



Virginia 4-H All Star Chapter

4220 North Fork Road
Elliston, VA 24087

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Organization
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Spencer's Message

Dear 4-H All Stars,

I am writing to you as I think back fondly to the assistance I received from each of you during the past year as Chief of the Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars. The position has come with many opportunities, challenges, and triumphs and I am glad that I am surrounded by the passionate and caring individuals that comprise our chapter.

Thank you to everyone who came out this summer to the Virginia 4-H Congress to assist with tapping 78 youth and adult volunteers during our ceremony! I am extremely grateful to have each of you assist with the long process of recognizing the achievements of these newest members and your service is appreciated.

I also want to thank everyone who took the time to attend the Interstate Conference this year, which was held in Culpeper, Virginia. Our chapter did an amazing job as hosts for the 2023 event and were able to share some of our organization's history proudly with Maryland and West Virginia. During the weekend, we also held a second summer ceremony and tapped another four youth and adult volunteers into the Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars. Thank you to everyone who was able to assist with this second event.

Don't forget to save the date for our annual Midwinters conference in Sweet Briar, VA on February 3-4! We also hope to see you assisting your chapters and the state with upcoming application reviews. If you are looking for other ways to assist with this year's conference, please contact your chapter chief. I hope you have an amazing holiday season and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Yours in service,

Spencer Gee

Big Chief



The Virginia Star
The official publication of the Virginia 4-H All Stars.
December 2023 edition



Join Us For
Virginia 4-H All Star Midwinter Conference 2024
“A Sweet Time for All Stars in Sweet Briar!”

Lodging:
Sweet Briar College
The Elston Inn and Conference Center
434-381-6207

Reservations should be made with the conference center by January 12th.

Room Rates:
Single Queen Bed Room \$108 night/plus tax
Two Full Beds Room \$104 night/plus tax

Virginia 4-H All Stars 2024 Midwinter Conference Schedule
February 2- February 4, 2024

Friday, Feb. 2

7:00-10:00 Executive Committee Meeting

Saturday, Feb. 3

9:00 Conference Registration Opens (Potential service project time)
10:00-11:30 Hotel Brunch (Optional- On your own)
11:45 Gather to leave for tours (Lobby)
12:00-3:30 Tours (Legacy Museum of African American History and Amherst County Museum)
3:00 Hotel Check in
4:00- 5:30 Business Meeting (Room A/B, Patio D)
6:00-8:00 Banquet (Wailes Lounge)
8:00-10:00 Social Time (Room A/B, Patio D)

Sunday, Feb. 4

8:00-8:30 Committee Meetings (Room A/B, Patio D)
8:30-9:00 Reflections (Room A/B, Patio D)
9:15-10:00 Business Meeting (Room A/B, Patio D)
10:00-10:30 Chapter Meetings (Room A/B, Patio D)
10:00-2:00 Hotel Brunch (Optional- On your own)
Hotel Check out: 11 am

Conference questions: Kim Mayo; Phone: 434-390-5996 ; Email: kmayo@vt.edu

****Your All Star Executive Committee voted to reimburse \$100.00 to any All Star who attends the full conference on Feb 3-4 and meets one of the following: attending your first conference, a full time student, or was tapped in 2022 or 2023. You will be reimbursed \$100.00 at the end of the conference by certifying to the Treasurer that you meet one of these criteria.



“A Sweet Time for All Stars!”
Virginia 4-H All Star Midwinter Conference Registration
Sweet Briar, Virginia February 3 & 4, 2024

Name _____ M/F Unit _____ Year Tapped _____

Name _____ M/F Unit _____ Year Tapped _____

Address _____

NUMBER AND STREET CITY STATE ZIP

Phone # _____ E-mail _____

Guest(s) _____ M / F _____ M / F

	Cost	# of People	Sub to- tal
Full Conference <i>(includes meeting facilities, Saturday banquet, registra- tion)</i>	\$50		
Saturday Brunch 10-2 All You Can Eat (Optional- on your own)	11.50 + tax		
Tours: Legacy Museum of African American History -and- Amherst County Museum	\$10 (\$8 seniors)		
Saturday Banquet Only (Southern BBQ, business casual)	\$39		
Sunday Brunch 10-2 All You Can Eat (Optional- on your own)	11.50 + tax		
Late Postmarked Fee <i>(sent after January 18th)</i>	+ \$5.00		
Virginia 4-H All Star Dues:	Annual... \$10		
	Life... \$75		
Optional Contributions:	New Membership Fund		
	Keffer Scholarship Fund		
TOTAL:			

Special Needs – Dietary, Handicap, or Other: _____

Conferences guests, other than spouses, parents and / or children, must be approved by the Big Chief; Guest(s) WILL NOT receive discounted rates. **Code of Conduct** All Conference registrants need to read and sign the following Code of Conduct: *As a Virginia 4 -H All Star event participant, I will conduct myself during the course of this conference in a manner which reflects the qualities of an All Star.*

