

Fairfax 4-H October Newsletter

Come see the awesome things our 4-H members are doing!

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New Year, New Agent!

• FAIRFAX VCE IS EXCITED TO INTRODUCE

Krystal Williams

SAY HELLO!

With the start of the new 4-H year along with a new agent, we are aware that you may have questions! As you may have noticed, our Fairfax County 4-H program has been undergoing a very large transformation. We are modernizing our website, updating 4-HOnline, and much more. Signing up for this newsletter is the first step towards keeping informed of our transition. We are excited to be undergoing so many changes, all in the effort to better serve you!

Contact Krystal

krystal.williams@fairfaxcounty.gov

Fairfax County Office

12011 Government Center Parkway, Suite 1050

Fairfax, VA 22035

Office: (703)324-5353

Cell: (703)223-2574



What's Happening?

4-H Annual Fair August 3-6

For years, the 4-H Fair has been a critical part of the 4-H Program to showcase their outstanding achievements of youth participants, and educate the public about various 4-H Projects. This year we had **135 exhibitors total, 59 were 4-H members and 76 were open exhibitors ranging from ages 3 years old to 78 years young**, was the oldest identified exhibitor. There were **686 static exhibits entered**, along with rabbits, cavies, dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep, goats, swine, and horses.

New to this year's Fair was the Horse Demonstrations that took place instead of a competitive Horse Show. This provided members the opportunity to teach the public more about their horse knowledge in a verbal format rather than in a riding competition. All the members did a great job, and the program received many compliments regarding the Horse Demonstrations.

Our 4-H members all did a fantastic job throughout the 4-H Fair to make it a huge success. Congratulations to everyone and their achievements gained throughout the 4-H Fair!

Record Books!

Record Books were due on September 29th for all 4-H Members. These record books are intended to take a snapshot of what activities members completed, knowledge gained, and goals reached. Record books are then kept year after year to create a portfolio of the member's career throughout the 4-H Program. These portfolios can then be used to apply for ambassador programs, leadership opportunities and for the highest award given through the 4-H Program, the All-Star Award.

Adult Volunteer and Club Management Training

With a new 4-H year comes new leaders. Krystal held a training series for all Club Managers and any Adult Volunteers that were interested in learning how to become more effective with their 4-H Clubs. This series was required for all Club Managers in order to successfully re-charter their 4-H Clubs. The training series went over the new 4-H Club Chartering Information, the history and culture of 4-H, Financial Management, and Club Meetings. If you are interested in learning how to become more involved and more effective through the 4-H Club, we encourage you to go to <http://fairfax4h.weebly.com/club-manager-training.html> and watch the recordings. Krystal will be adding more as she continues to train our outstanding Adult Volunteers and Club Managers.

Club Officer Trainings

This year's Club Officer Trainings have been rescheduled for November. This mini-training series is optional for all Club Officers, who would like to learn more about leadership, and how to be an effective officer for their 4-H Club. It has not been decided if these sessions will be recorded, or if Krystal will do a recording later for any officer who was not able to attend the meeting. We are waiting on all club charters to be submitted to set definitive dates in hopes to avoid over running any 4-H Club meeting. However, if the training is at the same time as your club meeting, please contact Krystal, and she will be more than happy to do a training with your club at a different time. Keep an eye out for the definitive dates to come out this month!

Community Service - Adopt A Soldier

An important part of 4-H is community service. Every 4-H member is required to participate in one community service project every year. 4-H partners with our military for several projects, activities, and opportunities. It is also a special way that 4-H can give back to our military! Below are two options that are coming up that 4-H members can give back and get their community service done early.

1.) Join **Americas Adopt a Soldier** this holiday season, as we thank our veterans for their service. Today, we have over 75,000 Veterans in Virginia veteran's homes and hospitals. A pack of crayons and copy paper is all that is needed to draw, write a note of thanks or encouragement, showing your appreciation and even financial support. You can send letters/packages to:

Americas Adopt a Soldier,

P.O. Box 1049,

Springfield, VA 22151.

2.) Another opportunity is the 6th Annual Christmas Day "**Giving Back**" - Join us in saying "Thank You" to our veterans and deployed service members for their service and sacrifices on **December 25, 2017** from 1:00PM - 5:00PM at Kilroy's located in Ravensworth Shopping Center (**5236 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA**). We will be packing care packages and letters for our deployed and veterans. Bring an item for the care package, or mail your *tax deductible* donations to the above address.

C.S.1. Mystery Camp

Please consider this excellent opportunity to keep camping in the minds of your 4-H members. If you have youth that have never been away from home, then this is a great introduction to our wonderful camping programs. 4-H members will be working with law enforcement, and will learn how officers use science to solve problems. This camp is offered for camp members ages 9 - 13.

