

4-H NEWSLETTER

alaska4-h.org

MATTHEW'S ROUNDUP



We made it through some of our biggest events of the year, Tanana Valley State Fair and Achievement Night. Both of these events were successful and fun. I want to thank everyone who helped make these events go smoothly this year.

As we move forward from last 4-H year, let's get excited about the great things coming up for the new 4-H year. Welcome to the 2025-26 4-H Year! We have new members and new clubs this year and I'd like to be the first to welcome all of you to 4-H.



ENROLLMENTS AND TRAININGS

Do not forget that 4-H enrollments are here and need to be completed. Not only do these enrollments help fund 4-H activities and learning opportunities, but they also make you officially a 4-H member or leader for this 4-H year. As always, if you have any issues with enrollment, please let me know. Also, for leaders, if your trainings are about to expire, they will need to be redone.

The university and 4-H team have worked hard to simplify trainings. They have been combined into one big training, which means simpler and shorter.

I know these trainings can be a thorn in your side, but they are important for the safety and inclusion of our program. Speaking of trainings, the Alaska 4-H Volunteer Zoom training is something you will want to attend! (See page 3 for details and registration information.)



Surprise! It is now official — the Tanana District Extension and 4-H Office is moving over the holiday break! Come visit us mid-January at the UAF Community and Technical College, 604 Barnette St., Room 205. So ... out with the old and in with the new!



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CALENDAR



November

- 03 Teen Club meeting, 6 p.m.
- 04 Livestock Committee meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 10 New Leader Training/Returning Leader Refresher, via Zoom, 6:30 p.m.
- 11 Leaders Council meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 17 Teen Club meeting, 6 p.m.
- 27 **Happy Thanksgiving!** (The Tanana District Extension and 4-H Office will be closed Nov. 24-28.)



December

- 01 Teen Club meeting, 6 p.m.
- 02 Livestock Committee meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 06 Teen Club meeting, 6 p.m.
- 09 Leaders Council meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 15 Teen Club meeting, 6 p.m.
- 25 **Happy Holidays!** (The Tanana District Extension and 4-H Office will be closed Dec. 15-Jan. 9.)



January

- 01 **Happy 2026!** (The Tanana District Extension and 4-H Office will be closed through Jan. 9. We will reopen in our new location at the UAF Community and Technical College, 604 Barnette St., Room 205. Come see us!)
- 05 Teen Club meeting, 6 p.m.
- 06 Livestock Committee meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 13 Leaders Council meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 19 Teen Club meeting, 6 p.m.
- 19 **Martin Luther King Jr. Day/Alaska Civil Rights Day** (UAF campus is closed.)





CALLING ALL INTERESTED, NEW, OR SEASONED

ALASKA 4-H VOLUNTEERS!

Join us for a leader training and refresher and to connect
with 4-H volunteers across Alaska!

MONDAY, NOV. 10 @ 6:30 PM
REGISTER ON Z-SUITES UNDER EVENTS!

For more info or for Zoom link contact:
Cassandra Rankin, crankin4@alaska.edu



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University of Alaska Fairbanks

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CONTACT US

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LEADERS AND LIVESTOCK AND LINKS, OH MY!

Meet Your Tanana District 4-H Officers for 2025-26

It takes a lot of volunteers to keep our organization functioning. Thank you to those who serve in the leadership and to those who are stepping down this year. Following are the new officers for the 2025-26 4-H year:

Leaders Council

President – Priscilla Rice

plmrice.ak@gmail.com, 907-347-3570

Vice President – Tiffany Gifford

tgifford@chugachschools.com, 907-299-2866

Treasurer – Patsy Perkins

patsyjperkins@gmail.com, 907-712-4544

Secretary – Beth Austin

paulbethaustin@gmail.com, 907-378-8840

District Representative – Kaitlynn Rice

kmrice.ak@gmail.com, 907-888-4274

Program Coordinator – Matthew Anderson

mranderson@alaska.edu, work 907-474-2427,
cell 907-795-5166

Livestock Committee

Pending November committee meeting.

