



Montgomery County 4-H

October 2, 2025



If you need a special accommodation for a 4-H program, event, or activity at the 4-H Extension Office in Derwood, MD, please call 301-226-7956 or e-mail cbmontgo@umd.edu

If you need to reserve a room or need a special accommodation at the MoCo Fairgrounds in Gaithersburg, MD for a 4-H program, please contact the Event and Sponsorship Coordinator, Ms. Monica Monroe at Monica@mcagfair.com.

The next issue of The Montgomery County 4-H News & Notes will be published the first week of November 2025. Please submit your articles to Anna Hamann, ahamann@umd.edu by October 22, 2025.

A PDF copy of this newsletter can be found, one week after publication, on the Montgomery County 4-H page.

<https://extension.umd.edu/locations/montgomery-county/4-h-youth-development/news-notes/>

University programs, activities, and facilities are available to all without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion,

protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class.

Annual Financial Reports

Annual Financial Reports are due by email to Sheila Ford at sheilaf@umd.edu, no later than Monday, October 6, 2025.

Charter Renewal Process and Documentation

File your 990 postcard with the IRS ASAP! This was due September 15, 2025. Once completed, be sure to click the print button at the top of your screen BEFORE exiting the program. Please email a copy of the postcard that is filed, as well as a copy of the confirmation page showing that the IRS accepted your information it to Sheila Ford at sheilaf@umd.edu.

Annual Financial Summary Report - Please make sure your document is signed. Your beginning balance for 2025 should match your ending balance from last year's 2024 Fiscal year reporting July 1 - June 30.

Property Inventory Report - Please make sure your document is signed. Every club needs to fill one out even if they have \$0 value.

Volunteer and Teen Forum

We are just days away from the end of registration for the Volunteer and Teen Forum!

The Volunteer and Teen Forum spans from November 14-16 and is a great way for 4-H teens and volunteers to learn and have fun doing it! Plus, you will have the chance to spend the weekend in Ocean City, MD.

There will also be activities for Clovers, Juniors, and Intermediates for all day fun!



Register on 4-H Online by October 15, 2025!

Diamond Level 5 Project

Diamond Clover Level 5 Plan and Reports must be submitted to MoCo 4-H County Office by October 15. Please mail your materials to the Montgomery County 4-H Office, Attn: Chandini Montgomery, 18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood, MD 20855, or email plan and reports to cbmontgo@umd.edu.

Levels 1-4 Reports are not due to the County 4-H office until January 2026.

Going Abroad Program

The 4-H Going Abroad Program is a cultural immersion and exchange program offered by States' 4-H International Exchange Programs. The Program allows 4-H youth to live with volunteer host families in a foreign country for a period, engaging in daily life and cultural activities to foster global understanding.

The online application is open now. Youth between 12-18 years old (depending on the country) can apply through this link (<https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/104148-States-4-H-International-Exchange>).

The deadline to apply is November 30, 2025.

Maryland State Council

The Maryland 4-H State Council is now accepting 2026 General Membership applications.

The Maryland 4-H State Council is the premier teen leadership opportunity in the Maryland 4-H program. It is comprised of active 4-H members from around the state interested in developing high-level leadership skills and representing their local 4-H program.

State Council members have opportunities to learn from each other, volunteers, and faculty/staff outside of their club and local 4-H Program. The State Council is led by a youth officer team and faculty/staff advisors. State Council members serve for the full 4-H (calendar) year.

You can learn more about the 4-H State Council on the Maryland 4-H website.

Eligibility

4-H members who will be ages 13-18 as of January 1, 2026 may apply to serve on the Maryland 4-H State Council.

How to Apply

4-H members who are interested in serving on the 4-H State Council are strongly encouraged to contact their local 4-H office before applying. Your 4-H county/city program may have additional requirements for applicants, and they may be able to help you with your application.

Applications for the Maryland 4-H State Council are accepted through 4-H Online. To apply, log in to 4-H Online family profile and click on the Events tab. You will see the 4-H State Council Application portal on the Events page. You may also click on this link (<https://2026SCApplication.4honline.com>) for direct access to the application portal.

4-H members who apply to serve on the 4-H State Council must submit a cover letter, 4-H resume, and photo. You will upload these items to your application in 4-H Online, in addition to answering a few questions.

You can find an Event Registration "how to" guide on the Maryland 4-H website. You can also contact your local 4-H office for assistance with preparing and submitting your 4-H State Council membership application.

