

Virginia Cooperative Extension is an educational outreach program of Virginia's land-grant universities: [Virginia Tech](#) and [Virginia State University](#), and a part of the [National Institute for Food and Agriculture](#), an agency of the [United States Department of Agriculture](#).

## Upcoming Events

- **February 2nd: 4-H Volunteer Training**
- **February 16th: Playgroup with a twist starts**
- **February 18th: VT Youth Diary Day**
- **February 22rd: Virginia Turfgrass Council Conference**
- **February 23rd: Richmond Area Vegetable Producers Meeting**
- **March 17th: VT Youth Beef Field Day**

### 4-H Mission



The mission of 4-H is to assist youth, and adults working with those youth, to gain additional knowledge, life skills, and attitudes that will further their development as self-directing, contributing, and productive members of society.

**HEAD  
HEART  
HANDS  
HEALTH**

If you are a person with a disability and desire assistance or accommodation, please notify James City County Cooperative Extension at 757-564-2170 or 800-822-1120 during the business hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.



# Virginia Cooperative Extension

Virginia Tech • Virginia State University



[www.ext.vt.edu](http://www.ext.vt.edu)

Virginia Cooperative Extension is a partnership of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments. Its programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, military status, or any other basis protected by law.

# Agriculture and Natural Resources

## FIRST GRADERS HAVE FUN AT MATTEY'S GARDEN

BY TIFFENI GOESEL, PROJECT LEAD & MASTER GARDENER, CLASS OF 2018



Recently several Master Gardeners from the Mattey's Garden team gathered with first graders indoors at the Matthew Whaley Elementary School to read *Jake's Bird Feeder*, by Barbara Kanninen. They followed Jake's example and made feeders, but the class used cardboard rolls rather than pine cones coated in birdseed.

# Virginia Tech: Youth Events

DAIRY CLUB AT VIRGINIA TECH

## HOKIE DAIRY DAY



USE QR CODE TO REGISTER

JOIN US FOR A YOUTH EDUCATIONAL EVENT FOR AGES 9-19

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2023, 9 AM- 5 PM  
LUNCH PROVIDED  
REGISTRATION FEE: \$10

LOCATED AT THE ETGEN LARGE ANIMAL LEARNING CENTER IN BLACKSBURG, VA

### SENIORS:

- Current Dairy Research
- Herd Health
- Agriculture Industry Careers
- Food Safety

### JUNIORS:

- Herd Management
- Farm Safety
- Dairy Judging
- Herd Health

AND MORE!



FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT  
MADISON SIFFORD  
@MADISONS16@VT.EDU



## YOUTH BEEF FIELD DAY

Friday, March 17th, 2023

hosted by **The Beef Leadership Council at Virginia Tech**

**10 A.M – 4 P.M.  
BLACKSBURG, VA**

## TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Nutrition
- Reproduction
- Herd Health
- Livestock Judging
- Showing/Fitting
- Meat Evaluation and Judging
- Industry
- YQCA Training

Ages 9-18 are welcomed!

Fee: \$15/person  
\*Groups of 10 or more will receive a discounted rate of \$12.50/person.\*

**Lunch will be provided to all participants!**

Please register by February 27th using this link:  
[https://forms.gle/Zf5WS42g\\_sANgnXTY9](https://forms.gle/Zf5WS42g_sANgnXTY9)

Questions? Please email  
Bailey Watson at  
[baileyreinwatson@vt.edu](mailto:baileyreinwatson@vt.edu)



Funded by Beef Farmers & Ranchers

# 4-H

## Volunteer Positions Available for:

- In-School Programming
- Cloverbud Group Leader  
*(group for youth ages 5-8)*
- Club Leader  
*(short or long term)*
- General Program Support

To sign-up or learn more: contact [nealcynw@vt.edu](mailto:nealcynw@vt.edu) or 757-564-2179