Horse Council

For the time being, any horse programming questions may be directed to the Leaders Council.



Market Livestock Project Agreement

Be thinking about the 2026 Fair Market Livestock Show, what animals will you raise for your project and the fair. The full 2026 packet of Market Livestock Project Agreement forms will be coming out soon! Keep an eye on the listserv! **(Meanwhile, take a look at pages 10 and 11 for POSSESSION DATES with more information to follow on the listserv!)**

Livestock Committee Meetings

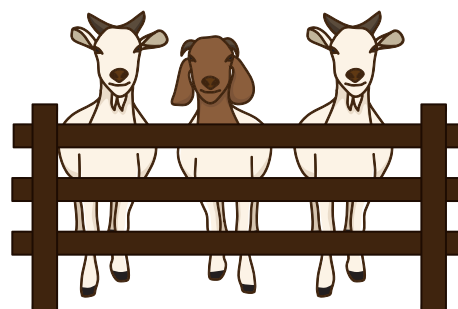
Typically, the Livestock Committee meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in February, April, May, September, October and November, and then as needed.

Come Join Us!

Leaders Council Monthly Meetings

All leaders are welcome and encouraged to attend Leaders Council meetings, held the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Most meetings take place in person and a Zoom link is available, if requested in advance.

We hope to see your smiling face and hear your great ideas soon!

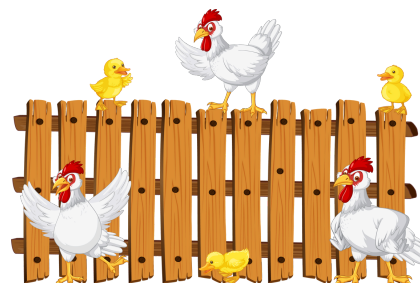


Volunteer Hours

The hard work our volunteers do throughout the years is invaluable. 4-H would not run without all the volunteers.

To show our stakeholders how important you are, I am requesting that each month you report those hours you volunteered. Also, if your club has volunteered, you can report those separately. This information goes to stakeholders across the state and country.

I will be sending out the following link – **<https://forms.gle/X25TJqJ96GMJoTb46>** – each month to remind you about reporting these hours. Thank you again for all that you do for the youth and Extension.



ACHIEVEMENT NIGHT RECAP

Tanana District 4-H Annual Achievement & Recognition Night ~ A Look Back at a Successful Night! ~

Achievement Night was fun and successful. The sounds of future 4-H youth in the background and good conversation reflects our future is bright.

The annual event took place Oct. 11 at Gasser Hall, located on the Tanana Valley State Fairgrounds.

The Teen Club did a fantastic job at planning and implementing this program. The process of creating a program is an important life skill. To see youth step out of their comfort zone to put this program together brings makes us proud.



Both youth and volunteers were honored for their hard work this past 4-H year. Youth worked hard on their projects and record books and were recognized for this hard work. Volunteers/ leaders poured their time, knowledge, and resources into these youth and this program so these youth can be "Beyond Ready."

I hope this achievement night encourages and inspires youth and adults to make the "Best Better."

Congratulations to merit award winners and to all those who received a year pin!

Agriculture

Landry Willeford, Free Rangers
Shelby Willeford, Free Rangers

Horse

Shelby Robinson, Alaska Range Riders Kamryn Smith, Independent Member

Music

Beef

William "Mack" Gifford, Forget-Me-Not

Leadership

Landry Willeford, Free Rangers

Personal Development

Rosie Wilcher, Forget-Me-Not
Landry Willeford, Free Rangers
Shelby Willeford, Free Rangers

Poultry

William Topp, North Pole Ptarmigans
Landry Willeford, Free Rangers
Shelby Willeford, Free Rangers

Sheep

Landry Willeford, Free Rangers
Shelby Willeford, Free Rangers
Kaelin Topp, North Pole Ptarmigans

Swine

Arik Berggren, North Pole Ptarmigans
Rosie Wilcher, Forget-Me-Not
(Continued on page 6.)



