



NEWS

Kentucky 4-H Foundation

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4-H: A CAPITOL EXPERIENCE CELEBRATES 12 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

The 4-H: A Capitol Experience was the result of a need to initiate an awareness program for 4-H youth, volunteers, and professionals on State government operations. The program began as an opportunity for youth to see our State Government in action during the legislative session and to assure that the Legislators are aware of the importance of Kentucky's 4-H program, the University of KY Cooperative Extension Service and the College of Agriculture. The 4-H: A Capitol Experience serves as a statewide government and citizenship educational program.

"... I owe all of my leadership and life skills to the 4-H program..."

- Governor Matt Bevin

In 2017, we celebrated the twelfth anniversary of the 4-H: A Capitol Experience Program, we have made great strides in reaching our goals of providing a statewide 4-H government and citizenship program that explores careers in public policy, impacts our local communities

while providing a networking opportunity for our 4-H members, volunteers, supporters and professionals to interact with our public officials while watching our Government in action and be involved in policy decisions. Over 14,000 members, volunteers, parents and Extension professionals representing 86 counties have interacted with legislators on an individual and group basis. Each year this event is made possible by two sponsors including Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives and the Kentucky Association of Extension 4-H Agents (KAE4-HA).

"I am glad that you are here today because I owe all of my leadership and life skills to the 4-H program. I am a 10 year 4-H member, and it was the only organization that I was involved in while growing up " was the opening sentences of Kentucky Governor Matt Bevin's address to the 4-H members, leaders and Extension staff at the 2016 4-H A Capitol Experience program. He continued to explain that one of the highlights of his 4-H career was his involvement in leadership and

citizenship programs and prepared him to achieve his current career goals.

One of the Legislators commented that :
"I am a Representative today because of my involvement in the 4-H program! The speeches, judging and project work have helped me everyday in making those critical decisions."

Story continues on pg. 2



Governor Matt Bevin with Kentucky 4-H State Officers

4-H: A CAPITOL EXPERIENCE CONT.



Chase Crigler, Touchstone's Director of Community and Government Affairs addressing group

4-H is in the business of helping shape the leaders of tomorrow. Many of the current congressional leaders are a testimony to this as they are 4-H alumni. Programs offered through 4-H work to strengthen leadership skills in youth, and 4-H: A Capitol Experience is no exception. By participating in the program, youth can learn valuable leadership skills and receive insight into the state government through conversing with government officials, viewing a congressional session and participating in educational programs to locations such as the Governor's Mansion, Capitol and Old Capitol. Evaluation results of the program have shown that 78% of the youth had their first trip to the State Capitol while 92% learned the names of their Legislators and Government Officials.

Youth learn about and may even participate in the process of political change. Many times, youth will ask their local legislatures questions and discuss issues that involve youth, education and local communities. Not only is this a great opportunity for youth, but it is a testimony to state legislatures of the effectiveness of 4-H.

One of the Senators commented that "This is one of my favorite days as a Senator. I get to interact with our youth and find out what is on your minds. I think this is a wonderful program to introduce so many young people to how our government works. I wish I had had this opportunity because my first visit to Frankfort and the Capitol was the day I was sworn in as a legislator. You are lucky to be involved in the 4-H program as what you learn will help you throughout your life!"

According to a KY legislator, "There are two ways to learn about government. The first is to read textbooks about what others have done. The second way is to learn to take that knowledge and apply it in an actual government setting. The 4-H: A Capitol Experience provides KY 4-H members with a great opportunity to experience our government at work."

Having a strong understanding of the state government can help youth grow and mature to be informed, active members of their community. A validation to the program is witnessing our 4-H members and alumni assume various leadership and citizenship roles in our communities, state and at the national level.

Youth and adults had the opportunity to observe our government in action, addressing and voting on public policy issues. The group experienced a wonderful opportunity for networking with 4-H youth from across the commonwealth. Youth were given the opportunity to explore career opportunities in government and learn about the responsibility of citizen involvement in the overall influence in policy decisions. Due to the success of the program, 4-H: A Capitol Experience will be part of the statewide programming next year!



