MARYLAND COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
COLLEGE PARK • EASTERN SHORE

Newsletter

WASHINGTON COUNTY ● 7303 SHARPSBURG PIKE ● BOONSBORO, MD 21713
301-791-1404 ● FAX 301-791-1048

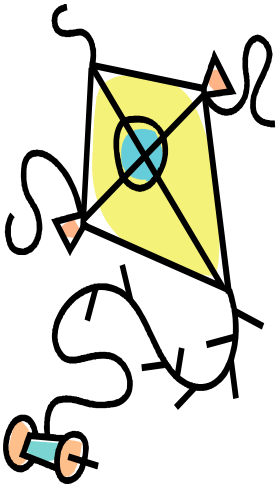
4-H News and Views

March—April 2008

Recognition Night

The projects have been completed, the record books have been judged, there's only one thing left undone --receiving your awards! Recognition Night will be held on Saturday, March 15, at 7 PM in the All-Purpose Building at the Ag Center. **"The Sky's the Limit"** is this year's theme, and it's an evening you and your family won't want to miss! Come see what other 4-Hers have been doing in their clubs and communities and show your support for all our special volunteers. Light refreshments will be served so please be sure to RSVP the MCE office at 791-1404 by Friday, March 7.

By: Shawna Corbett, 4-H Advisory Committee Member



Record Books

A huge thank you to all of the 4-H'ers that completed and submitted record books to their club leaders to be judge on the county level. Record Book judging took place on Saturday, February 23 and was a great success. A huge thank you to all the volunteers who gave up an entire Saturday to judge the 4-H Record Books! We greatly appreciate the great job that everyone did.

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If you live in PA, WV, or outside Washington County

There are new across county/city line guidelines for 4-H youth that reside in a different county or state. Please contact the 4-H Office for more information.

Washington County 4-H Public Speaking Contest

Saturday, March 15, 2008

The 2008 Washington County 4-H Public Speaking Contest will take place during our annual 4-H Recognition Night. Participants will meet at 6:30 p.m. prior to event starting for final preparations. All entries are due to the 4-H Office by Monday, March 10th.

The top two individuals in each category and age group will be asked to represent Washington County 4-H Youth Development at the **State Public Speaking Contest on April 26, 2007 at Maryland Day at the University of Maryland in College Park.**

The contest consists of four categories:

- Prepared Speech- Juniors: 3 to 5 minutes; Intermediates and Seniors: 4 to 6 minutes.
- Extemporaneous- Juniors and Intermediates: 2 to 3 minutes; Seniors: 3 to 5 minutes.
- Radio Spot- 30 seconds for all age groups.
- Interpretations- Juniors and Intermediates: 2 to 3 minutes; Seniors: 3 to 5 minutes.

Speeches are given by individuals, not teams.

Maryland Day
University of Maryland, College Park

Have you ever wanted to go to College Park to experience college life, but never had the opportunity to go? Are you a high school student dreaming of going to college, but haven't decided where?

Take your family to Maryland Day on April 26 at the University of Maryland at College Park. The University of Maryland, Maryland Cooperative Extension, and the 4-H Youth Development Program are teaming up to make Maryland Day fun and adventurous. Participate in the different activities, contests, and see the sights! You don't want to miss this great opportunity! See you there!

ATTENTION LEADERS: REMINDER

Please make sure that you are turning in all paperwork: club information sheet, club by-laws, 2007 All Reasonable Efforts, 2008 monthly meeting reports, 2008 4-H yearly meeting calendar, and your club's annual financial summary report for January 1, 2007 until December 31, 2007. All paperwork is due to Shannon. It is important that the 4-H Office have these documents on file so that your club is in compliance with club charter, affirmative actions, and state level 4-H guidelines. If some of the information, such as the financial report, doesn't apply to your club, you still need to turn it into the 4-H Office stating a zero balance and no treasury.

