

4-H Livestock Club shows at local fairs

The Jackson County 4-H Youth Livestock Group has been practicing all summer for this year's fair season, which is now underway. Twelve kids, from ages 5 to 14, have been raising lambs since May as part of the 4-H Sheep Project, in which participants explore animal husbandry, livestock selection and evaluation, health management, and even meat science. These participants have attended multiple showmanship clinics in Macon County over the summer, learning the ins and outs of livestock judging and preparing their animals for the limelight.

The group had their first show in August at the Swain County Fair, in which several Jackson County youth placed. Next, they will show at the Macon County Fair, the Haywood County Fair, and lastly, Mountain Heritage Day in Cullowhee on September 30. It is a busy month for them! After all of the fairs are over, the Sheep Project will come to a close and animals will be sold. The Livestock Group will then go back to their regular meetings at Smoky Mountain High School every other Thursday (let us know if you would like to join meetings).

4-H is very proud of these kids, as they have put in hard work to take care of their animals and develop showmanship skills. They are our farmers, in the making!



From left to right: Lauren Conner, Hailey Luker, Caitlynn Taylor, Branson Stillwell, Lane Crawford, Hunter Woody, Lyra Fox, Ellis Barrett, Whitney Murajda, Kyra Fox, Felix Lossiah, Trenton Conner