

UNIVERSITY OF  
MARYLAND  
EXTENSION  
ALLEGANY COUNTY  
DECEMBER 2023



**UPCOMING EVENTS**  
**December**

- **December 1** - 4-H Market Beef registrations due
- **December 12** - Volunteer Animal Science In-Service
- **December 25** - UME Office Closed

**January**

- **4-H Enrollment Opens** (will be announced)
- **January 1** - UME Office Closed
- **January 16** - UME Office Closed



**4-H RECORD BOOKS DUE FEBRUARY 1**

4-H record books for 2023 are due to the 4-H office by February 1, 2024. Diamond Clover Levels 1 to 4 are also due at this time.

**RECORD BOOKS, AWARDS, AND FAIR ELIGIBILITY**

- To receive a ribbon and certificate/seal - Members must complete a record book with at least one completed project record inside.
- To receive project pins - Projects must be complete and inside a complete record book.
- To meet fair eligibility to show livestock - Members must submit a complete record book with a completed project sheet for each project exhibited at the 2023 Allegany County Fair to show at the 2024 Allegany County Fair.



For a complete guide and forms go to  
<https://go.umd.edu/AC-forms>

If you need assistance, please contact our office.

Call 301-724-3320 or email [jparrish@umd.edu](mailto:jparrish@umd.edu).

**CONTACT US**

**301-724-3320**

**Jessica Mellon**  
Extension Educator  
[jmellon2@umd.edu](mailto:jmellon2@umd.edu)

**Jody Parrish**  
Program Mgt. Specialist  
[jparrish@umd.edu](mailto:jparrish@umd.edu)

**Toni Richards**  
Administrative Assistant I  
[tonir@umd.edu](mailto:tonir@umd.edu)

**Website**  
[go.umd.edu/  
AlleganyCounty4-H](https://go.umd.edu/AlleganyCounty4-H)

# Ways to spread holiday cheer...

During the Holiday Season some local families need a little help with the....

## "Bear" Necessities

The holiday season is about giving, but sometimes we forget that some families are lacking the everyday items that we take for granted.

Take a look at the list below for an example of some of the much needed items. **New/Unopened** items can be dropped off in the front lobby of the County Office Complex and will be distributed to families in Allegany County.

<b>Infant Toys</b>	<b>Diapers</b>	<b>Bath Towels</b>
<b>Toys for All Ages</b>	<b>Baby Wipes</b>	<b>Wash Clothes</b>
<b>Barbies</b>	<b>Coats</b>	<b>Pillow Cases</b>
<b>Handheld Games</b>	<b>Shoes</b>	<b>Pillows</b>
<b>Stuffed Animals</b>	<b>Underwear (Kids)</b>	<b>Blankets</b>
<b>Coloring Books</b>	<b>Underwear (Teens)</b>	<b>Bleach Wipes</b>
<b>Journals/Diaries</b>	<b>Pajamas for all ages</b>	<b>Brooms</b>
<b>Crayons</b>	<b>Footed Pajamas for Kids</b>	<b>Mops</b>
<b>Bath Soap</b>	<b>Gloves</b>	<b>Laundry Detergent</b>
<b>Shampoo</b>	<b>Socks</b>	<b>Child Safety Items</b>
<b>Teen Body Care Sets</b>	<b>Backpacks</b>	<i>(Outlet covers, Drawer &amp; Cabinet Locks, and Door Knob Covers)</i>
<b>Toothbrush Gift Sets</b>	<b>Snacks</b>	

**Gift Cards also accepted.**  
Maximum of \$10 per card.

Please leave gift cards with the Front Desk Receptionist.

**Donations will be accepted through Friday, December 15th**

Thank you to the staff at Jane's Place, Inc. for sorting & distributing the donated items



The shelter always accepts monetary donations and volunteers are appreciated. The needs for items vary, so call 301-777-5930 to find out what is currently being requested.