We also presented the following specialty awards and wish to thank the recipients for all they do to make Tanana District 4-H what it is today!

Large Animal Herdsmanship

Rosie Wilcher

Small Animal Herdsmanship

William Topp

Large Animal Showmanship

Jude Huffman

Small Animal Showmanship

Lily Harlow



"I Dare You" Award

Sophie Harlow, Lily Harlow

Record Book Awards and Scholarships

Kamryn Smith, senior first; senior second, none;
Kaelin Topp, intermediate; William Topp, junior



Member of the Year

William "Mack" Gifford

Leader of the Year

Kaitlynn Rice

Rookie Leader of the Year

Kyndall Powers

Alumna of the Year

Carrie Topp

Family of the Year

Berggren Family

**Lifetime 4-H Volunteer Leader
of Excellence**

Connie Seekins

Friend of 4-H

Terri Krebs



MOOSEKETEERS ARE ON THE MOOOVE!

Hats for Kids Community Service Project

Members of the 40 Below Mooseketeers 4-H Club sewed a total of 29 polar fleece hats to donate in one of the club's fall community service projects. Both Cloverbuds and older 4-H members turned out to make hats together. A longstanding annual event for the club, 40 Below Mooseketeers helped each other while helping those in need of warm winter hats. Our "hats" off to you all! Thank you! Patsy Perkins photos



Mae makes a pretty pink hat to donate.



At left, Nolan, Johnny and Alda Norris are hard at work on hats.



Mack assists Everett with making a star-spangled polar fleece hat, at right.

Cooking with Cloverbuds

The UAF Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) and Tanana District 4-H have combined forces! A new course added to the OLLI schedule offers youth, ages 5-7, and older adults an opportunity to cook up some comical chaos together – and lots of yummy FUN, too! So far, the bakers have made delicious cookies, muffins and doughnuts. And just in time for Thanksgiving, the final class will learn how to bake yummy pies! After baking together, youth and adults enjoy each other's company with tea, hot chocolate and baked goodies. (The Tanana District Extension and 4-H Office is happy to serve as official taste testers! Thank you!) Patsy Perkins photos



At the hand mixer, Elloise shows Mae and OLLI member Gail Davidson how to make cookie batter.



Nolan, Raven and OLLI member Gail Davidson stir up some Nutella muffins.



OLLI baker Edith Desmond shares her experience with Mae while making banana muffins.

(Continued on page 8.)

MOOSEKETEERS ... STILL ON THE MOOVE ... IN D.C.!

Tanana District 4-H Cloverbuds Nolan and Mae, with leaders Kyndall Powers and Patsy Perkins, traveled to Washington, D.C., this summer to see the 4-H quilt display at the Smithsonian Renwick Gallery. The quilts are part of the "Importance of Fairs in America" display for the next year. The quilt blocks were made by 4-H members in four states. Alaska had quilt blocks from Kenai, Sitka and Fairbanks clubs.

Fairbanks' own 40 Below Mooseketeers 4-H Club made 12 (six of each design), with included sewists Elle Gifford, Mack Gifford, Avynn Nemeth, Axton Nemeth, Nolan Powers, Mae Powers and Ester Bowers. The fair display also included a pyramid of jars of canned vegetables and a life-size cow sculpted from butter in a refrigerated display case, and other fair exhibit displays. Patsy Perkins photos



