

4-H PARTYLINE



UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION

April 2026

Volume 21

Issue 4

DeBerry Participates At State Event

DUSTIN DEBERRY

Maryland 4-H State 4-H Livestock Skillathon

Garrett County 4-H is proud of Dustin DeBerry, a senior member of the Country Explorers 4-H Club, for participating in the Maryland 4-H State Livestock Skillathon Contest on March 7th.

This contest tests your knowledge in animal science as it pertains to livestock. Dustin placed 15th out of 34 senior contestants. The competition is open to all 4-H youth ages 8-18.



**NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK
APRIL 19-25, 2026**

Calendar of Events

April 2026

- 19-25 National Volunteer Week
- 17 Tractor Supply Paper Clover Campaign Begins through May 3
- 25 Maryland 4-H Public Speaking Contest, University of Maryland

May 2026

- 2/3 Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival/Junior Sheep & Goat
- 8 Skillathon Spring Weigh-In noon-8 pm-Online Registration Required
- 9 Western MD District Show starting at 9:00 am

June 2026

- 3 Broiler Show @ Garrett County Extension 6:00 pm
- 6/28-7/2 4-H Camp Algawa

Spring Weigh-In

The weigh-in for all market sheep, swine, and goats will be held on May 8th. Commercial breeding animals needing tagged must also attend. Animals will be tagged and weighed. All market swine are required to have a USDA Radio-Frequency Identification (RFID) tag. If you have questions about the RFID tags, please call MDA at (410) 841-5700. MDA Health Forms, also known as Certificate of Veterinarian Inspection (CVI) forms are required for all animals who are staying to exhibit at District Show on Saturday. Contact your veterinarian to make arrangements for getting health forms completed for all animals shown at the District Show. There will not be a veterinarian doing health checks at weigh-in, you must contact your vet 4 weeks ahead to complete health checks and health papers. **Maryland CVI's are valid for 60 days (no longer 120 days)**. Health papers are required for any MD fairs and shows, including the Western MD District Show. However, health papers will **not** be required at spring weigh-in if you are only weighing/tagging and going back home on Friday. Weigh-in weights will be the beginning weight that will be used in the rate of gain calculations. All Garrett County youth participating in the Western Maryland District Show must weigh their animals on Friday evening. Packets were mailed to members with market livestock projects.

If you are planning on showing a commercial heifer, lamb, or goat, please contact the office to get a commercial animal registration card.

Commercial (not registered) breeding animals are required to be tagged at Spring Weigh-in unless the animal already has a tag from a previous year. Please contact the UME office if you need a card for a commercial breeding animal.

Friday Weigh-In Registration link: <https://go.umd.edu/2026GCSpringWeighIn>. Registration deadline is May 1, 2026.



Western Maryland District Show

The Western Maryland 4-H/FFA District Show is one of the four regional Spring Livestock Shows for Maryland 4-H and FFA members. Although this show is judged, it is designed as a learning experience. The District Show is scheduled for May 9, 2026 at the Garrett County Fairgrounds.

Registration details to show are on the last page of the show booklet included in packets mailed out earlier in March. This separate registration is due by May 1, 2026 to UME Allegany Co Office. The show booklet can also be found on our website at <https://extension.umd.edu/locations/garrett-county/4-h-youth-development/events/>

Livestock Entries for State Fair

If you are planning to take a market animal to the State Fair, the animal must be tagged at the May 8th weigh-in. Contact the UME Office at 301-334-6960 to obtain your State Fair Animal ID card to bring with your animal to weigh-in. Animals must be registered using the online state fair entry form. The guidelines and the 2026 Online Entry Systems are available at <http://www.marylandstatefair.com/exhibitors/4-h>. Notice that the deadline for State Fair entries is July 15, 2026.

