



## THE 4-H FOCUS

### Summer 2023



4-H Families and Friends,

What a hot, busy summer it's been! As we near the start of the new school year, we want to express our thanks to all of our 4-H members and volunteers who participated in any of our summer programs. We had a fantastic time at Loudoun-Fauquier 4-H Junior Camp, State 4-H Congress, and of course, the Loudoun County Fair. Hopefully everyone is catching up on some much deserved rest and you're spending the last few weeks of summer with friends and family before the start of a fun-filled fall season.



With the start of school also comes the last month of the 4-H year. Make sure to check out the County News section for important upcoming dates and deadlines, as well as information about re-enrollment for the 2023-2024 year. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. Enjoy the rest of the summer and we'll see you soon!

Carly Wright  
4-H Extension Agent  
carlymg@vt.edu

Kim Monroe  
4-H Program Technician  
kmonroe@vt.edu

To Our Graduating Seniors,

We are so proud of each and every one of you for all you've accomplished both in and out of 4-H over the years! Best wishes in all of your future endeavors. We know that you'll continue to "make the best better" as dedicated 4-H alumni!

### CONGRATULATIONS to the Loudoun County 4-H Graduating Class of 2023!

Chase Broaddus  
Carson Casciano  
Aby Fioramonti  
Clay Grisius  
Jacob Gugliotta  
Reaghan Harris  
Alisa Hart  
Andrew Karcher



Rebecca Little  
Krish Mallina  
Elizabeth Manson  
Taylor Miller  
Alexis Musselman  
Stella Pettit  
Sofia Posada



## County News

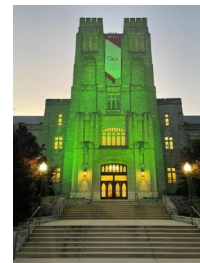
### State 4-H Congress

We had a spectacular time this past June at the 101<sup>st</sup> State 4-H Congress on the campus of Virginia Tech! Delegates enjoyed interactive workshops, competitions, outstanding entertainment, and participated in various social events. They even got to meet the Ringo, the VT Police Patrol Pony!

A **HUGE** congratulations are in order for the following Loudoun County 4-Hers:

#### Virginia 4-H All Star Inductees

Emily Ault  
Alisa Hart  
Mary Grace Menuey  
Alexis Musselman  
Eden Reck



#### State Competition Winners

Oishee Sinha—Share the Fun (Dance) - Blue Ribbon

#### Elected to the State 4-H Cabinet 2023-2024

Aditi Pesarakayala—Northeast District Ambassador  
Oishee Sinha—Northeast District Ambassador  
Mary Grace Menuey—Youth Cabinet Mentor



### Loudoun-Fauquier 4-H Junior Camp

To kick off the summer, 214 campers and 70 teens from Loudoun and Fauquier counties gathered together at the NOVA 4-H Center for a week of outdoor fun, friendship, and hands-on education. Classes included: swimming, archery, air rifle, canoeing, tie-dye, rocketry and campfire cooking—just to name a few! A ginormous thank you to the NOVA summer staff, center staff, and our volunteers who helped make camp a success. We can't wait to be back in 2024!





## County News

### Upcoming & Important Dates



#### September

September 17<sup>th</sup> @ 3:00pm: 4-H All Star Application Workshop—Extension Office

#### October

October 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 6:30pm: Officer Training for Presidents & Vice Presidents—Sykes Hall

October 5<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00pm to 8:00pm: After Hours Project Book Drop-off—Ext. Office

October 6<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00pm: Project Book Submission Deadline—Extension Office

October 13<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00pm: 4-H All Star Application Deadline

October 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm: Officer Training for Secretaries & Treasurers—Sykes Hall

### Loudoun County 4-H Enrollment & Re-Enrollment 2023 - 2024

As of September 30, 2023 all 4-H profiles in 4-H Online will become **inactive**. Therefore, until you receive email notification from the Extension Office, please **do not attempt** to re-enroll for the new year.

Once you have been notified that enrollment is indeed open, please log in and update/confirm your information ASAP. Until your enrollment is approved for the new year, you are **NOT** covered by 4-H liability insurance, nor will you receive credit for 4-H activities attended (meetings, County Level Fair Qualifier Activities, etc.).



Please contact Kim (kmonroe@vt.edu) with questions about 4-H Online.

