



4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.



March/April 2009

Dear 4-H Members, Parents, and Volunteers,

Things have been very busy for the Talbot County 4-H Program. Our clubs are actively involved in fun, educational meetings and community service projects: Great! That's what 4-H is all about. Remember to spread the word about 4-H within the community and help us locate new volunteers and potential members. Current members, be sure to thank your volunteer leaders for the time they invest in creating learning activities for you. We wouldn't have a 4-H Program without our volunteers!

Here at the office, Jayne and I have been working on several projects. We recently developed and taught a well-attended record book workshop for local 4-H members. In addition, we held the annual county communications contest on February 6. Jayne and I also designed a public speaking workshop and a new family orientation program, both of which were not offered due to low enrollment. Be sure to register for programs in advance if you plan to attend. Contact the 4-H Office if your family would like to go through an orientation or if you need help improving your public speaking skills. The Achievement Program is scheduled for March 13 (moved from the original date due to a schedule conflict) and the Regional Communications Contest is scheduled for March 27. Planning for both events is keeping us busy. We will begin visiting club meetings again during the spring, but for now we hope to see you at the Achievement Program!

Tom Hutson
4-H Educator

Why Are Record Books Important?

The ability to keep records and organize information is an important life skill. 4-H record books help members keep track of their learning activities and other accomplishments for the year. A record book summarizes a member's 4-H experiences and can be used by the 4-H staff and volunteers to determine eligibility for 4-H awards and recognition. Parents,

please continue to encourage your children to complete and submit record books each year. The best way to make record books easy is to work on them a little each month throughout the year! This year the 4-H Office received nearly 50 record books. We hope to receive even more next year.



Record Book Workshop Evaluation

Thanks to all of you who attended our recent record book workshop held at the 4-H Office. Based on your evaluations, the workshop an average of 4.7 out of 5 (5 is the highest rating). Most participants said the workshop was very helpful, particularly for first year 4-H members. We appreciate your suggestions for making our next record book workshop even better!



Safety First!

Please remember that the MOST important thing to consider at every 4-H event is SAFETY. 4-H is an educational program, and we must ensure that all members participate in programs that provide for their safety. Volunteers, parents, and 4-H personnel should always plan 4-H activities in advance and carefully consider all safety precautions. In case you didn't know, 4-H clubs have access to accident insurance from American Income Life Insurance Company. The premiums are only \$1 per year for each member and volunteer. Higher risk areas such as horse projects require a premium of \$2 per year. The insurance plan provides \$2,500 of accident coverage in the rare event that a member or volunteer is injured during a 4-H activity. Members and volunteers, when your club leader collects a dollar from you each year the money goes to pay for this accident insurance.



Have Your 4-H Activity Published in the Newspaper!



Has your club carried out some interesting activities or community service projects lately? Would you like to have your members featured in the *Star Democrat*? 4-H volunteer Roxane Watts is a photographer for the newspaper. She has given us instructions on how to submit items to the newspaper:

- (1) Choose a photograph of a member doing a demonstration or a group of club members doing an interesting 4-H activity.
- (2) Type up a brief description of the activity for a photo caption and be sure everyone in the photograph is identified. If your description is long the newspaper staff might need to shorten it to make it fit in the available space.
- (3) E-mail your photograph AND the description to sdphotos@chespub.com and Roxane will work on getting them put into the newspaper!

Visit the 2009 Maryland Day Event



This year Maryland Day will be held April 25 at the University of Maryland in College Park. The all-day event allows the University to showcase its interesting research and programs. There are lots of fun, interactive activities for Maryland residents who attend Maryland Day. Several counties will have 4-H booths set up in the Animal Sciences Courtyard. Consider attending Maryland Day – you'll enjoy it.

2009 Night at the Shorebirds



4-H Night at the Shorebirds will be held this year on May 29. Contact the 4-H Office if you need more information about attending this fun-filled evening.

ANIMAL SCIENCE NEWS

Livestock Quality Assurance

The 4-H Office will be offering Livestock Quality Assurance Training on April 29 at 6:30 p.m. at the Talbot Ag. Center. 4-H members who participate in livestock projects **must** attend quality assurance training every two years. If you need the training this year, be sure to sign up with the 4-H Office by Wednesday, April 22. Remember: If you plan to show your livestock at the fair, it is even more important that you attend quality assurance training!



4-H Goat Clinic

Caroline County and the Delmarva Goat Association will be hosting a goat clinic for all goat breeds on Saturday, April 25 starting at 9 a.m. at the Caroline County 4-H Park in Denton. Any members interested in showing goats are invited to attend.



Events include a fitting and showmanship clinic, goat industry speakers, vendors, door prizes, and an all breed sale starting at 2 p.m. Contact Navonne Owen if you have questions: (410) 479-4030 or nowen@umd.edu.

