



Event Calendar

- **February 1** - Due to our office:
 - ◇ Record Books
 - ◇ Club Forms
 - ◇ Diamond Clover forms Levels 1 to 5
- **February 11** - Rabbit Advisory Webinar
- **February 22** - Dog Skillathon
- **February 27** - Allegany 4-H Kick Off
- **March 1** - MD 4-H Livestock Skillathon
- **March 28** - County Public Speaking

2025 4-H ENROLLMENT IS OPEN!

4-H Online is now open for enrollment. It is important to enroll as soon as you can, so you will continue to receive the newsletter, email updates and other important announcements.

To enroll in Maryland 4-H Online, you need to use Firefox, Chrome, or Safari web browsers. Go to <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>



- **Current Members** - Enrollments are due by February 1, 2025.
- **New Livestock Members** - Enrollments are due by April 1, 2025 to show animals at the fair.
- **New Members** - Enrollments are due by June 1, 2025 to be eligible to participate in the county and state fairs.
- **Volunteers (returning)** - Enrollments must be completed by March 1, 2025. Please do so on a computer or laptop so the online refresher training will be noted as complete.
- **New volunteers** - Email jparrish@umd.edu for instructions on how to enroll.

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 2024 so you will know what to select in 2025.

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

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 fee online by credit card at the time of enrollment.

If you need any assistance, please call 301-724-3320 or email jparrish@umd.edu.

CLUB ITEMS DUE FEBRUARY 1

The following items are due to the 4-H Office by **February 1** to remain in compliance with Maryland 4-H requirements:

- Program Plan for 2025
- Officer Roster for 2025
- Secretary Book for 2024



The Program Plan and Office Roster was mailed to club leaders. Forms are also located at <https://go.umd.edu/AC-forms> or email jparrish@umd.edu.

4-H RECORD BOOKS DUE FEBRUARY 1

4-H record books for 2024 are due to the 4-H office by **February 1, 2025**. Diamond Clover Levels 1 to 5 are also due at this time.



Record Books, Awards and Fair Eligibility

- To meet fair eligibility to show livestock - Members must submit a complete record book with a completed project sheet for each livestock project exhibited at the 2024 Allegany County Fair to show at the 2025 Allegany County Fair.
- 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.

If you need assistance, please contact our 4-H staff at 301-724-3320 or email jparrish@umd.edu.

It is recommended that you use a standard 3-ring binder or 3-prong folder for your record book. Traditional 4-H record book covers are available at the office for \$3.50 each, but not required. Please put your name and 4-H age on the front of the binder.

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

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 4-H EVENTS

Scholarships for Allegany County 4-H members and volunteers are available for 4-H local, regional, state, national and other events and camps. Such 4-H opportunities may include State Council, Volunteer/Teen Forum, State/National contests, 4-H camps, and more.

Applications are due two weeks before the registration deadline for the event. Applicants may not apply for more than two scholarships within a calendar year.

Complete guidelines and an application are available by calling 301-724-3320, by email at jparrish@umd.edu, or online at (under 4-H Forms) <https://go.umd.edu/AlleganyCounty4-H>.



Join us for the 4-H Kick-Off on Thursday, February 27, 2025, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Allegany County Fairgrounds! This is an exciting opportunity for all 4-H members, volunteers, and families to welcome the new 4-H year and gear up for a thrilling 2025.

We strongly encourage all volunteers to attend this important event, where you can participate in Positive Youth Development (PYD) training and receive vital updates tailored for our 4-H families. Michelle will be sharing valuable insights from the post-fair survey, and we have engaging hands-on activities planned for members of all ages. Don't forget to bring a friend who might be interested in discovering the amazing world of 4-H in Allegany County. Let's make this year unforgettable together!

To register, go to <https://go.umd.edu/AC4-Hkickoff> or email jparrish@umd.edu or call 301-724-3320. Beverages and snacks will be available.

4-H DIAMOND CLOVER LEVELS

Levels 1 to 5 - If you have completed these levels in 2024, they are due to our office by **February 1** (with record books). Start the form for your 2025 level now.

Level 6 - The Diamond Clover Level 6 Service Learning Project enables a 4-H member to demonstrate life skills including leadership, planning, and organization as they complete a major community service project. If you would like to start a Level 6 project, email Michelle, mharman2@umd.edu for guidance.



For more information, please visit the Maryland 4-H website, <https://extension.umd.edu/programs/4-h-youth-development>.



