Many thanks to the Virginia Horse Industry Board for sponsoring EquiSmartz this past weekend, March 23-25! Held in conjunction with the Virginia Horse Festival, approximately 300 contestants competed in six different educational contests. The Meadow Event Park graciously hosted the contest locations, convenient parking and free tickets. We thank the approximate 80 volunteers and Extension staff supporting our event! Congratulations to the following VHB $125 cash prize winners: Jr. New Comer: Alyson Bowden, Sr. New Comer: Kayla Richmond; Jr. PS: Danielle Rinker; Sr. PS: Taryn Cowles; Jr. IP: Randi Roehl; Sr. IP: Sydney Hudson; Jr. TP: Carrie Miller & Layla Myers; Sr. TP: Charlotte Manvell and Cora Hoemann; Jr. Novice HJ: Alexis Musselman; Sr. Novice HJ: Taylor Prince; Jr. HJ: Samantha Whysong; Sr. HJ: Katie Define; Jr. Hipp: Desiree Zeigler; Sr. Hipp: Charlotte Manvell; Jr. HB: Maggie Kelley; Sr. HB: Sarah Foster; Overall Junior: Maggie Kelley; Overall Senior: Charlotte Manvell. In addition, we are grateful to our sponsor, Owl Run Nursery in Catlett, VA for providing gifts to our volunteers (loblolly pines and red cedars) and to Janice Chayt for donating homemade cookies for the HJ lunch. We encourage volunteers to plant the seedlings in honor of the 2018 EquiSmartz contestents and the #4hgrowshere!

EquiSmartz is the Qualifying state-level event for Southern Regionals 4-H Championships and Eastern National 4-H Roundup. Results are posted online.

Learn to Drive! Sponsored by The Neiswanger Foundation ($1013) at High Meadow Farm, in Flint Hill, VA, this introductory Driving Clinic, held May 12, is open to all 4-H Horse project members with or without a horse! Those without a horse will be able to experience a hands-on interactive lesson with the Foundation’s own horses and carriages. Clinic covers demonstration and information on safety, equipment, various sports in driving and basic skills. This also serves as a Qualifying Clinic and Skills test for those that bring their own project. Register by May 7th.

Promote with 4-H Hashtags: #TrueLeaders #4HGrowsHere #VA4HHorse #VA4H #4Hgrown