



# News & Notes

*January/February 2008*



Dear 4-H Families:

We would like to invite you to attend our upcoming **4-H Recognition Program** which will be held at Montgomery College, Germantown Campus in Globe Hall on **February 9<sup>th</sup>** starting promptly at 7 p.m. There will be light refreshments after the program. We will be honoring all of our 4-H Clubs, Members and Volunteers. We will also be giving special recognition to 4-H'ers for leadership, community service and their project work. We also have some very special entertainment planned so ***please plan on joining us for the evening.***

There are new annual IRS electronic filing requirements for small tax-exempt organizations that will impact 4-H programs beginning this year. Beginning this year, 2008, small tax-exempt 4-H organizations that previously were not required to file returns because they earned less than \$25,000 will be required to file an annual electronic notice called an e-Postcard.

Small tax-exempt organizations, such as 4-H Clubs and Affiliated 4-H Organizations, whose gross receipts are normally \$25,000 or less, were not previously required to file Form 990 or 990-EZ. With the enactment of the Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA), these small tax-exempt organizations will now be required to file electronically Form 990-N, also known as the e-Postcard, with the IRS annually.

For questions concerning the tax-exempt status of 4-H Clubs or Affiliated 4-H Organizations please contact the National 4-H Headquarters – USDA at (202) 720-2908 or [4-H\\_tax\\_info@csrees.usda.gov](mailto:4-H_tax_info@csrees.usda.gov) or call our office.

**The Gaithersburg/Washington Grove Garden Club** is sponsoring a hands-on program for 4-H'ers between the ages of 8 and 13. Learn how to mix soil for potting plants, how to make cuttings, how to water, fertilize, and nurture your plant. Prepare and plant your pots, then take home the finished product to nurture and possibly enter later in the 2008 County Fair.

Where: Montgomery County 4-H Office  
(Garage Room)

When: Saturday, April 19, from 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Who: 4-H'ers ages 8-13 who want to learn about potting plants  
(This workshop will be limited to the first 15 who sign up.)

If interested in attending please register by returning the form below no later than March 10. Call Jeannie at the 4-H Office if you have any questions. Remember: there are no prerequisites – your presence is all that is needed.



**The Gaithersburg/Washington Grove Garden Club  
Is Sponsoring a Program  
Learn About “How to Pot Plant Cuttings and Care for Them”**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes, I would like to attend**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone #** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Club** \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to: Mont. Co. 4-H Office, 18410 Muncaster Rd., Derwood, MD 20855 by March 10, 2008**

It is the policy of the University of Maryland and Maryland Cooperative Extension, that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, age, marital or parental status, or disability.

**Livestock Skill-a-thon** - Interested in learning about cattle, sheep, swine and goats? Regardless of whether you own your own or simply have a desire to learn we want you!!! The livestock skill-a-thon team is getting ready to start practices. You will learn everything including feeds, meats, animal id, equipment, and everything in between. Montgomery County is also the defending state champs so come out and help continue the winning tradition. If you are interested please contact David Gordon at [dgordon3@umd.edu](mailto:dgordon3@umd.edu) to register by January 28<sup>th</sup> or simply come to the first meeting at 7 p.m. on January 30<sup>th</sup> at the 4-H Office. The state skill-a-thon contest will be held in connection with the Maryland Cattleman's convention on March 8, 2008 in Hagerstown, MD. Please call if you have any additional questions.

**A Communications Workshop** has been planned for Saturday, **January 26, 2008 from 10 a.m. – Noon**. This workshop will help you to express yourself and to improve your ability to speak before an audience. You will get valuable information that will help you in school, in college and in the job market. This workshop will help you plan, write and deliver a speech, or give a demonstration.

Get ready for the County Public Speaking Contest which will be held here at the 4-H Office on March 1<sup>st</sup>. **Call the 4-H Office by January 24<sup>th</sup> to sign up for the communications workshop.**

**Dog Bowl**, by Collin Shay – When I say that I am on a Dog Bowl team, most people would look at me funny, and ask if the dogs are the balls or the pins. Actually, Dog Bowl has nothing to do with regular bowling; it is completely unrelated.

Dog Bowl is a competition where 4-H'ers who are interested in competing form teams in each of the three age divisions: junior, intermediate, and senior. Each team has a maximum of five people on it. They practice with their team for a few months, and then the team goes to the state competition to test their knowledge against the other teams in their division from all the other counties. Dog Bowl is, in some ways, similar to the TV show, Jeopardy, except all the questions are about dogs: breeding, health, anatomy, breeds, parasites and diseases.

