UPCOMING EVENTS

March:
• 2—Officer Training, 6:30 p.m.
• 7—State Livestock Skillathon
• 7—Dr. Seuss Day at Country Club Mall
• 8—4-H Skate, 2:30-4:30 p.m., Moon Glo
• 13—County Public Speaking Contest, 6:30 p.m.
• 20—First Day of Spring!

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.

4-H WELCOMES JESSICA MELLON!

As the newest member of the University of Maryland Extension in Allegany County, Jessica began her employment in January of 2015. She serves as a faculty extension assistant for 4-H Youth Development. With the goal of increasing the outreach efforts of 4-H programming in the community and schools, she looks forward to providing positive youth development and learning experiences to meet the needs of children and teens in Allegany County. She will be sharing her passion for environmental education, camping, agriculture, robotics, and all things science with the community. Jessica formerly taught at Bishop Walsh School and in Frederick County Public Schools in a variety of subjects. She received her B.A. in psychology and Master of Arts in Teaching from the University of Maryland Baltimore County.

Eager to meet the 4-H youth and families, she has been visiting the clubs to introduce herself. In January, she visited High Rock 4-H Club to learn about their filmmaking project. Later in the month she met with the Sharp Shooters to practice her archery skills and sorted Legos and attended after school programs with A*STAR Robotics Club. During the month of February, she attended a Paws N Pals Club meeting to participate in a potato bagging service project at the Western Maryland Food Bank. Jessica also met the Capering Kids Goat Club families at their monthly meeting in February and learned 101 goat facts. Look for her to be stopping by one of your club’s meetings in the near future!

4-H Skating Party
Moon Glo Skating Rink
Sunday, March 8, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Bring a friend and join us for a fun afternoon of skating! The cost will be $4.00 per person (which includes skate rental). Allegany County 4-H will provide cookies and drinks at no charge. Clubs are welcome to make additional donations of cookies, brownies, or drinks.

For more information call the office at 301-724-3320 or email jparrish@umd.edu. Open to all 4-H members, families, and friends. You do not need to be a member to attend.
ALLEGANY COUNTY LIBRARY EVENTS

Frostburg Library—Phone the library at 301-687-0790.
- Computer classes are offered on Mondays at 2:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Registration required.

George’s Creek Library—Phone the library at 301-463-2629.
- Children of all ages are welcome to come and play with Legos on Saturday, March 14 at 10:30 a.m.
- Computer classes are offered on March 5 at 6:30 p.m. and on March 7 at 2:00 p.m. Registration required.

LaVale Library—Phone the library at 301-729-0855 for more details.
- Computer classes are offered on March 10 at 11:00 a.m. and March 24 at 11:00 a.m. Registration required.

South Cumberland Library—Phone the library at 301-724-1607.
- Children of all ages are welcome to come and play with Legos at the South Cumberland Library Lego Millennium Club on March 4 at 6:00 p.m.
- The Cozy Readers Book Club will meet on March 14 at 1:00 p.m.

Washington Street Library—Phone the library at 301-777-1200.
- Story Time on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.
- Toddler Time on Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m.

Westernport Library—Phone the library at 301-359-0455.
- The Lonely Sock Club will meet at the Westernport Library on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. The Lonely Sock Club uses socks that have lost their match to make clever crafts, puppets, and useful household items. Bring your own lonely sock or use one of ours.
- Read Out Loud on Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

4-H PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

The Allegany County Public Speaking Contest is scheduled for Friday, March 13, 6:30 p.m. at the Allegany County Fairgrounds.

Speech Categories:
- 4-H Pledge (recited by Clovers and first-year members with no judging)
- 30-second Radio Spot
- Prepared Speech
- Extemporaneous
- Interpretation (Dramatic, Poetry, or Humorous)

Not a fan of speaking in public? Try a radio spot...you are heard but not seen.

Rules are available at the Extension Office and to register call 301-724-3320 or email jparrish@umd.edu by March 9.

An emcee and timekeeper are also needed. Please call if interested.

ACHIEVEMENT NIGHT DINNER
SUNDAY, APRIL 26 AT 3:00 P.M.
ALLEGANY COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

All 4-H families and supporters are invited to attend a dinner to recognize 4-H members and volunteers.

