



Cornell University

**Cornell Cooperative Extension
Monroe County**

2449 Saint Paul Blvd
Rochester, NY 14617
(585) 753-2550
monroe@cornell.edu
monroe.cce.cornell.edu

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For more information, contact:

Susan Coyle, 4-H Program Leader
(585) 753-2550
smc226@cornell.edu

Monroe County 4-H Horse Program represented at Regional Horse Extravaganza

Local 4-H members participate in Hippology and Horse Bowl Events

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 a regional horse event that included youth from nine Finger Lakes area counties. The event is comprised of both Horse Bowl and Hippology. Thirteen youth participated in the Regional Horse Extravaganza event. Volunteers, led by Niki Whilden, helped to prepare and coach the youth for the event.

Horse Bowl is a team endeavor run like a quiz show where contestants buzz in with the answers to horse-related questions. Ella Torrence and Kennedy Guhman participated in the Novice Horse Bowl section. Posh Ponies 4-H Club members Addie Whilden, Molly Krotz, Maddie Basset, and Abigail Dayton took part in the Junior Horse Bowl Team portion for youth under 14 years of age.

Also in the Junior Section were Hilton Horsemen, Alexis Schwab, Ava Ciravola, Bryanna Wellington, and Ariana Dimitriadis. Krotz, Schwab, Ciravola, Whilden, and Dimitriadis qualified to be part of the next level of participation, the state event. Rose Lanzatella and Marissa Wellington were on a team in the Senior Level. Lanzatella has received an invitation for state play. The New York State Horse Bowl event is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, June 6th at Cornell University.

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. Participating at the regional level were youth from the Hilton Horsemen and Posh Ponies Clubs.

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Kennedy Guhman and Ella Torrence took part in the first year level, Novice. Youth that were part of the event at the Junior Level, included Ally Thummler, Isabella Mantella, Maddie Basset, Ariana Dimitriadis, Bryana Wellington, Alexis Schwab, Molly Krotz, Addie Whilden, Angelica Montagiano, and Ava Ciravola. Members that qualify to advance to the state level as team members or alternates include Ciravola, Krotz, Schwab, Wellington, Dimitriadis, Thummler, Mantella, and Basset. Senior Hippology saw a team of Rose Lanzatella, Ella Bohn, and Marissa Wellington. Bohn and Lanzatella will look forward to being part of the state contest in 2020. The New York State Hippology event will be held during The Great New York State Fair in August 2020.

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 monroe4H@cornell.edu or call (585) 753-2550.

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

The Monroe County 4-H Program is offered through Cornell Cooperative Extension to the youth of Monroe County. 4-H is a worldwide youth development program open to all youth aged 5-to-19, who want to have fun, learn new skills, and explore the world. In return, youth who participate in 4-H find a supportive environment and opportunities for hands-on or "experiential" learning about things that interest them.

Learn more at <http://monroe.cce.cornell.edu/4-h-youth-development>.

Photos on next page.



Left: Junior Hippology group, Right: Niki Whilden and Bryana Wellington

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