A Note from the President:

As I began to write my “Note from the President”, our nation was once again struck by a senseless and tragic event; one that has left us stunned, saddened and questioning. There have been several news articles and hours of television footage, but the one quote that has resonated with me was spoken by an educator; Mr. Fred Rogers - “When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.”

Isn’t that what we do in 4-H? We help. We help one another thrive and succeed. It’s the junior leader helping a Cloverbud finish their first project. It’s a veteran leader reaching out and encouraging a new leader who is overwhelmed, it’s the seasoned educator picking up the phone to mentor a new hire. We help make our club, our community, our country and our world a better place. I am proud to belong to an organization and association that puts an emphasis on people. Lifting people up, helping one another and doing right to, by and for our fellow (wo)man.

As we enter the busiest of 4-H seasons, remember to take a moment to appreciate the little things; the laughter, the smiles and the relationships with those that surround us. Call a colleague, send an email or drop a note in the mail, encourage and support one another, it is amazing what a 3 minute act of kindness can bring to someone’s day!

“When events occur that we don’t expect, they increase our faith, strengthen our ability to endure, and bring forth our hidden talents, abilities and strengths” - Iyanla Vanzant

Have you met?

Martina Noone, Warren County

Why did you originally join NYSACCE4-HE? Funny story, my supervisor told me it was mandatory for my first year, I enjoyed it so I have continued my membership!

Favorite 4-H conference memory? Bringing home a bucket of worms for composting.

Author? Edward Abbey

Movie? The Goonies, “Hey you guys!”

TV Show? Grey’s Anatomy

Food? Pizza, you can’t go wrong

Vacation? Costa Rica

Dessert? If it involves chocolate and peanut butter, then I’m in!

Hobby? Napping. I have a one year old son!

Family? Bob – Husband, Owen – Son, Autumn – Furry, 4-legged child

Contact? mey23@cornell.edu or CCE Warren 518-418-9541

Have you seen the website? Visit: http://nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/staff/Pages/NYSACCE4-HE.aspx

Nikki Olsen, Sullivan County

Why NYSACCE4-HE? The association has given me the opportunity to meet and network with colleagues across the state and the encouragement to take the next step professionally and present at state conferences.

Movie? Charlotte’s Web—it’s a family favorite

TV? Bones and Duck Dynasty

Food? Sushi

Why 4-H? I like watching youth reach their “ah-ha” moment and learn and grow within the program.

Hobby? Farming

Vacation? Pageant of Steam, Canandaigua, NY

Family? Husband Steven, son George, daughter Emily

Dessert? Lemon meringue pie

Pets? 2 dogs, 2 cats, 2 Pygmy goats, 1 horse, 1 rabbit, numerous cows and pigs!

Birthday? January 24

Contact? nmb62@cornell.edu or CCE Sullivan 845-292-6180 x113

Photos of the Month

(left) Monroe County 4-H Educator, Margo Bauer, and (right) Cayuga County 4-H Educator, Melissa Watkins, working hard to tally scores and prepare certificates at the Finger Lakes District 4-H Public Presentations Event on April 6th.

Question/History Lesson of the Month:

Q. What famous Country Music singer was an active 4-H member and got their start at 4-H Share the Fun talent shows? Her big break came when she sang the National Anthem at the National Finals Rodeo.

A. Reba McIntyre

“In our work with young folks and leaders... it requires a will to do and a discerning eye to spot the gems that will eventually add to our joys of living and working. We should be alert to catch the first glint in that ordinary boy, that ordinary girl, living in that ordinary community, who may well be the outstanding 4-H Club member tomorrow, to seek out that ordinary person who will consent to act as a local leader of an ordinary club. With a little polishing and placed in a proper setting such gems will provide the gleam and the sparkle that will add to the value and the pride of our daily tasks. To find them, look in the least suspected places.” A quote from the essay, “Finding Gems”, May 1946 by Albert Hoefer.

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