All applications must be submitted in 4-H Online by 11:59 p.m. on November 15, 2025.

Your 4-H Educator must review and approve your application before forwarding it to the State 4-H Office for consideration.

National 4-H Week

Show your 4-H pride! National 4-H week is October 5th-11th, and Maryland 4-H wants YOU to join in on the fun!

There will be two days next week when Maryland 4-H wants you to take action:

1. Monday, October 6th - GO GREEN: wear green clothing, face paint, etc. so that we can paint the nation green. Then, share your "Go Green" story on social media

2. Thursday, October 9th - Help us highlight all the good that 4-H does! Whether it is for their members, volunteers, or the community, spread the good word about 4-H. Then, share your "4-H for Good" story on social media.

National 4-H Council

National 4-H Council has teamed up with Universal Pictures to spread all of the 4-H stories of service to the community, country, and the world. This is an excellent opportunity for us to reach beyond our 4-H community and share all the outstanding service we provide.

Wicked: For Good + 4-H 2025

4-H and the major motion picture, *Wicked: For Good*, are teaming up to create a wave of kindness across the country this fall.

Join the 4-H For Good Challenge: Oct. 9 – Nov. 21, 2025

- **Do Something Good**
 - Big or small, every act counts! Help out, give back or simply show someone you care.
- **Share Your Heart Hands and Post Online**
 - Share your heart hands, write a short post about your good deed and share on social media using #4HForGood and tag @4H
- **Challenge Your Crew**
 - Tag 4 friends and invite them to do something good too!

Amplify the 'Good' of 4-H

- Celebrate acts of service/community and reach new audiences
- Show the country how 4-H'ers are leaders in community service/civic engagement

Resources Available

- 4-H For Good toolkit coming soon!

A promotional graphic for the 'Wicked: For Good + 4-H 2025' challenge. It features the title 'WICKED' in a stylized font at the top. Below it, the text 'READY TO DO SOMETHING Wickedly Good?' is displayed. The central image shows two hands forming a heart shape, with a pink heart inside. Overlaid on the heart are three black boxes with white text: 'Do good.', 'Show your heart.', and 'Tag 4 friends.'. At the bottom, there is a green banner with the text 'JOIN OUR CHALLENGE #4HForGood' and logos for 4-H and Universal Pictures.

Farm Credit Foundation for Agricultural Advancement 2025-2026 Scholarship program

The Farm Credit Foundation for Agricultural Advancement will be awarding at least \$350,000 to mid-Atlantic area students planning to pursue a career in agriculture. Scholarships will be valued up to \$10,000 each.

The Farm Credit Foundation For Agricultural Advancement 2026 Scholarship Program is offered by the Farm Credit Foundation for Agricultural Advancement. The scholarship is open to applicants who are high school seniors or students

currently enrolled in a two- or four-year educational program at an accredited college, university, or technical school. The applicant must be planning to pursue a career in agriculture.

Applications close on Friday, January 2, 2026. For more information visit https://fcfoundationforag.smapply.io/prog/student_scholarship/

Upcoming Workshops

Workshop 1:

Blast off into Space with these Paper Rockets! This free workshop is part of our series geared towards homeschoolers, but all are invited! On November 3, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., we will create and fly paper rockets to learn more about lift, drag and gravity.

This event will be held at the Montgomery County 4-H Office (18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood, MD 20855). If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this workshop, please email cbmontgo@umd.edu by October 20, 2025.

Open to Cloverbuds (ages 5-7). **We are also looking for volunteers to help with the event.** Please have all youth accompanied by a supervising adult. **Please register on 4-H Online by October 27.** Register on 4-H Online here: <https://paperrockets.4honline.com>



Workshop 2:

Join us for a free hands-on workshop on Cover Crops! This workshop is part of our series geared towards homeschoolers, but all are invited! On November 18, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., we will learn a little more on why cover crops are so important for agriculture and soil health by exploring the science behind cover crops. Then we will do a movement activity to learn more about how cover crops help soil and a hands-on activity! This event will be held at the Montgomery County 4-H Office (18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood, MD20855). If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this workshop, please email cbmontgo@umd.edu by November 4, 2025.

This workshop is ideal for ages 5-12 years old but all are welcome! **We are also looking for volunteers to help with the event.** Please have all youth accompanied by a supervising adult.