## Toys for Happiness



Toys for Happiness needs new, unwrapped toys for ages infant through 14. There is a particular need for 10- to 14-year-olds, especially boys. Barrels are located in businesses throughout

Allegany, Garrett, and Mineral Counties, and a couple in the Pennsylvania state line area south of Hyndman.

For more information, contact Chuck at 240-727-0962.



Union Rescue Mission  
Western Maryland

As the weather gets colder and we move into the Holiday season, we could use your help. The need is great, from providing food boxes to kids over Christmas vacation to hot meals to anyone in need, and basic health and hygiene supplies.

For more information call 301-724-1585. Monetary donations may be sent to: Union Rescue Mission, P.O. Box 1616, Cumberland, MD 21501

The Union Recue mission is located at 16 Queen City Pavement, Cumberland, MD.

## MILITARY HOLIDAY CARD CHALLENGE

You can send cards to deployed troops, veterans and military families. Your personalized signed holiday cards and letters reflect your genuine support and appreciation for our military heroes, letting them know that they are not alone during the winter holiday season.

For details go to <https://militaryholidaycardchallenge.com/>





# LETTERS FROM SANTA

Allegany County 4-H is once again providing "letters from Santa" for \$2.00 each.  
All proceeds support the Allegany County 4-H program.

Send \$2.00 with the following information for each letter:  
Person's Name, Address, Age, and Boy or Girl  
Include your phone/email in case we need to contact you.

Mail requests with payment to:  
Allegany County 4-H  
One Commerce Drive  
Cumberland, MD 21502

Make all checks payable to:  
University of Maryland

Due  
December 12

Questions?  
Call  
301-724-3320

## 2024 4-H ENROLLMENT

Families may enroll with Maryland 4-H Online beginning in January 2024. Watch for an email announcement for the opening date.

To enroll in Maryland 4-H Online, you need to use Firefox, Chrome, or Safari web browsers. 4-H Online enrollment is not supported by Internet Explorer.  
Go to <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>



- Enrollments for current members are due by February 1, 2024.
- Enrollments for new members are due by June 1, 2024 to be eligible to participate in the county and state fairs.
- Enrollments for returning volunteers must be completed by March 1.

As a reminder, projects and volunteer types & roles will not roll over into next year. You will need to select your projects and volunteer information again. Volunteers, check your volunteer type in 2023 so you will know what to select in 2024. If you are unsure, please call 301-724-3320 or email [jparrish@umd.edu](mailto:jparrish@umd.edu).

**If you have any issues re-enrolling, please contact our office. Do not create a new family profile.**

The **Maryland 4-H Behavioral Expectations, MD 4-H Disciplinary Policy & Procedures** and **Photo/Media Release** are part of the online enrollment process and will be signed electronically.

Enrollment fee - Maryland 4-H has an annual \$10.00 enrollment fee per 4-H member (No fee is collected for volunteers and any children in a family with more than three children). Families will pay the enrollment fee online by credit card at the time they enroll.

## MARYLAND 4-H ANIMAL SCIENCE WEBINAR FOR VOLUNTEERS

A 4-H Animal Science Project Updates Webinar for Volunteers is scheduled on Tuesday, December 12, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. via Zoom. This session will provide an overview of the Animal Science Program policy and event changes/updates for 2024. This session will be of interest to Maryland 4-H Volunteers and Fair Volunteers working with 4-H members in the Animal Science program areas.

Interested individuals should register at: <https://forms.gle/R8rs6QtqEvdKGxP98>. Connecting information will be shared with registered individuals near the event date.



## CIVICS BEE

**CALLING ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS!**

### ABOUT THE BEE

The Allegany County Chamber of Commerce is partnering with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation to host a first-of-its-kind civics competition that encourages young Americans to engage in civics and contribute to their communities. Participating 6th, 7th, and 8th graders will flex their civics knowledge for a chance to win recognition and cash prizes. Finalists will be invited to Washington, DC to compete in the inaugural National Civics Bee national championship in fall 2024.

