UPCOMING EVENTS-Information attached for each event so please check them out!

New York City Bus Trip-this Friday!
The Anne Arundel County 4-H Foundation's annual trip to New York City and Rockette's Christmas Show is Friday, December 12, 2014. Information flyer attached.

This is always a wonderful trip with our group from Anne Arundel County during the Christmas Season. A fun ride up with light refreshments in the morning, a 50/50 raffle and lots of door prizes. Then the Rockette's annual Christmas Show which is always spectacular! The afternoon is yours to shop in the city or sightsee, then a restful trip back to Maryland. Come join us for the fun!

Please forward on to anyone you think might be interested.

Breakfast with Santa-This Saturday!
The Anne Arundel County 4-H Foundation will be hosting its annual Pancake Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 13th from 8 to 10 a.m. at the Waugh Chapel Applebee's in Gambrills. Santa will be there with gifts for the children. Great photo opportunity and a great way to visit with 4-H friends. Cost is $7.00 for adults and $5.00 for those 5 and under. Contact Gina Degreenia for tickets or buy them at the door. Flyer attached.

Anne Arundel County Youth Workshop Series: Friday Parents’ Night Out 2015
Provided by the Anne Arundel County 4-H Program

Drop off your kids from 6:30-9:00PM at the University of Maryland Extension Office on the beautiful Sunrise Farm in Gambrills, Maryland and get a taste of the programs that 4-H offers. These 6 workshops will explore Arts and Crafts, Photography, Fine Arts, Agriculture, and more! All completed projects will be ready to show at the Anne Arundel County Fair. Sign up for the series for a discounted rate, or choose the workshops a la carte. See attached flyer for more information and registration details.

2015 Winter Camp!
Attached is the registration and flyer for Winter Camp at the Patuxent River 4-H Center, January 16-19, 2015. Winter Camp is always a blast! Once again this year, camp is offering two tracks!

Camper: 8-11 year olds
Leadership: 12-18 year olds

Early bird registration ends on December 31st and spots are filled in the order in which they are received, so make sure to send your registration in as soon as possible to the Extension Office. Please let me know if you have questions.
**Updates from the Maryland 4-H Teen Council:**

1. **Teen Council is now the Maryland 4-H State Council**—there was a great discussion and you can see that reflected in the power point we prepared. See attachments for application!

2. **Applications are due in the state office on Monday, December 15**, however, they need the County/City Agent’s signature—Please contact Amanda directly if you plan to apply so we can arrange to get paper signed by office.

3. **There is no nomination system.** This is open to senior 4-H’ers (14-18) (and we’re flexible on the 14 so if you have great 13 year olds send them this application too!) with two years 4-H experience preferred (again, flexibility). If you have 10 senior 4-H’ers interested, that’s excellent! We have a lot of work and we will certainly use them! However, there will still be two votes per County/City. The way in which those two are determined will be outlined in our by-laws which will be created after the Officers are elected on January 11.

4. **New Structure.** This includes 7 elected Officer positions with a President (second year member’s only), a Secretary, and 5 Vice Presidents (open to any applicants). These Vice Presidents will be leading 5 Committees: Planning and Outreach, Service, Public Issues, Finance and Public Relations. Every Council Member will be able to come to the group knowing their scope of work and having a direction.

   a. **Planning and Outreach:** Will be serving with the adult groups in planning statewide events where teen tracks are available, will be re-vamping our Teen Focus/Leadership Camp program in the coming years, will be involved in planning our public events

   b. **Service:** will be developing statewide and helping organize regional service projects that will take place during National 4-H Week in October, as well as coordinating our National Days of Service Projects on MLK Jr. Day and 9/11.

   c. **Public Issues:** This is new. It was a charge from Dr. Howard that the 4-H State Council identify an issue facing teens and they would gather student groups at a local and state level to be leaders in those discussions. They would also develop a teaching program to provide education on their topic both to the 4-H community and the greater community.

   d. **Finance:** raising money for the 4-H State Council, keeping the budget, handling scholarships for Council Members to attend conferences, camps, events.

   e. **Public Relations:** It turns out the 4-H State Council has some visibility issues- so Public Relations will be developing our social media strategy, as well as coordinating a quarterly newsletter that will go back to the County to keep you updated on the work that has been done as well as the future events. We will also be working to develop an Ambassador Program back to the Counties- we want the 4-H State Council Members to be public advocates for the 4-H Program, this includes ALL MEMBERS being involved in 6 public speaking events in the County, Region, State level.
5. **We Need Adult Leaders!** We cannot do all this great state level work alone! This is a great opportunity for Educators looking to bump up their statewide programming- since you’re already sometimes working on these projects, bring these wonderful teens onto your existing teams! This is also a great way to engage volunteers that would be energized by this type of work.

