Mineral County STEM Festival
The 7th Annual Mineral County STEM Festival @ Potomac State College of West Virginia University Campus will be held on March 30, 2019 from 12 noon-4pm. Garrett County 4-H will be presenting STEM programs at this event. Bring your children out to this great, free event and help foster the importance of early exposure to science, technology, engineering, and math through activities for helping develop critical skills like language, logic, and problem-solving in children.

Robotics Open House
Plan to stop by GEARs on Sunday, April 14th from 3-5 pm for open house at the Garrett Engineering and Robotics Society Center in Accident, Maryland. You will get to battle your friends with the SuGObots, challenge your buddies to a RoboRace, and get to see all the 4-H and FIRST robotic platforms. Refreshments will be served. Come to experience the fun and excitement and support your 4-H teams and see what they have been doing at GEARS.

Public Speaking Event
Clubs may choose to hold public speaking events at their club meeting and/or send members to participate in the county event to be held on March 22nd starting at 6:30 pm at Garrett Information Enterprise Center. Remember, learning to be an effective public speaker is one of the skills most valued by graduated 4-H members. Don’t miss this chance to improve your skills. Call 301-334-6960 to register for the event by Tuesday, March 19, 2019. Clovers are welcome and encouraged to participate. The guidelines are at http://extension.umd.edu/garrett-county/4-h-youth/4-h-forms or call 301-334-6960.

Maryland 4-H State Public Speaking Contest
The State Communications Contest will be held during Maryland Day at College Park on Saturday, April 27, 2019. Maryland Day is always a fun, family day on campus. Anyone who would like to serve as room monitors or announcers, and any adults who would like to serve as judges, please contact the extension office at 301-334-6960. Speeches will be given from 10 a.m. until noon. All speaking awards will be announced at 2:30 that afternoon.

Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>DUE: 2018 Pictures for Achievement Program Slide Show</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Livestock Skillathon, Montgomery County Fairgrounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Western Maryland Rabbit Club 12pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>DUE: 2019 Broiler Order Form</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Horse Bowl Contest, College Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>County Public Speaking Event 6:30pm Garrett College (GERC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Mineral County STEM Festival 12pm-4pm at Potomac State College, WV</td>
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<tr>
<td>April, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Achievement Night 6:30 pm—9:30 pm —Ag Heritage Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Robotics Open House 3pm—6pm GEARS building Accident, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Maryland 4-H State Public Speaking Contest, College Park, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>May, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Maryland Sheep &amp; Wool Festival/Junior Sheep &amp; Goat Skillathon</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Spring Weigh 3 pm — 8:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Spring Weigh 7 pm — 8:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Westminster MD District Show starting at 9:00 am</td>
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2019 Youth Gala Recipients

The 14th Annual Maryland State Public Speaking Contest was held on March 27, 2019 at Garrett Information Enterprise Center. The contest was open to all 4-H members and included all ages, sizes, video, musical extemporaneous or impromptu, debating, science, etiquette, and non-verbalizes. Students were judged on their public speaking skills, presentation of material, and overall performance. The winners were as follows:

- First Place: 2664
- Second Place: 2665
- Third Place: 2663

Contact Us
University of Maryland Extension
Garrett Office
1916 Maryland Highway Suite A
Mt. Lake Park, MD 21550
301-334-6960

Ann Sherrard
Extension Director
anns@umd.edu

Karen Wood
Faculty Extension Assistant
kwood125@umd.edu

Michelle Harmon
Program Assistant
mharm2@umd.edu

Wanda Guard
Administrative Assistant
wguard@umd.edu

Roberta Cvetnick
Administrative Assistant
rcvetnic@umd.edu

Visit us online at http://extension.umd.edu/garrett-county/4-h-youth/4-h-forms

4-H Calendar
The 4-H Calendar of events can be found at http://extension.umd.edu/garrett-county/4-h-youth/garrett-county-4-h-calendar
2019 Maryland 4-H Robotics Challenge

One of the fastest growing areas of 4-H across the country is robotics. 4-H members in Maryland have the opportunity to participate in robotics through the Maryland 4-H Robotics Challenge. The challenge has two contests: the LEGO Robotics Challenge and the Robotics Engineering Challenge. The theme for this year’s LEGO Robotics Challenge Is Be the Change. 4-H members involved in the LEGO Challenge will create LEGO robots that will complete seven different missions on a 4’X4’ board. Participants in the Robotics Engineering Challenge will build robots to play on a 12’ X 12’ playing field. These two challenges are patterned after FIRST’s First Lego League (FLL) and First Tech Challenge (FTC) robotic games. The 4-H Robotic Challenges are an excellent way to get youth involved with 4-H. More information on the robotic challenges is available at the Maryland 4-H Robotics website at http://extension.umd.edu/4-h/4-h-program-areas/robotics-0. Garrett County is organizing local teams if you are interested in joining a team contact the extension office at 301-334-6965. An optional statewide workshop will be held later in the spring.

Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival to Include Junior Sheep & Goat Skillathon

The Festival will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2019 8:30 am to 6:00 pm & Sunday, May 5, 2019 8:30 am to 5:00 pm at Howard County Fairgrounds. The Festival is sponsored by the Maryland Sheep Breeders Association, Inc. It is organized and conducted by volunteers from the sheep breeding and fiber arts communities with the purpose of educating the public about sheep and wool. The Junior Sheep & Goat Skillathon will be held Sunday, May 5. The skillathon is open to any youth between the ages of 8 and 18. Individuals and teams from any county or state may participate. The skillathon tests the youth’s broad knowledge of a topic. Station’s will include breed ID, feed/forage ID, meat ID and judging, equipment ID, hay judging, fleece (wool) judging, sheep judging (wool or dual-purpose breed), and fiber ID. To register, go to https://2019skillathon.eventbrite.com. For more information, go to https://www.sheepandgoat.org/skillathon or contact Susan Schoen at sschoen@umd.edu or (301) 432-2767 X343. A series of online quizzes have been developed to help youth study for the sheep and goat skillathon (www.sheepandgoat.org online quizzes). Unfortunately, the quizzes cannot be used on mobile devices. Visit www.sheepandwool.org for more information.

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, 2018. 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/scholarships

Looking for some new fun and excitement this summer? Host a boy or girl from Japan in your home for 3½ weeks! (July to August) The Maryland 4-H International Program is offering hosting opportunities to families, and Japanese youth on the other side of the world are anxiously waiting to learn who their new family might be! The focus is on everyday family life. Special trips and activities are not required.

Click here for more information! https://extension.umd.edu/4-h/4-h-program-areas/host

If interested, please contact (bmason@umd.edu) or call 301-314-7831.

Free Gardening Courses Offered

Do you have a passion for home gardening and home horticulture? Ever wanted to know more about the science behind gardening? If so, consider taking some gardening courses! Classes will be taught by Extension Faculty and Master Gardeners. All of these classes are free and open to the public. http://extension.umd.edu/garrett-county/ag-natural-resources

Garrett County Fair Sets Farm Queen Program

The Garrett County Fair Board of Directors has set the following deadlines for the 2019 Farm Queen and Princess Program:

- **Farm Queen Applications Due ~ July 12, 2019**
- **Princess Interviews Due ~ June 22, 2019**
- **Princess Applications Due ~ June 8, 2019**

**For more information, visit** http://www.mymaryland4hfoundation.com/

Please note the following revision to the Garrett County Fair Farm Princess Program:

Individuals are eligible to serve as a princess a maximum of two times prior to being eligible to compete for Farm Queen (age 16). Any individual who has previously served as a princess must meet these requirements:
- The second year as a princess must be in different age bracket than the individual first served in, and
- The individual cannot serve as princess in any two consecutive years, even if the second year would be in a different age bracket.

Visit http://garrettcountyfair.org/the-fair/ for more information.

Maryland 4-H Camp Algawa ~ Save the Dates

It’s not too early to start thinking about 4-H Camp. For those planning their summer vacation, camp will be Sunday, July 7th through Thursday, July 11th. The 4-H camp registration information will be sent with the April Pantry 4-H Newsletter. Youth ages 8-14 may attend camp, youths ages 15 and older can attend camp only in leadership roles.

4-H Shooting Sports Workshop will be held April 26, 27 & 28 2019 in Dorchester County. This training is offered to adults who are interested in working with youth to teach shooting sports skills and shooting safety. Training will be provided by National 4-H Shooting Sports instructors. Individuals may choose one discipline: archery, rifle or shotgun. Partial scholarships are available to assist with the registration cost. Please call the Garrett County 4-H Office for additional details. Register through 4-H Online by April 5th.

Maryland 4-H scholarships, visit: http://www.mymaryland4hfoundation.com/how-we-give/scholarships