



HELD  
SUNDAY JUNE 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
courtesy of  
MILLBROOK VINEYARDS and WINERY



The 4-H program began in Dutchess County in 1913. Through 4-H young people learn positive behaviors and life skills such as persistence, communication, respect and commitment. 4-H youth *choose* to spend on average 200 hours of their free time each year dedicated to their projects, as well as participating in community service, public presentation events and leadership development. Projects range from raising, caring for and training animals to arts, crafts, literature and science.

For many, the opportunity to exhibit at the Dutchess County Fair is the ‘capstone’ of their 4-H year. Our pledge in seeking support for this fundraiser was as follows:

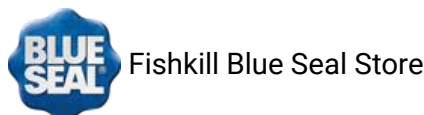
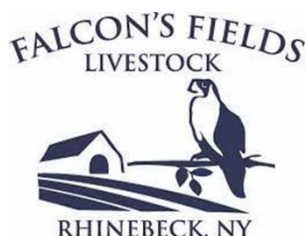
- ✿ **Ensure no active 4-H’er who has earned their place at the fair misses out by assisting with scholarships, and funding related expenses**
- ✿ **Enable youth from low-income/immigrant families in Northeast Dutchess to join us for a day to learn about agriculture and enjoy this incredible event that is part of our culture**
- ✿ **Support youth with special needs in our Flourishing Farmers program to participate alongside their peers and mentors**

*This report is to thank all of you who made the 2023 4-H A-Fair possible and successful, and to tell you what was achieved and how we achieved it. You contributed to something amazing!*

## Sponsorship and Donations

The A-Fair to Remember would not be the success it is without the support of local businesses and individuals. Our sponsors this year are owed the thanks of the 4-H community. Please support them as they have supported us. Take a moment to express your thanks when you shop, bank and socialize.

*Funding from sponsorship and cash donations accounted for approximately half of the income.*



*Donations from private individuals included a \$5,000 pledge to match all personal donations. This was achieved with ease thanks to the generosity of the following:*

Milla Berg  
Leah Cadwallader  
Denise Dunn  
Beth Ledy  
Judith MacDonald  
Andrea Parent-Tibbetts  
Nicole Raskopf  
Kim Tripp

Donna Bolner  
Samantha Daly and Family  
Diana King  
Maeve Lomoriello  
Carolyn Marshall  
Tyler Pennock  
Paddy Rossbach  
Vivian Wadlin

Daniel Briggs  
Nina and Johanna Doyle  
Nancy Krupp  
Sophia Lotto  
Deborah R. Moore  
Lorrayn Pickerell  
Marvin and Nancy Stanley  
Diandria Williams



## Live and Silent Auction



Following the success of the live auction in 2022, this was repeated and expanded in 2023 to include a silent auction. Our brilliant young auctioneer Marc Tommell of MMT Cattle, Fonda NY donated his time to join us, helping to ensure the items for auction went under the hammer. The star item was 4 tickets to Mariners Ford Field MVP Club vs. Yankees donated by

Other 'live' items included:

Hand-carved wooden bench: T. J. Ashline

Aligning with Horses Workshop: The Horse Institute

Lighthouse Garden Statue: Bay Horse Gazebos

Wheelbarrow of Garden Supplies: Williams Lumber, Millerton Agway, Bayhorse Gazebos, Walmart Fishkill

Cases of Special 4-H-label Millbrook Wine: Millbrook Vineyards and Winery



*The silent auction* had over 30 beautiful prizes. We were overwhelmed with the generosity of donors. Sincere thanks to:

Amber Coon	Samantha Free Yoga
Jen Decker Art	Clover Brooke Farm
K-9 Aqua Sports	Harney's Teas
Julie O'Sullivan	Reardon Briggs Hardware
Susan Nestle	Alicia Adams Alpaca
Cat Gentry	Michelle Singer D.V.M.
Linda Kinney	Parker Gentry/Millbrook Hunt
Ed Hackett	Quattro farm Store
Trevor Zoo	Marion's Hair Salon
Good With Wood	Black Creek Market
Terry Sennett and Annie Scibienski	



As stated above, a goal of the 4-H A-Fair is to raise funds to provide awards to 4-H'er who need (and deserve) assistance covering the many fair-related costs. As part of the live auction, auctioneer Marc encouraged guests to 'raise your paddles' and donate \$50 to the scholarship fund. Our partnership with the Dutchess Land Conservancy will result in donations being doubled to provide up to 30 scholarships in 2023.