Registration is due October 6, 2017 with a cost of \$75.00. Members will be checked in on **Saturday, October 28th at 8:30AM** and picked up on **Sunday, October 29th at 12:00PM.**

This camp is located at Holiday Lake 4-H Center in Appomattox, Virginia. For more information check out our website!

Salamander Savers 4-H Club

The Salamander Savers would like to invite you to join them on **Wednesday, October 4th from 7:00PM - 8:00PM** for an environmental talk about salamanders! This presentation will be led by Matt Neff, Zookeeper at the National Zoo's Reptile House, VP of VA Herp Society, and VP of the Foundation for the Conservation of Salamanders. This meeting will be held in the Virginia Conference Room, 10th floor of the Pennino Building. Hope to see you there!

Fall Cloverbud Camp

Join us the weekend of October 28th at the Jamestown 4-H Educational Center for the Fall Cloverbud Camp. At this fun and interactive camp, Cloverbuds learn that plants are more than just things that grow in the ground. They supply us with food and oxygen. This weekend will teach us about plants and how to grow them! This weekend, you will be getting your green thumb!!

Cloverbuds will be:

- learning about where plants come from and how they grow
- learning what foods come from plants
- planting a garden
- and more!
- Check out the Fairfax 4-H Weebly website for more information on the cost of camp and how to be a counselor for this wonderful camp!

National 4-H Week

National 4-H week will take place from October 1-6. This is a time where 4-H member and their programs highlight the accomplishments and wonderful activities they have done over the past year. Fairfax members are encouraged this year to get together during this week, and create a fun activity to share with others.

If you do not plan an activity, not to worry! Take this week to plan what activity you would like to put together for next year. Participation in 4-H week will be required next year, so put your thinking caps on!

Hokie Bugfest

The Hokie BugFest is a free festival that celebrates the joy and science of entomology and appeals to every age group. It features a live Bug Zoo with a Spiders' Lair, a butterfly exhibit, a flea circus, and departmental research displays. Bug enthusiasts can admire a giant bird-eater tarantula, observe bright blue death-feigning beetles, see a working beehive, and view exhibits from area museums. Headliners this year include Tony Gustin the Bug Whisperer, who will present an educational super show, and Brandon the Balloon Guy, who will create insect-themed balloon sculptures. The themes of science and discovery are interwoven into all activities. Older kids and adults will enjoy learning about gypsy moths, bed bugs, mosquitoes, monsters of the insect world, and beekeeping. Young entomologists can play Bug Bingo, Bug Jeopardy, and learn about the importance of insects to our environment. Come to this unique festival and share the wonders of entomology! Visit hokiebugfest.org or the Hokie BugFest Facebook page for more information. A SAFE (Supporting Autism-Friendly Environments) event.

4-H Members have the opportunity to enter the Bug Collection Contest. Collect as many insects as you can and identify them as accurately as possible. Pin them or store them in your freezer until you are ready to pin them. Each collection should have no more the 50 specimens. Check your identifications with bugguide.net

Next Level Bow-Hunting Workshop

Want to be a more successful bow hunter & looking for expert instruction? Then this is the workshop for you!

Join us the weekend of October 27-29, 2017 at the Jamestown 4-H Educational Center to learn:

- Bowhunting Methods and Techniques,
- Treestand use: Placement and Safety
- Camouflage
- Scent Control
- Lures
- Calls
- Shot Placement
- Recovery of Game
- and An Evening Bow Hunt on a Wildlife Management Area!

You MUST be an licensed, adult bow hunter that is 18 years of age or older and has successfully completed a hunter education course.

Please visit the Fairfax 4-H Weebly website for more information on registration and cost of the camp.

Fall Archery Camp Oct 13-15

Come join us the weekend of October 13, 2017 until October 15, 2017 at the Jamestown 4-H Educational Center for our Fall Archery Camp. At this camp we will:

- Learn the parts of the bow and arrow & learn how to shoot.
- Learn how to increase your accuracy.
- Learn how to become more involved in your
- Archery club in your locality.

This camp is for all participants: experienced and non-experienced. There will also be an Archery Competition shoot on Sunday morning! You will use what you have learned to have friendly competition with other archers.

4-H National Youth Science Day

4-H National Youth Science Day (NYSD) is the world's largest youth-led science experiment. This year's project includes making your very own fitness tracker. Developed by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, these science kits offer trackers for 4-8 children. This project takes 70-90 minutes, and is meant for youth in grades 4-12. Although the national date for this is October 4, 2017. Please click the link below so Fairfax 4-H can decide when we'll have our own science day.

