Inside this issue:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inside this issue</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OFFICER TRAINING FOLLOW-UP</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOWARD COUNTY 4-H ALL STAR</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASKET &amp; BAG BINGO</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VOLUNTEER DINNER</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-H T-SHIRTS</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIPPOLOGY/HORSE JUDGING</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAMP</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFFICE CLOSURE</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INCLEMENT WEATHER</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FARM BUREAU SCHOLARSHIPS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUNSHINE CLOVER JUNIOR LEADERS</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEWING WORKSHOP AND FASHION REVUE PLANNING</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VISUAL PRESENTATION COMM WORKSHOP AND CONTEST</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAGGING REQUIREMENTS FOR LIVESTOCK SHOWS</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILLS FAIR</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RATE OF GAIN</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEEF FIELD DAY</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHEEP SHEARING SCHOOL</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QUALITY ASSURANCE</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIVESTOCK SKILLATHON</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEEKEEPING CLASSES</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASKET &amp; BAG BINGO</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-SHIRT SPONSORSHIP</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MODEL DOG SHOW</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CALLING ALL NEW VOLUNTEERS!

UME Volunteer Training is available. This class will provide participants basic information on the University of Maryland Extension 4-H Youth Development program. It will cover UME policies and procedures and detail the process to becoming an appointed UME 4-H Volunteer. The course will be taught via Webinar. Participants will need access to a computer with internet connection as well as telephone. The sessions will not be recorded.

However, before taking the class you must contact Chris Rein at the Howard County office at 410-313-1915 or email Crein@umd.edu for UME Volunteer paperwork, that must be completed before attending the training.

Once all your paperwork is returned to the office, Chris will be able to register you for a class.

4-H MODEL HORSE SHOW

The 2016 Howard County 4-H Model Horse Show is scheduled for Sunday, February 28th at the Howard County Fairgrounds starting at 11:00 a.m.

You DO NOT need to be enrolled in the horse project to participate.

Please refer to the flyer at the back of the Cloverleaf or the link below, for more information.

http://extension.umd.edu/howard-county/4-h-youth-development/model-horse-show
FAIR SPECIAL AWARDS

The Howard County 4-H Program is looking for sponsors of Special Awards for the 2016 Fair.

Please refer to the end of the Cloverleaf to view our current list of available trophies.

If you are interested in picking up any of these awards, please contact Rick Hodiak at 410-313-1914 or hodiak@umd.edu.

RELAY FOR LIFE BAG BINGO

Friday, March 18, 2016
Lisbon Volunteer Fire Department Hall Tickets: $15.00 in advance and $20.00 at the door if available.

Doors Open at 6:00 PM and games start at 7:00 PM.

For tickets, please contact Rhonda Winkler at dairy@howard4-h.org.

When we string all of the little pieces of our HEARTS together we can make a HUGE step towards a cure!

Heart on a String

HOWARD COUNTY 4-H ALL STAR 2014 BASKET AND BAG BINGO

The Howard County 4-H All Stars are currently planning the 2016 Basket and Bag Bingo Fundraiser. It is scheduled for Friday, April 1st at the Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Department Activities Building. 4-H All Stars sponsor many 4-H awards and activities throughout our county. If interested in making a donation for the fundraiser or would like tickets, please contact Marjie Eyler 301-829-1449 or Martin Hamilton at 410-489-6258.

4-H VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION DINNER

Howard County 4-H Clubs will recognize their 4-H Volunteers for their years of dedicated service on Saturday, May 14th. We are looking for clubs to consider making monetary donations to cover the expenses for this program. Our budget has decreased, therefore, we are relying on donations to help recognize these hard working and dedicated volunteers. Please discuss this with your club! Club leaders will be receiving a letter regarding specifics regarding this request.

HOWARD COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS E-MAIL

The Howard County Fairgrounds e-mail is info@howardcountyfair.com. Please use this e-mail address for all future reservations. Be sure that you contact the Fairgrounds in advance of any cancelations.

HOWARD COUNTY 4-H T-SHIRTS

Back another year by popular demand!! The process has begun again and we are in the process of planning for the 2016 4-H t-shirts all Howard County 4-H'ers receive to wear at the Howard County Fair. In this Cloverleaf, please find the sponsorship form. If you know of a business or organization that may be interested, please pass along the letter and form enclosed. If additional forms are needed, they can be found on our website www.howard4-h.org. We are anticipating great success so all our 4-H'ers have a t-shirt at no cost!

