

Prince William

Our Clubs, Our Community



February 12, 2025

Upcoming Events

Feb 19 - Embryology Project Leader Training

Feb 20 - Embryology Project Leader Training

Feb 21 - PW 4-H Contest Day

Mar I - PW 4-H Jr Camp Registration Opens

Mar 4 - PW 4-H Association& Leaders' Mid-Year Meeting

Mar 7-8 - TALT Weekend

Mar 12-16 - National 4-H IGNITE

Mar 15 - PW 4-H Cloverbuds

Mar 15-16 - VA 4-H 2025 Spring Air Championship

Mar 28-30 - VA 4-H Teen Summit

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Our Partners 7

Contacts & 10
Recourses

Click to Visit



IMPORTANT! Weather Related Event Updates

PW 4-H EMBRYOLOGY PROJECT LEADER TRAINING
Click here to register for training.



It's time to prepare for the 2025 Embryology Project! Prince William 4-H is hosting two training session dates that will include information about incubators, candling, hatching, and troubleshooting. While this training is optional, it is highly recommended if this is your first year or if you had difficulties last year. Please contact DeeAnn Strand at DStrand@pwcgov.org or 703-792-4762 with any questions. (Dates in red are new dates due to snow cancellations.)

TRAINING DATE OPTIONS

February 19th 6 - 7:30 PM Sudley North - McCoy Conference Room

7987 Ashton Ave., Manassas

February 20th 6 - 7:30 PM James J. McCoart Building - Cedar Run Conference Room

I County Complex Ct., Woodbridge

INCUBATOR PICKUP DATES

February 18th I - 4 PM PW 4-H, 8033 Ashton Ave, #105 February 25th 9 AM - 12 PM PW 4-H, 8033 Ashton Ave., #105

Beyond Ready

PRINCE WILLIAM 4-H CONTEST DAY

New Date: Friday, February 21st

Time: 6 - 9 PM; Check-in begins at 5:30 PM

Location: McCoart Building, I County Complex Ct, Woodbridge

All Prince William 4-H'ers from Cloverbud to 19 are invited to attend Contest Day to support your friends participating in the contests. Participants are scored against a rubric to encourage youth to practice and improve with constructive feedback in a supportive environment. We encourage all 4-H'ers to participate

and grow their skills. If you aren't participating this year, come watch and see what it's all about - you CAN do it!

PW 4-H SPIN Project - Book Club Interest Survey



Interested in joining with other 4-H book worms to discuss books together? Adam Grant of Trigger Time 4-H Club is organizing a 4-H SPIN Project with fellow 4-H'ers who like to read and discuss literature.

PW 4-H book worms can let him know your interests and availability by clicking here and completing a quick survey!



Nokesville Equestrian 4-H Club

at the

2025 Virginia 4-H Block & Bridle Horse Judging Contests

Congratulations to Prince William 4-H Nokesville Equestrian Club for a stellar competition! With over 800 entries from across Virginia, our 4-H'ers demonstrated a dedication to hippology, resulting in top ranks in the State! We're so proud of you!











JUNIOR ADVANCED HORSE JUDGING

Individual Rank

IIIUIVIUUAI I\aiik		
1	Haley Schrantz	
13	Julianna Madden	
15	Sarah Fox	
17	Chloe Canyon	
21	Naiomi White	
43	Anna Nicely	
47	Kendra Hernandez	
59	Audrey Katzenberger	

Team Rank

- 1 Nokesville 4-H Equestrian Team A Haley Schrantz, Chloe Canyon, Anna Nicely, Audrey Katzenberger
- 4 Nokesville 4-H Equestrian Team B Julianna Madden, Sarah Fox, Naiomi White, Kendra Hernandez

JUNIOR HIPPOLOGY

Chloe Canyon

Individual Rank

7	Sarah Fox
19	Naiomi White
39	Kendra Hernandez
53	Haley Schrantz
62	Audrey Katzenberge
79	Anna Nicely
93	Julianna Madden
400	0 11 0 11

Team Rank

- 4 Nokesville 4-H Equestrian Team B Sarah Fox, Naiomi White, Kendra Hernandez
- 7 Nokesville 4-H Equestrian Team A Chloe Canyon, Haley Schrantz, Audrey Katzenberger
- 31 Nokesville 4-H Equestrian Team C Anna Nicely, Julianna Madden, Caroline Coakley