Maker Festival

The 3rd Annual Virginia Tech Maker Festival will take place on **Saturday, October 28th, 2017 from 10:00AM - 4:00PM** at the Virginia Tech Northern Virginia Center: **7054 Haycock Road, Falls Church, VA 22043.**

Youth of all ages are welcome to come join in a full day of creativity, engineering, and discovery!

ATTENTION!! We need a name

Our new monthly newsletter needs a name! We will be sending out newsletters at the beginning of every month to help keep you up to date on the exciting events taking place in the Fairfax County 4-H Program! We are asking for all 4-H members to put on their thinking caps and come up with a name for the newsletter. **Any suggestions need to be sent to Krystal before October 15th.** Krystal will then send them out in the weekly announcement to be voted on. The winning name will be announced in the November Issue!

Fall Family Festival

Sunday October 29th 1:00-4:00

Bring your family and spend the afternoon along the shores of the James River! We provide an afternoon of fun for the whole family! **FREE FAMILY PROGRAMMING!**

Pumpkin Painting

Fall Crafts

Nature Programs

Fishing

Marshmallow Roasting

Archery and more!

PLEASE KINDLY RSVP:

757-253-4931

Food is available for purchase (Cash Only)

2B A Bee 4-H Club

2B A Bee 4-H club has several exciting opportunities for any member to join.

1. Sat. Sept. 30, begin candle workshop at noon. James Lee Community Center, 2855 Annandale Rd, Falls Church, VA 22042-the Arts and Crafts Room- left hall- go to end of hall-room is on the left. Wear clothes that can get ruined; beeswax in clothes is hard to get out.

2. lipbalm making workshop. Saturday, October 28, 2017. 10 a.m. Home of the Fry family. address to come later.

3. The adult club outreach coordinator (Martha Kiene) has an opportunity for a 2 B A BEE family or two. Sunday 24, Herndon, Va.

Character Counts Christmas Tree

It is that time again for the 4-H Christmas tree at the Virginia Tech Inn.

This is an awesome marketing opportunity for 4-H and it helps showcase the youth in the program.

This year we had a suggestion from one of our 4-H Agents to layer the tree in the Character Counts colors, Blue, Yellow, Green, Orange, Red, Purple. What we would like to do to still give your clubs the opportunity to make things for the tree.

Some ideas are simple origami, take toilet paper rolls and cardboard to make pillars, the hand above. What we would like is if your clubs/units would like to participate is to have you submit an ornament in each color so that we can layer the tree. For the green, I would suggest a lighter color so it will show up, also remember weight for the ornaments, the heavy ones tend to be harder to hang on the tree.

You can bring these to the 4-H Symposium on November 2.

4-H Projects! The time to Join is NOW!!!

All 4-H members must be enrolled in at least one project. When you choose a project, you will learn everything there is to know about that topic. You will participate in various hands-on activities, learn new skills, do community service, or even make speeches about your project.

If you have a different project idea in mind, contact Krystal as soon as you can. She will provide a curriculum and help you decide what goals you wish to complete from this project. Otherwise, see the list to the right and the following page of all our current and active projects!

◆◆ **Beef Cattle** (Animals) – Try if you like farm animals, cows, animal nutrition and care, and learning about the cattle industry.

◆◆ **Careers & Workforce Prep** (Leadership) – Try if you like learning about careers and practicing job interview skills.

◆◆ **Citizenship** (Leadership) – Try if you like community service, leadership, meeting new people and learning about the local government.

◆◆ **Clothing & Textiles** (Creative Arts) – Try if you like fashion, finding the perfect outfit and keeping up with trends.

◆◆ **Community Service** (Leadership) – Try if you like helping people and making new friends.

◆◆ **Consumer Education** (Leadership) – Try if you like shopping, saving money and researching products.

◆◆ **Dairy Cattle** (Animals) – Try if you like farm animals, cows, animal nutrition and care, and learning about the cattle industry.

◆◆ **Dog Care & Training** (Animals) – Try if you like animal care and nutrition, and obedience training.

◆◆ **Entomology** (Outdoor Education) – Try if you like science, bugs, being outside and the solar system.

◆◆ **Food & Nutrition** (Healthy Living) – Try if you like cooking, learning to eat healthy, and preparing healthy food.