Allergy Alert: We will be using Annual Rye Grass Seeds for one of our activities. If you have an allergy to this product, we are able to provide your participant with an alternative plant's seeds to use during the lesson if notified at least 2 weeks before the event by emailing cbmontgo@umd.edu. However, please note that other participants will be using Annual Rye Grass Seed in case you have a

UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION



Cover Crops!

Date: November 18th

Time: 10:30am - 11:30am

Location: Montgomery County 4-H Office

Register on 4-H Online



This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider

sensitivity/allergy to the product through air or touch exposure. Please register on 4-H Online by November 11 here: <https://covercrops.4honline.com>



Color Coding Robots: Ozobots!

Date: December 2nd
Time: 10:30am – 11:30am
Location: Montgomery County 4-H Office

Register on 4-H Online

This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider

Workshop 3:

Join us for a free hands-on workshop on Color Coding Robots called Ozobots! This workshop is part of our series geared towards homeschoolers, but all are invited! On December 2, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., we will have an introductory course of Ozobots, what they are, what is coding and what are robots. Then, we will take time to use the Ozobots and explore more about how we can draw code for them. This event will be held at the Montgomery County 4-H Office (18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood, MD 20855). If you need reasonable accommodation to participate in this workshop, please email cbmontgo@umd.edu by November 18, 2025.

Ideal for ages 9-13 but all are welcome! **We are also looking for volunteers to help with the event.** Please have all youth accompanied by a supervising adult. Please register on 4-H Online by November 25 here: <https://ozobots.4honline.com>

Workshop 4:

We will be hosting a virtual 4-H Orientation over Zoom on Saturday, December 6, from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. where we will be talking about 4-H in general, how 4-H is structured, and what opportunities exist within 4-H at the local, state, and national levels. This orientation is geared towards current 4-H members and volunteers. We encourage new 4-H families to attend, but this orientation can be for an enrolled volunteer, 4-H'er or clover family that would like to learn more! If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this event, please email cbmontgo@umd.edu by November 22, 2025.

This orientation will be repeated 3 times a year for any new members/volunteers or for members/volunteers who were not able to attend previous sessions.

This orientation has information repeated from July 31, 2025.

The Zoom link will be shared to all registered families after the registration closes.

Please register on 4-H Online by December 3 here:
<https://4HOrientation2.4honline.com>

Steer Weigh-In and Tagging

January 3, 2026 at 7:00 a.m. at the Montgomery County fairgrounds. Those who wish to show a steer **MUST** attend and complete the livestock registration form beforehand. **Registration form due to Catherine Savage, 301-226-7957, csavage9@umd.edu, by December 26, 2025.**

chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://extension.umd.edu/sites/extension.umd.edu/files/2021-04/MD_4-H_Livestock_Registration_Form_2021.pdf

CLUB & MEMBER CORNER

Congratulations!

The Inventors club won First Place in the Middle School Division for the Rube Goldberg competition.

The Rube Goldberg competition is an engineering contest where participants build complex, multi-step contraptions to perform a simple task, inspired by cartoonist Rube Goldberg's famous invention cartoons.

Video of first Place Middle School Rube Goldberg machine

<https://www.youtube.com/live/GI1InneN1Hs?t=775s>

State Fair STEM Contest Winners

Congratulations to the following MoCo 4-H members that entered State Fair contests

Rohan Weik

Inter. Bicycle 1st place

Inter. Lawn Tractor 1st place

Inter. Small Engine 4th place

Krishen Weik

Inter. Bicycle 5th place

Inter. Lawn Tractor 5th place

Inter. Small Engine 1st place

K.L Plano Faber

Sr. Large Tractor 6th place

Sr. Bicycle 2nd place

Sr. Lawn Tractor - 4th place

Sr. Small Engine 1st place

Gabriel Castaneda

Inter. Drones 2nd place

Josh Cheng

Sr. Drones 3rd place

4-H Fair Challenge winners

Congratulations to all of our 4-H Challenge winners. The 10 Challenges provided an opportunity to try something new, or increase the 4-H'er participation in a particular Division. There were 27 Juniors and 21 Senior that completed the Challenges.

