Cover Graphic: Echinacea (coneflower) and Rudbeckia (black-eyed susans)
2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Our Mission: To strengthen youth, adults, families and communities through learning partnerships that put knowledge to work.

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2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS & PROGRAM COMMITTEES

Association Officers
Rebecca Sparrow, President
Marty Hatch, Vice President
Gayle Flinn, Treasurer
David Rutherford, Secretary

Agriculture & Horticulture
Don Barber
Jenny Caldwell
Dennis Hartley, Chair
Peter Larson
Keith Thomson
LeGrace Benson
Mike Griggs
Dean Koyanagi, Vice-Chair
Jeff Piestrak
John Wertis

Consumer & Financial Education
Aaron Buechel, Chair
Michael MacDonald
Donna Scott
Diane Dawson
Bonnie Richmond
Niki Williams

Environmental Issues
Katie Borgella, Vice-Chair
Diane Cohen
David Keifer, Secretary
Stefan Minott
Brian Chabot, Chair
Marty Hatch
Margaret McCasland
Tom Shelley

Family & Community Development
Michelle Artibee
Eloise Barrett
Satomi Hill
Marie Sanford
Tami Battin, Chair
Eliza Lathrop Cook
David Rutherford

Nutrition, Health & Safety
Denise Agati, Co-Chair
Jessica English
Amy Frith, Secretary
Samantha Hillson
Alexi Clinton
Edd Farmer
Suzanne Gervais, Co-Chair
Kenneth Earl McLaurin, Jr.

4-H Youth Development
Chris Ashdown
Sarah Fiorello
Monica Voionmaa, Chair
Susan Barr, Vice-Chair
Timothy Smith
Jane Wells

Legislative Liaisons
Will Burbank, Tompkins County Legislator
Dave McKenna, Tompkins County Legislator
2014 DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

In reviewing what your Cooperative Extension association has accomplished in the past year, I return again and again to the idea that the credit for the following achievements belongs not to me or to our program leaders, but to the many individuals and communities across Tompkins County who inspired, created or welcomed these projects, then rolled up their sleeves and made this work actually happen for the benefit of our residents. Credit goes not just to our paid staff, but also to more than 2000 community volunteers, and a host of students and faculty from Cornell University and Ithaca College who have chosen to get involved in and support these efforts! To all of you, I offer my heartfelt thanks for the investment of your time and energies in our work, and I hope that you will share our pride in the following highlights of what has been accomplished during 2014.

One area where CCE-Tompkins made substantial progress in 2014 is technology and infrastructure. When ccetompkins.org required redesign (as all websites do, every few years) we partnered with CCE county associations across NY State, hired a local developer, and oversaw the creation of a new shared web platform that not only brings a unified look, feel and mobile compatibility to participating county sites, but also enables us all to share photos and fact sheets, and to “clone” pages from one county to another, greatly increasing the valuable content we each can make available on a variety of devices to residents in our counties. Until now, each county contracted independently for web design and hosting, and the resulting sites looked and functioned very differently, and content varied widely. To date, 40 CCE county associations have joined this project and we expect more to sign on as their existing websites need to be redesigned. While you won’t be able to “test drive” the remarkable back-end features of the platform, I urge you to visit our website at ccetompkins.org to experience the shared look and feel that over two-thirds of our state associations now have adopted.

I’ve previously reported on our crowd-funding website PEAKS! (at Peaksmaker.com) that has helped dozens of local organizations and programs raise funds for their work. More recently, our on-staff developer used open source software to create a customizable donor database that we – and 4 other local non-profits thus far -- have adopted. At a cost of less than 20% of that of a commercial donor database product, this effort is helping us and other local non-profits to capture and continue to build upon existing relationships with our constituents, making each of us stronger in the process.