Youth Sheep and Wool Skillathon



There will be a skillathon held on Sunday, May 3 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the Howard County Fairgrounds in West Friendship. Please contact the 4-H Office if you need more information or go to

www.sheepandgoat.com/programs/skillathon/skillathon.html. You may also call (301) 432-2767 x343.

Livestock Tags

The 4-H Office has received a shipment of livestock tags based on your orders for the 2009 fair season. Please check with Mrs. Susan Behrens, our livestock coordinator, or contact the 4-H Office if you have questions about animals you plan to show.



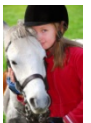
Eastern Shore Spring Show



This year the Eastern Shore Spring Show will be held May 9 at the Queen Anne's County 4-H Park. The event will include shows for swine, goats, sheep, beef, dairy, guinea pigs (cavy), rabbits, and dogs. Contact the 4-H Office if you need information about how to register for the event.

Horse Bowl Contest Helpers Wanted

The Maryland 4-H Horse Bowl will be held on March 7 in College Park from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Anyone interested in being a scorekeeper or a buzzer operator should contact Kristen Wilson at kswilson@umd.edu or (301) 596-9478. This is a great way to learn about the Horse Bowl!



Horsemanship Standards Test Prep Clinic

On May 16 at the Talbot Ag. Center, the 4-H Office will host a practice clinic that can help prepare members for the horsemanship standards knowledge level tests. Kristen Wilson and Darryll Ann Buschling will be coordinating the teaching at the clinic. Registration information and forms are available from the 4-H Office.

Horseman's Party

The 23rd annual Maryland Horsemen's Party will be held Sunday, October 11 from 2 to 5 p.m. at Ten Oaks Ballroom in Clarksville. This is a great opportunity to come out and support the Maryland 4-H Horse Program. The proceeds will go to support horse educational programs and the annual trip for 4-H members to the Eastern National 4-H Horse roundup.



Maryland State Fair: Changes to Livestock Events

The order of livestock shows at the State Fair will change this year. 4-H beef cattle shows will be held on the FIRST weekend and will include a new "purebreds of other breeds" division. 4-H dairy shows will be held on the SECOND weekend.



Dog Bowl Date Change

The State Dog Bowl Contest has been postponed until this fall. The new date is Saturday, October 10. Please mark your calendars.



ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND S.E.T NEWS

4-H Shooting Sports Facts

Did you know that in 2008 there were 807 youth from 22 Maryland counties enrolled in 4-H shooting sports programs?

Contact the 4-H Office if you would like to join Claybusters, the Talbot County shooting sports club. We will put you in touch with Jo Anne Roe, the club leader.



Shotgun Safety Training

Shotgun Safety Class has been scheduled for April 18 and 25 from 10 a.m.–12 p.m. and also from 1–3 p.m. on the 25th. The location is not yet determined but it will be held in the Easton area. SPACE IS LIMITED - register early with the 4-H Office if you are interested in getting involved with Claybusters, our shotgun club.

Shooting Sports Instructor Training

The 2009 State Shooting Sports Instructor Training and Certification Workshop will be held May 29, 30, and 31 at the Thendara 4-H Center in Hurlock. Adults, this is your opportunity to get some wonderful training and become certified to teach shooting sports to local 4-H members. Early Bird registration is May 4th. Contact the 4-H Office if you would like more information or if you would like to register. Disciplines: rifle, archery, shotgun, pistol, and muzzleloading.

***Youth ages 8 or older are invited to the shooting sports training on Sunday, May 31 to serve as students for newly trained adult volunteer shooting sports instructors. This puts the final touch on the adult training when instructors are given the opportunity to put what they learn into practice immediately with kids. Youth will need to arrive around noon and will be provided with a free lunch. Please contact the 4-H Office if you would like to participate. The first 50 4-H members to register and attend the event will receive a free 4-H shooting sports T-shirt. This event is a great way to introduce youth to 4-H shooting sports!

Sporting Clays Fundraiser

The Maryland 4-H Foundation Sporting Clays Fundraiser will be held April 4 at Pintail Point near Queenstown, Maryland. Contact the 4-H Office if you are interested in participating.

***Contact Mr. Conrad Arnold at the Dorchester County Extension Office (410) 228-8800 if you have specific questions about shooting sports policies and state or national programs. He is the Maryland Coordinator for 4-H shooting sports program.



HUMAN SCIENCE NEWS



Congratulations to the 2009 Talbot County Communications Contest Winners!!!

The communications contest was held February 6 at Immanuel Lutheran Church. We would like to thank all of our participants for showcasing their talents. We would also like to thank Mrs. Linda Brown for emceeding the event and our Judges, Nancy Andrew and Richard Stewart, for donating their time and helpful suggestions to our participants. You are all great!