Dr. Nancy Cox, Dean, University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, speaking to the 4-H group gathered in the capitol rotunda during the 2017 4-H: A Capitol Experience



Kentucky 4-H Foundation

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Kentucky 4-H Performing Art Troupe Performs At Country Music Hall of Fame



The Troupe outside of historic RCA Studios

The Kentucky 4-H Performing Arts Troupe and Leadership Board traveled to Nashville, TN for their annual career exploration trip. This year, troupe members met with several different people with a variety of careers in the performing arts. They met with the production manager at The Wildhorse Saloon Restaurant and toured backstage. Ron Browning, a former Perry County 4-Her and

vocal coach for The Voice, met with them and gave each performer some fantastic tips on how to improve their performance.

The Foundation was pleased to host a reception for these talent musicians and attend their performance at the Country Music Hall of Fame. In attendance was Foundation Chairwoman, Pam Larson who was blown away by the groups talent, "We will be listening to a few of these 4-H'ers on the radio someday, and I will be proud to say I knew them back when they were in Kentucky 4-H" she said.

The troupe also visited with Luke Marshall, a professional guitarist, and the duo Towne. They also had the opportunity to record a song at the Historic RCA Studio B. The troupe has five seniors going into music majors next fall, two of which are entering into degrees they learned about through our careers trip last year. These 4-H'ers have bright futures!



The Troupe w/ country music group Towne



Vocal coach Ron Browning working w/ 4-Her

PROGRAM UPDATE

Kentucky 4-H Delegates Attend 2017 National 4-H Congress



Delegates Deborah Meyers, Calvin Andries, Amelia Iliohan and MacKenzie Jones with State Extension Specialist, Chuck Stamper

Four Outstanding Delegates from the Kentucky 4-H Program, along with Chuck Stamper, State Extension Specialist for 4-H Youth Development, attended the 2017 National 4-H Conference in Washington, DC. This year makes the 90th year for the 4-H

National Conference. The theme for this year's conference was "Launch with 4-H!" and the 300 delegates from across the United States did just that. Representatives from Kentucky included Calvin Andres, Franklin County; Amelia Iliohan, Hopkins County; MacKenzie Jones, Franklin County; and Deborah Myers, Campbell County.

Delegates networked with other 4-H'ers from across the nation, discussed issues at the national level which affect local citizens, addressed National Program Leaders at government agencies, and met with Kentucky Legislators on the Hill. Wow! What a week! Our Delegates will present their experiences in their home counties within the next few months.

The delegates and the Kentucky 4-H Foundation would like to say "Thank you" to the sponsor of this event Farm Credit Mid-America. The delegates were sad to leave, but excited about bringing back awesome 4-H programming ideas to Kentucky!



Thank you to program sponsor:



A MESSAGE FROM THE STATE 4-H PRESIDENT



Haley Anderson, State 4-H President

As the Kentucky 4-H state officers' term winds to an end, we are remaining busy reaching out to counties and programs to have a lasting impact on Kentucky 4-H. At the beginning of our officer year, we set several goals for ourselves, ones that we are proud to say we have accomplished in less than a year's time.

Our goals included:

- Have 60+ county visits (visit 60 different counties and programs across the state)

- Increase the overall transparency of the officer team and build connections with outside programs such as FFA, FCCLA, etc.
- Create a partnership with another state's 4-H program and officers

I am pleased to share that we have exceeded our goal of 60 counties. As of now, we have visited 70 counties and still have more visits scheduled for the month of May. We have also developed a relationship with youth leadership programs such as FFA and FCCLA to re-establish those "sister program" ties through collaboration on leadership awards and speaking engagements. Lastly, we have been communicating with the state of Florida and the state of Tennessee and plan to have their state officers attend our Teen Conference and learn more about their programs to potentially strengthen our own.

