

Cornell University

Cornell Cooperative Extension Monroe County

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Monroe County 4-H Horse Program represented at Regional & State 4-H Horse Events

Local 4-H members participate in Hippology, Horse Bowl and Horse Communications

When people think about 4-H and horses, they usually think of fairs, and riding or showing events. It may surprise you to know that to participate in the Monroe County 4-H Horse Program you don't need to own a horse, or even know how to ride one.

While riding may be one activity, the Monroe County 4-H Horse Program is also focused on educational events. 4-H members learn anatomy, breeds, equine science and care. With this knowledge, 4-H members participate in events designed to challenge their knowledge, communication and teamwork skills.

This spring, Monroe County 4-H Horse Program members participated in regional horse events, including Region 2 Horse Communications and Horse Extravaganza, which is comprised of both Horse Bowl and Hippology. One Monroe County 4-H member participated in Horse Communications at the Regional Level and 19 youth participated in the Regional Horse Extravaganza event. Volunteers, led by Niki Whilden, helped to prepare and coach the youth for the event.

Horse Communications is an event to show off communication and public speaking skills. The New York State 4-H Horse Communications event took place on May 11 with Monroe County 4-H member Ella Bohn competing in the Senior Division. Ella has challenged herself to participate in new activities like Horse Communications, and she has excelled admirably.

Horse Bowl is a team endeavor run like a quiz show where contestants buzz in with the answers to horse-related questions. The New York State Horse Bowl event occurred on April 27 at Cornell University in Ithaca. Monroe County 4-H was represented by Ella Bohn in the senior division and Rose Lanzatella, Molly Krotz, and Ava Ciravola in the junior division. Pauline Marsh was the volunteer coach for the junior team. Regardless of kudos or accolades, each youth was able to face the pressure of competition while learning new things and having fun! Ella Bohn qualified for the National Horse Bowl Event and Ava Ciravola received a 5th place ribbon.

Hippology is an equine knowledge challenge that evaluates the overall knowledge of participants in equine science, vet science, equipment and farm management. Components of the competition include a judging phase, a 100-question written exam, and team problems. Regional level activities qualify members to go on to state and national levels. The state hippology event will be held during The Great New York State Fair in August 2019.

More about 4-H & the 4-H Horse Program:

Members in the Monroe County 4-H Horse Program will develop life skills such as leadership, communication, friendship and responsibility.

Youth ages 5 through 18 may participate. Those members ages 5 to 7 will begin as part of the Cloverbud program.

4-H clubs are led by volunteers who schedule meetings and plan activities to suit the needs of their club members. Parents are encouraged to volunteer.

In 4-H, we believe in the power of young people. We see that every child has valuable strengths and the potential to influence the world around us. We are America's largest youth development organization, empowering nearly six million young people across the U.S. with the skills to lead for a lifetime.

Interested in joining or volunteering with 4-H? Contact <u>monroe4H@cornell.edu</u> or call (585) 753-2550.

Follow us on Facebook (@4HMonroeCounty) & Instagram (@monroe4H).



2019 NYS 4-H Horse Communications Ribbon Recipients



2019 NYS 4-H Horse Bowl Monroe & Ontario County participants, junior division