**Reminder:** January 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline to enroll in 4-H clubs (via 4-H Online) in order to remain eligible to show at the 2024 Loudoun County Fair.



## Club News

### **Eastern Loudoun Community Club**

**Submitted By: Colin Brunner**

The Eastern Loudoun 4-H Club's Outdoor Adventure project had a nature walk several days after our April meeting. It was also a scavenger hunt for nature. At our May meeting, our club started planning our Fair spaghetti dinner. Our club was informed about what happened at the County Day of Service. Our club learned about an opportunity for a Fourth of July parade. After the meeting, we ordered T-shirts for the club. Then, we listened to a presentation about Lyme disease. At our June meeting, our club had its end-of-year celebration at the fairgrounds. We played lots of laser tag! Then, we had an ice cream sundae in a trough. It was very yummy! The celebration was so much fun!

At the Fair, our club made a spaghetti dinner on Tuesday. Several of our club's members participated in the Blue Ribbon Showcase. On Thursday and Friday, our club had a shift at the ice cream shack. A lot of people came and bought ice cream.

### **Shooting Education Club**

**Submitted By: Avannie Ure**

The 4-H Shooting Club members have been working on their aim and preparing for competition. They have been working with Olympic Air Rifles, but recently they have been clay pigeon shooting and had a lot of fun shooting!

### **Dairy Club**

**Submitted By: Ashley Williams**

The Loudoun County 4-H Dairy Club's May meeting was held on May 9, 2023. We went through all reports first thing, but quickly transitioned to discussing our field trip that the club wanted to take. We decided as a club to go to Cool-Lawn Farm! We finished off our short meeting talking about our Fair dinner that we would be hosting in the future.

The Dairy Club had our June meeting on Tuesday, the 13<sup>th</sup> of June. This meeting had much more to discuss than our May meeting. We talked a lot about Fair and what we needed to do in order to start preparing. This conversation included the fairgrounds and dairy barn clean-up, cow duty shifts at Fair, how everyone was working with their heifers, and when we would bring our animals onto the fairgrounds. Another topic brought up was a clipping clinic. This would be hosted by the President of our club, where she showed members how to clip their animals for show. Our farm tour to Cool-Lawn Farm in Bealeton, VA was the last thing our club talked about. This tour was a fantastic way for our club to learn about the dairy industry and see where our non-ownership heifers came from. Mr. Ben Smith runs a very successful operation over in Bealeton!

Our last meeting of the quarter was held July 11, 2023. We discussed the dairy barn cleanup, when we would bring our animals to the Fair, and cow duties for a second time. New information included poster details, a milking demo at the Fair that would be on the news, and Greg Harrison's help with the Dairy Club. Mr. Harrison led two showing clinics and very much helped the club, especially our novice members. The parents of the club then had a separate meeting in order to discuss heavy details about our Dairy Club Fair dinner.



## Club News

### **Poultry Club**

**Submitted By: Jennah Mashaal**

Our meeting in June was mostly Fair preparation, and our July meeting was combined with setting up the poultry cages. And because last year we couldn't bring our beautiful birds due to the very contagious disease—avian influenza AKA "flu," we are so happy to announce that we had birds at Fair this year! To name just a few that were brought; we had ducklings, pigeons, turkeys, geese, guineas, quails, and of course chickens! The club sold some little quail eggs and gorgeous egg dozens, too.

Friday night we held the Poultry Club dinner at the Franny Pavilion by Sykes Hall featuring Ayrshire chicken smoked by Monks BBQ, with sauce provided by Monks BBQ, Texas Roadhouse rolls, applesauce, beans (either with bacon or vegetarian), and a cookie. We were excited to see thirteen novices compete for showmanship this year which is more than Poultry Club has ever had before, and I can tell that there is much promise for next year!

Thanks to our awesome Poultry Club adult leaders this year, Stephanie, Dorothy, and Shannon, and congrats to our seniors Stella Pettit, Jacob Gugliotta, and Clay Grisius! We'll miss you.

### **Swine Club**

**Submitted By: Hailey Hendershot**

In the months of May and June the members of the Swine Club worked very hard to prepare their animals for the Loudoun County Fair. In June, a showmanship clinic was held at the fairgrounds to provide practice and tips to old and new members of the club.

