The following are due to our office by February 1, 2015:

- 4-H Record Books and Project Records for 2014
- 4-H Enrollment forms (members and volunteers)
- Club Secretary Book which includes Public Relations Effort by Clubs Form AA-4H/H4.
- Charter forms
- 2015 Planning Calendar
- 2015 Club Officer list

BAD WEATHER POLICY

Now that winter is here, we need to remind everyone of the bad weather policy for 4-H activities.

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 or our office to determine if club activities are cancelled.

4-H COUNTY SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications for the 2015/2016 academic year will be accepted beginning February 1. 4-H members planning to continue their education after high school and returning students are encouraged to apply.

Applications are available at the UME Office, by emailing jparrish@umd.edu, or at http://extension.umd.edu/allegany-county/4-h-youth/4-h-forms

Deadline is June 1, 2015—No exceptions.
**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**

**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 complete a project record on each project exhibited at the 2014 fair to show at the 2015 fair. Records must be submitted in a folder with your name and primary club printed on the front.

For a Record Book Guide which gives the order of the record book and what not to put in your record book, email jparrish@umd.edu or visit: https://www.extension.umd.edu/allegany-county/4-h-youth/4-h-forms

**Summary Record:**

- Complete only one Summary Record for your current year in 4-H.
- Be sure to sign where indicated as 4-H Member.
- Your primary Club Leader needs to sign the summary record after reviewing the completeness and accuracy of the information included.

**Project Records:**

- Each project must go on a separate project record. (Please be sure to use the correct project form such as livestock forms for livestock projects.)
- To be classified as complete, each project record must be filled out completely: personal information, goals, communications/exhibits (2 are required), learning experiences (4 are required), financial records, life skills, and reflection.
- Records must be signed by the member and the primary club leader after reviewing for completeness and accuracy.
- If you choose to use plastic page covers, please do not use them for pages requiring signatures.

Most recent forms are available at the Extension Office or at: http://www.extension.umd.edu/allegany-county/4-h-youth/4-h-forms

Livestock information and forms are available at: http://extension.umd.edu/allegany-county-4-h-livestock-forms

Don’t forget to “like” Allegany County 4-H on facebook to receive the latest news and updates.

The Allegany County Ag Expo and the Allegany County Fairgrounds also have a facebook page, so add them to your “like” list as well.
Visit http://www.extension.umd.edu/sites/default/files/_docs/programs/4-H/awards/Trips%20Details.pdf for descriptions of each.

Applications due January 10. Conferences take place fall 2015.
Lacie can help you prepare these if you have questions or need assistance.


- Complete Essay – Write an essay describing the impact that being in 4-H has had on your life. No more than two pages, double spaced, no less than 1 inch margins, no less than 12 pt font, Times New Roman font type only

- Complete 4-H Resume – No more than three pages, single spaced, no less than 1 inch margins, no less than 12 pt, Times News Roman font type only; focus on categories of leadership, citizenship, and life skills (examples found at http://www.extension.umd.edu/sites/default/files/_docs/programs/4-H/awards/The4-HResume.pdf)

- Complete Interview – interviews dates are on the application form, depending on the trip.

4-H Day at the Wisp is scheduled for January 21, 2015 & February 11, 2015 at the Wisp Ski Resort, McHenry, Maryland. As in the past, 4-Hers and families are invited to take advantage of the event. More information and registration forms are available at the links below:

  Deadline to register is January 12.

  Deadline to register is February 2.

If you need additional information, call 301 334-6962.

The ninth annual Maryland 4-H Horse Art Contest will take place this year during Maryland Horse World Expo to be held January 16-18, 2015 at the Maryland State Fairgrounds in Timonium, MD. Entries must be received by no later than Wednesday, January 7, 2015. Entries will be judged before the first day of the expo and will be displayed throughout the expo.

Entry forms are available at: http://extension.umd.edu/sites/default/files/_docs/Horse%20World%20Expo%204-H%20Art%20Contest%20Entry%20Form%202015.pdf

Please contact Brittany Hoffman at bhoffma2@umd.edu or 301-314-7826 if you have any questions.
Help Us Promote the Health "H" by Becoming a Healthy Living Ambassador!