Main dish and beverages will be provided.

Each family should bring a covered dish and dessert.

Help is needed to finalize the tables at 2:00 p.m. and also after the dinner to clear the tables.

Please make reservations by calling 301-724-3320 or email jparrish@umd.edu with the number attending and the dishes you can provide by April 24.

Teen 4-H members are needed to announce awards. Junior members are needed to assist with door prizes. If you can help, please contact the office as stated above.
**Fair Book Design**

4-H/FFA members 8 years old or older as of January 1, 2015 can submit designs for the 2015 Fair Book. All qualified entries will be judged and prizes will be awarded for the top three entries. The winning design will be the cover of the 2015 fair book. All entries will be on display in the Exhibit Hall during fair week. They may be picked up after fair during exhibit take out on Sunday, July 26.

4-H and FFA logos can be used; however if using either logo, you must include both. Logos cannot be duplicated. (You must use official logos which are available at the Extension Office.)

For complete rules and an entry form, call the UME Office at 301-724-3320 or visit: https://extension.umd.edu/allegany-county/4-h-youth/4-h-forms

Entries due March 16. Late entries will not be judged.

**Learn to Sew with Wool**

**March 21, 2015**

9:00 A.M. TO 3:30 P.M.

The Make It With Wool Committee is conducting a workshop for youth and adults in New Market, MD.

The cost is $30 for everything, which includes wool for the project, pattern and lunch. For more information and to register, call Sharon Diehl at 301-777-7843

"4-H is about building better citizens, teaching values and developing the skills necessary to leading a good and profitable life. And it doesn't matter if you're from a farm environment or from a big city. 4-H worked for me and I've continued to work for it." - Orville Redenbacher, California. 1983 Alumni Winner

**4-H Scholarships**

**Allegany County Scholarships**

Applications for the 2015/2016 academic year are now being accepted. 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.

**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, applications 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
Maryland State 4-H Leader Invites Local Alumni to Check In, Help Youth Win $10,000 Science Sponsorship

The Maryland 4-H Program is competing in a national contest to win a $10,000 “Innovation Incubator” Science Sponsorship. Local 4-H alumni will determine the outcome.

The contest is part of the 4-H GROWN Alumni Campaign, sponsored by National 4-H Council and HughesNet. The interactive campaign invites the estimated 25 million 4-H alumni across the U.S. to help direct scholarship funding by checking in, tagging friends and casting votes to bring more science innovation experiences to youth in their hometown communities.

When a local 4-H alum “checks in” at www.4-H.org/4HGROWN, Maryland will get one vote closer to winning the $10,000 “Innovation Incubator” Science Sponsorship for the state. With the scholarship, 4-H leaders will engage local youth in hands-on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) activities, and will challenge them to design innovative solutions to solve a real community problem.

If Maryland 4-H wins a sponsorship, up to two local young innovators will also have a chance to receive an all-expenses paid trip to the flagship 4-H National Youth Science Day event in Washington, D.C., where they will participate in the world’s largest youth-led science experiment.

“We see every day the impact of 4-H in growing confident, caring and capable young people who are skilled for life today and prepared for careers tomorrow,” said Dr. Howard. “This is an exciting chance for 4-H alumni who also understand the life-changing 4-H experience to help us reach more young people and show them that STEM can be rewarding and fun.”

Through 4-H GROWN, local alumni will also re-connect with the local 4-H program that helped them succeed and with a network of millions of 4-Hers around the world.

National 4-H Council and HughesNet are offering this opportunity through their collaboration to spark more youth interest in STEM. The partnership brings hands-on STEM learning experiences to youth across the country, with a focus on small communities where resources for interactive STEM learning are limited.

To check in as a 4-H alum and help Maryland win an “Innovation Incubator” Science Scholarship, visit www.4-H.org/4HGROWN. Be sure to select Maryland as your “4-H Club State” when you check-in.

To learn more about the National 4-H Council and HughesNet partnership, visit www.hughesnet.com/4h, or Contact Catherine Porterfield, Maryland 4-H Events Coordinator, (301)-314-7823, cporterf@umd.edu
**Holiday Cheer**

The High Rock 4-H Club visited The Kensington during the holiday season. They sang carols for the residents at the senior apartment complex.