Overall, Dog Bowl is a great experience. It teaches you teamwork, determination, and good sportsmanship. You get to meet new people, make new friends, and learn about new things the whole time. I have enjoyed Dog Bowl for the past two years, and I look forward to going out for the team in 2008. It is a great activity for children between the ages of 8 and 18.

For more information about participating in Dog Bowl, please contact **Susan Perdue at 201-208-0488** or [superdue@comcast.net](mailto:superdue@comcast.net) Dog Bowl practices will be starting very soon.

**Never been to 4-H Camp?** What are you waiting for! It is not too late to be making New Year's Resolutions – so why not make yours for a week of fun this summer. . . camping in the woods of Western Maryland. . . making new friends. . . learning new things and HAVING A BLAST! Mark your calendars now – July 6 to 11. Not sure you want to go “by yourself” – bring a friend. . . everyone between the 4-H ages of 8-13 is welcome. SEE YOU THERE! (Camp application found elsewhere in this issue of *News & Notes*.)

**Would you like to be involved?** Here is YOUR chance! Help is needed at the 4-H Building during the Montgomery County Fair. Several positions are open for Department Chairman. Adults are needed for Chairman positions in the Candy, Education, and Clothing Departments. It can be a single chairman position, or grab a friend and co-chair together. Come and join the others that have a lot of fun while helping our 4-H'ers exhibit their projects! Call the 4-H Office or Debbie Malone at 301-972-0063 if you are interested. If you do not wish to become a chairman but want to help in another way, please call us – your help is always needed!

**RUMORS** – “Did you know that you have to be invited to join Senior Council?”  
“Only the kids who go to camp belong to Senior Council.”  
“If you could have joined in the past but didn’t you missed the opportunity.”

**NOT TRUE!** Everyone 14 and over is welcome! Sure some of the same kids that go to camp, belong to Senior Council but you don’t have to. So what if you are 16 or 17, come on and JOIN US!

We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of every month, from 3-4 p.m. at the 4-H Office. Put is on your calendar. See you soon! Still have questions?? Call Annette Plitman 301-570-6310 or email her at [aplitman@hotmail.com](mailto:aplitman@hotmail.com)

**Rescheduled MCE Policy Training** – The 4-H Office will be providing MCE Policy Training in two parts here at the 4-H Office starting at 7 p.m.

Part I – January 24

Includes MCE Policy, Risk & Liability Management

Part II – January 31

Includes Universal Health Care & Substance Abuse Procedures

It is **imperative** that you call the 4-H Office no later than January 23<sup>rd</sup> to register for one or both of these training.

**Maryland Dairy Convention** will be held on February 16, 2008 at the Lynfield Event Complex in Frederick. There will be a youth program for 4-H’ers and this qualifies as an approved county 4-H activity. For more information and/or a registration form contact Laurie Savage at [secretary@marylandairyindustry.org](mailto:secretary@marylandairyindustry.org)

### **Calendar of Upcoming 4-H Events: 2008**

<b>January</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>MCE Training Part I, 7-9 p.m., 4-H Office</b>
	<b>26</b>	<b>Communications Workshop, 10 a.m.-Noon, 4-H Office</b>
	<b>26</b>	<b>Electric Workshop, 1-4 p.m., 4-H Office</b>
	<b>30</b>	<b>Skill-a-thon Practice, 7 p.m., 4-H Office</b>
	<b>31</b>	<b>MCE Training Part II, 7-9 p.m., 4-H Office</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4-H RECOGNITION PROGRAM MONTGOMERY COLLEGE, GERMANTOWN CAMPUS GLOBE HALL – 7 P.M.</b>
	<b>16</b>	<b>Maryland Dairy Convention, Frederick</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>County 4-H Public Speaking Competition, 8:30 a.m., 4-H Office</b>
	<b>26-27</b>	<b>Spring Break Sewing Sessions, 4-H Office</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Healthy Lifestyles Competition &amp; Visual Presentation Day, 4-H Office</b>
	<b>19</b>	<b>Garden Club Plant Workshop, 10-11:30 a.m., 4-H Office</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>TBA</b>	<b>Fashion Revue</b>

**4-H Public Speaking Contest**

March 1, 2008

8:30 a.m.

Montgomery County 4-H Office

The contest consist of four categories:

**Prepared Speech – Extemporaneous – Radio Spot -- Interpretations**

Each of the above categories includes three age groups: Junior (8-10), Intermediate (11-13) and Senior (14 and older). Ages are as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.