All Four Quilt

The makers of 4-H Interaction of Color String Quilt, by quilt block

Garyn Perkins UT	Orla Hambarger NJ	Alyssa Martin AK	Yamnia Harris NJ	Litan NJ	Kayle NJ	Ryan Faber Kim Faber UT	Alyssa Martin AK	Holt Taylor WV	Garyn Perkins UT
Orla Hambarger NJ	William Mackay Gifford AK	Rosalee NJ	Shirley Cunning AK	Luke Koenig AK	Ryan Faber Bryson Gifford UT	Avynn Nemeth AK	Alysa NJ	Ashly Dennison WV	Ella Auerbach NJ
Alyssa Martin AK	Austin Rider WV	Eve Freeman WV	Elisa NJ	Talitha Larson UT	Kendrey Gendler Peggy Black UT	Maylene Koschier UT	Patsy Katzberger AK	Luthe Suter AK	Kyle Martin AK
Ellen Albert NJ	Charm Cushman WV	Amy North WV	Kaylee Shreve WV	Zaylin Joseph AK	Audra Murray WV	Tegan Original NJ	Rules Brandt AK	Linnea Gibson AK	Zoe NJ
Garyn Ryder NJ	Marguerite Hambarger NJ	Ingrid Pederson AK	Isaac Gulf WV	Anonymous WV	Elise Earl Riley Faber UT	Ashley Rago NJ	McKinsey Taylor WV	Christine Rizzo NJ	Callie De WV
Grace Johansen UT	Nolan Powers AK	Misty Janel WV	Ryan Faber Kim Faber UT	Sophie NJ	Avynn Nemeth Nolan Powers AK	Orin Wallace WV	Corydon Taylor WV	Elle Gifford AK	Calum Poulson UT
McKenna NJ	Zaylin Joseph AK	Julia Urbancik Isabelle Urbancik UT	Eve Torres NJ	Maylene Mathews UT	Sadie Gibson AK	Charles Black WV	Anonymous WV	Ava Katzinger WV	Madeyn Wurley NJ
Anonymous UT	Anonymous WV	Elizabeth Ryder WV	Lily Stubbs WV	Tamara Larson Cavin Larson UT	Sue Brandt ME	Elagh Cushman ME	Avynn Nemeth Ester Bowers AK	Green Backlund AK	Karl Martin AK
Garyn Perkins WV	Elliott Meaders UT	Lily On NJ	Evelyn Hosburn WV	Monica Hill WV	Cecilia Sams ME	Queenabertie ME	Anonymous NJ	Anonymous WV	Sue Brandt ME
Kristen Boley UT	Emery Muller AK	Stacie Martin AK	Autumn Gibson AK	Kelsey Graville AK	Cabbi Rizzi NJ	Kyra Friend Edith Castiel WV	Kerrie Boley UT	Noah Agethy AK	Garyn Perkins UT