MD 4-H Livestock Skillathon Contest

Registration for the 2025 Maryland 4-H Livestock Skillathon Contest is now open in 4-H Online. Registrations will close at 11:59 pm on Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

Contest date and time: Saturday, March 1, 2025, Contest Check-in: 9-9:30 a.m. Contest Begins: 10:00 a.m. Awards: 2:00 p.m. Contest location: Montgomery County Fairgrounds, 501 Perry Pkwy, Gaithersburg, MD 20877.

The youth entry fee of \$5.00 will be covered by Allegany County 4-H. When you registered, choose "Pay by Check" so the county office will be invoiced.

If you have questions email mharman2@umd.edu.

FIRST IN THE NEW YEAR!



Congratulations to the 4-H members who were the first to enroll in 4-H Online for 2025 and the first to turn in their 2024 record books.

Enrollment
Teagan Stahlman

Record Books:
Colt and Tristan Kifer,
Trent and Cooper Cessna



NEW YEAR, NEW OFFICERS

For your new officers in 2025, check out the "Clubs, Groups, Chartering, and Financial Resources" section of the volunteer section of the Maryland 4-H website - <https://extension.umd.edu/programs/4-h-youth-development/volunteers>

If you would like to have an officer training at a club meeting, contact Michelle at 301-724-3320 or mharman2@umd.edu.

There are links to resources to help support clubs, club members, and youth officers. If you would like to have any of these materials printed for your members or officers, email jparrish@umd.edu.

Also, send us a picture of your officers to share in an upcoming 4-H newsletter.



Save the Date!

**Allegany County
Public Speaking**

March 28, 2025
6:00 p.m.
Fairgrounds

**Allegany County
Achievement Bingo**

April 29, 2025
6:00 p.m.
Fairgrounds

**4-H/FFA Livestock
Spring Tagging**

May 3, 2025
Fairgrounds

**Allegany County
Fair & Ag Expo**

July 11 to 19, 2025
Fairgrounds



If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in any event or activity, please contact the University of Maryland Extension Office at 301-724-3320.
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



REACT FLL EXPLORE FESTIVAL

Members of Bishop Walsh's 4-H Robotics Learning Team attended the REACT FLL Explore Festival on Saturday, January 18 to share their ocean-themed robotics project with their families and community.

Valentine Sweet Treat

STRAWBERRY HEART BARK

This sweet conversation heart bark is perfect for your pals on Valentine's Day.

Ingredients:

- 8 ounces semisweet chocolate, chopped
- 8 ounces white chocolate, chopped
- ½ cup conversation heart candies
- ¾ cup freeze-dried strawberries
- 1 tablespoon pink sprinkles, or to taste

Instructions:

1. Melt semisweet chocolate in a microwave-safe bowl in 15-second intervals, stirring after each melting, 1 to 3 minutes.
2. Melt white chocolate in a separate microwave-safe bowl in 15-second intervals, stirring after each melting, 1 to 3 minutes.
3. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Pour semisweet chocolate on the parchment paper; spread into a large rectangle. Drizzle white chocolate over the semisweet chocolate in lines and zigzags. Swirl chocolates together into a marble pattern using a toothpick or skewer.
4. Scatter conversation heart candies over chocolate. Scatter freeze-dried strawberries and pink sprinkles in the remaining gaps. Let stand at room temperature for about 20 minutes.
5. Refrigerate chocolate bark until firm, about 30 minutes. Break into large chunks.



Source: Allrecipes.com

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- ★ Sarah Amyot
- ★ Coltyn Baer
- ★ Morgan Bowser
- ★ Trent Cessna
- ★ Cooper Cessna
- ★ Jude Gibson-Thoele
- ★ Michael Hall
- ★ Callan Harper
- ★ Ryan Hurst
- ★ Minh LE
- ★ Charles McMillan
- ★ Leeland Moyer
- ★ Daniel Olenick
- ★ Kolten Rice
- ★ Jack Seifarth
- ★ Kylie Self
- ★ Avery Sites
- ★ Ava Strawderman
- ★ Kalli Trub
- ★ Gaige Vinci
- ★ Phinley Wiley



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 canceled

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



4-H Photos Wanted

Send us your 4-H photos for our newsletters, social media, and more.

Send photos with a brief description to jparrish@umd.edu

Contact Us ~ 301-724-3320

Michelle Harman
Extension Educator
mharman2@umd.edu

Jessica Mellon
Extension Educator
jmellon2@umd.edu



Jody Parrish
Program Mgt Specialist
jparrish@umd.edu

Toni Richards
Administrative Assistant I
tonir@umd.edu

Website: <https://extension.umd.edu/locations/allegany-county/>