DESIGN CONTEST

Have you seen the last few designs our t-shirt winner created? Would you like to be one of them? Then you may want to read on. The 4-H team is looking for someone to design the front of the t-shirt. We are looking for a black and white computer generated design that includes the official clover. The person who designs the selected shirt design will be awarded $50. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sheryl at 410-313-1912 or sherylb@umd.edu. All t-shirt designs are due no later than Friday, April 22nd.
**FARM BUREAU SCHOLARSHIP**

The Howard County Farm Bureau is offering two $2000.00 scholarships. A scholarship will be awarded to a member in the age range of 14 to 16 and a scholarship will be awarded to a member in the age range of 17 to 19. Applicants or their parents/guardians MUST be a member of the Howard County Farm Bureau to be eligible. To apply, students must return the proper application form and write an essay. Applications and more information can be found at www.howard4-h.org. The deadline for applications and essays is February 26, 2016.

**HIPPOLOGY/HORSE JUDGING WORKSHOPS**

Great opportunity for members whom are interested or have a love for horses! Horse Judging and Hippology practices will begin on at the end of March. Practices will held 6:30 p.m. at The Cullum’s House. Participants of all age levels will acquire skills and knowledge about horses to make them better horsemen and prepare for the State Contests. Competing in the contest is not a requirement. For more information please contact Diana Cullum via e-mail at diana.cullum@verizon.net

Horse Judging focuses on confirmation and movement.

Hippology covers several areas such as feed, equipment, bones, terminology, body parts, confirmation, and tack.

**2016 4-H CAMP**

Howard County 4-H Camp is a one-week residential camp, located in beautiful Garrett County Maryland, at the 1,100 acre Western Maryland 4-H Education Center. This ACA accredited camp will now be held from Sunday, June 19th - Saturday, June 25th. All youth, ages 8 (as of January 1, 2016) through 14, are welcome to apply. Applications will be available online the first week in March at www.howard4-h.org.

The fee includes transportation to and from camp and room and board for 6 nights. Camper activities include: crafts, canoeing, swimming, hiking, archery, sports, nature class, candle-making, riflery, campfires, talent show, a one-night rustic camping opportunity, all in a natural outdoor setting. Parents and campers are required to attend the upcoming orientation being held in May 26th at the Howard County Fairgrounds. Registration forms are accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Please keep in mind 4-H members will received preferred status prior to Monday, April 8th. After that date, it will be open to all youth (ages 8-14) and placement will continue until spaces are filled. TRY NOT TO WAIT UNTIL THE DEADLINE, SPACE GOES FAST!!

After the camp registration deadline passes, additional information will be mailed to all applicants regarding their acceptance to camp. Need-based scholarships are available for those who qualify. For more information, please contact Chris Rein at 410-313-1915 or by email at crein@umd.edu.

---

**INCLEMENT WEATHER**

**SCHOOLS CLOSED**

When schools are closed ALL 4-H programs are canceled. This includes closing early due to inclement weather. If the snow emergency plan goes into effect after the regular school day, then activities are cancelled.

**SNOW**

**EMERGENCY PLAN**

If a Snow Emergency Plan for Howard County is in effect at 7:00 a.m. on either Saturday or Sunday, ALL programs and activities, 4-H, school and community, will be canceled. Should the Plan go into effect after 7:00 a.m., programs in progress may be completed at the discretion of the activity leader.

**UME CLOSED....**

In observance of Presidents Day, the Howard County UME Office will be closed on Monday, February 15th.
4-H Fashion Revue

The central cluster’s annual Fashion Revue, which gives 4-H’ers a chance to demonstrate their fashion sense and their sewing and modeling skills and talents.

To participate in the Fashion Revue, you must first attend the judging.

Attention all interested in participating! Please mark your calendar to attend planning meeting for Fashion Revue. February 20th, 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 am at the Howard County Fairgrounds in the Fair office.

Judging will be held on Wednesday, June 8, 2016; starting at 4:00 PM at the Montgomery County Extension Office.

The Fashion Show will be held on Saturday, June 11, 2016, 6:00 pm at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds.

Details on the Fashion Revue theme, application forms, and other information will follow from our youth leaders and committee members.