Here is an idea for a new club officer role for your club. The Maryland 4-H Healthy Living Program is holding two Healthy Living Summits in January to recruit and train Healthy Living Ambassadors. We are asking clubs to designate two 4-Hers to come to one of these summits to become "health officers" for their 4-H clubs and communities. This would be a great resume item for 4-H members who are considering a future career in the health field. These Healthy Living Ambassadors will learn healthy activities, snacks and exercises to take back to their clubs and counties to promote healthy lifestyles.

Mark your calendars for January 10 at the Montgomery County 4-H Office or for the summit on January 24 at Thendara 4-H Center in Dorchester County from 10am to 3pm. The summits are open to all 4-Hers ages 8 to 18! To sign up, contact the office at 301-724-3320 or email lashby@umd.edu.

BE A 4-H REPORTER

Calling All 4-H Writers, Reporters & Photographers!

The *Maryland 4-H in Action* supplement to the *Delmarva Farmer* is back! This is an opportunity for 4-Hers to showcase Maryland 4-H through their own eyes. The supplement will be written, edited and designed by 4-H youth interested in media and writing under the guidance of Maryland 4-H and Delmarva Farmer staff members. A share of the advertising sales will go toward the Maryland 4-H Foundation, which aids youth in attending national conferences and program trips.

Interested? Contact Amanda Clougherty at akbrown@umd.edu or 301-314-7835.
2015 WEBINAR SERIES—FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2015
PASTURE MANAGEMENT FOR SMALL RUMINANT PRODUCERS

A five-part webinar series will be held on consecutive Wednesday evenings in February and March 2015. All webinars will start at 7:00 p.m. EST and last for one hour. Each webinar will be followed by a question-and-answer period. The instructors will be Jeff Semler and Susan Schoenian.

A webinar is a seminar or short course conducted over the internet. Interaction is via a chat box. All webinars will be conducted via Adobe Connect. Anyone (anywhere) with an Internet connection may participate. A high speed connection is recommended. The webinars are open to the first 100 people who log in to https://connect-test.moo.umd.edu/sschoen/. Please visit the following web page for more information: http://www.sheepandgoat.com/programs/2015webinars.html.

MARYLAND 4-H HORSE BOWL CONTEST
SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2015

The 2015 Maryland 4-H Horse Bowl Contest will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2015 at the University of Maryland, College Park, MD. For 2015 Contest Rules and the Registration Form email Lacie at lashby@umd.edu. Registration Forms must be submitted to the state office by February 27, 2015. Each team participating in the state contest must submit 40 questions by Sunday, February 1, 2015. Questions should be sent via e-mail to Chris Johnston at cjohnstn@umd.edu.

New for 2015—Counties may enter up to a maximum of eight members (one team and additional individual members) in the senior division, in the same manner this was added for junior and intermediate divisions in 2014. Counties may enter only individuals if they do not have enough members for a team. Contestants designated as individuals in the Junior, Intermediate, and Senior divisions will be randomly assigned to composite teams by the contest organizer. See the Rules and the Registration Form for more details.

ALSO: Save the date! The 2015 Horse Judging and Hippology Contests will be held on Saturday, May 30, 2015 on the UMD campus in College Park, MD. Event registration and details will be available in early 2015.

MARYLAND 4-H SCHOLARSHIPS

Eligible Maryland 4-H students can apply for a Maryland 4-H Foundation scholarship. Each applicant may only receive one (1) scholarship per year for two (2) years before becoming ineligible to apply.

To be considered for any of the Maryland 4-H Foundation Scholarships, a completed application must be received at the Maryland 4-H Office on or before June 1, 2015. No applications will be accepted by fax. Sorry, no exceptions.

For information on Maryland 4-H scholarships, visit: http://www.mymaryland4hfoundation.com/how-we-give/apply-for-scholarship
HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Members of the Busy Bees 4-H Club held a Christmas celebration during their December meeting.