**International 4-H Experiences**

Now available through the Maryland 4-H website- Information for 4-H families on travel opportunities for summer 2015: [https://extension.umd.edu/4-h/4-h-program-areas/travel](https://extension.umd.edu/4-h/4-h-program-areas/travel)

- Outbound Application and Due Dates (Application and Deposit by December 10, 2014)
- Japan (4 week and 8 week homestay programs)
- Finland (3 week homestay with 1 additional week at International Nordic Camp)
- Costa Rica (4 week homestay)

Just in time for the 2015 Summer Japanese Inbound Program!!!! We will be seeking 11 additional families to house Japanese students! Remember, for just 1 family to say yes we need to reach 1,000 families! [https://extension.umd.edu/sites/default/files/_docs/programs/4-H/International-Programs/MD_HF_Recruitment_Poster.pdf](https://extension.umd.edu/sites/default/files/_docs/programs/4-H/International-Programs/MD_HF_Recruitment_Poster.pdf)

Some reactions from the Summer 2014 experience:

- Possibility for our children to travel has increased- their interest has definitely increased!
- Be patient, learn more Japanese before they arrive!
- Learned how to effectively communicate, even with a language barrier.
- Encouraged my daughter to write more and try new things.
- It greatly helped our son’s attitude toward people from other cultures and helped him to mature.
- It broadened our view of cultures of other people overseas.

If you didn’t get a chance to read up on the 2014 Tanzania experience, we had some great blog entries from our travelers during the trip. (Also look for their articles in the Maryland 4-H In Action). [http://md4hinternationalprograms.blogspot.com/](http://md4hinternationalprograms.blogspot.com/)

**SAVE THE DATE! Record Book & Senior Portfolios Due**

If you are a senior that is planning on applying for a national trip your record book must be turned in to the AACO office no later than 4:30 on January 9th! Applications and more details on Senior trips can be found at: [http://extension.umd.edu/4-h/youth-families/awards-recognition](http://extension.umd.edu/4-h/youth-families/awards-recognition)

**Senior question for record books is:** *Surely there are some times when you did not accomplish what you would have like to. How have these experiences (in which you were not your best) made you a better person?*
All other record books are due: February 6th! More information can be found at: 
http://extension.umd.edu/anne-arundel-county/4-h/4-h-record-books

**TURKEY SHOOT-Another huge success!**

The Buz Meyer’s 44th Annual 4-H Turkey Shoot was held on Saturday, November 15th. Mr. Buz Meyer began the contest in 1971, while club leader of the Friendship Outdoor Skills 4-H Club. The club continues to host the event every year at Meyer Station Nature Center in Odenton, Maryland, with the generous support of the Meyer Family. The event tests the abilities of young and old, who can choose to compete in either riflery or archery. A total of 68 participants, both 4-H members and non-members, competed for the $20 top prize in each division, donated by the Anne Arundel County 4-H Foundation.

The winners for 2014 were:

**Archery:**
- Junior Division - Benjamin Rose, 9, Halethorpe, Friendship Outdoor Skills 4-H Club
- Intermediate Division - Tyler Green, 14, Crownsville, Kinder Farm Park 4-H Club
- Senior Division - Joanna Brosey, 16, Severn, Kinder Farm Park 4-H Club
- Adult Women - Danielle Kahler, Pasadena, H-Team Alumnus
- Adult Men - Todd Degreenia, Severna Park, Kinder Farm Park 4-H Club Volunteer

**Riflery:**
- (Junior, Intermediate and Adult Women - 25 yds, Senior and Adult Men - 50 yds)
- Junior Division - Lincoln Davis, 10, Davidsonville, