



Virginia 4-H All Star Chapter
4220 North Fork Road
Elliston, VA 24087

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Organization
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Smoke Signals from the Big Chief

Catch the Wave in 2020

As I reflect on the term “normal activity” I think we can all agree that a “wave of changes” has been the theme for each of us this spring. While we personally and professionally feel, work and embrace these multiple changes, the one constant that we still appreciate is our charge of SERVICE! I am thankful for the varied ways All Star members have embraced our motto of service to accommodate the needs we all have this spring. We might need to do things differently from the past, but our goal is to serve those we contact...our community, country and world.

We will be bringing new members into our Virginia All Star Chapter on Wednesday, June 24 at 7 pm through a virtual *Welcome Event*. A group of dedicated All Stars are working diligently and almost weekly to ensure this will be a positive and memorable event for each new All Star and current All Star member. The link is on the *Zoom Events* page in this newsletter. We also invite and encourage those who will gain full membership this year to join us at the in person induction ceremony in June 2021 as well.

I am excited to highlight the many younger members who devote personal time to serve the All Stars. Highlighted in The Star in another article are two examples of these dynamic young adults. Please congratulate Katie Define (Albemarle) and Leah Scharf (Loudon) for being the 2020 VA All Star Scholarship winners.

Our organization is reviewing the tapping ceremony and an appointed committee is making recommendations for a revised ceremony. The charge for the group is to create a respectful, meaningful and historical ceremony that is also relevant to the new members being inducted. Discussions will continue on the opportunities to develop this ceremony and will be presented to the membership at Mid-Winters 2021 for voting.

Finally, in following the recommendations of groups gathering, our summer conference will be held virtually on Saturday, July 25. The purpose of the meeting is holding the business meeting as described in our constitution and by-laws. That link is noted on the *Join Us* for *Zoom Events* page in this newsletter. We look forward to in-person gatherings as our state relaxes restrictions and follows best practices for events with large numbers of participants.

Yours in service,
Billie Jean Elmer
Big Chief, Virginia Chapter 4-H All Stars

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Virginia 4-H All Star Awards

Visit the Virginia 4-H All Star website to learn about Awards, Scholarships and Recognition available to 4-H All Stars at <http://ext.vt.edu/4h-youth/all-stars.html>

Due: January 1, 2021

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

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4-H All-Star New Member Welcome Event

Date and Time: Jun 24, 2020, 07:00 PM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting at the link below:

<https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/96198652233>

Or call: +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)



4-H All Star 2020 Virtual Summer Conference

Date and Time: Saturday, July 25, 2020 10:30 am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/99223259897>

Or call: +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

2020 Virginia All Star Scholarship Winners



Katherine (Katie) Define



Currently a student at UVA, with an undeclared major. Katie Define is looking to potentially declare a major in Computer Science, using the skills to advance the Equestrian world (3-D horseshoe printing, Artificial Intelligence for speed training, and robotic surgery). She is very active in her Albemarle Extension Unit with the 4-H All-Star application process, hosting workshops to assist other members complete the application process to become All-Stars! She is a graduate from St. Anne's Belfield (a private school in Charlottesville, VA). This past winter, she helped with the Northern District 4-H Horse Judging Contest (in Frying Pan Park) where she made the official placing for the horses and scored reasons for the competition contestants. This summer she will be working for the Material Science Department in the Engineering School at UVA where she will help conduct research on the corrosion between dissimilar metal alloys using her skills in computer science. Additionally, this summer, she is also working as a barn manager for Kylie Sheehan, a USPA Certified

Leah Scharf



Leah Scharf, from the Loudon Extension Unit, plans to pursue a degree in Animal Science. She found a love for this field from her time with 4-H and on her family farm, raising sheep and goats. She wants to pursue Animal Science to have a better grasp on farming, rather than relying on trial-and-error. In her local 4-H program, she served as president, vice president and secretary in her local Forage and Dairy clubs. She earned multiple leadership and showmanship awards from her project work as an active 4-Her. She has especially enjoyed mentoring younger 4-H members and proudly shared her All Star achievement and membership to help others set personal 4-H goals.

★ **MARK YOUR CALENDARS** ★

and join us for:
4-H ALL STAR INTERSTATE CONFERENCE
CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF MARYLAND 4-H ALL STARS
AUGUST 19-22, 2021

Come to Mountain Maryland in Beautiful Garrett County

Something for everyone

Flight 93 Memorial.....Frank Lloyd Wright Falling Water....Explore Local History, Culture and Flavors.....Maple Syrup DemonstrationsGlass Blowing.....Deep Creek Lake.....Muddy Creek/Swallow Falls State Park.....Forest Canopy Walkway....Spruce Forest Artisan Village....Amish Country, great food/fellowship & fun.... the list goes on.....

You will NOT want to miss this!!!!

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

To Subscribe to the Group listserv:

Virginia_4-H_AllStars-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

To Post a message to the group:

Virginia_4-H_AllStars@yahoogroups.com

Facebook: Virginia 4-H All Stars

For more information visit

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



The Virginia Star

Giving Opportunities

Wayne M. Keffer Scholarship Fund

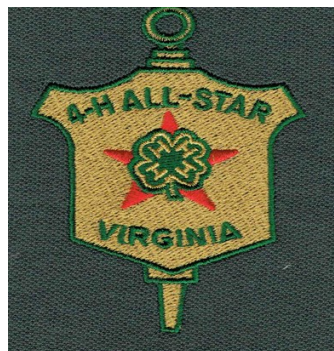
In 1991, the College Scholarship Fund was renamed in honor of Wayne M. Keffer. Wayne was tapped as a 4-H All Star in 1963, received a Virginia Chapter college scholarship in 1966, served as Big Chief in 1972, and was inducted into the Virginia 4-H All Star Hall of Fame in 1985. Wayne's service as 4-H agent, District Director, and State Director positively influenced the lives of thousands of Virginians. In order that his legacy might continue to live on, the Scholarship Fund now bears his name. Two scholarships are awarded each year for \$800.00 each.

Please consider donating to the Keffer Scholarship Fund to help continue this opportunity for young 4-H All Stars. With your support, the State Chapter may be able to increase the value of the awarded scholarships. Send your tax-deductible contribution to: The Virginia 4-H Foundation for Wayne M. Keffer Scholarship, Attn: Emily Wong, 114 Hutcheson Hall (0402), 250 Drillfield Drive, Blacksburg, VA 24061.

New Star Fund

Would you like to see more and younger 4-H All Stars at our State events? Do you ever wonder why they do not attend? For some of them, it may be the cost. The age when many of the new initiates are tapped is usually a very busy and exciting time in their lives as they begin to prepare for life beyond high school and funds at this time can be tight. To make their participation easier, the New Star Fund was created a number of years ago. For some recently tapped 4-H All Stars, it only takes one conference for them to connect with fellow All Stars, which encourages continued attendance. The New Star Fund is used to defray some or all of the costs of a conference, fund young 4-H All Star activities and/or defray conference cost for first-time attendees, no matter their age.

Please consider donating to the New Star Fund. This is a wonderful service to the organization that will help to ensure the continuation and growth of the Chapter by nurturing our younger 4-H All Stars. Donations should be sent to Randy and Irene Leech, 4220 North Fork Road, Elliston, VA 24087. Please make your check with "New Star Fund."



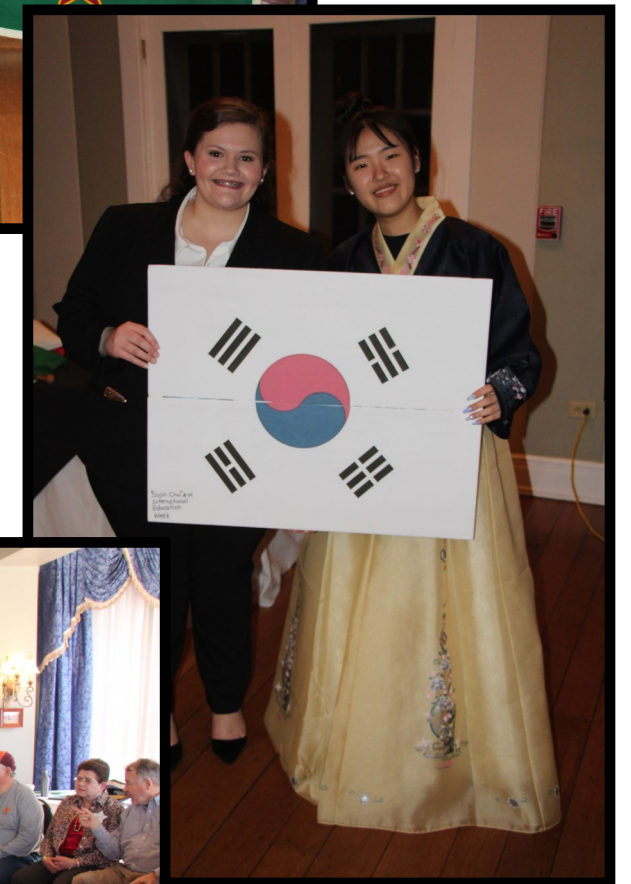
Embroidered 4-H All Star Polo, sweatshirt, notecards, etc.

To promote and market the Virginia 4-H All Star Program and Brand, the Executive Committee voted to offer an embroidered polo shirt to its members. Please contact Shields Jones (Albemarle 1969) at shields@nichollsauction.com or 540.22.1130 to receive an information about this program.

2020 4-H All Star Midwinter Conference Memories



Gathering before the Business Meeting



Speaker for 4-H International Focus



Get Acquainted Activity