SENIOR ADVANCED HORSE JUDGING

Individual Rank

1	Sierra Wimer
9	Peyton Barbour
51	Lexi George
79	William Schrantz

Team Rank

1 Nokesville 4-H Equestrian Sierra Wimer, Peyton Barbour, Lexie George, William Schrantz

SENIOR HIPPOLOGY

Individual Rank

18	Sierra Wimer
67	Lexie George
113	Peyton Barbour
175	William Schrantz

Team Rank

18 Nokesville 4-H Equestrian Sierra Wimer, Lexie George, Peyton Barbour, William Schrantz

Click here for complete results.

Exclusive Civic Engagement Invite for PW 4-H'ers!

In response to Prince William 4-H Engage Locally!, Prince William 4-H has received a personal invitation from Chair Jefferson's office to bring a delegation of PW 4-H'ers to her inaugural **Local Government Day!** This is a fantastic opportunity to interact with local elected officials and learn more about their roles and responsibilities.

Date: Saturday, March 15th

Time: 3 pm - 5 pm

Location: James J. McCoart Building, I County

Complex Ct., Woodbridge

Who Should Attend: Prince William 4-H'ers in

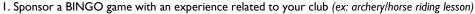
Grades 6-8 (middle school)

To Register: Email MaryBeth Lerch at mblerch@vt.edu by Friday, February 21st



PW 4-H Association: ISO BINGO Prizes from Clubs

We had so many great ideas last night at the FUNdraising Committee Meeting and an important one to ask of the Clubs. We are asking the clubs to each contribute 3 prizes for BINGO night:



2. Sponsor a BINGO game with a prize that represents your club

3. Donate a raffle basket (\$50-\$75 value)

All clubs should bring donations to the 4-H office on or before March 14th. The PW 4-H Association FUNdraising Committee will have more information about the BINGO date, location and signup out soon!

Save the Date: Our next Planning Meeting is Tuesday, February 25th at 7 PM via Zoom.

Remember that the proceeds from FUNdraising benefit ALL Prince William 4-H'ers! We hope you'll support our efforts!

PW 4-H Cloverbuds - Save the Date for March!

Date: March 15th
Time: 10 AM - Noon

Location: 4-H Headquarters - McCoy Room, 8033 Ashton Ave., Manassas

Who Should attend: Greater Prince William youth ages 5-8 that are interested in learning more

about 4-H

Click here to register. Registration is free but required.

For our March meeting, we'll be exploring the 4-H Pillar of Citizenship with Mind Your Manners: telephone game, handshake greetings, and table settings with a fun snack!



Join PW 4-H for Tween Cuisine at the Library!

Click here to register through PWC Library. Registration is free with your library card but required. Prince William 4-H is collaborating with Prince William County libraries in February for a special introduction to the 4-H Pillar of Healthy Living. Senior 4-H'ers will lead Tween Cuisine 101, an introduction to cooking for middle school students based on the 4-H Food Challenge curriculum. If you are interested in learning more about 4-H Food Challenge, this program is for you! All registrations are through the PWC library.



Saturday, February 15th I - 3 PM Central Library
Monday, February 17th 2 - 3:30 PM Chinn Park Library



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2025 Virginia 4-H Teen Summit

Dates: March 28th - 30th

Location: W.E. Skelton 4-H Center, Wirtz Who Should Attend: 4-H'ers ages 14-19

Cost: \$55

Register through 4-H Online by March 8th.

Registration for the 2025 Virginia 4-H Teen Summit is now open!

This event is open to teens from across Virginia and is focused on youth empowerment, creating opportunities for all youth, and creating change makers in youth as they take their passion to action to help address issues and problems in their communities. This teen event is planned by teens for teens as they spend time engaging in workshops, group activities, and hear from speakers around different topics related to youth advocacy, creating opportunities for all, and youth empowerment.

Registration will be done through 4-H online at v2.4honline.com. Registration cost is \$55 and covers meals, lodging, and all activities from Friday night (starting at 6:30 p.m.) to Sunday at 12 noon.