The Loudoun County Fair was very fun this year and everyone did an amazing job with their shows and project animals. Congratulations to the following:

Makenzie Lynch - Grand Champion Overall Showman  
Jo Myzk - Reserve Grand Champion Overall Showman  
Kristin Wagner - Champion Senior Showman  
Carson Casciano - Reserve Champion Senior Showman  
Makenzie Lynch - Champion Intermediate Showman  
Jo Myzk - Reserve Champion Intermediate Showman  
Tristen Virts - Champion Junior Showman  
Juliana Stonesifer - Reserve Champion Junior Showman  
Hadley Spring - Champion Novice Showman  
Callen Fletcher - Reserve Champion Novice Showman  
Kristin Wagner - Grand Champion Market Hog  
Hadley Spring - Reserve Grand Champion Market Hog  
Amanda Everhart - Grand Champion Gilt  
Scarlett Stonesifer - Reserve Grand Champion Gilt





## Club News

### Temple Hall Non-Ownership Sheep Club

Submitted By: Christina Andreyko

During the May meeting members helped put together our club scrapbook. Following that at Mini Lamb Camp, Ryan Virtz brought lambs to review showmanship with club members. Club members in attendance had the opportunity to work with the lambs on their showmanship skills and practice in a little mock show. We appreciate Ryan's willingness to share his knowledge about showmanship with everyone.

During the June meeting we set our sponsorship goal of two or more \$30 sponsors for each member. We also reviewed Fair responsibilities like pre-Fair clean up dates. For newer members we showed how to register through FairEntry.

A big congratulations to everyone who showed, helped, and thank you to our host farmers for letting us use your animals and sharing your knowledge with us. I hope everyone enjoyed the Fair and learned a few things. Our next meeting is Sept 6<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm Sykes Hall.

### Rabbit & Cavy Club

Submitted By: Grace Kasianides

Hello, everyone! The Loudoun County 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Club held their Project Practice on July 17<sup>th</sup>. Here we set up courses to run through in the show barn, to get a feel for what the Fair would be like! After project practice there was only one week until Fair! Monday night, we dropped off our rabbits, and the fun began Tuesday morning with our Rabbit Hopping Competition. Congratulations to all those who competed, and a special shout out to those who won!

Novice Straight Course Grand Champion - Mary Grace Menuey with Apollo  
Novice Straight Course Reserve Champion - Anna Kasianides with Judy  
Beginner Straight A Course Grand Champion - Grace Kasianides with Biana  
Beginner Straight A Course Reserve Champion - Madi Hart with Blue Jay  
Beginner Straight B Course Grand Champion - Sarah Hart with Cinnamon  
Beginner Straight B Course Reserve Champion - Madi Hart with Pixie  
Intermediate Straight Course Grand Champion - Sarah Hart with Acacia  
Beginner Agility Course Grand Champion - Elizabeth Menuey with Cookie  
Beginner Agility Course Reserve Champion - Mary Grace Menuey with Tim  
Long Jump Course Grand Champion - Sarah Hart with Cinnamon  
Long Jump Course Reserve Champion - Madi Hart with Blue Jay  
High Jump Course Grand Champion - Sarah Hart with Acacia

Again, a big congratulations to those people, as well as the top placing parents in our Wednesday morning Parent Hopping Competition! First place went to Jennifer Kasianides and second place went to John Ameen!

Thursday Morning it was finally time for showmanship! Everyone did a great job and has learned a lot this year!

Champion Senior Showman - Alisa Hart  
Reserve Champion Senior Showman - Anna Kasianides  
Champion Intermediate Showman - Mary Grace Menuey  
Reserve Champion Intermediate Showman - Grace Kasianides  
Champion Junior Showman - Ellie Dalgetty  
Reserve Champion Junior Showman - Elizabeth Menuey  
Champion Novice Showman - Emma Vaz  
Reserve Champion Novice Showman - Ashlyn Malcheff

The club would like to thank our amazing judges, Miss Whitney Post and Mrs. Kasianides! As well as congratulate the three members that represented our club at Round Robin: Alisa Hart who was the Champion Senior Showman, Grace Kasianides who won fourth overall Intermediate, and Ellie Dalgetty who placed second overall Junior.

At the Fair there were other things to do as well. We got to serve ice cream in the ice cream shack, started up a rabbit scavenger hunt, and got to just talk to the public about our animals! It was a great year at the Fair and we hope to see you there next year! Happy Hopping!