Central Cluster 4-H Communication Contest

The Central Maryland 4-H Communication Contest will be held on Saturday, March 12, 2016, starting at 9:00 a.m. at Bushy Park Elementary School. 4-HER’s may participate in 4 different Communication Contest Areas: Prepared Speech, Interpretations, Radio/Public Address, and Extemporaneous Speech. 4-Hers are welcome to participate in Prepared Speech Area only, reciting the American or 4-H pledge.

Ribbons will be given in each of the age categories for each county. Extemporaneous presenters will draw for their speaking topics upon arrival of scheduled time. Juniors and Intermediates have 30 minutes and seniors have 15 minutes of preparation time.

A letter will be mailed out with assigned time of speeches. If you have any further questions or concerns regarding the 2016 Communications Contest please contact Montgomery County 4-H Program at 301-590-9638. If you need special accommodations please specify by the due date.

Registration Due Date: Thursday, February 25, 2016

4-H Members may find more information and register on-line at:

https://extension.umd.edu/montgomery-county/communication-contest

Sunshine Clovers is looking for Livestock and General Junior Leaders for 2016.

General Junior Leaders—assist with club programming.

Livestock Junior Leaders—teach Clovers about livestock and participate in the Clover Livestock Showmanship.

Areas of Interest:
- Assist with leading a business meeting
- Lead a program
- Give a demonstration
- Helping with crafts
- Reporter for the club
- Historian for the club
- Assist with club workshops

Like working with kids? Have knowledge to share?

Please contact Amy Brueckmann at sunshineclovers@howard4-h.org if interested.
TAGGING REQUIREMENTS FOR LIVESTOCK SHOWS

With the start of the 2016 show season, members need to remember several regulations established for all livestock exhibits of cattle, sheep, goats, and swine in 2014.

The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) has identification requirements for national animal disease traceability (ADT). All livestock being bought to shows in 2016 must have an “official identification”. This identification will be tied to a registered premise. For most livestock this means a tag bearing the official US shield.

- Sheep and goats scrapie identification is an acceptable identification, including breed registration tattoos (tattoos must be legible and follow scrapie program requirements)
- Cattle must have an official tag, brands and tattoos will not be accepted
- Swine must have an official tag, ear notches and tattoos are not accepted

What does all of this mean for 4-H projects?
- Official identification will need to be done by the producer or veterinarian to tie the identification to a registered premise.
- 4-H animals will still be tagged with a Maryland state 4-H tag
- Registered purebred animals will still be exempt from the Maryland state 4-H tag but must have an official identification with the US shield for shows
- For 4-H shows both the official identification and the Maryland 4-H identification must be listed on your CVI (heath papers)
- In 2016 4-H swine projects will be tagged with a regular 4-H tag. Maryland 4-H will NOT be providing the official ADT tags.

For more information about the tagging requirements please visit: www.mda.maryland.gov/animalHealth/Pages/Fairs-Shows.aspx

LIVESTOCK RATE OF GAIN REQUIREMENTS

Beef Steers, Market Goats, Market Lambs, and Market Pigs will have minimum “rate-of-gain” required to show in 2016. This means that market animals will have to gain a certain amount per day from Tag-In Day to the County Fair:

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<tr>
<th>SHEEP</th>
<th>SWINE</th>
</tr>
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<td>.40 lbs. per day</td>
<td>1.50 lbs. per day</td>
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<tr>
<th>BEEF</th>
<th>MARKET GOAT</th>
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<tr>
<td>2.00 lbs. per day</td>
<td>.20 lbs. per day</td>
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WILLS FAIR

Wills Fair will be held Saturday, May 21, 2016 at the Howard County Fairgrounds. The Catalog with rules and regulations for each department as well as entries forms are available online.

Entries are to be mailed to the 4-H Department, Carroll County - UME, 700 Agriculture Center, Westminster, MD 21157. Entries need to be received on or before April 22, 2016.

You can find the information on the Howard 4-H website at www.howard4-h.org.

BEEF FIELD DAY

Mark your calendar now! The Howard County 4-H Beef Field Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 30th. It will be held at the Howard County Fairgrounds. It is mandatory that all Junior, Intermediate and First Year 4-H’ers carrying a beef project attend and exhibit one animal at this event. If you have a conflict, please contact Sheryl ASAP at 410-313-1912 or sherylb@umd.edu.
MARYLAND—DELAWARE SHEEP SHEARING SCHOOL

A beginning sheep shearing class will be held on April 15th and 16th at Ridgely Thompson Farm in Westminster, Maryland. Participants will learn the New Zealand method of shearing, how to adjust and take care of hand held shearing machines and how to properly handle wool after shearing. You must be at least 16 years old to participate. Spaced is limited to the first 25 who register. Registration is due no later than April 1st.