For more information on The Kensington, call 301-777-8800.

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**Mt. View 4-H Club Volunteers at the Evergreen Heritage Center**

Last year the Mt. View 4-H Club participated in a Gardening/Environmental Program at the Evergreen Heritage Center located on Trimble Road in Mt. Savage. The center is offering the program again this year to all Allegany County 4-H members/parents/volunteers. If weather permits, the program is to start on April 20 at 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. This is a free program.

Last year we met every Monday starting mid April through mid August. The program teaches individuals how to plant and harvest vegetable, herbs and fruits, and how they can "live off the land" while protecting it for future generations.

If you enjoy "playing" in the dirt, (sometimes it can get hot working in the outdoors) you most likely would enjoy this program. For more information regarding this program, please contact Portia Blank at 301-264-3207 or the Allegany County Extension Office at 301-724-3220.

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**Pennies into Potatoes**

The Paws N Pals 4 H Club visited the Western Maryland Food Bank in Cumberland in February. Diana Loar, Executive Director of the Food Bank gave a presentation about the distribution process of the food that is received at their facility. Club members, parents and Jessica Mellon, 4 H faculty extension assistant, volunteered time to bag 5 pound bags of potatoes for the "Pennies Into Potatoes" annual event.

For more information on the Western Maryland Food Bank, call 301-722-2797.
It was a pretty great year for our A*Star Robotics club. I mean what a year. As secretary of our club, I thought of putting together this little paper so we can remember our year! Let's get started!

In March we really got started up! We started to get into the groove of techies at the STEM Festival at Potomac State. Not only did we help kids learn about robotics, but we also got cool things to keep! Hehe yup, they were both pretty good. Our first two meetings were for thinking and brainstorming, mainly. We thought about things like the robot design, strategy and putting the board pieces together. Then we started getting used to the board and pieces and thinking of blue prints for our robot for the upcoming competition for this year. We worked on getting the robot up and running.

So we started getting into the groove, but for our Intermediate team it took us about 16,000 years to figure out our basic design! I mean am I right?

By May we had everything together and we started looking for attachments and figuring out which way would be most beneficial to run our robot's programs. We participated in the STEM Festival at Frostburg State where we did WeDo and had SuGo wars.

In June and July it was time to bring everything together to make sure we met the expectations of our mentors and to be able to collect everything within 2 minutes and 30 seconds. We also did a service project where we helped seniors learn Technology at our local library.

It was crunch time now. It was the beginning of August! We started making sure our programs had no faults and that we could collect most of the things on a consistent basis. We started checking our attachments for any faults, and if it had faults well, we just hoped it didn't have faults, because the state fair was coming up. It was the day of the state fair! Everyone had to wake up early to be at Timonium, Maryland for the fair. We finally arrived and were moving our things into the building. The smells were amazing! From cooking turkey legs to sweet cotton candy! However, we couldn't think of those things. It was time to win! We set up our service projects on our tables at the “Cow Palace”. Bystanders could come and look at our tables.

Excerpt from article by William Speis, age 13

We would like to share some of the amazing things that are going on with your clubs. We've scheduled a general timeframe for sharing. However, we welcome all types of news from any club at any time for our newsletter, facebook page, and the newspaper. The schedule is:

**January-March**
- Paw ‘N Pals
- Mt. & Valley

**April-June**
- High Rock
- A*STAR
- Capering Kids

**July-September**
- Hare Raisers
- Just Hoofin’ It
- Busy Bees

**October-December**
- Sharp Shooters
- Mountain View
- 4-H Livestock

*Email your articles photos to jparrish@umd.edu.*
Volunteer & Community Awards

4-H Volunteer Awards

Submit a nomination for someone you think fits an award. Nominees must be registered UME Volunteers. The winning nominations from each category will be recognized at our achievement night and will also be forwarded to the state volunteer association for consideration for the state volunteer award.

★ The 4-H Service Award is designed to reward a volunteer who has performed numerous, unselfish acts of service to 4-H and others throughout their community and their state. This nominee will be one who performs acts of service from the most menial to the most important with a giving spirit both within the 4-H community and their world.

★ The 4-H Citizenship Award should recognize a volunteer that exemplifies sterling citizenship characteristics. This individual should have a record of commitment to their club, community and country and should be a mentor to others providing inspiration and encouragement to others to do the same.

