farm products can be a barrier to both new and existing farms. CCE’s comprehensive workshops cover rules and regulations for sale of farm and certified kitchen products direct to consumers. This helps meet the growing demand for locally-produced foods. Additional one-on-one consultations are offered to guide producers through the process. Food safety is addressed with vegetable producers through trainings and hands-on workshops geared to assist producers with implementation of Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs). GAPs training and certification of farms expands marketing channels for fresh fruits and vegetables.

PROGRAMS TAUGHT IN 2019:

- 28th Annual Rural Landowners Workshop
- Managing your sheep flock
- Stress-Less Farm Financials
- Veteran Farmer Assistance

Each year, we bring together the community and showcase locally grown and raised products exquisitely prepared by ACES Catering. This year dinner was followed by our keynote speaker, Tony Shelton, PhD., International Professor of Entomology, from Cornell University. The development of the first genetically engineered (GE) product in 1978 (insulin) relied on fundamental discoveries in basic biology. This talk provided an overview of genetic engineering and how it is being used in agriculture.

6th ANNUAL FARMER NEIGHBOR DINNER

Whispering Winds Farm Organic Dairy Field Day; Lester & Cindy York hosted dairy & beef producers interested in learning more about the benefits of a Bedded Pack Barn

CCE STRIVES FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESPONDING TO CURRENT AND EMERGING NEEDS IN NEW YORK STATE.
FARM-TO-SCHOOL

Simply put, Farm-to-School programs help connect K-12 schools with local farms. One way to do this is to serve locally sourced ingredients in the cafeteria. Another avenue is through Ag in the Classroom, or teaching students about food and farming through hands-on learning.

LOCAL IMPACTS:

- $103,000 in grant funding awarded in Allegany County for Farm-to-School purposes in 2019
- 5,161 pounds of meat from Allegany / Steuben Farms served in one year.
- Approximately 20% of all school lunch purchases help support WNY dairy farms and families.

THE MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

This is a national program of trained volunteers who work to expand educational outreach in the community by providing home gardeners with research-based information.

TOP QUESTIONS FROM HOMEOWNERS:

- Bee & wasp issues
- Fruit tree degradation
- Plant & insect identification

AG LITERACY WEEK

Each year, volunteers visit local 2nd grade classrooms during Ag Literacy Week in March to read and talk to children about NY agriculture and industry. The selected book for 2019 was On the Farm, At the Market written and illustrated by G. Brian Karas. We are proud to feature a book that displays diversity that encompasses many aspects of New York’s agriculture and markets.
EFNEP PROGRAM
The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) is a federally-funded nutrition education program for limited-resource youth and families delivered through the Cooperative Extension Service in every state and U.S. territory.

EFNEP offers hands-on, interactive workshops to help participants improve food and physical activity behaviors, food resource management, food safety and food security. Programs serve income eligible parents, caregivers, expecting mothers, as well as children and teens.

WORKSHOP SERIES INCLUDES:
- Eating Smart, Being Active
- Family Nutrition Education Program
- Finding A Balance — Diabetes
- Healthy Children, Healthy Families
- Healthy Cent$
- Breastfeeding

HEALTH OUTCOMES:
- 81% of participants eat fruit more often
- 76% of participants eat vegetables more often
- 76% of participants eat dark green vegetables more often each week
- 50% of participants drink regular soda less often
- 77% of participants plan meals before shopping

WNY CORNELL VEGETABLE TEAM
Our specialists work together with Cornell faculty & Extension Educators statewide to address the issues that impact the commercial vegetable industry.

PROGRAMS & RESEARCH:
- Food Safety
- Pest Management
- Variety Evaluation

SOUTHWEST NY DAIRY, LIVESTOCK & FIELD CROPS TEAM
The Team offers educational programming and research based information to agricultural producers, growers and agribusinesses in the five-county region of SW New York.

PROGRAM TOPICS:
- Automated Milking Operations
- Hogs, Hops, and Honey
- Growing Hemp
OUR MISSION

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