They exchanged jingle gifts and made snowman crafts. In addition, they signed greeting cards for a local nursing home.

Their next meeting is scheduled for January 6, 6:00 p.m. at Constitution Park. For more information, call 301-724-3320.

KITCHEN PET PEEVES

What is your kitchen pet peeve?

A recent survey done by NSF International reported that the most common pet peeves were not washing hands before preparing foods, double dipping when tasting foods and coughing or sneezing near food.

Food safety begins in the home where we learn behaviors by watching family prepare food. Here are some reminders to keep everyone healthy:

- **Wash your hands frequently** with warm soapy water for 20 seconds, especially before and after handling food. Teach children the importance of proper hand washing at an early age.
- **Clean kitchen utensils** (blenders, can openers) with soap and water after each use. Be sure to dry thoroughly before putting them away. Dark, moist environments are perfect for germs to grow.
- **Keep separate towels** for drying hands and drying dishes. By using the same towel, you risk spreading germs from the hand towel onto your clean dishes.
- **Don’t double dip** with either fingers or utensils. Double dipping can spread germs to an entire room full of guests. Never use your fingers to grab a sample.

Lisa McCoy, MS, RDN, Extension Educator, FCS-Healthy Living
The Frostburg Library is offering a class titled “iPad Basics” on Monday, January 5 at 11:00am. For more information, contact the Frostburg Library at 301-687-0790.

Children of all ages are welcome to come and play with Legos at the South Cumberland Library Lego Millennium Club on Wednesday, January 7 at 6:00pm. For more information, contact the South Cumberland Library at 301-724-1607.

The George’s Creek Art Connections offer free arts instruction to kids ages 6 to 17 at the George’s Creek Regional Library on Thursday, January 8 at 6:00pm. All supplies are provided and registration is not required. Contact the library for details at 301-463-2629.

The Frostburg Library is offering a class titled “iPad Basics” on Thursday, January 8 at 6:30pm. For more information, contact the Frostburg Library at 301-687-0790.

Children of all ages are welcome to come and play with Legos at the George’s Creek Regional Library Lego Engineers Club on Saturday, January 10 at 10:30am. For more information, contact the library at 301-463-2629.

The Frostburg Library is offering a class titled “iPad Basics II” on Monday, January 12 at 11:00am. For more information, contact the Frostburg Library at 301-687-0790.

The Lonely Sock Club (a Family Affair) will meet at the Westernport Library on Tuesday, January 13 at 6:30pm. The Lonely Sock Club uses “lonely socks” (socks that have lost their match) to make clever crafts, puppets, and useful household items to delight the family. Bring your own lonely sock or use one of ours. Phone the Westernport Library at 301-359-0455 for details.

The George’s Creek Regional Library is offering a free Scrapbooking Workshop for all residents ages 12 and older on Thursday, January 15 at 6:00 PM George’s Creek Regional Library Community Room. No registration is required. For more information, contact the George’s Creek Library at 301-463-2629.

The Frostburg Library is offering a class titled “iPad Basics II” on Thursday, January 15 at 6:30pm. All classes offered by the Allegany County Library System are free and open to the public but registration is required. For more information, contact the Frostburg Library at 301-687-0790.

The Frostburg Library is offering a class titled “Kindle Fire Basics” on Monday, February 2 at 11:00am. All classes offered by the Allegany County Library System are free and open to the public but registration is required. For more information, contact the Frostburg Library at 301-687-0790.

The Frostburg Library is offering a class titled “Kindle Fire II” on Monday, February 9 at 11:00am. All classes offered by the Allegany County Library System are free and open to the public but registration is required. For more information, contact the Frostburg Library at 301-687-0790.