Strengthening the local economy is one of Cooperative Extension’s longstanding priorities. This year, we worked to develop the infrastructure to support bulk wood pellet delivery in our region, with a $1.7 million “Cleaner Greener Communities” grant that was awarded in 2013. Our staff identified potential commercial demonstration sites for large wood pellet fired boilers, and worked with stakeholders in the 8-county Southern Tier region to quantify potential demand. You can look forward to hearing details in the coming year on the number of jobs this exciting project can be expected to create, as well the projected amount of carbon emissions that can be offset by converting from fossil fuels to a locally-sourced renewable fuel.

Here in Tompkins County, ten local micro-businesses (including popular food trucks and caterers) now are using our two certified commercial kitchens – the Cargill Teaching
Kitchen here in our Education Center and the kitchen at 4-H Acres – to start and grow their businesses. According to Chris Kirby, founder of The Ithaca Hummus Company, “The 4-H Acres has been an incredibly valuable resource for me, and The Ithaca Hummus Co. would not have been able to grow so quickly without it.” Community visioning sessions on gaps in our local foodshed long have identified commercial kitchens as integral to growing the local food economy, and we are pleased that CCE facilities are being used to help strengthen individual businesses and create local jobs.

Tompkins County leads the state in residential solar installations and local energy firms have added tens of new jobs in the last year. Building upon this local need, in 2014 CCE-Tompkins partnered with Taitem Engineering in Ithaca to create the Tompkins County Diversity Solar Apprenticeship Program (TCDSA). Funded entirely through the regular operating budgets of both CCE-Tompkins and Taitem Engineering, this program provides training and apprenticeship opportunities in renewable energy for people who face employment barriers due to a lack of recent work experience or out-to-date skills. TCDSA specifically targets under-represented groups that reflect the ethnic diversity of local residents, and the program has the potential to reduce transaction costs for employers while increasing the chances of success for the apprentices. To date, two apprentices have been placed on the job, and two new firms have signed on and made commitments to hire.

You can see a full breakdown of our 2014 impacts in Tompkins County on page 5 of this publication. But while these highlights may seem like “new” areas for extension activity, you can be assured that we continue to work in our more traditional spheres, helping children and adults, families and communities within our county to become stronger and more resilient – both personally and professionally. With the guidance and direction of our volunteer Program Committees and Board of Directors, we remain committed to our goals of working to support thriving children and families, strong communities, a robust local economy, a healthy environment, and food security for all.

In closing, one of our programs in 2014, the Seed-to-Table Experience, included a type of Iron Chef competition, for kids. As part of that competition in which teams of kids were given a chance to cook a meal from a selection of local foods, winners were selected based on the presentation, the content, and the flavor of the whole meal that was prepared. Winners were chosen and named, true, but what was clear to everyone involved was that everyone won. Everyone had fun, everyone learned something, everyone gained something. That pretty much sums up our programming and efforts in 2014: The Winner was...All of us!

Ken Schlather
Executive Director
Cooperative Extension uses its unique partnership with federal, state, and local governments, adding volunteer involvement, fund raising and in-kind contributions to bring an 12-fold return in educational resources for each Tompkins County tax dollar received.

### Direct Support
**Ratio 1 : 8.1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County Appropriation</td>
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<tr>
<td>State and Federal Appropriations</td>
<td>200,708</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fringe Benefits, NYS</td>
<td>1,653,548</td>
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<td>County Contracts</td>
<td>453,142</td>
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<td>County Fed./State Pass Through</td>
<td>172,550</td>
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<td>Other Contracts/Grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donations &amp; Fees</td>
<td>950,029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,115,105</strong></td>
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### In-Kind & Direct Support
**Ratio 1 : 13**

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<td>County Appropriation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fringe Benefits, NYS</td>
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<td>Contracts/Grants</td>
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<td>Volunteer Efforts</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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### 2014 Expenses by Type

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<td>Building &amp; Property Expenses</td>
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<td>Personnel Costs</td>
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### 2014 Employees (FTEs) by Funding Source