GARRETT COUNTY FAIR SETS FARM QUEEN PROGRAM

The Garrett County Fair Board Directors have set the following deadlines for the 2026 Farm Queen/Princess Program:

IMPORTANT DATES

- Princess Applications Due ~ June 1, 2026
- Princess Interviews (In-Person) ~ Morning of Saturday, June 20, 2026 (applicants will be notified with an appointment time)
- Farm Queen Applications Due ~ June 29, 2026
- Dinner & Rehearsal (Mandatory Attendance) ~ July 20, 2026

SIGN UP TODAY!

Contacts
Lisa Brenneman ~ 301-616-1010
Kay Steyer ~ 301-334-2900

For More Details Visit:
www.gcfair.org

4-H After School Program

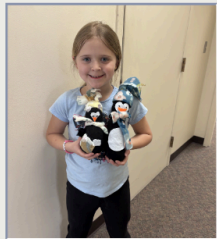
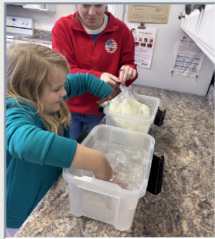
4-H STEM Educator, Karen Wood, traveled to after-school programs throughout the county to teach the science of lava lamps. In the hands-on class, youth made their own bottle lava lamp and explored the fascinating science behind density, chemical reactions, and liquids that don't mix.

GARRETT COUNTY 4-H STEM ENRICHMENT

LAVA LAMP SCIENCE



ARCTIC FRIENDS WITH MAKE AND TAKE PENGUIN CRAFT



How do penguins and arctic animals stay warm in icy water? Youth had fun in this hands-on class led by Karen Wood and Emily Pysell as they learned how animals survive in the coldest places on Earth. They enjoyed a blubber experiment that showed how fat insulation protects animals in freezing water. After experimenting, the group got creative by making their own sock penguins.



MARYLAND

Dairy Princess

PROGRAM



Maryland Dairy Princess Promotion Team Info Night

Who: Anyone interested in becoming a Dairy Princess or Dairy Miss

When: April 2nd, 4th, 20th, or 23rd @ 6:00 PM

Where: Zoom link will be emailed out. Register here:
<https://forms.gle/NeWbLUvAoKzaatTB7>



Join us for a presentation about the Maryland Dairy Princess Program! Learn how to become a Princess or Miss, the exciting opportunities available, and get your questions answered! We can't wait to meet you! For more information, contact our state coordinators at mddairyprincess@gmail.com.

Natural Resources Careers Camp ~ July 19, 2026-July 25, 2026

Join high school students from across Maryland at this week-long camp in Garrett County to explore careers and college studies in natural resources. This partnership with Allegany College of Maryland and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources-Forest Service offers high school students a co-educational opportunity to learn from industry professionals and develop contacts that could lead to future employment and a career in natural resources.



For more information:

<https://www.marylandforestryfoundation.org/programs/students-educators/nrcc/>

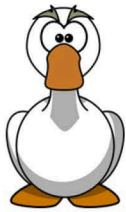


Beyond Ready

Farm Animals - Word Search



A	S	P	I	G	T	O	R	Z
G	K	H	L	K	U	J	P	S
O	P	P	G	V	R	W	E	A
A	R	D	O	N	K	E	Y	E
T	S	U	O	D	E	C	G	F
G	C	C	S	F	Y	A	S	C
A	D	K	E	Z	O	T	X	O
H	O	R	S	E	K	V	W	W
A	G	C	H	I	C	K	E	N
P	A	S	H	E	E	P	R	O



WELCOME
Spring

Spring is a magical time, as it brings with it the promise of new beginnings and exciting activities. It's a perfect season for planting gardens, raising animals, and embarking on environmental projects. As the days grow longer and warmer, participating in outdoor events like nature hikes, picnics, and community clean-ups, fostering a sense of responsibility and teamwork. Spring is also a great time to prepare for upcoming fairs and competitions, where 4-H members can showcase their hard work and skills. Embracing the spirit of growth and renewal, spring offers 4-H kids a vibrant and enriching experience, encouraging them to learn, explore, and connect with the world around them.

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