



# Virginia 4-H Foundation

[www.4-h.ext.vt.edu/give](http://www.4-h.ext.vt.edu/give)

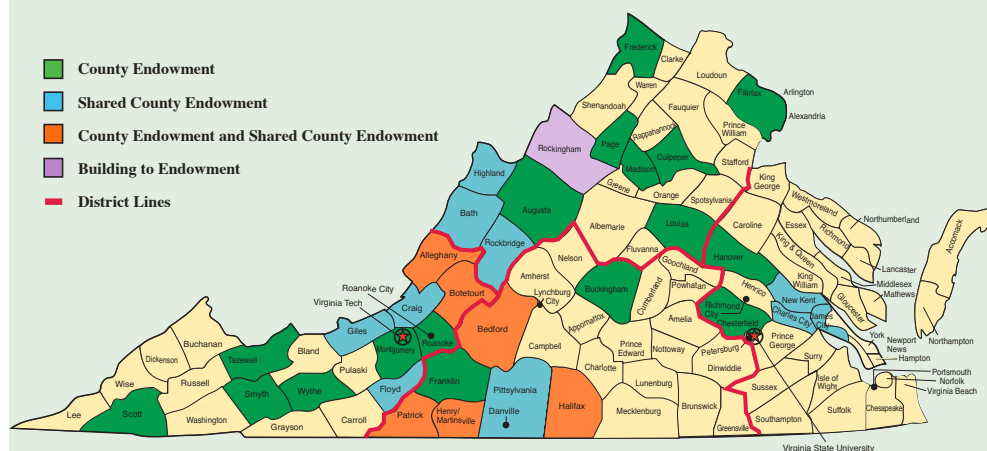
Newsletter

SUMMER 2015 volume 3 issue 2

## Local Program Endowments – Building Strong 4-H Programs, County by County

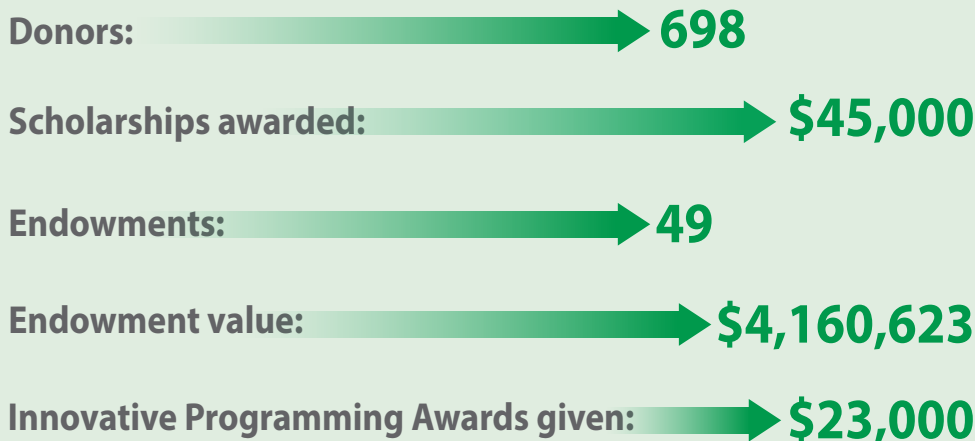
When you think of 4-H, other than the clover, what comes to mind first? Was it a best friend you made in your club? Was it the sense of accomplishment when you gave your first presentation? Was it your agent or your favorite volunteer, or all the fun you had at 4-H meetings? For many, it's their local 4-H experience, one that often shapes a lifetime. For many donors, investing in local program endowments is a meaningful way to ensure 4-H is available for generations to come. While numerous programs currently benefit from local endowments, others are working on or would like to establish an endowment in the near future. To learn more about how you can ensure the 4-H legacy for your county program, contact the Virginia 4-H Foundation today.

### Local Program Endowments



### 4-H Foundation by the Numbers

(Fiscal Year 2015 Highlights)



### Chair's Update

Dear Friends,

In a recent conversation with a young professional from Blacksburg, I mentioned that I was on the Virginia 4-H Foundation Board. She was quick to say, "I'm an All Star and I love 4-H!" As I shared with her our foundation goals she said the magic words, "I want to be involved, I want to give back. 4-H was so important to me. How can I help?"



Thank you, Heather! What a great response from a young adult who knows that 4-H made a difference in her life. The truth is, there are so many Heathers who feel the same way, and I want to let them know that it is easy to support the program that supported them.