CLUB TREASURERS

If you are a treasurer of your club, you are allowed to write checks with adult supervision and only if the bank you are banking with permits it. Two signatures are required on a check and both names must be on the account. According to the new Maryland 4-H guidelines, the treasurer can not be related to the leader if the leaders name is on the account and both the leader

Character Counts and so do you!

As many of you know Shannon has been visiting all of the 4-H Clubs in Washington County over the past few months doing Ethics Training. Ethics training is required every year in order to show at the Washington County Ag Expo & Fair. This year we are playing 4-H Ethics Jeopardy. If you missed your club's Ethics training, come to one of the following trainings over the next couple of months. **Please call the 4-H Office, 301-791-1404, if you are attending an alternative meeting date to make sure enough materials are provided for the training.**

- March 14- Chewsville 4-H Club, Shiloh United Methodist Church, 7-9 P.M.
- April 1- Saddles and Spurs 4-H Club, 18717 Planters Lane, Keedysville, 6-8 P.M.
- April 7- Ringgold /Smithsburg 4-H Club, Smithsburg Fire Hall, 7-8 P.M.

Club Corner

From: Shannon Sturtz

Contact her for more information regarding clubs at 301-791-1404

Or

ssturtz@umd.edu

Re-enrollment

Our thanks to all of the 4-H clubs who were able to complete their re-enrollment process on time and dive into the 2008 club year.

If your signed re-enrollments are not yet turned in, please do so as soon as possible. We need these to provide accurate reporting to the State 4-H Office.

April 1st is the deadline for adding projects that you wish to exhibit at Ag Expo.

Preparing for Summer Fun

TEEN LEADERS NEEDED!!!!

Please contact Beth Bubacz for leader application. Teens need to complete 5 training sessions prior to working with camp participants. Applications are due by March 14. Teen leaders earn 60 service learning hours for all of their hard work during Adventure in Agriculture Day Camp.

August 5 - 7, 2008
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
MCE Office
For youth ages 11 - 14

Adventures in Agriculture Day Camp

June 23-27, 2008
9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
For youth ages 6-10

During Adventures in Agriculture, youth do lots of hands-on activities and take field trips to destinations in Washington and surrounding counties! Youth participate in activities learning about: Livestock, Food Production and Nutrition, Crops, Natural Resources, and Horticulture. Participants need to bring a bag lunch, including a drink; afternoon snack and drink will be provided. Transportation will be provided from the Hagerstown area at no additional charge.

Cost: $80.00 per child $70.00 each additional child in the same family
Registration: Registration forms can be obtained from 4-H office or online at http://washington.umd.edu/ Registration is limited to 60 participants. Registration deadline is June 9, 2008.

Camp Quest

All applications to be a teen leader for Camp Quest need to be into the 4-H office no later than Monday, March 10th.

We are seeking at least two female and two male teen leaders along with four adult volunteers. To be a teen leader you must be 15-18 years old and have a desire to earn community service hours while working with youth ages 8-11.

Teen leaders and adult volunteers are required to have a minimum of forty training hours before camp starts so attending all training meetings are a must! Camp Quest will take place at the Frederick County 4-H Camp and Activity Center on July 6-11, 2008.

The next camp meeting will be held at CiCi's restaurant at 1580 Wesel Blvd., Hagerstown on Tuesday, March 18th at 6:30 p.m. If you are interested in becoming a teen leader or adult volunteer, call the 4-H Office at 301-791-1404 for an application today!

If Camp Quest doesn't receive more teen leader and adult applications, camp will be cancelled.

Environmental Education Extravaganza

While at Environmental Education Camp, youth begin to develop an appreciation for the environment around them. Activities will concentrate on: Environmental Stewardship, Conservation, Wildlife Habitats, and Beautification. Participants will take part in hands-on learning activities and field trips. Participants need to bring a bag lunch, including drink; afternoon snack and drink will be provided.