## Family and Consumer Science:

### VCE, FCS Family Focus James City County Center Presents Playgroup with a Twist (and bend) A VCE Family and Consumer Sciences Program



6 Week Series  
Thursday Mornings  
9:30 - 11:30

February 16, 2023  
February 23, 2023  
March 2, 2023  
March 9, 2023  
March 16, 2023  
March 23, 2023

VCE, FCS  
Family Focus  
Our Saviours Lutheran  
Church

**TO ENROLL FOR  
THURSDAY  
FEBRUARY'S  
PLAYGROUP WITH A  
TWIST  
CALL:  
(757)564-2173  
AND LEAVE A  
MESSAGE**



This **special 6 week series** invites parents and/or caregivers and children birth to 5 to come play and learn together.  
*(Complete 5 of the 6 classes and receive your very own yoga mat)*

**Planned activities include:**  
*(All geared around healthy eating, healthy activities and healthy recipes)*

- Play and Learn
  - Crafts
  - Story
  - Parachute
  - Music & Movement
  - Social Connections
- And Yoga Poses

**Enrollment is Required by Tuesday, February 14th**  
\$30.00 for 6 week series.

**This 6 week playgroup series will be limited to the first 10 families.**

Cash or Checks payable to VCE-JCC (There is a \$50 return check fee.)  
Scholarships are available upon request.

Major funding provided by the VA Dept. of Social Services Family Violence Prevention Program & the Stutzman Family Foundation

## ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

4-H James City County



Make a difference for the youth in your community!

JOIN US NOW

Email: [nealcynw@vt.edu](mailto:nealcynw@vt.edu)  
Phone: 757-564-2179  
Interest Form: QR Code



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## Who are Extension Master Gardeners?

Extension Master Gardeners are trained volunteer educators. They work within their local communities to encourage and promote environmentally sound horticulture practices through sustainable landscape management education and training.

As an educational outreach component of Virginia Cooperative Extension, the Master Gardener program brings the resources of Virginia's land-grant universities – Virginia Tech and Virginia State University – to the people of the commonwealth.

<https://ext.vt.edu/lawn-garden/master-gardener/about.html>

We are a product of cooperation among local, state, and federal governments in partnership with tens of thousands of citizens, who, through local Extension Leadership Councils, help design, implement, and evaluate our needs-driven programs.

## Agriculture and Natural Resources

### *Richmond Area* VEGETABLE PRODUCERS MEETING

February 23, 2023

*Eastern Henrico Recreation Center: Strawberry Room  
1440 N Laburnum Ave, Richmond*

*Time: 8:30 am - 3:00 pm*

*Please pre-register by Friday, Feb. 18, 2023*

*Private Pesticide Applicator Recert. Credits and Market Scale certification offered.*

*Scan Me!*



Register to ensure a lunch at 804-752-4310,  
Lmaxey-nay@vt.edu, or <https://bit.ly/23VEGMEETINGRVA>

## VCE Family Focus

### Healthy Family Playgroup

# 7

*Families*

Learned about fruits, vegetables, and how to prepare healthy recipes.

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Nealcyne Watkins at 757-564 2179 during business hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to discuss accommodations 5 days prior to the event. \*TDD number is (800) 828-1120.

## Connect With Us

757-564-2170

3127 Forge Road  
Toano, Virginia 23168

[james-city.ext.vt.edu](http://james-city.ext.vt.edu)



JCC4HVA



JCCW Master Gardeners



VCE Family Focus

Agriculture and Natural Resources: [fhobbs@vt.edu](mailto:fhobbs@vt.edu)

4-H Youth Development: [nealcynw@vt.edu](mailto:nealcynw@vt.edu)

VCE Family Focus: [bdarrow@vt.edu](mailto:bdarrow@vt.edu) or [spress@vt.edu](mailto:spress@vt.edu)

VCE Master Gardeners: [jccwmg1@gmail.com](mailto:jccwmg1@gmail.com)



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