Radio Spot

Jessica Lantz – Intermediate Champion
Noah Dorbin – Intermediate Reserve Champion
Shelby Taylor – Senior Champion

Prepared Speech

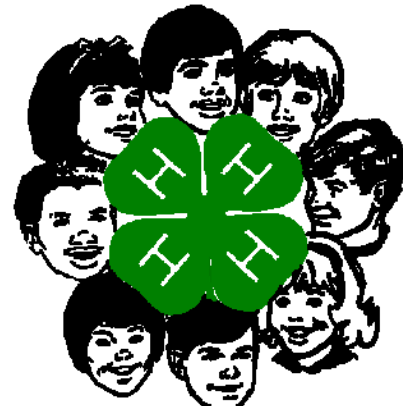
Megan Watts – Junior Champion
Shane Taylor – Senior Champion
Emilyann Graudin – Senior Reserve Champion

Extemporaneous Speech

Lindsay Graudin – Senior Champion

Dramatic, Poetry, or Humorous Interpretation

Mitchell Lantz – Junior Champion
Emily Lantz – Intermediate Champion

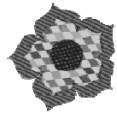


State Communications Contest

The contest will be held Saturday, April 25 during the Maryland Day event at the University of Maryland. The 4-H Office will be sending our list of county champions and reserve champions for each age level/event to the State 4-H Office. Reserve champions are eligible to compete if the champions are not able to attend the event.



Diamond Clover Plans



If you plan to complete the next level in the Diamond Clover Program during 2009, please let the 4-H Office know what level you will be working on by March 13. We need to order diamond clover pins many months in advance of next year's achievement program, so we need to know your level in order to submit an accurate diamond clover pin order.

Juvenile Drug Court

4-H has been partnering with the Juvenile Drug Court in an effort to give struggling teenagers exposure to positive, constructive uses of their free time. Miss Jayne works with the court's art therapist and teaches participants about photography and much more. Our participants will be involved in environmental improvement projects this spring. They will be helping to build bluebird houses to be placed in suitable locations near the Extension Office.



New State Fair Category: 4-H Fashion Runway

This new class will encourage all youth with creative design instincts to participate. Contestants receive a 3-yard piece of fabric at the State 4-H Office. Then they make a garment, outfit, coordinated piece, or other item in the clothing/fashion area. (This project is replacing the redesigner gowns and create with fabric program.) Members can model their new Fashion Runway garment in the State 4-H Fashion Revue. Email Sandy Corridon if you have questions: Corridon@umd.edu.

4-H Fashion Workshop

The Growing Together 4-H Club in Sudlersville invites you to participate in a Fashion Revue workshop on Thursday, March 12 at 7 p.m. at the Sudlersville Methodist Church. Contact Corridon@umd.edu if you would like to attend.

4-H Foundation Updates

To celebrate its 50th anniversary, the Maryland 4-H Foundation will be introducing two special initiatives. (1) **\$50 for 50 years fundraising program.** All clubs are encouraged to participate in the program. Funds raised will help the 4-H Foundation make up for losses incurred due to a worsening economy. Remember that the 4-H Foundation

helps to fund numerous opportunities for Maryland 4-H members across the state.

(2) **Summer Fair Tour.** Amanda Brown Clougherty of the 4-H Foundation is planning a whirlwind tour of Maryland's county fairs. She plans to set up an informative fundraising booth at each fair to help bring in extra money for 4-H programs.

Scholarships: Senior 4-H members, please take the time to download an application for a 4-H Foundation scholarship. If you have any questions, please contact Amanda Brown Clougherty at 301 314-7832 or akbrown@umd.edu

CLUB HAPPENINGS AND COMMUNITY SERVICE: Our members are doing great things!



On February 7, Noah Dorbin (left) and Seaghan Lambert of the Busy Beavers 4-H Club were two of several volunteers assisting at the Talbot Humane Spay/Neuter Clinic. A mobile veterinary vehicle and staff were provided by Grateful Paws of Grasonville for the day-long event.

The clinic performed surgery on dozens of cats, both domestic and feral, and several dogs. Volunteers helped transport and comfort the animals, fill in paperwork, move supplies, clean up the facility, and reunite patients with their owners. If not sterilized, a female cat may bear as many as 30 to 90 kittens during her reproductive years.

Talbot Humane and Grateful Paws partner to provide low-cost weekly spay/neuter services to qualified Talbot County residents. Talbot Humane is located at 7894 Ocean Gateway in Easton. For more information, visit www.talbothumane.org or call 410.822.0107.

photograph by Ann Dorbin, Submitted by Busy Beavers Recorder, Noah Dorbin



On January 23, the Busy Beavers 4-H Club visited the Academy Art Museum in Easton for a tour and art project. Joan McGarry gave a tour of Albert Paley's *Monumental Forms: Drawings, Models & Sculpture* exhibit. Students viewed and learned about Paley's famous winning entry for the gates to the Smithsonian Institution's Renwick Gallery, major works from the National Cathedral and St. Louis Zoo, and a huge carving depicting endangered species. The exhibit highlighted the elaborate drawings and meticulous models Paley uses to make his proposals for public commissions, and from which enormous, full-scale components are fabricated. The students also saw works by silversmith and designer, Michael Brophy. Following the tour, Ms. McGarry instructed the students in how a piece of art can be enjoyed while also having a functional purpose while making Functional Animal Sculptures.