All Star Signature(s): _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____ (If All Star is under age 18)

**Your All Star Executive Committee voted to reimburse \$100.00 to any All Star who attends the full conference on Feb 3-4 and meets one of the following: attending your first conference, a full time student, or was tapped in 2022 or 2023. You will be reim-
bursed \$100.00 at the end of the conference by certifying to the Treasurer that you meet one of these criteria.**

Make checks payable to: Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars (\$10 returned check fee)
Send registration and check to: Randy & Irene Leech, 4220 North Fork Rd.; Elliston, VA 24087
Registration questions: Irene Leech; Phone 540-268-5373; Email: ileech@vt.edu



4-H All Star Interstate Conference 2023

Interstate 2023 was held August 3 – 6 with headquarters at the Best Western Culpeper Inn in Culpeper. Currently Interstate meets every other year with the next Interstate set for July 31 to August 3, 2024, in the West Virginia Greenbriar Valley. Virginia will host again in 2029.

Thursday's check-in was on one of the few rainy days in Culpeper this summer! The welcome packets were given out in the insulated bags that were used at last year's Centennial and had several items from the Centennial along with conference information. Thursday afternoon and evening were "on your own". Many dined in Pepper's Grill at Best Western and others explored local restaurants. Committee meetings were held that evening.

In all, 52 attended the conference with 44 as full-time attendees. Our bus driver was Dave Messick of Blue Ridge Coach lines. This was his fourth Interstate providing transportation! Friday started with a tour of Salubria, a 1740's plantation home that has not been restored. From Salubria we visited the Historic Germanna facility in Orange. Historic Germanna works to preserve the heritage of the earliest organized settlements of Germans in Colonia Virginia in 1714 and 1717. Lunch was on the grounds of historic Hebron Lutheran Church. Hebron was organized in 1717 and the building we toured was built in 1740. It is the oldest Lutheran worshipping community in the South. Lunch was provided by Graves Mountain, our Interstate 2011 host.

From there we traveled to the town of Orange and toured the Jam Madison Museum. The museum was the first dedicated to President Madison. It also covers Orange County culture and history, as well as the Virginia born presidents. This was one of the group's favorite tours. We returned to Culpeper County for a tour at the George Washington Carver Center. Presenters included Senior Extension Agent Carl Stafford who gave a walking tour of agricultural programs at the Center. Abby Johnson, a 2023 Madison All Star, discussed local agriculture and women in agriculture. Calvin Jameson, an alumnus of George Washington Carver Regional High School, talked about the high school which operated from 1948 until 1967 as a regional high school for African American students. In the category of "it's a small world" Sarah Gregory learned that her sister, who taught at the school, was one of his teachers! Charles also spoke of the Culpeper Minute Men and their role in the Revolution. He is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution. Following his presentation, we toured the school's museum. That long day ended with dinner at the BBQ Exchange in Gordonsville.

Saturday started with a tour of a Madison County robotic dairy operation which opened in 2022, milking over 700 cows. The Lamb family has operated a dairy on that property since 1957 and currently farms 4,500 acres. We were welcomed and led on the tour by Earl Lamb, a 1969 Madison 4-H All Star, and one of the owners. This tour was enjoyed according to the conference survey. Most agreed they could have stayed longer! Seeing the cow enter on her own; have her udder washed and dried; the cups put in place by the robot; and to see the amount of milk recorded (by quarter) was an experience.

Leaving the farm we traveled back to Orange County for a tour of Montpelier, President James Madison's home. Those who had previously visited Montpelier were amazed to see the many changes around the home.

For lunch we headed back to the Carver Center. Following lunch, we held the Interstate business meeting. Each state presented a report on their Chapter's work in the past year. Maryland was awarded the plaque for having traveled the most miles to attend the conference. Virginia had the most first-time attendees. Following a group photo, we returned to the hotel to prepare for the closing banquet.

Past Virginia Chief Nancy Moga presided over the evenings event. Conference Chair, Judy Ann Fray gave the welcome and each state extended greetings on behalf of their chapters. Table favors included additional items from the Centennial and peanuts from Newsom's Peanut Shop in Newsom, VA. Speaker Nancy Knighting spoke on the early days of Shenandoah National Park and the impact on those who lived in the area and were forced to leave. The evening ended with lots of door prizes.

Sunday morning the final Interstate activity was an inspirational service followed by each state honoring members who died in the past year. Following the end of Interstate, Virginia held a tapping ceremony for four nominees who were unable to attend the ceremony that was held during the 4-H Congress. Our summer business meeting ended the weekend's activities. Thanks to all who worked to make this a successful event.