## Tickets Sold



Ticket prices for adults ranged from \$65 to \$150 (the all you can eat and drink price!). Children 5 and under came free and ages 6-10 were half price. Tables of 8 received a discount which proved the most popular option. Sapphire sponsors and higher received complimentary tickets. In total, 136 guests sat at beautifully laid tables in this idyllic lakeside setting to enjoy the event. Skies were grey but the rain held off; the tent buzzed with happy chatter.

## The Food and Drink



Say Fair – Say Milkshake! The Dutchess County Dairy Committee led by Stephen Van Tassell and Amanda Lacaillade made REAL Fair Shakes on site for guests, kids and volunteers alike. This DCDC donation was a special gift that deserves our warmest thanks.

The food trucks received unanimous praise. A wide selection for all tastes was provided by:

- Cider Bros. Roadhouse
- Pizza Joe on the Go
- Tomas Smokin' BBQ
- Dave's Global Kitchen
- Cheesecake Heaven

Lemonade, water and iced tea flowed freely Millbrook Winery 4-H labeled and Mill House Kold One beer were available

Durants Party rentals, who did an excellent job with the tent, also supported us by donating machines to make popcorn, cotton candy and shaved ice. The 4-H'ers were in heaven!



## The 4-H Volunteers



That so many people volunteer for the 4-H program highlights the important place they feel 4-H has in our children's lives. 71 enrolled volunteers run clubs and activities year-round. A further 36 helps with official activities such as Public Presentations. Others, including parents, and community organizations step up when needed.

***4-H Volunteers give > 10,000 hours per year to mentor youth***

Thanks go to all of the above. Other supporters included:

Sons of the American Legion who served beer/wine/cheesecake  
Millbrook Winery staff who are always 100% supportive



## The Activities

The youth were the stars of the show. Supported by their Leaders, volunteers, parents and community members, every program we offer was represented. The 4-H'ers provided education and interactive hands-on activities which appealed to every guest from youngest to oldest. They exhibited the best life skills behaviors, with confidence, competence and caring on display.



See below for more pictures that tell the story better than any words!

## Outcomes of the 2023 4-H A-Fair to Remember

- Income \$42,516                      Expenditure \$15,792                      Net income raised \$26,724

Income was high for several reasons:

- Increased ticket sales in 2023
- Incredible support from the community in cash donations and sponsorship
- A \$5,000 matched donation from an anonymous source boosted giving
- A successful live and silent auction

Expenditure was low due to overwhelming in-kind donations:

- Millbrook Winery donated the use of the facilities for free
- Superior Sanitation provided the toilet trailer as a sponsorship
- Adams Nursery donated all the flowers for tables
- Over 50 people and/or businesses donated items and goods such as for the auction

These funds will be used in multiple ways to support existing 4-H'ers and expand the number and diversity of children supported by the 4-H program to learn and thrive. We will meet our goals and all remaining funds will be designated to help our youth throughout the program year.

If you were lucky enough to be at the A-fair, you will already know what for us was the biggest win. The community came together in a way that is truly inspiring. The kids shone as they worked together, played, learned and laughed together. From tiny tots to seniors, this really is a community to be proud of!

## The 2023 A-Fair in Pictures

The photos below are courtesy of 4-H staff and volunteers at the event. CCEDC has permission to publish pictures of the 4-H in these pictures. Please feel free to use them on your social media platforms, website, etc. to promote this amazing event you were all a part of.

Jane Rodd – 4-H Program Leader

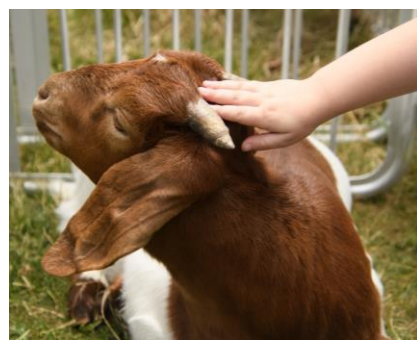












***Thank you all!!***