Cost: $45 per child $40 each additional child in family

Registration is limited to 10 participants. Registration forms can be obtained from 4-H office or online at http://washington.umd.edu/ Registration deadline is June 27, 2008. More information will be sent to registered participants.

Thank You

Paula is Retiring

January 23, 2008

Dear Lynn,

It is with extreme delight and optimism that I inform you of my intention to retire from Maryland Cooperative Extension. My anticipated last day of work is February 29, 2008.

My 14 grandchildren are making lots of plans for me and I expect I will be spending a good bit of retirement time in Weirton, WV. My daughter and her husband are planning a second honeymoon and my son is looking forward to having a bookkeeper. And the puppy definitely needs some training. I do plan to look for a small part-time job. Time will tell.

I have many memories to take with me – your awesome Christmas pecans, Jeff's never-ending patience, Raye's compassion, lunchtime conversations with Don, the office united in prayer for the 9/11 victims . . . I could go on and on.

I will always be grateful to Mary Ellen for hiring me into "the best job in Washington County," and to all the volunteers and 4-H'ers who have embraced me with their friendship and trust.

Sincerely,

Paula Green Shupp

More Scholarship Opportunities

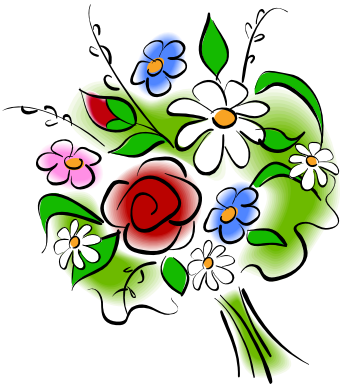
Rachel Carson Scholarship

The goal of the Rachel Carson Scholar Program is to recognize and honor students with a strong academic background who are taking active roles in environmental stewardship in their community. A Rachel Carson Scholar is one who: Demonstrates interest in or knowledge of the natural world, Has taken an active role in community-based environmental stewardship activities, and Has a strong academic record

First place recipient will receive a $1,000 award. Second place recipient will receive a $750 award and third place recipient will receive a $500 award. For more details visit: www.newtonmarascofoundation.org/

Tri-State Farm Toy Collectors Club

A $1,000 scholarship is being offered by the Tri-Sate Farm Toy Collectors Club to a deserving student in the Tri-State Area. All school Guidance Counselors have been sent a packets of scholarship information, including qualification and eligibility requirements. If interested contact your Guidance Counselor.



National Environmental Education Week
made possible by Canon
Canon

Sign up now to participate in National Environmental Education Week!

April 13 - 19, 2008

As the nation's largest environmental education event, National EE Week promotes understanding and protection of the natural world by actively engaging K-12th grade students and educators in an inspired week of environmental learning before Earth Day. If you work with children in a school, nature center, zoo, museum, aquarium, or other educational setting, you can join EE Week's efforts and gain national recognition for your work.

Log on to http://www.eeweek.org to register and check out more.

Put some emphasis on the Health "H" in 2008!

March is National Nutrition Month. Instead of providing cookies, ice cream, pizza, soda, etc. at club meetings for snacks, try having a healthy variety of food. Try including healthy drinks such as water, milk, and juices. For snack ideas try cheese, crackers, cereals, and fruits.

April is Youth Sports Safety Month. Remember to wear protection gear when roller skating and bicycling. Make sure to obey all safety laws!

Tractor Safety Course

Do you live or work on a farm and want to learn how to drive a tractor? Then sign up to take the Tractor Safety Classes that are being offered Maryland Co-operative Extension. There will be four mandatory classes that will begin late March / early April. RSVP to the 4-H Office at 301-791-1404 by March 14th. This tractor safety course is required to participate in any tractor events at Ag Expo.

Washington County Ag Expo & Fair and Maryland State Fair

4-H/FFA Promotions Divisions

!!! NEW for 2008 !!!

Theme: Ready S.E.T. _____ 4-H!