★ The 4-H Leadership Award should recognize volunteers who demonstrate exceptional leadership skills on the local, county, state and possibly national level. These nominees’ leadership skills should show initiative, innovation, and a dedication to the 4-H program with the ability to make things happen.

★ Honorary 4-H Club Members: The volunteers were not 4-H members as youth, but have become involved in the 4-H organization as adults. They have given outstanding leadership to 4-H with exemplary results. They help make a difference in the lives of youth and families. This award is a great way to recognize those involved in the military or after-school programs or for special interest leader recognition. NOTE: Please nominate only those volunteers who have volunteered for three or more years.

★ The 4-H Alumni Award is designed to honor past 4-H members who have continued their love and support of 4-H into their adult lives. Hard work and determination has led to exemplary personal success and the nominee attributes this success to the life skills learned as a 4-H member. This nominee’s continuing dedication to and acknowledgement of the 4-H program should be the main criteria for this award.

Community Awards

★ The Partner in 4-H Award should be used to recognize an industry, business or community organization (or person representing the organization) that provides significant financial or in-kind support to Maryland 4-H programming for an extended period of time. This commitment extends 4-H programming efforts to support a state, regional, and or multi-county effort. It can also represent a multi-disciplinary or collaborative programming effort.

★ The Friend of 4-H Award is designed to recognize an individual, a business or an organization that has provided extensive service, leadership, resources or financial support to the 4-H program, at the local, county, state or national level. The recognition can be for leadership and service to project areas, a specific activity or program, or to 4-H resource development. This award is designed to recognize their support regardless of the length of time, therefore, a nominee may have only one year of support, but that support would be substantial and/or vital to one or more 4-H programs.

Nomination forms are available at the UME Office.
You may call 301-724-3320 or email jparrish@umd.edu for a form.
You will need:
- Piece of cardboard cut into wreath shape (or use a wreath base from a craft store)
- Easter grass
- Plastic Easter eggs that split vertically (although any will do)
- Glue
- Embellishments to decorate your eggs – glitter, self-adhesive foam shapes, and other self-adhesive decorations

Instructions:
1. Glue Easter grass all around your wreath base. Split your eggs in half and place them around the wreath so you will know how many you will need to decorate. Split the eggs evenly among a group of children to create!

2. Decorate the half eggs with fancy embellishments (fancy doesn't have to mean expensive). Put different colors of loose glitter in paper plates and make designs with white glue on the egg and then roll the egg in the glitter. You can also use self-adhesive shapes which make it easy and fun to decorate. Be creative!

3. Once all the eggs have been decorated and dried, glue the eggs to the wreath. You can use regular school glue, but to make it extra sturdy you can use hot glue (be careful).

Source: http://www.busybeekidscrafts.com

**Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt**

Instead of letting kids just gather all the eggs they can find, set up a scavenger hunt. Make up a list for each child with the kinds of eggs he should find. It might look something like this:

- Find 2 green eggs
- Find 4 eggs with stripes
- Find 3 yellow eggs

Make sure there are enough eggs of each color so every child can complete his list. Give each child a pencil and basket and tell him to only get eggs on his list—that way it doesn't leave someone short.
### 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
- **TBA**—Livestock Skillathon Practice, 6:30 p.m.

#### March
- **2**—Officer Training, 6:30 p.m.
- **7**—State Livestock Skillathon
- **8**—4-H Skate
- **13**—County Public Speaking Contest, 6:30 p.m.

#### 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.

#### 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!
- **2**—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**— Allegany County Fair
- **22**—4-H Presents at Fair
- **25**—4-H/FFA Livestock Sale at Fair
- **31**—State Fair entries due

#### August
- **2 to 7**—4-H Overnight Camp
- **28 to Sept. 7**—Maryland State Fair
- **28**—State Engineering Contests at State Fair
- **30**—Diamond Clover Level 6 proposal due to UME Office.

#### September
- Enrollment for new 4-H year begins.
- **7**—Labor Day, UME Office Closed
- **1**—Treasurer’s Books with your Annual Financial Report and Club Inventory Report for July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 are due to this office by September 1, 2015.
- **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