Juniors

Arts & Crafts Challenge

Addie Cheng
Kellie Butts
Caelan Gregory
Declan Gregory
Mikaela Tan
Gabriel Castaneda
Gloria Castaneda
John Mckeon

STEM Challenge Declan Gregory

Horticulture Challenge

Sophia German
Walton Albritton
Shelton Mooney
Margaret Mooney
Hannah Keller

Mini Baker's Dozen Challenge

Billy Curran
Elizabeth Loy
Zoe Suan
Madeleine McCann
Kelly Butts

Meal Challenge

Gloria Castaneda
John McKeon
Ella Carrick
Gabriel Castaneda

Candy Challenge

Hannah Keller
Jack Carrick
John Mckeon
Brooks Morris

Food Preservation Challenge

Brooke Morris

Flowers Challenge

Brooke Morris

Gloria Castaneda

Photography Challenge

Laila Strube

Harrison Brenner

Eleanor Reynolds

River Pinteá-White

Sophia German

Isabel Leatherman

Walton Albritton

Alex Hirshfield

Anabelle Rowden

Seniors

Arts and Crafts Challenge

Ren Maril

Grace Davis

Brent Korzeniewski

Hannah Williams

Horticulture Challenge

Jonathan Albritton

CJ Holland

Meal Challenge

Hannah Williams

Anvita Divvela

Candy Challenge

Hannah Willimas

Food Preservation Challenge

Abby Zimmerman

Home Life Challenge

Anvita Divvela

Lily Brown

Hannah William

Hannah Keller

Flowers Challenge

Hannah Williams

Photography Challenge

Jonathn Albritton
Katlyn Donnelly
Lela Steele
Lily Walker
K.L. Plano-Faber
Darren Booth
Daniel Miskelly
Ally Sewel
Tihun Oler
Lily Brown
Grace Brown
Hannah Williams
Clara Reesman
Marek Oszwaldowski
Shellay Ray
Abby Worth

The Kids 'N Dogs 4-H Club: 4-H Agility Fun Match Fundraiser

By Mia Y.

On Saturday, October 25, 2025 The Kids 'N Dogs 4-H Club of Montgomery County is hosting an event to raise funds for the purchase of a trailer for the club's dog agility equipment.

The Agility Fun Match is an opportunity for competitors to run their dogs through an agility course in a fun atmosphere. Various types of competitions will be available including a traditional agility course and a dog (and owner) costume and dog tricks contest.

The match is open to All Youth Ages 8-18 & Adults (19+).

The Agility Fun Match will be hosted at Warrior Canine Connection (WCC), 14934 Schaeffer Rd, Boyds, MD 20841.

For more information and to register, please visit their website: <https://www.4hkidsndogsclub.org/>

Damascus Community 4-H Club

By Chace B.

During the September business meeting, members of the Damascus Community 4-H Club talked about their favorite parts of the Montgomery County Fair and the Damascus Community Fair. One member talked about their experience painting and cleaning the indoor booth. Many mentioned that they loved the food, ice cream, and the animals. The club volunteered as entry runners at the Damascus Fair. They won first place at the ice cream competition. They also discussed some of the activities that they did over the summer including a trip to a petting farm and an outing at a pool.



4-H Inventors Club

By Joe Hamblin

The 4-H Inventors have had a fantastic year in 2025. They kicked off the year building their new Rube Goldberg machine that needed to have at least 10 separate actions and was supposed to put food into a pet's dish.

They met every Saturday from January - March designing and testing. One thing about a Rube Goldberg machine is they are very tricky. The members wanted to have each action work at least 50 % of the time. The Inventors needed to have a complete run with no touches. This also included a walk-through of the machine before running the machine (one continuous video). They got lucky on their fifth attempt and they got a clean video.

The Club showed the machine at the Rockville Science Day in April, and they ran the machine every 10 minutes for five hours. Everyone was very happy and

very tired. They also ran the machine at the Montgomery County Fair in the Kid Zone area, and are going to run it again in early October at the train museum.

The Inventors found out they won First Place in the Middle School Division for the Rube Goldberg competition.

In other news, the Inventors won Champion Float and Walking group at the Fair this year. The club wants to thank Butler's Orchard for letting them use a flatbed and to Yogi Joshi for agreeing to pull the float at the last minute, and to Lauren Moreno. Huge thanks go out to all the parents, and especially the members that contributed to make the winning float

The Inventors started a new Rocket project group, and are going to start doing club launches. The club tackled a very complex project this year, building a custom lightsaber as well as several other projects. They are getting ready to start designing their new Rube Goldberg machine for 2026.



Potomac Community 4-H Club

By Sophia S.