Have you ever wondered just how leaders are made through the 4-H program? After observing youth in Kentucky 4-H, there is no doubt they are gaining the skills they need to become the next generation of leaders. Weeks ago, the state 4-H officers experienced

firsthand what it really means to lay the foundation of leadership through 4-H.

In early March, the Kentucky 4-H: A Capitol Experience was held at the Capitol in Frankfort. The day kicked off bright and early with the state officers meeting and greeting members of the House of Representative and the Senate in Frankfort. We walked door to door, office to office, to bring greetings and small tokens of our appreciation. We were fortunate to converse with several legislators and eventually came to the realization that over half of the legislators we encountered were former 4-Hers. On that day, it really clicked with the officers that the 4-H members we are representing and encountering are the actual future of Kentucky, they will be the future Governors, future Senators, and future Representatives. When looking at the grand scheme of things, it is no doubt that in the past hundred years, the 4-H program has given youth members the skills they need to excel and effectively lead others in their clubs, communities, countries and world.

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD CLOVER



Dr. Mark Mains, Assistant Director for 4-H Youth Development

It's hard to believe, but summer is right around the corner. Along with the warm days, beautiful nights, and the end of school arrives the busiest season of the year for 4-H members, parents, volunteers, and staff. I look forward this time of year for the fairs, camps, shows, and other events and activities that

bring people together in the name of 4-H Youth Development. As we move toward the summer, we are excited to report that the 4-H program in Kentucky continues to grow and thrive.

Last year, Kentucky 4-H Youth Development reached 36.4% of youth (291,765) in Kentucky in grades K-12. The 4-H members were involved in many different project areas with our largest project areas being Family and Consumer Science and Agriculture. The majority of Kentucky 4-H members (52%) live in small towns of less than 10,000 people. Over 22,000 teen and adult volunteers contributed to the 4-H program's success this past year.

This impact and reach would not be possible without the support of the Kentucky 4-H Foundation and its many contributors. Your contributions allow youth to participate in programs and have opportunities that would be unattainable without financial support. For this, the Kentucky 4-H program thanks you.

As we look toward the future, Kentucky 4-H Youth Development is working on several key areas. We are striving to improve our camping program to create a well-rounded, year-round, camping program that provides not only summer camps but specialty camps of all sorts! We are also working to reconnect with our 4-H alumni. There is a rich history of Kentucky 4-H that can be shared and developed by connecting with those individuals who were shaped by their involvement and, in turn, shaped the lives of others. We are excited about forming these connections, improving programs, and ensuring that all Kentucky youth have the opportunity to be a part of this outstanding program!



"And comes September, we'll all remember our 4-H days and friendship true. And so the years go by, I'll think of you and sigh, it was good night and not goodbye." – Linger

The Kentucky 4-H Foundation is excited to announce the 7th Annual 4-H Homecoming Celebration! Homecoming will be held on Saturday, June 10, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. at the Campbell House, Lexington. This year we are excited to celebrate 95 years of the 4-H Congress and the 1967, 1992, and 2007 State Officer teams.

"It's a reunion. It's a chance to support a program that has meant so much to my family and me for generations. My husband and I met through 4-H," said Ruth Ann Hendrick, Co-Chair 4-H Homecoming, Kentucky 4-H Foundation. "We were both so excited at the first Homecoming, and that enthusiasm grows stronger every year."

The evening will include a reception, dinner, program, 4-H memorabilia, historic slide shows and photos, as well as the opportunity to purchase Kentucky 4-H Alumni items

including pullovers and glasses. Dinner is catered by the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association and the Campbell House. We will also be offering "Grab Bag" items for \$25 each. Each bag contains an item(s) worth anywhere from \$15 to \$100. Only a limited number are available – grab yours when you arrive!

New this year are opportunities to support Kentucky 4-H with some interactive games including "Split-the-Pot" and "Head or Tails." Split-the-Pot is a game of chance where you truly split the pot. Buy tickets for \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5. The winner will receive half of the total sales. Heads or Tails will give you an opportunity to win a trip to Gatlinburg, Tennessee donated by Trey Thompson. Be sure to bring some extra cash!

