

January 1 - March 1, 2026

RI 4-H News

University of Rhode Island, Cooperative Extension

Annual Banquet

This year, we held our annual awards banquet on January 24th, 2026 at Cranston Country Club. Youth led the whole program, including designing Disney-themed centerpieces and games, and performing live music. Among the evening's honorees was Beth Stone, who is celebrating her 50th year as a 4-H Volunteer Club Leader. Beth now also serves as the Head Chaperone for the RI Horse Delegation at the Big E. Thank you to Beth and our many long-time volunteers that have moved 4-H forward!



Upcoming Events

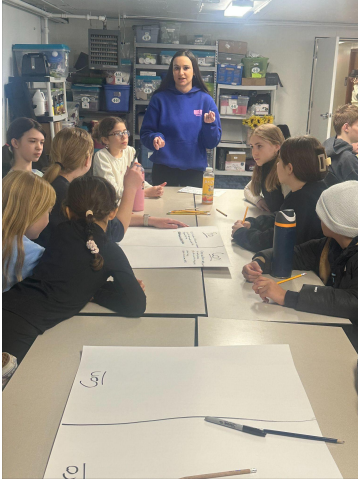
- 3/14 - 4-H Leadership Training
- 3/15 - Horse Education Symposium
- 3/20 - Photo Fine Arts Fair
- 3/25 - Ignite National Trip
- 4/18 - Meat Sciences Workshop
- 4/24 - PBS Field Trip
- 5/2 - Roger Williams Natural History Museum and Planetarium Tour

Art Workshop

Twenty-six youth participated in a hands-on art education program. The kids learned about artistic styles and movements in Western European art and how to recognize them. They were then tasked with creating a painting of one of their favorite things in a specific historical art style. This workshop on February 17th allowed youth to be creative, express themselves, learn techniques with acrylic medium and to be knowledgeable in art history. Most of all, they had a lot of fun on February vacation at URI's East Farm!

Let's Debate It Workshop

Chocolate vs Gummies. This was the topic for the Let's Debate It workshop held on February 21. Long-time 4-H volunteer and former debate club leader Michelle Felix led us through fun debate activities and techniques that culminated in a mock debate tournament! We also had help from URI communications undergraduates who lent their expertise to the debate teams. Learning new skills, practicing our public speaking, and squeezing in some 4-H fun before an epic snow day.



Hobby Horse Show

We returned to our favorite arena - the URI Memorial Ballroom - for the third ever 4-H hobby horse show. Pioneered by the Rivendell Riders 4-H Club, hobby horse continues to engage youth in learning about the horse show world in a fun, low-pressure environment. Don't knock it until you try it! We've seen some of our older kids not-so-secretly practicing their hobby horse technique as well.



Upcoming Projects...

Summer certainly seems a long way away, but we are already thinking about some great programs to put on the books in collaboration with URI. We are in talks with the URI Engineering department and the RI Sea Grant program to provide a fun "water world" series of workshops.