On the last day of the 2025 Montgomery County Ag. Fair, the Potomac Community 4-H Club hosted a table outside to show what they have been doing. They displayed two robots, the GiggleBot and the CyberBot, letting the audience control them with MicroBits, a chip that stores and communicates commands.

They also featured a research and app development project, ZeroHero: An AI-DrivenApp for Plastic Bag Recycling. In this project, two of the club members developed an application software to help the public easily determine whether a plastic bag is recyclable or not, using the latest technologies in artificial intelligence. They also provided information about plastic bag recycling, including drop-off locations where people can recycle their plastic bags into items like benches or tables. The members also distributed free reusable bags that can be used for groceries or other things to reduce plastic bag usage. Overall, they interacted with many different people at the fairgrounds. They learned a lot from their experience and had a great time.



4-H Calendar

Due dates and Events

October

- 18 State 4-H Shotgun Contest, Prince Georges Trap & Skeet
- 15 Due Date: Volunteer and Teen Forum
- 25 Due Date: Outbound Program. 4-H Online
- 28 NAE4-HYDP Conference Starts (October 28-30, 2025) Atlanta, GA
- 31 Due Date: 4-H State Council 2025 Officer Application. 4-H Online

November

- 3 Paper Rockets Workshop
- 14-16 4-H Volunteer and Teen Forum, Ocean City, MD
- 15 Application event opens 2025 National 4-H Leadership Trips (National 4-H Congress, Camp Miniwanca, VA 4-H Congress, WVOMC). Submit on 4-H Online
- 15 Due Date: 4-H State Council 2025 General Membership Applications. 4-H Online.
- 15 Due Date: Applications for 2025 National 4-H Conference. 4-H Online.
- 18 Cover Crops Workshop
- 21 Fall 2025 Tractor Supply Company Paper Clover Campaign Starts (November 28-December 14, 2025)
- 30 Due Date: Going Abroad Program

December

- 1 Due Date: Volunteer Survey
- 1 Due Date: 2025 Youth/Volunteer Enrollment. 4-H Online
- 2 Color Coding Robots Workshop
- 7 State Dog Bowl Contest UMD, College Park
- 15 Due Date: Outbound Program Application. 4-H Online
- 26 Due Date: Steer Weigh-In and Tagging Application

January

- 3 Beef Club Weigh-in



Agility Fun Match 2025
Oct. 25, 2025
Hosted by the 4-H Kids 'N' Dogs Club (Montgomery County, MD)

- Join us for Agility Fun at Warrior Canine Connection (WCC) in Boyds, MD.
- Bring your dog to compete in an agility course with various obstacles like ramps, jumps and tunnels.
- Whether you're an experienced handler or new to agility, there's something for everyone. The competition will have groups based on dog size and experience.
- Connect with fellow dog lovers and let your furry friend shine in a supportive environment.

Date: Saturday, Oct. 25, 2025
 Time: Starts at 11am
 Location: Warrior Canine Connection in Boyds, MD
 Cost: \$15 to register (which includes one run through the course at a chosen level and height) + \$5 for any additional runs in any other class

All proceeds will go towards the purchase of a trailer for the Kids N Dogs club's agility equipment.

For more information and to sign up for the Agility Fun Match, visit our website:
<https://www.4hkidsanddogsclub.org/>




Thank you Warrior Canine Connection for hosting us! Check out their website at warriorecanineconnection.org.

Editor's note: Clip art appearing in this newsletter are copyright free from the National 4-H Foundation, Shutterstock.com, Clipart-library.com, the Graphics Fairy, NASA, <https://create.vista.com/>, and Freepik.

Question: Do you know what it is, and where was the picture taken?

Answer: This is the roof of the Elevator Silo at the 4-H Bldg. in Derwood, MD.

Chandini Montgomery, 4-H Educator, 301-226-7956, cbmontgo@umd.edu
Catherine Savage, Agent Associate, 301-226-7957, csavage9@umd.edu
Sheila Ford, Extension Program Assistance, sheilaf@umd.edu
Anna Hamann, Admin Asst. (part-time), Newsletter Editor, ahamann@umd.edu

University programs, activities, and facilities are available to all without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class.



*Copyright (C) 2025 *University of Maryland Extension*. All rights reserved.*

Our mailing address is:
Montgomery County 4-H
18410 Muncaster Rd
Derwood, MD 20855

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)