The Frostburg Library is offering a class titled “Kindle Fire Basics” on Thursday, February 19 at 6:30pm. All classes offered by the Allegany County Library System are free and open to the public but registration is required. For more information, contact the Frostburg Library at 301-687-0790.
VALENTINE OWLS

You will need:
- Toilet paper rolls
- Scrapbook paper—Pattern, red, and orange
- Heart stickers
- Googly eyes
- Ribbon
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Glue
- Paint brush

Instructions:
1. Cut scrapbook paper the length of the paper roll.
2. Using a paint brush, brush the glue on the paper roll.
3. Wrap the scrapbook paper around the paper roll.
4. To make the ears, push down slowly on one end of the roll (see picture below). Repeat on other side.
5. Cut round circles from red paper slightly larger than the plastic eyes.
6. Glue red circles in place and glue eyes on top of red circles.
7. Cut a triangle out of the orange construction paper. Glue below the eyes.
8. Cut heart-shaped wings out of red paper and glue to each side.
9. Place one heart sticker on owl.
10. Attach ribbon to top of owl.
## 2015 4-H Calendar

### January
- **1 to 2**—UME Office Closed  
- **10**—Resumes for national trips due to Lacie.  
- **15**—Resumes for national trips to State 4-H Office.  
- **16 to 18**—World Horse Expo  
- **19**—UME Office Closed  
- **TBA**—County Livestock Skillathon Contest

### February
- **1**—Due to 4-H Office: Record Books & Project Records, Enrollment Forms, Secretary Books  
- **19**—UME Office Closed  
- **TBA**—Livestock Skillathon Practice, 6:30 p.m.

### March
- **2**—Officer Training, 6:30 p.m.  
- **7**—State Livestock Skillathon  
- **13**—County Public Speaking Contest

### April
- **11 to 16**—National 4-H Conference  
- **3**—Easter Egg Hunt, UME Closed  
- **25**—Spring livestock tagging, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
- **25**—Maryland Day, State Public Speaking  
- **26**—Achievement Dinner, 3:00 p.m.  
- **30**—New UME Volunteer Training, 6:00 p.m.  
- **30**—County 4-H Scholarships Due

### May
- **1**—ALL Livestock Registrations, County Bred Entry Cards, Bred & Owned Entry Cards, Horse, Chicken, Rabbit Registrations, Breeding/Performance Leases—for all animals exhibiting at fair—both breeding and market!  
- **TBA**—State 4-H Wildlife Habitat Education Contest  
- **2 to 3**—MD Sheep & Wool Festival  
- **16**—4-H/FFA District Livestock Show, Garrett County  
- **25**—Memorial Day, UME Closed

### June
- **1**—County scholarship applications due to 4-H Office.  
- **22**—Record Book workshop, 6:30 p.m.

### July
- **3**—UME Closed  
- **6 to 10**—4-H Camp Algawa  
- **14**—Fair set up & picnic  
- **19 to 25**—Alleghany County Fair  
- **22**—4-H Presents at Fair  
- **25**—4-H/FFA Livestock Sale at Fair  
- **31**—State Fair entries due

### August
- **28 to Sept. 7**—Maryland State Fair  
- **28**—State Engineering Contests at State Fair

### September
- **Enrollment for new 4-H year begins.**  
- **7**—Labor Day, UME Office Closed  
- **1**—Treasure’s Books with your Annual Financial Report and Club Inventory Report for July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 are due to this office by September 1, 2014.  
- **5**—State Rifle Match  
- **5**—State Judging Contests at State Fair

### October
- **4 to 10**—National 4-H Week  
- **4 to 10**—TSC paper clover sales  
- **10**—National Trip applications to Lacie.  
- **15**—National Trip applications to State Office  
- **19**—Record Book Workshop

### November
- **9**—New Volunteer Training  
- **11**—Veterans’ Day, UME Office closed  
- **20 to 22**—Maryland 4-H Volunteer Forum  
- **21**—County steer tagging, 8-10 a.m.  
- **26 to 27**—UME Office closed for Thanksgiving  
- **27**—Dec. 1—National 4-H Congress

### December
- **1**—Market Steer registrations, County Bred Entry Cards, Bred & Owned Entry Cards due to 4-H Office.  
- **24 to Jan. 1**—UME Office Closed for winter break

**Dates and Times Subject to Change**
Don’t forget to “like” Allegany County 4-H on Facebook to receive the latest news and updates.

To receive your newsletter by email, send a note to: jparrish@umd.edu