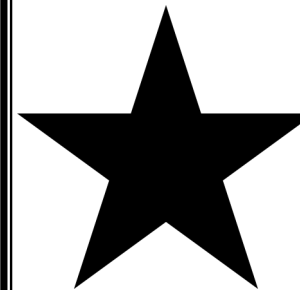


Virginia 4-H All Star Centennial surplus

As our organization moves into our second century, we have financial resources available to strengthen our Chapter's future. Thanks to the amazing generosity of so many donors and the support of The Inn at Virginia Tech along with the State 4-H office, we ended up with over \$19,000 in surplus funds from the 4-H All Star Centennial celebration. You will read elsewhere in this issue of steps the Executive Committee has taken to

utilize a part of these funds to encourage participation at Midwinter 2024.

A committee is being established to establish guidelines as to how to best utilize these funds. If you have suggestions or would be interested in working on this contact Chief Spence Gee.



Virginia 4-H All Star Awards

Due: December 31, 2023 Midnight

Visit the Virginia 4-H All Star website to learn about Awards, Scholarships and Recognition available to 4-H All Stars at this link:

<http://ext.vt.edu/4h-youth/all-stars.html>

Submit your application or nominate someone else.

- * **Wayne M. Keffer Memorial Scholarship**
- * **Bradshaw Service Award**
- * **Virginia 4-H All Star Hall of Fame**
- * **C. D. Allen Award for Excellence**
- * **Dottie Nelson Award for Excellence in International Programs**
- * **Virginia 4-H All Star Chapter Charter**



In Honor and Memory of Our Fellow 4-H All Stars



Pamela Adair Moore Levinson, 66, of Lynchburg, died Tuesday, August 15, 2023 with her husband, Stanley, by her side. Pam was a 1975 4-H All Star from Appomattox County.

Pam was born in Lynchburg on June 5, 1957, and raised in Appomattox as the only child of the late Hazel Paulette and James Cabiness Moore. She graduated from Appomattox High School, and then received an Associate's Degree in Veterinarian Technology from Blue Ridge College. After working for a veterinary practice for a number of years, she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Education from Lynchburg College, and starting her teaching career at Lynchburg City Schools (LCS), where she was a Pre-K teacher for over 15 years. She retired from LCS in 2019.

Pam was very active in the Virginia Chapter of 4-H All-Stars, where she made life-long friends. She was a devoted volunteer working and organizing All-Star meetings, engaged in service projects, and taking and performing leadership roles in the All Star hierarchy.

Jamestown Chapter Remarks:

The Jamestown Chapter of the Virginia 4-H All Stars would like to acknowledge the life of Mrs. Pamela Moore Levinson. She made many friends throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. Miss Pam was a wonderful person, teacher, 4-H leader, Virginia 4-H All Star outstanding leader, and a Virginia Association of Adult 4-H Volunteer Leaders, Inc. (VAA4-HVL) membership leader. We learned so much during her tenure affiliation with the State 4-H program. She will be greatly missed. Thinking of Miss Pam reminds us of this poem or these words...

"When you look back on your life and count your blessings these will not be reckoned in terms of money accumulated or rank achieved. Instead what will prove to be most important are the deeds you have done for others." --Stuart and Linda MacFarlane

Submitted by Sarah J. Gregory, Jamestown District Chief, Virginia 4-H All Stars

2023 4-H All Star Interstate Conference

Photo below:

Virginia 4-H all Stars attending the 2023 4-H All Star Interstate Conference in Culpeper, Virginia.



Photo to the right:

4-H All Stars visiting the Historic Germanna Visitors Center.



Above photo:

Kim Monroe, Virginia 4-H All Star with Eila Erdal, IFYE (International 4-H Youth Exchange Representative) from Sweden being hosted in Virginia for 3 months.

Virginia 4-H All Stars Propose Officer Title Changes

During the Virginia 4-H All Star Midwinter Conference proposed changes to the Virginia 4-H All Star officers titles were reported to the membership. The following proposed officer titles were presented to and agreed upon by the Executive Committee on January 31, 2023, and were presented to the membership on February 4, 2023, for consideration:

Chief
Deputy Chief
Recording Scribe - no change
Corresponding Scribe - no change
Scout - no change
Treasurer - no change

The titles will automatically change in the Bylaws and Constitution.