◆◆ **Forestry** (Outdoor Education) – Try if you like Wilderness skills and the outdoors

◆◆ **Goats** (Animals) – Try if you like farm animals, meat science and learning about food origins

◆◆ **Honey Bees** (Natural Resources) – Try if you enjoy eating honey or honey products, learning about the importance of honey bees, and educating the public on honey bees

◆◆ **Horse** (Animals) – Try if you like horses, horseback riding, animal nutrition and care, and farm animals

◆◆ **Interior Design & Green Living** (Creative Arts) – Try if you like painting, home decorations, and conserving energy

◆◆ **International Travel** (Leadership) – Try if you like travel, learning about other people and cultures, and trying new food

◆◆ **Photography and Video** (Creative Arts) – Try if you like taking pictures and learning about cameras

◆◆ **Plants & Gardening** (Outdoor Education) – Try if you like preparing and growing your own food, and being outside

◆◆ **Poultry** (Animals) – Try if you like farm animals, animal health and nutrition and food science

◆◆ **Public Speaking** (Leadership) – Try if you like acting, being on stage, and being a leader

◆◆ **Rabbits** (Animals) – Try if you like animal health and nutrition, having your own pet

◆◆ **Range Science** (Science) – Try if you like outdoors, plants, animal, and identifying healthy land

Project List, cont.

- ◆◆ Robotics (Science) – Try if you like Legos, building things, engineering and science
- ◆◆ Rocketry & Aerospace (Science) – Try if you like space travel, learning about technology and building things
- ◆◆ Safety (Outdoor Education) – Try if you like hunting, food preparation, farm life, and disaster preparation
- ◆◆ Science, Engineering & Technology (Science) – Try if you like animal science, engineering, computers, and/or robotics
- ◆◆ Sheep (Animals) – Try if you like farm animals, animal health and nutrition, and having your own pet
- ◆◆ Shooting Sports (Outdoor Education) – Try if you like hunting, gun safety, outdoors, and laws of hunting and gun use
- ◆◆ Small & Companion Animals (Animals) – Try if you like animals, having your own pet, animal care and nutrition
- ◆◆ Sportfishing (Outdoor Education) – Try if you like fishing, outdoors, water sports, knowing where your food comes from and boating
- ◆◆ Swine (Animals) – Try if you like farm animals, animal health and nutrition and gaining experience in raising a market animal
- ◆◆ Theater & Performance Arts (Creative Arts) – Try if you like acting, being on stage and want to boost your confidence in groups
- ◆◆ Veterinary Science (Animals) – Try if you like taking care of animals, science and bonding with your pets
- ◆◆ Wildlife & Fisheries (Animals) – Try if you like being outside, learning about animals, nature conservation and fishing
- ◆◆ Youth Entrepreneurship (Leadership) – Try if you like being innovative, learning about business, and selling your own products-

Virginia Association of Adult 4-H

Volunteer Leaders Conference

The Virginia Association of Adult 4-H Volunteer Leaders, Inc. (VAA4-HVL), is organized as a non-profit organization made up of adult volunteers, who are serving in Virginia as 4-H Volunteer Leaders.

The goals of the association are to promote the 4-H Program and encourage community support; to organize and develop 4-H volunteer leaders; to participate in planning statewide 4-H programs; to provide for an adult 4-H volunteer to be on every statewide 4-H committee. At this conference, volunteers will have the opportunity to further their knowledge, involvement, and skills through the 4-H Program as well as have the opportunity to sit on other statewide volunteer committees.

Registration is due by **October 13, 2017.**

4-H All Star

4-H All Stars is an honor/service organization, and is the highest recognition that a Virginia 4-H member can receive. Virginia 4-H All-Stars is service oriented and volunteer operated.

The All-Star's goal is to contribute to positive youth development through "service" to the member's specific 4-H Program. It is where a member can stand out, and be recognized for going above and beyond the regular responsibilities of the 4-H Program. The 4-H All-Star organization strives for a cooperative effort with the 4-H Program in all areas.

Membership in the Virginia Chapter of the 4-H All-Stars is a distinct privilege and high honor. Throughout the years, 4-H members across All-Star Applications are due to your designated adviser (see website for details) by **November 1st.**



Check Out this Project!

This month's project of interest is:

Science, Engineering & Technology, Oh My!

Do you love science and technology? In the Science, Engineering and Technology Project, you will play with robotics, computers, alternative energy, engineering, and agri-science! This project can be tailored as self-directed study, or in a classroom with science rotations. It lets you dream, explore, and experiment in various areas for possibilities in careers and education. Participants also have the opportunity to join the 4-H Technology Team. Other activities include:

- Building a computer
- Designing and programming a robot
- Conducting engineering projects - like building a bridge!

CONTACT US!

Virginia Cooperative Extension
Office Hours: 8 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday
through Friday
12011 Government Center Parkway,
Suite 1050
Fairfax, VA 22035
Phone: (703) 324-5369
E-mail: 4hfairfax@gmail.com

fairfax4h.weebly.com



Written by: Krystal Williams
Edited/Designed by: Heather Walton

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