Machine quilted by Stacy Bendure, 207 Longarm Quilting, Jefferson, ME

Color String Quilt Guide



Log Cabin Quilt

The makers of 4-H Interaction of Color Log Cabin Quilt, by quilt block

Elle Gifford AK	Ruber Murray UT	Irene Barnes UT	Mack Gifford AK	Avynn Nemeth Nolan Powers AK	Stacy Bendure AK	AJ Benson UT	Pam Carter NJ	Nolan Powers AK	Heidi Murray UT
Evelyn Hosburn WV	Madison Murray UT	Calla Olson WV	Green Backlund AK	Ellen Albert NJ	Stacy Ryder WV	Kathie Orin UT	Emma Larson UT	Anonymous WV	Elle Murray UT
River Orin UT	Luthe Suter UT	Fin Harris WV	Camille Thompson UT	Maie Thompson UT	Madison Wardley ME	Sue Brandt NJ	Austin Rider WV	Eve Freeman WV	Rose Shreve WV
Freddie Orin UT	Kyra Friend Edith Castiel WV	Yamnia Harris NJ	Alyssa Martin AK	Adrian Nelson UT	Kathie Terry WV	Sutton Terry WV	Luke Koenig AK	Maie Janel WV	Ryan Dennison WV
Hannah NJ	Alysa Phillips AK	Zaylin Joseph AK	Betsy Zornhennrich NJ	Aden NJ	Anonymous ME	Elagh Cushman WV	Ryle NJ	Hennan NJ	Alyssa Martin AK
Pine and Needles AK	Emery Muller AK	Elizabeth Ryder NJ	Alyssa Martin AK	Lara Taylor WV	Adrian Cushman WV	Peggy NJ	Audra Murray WV	Ingrid Pederson UT	Sarah Whitney UT
Henry Gulf WV	Marguerite Hambarger NJ	Christine Rizzo NJ	Madison Orin UT	Zoe NJ	Aden NJ	Alyssa Martin AK	Linnea Gibson AK	Anonymous WV	Larney Orin NJ
Sam Lopez NJ	Katie Preece UT	Sadie Gibson AK	Peggy NJ	Ava Katzinger WV	Corydon Hodge WV	McKinsey Taylor WV	Unleash L Whitman NJ	Elle Auerbach NJ	Alyssa Martin AK
Mack Gifford AK	Liliana Torgerson WV	Anonymous WV	Patsy Katzberger AK	Alyssa Martin AK	Margen Wolter WV	Sue Brandt ME	Ryan Orin UT	Noah Agethy AK	Aden Rider WV
Mae Powers AK	Cole Torgerson UT	Nora Wolter UT	Pine and Needles NJ	Orla Hambarger NJ	Volet Whitney WV	Autumn Gibson AK	Pine and Needles NJ	Lily Stubbs WV	Dylan Bentley UT

Machine Quilted by Stacy Bendure, 207 Longarm Quilting, Jefferson, ME

Log Cabin Quilt Guide



March 25-29, 2026

Washington D.C.



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Ages 13 to 19

For four days, teens from all over the country come to Washington D.C. to collaborate, connect, and cultivate a passion for expanding their minds and their world – becoming resilient and ready for everything life has to offer. Teens will immerse themselves in hands-on workshops, experiences, activities in their key programming areas. With the addition of public speaking, career and life readiness, and presentation workshops, teens will be able to apply what they learn to their own lives and take a step forward to become Beyond Ready for the future. <https://ignite.4-h.org>



Early Bird Teen Price
\$1200 Admission and Room & Board

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Scholarships

Scholarship applications
available for room and board:

<http://bit.ly/4migJfW>

Due by October 1st

Agriscience

Animal Science

Healthy Living

STEM

Community
Accelerators

For more information contact Matthew Anderson
Tanana District 4-H Coordinator
907-474-2427
mranderson@alaska.edu

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I plan to raise the following animals for the Market Livestock Auction**Check a maximum of four boxes below (including one alternate species).**

Please note that you may raise more than one of each species, but you must **keep complete records on each animal** that can be considered as your primary project animal or an alternate. Your primary market project animal(s) cannot be shared with another 4-H or FFA member.

*** The bold line in the chart below separates large and small animals. ***

There is a per person limit of two different large animals and one small animal OR two different small animals and one large animal that may be sold in the market auction. **You may only check four (4) boxes.**

Check ✓	Animal	Born/Hatched On or After	In Possession By	Weight Limits	Other Requirements
	Finished Beef	Jan. 1, 2025	Dec. 1, 2025	1,000 lbs minimum	Must be dehorned and castrated by Jan. 1, 2026.
	Feeder Steer	Dec. 1, 2025	April 15, 2026	400 lbs minimum	Must be castrated 8 weeks after birth.
	Lamb	Jan. 1, 2026	May 1, 2026	85 lbs minimum	Ewes and castrated lambs must be slick shorn.
	Swine	Jan. 1, 2026	April 15, 2026	220 lbs minimum; maximum payout based on 300 lbs	Gilts and barrows
	Goat	Jan. 1, 2026	May 1, 2026	60 lbs minimum	Dairy type — wethers only, dehorned Meat type — does or wethers
	Reindeer	April 1, 2025	Dec. 1, 2025	160 lbs minimum	Males must be castrated.
	Turkey	March 15, 2026	April 15, 2026	20 lbs minimum	Recognized meat breed only.
	Ducks	May 25, 2026	June 8, 2026	Pen of 3 of uniform size, 6+ lbs each.	Recognized meat breed only.
	Goose	March 15, 2026	April 15, 2026	10 lbs minimum	Recognized meat breed only.
	Chickens	May 23, 2026	June 6, 2026	Pen of 3 of uniform size, 6+ lbs each.	Recognized meat breed only.
	Rabbits	May 8, 2026	July 1, 2026	Pen of 3 of uniform size, 3½ –6 lbs each.	Recognized ARBA meat breed(s) only.