Time Limits:

- Prepared: Juniors: 3 to 5 minutes, Intermediates & Seniors: 4 to 6 minutes
- Extemporaneous: Juniors & Intermediates: 2 to 3 minutes, Seniors: 3 to 5 minutes
- Radio Spot: 30 seconds for all age groups
- Interpretations: Juniors & Intermediates: 2 to 3 minutes, Seniors: 3 to 5 minutes.
  - A. Dramatic Interpretation
    - a. Oral interpretation, memorized by the speaker or a serious selection of narrative or dramatic literature. Monologues are acceptable
    - b. Mime – use your body to create an interpretation
  - B. Poetry Interpretation
    - a. A memorized oral interpretation by the speaker
  - C. Humorous Interpretation
    - a. A memorized oral interpretation of a humorous selection by the speaker. Cuttings may be taken from published plays or prose.

For more detailed information and 4-H communications contest rules go to:

[www.maryland4h.org/Programs/index.cfm](http://www.maryland4h.org/Programs/index.cfm) click on Human Sciences- then click on Public Speaking Forms

Ribbons will be given in each of the age categories at the completion of their division.

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***Public Speaking Registration***

**Registration Deadline: February 15, 2008**

**Mail Registration to: Montgomery Co. 4-H, 18410 Muncaster Rd., Derwood, MD 20855**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ 4-H Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to participate in the following Public Speaking categories:

\_\_\_ Prepared Speech \_\_\_ Extemporaneous Speech \_\_\_ Radio Spot \_\_\_ Interpretations

Prepared Speech Title \_\_\_\_\_

Interpretations Category (pick from above A. B. or C.) \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

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**A Special Opportunity** is being offered to a very special person. We are in need of an adult volunteer to coordinate the VIP Day at the Montgomery County Fair. This means you would be working with the VIP Day Committee which consists of members of the Agricultural Center, City of Gaithersburg, and the Montgomery County Department of Recreation. You would be coordinating the visit of chronically ill children to the County Fair for a day-long visit with 4-H'ers serving as host and hostesses for the day. For more information or to volunteer contact Alga at [algapie@umd.edu](mailto:algapie@umd.edu) or 301-590-2804.

## **KLUB KORNER**

### *Back in Time 4-H Club –*

*The Back In Time 4-H Club is off to a great start. With over 90 members, Back In Time is growing quickly. The club is based around the Agricultural History Farm Park in Derwood and early 1900s farming. Club members work together with the Friends of the agricultural History Farm park and the Parks Department. We serve at Festivals throughout the year at the farm park. At the Park there are goats and chickens and we hope to get more animals in 2008! We even had kid goats donated by the goat club. The Back In Time club's future activities includes having a square dance on May 17 and improving the garden. Back In Time hopes to continue growing, being a large part of 4-H, working hard, but most of all having FUN!*

*Submitted by: Carla Stubbs, Back In Time 4-H Club*

### *Senior Council –*

*Senior Council met in November and made turkey tray favors for the residents at Brooke Grove Nursing Home and Assisted Living. Another countywide event was the collection of canned goods – which were donated to Manna of Gaithersburg. The hum of sewing machines filled the Extension Office in December when they met again and made cheerful holiday pillow cases for the Children's Inn at NIH.*

*The January meeting will be spent focusing on and planning activities for the rest of the year. Hope you can join us!*

*Submitted by: Laura Plitman, Sr. Council*

### *A Day with Dogs –*

*On Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, the Kentlands Community held their annual Kentlands Dog Show, and the weather could not be more perfect. Some of the activities at the event included dog-related vendors, a bake sale, demonstrations, and of course, the dog show itself.*

*The show had many different classes from best tail to most owner look alikes, from best costume to best trick. It is always fun to see the dogs and the crazy owners that love them. For the past two years, the Kids 'N Dogs 4-H Club has attended the show. Not only do we run the bake sale table, but we also demonstrate our skills with our dogs. Our agility demo showed off our dogs' strong points. People were so amazed that our dogs actually did the obstacles, and did them well. We gave some of the other contestants a chance to try it. It was quite a sight to watch these inexperienced people trying to coax their dogs through a tunnel!*

*We also had our obedience demo which showed off the teamwork between the handlers and their dogs. Each handler did their favorite exercise. Then, for our finale, four of our more experienced members did synchronized figure-eights, a combined recall, and our own heeling pattern – four 4-H'ers and four dogs. Talk about teamwork! Our club had a great time at the show, and we will be sure to be their next year.*

*Submitted by: Miriya Tune, Kids 'N Dogs 4-H Club*