



AUGUSTA COUNTY 4-H

YOUR LOCAL CLOVER CONNECTION

WINTER 2020 - DECEMBER-FEBRUARY



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WELCOME TO AUGUSTA COUNTY 4-H

BY EMMALEE EDWARDS, 4-H AGENT & ASHLEY CRAUN, 4-H PROGRAM TECHNICIAN

Augusta County 4-H is more than an organization - it's a family comprised of dedicated volunteers, fantastic community partners and sponsors, and the best youth in the state! We facilitate learning through educational workshops, hands-on activities, and interactive club meetings. 4-H believes in the power of young people and that each youth has valuable strengths and real influence to improve the world around us, and in Augusta County 4-H we believe no less. Our goal is to empower each of our youth members to be the best they can be and in true 4-H fashion, "To Make the Best Better." We are able to do that through clubs pertaining to various focus areas, including but certainly not limited to, horses, livestock, dogs, computer coding, and archery. We also have a strong 4-H camping program each summer at W.E. Skelton 4-H Center with Rockingham, Alleghany, Bath, and Highland County. We are open to all youth ages 5-8 (Cloverbuds) and 9-19. We hope you'll choose to join us!



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CLOVERBUD CHRISTMAS PARTY

DECEMBER 19, 2019

Augusta 4-H hosted our annual Cloverbud Christmas party at the Extension Office. The party is open to any Cloverbud (5 - 8 years old). Attendees participated in a variety of fun activities, including cookie decorating, filling jars with hot chocolate mix, Holiday crafts, and watching a movie. A big thanks goes out to our Junior Young Leaders who helped throughout the evening.





INTRO TO EQUISMARTZ

JANUARY 11, 2020

Intro to EquiSmartz was held at Augusta Expo from 9 am - 4 pm. The event was a joint effort between Augusta 4-H and the VA State 4-H Horse Ambassadors. Youth involved in the 4-H horse program from surrounding counties attended. Three "4 the Love of Horses" Club members from Augusta participated in the event. EquiSmartz consists of the three horse knowledge contests offered through Virginia 4-H: Hippology (the study of horses), Horse Judging (studying the conformation of horses), and Horse Bowl (where teams of 3 or more compete against other teams to answer questions in a contest similar to Jeopardy). The purpose of Intro to EquiSmartz was to walk participants through the three contests. Attending youth learned the rules, layout, and content of each contest. They also received study materials to take home.

A big thanks to Beth and Matt Gouthro at BMG Show Horses for putting together a class of high quality Quarter Horses for the kids to judge!



4-H DAY AT THE CAPITOL

FEBRUARY 4, 2020

During the annual 4-H Day at the Capitol, hundreds of youth from across the state traveled with chaperones and 4-H Agents to Richmond, Virginia. Four Augusta County youth attended - Elyse Dyson (Willing Workers Livestock Club), Ashlyn Miller (Augusta County Senior Food Challenge Team & member of 2019 National Food Challenge Champion team), Ethan Avery (Augusta Archers & member of 2019 VA State Archery team), and Hunter Campbell (Augusta Archers & member of 2019 VA State Archery team). Alan Campbell, one of our fantastic volunteers with the Augusta Archers Club and State Archery Team Coach, traveled with us. During the day, youth visited delegates, shared their 4-H experiences with each, and spoke about their concerns with upcoming bills. Though we were unable to get into the gallery during the senate session, Delegate Runion was nice enough to introduce our youth. If you are interested in attending the 2021 4-H Day at the Capitol, please contact Emmalee Edwards at eaedwards@vt.edu.



BLOCK AND BRIDLE HIPPOLOGY CONTEST

FEBRUARY 14, 2020

Three Augusta County youth spent their Valentine's Day in Blacksburg for the annual Block and Bridle Hippology contest. Lexi, Selah, and Lilly had gone through Intro to EquiSmartz just one month prior. All were excited to test their horse knowledge skills against other 4-H youth from across the state. During the Hippology contest, youth participate in various stations such as team problem (this year, they were tasked with assembling a bridle that had been taken apart), identify anatomy of a horse, label horse breeds and colors, and label tack and other equipment. If you are interested in joining the Hippology team or have any questions, please contact Emmalee at eaedwards@vt.edu.



COUNTY CONTESTS

FEBRUARY 15, 2020

Our annual Augusta County contests were held at the Government Center in Verona. 4-H members were able to choose to compete in various contests including presentations, public speaking, and share-the-fun. This year, we had excellent presentations on things such as Blue Ribbon Brownies (complete with a taste test - YUM!), a very knowledgeable presentation on Steam Engines, clogging, and a Show & Tell. The two Junior Food Challenge teams also competed. Everyone did a fantastic job!





BLOCK AND BRIDLE STOCKMEN'S AND LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST

FEBRUARY 28-29, 2020

Approximately 50 youth from Augusta County traveled to Blacksburg for the annual Stockmen's and Livestock Judging contests. During Friday's Stockmen's contest, youth were tested on their knowledge of the livestock industry - from identifying feeds and equipment to judging live classes of livestock. On Saturday, youth judged 8 classes of livestock, consisting of beef cattle, hogs, sheep, and goats. It was a hugely successful outing.

The results are as follows:

- Our Junior Stockmen's Team won 1st place which consisted of: Landon Marshall, Emory Seal, Carrter Eavers, and Coleman Seal.
- Landon was the High Individual overall and Emory was 2nd.
- Ryan Borer was 4th High Individual overall in the Senior Division of Stockmen's.
- In Junior Advanced Livestock Judging overall, Landon Marshall 3rd, Kaitlyn Kiser 7th, Hannah Smith 8th, Bradley Craun 9th, and Mattie Eavers 10th.
- We had the 2nd, 3rd and 5th place Advanced Livestock Judging teams: 2nd Place Junior Advanced Livestock Judging Team was: Landon Marshall, Hannah Smith, Emory Seal, and Carrter Eavers; 3rd Place Junior Advanced Livestock Judging Team was: Kaitlyn Kiser, Mattie Eavers, Coleman Seal, and Ethan Smith; 5th Place Junior Advanced Livestock Judging Team was: Daven Smith, Elissa Caricofe, Jason Payne, Leah Palmieri
- Ryan Borer was 10th High Individual Overall in Senior Advanced Livestock Judging.

UPCOMING EVENTS

COVID-19

Due to the governor's most recent announcement requiring all K-12 schools to close, all 4-H meetings and practices will also be cancelled for the foreseeable future. The health of our 4-H community is the utmost importance to us and we appreciate your patience and understanding as this situation unfolds.

DATES TO KEEP IN MIND:

- We are uncertain of what the future holds, but if you have any questions about the status of upcoming events, please don't hesitate to give us a call!

We are posting daily activities on our Augusta 4-H Facebook page. Head on over and check it out if you're needing something to do!

CONTACT US

Emmalee Edwards

Associate Extension Agent, 4-H Youth
Development
eaedwards@vt.edu

Ashley Craun

Program Technician, 4-H Youth Development
acraun@vt.edu

Augusta County Cooperative Extension

PO Box 590
13 Government Center Lane
Verona, VA 24482

Phone: 540-245-5750

Fax: 540-245-5752



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