INTEREST WEBINAR

Date: February 17th
Time: 6 PM
Location: Zoom

<u>Click here to register</u> and receive Zoom link. Hosted by the Teen Summit Leadership Team!



For over 100 years, Virginia Cooperative Extension has been a trusted source for knowledge, bringing the resources of Virginia Tech and Virginia State University directly to communities across the commonwealth. Whether it's assisting farmers and landowners, mentoring youth, growing local businesses, or helping people live healthier lives, Extension shares practical, research-based knowledge to help communities thrive.

We can't do this important work without you.

With a gift to VCE, you can support programs in your community and beyond that strengthen our agricultural and natural resources industries; empower more youth in 4-H and FFA leadership programs; protect the environment; educate individuals and families on gardening, business planning, health and nutrition; and so much more.

This Giving Day, please join us in helping all of Virginia thrive. Thank you for your support. The link to give will be shared at noon on February 19.

Upcoming 4-H Camp Opportunities

4-H LIVESTOCK CAMP

Dates: March 21-22

Location: Southwest Virginia 4-H Educational Center, Abingdon, VA

Who Should Attend: 4-H'ers ages 9-18

Cost: \$60 for two-day (overnight) participants and \$35 for Saturday-only participants

Click here to register. Registration closes March 10th.

The registration for Livestock Camp at the Southwest Virginia 4-H Educational Center is now OPEN!

This opportunity is supported by the Virginia Cattle Industry Board.

CAMP WOODS & WILDLIFE

Dates: June 16-20

Location: Holiday Lake 4-H Center, Appomattox, VA

Who Should Attend: Virginia students ages 13-16 (typically Grades 7-10)

Cost: \$95

Click here for more information and to apply. Applications due April 11th.

Camp Woods and Wildlife is an academic, structured, residential camp that focuses on field experiences in forestry and other natural resources. This unique camping experience introduces 13-16-year-olds to the challenges, special skills, and knowledge needed for managing the forest resources we use and enjoy every day.

Camp Woods and Wildlife is ideal for students who: wish to explore forestry and wildlife related

careers; participate in forestry and wildlife judging teams, Envirothon competitions, or ecology clubs want to experience hands-on learning and gain real-world skills in natural resources conservation.



Click here for the application. Applications due by April 1st.

The Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation (VFEF), the Virginia Forestry Association (VFA), the Virginia Forest Products Association (VFPA), and the Virginia Loggers Association (VLA) are announcing the fourth annual Preston R. Willson Virginia Statewide 4-H Camp Scholarships for the summer of 2025. Applications for youth ages 9 – 13 can be submitted to VFEF to attend one of six (6) Virginia 4-H Center's 4-H Summer Camps, which include: Airfield, Holiday Lake, Jamestown, Northern VA, Southwest VA, and W.E. Skelton. A total of 48 (forty-eight) youth will be randomly selected for these full scholarships. Each of the six 4-H Centers will host eight (8) scholarship recipients. Scholarship announcements will be made in mid-April.





VIRGINIA 4-H SHOOTING EDUCATION SPRING AIR 2025

Dates: March 15-16

Location: W.E. Skelton 4-H Educational and Conference Center, Wirtz, VA

Who Should Participate: 4-H members that are: (1) registered in 4-H Online, (2) enrolled in a State 4-H Office approved 4-H Shooting Education Club, and (3) have completed project portfolios in the event(s) in which they are registered to shoot.

2025 Virginia 4-H Shooting Education Spring Air Match Program

2025 Virginia 4-H Shooting Education Spring Air Match Rule Change Announcement

2025 Virginia 4-H: Scholastic Sport Shooting Foundations Progressive-Position Air Pistol Rules

2025 Virginia 4-H Shooting Education Archery Match Program

Register by February 19. Portfolio Certification due February 25.

Register through your 4-H Club. Help is needed to set up ranges, the Stat house, and testing areas starting at 3 PM on Friday, March 14. Please contact Robert Tillotson at 434-841-6055.



Dates: April 5th -6th

Location: Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center.

Register by March 10th. Candidates attending Instructor Certification for the first time will need to complete an online training course by March 31st. See your 4-H Club Leader for more information. Click here for more information.