You fill in the blank and put your imagination to the test.

BOOTHS: Size: Exterior booth dimensions must be 47" W x 36" D x 22" H. The back of the booth must by 47"Wx 22"H. The bottom of the booth must by 47"Wx36"D. The sides must be in the shape of a right triangle using the following dimensions: 22" x 36" x 48". Structure must be able to be moved. Booths must include the official 4-H Clover emblem/ FFA Crest "AA Statement" somewhere in the booth. The club name, city, county, club leaders name, address, and phone number must be clearly printed on a card and securely attached to the back side of the booth in the upper right corner.

BANNERS: The design must be on one side only and be **two dimensional**. Banners must be 50" wide by 30" tall. The club or chapter and the official 4-H Clover emblem/ FFA crest must be clearly displayed.

If you have questions or need more information contact Beth Bubacz 301-791-1404 or bbubacz@umd.edu

ATTENTION ALL LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS!!!

All 4-H youth that want to show at the Ag Expo or at the Maryland State Fair in any of the Market shows must come to weigh-in on your species designated day. **All male market animals need to be castrated 30 days prior to weigh-in and must be completely healed by weigh-in date.** If you do not know how to do this, contact the 4-H office or your livestock superintendent. Please make sure that you arrive on-time. Livestock arriving late will not be tagged.

Weigh-In/ Tagging dates:

Dairy Steers- Sat., April 5 from 9-noon

Sheep- Fri., May 9 from 5:30-7:30 P.M.

Goat- Fri., May 23 from 5:30-7:30 P.M.

Swine- Sat., June 6 from 8:00- 11:00 A.M.

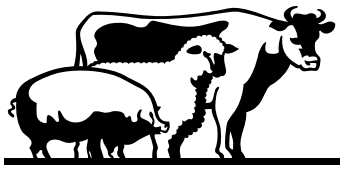
Health forms must be completed no more than 60 days prior to a show and stamped by a state lab within 30 days of the first show. Health papers will be valid for 180 days. Parents and 4-Hers are required to review the animal's health prior to a show and sign the back of the health form. Health forms are not required for weigh in; however, they are required for shows and exhibitions. Any questions please contact Shannon at 301-791-1404.

Junior Fair Board

The Junior Fair Board (JFB) is welcoming new members. The JFB organizes and provides leadership to 4-H activities in Washington County and at the Ag Expo. If you are interested in becoming active in the JFB, the next meeting will be held March 17, 2008, at 6:30 p.m., at the 4-H Office. A youth from every club needs to attend to be the liaison between their community/specialty club and the Junior Fair Board.

The Junior Fair Board will also be doing a silent auction at the 2008 4-H Recognition event on Sat., March 15 as a fundraiser for Ag Expo. For more information contact Tammy DeBaugh at 301-432-5739.

Livestock News



There is a NEW **4-H Code of Animal Science Ethics** governing exhibitors of animals (beef, dairy, goat, horse, poultry, rabbit, sheep, dog, camelid and swine). This code applies to all 4-Hers who participate in structured classes of competition and animal science activities/ events in 4-H. Copies of the new form will be distributed when you fill out registration papers for the shows. It needs to be read, signed and returned to the 4-H Office by Friday, May 30, 2008.

Time Change: Western Maryland Animal Science In-Service

On Saturday, March 8 from 3:00-5:00 P.M. the Animal Science committee will be hosting a Livestock information and development session for any interested 4-H youth or volunteers at the Washington County Office. Members of the Animal Science Curriculum Committee will be present to give updates and provide essential livestock information to the volunteers of the western counties. If you were unable to attend the Animal Science In-service in December this would be an excellent opportunity to learn about the animal science program. Presenters will include Patrick Thompson, Anne Arundel County; Chris Johnston, Queen Anne's County; and Sheryl Burdette, Howard County. Class is limited to the first 60 members to sign up. **RSVP to the 4-H Office by Wednesday, March 5th in order to attend!**