*"Make new friends but keep the old. One is silver and the other's gold." –
Make New Friends*

"This line embodies what Homecoming is all about," said Ruth Ann. "Yes it is a reunion of old friends, but it is also a time to make new 4-H Friends."

At the conclusion of the event, we invite you to join us in the hospitality suite. This is a time of laughing, reminiscing and continual sharing.

The Kentucky 4-H Foundation invites you to mark your calendars, come and participate with us on June 10th!

What You Need To Know:

- Tickets are \$50 per person.
- Deadline to register is Friday, May 26
- Dress is casual.
- Cash bar will be available.

2 Way to Register:

1. Online – Visit www.ky4hfoundation.org
2. Phone – Call Jessica Mayfield at the Kentucky 4-H Foundation office at 859.257.7178 to register and make payment over the phone.



REMINISCE. RECONNECT.

Saturday, June 10, 2017

Tickets Will Go Fast - Get Yours Today!

Purchase tickets by **May 26th** at www.ky4hfoundation.org or via phone by calling Jessica Mayfield 859.257.7178

MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Fran McCall



Fran McCall

Fran McCall is the Commodity Specialist for Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation since 2012. She is the primary contact for livestock commodity advisory committees and works with livestock commodity groups throughout Kentucky. In 2014, she took on the responsibility of coordinating the Kentucky Farm Bureau Certified Roadside Farm Market Program and plans the annual Roadside Farm Market Tour.

Fran was a 10 year 4-H member in Oldham County participating in numerous projects

including beef cattle, livestock judging, rabbits, cooking, sewing, and speech and demonstration contests. She and her family showed their Shorthorn cattle all over the state of Kentucky and nationally through her involvement with 4-H, FFA, and the National and Kentucky Junior Shorthorn Association. Fran competed on the Kentucky Livestock Judging Gold Team representing Kentucky at several national contests. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science from the Western Kentucky University and Master of Science in Ruminant Nutrition and Meat Science from University of Kentucky. Fran competed on the Western Kentucky Livestock Judging Team and then went on to be the first female livestock judging coach at the University of Kentucky. After graduate school, Fran worked as a 4-H agent in McLean County for almost 3 years prior to joining Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation.

Fran lives in Shelby County with her husband David and their son Lane. David farms full time with his dad in Oldham County, where they raise cattle, hay, corn, soybeans and wheat. In Fran's spare time, she enjoys helping her husband with the cattle, crops, showing Shorthorn and Red Poll cattle and showing Mini Rex Rabbits.

Sarah Rowlette



Sarah Rowlette

Sarah Rowlette is Director of Communications for the Kentucky Retail Federation.

As a Madison County 4-H Member, she started out in the 4-H Means Business Club and later participated in teen leadership programs at the county, district and state level. Sarah served on the State Teen Council, attended the 2010 National 4-H Congress and was elected 2010-2011 Kentucky 4-H Secretary.

Sarah is proud to be an alumna of Kentucky's 4-H program. 4-H brought Sarah out of her comfort zone, teaching her leadership and communications skills and giving her lifelong friendships. Sarah credits 4-H for the opportunities she's encountered professionally and for instilling in her a passion for giving back to her community.



Kentucky 4-H Foundation

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 26th:

Deadline to purchase 4-H Homecoming tickets

June 5th:

25th Annual Roy Strange Memorial 4-H Golf Scramble (*Jefferson County – Nevel Meade Golf Course*)

June 10th:

Kentucky 4-H Homecoming

June 12th - 15th:

State 4-H Teen Conference

June 5th:

Kentucky 4-H Livestock Judging Contest (*Muhlenberg County Ag & Convention Center*)

July 8th:

State 4-H Communications Day

August 17th - 27th:

Kentucky State Fair

Elizabeth Lunsford



Elizabeth Lunsford

Elizabeth Chaney Lunsford was born and raised in Bowling Green, KY on a family owned jersey dairy farm. Due to a downturn in the milk market in 2003, the Chaney Family opened an agritourism business, Chaney's Dairy Barn that Elizabeth has been incredibly involved with throughout her life. Elizabeth also enjoys helping her husband Chase with his diesel repair business, Kingspeed Race, and Repair and continuing to be involved in the growth and development of the family business.