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Youth & Volunteer Applications: 2025 VA 4-H Dominican Republic Program

The Virginia 4-H Program in the Dominican Republic is now accepting applications from Virginia 4-H teens and 4-H volunteers! This program started as a grassroots, county based program, which is now in its 17th year. It has been open to 4-H'ers statewide for a few years now. During 2025, Christine Hodges and I will be taking two different 4-H teen groups to the Dominican Republic for one week each. Applications are open to all 9th-12th grade 4-H teens in Virginia. Since one main focus of our program

in the Dominican Republic is conducting a 4-H Day Camp for Dominican children, this program may especially appeal to your 4-H Camp Counselors. A recommendation from the 4-H delegate's Extension Agent or Program Assistant is a required part of the application, and it is their responsibility to ask you for that recommendation and follow up to be sure it is submitted.

Click here for the YOUTH APPLICATION.

The deadline to apply is February 25, 2025, but we would appreciate receiving applications sooner if possible. Applications will be reviewed and the participants will be notified in early March if they are selected or are on a waiting list. The program cost is \$2,600, with \$1,000 of that due as a deposit on March 17. If they don't have a passport, they should gather the needed documents now and be prepared to apply for a passport as soon as they receive notice that they are accepted for the program. Receiving a passport is a slow, but important process. They cannot board the plane without a passport.

We will also be able to accept a couple of Adult 4-H Volunteers for this program. Click here for the ADULT APPLICATION. Current 4-H volunteer enrollment and three reference letters are required for adult applicants.

Every year we have 4-H'ers write a blog and share photos. That is probably the best way to learn more about the program, so have your interested members take a look at the 2024 blogs:

Click here for Group I BLOG Click here for Group 2 BLOG

Click on Dominican Republic for previous Blogs here: https://shenandoah.ext.vt.edu/programs/4h-international.html



2025 Inbound Exchange - Save the Dates!



EXCHANGE DATES: JULY 23-AUGUST 16, 2025

Click here for general Information on States 4-H International. Click here to apply as a host family.

100% of the families agree that the 2023 summer inbound exchange was a positive experience for their family.

- Our delegates will all come from Japan this summer and they will all be members of a group called Labo that is similar to 4-H. It is our goal to host 20 youth delegates and 2 adult chaperones.
- To host a youth delegate, a host family must have a child that will serve as a host sibling. The
 host siblings need to be within 4 years of age of a delegate. Last year our delegates were all in
 the 13-16 year old age range.
- Families who do not have children can host adult chaperones. We will have 2 adult chaperones in 2025 and will need at least 2 host families for these chaperones.
- Families must have an adult home most of the time during the exchange period. This opportunity
 will not work for families where all of the adults work outside of the home at the same time.

National 4-H

2026 YIA APPLICATION OPEN SOON

Applications for the 2026 4-H Youth in Action Program open on January 27th! This program celebrates outstanding 4-H youth aged 14-19 who make a difference in their communities. Selected winners will receive a \$5,000 scholarship, professional development, media training, national recognition, and spokesperson opportunities to inspire others.

Important Dates:

- February 26th @ 7:00 PM ET: Webinar for Students. Click here to register.
- March 31st: Application deadline, Click here for more information.

FREE TRAINING: AI LITERACY WITH MINECRAFT EDUCATION'S AI FOUNDATIONS PROGRAM

Click here to register.

4-H has teamed up with Microsoft to help youth build Al skills through the blocky fun of Minecraft with Minecraft Hour of Code: Generation Al. Youth can learn how to code, explore the magic of responsible Al, and discover how it can solve real-world problems, all within their favorite game. Join us for a training course to learn more about how you can implement Al literacy into your 4-H programming.

Dates: Thursday, Feb 13-11 AM CT Tuesday, Feb 25-11 AM CT Wednesday, Mar 19-11 AM CT



Virginia Institute on Cooperative Education - Scholarships

Dates: March 21-23

Location: Graves Mountain Lodge

Who Should Attend: high school juniors and seniors

Click here for more information and to apply. Applications due February 14th.

Each spring, VCC sponsors the Virginia Institute on Cooperative Education, a leadership conference to educate high school juniors and seniors about cooperatives and the co-op form of business through interactive instruction that includes a live simulation, "Who's Minding the Store?" Students gain teamwork, leadership, and communication skills, with top performers having the opportunity to receive up to \$2,000 in educational scholarships.