My parents/guardian, leader and I have read and discussed these rules. We understand that if the rules and duties are NOT followed, my animal(s) will NOT be auctioned at the fair. If I violate any of the guidelines/rules listed above, I understand that premium and auction money may be withheld and the ability to show in the future years may be forfeited.

We understand that taking animals out in the public may put them at risk for injury or other incidents out of our control. We will not hold the TVSFA, 4-H or FFA or any individuals associated with these organizations liable for any problems that may arise with the animal(s). We assume all risk.

Exhibitor: _____ **Printed Name:** _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ **Printed Name:** _____ **Date:** _____

Project Leader: _____ **Printed Name:** _____ **Date:** _____

**Main 4-H Club Leader
or FFA Advisor:** _____ **Printed Name:** _____ **Date:** _____

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***** The bold line in the chart below separates large and small animals. *****

There is a per person limit of two different large animals and one small animal OR two different small animals and one large animal that may be sold in the market auction. **You may only check four (4) boxes.**

Check ✓	Animal	Born/Hatched On or After	In Possession By	Weight Limits	Other Requirements
	Finished Beef	Dec. 25, 2024	Nov. 24, 2025	1,000 lbs minimum	Must be dehorned and castrated by Jan. 1, 2025.
	Feeder Steer	Nov. 24, 2025	April 8, 2026	400 lbs minimum	Must be castrated 8 weeks after birth.
	Lamb	Dec. 25, 2025	April 24, 2026	85 lbs minimum	Ewes and castrated lambs must be slick shorn.
	Swine	Dec. 25, 2025	April 8, 2026	220 lbs minimum; maximum payout based on 300 lbs	Gilts and barrows
	Goat	Dec. 25, 2025	April 24, 2026	60 lbs minimum	Dairy type — wethers only, dehorned Meat type — does or wethers
	Reindeer	March 25, 2025	Nov. 24, 2025	160 lbs minimum	Males must be castrated.
	Turkey	March 8, 2026	April 8, 2026	20 lbs minimum	Recognized meat breed only.
	Ducks	May 18, 2026	June 1, 2026	Pen of 3 of uniform size, 6+ lbs each.	Recognized meat breed only.
	Goose	March 8, 2026	April 8, 2026	10 lbs minimum	Recognized meat breed only.
	Chickens	May 16, 2026	May 30, 2026	Pen of 3 of uniform size, 6+ lbs each.	Recognized meat breed only.
	Rabbits	May 1, 2026	July 1, 2026	Pen of 3 of uniform size, 3½ –6 lbs each.	Recognized ARBA meat breed(s) only.

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Exhibitor: _____ Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Project Leader: _____ Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Main 4-H Club Leader
or FFA Advisor: _____ Printed Name: _____ Date: _____



*Sometimes you need to
step outside of your
comfort zone,
look up,
and take a deep breath.*

Matthew Anderson photo

REGULATIONS AND POLICIES

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Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made five business days in advance to Alda Norris at amnorris2@alaska.edu or 907-474-7120. Language access services, such as interpretation or translation of vital information, will be provided free of charge to individuals with limited English proficiency upon request to amnorris2@alaska.edu.

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