### HOW TO ENTER

Any 6th, 7th, or 8th grade student residing in Maryland with an idea about using civics to improve their community may enter. More information available here <https://alleganycountychamber.com/civics-bee/> The application opens November 13, 2023 and closes on January 8, 2024.

## OUTBOUND OPPORTUNITIES!



Maryland 4-Hers have the opportunity to explore the world and become culturally aware in 6 different outbound locations: Argentina (4-week), Costa Rica (4-week), Japan (4 & 8-week programs), Norway (4-week), South Korea (4-week), and Taiwan (4-week). Each outbound opportunity provides a unique cultural immersion experience. **Applications are due by December 15.**

Program fees include lodging, meals, transportation, camps and cultural excursions throughout the program. Scholarship opportunity is available through States' 4-H upon application approval. If you are interested, please submit an application <https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/92010-States-4-H-International-Exchange>.

## INBOUND OPPORTUNITIES!

Do you know any families wanting to experience the world all in the comfort of their own home? We are seeking families to open their homes and hearts to a Japanese delegate between 12-17 years old and show them the American Culture. We need 14 families to host a Japanese Delegate in the summer from mid-July through mid-August. The program is open to any family with a child 9-18 years old. For more information, please contact Joseph Y. Cho at [jcho8@umd.edu](mailto:jcho8@umd.edu).



## Pumpkin Party

The Hare Raisers Club spent time during their October meeting to create entries for the 4-H Virtual Pumpkin Contest. Great job!

Pictured: Adelyn Toey, Megan Lawton, Carmine Lawton, Susan Forkosh, Emberleigh Wiley, and Phinley Wiley



## Spreading Holiday Cheer

The Frostburg Rise and Shine Club is contributing to the holiday decorating in Frostburg. They recently painted a snowman and a tree which will be on display at the Frostburg Library during the holiday season.

Pictured Liam Conner, Ripken Roque, Brady Roque, Natalie Moore, Fiona Youngblood



## 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS

Congratulations to Allegany County 4-H members for participating in the 2023 Maryland State 4H Smallbore Rifle Contest. The September contest was held in Marriottsville, MD.

Zoe is a first-year member of the Sharp Shooters 4-H Club.



## HALLOWEEN FUN

Thank you to the High Rock 4-H Club for representing 4-H at the South Cumberland Halloween Parade.

The annual parade is organized by the South Cumberland Business and Civic Association.



## White House Annual Turkey Pardon

Lydia Vassiliadi and Gwenyth Fitzpatrick (4th & 5th from left) recently attended the 2023 White House Turkey Pardon on behalf of Maryland 4-H. Lydia serves as Maryland 4-H State Council Treasurer and BW Grows! President, and Gwenyth serves as BW Grows! Vice President.





# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



- |                     |                      |                    |
|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| ★ Edward Buser      | ★ Todd Houser        | ★ Evan Ritter      |
| ★ Ethan Chambers    | ★ Rowen Jordi        | ★ Ripken Roque     |
| ★ Ian Donoway       | ★ Logan Kesecker     | ★ Abigail Stephens |
| ★ Nicholas Eanes    | ★ Grace MacNamara    | ★ Michael Twigg    |
| ★ WanTing Hao       | ★ Adalynn Mallow     | ★ Rachel Wharton   |
| ★ Norah Hershberger | ★ Gabriella McDowell | ★ Alina Williams   |



## BAD WEATHER POLICY

If there is no school or early dismissal from school in Allegany County due to inclement weather, all county-sponsored 4-H events that day/evening will be cancelled.

Contact your club leader to determine if club activities are cancelled.

## Save the Date!

Mark your calendars! We are excited to be hosting a 4-H Open House (*Thanks for Poppin' In*) on Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at the LaVale Library to showcase our wonderful 4-H community. More info will be coming soon. Questions? Email Kristin Moore, Planning Committee Chairperson at [krismoore04@gmail.com](mailto:krismoore04@gmail.com)

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in any event or activity, please contact your local University of Maryland Extension Office at 301-724-3320 at least two weeks before the event/activity.