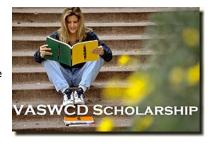
Student applicants are required to choose a cooperative business in Virginia and contact a staff member to learn more about the size and operation of this cooperative in their community. To be considered for college scholarships, students will complete a test based on the "Welcome to Cooperatives" manual and be evaluated on participation in activities during VICE, including the "Who's Minding the Store" team simulation.

VICE evaluations consistently report that students find the conference fun and educational. They often write that they came to the conference knowing nothing about co-ops but leave with a fuller appreciation of this unique business form. They also provide positive feedback on the opportunity to make new friends and enjoy great food in a scenic rural setting. In recent years, 100% of participants said they would recommend VICE to a friend.

VASWCD Scholarships for High School Seniors

Click here for more information and the application. Applications due April 11th.

The Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts annually offers four scholarships to graduating high school seniors or college freshmen for college study. This year, four \$2,000 scholarships are available! Applications must arrive at the PWSWCD office by April 11, 2025. Applications for students who reside in Prince William County must be submitted to the Prince William Soil and Water Conservation District, which will select one student for consideration by the state committee.



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VA Soil & Water Conservation District Poster Contest

Click here for the 2025 entry form.

The annual Conservation Poster Contest provides K-12 students an opportunity to convey their thoughts about soil, water and related natural resource issues through art. The 2025 Contest Theme is "Home is where the Habitat is" – Visit NACD's website for more information and resources. Click here for poster contest rules.

To Enter the Contest: Entries at the local and state contest must follow the rules and dates for when your poster is due that is set by local organizers. Posters must include a <u>Local Poster Entry Form</u>. Local contests are held by your local conservation district. Rules may differ from the national contest rules. Be sure to check with your local SWCD to find out their deadline to accept Posters. <u>To find your local conservation district, click here.</u>

Prizes: State winners receive recognition and a prize from the VASWCD. The 1st place poster in each category will be submitted to the National Association of Conservation Districts' Poster Contest. The top three posters in each category of the national contest will receive monetary prizes. First-place winners will receive \$200, second-place winners will receive \$150 and 3rd place winners will receive \$100. Monetary prizes at the national level are sponsored by the NACD Auxiliary from their quilt project and the Albert I Pierce Foundation.

Visit the NACD Poster Contest site for additional resources and information: http://www.nacdnet.org/general-resources/stewardship-and-education-materials/contests/

STEM Next: 2025 Flight Crew



Click here for more information and to apply.

The Flight Crew is a highly visible youth ambassador program led by STEM Next Opportunity Fund, elevating youth from every state who can speak about the power of STEM learning outside of school. ALL youth ages 13-18 are encouraged to apply! The application for STEM Next's 2025 Flight Crew is now OPEN! STEM Next has launched a nationwide search for the Flight Crew— a group of youth advocates promoting the value of out-of-school STEM learning for all young people across the nation.

We encourage youth ages 13-18, with experience in afterschool and summer STEM learning and an interest in public speaking, to apply today. (Deadline is March 12th)

From April-December 2025, Flight Crew members:

- Act as a champion for OST STEM by sharing their first-hand, impactful STEM experiences beyond the classroom:
- Work with state leaders on relevant opportunities to advocate for OST STEM, create social media content and connect with media;
- Aspire to break down stereotypes and spark their peers' curiosity in STEM by connecting their STEM experiences to everyday life;
- Engage in leadership development opportunities, including public speaking, social media, and connections to mentors;
- Receive resume and interview coaching as well as access to scholarships and internships

What's new this year?

ALL YOUTH, including boys, are encouraged to apply! This program is now nesting under STEM Next as a core initiative, versus as a program of the Million Girls Moonshot.

Questions about the application process?

Reach STEM Next's team at flightcrew@stemnext.org.

VIRGINIA STATE

Greater Happens Here College of Agriculture

Register Now for These Small Farm Events!

SMALL FARM ORIENTATION

Wednesday, Feb 19 • IPM • Gainesville, VA or Zoom

Click here to register.