Holiday Lake	NOVA-East & West	Airfield
Chief	Chiefs	Chief
<u>Kayla Blincoe</u> kweppard@gmail.com 434.466.7775	<u>William Thomas (East)</u> wetsbt@gmail.com 540.825.1873(h) <u>Geraldine Cabbage (West)</u> ghcabbage@embarqmail.com 540.778.3227	<u>Jean Powers</u> jeanpowers@aol.com 757.421.3715(h) 757.567.3465(c)
Chapter 4-H Agent Advisor(s)	Chapter 4-H Agent Advisor(s)	Chapter 4-H Agent Advisor
<u>Kim Mayo</u> VCE-Fluvanna kmayo@vt.edu 434.591-1950	<u>Carly Wright (NOVA East)</u> VCE-Loudon carlymg@vt.edu 703.777.0373 <u>Kevin Cabbage (NOVA West)</u> VCE-Northern District Office kcabbage@vt.edu 540.432.6029 ext. 110	<u>Hannah Bishop</u> VCE- Dinwiddie hrobbins@vt.edu 804.469-4514
Skelton	Jamestown	Southwest
Chief	Chief	Interim Chief
<u>Pam Levinson</u> shlevinson@aol.com 434.221.2055	<u>Sarah Gregory</u> sgregory152@gmail.com sgallen1@live.com 804.275.5806	<u>Elle Smith</u> elle@vt.edu 276.870.9871
Chapter 4-H Agent Advisor	Chapter 4-H Agent Advisor	Chapter 4-H Agent Advisor
<u>Leslie Prillaman</u> VCE—Roanoke lesliep@vt.edu 540.772.7524	<u>Cayla Walker</u> VCE-Goochland caylaks98@vt.edu 804.556.5873	<u>Hunter Romano</u> VCE- Bland romano@vt.edu 276.328.6194

All Star Advisor	All Star Advisor	All Star Advisor
<u>Kim Mayo</u> VCE- Fluvanna kmayo@vt.edu 434.491.1950	<u>Rory Nansel</u> nansel@shentel.com 540.333.6219	<u>Connie Dalton</u> conniedbryant@hotmail.com 540.239.6848
Virginia 4-H Foundation	Extension Staff Liaison	2022-23 4-H Cabinet Liaison
<u>Glenda Snyder</u> State 4-H Office gsnyder@vt.edu 540.521.9647	<u>Kim Monroe</u> VCE-Loudoun kmonroe@vt.edu 703.777.0373	



The Virginia Star



Photo to left:

Susan Thomas and Kim Mayo register the “Gregories” at the Interstate Conference. Susan Thomas and Sarah Gregory were both celebrating their 55th wedding anniversaries on August 3 at the start of the conference.

2023 4-H All Star Interstate Photos

Photo below:

The entire group of participants at the 2023 4-H All Star Interstate Conference.



Photo above:

Earl Lamb (center), a Madison County 4-H All Star, welcomes the group for a tour of the Lamb family dairy operation.





In Honor and Memory of Our Fellow 4-H All Stars

Donna Murphy Vaughan, of Virginia Beach, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her family on August 1, 2023, at the age of 76. She was born in Auburn, NY on April 7, 1947, to Donald and Joan Murphy. Donna was the oldest of ten children.

Donna was a pillar in our community and instrumental in the foundation of so many young people. Donna was a leader in the Virginia Beach 4-H Livestock.

Laura Alexandria Davis Crawford (known as “Laura Senior” to many), 89 of Oakmont, died Wednesday, August 16, 2023, after a brief illness. Laura was a 4-H All Star from Bland County.

Laura was among Virginia Tech’s first female graduates, with a degree in Home Economics. She began her career as a social worker who faced the horrors of child protective services with the strength and practicality of the model Appalachian woman. She later served the Commonwealth of Virginia from her long-time home in Tazewell as a cooperative extension homemaker, assisting the County agriculture agent, and coordinating the Commonwealth’s four-county 4-H Summer Camp program.

Naomi R. 'Miss Omi' VanCleave of Salem, VA (Roanoke County) went to be with the Lord suddenly on Monday, August 21, 2023, at the age of 62. Naomi volunteered countless hours with 4-H and was

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- * **Receive the newsletter quicker**
- * **Save postage**
- * **Save paper**

If you would prefer to receive your “*The Virginia Star*” by email please send an email to va4hallstars@gmail.com with your full name, mailing address and the email address you would prefer added to the mailing list.. Your name will be submitted to William Thomas to be removed from the Star snail mailing list.

Thank you for supporting the Virginia 4-H All Stars!!!

DATES TO REMEMBER!!!

December 31, 2023

4-H All Star Awards Applications Due by Midnight

February 3-4, 2024

4-H All Star Midwinter Conference

June 18-21, 2024

Virginia 4-H Congress at Virginia Tech

Don't forget - We're on the web:

View the Virginia 4-H All Star Group:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Virginia_4-H_AllStars

Look for us on Facebook—Virginia 4-H All Stars

For more information visit

http://www.4-h.ext.vt.edu/groups/allstars/4h_allstars.html



4-H All Star Interstate Conference

4-H All Stars enjoy Barbecue lunch with Eila Erdal, IFYE from Sweden.