Quality Assurance Training:

All 4-H'ers exhibiting beef, dairy, horses, alpacas, sheep, hogs, goats, and rabbits MUST attend a MANDATORY Quality Assurance Training to be eligible to PARTICIPATE at the Ag Expo, and to sell a market animal at the Maryland State Fair. Those individuals who do not attend a training will be ineligible. Quality Assurance trainings are required every two years. If you are new or did not participate in showing last year, then you **MUST** attend *Saturday, March 8, 2008 from 10:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.* There is a maximum of 30 participants therefore 4-H'ers must call the 4-H Office to register for the training. **RSVP by Wednesday, March 5th in order to attend!**

Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival

The Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival will take place May 3-4 at the Howard County Fairgrounds in West Friendship, Maryland. All entries must be postmarked no later than April 1st, 2008. This year the festival will be adding some spice to their food by having a Maryland Grand Lamb Cook-Off. The top five winners of will win a cash prize. For more information on showing or the different contest, please visit the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival online at http://www.sheepandwool.org/

The **Mid-Atlantic Beef Carcass Contest** and Evaluation Contest Committee is excited to sponsor both the carcass contest and evaluation contest on Contest October 11, 2008 at 10:00am. The Contest Results will be October 22, 2008 at 6:00pm with dinner being provided at 5:00pm. The committee's goal for the Mid-Atlantic Carcass Contest is to provide an opportunity for producers and youth to receive comprehensive carcass data about their cattle. This contest will also provide good experience for people who want to judge steer shows in the future. For more information contact Kiera Finucane at kieraf@umd.edu or go to the follow website- http://ansc.umd.edu/extension/beef/mabc.cfm.

Wills Fair: May 17th, 2008- Howard County Fairgrounds- West Friendship, MD .Entries are due to the 4-H Office by April 15.

The **Western Maryland Spring Show** will be held in Washington County at the Washington County Ag Expo Fairgrounds this year on Saturday, June 21. Registrations will be available soon. The following animals can be shown: Beef, Dairy Cattle, Dairy Steers, Sheep, Dairy Goat, and Meat Goats. If interesting in volunteering to help with the show or for more information, please contact Shannon at the 4-H Office.

4-H Hippology Clinic:

Saturday, April 19, 2008

The Maryland 4-H program is excited to announce a state-wide 4-H Hippology Clinic at the Carroll County Ag Center in Westminster, MD. The clinic will have educational workshops and demonstrations for both 4-H'ers, MCE volunteers and educators. Please look for more details in the coming weeks. For questions regarding the clinic please contact the 4-H office or Kristen Wilson, Regional 4-H Horse Specialist, at 301-596-9478.

Horsemens Flea Market

Tack Swap- Saturday, March 29, 2008 from 8:00 A.M. till 3:00 P.M. at the Washington County Ag Center. For more information please call 240-520-0778 or 301-745-4329.

Washington County 4-H

Washington County Agricultural
Education Center
7303 Sharpsburg Pike
Boonsboro MD 21713

Phone: 301-791-1404
Fax: 301-791-1048

Email:
bbubacz@umd.edu
ssturtz@umd.edu

"Making the Best Better"

4-H Day in Annapolis
February 18, 2008

Thank you to those who participated.

Back row: Eric Shafer, Leah Grab, Nick Ward, Amanda Ward, Seth Marvil. Middle Row: Beth Bubacz-Extension Educator, Kaitlyn Shirk, Rebekah Shirk, Wendy Shirk-parent, Front Row: Sarah Shirk, Natalie Shafer, Rachel Shafer

Not in picture parents: Tamyra Shafer, John Shafer, Charles Grab

Sincerely,

Beth A. Bubacz
Extension Educator,
4-H Youth Development

Shannon M. Sturtz
Extension Educator,
4-H Youth Development

the web:
http://Washington.umd.edu

Here Comes Spring!