Over the past few years I have tried never to miss an opportunity to speak to the breadth and depth of our programs, our outstanding professionals, and our volunteers who do so much. I am certain that, dollar for dollar, no better leadership development program has ever existed, and I want every young person in Virginia to have an equal opportunity to experience the benefits.

Your Virginia 4-H Foundation Board has a new strategic plan, and we invite you to learn more about our work. I am proud to promote giving. I dream of a program that is not limited by resources, and I know I am not the only one. We are working to build a sustainable future for our programs, and we invite you to engage with us to make it happen.

I am so pleased to report that our goal to work with agents across the state to establish local endowments is having an impact. If your county does not have a local endowment, we would welcome an opportunity to discuss this opportunity with you. An agent, a volunteer, a parent, or a friend of 4-H can take the steps to establish an endowment — and we can help.

I invite you to join us by investing in 4-H. There has never been a better time to help us ensure a fulfilling future for our youth.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Mary Miller, Ph.D.  
Chair, Virginia 4-H Foundation



HEART • HANDS • HEALTH

HEALTH • HEAD • HEART • HANDS

# Virginia 4-H Foundation

SUMMER 2015

## John Riley's Gift Perpetuates His Love of 4-H

The late John Riley's lifelong connection with Virginia 4-H began during his boyhood in Augusta County, remained strong throughout his lifetime, and — thanks to his foresight and generosity — will continue for generations.

After earning his bachelor's and master's degrees in agriculture and applied economics from Virginia Tech and his doctorate from Oklahoma State University, Riley shared his enthusiasm for agriculture with others, first as a professor of agricultural economics at Kansas State University and then as dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and Natural Resources at the University of Tennessee.

Riley passed away in 2013, but his love for 4-H continues to have an impact through the gifts he made during his lifetime and through his estate.

Read more about John Riley online  
<http://bit.ly/1LOavu1>

Your resource for information about supporting Virginia 4-H with an estate gift, or with any gift, is the development office for Virginia Cooperative Extension. Contact Ben Grove by phone at 540-231-7640, or email [ben.grove@vt.edu](mailto:ben.grove@vt.edu).



John Riley

The late John Riley was recognized as the 2015 Friend of 4-H.

## Virginia 4-H Foundation Recognizes Farm Credit's Investment in Virginia 4-H

Farm Credit has a long history of investing in and supporting our rural communities. For many years, this has included support of local 4-H programs through donations, sponsorship of events, purchasing of livestock projects, and providing meeting space for clubs and programs, to name just a few of the multiple ways Farm Credit helps. Additionally, many Farm Credit employees have volunteered as coaches, club leaders, and guest speakers for the 4-H program. Virginia 4-H thanks the Farm Credit Associations doing business in Virginia – Colonial Farm Credit, MidAtlantic Farm Credit, and Farm Credit of the Virginias – for their outstanding support of 4-H. "Farm Credit invests in 4-H because it provides sound leadership experiences for the leaders of tomorrow," said Dave Lawrence, CEO at Farm Credit of the Virginias.



## Investing in 4-H through Scholarships

This year more than \$45,000 in scholarships were distributed to help 4-Hers pursue their secondary education goals at the institution of their choice. These scholarships have been earned over many years of excellence in livestock and horse programs, leadership, milestone achievement, and service. One scholarship recipient said "receiving the Connie Collier Scholarship greatly eased the financial tension I was facing. Because of the funds received, I was able to pay my first college payment. This scholarship is evidence that 4-H not only helped me grow during my years as a member, but also assisted me as I approached my future endeavors. Thank you!"

We, too, would like to express our appreciation to the funders of our scholarships, who make possible initiatives such as the Adranetta Weimer 4-H Incentive Fund, Connie Collier 4-H Scholarship Fund, Farm Credit Associations and Regions Banks Scholarship Fund, Virginia AGvocates Scholarship



Lexington Horse Center; 4-H horse show.

Fund, Virginia Junior Livestock Scholarship Fund, and Wayne Keffer Virginia 4-H Foundation Fund.

**Thank you for investing in 4-H youth and their future.**

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[www.4-h.ext.vt.edu/give](http://www.4-h.ext.vt.edu/give)

The Virginia 4-H Foundation is a division of the Virginia Tech Foundation, Inc., which has been granted 501(c)(3) nonprofit status by the Internal Revenue Service.

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