For more information or to register: http://mdsheepgoat.blogspot.com/2015/12/2016-maryland-shearing-school.html

LIVESTOCK SKILLATHON PRACTICES

Whether you carry a livestock project or not, Livestock Skillathon is a great way to work with other 4-H’ers and learn information about livestock. Practices are being conducted weekly and will be held in the Dining Hall at the Howard County Fairgrounds. The practice schedule is below:

- Wednesday, February 3rd
- Wednesday, February 10th
- Wednesday, February 17th
- Saturday, February 27th (field trip)
- Wednesday, February 24th
- Wednesday, March 2nd

QUALITY ASSURANCE

All animal science quality assurance trainings will be completed online for 2016. The online Quality Assurance program will be available online after March 15th.

Please read the following information very carefully:

Anyone enrolled in the following projects must complete online Quality Assurance training: alpaca, beef, dairy, goat, horse, poultry, rabbit, sheep, and swine.

If you completed online Quality Assurance training last year please read the following bullet points:

- If you have not added any new animal projects and have not changed an age level (Junior to Intermediate or Intermediate to Senior), then you do not need to do anything this year.
- If you have a new animal project this year, then you must complete the introductory section as well as the specie specific section of the online Quality Assurance training.
- If you changed age levels this year, then you are required to complete the introductory section and all animal sections related to your projects.

If this is your first year in 4-H, then you are required to complete the introductory section and all sections related to your projects.

2016 BEEKEEPING CLASS

The Howard County Beekeepers Association will be holding their annual beekeeping short course this spring. Topics will include honey bee biology, beekeeping laws in Howard County, obtaining and installing bees, setting up your equipment, inspecting bees, bee diseases, and products of the hive.

The first session of the Beekeeping Class will be held on February 16th at the Howard County Fairgrounds, from 7:00 am to 9:30 pm. 5 sessions will be held on consecutive Tuesday evenings plus one field day.

To register or for more information visit http://www.howardcountybeekpeers.org/index.php/learn-to-keep-honey-bees-short-course#Short_Course

4-H MODEL DOG SHOW

March 5, 2016
9:00am
Howard County Fairgrounds—Dining Hall
Department 4-H Beef Steer
687 Cash $25.00 Champion Rate of Gain Dairy Steer

Department 4-H Canine
566 Cash $10.00 Obedience - Novice Intermediate
558 Cash $10.00 Obedience Pre-Novice Junior
720 Trophy $10.00 Champion Fitting and Showing
721 Trophy $10.00 Reserve Champion Fitting and Showing

Department 4-H Dog Agility Trail Rules
714 Cash $10.00 Reserve Champion Novice
741 Cash $10.00 Champion Elite
742 Cash $10.00 Reserve Champion Elite

Department 4-H Flowers - Plants
46 Cash $10.00 Champion Specimen Flower - Junior
48 Cash $10.00 Champion Specimen Flower - Senior

Department 4-H Horse and Pony
8 Plate $35.00 Western Horsemanship Reserve Champion
3 Tray $35.00 Reserve Grand Champion Western Rider - Shirley Geis Award
147 Trophy $35.00 Senior Equitation Reserve
10 Trophy $35.00 Reserve Champion English Showman

Department 4-H Market Lambs
599 Buckle $200.00 Grand Champion 4-H Market Lamb
733 Chair $60.00 Reserve Grand Champion 4-H Market Lamb

Department 4-H Meat Breeding Sheep
457 Cash $10.00 Champion 4-H Shropshire Ewe

Department 4-H Meat Goats
641 Buckle $200.00 Grand Champion Market Goat

Department 4-H Poultry
743 Cash $5.00 Champion Egg Production
629 Cash $10.00 Reserve Waterfowl
385 Cash $15.00 Champion 4-H Fancy Bantam

Department 4-H Rabbit
494 Cash $10.00 Best of Breed

Department 4-H Sheep Showmanship
469 Cash $10.00 Sheep Showman - Junior 8

Department 4-H Swine Fitting and Showman
501 Cash $10.00 Best Fitting & Showing Market Swine Age 13

Department 4-H Vegetable Garden
537 Cash $15.00 Champion 4-H Junior Vegetable Exhibit