This two-hour Zoom course is for new farmers with zero to five years of experience operating a farm. Ben Dukes and Derrick Gooden, regional program assistants for the VSU Small Farm Outreach Program, and Dr. Nartea, extension specialist for VSU Integrated Marketing Program, will walk attendees through the process of how to develop a productive and profitable farm. Participants will receive a Small Farm Orientation manual.



URBAN FORESTRY

Tuesday, Feb 25 • I:00PM • VSU Randolph Farm

Click here to register.

Urban forestry is the care and management of single trees and tree populations in the urban setting to improve the urban environment. Learn about the importance of urban forestry and best management practices in Virginia. Discuss resources and tools developed by the USDA Southeast Climate Hub and various partners to manage climate-smart forestry in urban areas.



HOW TO OBTAIN H-2A WORKERS

Wednesday, Feb 26 • I:00PM • South Hill, VA

Click here to register.

Jennifer Poole of the Virginia Agricultural Growers Association and other speakers will provide you with the needed information for having foreign workers help you on your farm.



FARM AND HOMESTEAD FINANCING

Thursday, Feb 27 • 3:00PM • VSU Randolph Farm

Click here to register.

No matter the size of your farm or homestead there are times that require some type of financing. To answer questions concerning agricultural and other rural lending practices, representatives from First Bank and Trust Company will conduct this workshop. They will present an overview of what is available from their organization.



From Our Friends at VA Beginning Farmer and Rancher Coalition

FEB20-21: 33RD ANNUAL VA ASSOC. OF FOREST HEALTH PROFESSIONALS CONFERENCE (STAUNTON)

Join the Virginia Association of Forest Health Professionals for their 33rd Annual Conference, held at Hotel 24 in Staunton, VA. This event offers in-depth discussions, expert presentations, and networking opportunities for forestry and environmental health professionals. <u>Click here for more information and to register.</u>

FEB 22: LANDOWNER WOODS & WILDLIFE CONFERENCES (BLACKSBURG & CULPEPER)

Join landowners, natural resource professionals, and outdoor enthusiasts for a day-long event exploring sustainable forestry and wildlife management practices. The conferences feature tours of private, public, and industry-owned lands. Click here for more information and to register. Two Locations:

- Squires Student Center, Virginia Tech, Southwest Virginia, Blacksburg, VA
- Daniel Technology Center, Germanna Community College, Northern Virginia, Culpeper, VA

MAR I- MAY 31, 9AM-3PM: SUSTAINABLE URBAN AG CERTIFICATE PROGRAM (PETERSBURG & VIRTUAL)

Increase your competence and marketability for a career in urban agriculture with the Virginia State College of Agriculture Cooperative Extension's Sustainable Urban Agriculture Certificate Program. This 12-week course runs from March 1 to May 31, 2025, with classes held on Saturdays from 9am to 3pm at the VSU Randolph Farm Pavilion. The program includes lectures and hands-on experiential learning sessions. Participants can also choose a virtual option, with the same kits for hands-on activities, educational materials, and certificates provided as those attending in person. Click here for more information and to register.

Click here for more February 2025 news and events from VBFRC.



PRINCE WILLIAM **COUNTY**

> 8033 Ashton Ave, #105, Manassas, VA 20109

Click to Visit Online:

Prince William 4-H Virginia State 4-H National 4-H



Your Dedicated PWC 4-H Staff

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PWC 4-H Resources

National 4-H

National 4-H Homepage

Virginia 4-H

VCE 4-H

4-H Online Information

The 4-H Foundation

4-H All Stars

STEM in Virginia 4-H

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Portfolio Records

Member Record

Cloverbud Sheet

Project Record Ages 9-10

Project Record Ages 11-12

Project Record Ages 13-15

Project Record Ages 16-19

Outstanding Member Form

Prince William 4-H Member Record - President Prince William 4-H Member Record - Vice President Prince William 4-H Member Record - Officer





Youth Officers

Lexi Strand, President Tim Hirshey, Vice President Cara Grahn, Secretary Ryan Nguyen, Treasurer

Adult Officers

Susan Wolf, President Alan Lerch, Vice President Shelby Kohn, Secretary Sydney Nguyen, Treasurer

Committee Chairs

Fundraising Committee - Shawn Clinger & Sarah Fox Recognition Committee - Alan Lerch Membership Committee - 4-H Staff





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