Pictured (left to right) are club members Michelle McCulley, Maria McCulley, Erin Dawson, Megan McCulley, Seaghan Lambert, and Noah Dorbin.

photograph by Ann Dorbin, Submitted by Noah Dorbin, Club Reporter

4-H Calendar

- March 6 Talbot County 4-H Visual Presentation Contest, 7 p.m. (Call the 4-H Office to register and for location).
- March 7 State Horse Bowl Contest, College Park
- March 8 Cecil County Winterfare
- March 11 Talbot County 4-H Livestock Committee Meeting, 7 p.m. at the Extension Office
- March 13 2009 Diamond Clover level notification due to 4-H Office (see inside for details)

- March 13 Achievement Program, 6:30 p.m. at Easton High School cafeteria
- March 17 Talbot County 4-H Council Meeting, 7 p.m. at the Extension Office
- March 21 Spring Hill Cemetery Clean-up Day, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Easton (sponsored by Busy Beavers).
- March 27 4-H Eastern Shore Regional Public Speaking Contest, 6:30 p.m. at Easton High School
- April 7-8 National 4-H Conference, Chevy Chase,
- April 18 4-H Wildlife Contest, Patuxent River 4-H Center
- April 18 4-H Horse Judging Clinic, Carroll County Ag. Center
- April 18 Talbot Ag. Center Grounds Clean-up, 8 a.m. Please come and help us keep the Ag Center Beautiful!
- April 25 Maryland State Communications Contest, College Park
- April 25 Maryland Day, University of Maryland, College Park
- April 25 Goat Clinic, 9 a.m., Caroline County 4-H Park
- April 29 Livestock Quality Assurance Training, 6:30 p.m. at Talbot Ag. Center
- May 9 Eastern Shore Spring Show, Queen Anne's County 4-H Park
- May 16 Horsemanship Standards Test Prep Clinic, Talbot Ag. Center
- May 29 4-H Night at the Shorebirds

It is the policy of University of Maryland Cooperative Extension that all persons have equal opportunity and access to programs and facilities without regard to race, color, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, age, marital status or parental status, or disability.

Bay 100 Blue Crabs

Club meetings are held the first Friday of each month at 7 P.M. at the St. Michaels Community Center.

This is a community club in which members complete various projects such as photography, sewing, public speaking, etc.

Club Leader:
Ernie Burns
410-745-6956

Busy Beavers

Club meetings are held at varying dates and locations throughout Talbot County.

This is a community club in which members complete various projects and carry out lots of important community service.

Club Leader:
Della Andrew
410-822-4794

CHAPEL DISTRICT

Club meetings are held on the second Friday of each month at 7 P.M. at the Talbot Agriculture Center, Easton.

This is a community club in which members complete various projects such as animals, recycling, etc.

Club Leader:
Susan Behrens
(Contact the 4-H office if you are interested in joining.)

Claybusters

Club meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at 1:30 P.M. at the Talbot Rod & Gun Club.

This is a project club in which members learn about shooting sports with an emphasis on shotguns.

Club Leader:
Jo Anne Roe and
(410) 822-7710
(410) 829-2429

Shooting Instructor:
Clem Hathaway

Talbot County 4-H Clubs Welcome You



**Our programs are fun
and educational for all
kids!**

Green Clovers

Club meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 7 P.M. at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Easton.

This is a community club in which members study various projects such as food, fashion, etc.

Club Leaders:
Carol Frampton and
Linda Brown
(Contact the 4-H office if you are interested in joining.)

Equal Opportunity and Equal Access Programs!

"It is the policy of University of Maryland Cooperative Extension that all persons have equal opportunity and access to programs and facilities without regard to race, color, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, age, marital status or parental status, or disability."

Hoofbeats

Club meetings are held on the third Monday of each month at 7 P.M. in the Talbot County Extension Office in Easton.

This is a project club in which members learn about horses and horsemanship.

Club Leader:
Pat Harvey

4-H programs are open to all youth ages 8-18 (members) and ages 5-7 (clovers).

Are you interested in joining 4-H or becoming a 4-H Volunteer?

**Contact the 4-H office at:
(410) 822-1244**

**University of Maryland Extension,
Talbot County
28577 Mary's Court, Suite 1
P.O. Box 519
Easton, MD 21601**