## Club News

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### Alpaca & Llama Club

Submitted By: Sarah Jeffers

The Alpaca & Llama Club has participated in a lot of activities throughout the past few months. One of the bigger things for our host farm Double 8 Alpaca & Llama Ranch was all of the exciting new births that occurred throughout spring and summer. During the May business meeting, planning for the Loudoun County Fair started. We began brainstorming ideas for potential prizes, who we could have as a judge, and volunteering opportunities for our club. Another thing we discussed was ideas for our entrepreneurship projects, which would be displayed at the Fair.

Our first big event in May was our community service event. We held a community table at the Leesburg Farmers Market on May 6<sup>th</sup>. We educated the public about our club and what it's like working with the animals, as well as took questions, and even demonstrated wet felting. It was an overall successful day and helped attract more people to our club and earned us some profits through donations. Another event that happened within May was the Spring Farm Tour. On May 20<sup>th</sup>, we helped out our host farm Double 8 Alpaca & Llama Ranch with running the farm tour. We were able to teach people about camelids and promote our club. We also had the opportunity to help shear one of Double 8's llamas, which we were also able to get the public involved in. In May, we welcomed a new host farm to our club. Throughout the months, our club and Double 8's Farmer Bonnie have helped Mountain View Homestead with rescue alpacas. We welcomed them into our club and have had great experiences helping guide along this newer farm with handling alpacas. Their animals have really come a long way and we are eagerly waiting to see more progression of the animals and how they will become more comfortable throughout the months.

During the June business meeting, we went through the overview of the Loudoun County Fair, which included rules & expectations, cleanup sessions, schedules, information about our shows, and much more. During that meeting, we began to work on a club scrapbook that we would display during Fair week. Each member was to contribute a page to the book about their year in the club. During early June, our club helped out Mountain View Homestead with their first herd health session. During this, a few of our club members helped weigh and give ivermectin shots to all of the farm's alpacas. It turned out to be a very successful session and was an incredible experience for everyone.

During the July business meeting, we voted on and changed our bylaws to accommodate the adjustment of expanding our club to 20 members plus the add-on of 5 Cloverbud members. We are incredibly excited to welcome more members into our club, and are expecting the addition of a new host farm to help balance everything out. A big project that each club member worked on individually was the entrepreneurship project that we would display during the Fair. Our members made wildly creative things, some of which being cat toys made from alpaca fiber, charms, wet felted plant holders, alpaca figurines, and pillows.

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## Club News

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Our entire club had been looking forward to the Loudoun County Fair. One thing that we did during Fair week was run the Kids' Day Lunch, which was incredibly successful. We ended up selling out in fifteen minutes. Some other things that our club did was held wet felting demonstrations and ran our club booth, which was a great public speaking opportunity to all of our club members. We informed the public about our club and 4-H in general, and hopefully were able to promote our club and get potential club members. For four out of five members in our club that showed, it was their first year showing. They all did incredibly well and we're proud of each and every member for their accomplishments throughout Fair week and this year. Our senior club member, Andrew Karcher, was one of five 4-H members to receive a scholarship. We're so proud and excited for him, but also will miss him so much. Best of luck at JMU!

Additionally, we welcomed an honorary club member, Mariko S. who joined us from Kanagawa, Japan as a 4-H foreign exchange student. A special thank you to the Sharpe Family for being a host family to Mariko this summer. A big congratulations goes to Sarah Jeffers, who won Intermediate Champion for Round Robin Showmanship at the Loudoun County Fair. We are so very proud of Sarah and her accomplishment!

There will be no farm sessions, herd healths, or business meetings that will be held throughout the month of August. This is to give all of our members a break and to let our host farms catch up in whatever business that they need to attend to. It also helps us prepare for our September business meeting, which will most certainly be a busy one. We are holding an info session for all potential club members and will also be voting on club office positions, which also includes committee positions. We are glad for the opportunity to take a breather, but also so excited for the upcoming 4-H year and all it has to offer.







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Virginia Cooperative Extension  
County of Loudoun  
750 Miller Drive, SE, Suite F-3  
Leesburg, VA 20175  
(703) 777-0373  
<http://loudoun4h.weebly.com>

4-H is a **community** of **young people**  
 **across America** who are learning  
**leadership, citizenship** and  
**life skills.**