Department Bake Goods -Int
219 Cash $10.00 Champion Intermediate 4-H Baked Goods - I Basket
218 Cash $10.00 Champion Intermediate 4-H Baked Goods - H Pies
217 Cash $10.00 Champion Intermediate 4-H Baked Goods - F Cakes

Department Bake Goods -Jr
232 Cash $10.00 Champion Junior 4-H Baked Goods - I Basket
230 Cash $10.00 Champion Junior 4-H Baked Goods - F Cakes

Department Bake Goods -Sr
246 Cash $10.00 Champion Senior 4-H Baked Goods - I Basket
244 Cash $10.00 Champion Senior 4-H Baked Goods - F Cakes
245 Cash $10.00 Champion Senior 4-H Baked Goods - H Pies

Department Goat Mkt F&S
706 Cash $10.00 Champion Intermediate Showman
707 Cash $10.00 Champion Senior Showman
705 Cash $10.00 Champion Junior Showman
Basket & Bags Bingo
To benefit the Howard County 4-H All Stars

Friday, April 1, 2016
20 Regular Games plus Special Games & Raffles
ALL BASKETS & BAGS WILL BE FILLED

Doors Open at 5:30 p.m.
Bingo Starts at 7:00 p.m.
Food will be available!

Location:
Mt. Airy Fireman’s Activity Building
Twin Arch Road, Mt. Airy, MD 21771

Ticket prices: $18 in advance
$20 at the door

For Tickets Call:
Marjie at 301-829-1449
Martin at 443-472-8276

Please notify us if you have special needs, when ordering tickets.
We will do our best to accommodate you.

This bingo party is in no way connected with, nor is it approved or sponsored by, the Longaberger® or Vera Bradley Companies.
The name is used to describe the prizes that were purchased.

University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all citizens and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression.
The Howard County 4-H program continues to be a strong youth development program that actively involves many youth throughout the county. The 2016 Howard County Fair, scheduled for Saturday, August 6th-13th, is an event where Howard County 4-Hers participate in events ranging from showing and selling livestock to entering baked goods to participating in a rocketry contest. The projects 4-Hers enter at the fair are a culmination of many hours of hard work.

In 2016, the 4-H team would like to continue a tradition started in 2006, by providing every Howard County 4-H member with a 4-H shirt especially made for them to wear at the fair. The goal is for every member to wear their shirt at the Fair on Sunday, August 7th and then periodically throughout the week. Fair attendees will easily recognize and identify 4-H members when they see the shirt. It is our hope that through this marketing tool, we can make the general public aware of the 4-H presence and high number of 4-H members in our county.

We are writing to ask your support of this project. It is our goal to have the total cost of the shirts donated so our 4-Hers will not incur a cost for their shirts. As a small token of our appreciation and to recognize our sponsors, all businesses that donate money towards this project will have their business name printed on the back of the shirt. This will be great publicity for your business as well as the 4-H program.

If you are interested in contributing, please detach the form below and return to the Howard County 4-H office.

Howard County 4-H T-Shirt Sponsorship Form

Name: _____________________________________________________

Address: _____________________________________________________

Levels of Sponsorship

Head: $251 and up       Heart: $250       Hands: $100       Health: $50

Amount Enclosed: _______________ Thank-you t-shirt size: _________

Print below the Person, Business or Organization Name to be printed on the t-shirt:

_________________________________________________________________________________

Please respond no later than May 1, 2016

Please make checks payable to:
Howard County 4-H Foundation, Inc.
Attention: 4-H T-Shirt Sponsorship
3300 North Ridge Road, Suite 240
Ellicott City, MD 21043

University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all citizens and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression.
Centaurs 4-H Club
Model Horse Show

Entry Fee: Registration $10.00 per participant on the day of the show.

You do not have to be in a 4-H Horse Club to participate!

50/50 Raffle!

Age Divisions: Each class will be divided into four age divisions. Age divisions are determined by contestants’ age on January 1, 2016:

- Clover (5-7 years old)
- Junior (8-10 years old)
- Intermediate (11-13 years old)
- Senior (14-18 years old)

Date: Sunday, February 28, 2016

Time: 11:00 am

Food and snacks will be available!

Contact Rachel Troppman 410-952-1345
or rachel.troppman@gmail.com for more info

The University of Maryland Extension programs are open to any person and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, national origin, marital status, genetic information, political affiliation, and gender identity or expression.