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<td>County Contracts</td>
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<tr>
<td>All Other Contracts/fees</td>
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### The Impacts of County Appropriation Through Cooperative Extension (2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Savings in Budget</th>
<th>Asst Tax Revenues</th>
<th>Positive Impact on County Economy</th>
<th>Quality of Life</th>
<th># of Participants</th>
<th># of Volunteers</th>
<th>Hours of Volunteering</th>
<th># of Partners</th>
<th>In-kind Contrib's from local bus/org's</th>
<th># Work-study Students</th>
<th>Work-study FTEs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agriculture &amp; Environment</strong></td>
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<td>Ag Plan Implementation</td>
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<td>Ag Awareness Education</td>
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<td>Commercial Ag</td>
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<td>Economy</td>
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<td><strong>Family &amp; Community Well-Being</strong></td>
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<td>Parenting Ed, Family Visits</td>
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<td>Comm. Support for Families</td>
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<td>Financial Management</td>
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<td>Hind Fin Mnt, Stress Red</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>Energy: Efficiency &amp; Renewable</td>
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<td>Nutrition Ed/Food Access</td>
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<td>355</td>
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<td>Youth Work Experience</td>
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<td>Governance/Admin</td>
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<td>93</td>
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</table>
THANKS TO OUR 2014 DONORS

TRIBUTE GIFTS

In Honor Of:
Matthew Bishop
Darlene Flinn
Helen Howard
Marie Layer
Master Composter Program
Adam Michaelides
Nancy Potter

In Memory Of:
Robert Batsford
Elma Canfield
Barbara Foote
Lily Glidden
Don Josselyn
Elsie Moore Reynolds
Edward Schano
Leo Schickel
Judy Taylor

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Blum Alexandra
Jenn Alford
Phyllis L. Allen
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Brian Babia
Allen & Bonnie Baker
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Mitchell Baker
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Tessa Buono
Laura Burrows
Rise Burrows
Lisa Bushlow
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Maureen Callahan-Wing
Jamelle Callon
Marlo Capoccia
Ann Caren
Daniel Carey
Carl Carlson
Evan & Brenda Carpenter
Daniel Carpenter
Gabe & Penelope Carpenter
Kendall M. Carpenter
Laura Carpenter
Brian & Elizabeth Caruso
Samantha Castillo-Davis
Brian F. Chabot & Kathleen Rasmussen
Carolyn Chang
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Barbara Chasin
Allison Chatrchyan
Annetta Cheek
Dolora Chorba
Suzanne Chouman
Katie Church
Richard & Joyce Church
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Jennifer Cleland
Aaron Clute
Ralph Clute
Ben Coakley
Charlotte & Ronnie Coffman
Daniel Cogan
Suzanne Cohen
Elizabeth C. Collins
Alison Coluccio
Sean Compagnucci
Diane & George Conneman
Cynthia Conner
Michael & Margaret Cook
Nancy Cool
Justine Cooper
Edward Allen Cope
Elizabeth L. Corbett
Holly Cornwell
Benjamin Cosgrove
Kathy Craine
Kathy Crane
Margitta Cudlin
William Cummings
Catherine & Paul Dawson
Paul Dawson
Marion Deats
Kerry Delisa
Aileen Dickey
Judith Dieckmann
David Dier
Jerry Dietz
Joanne Dillon
Joan Doria
Lauren Doughty
Timothy Drake
Eileen Driscoll

Summer 2014 Seed-to-Table Program
Elizabeth K. Peck
Marcelle Pecot
Kara Peet
William Peirce
Gillian Perkins
Annie Perry
Margaret Perry
Aleandra Peterson
John Peterson
Jeffrey Pietersak
Candace Plechavicius
Rochelle Polens
Barbara Pollock
Roy Pollock
Katja Poveda
Allison & Marvin Pritts
Megan Pugh
Jan Quartes
John Quigley
Hana Rab
Dewi Rainey
Lyle S. Raymond, Jr.
Amy Reading
Suzanne Abrams Rebillard
George Reed
Shira Reisman
Matthew Reiter
Maryann Renkas
Sandy Repp & Harry Seichepin
Elsie Reynolds
David Rice
Colleen Richards
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