Elizabeth received a BS in Agriculture Economics from the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture with a minor in Business. After an internship with Alltech, Elizabeth began working full time following graduation in 2011 and has continued her passion for dairy throughout her career.

Currently, Elizabeth is the North America Dairy Marketing Manager for Alltech, as well as the Territory Sales Representative for Kentucky and Tennessee.

Elizabeth was heavily involved in 4-H all her life and accredits the skillset learned through programs such as 4-H speeches and demonstration to her abilities and successes within her career. Elizabeth is excited to give back to an organization that gave so much to her and is excited to see what the future of Kentucky 4-H will hold for Kentucky youth.

Brent Hutchinson, Ph. D.



Brent Hutchinson, Ph.D.

Brent Hutchinson is Executive Director of Hindman Settlement School in Knott County. Hindman Settlement School, founded in 1902, was the first and most successful rural settlement in the United States, modeled after urban centers such

as Toynbee Hall in London, England and Hull House in Chicago. The School seeks to provide education and service opportunities to people of the mountains while keeping them mindful of their heritage. Notably, Hindman Settlement School forged a strategic partnership over four decades ago to make way for Knott County's first 4-H agent. The Settlement taught extension education to their students throughout the early-middle twentieth century.

Hutchinson comes to the board as a former 4-Her from Lawrence County and credits 4-H with his lifelong passion for leadership and learning. Brent earned the Ph.D. in Leadership Studies from Dallas Baptist University, with a special focus on servant, public, and cultural leadership. He also holds degrees from Morehead State University and the University of Kentucky College of Human Environmental Science (now the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment).

Brent's earliest 4-H experience was attending 4-H Camp at the Diederich 4-H Center in Rush

and enjoyed speech and demonstration competitions; and horticulture, forestry, and poultry judging, which earned him a spot on Kentucky's ranked poultry and avian bowl teams two consecutive years. Brent attended the inaugural Issues Conference in 1989 and attended Senior Conference (now Teen Conference) every year he was eligible, enjoying this the most!

As an older teen and, eventually, collegiate member, Brent worked as a 4-H camp staffer at Diederich for one summer; represented Kentucky at the National 4-H Conference in Silver Springs, Maryland; served as a three-year member of the State Teen Council, winning the Conrad Feltner Leadership Award; and, ultimately, was elected Vice President of Kentucky 4-H, serving from 1993-94.

Dr. Hutchinson is married to Gwen, and they have two sons, Adam and Miles, who are both enjoying being part of their local 4-H clubs.

KENTUCKY 4-H FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT:

Lead fund development for the Kentucky 4-H Youth Development Program and advance support by alumni and other stakeholders to ensure 4-H remains a vital center of excellence in the Commonwealth



Kentucky 4-H Foundation

212 Scovell Hall

Lexington, KY 40546

GROW TRUE LEADERS - Empower Youth to be Leaders Today

TRUE LEADERS TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MORE THAN THEMSELVES.

Every child has the potential to be a true leader. However, kids today say they are missing experiences that grow the life skills they need – like confidence, responsibility, independence and compassion. It is a serious problem now that will lead to a severe leadership void in the years to come – impacting communities across America, and nearly every industry and sector. In Kentucky 4-H, we believe in the power of young people. The Grow True Leaders Campaign will engage young people and rally you, our supporters, to provide more youth with hands-on experiences so they **grow into true leaders**.

VISIT KY4HFOUNDATION.ORG TO LEARN HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THE GROWTH OF TRUE LEADERS IN YOUR COMMUNITY TODAY.



Kentucky 4-H Foundation is an independent non-profit partner of the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service - 4-H Youth Development, UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment. Educational programs of the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability.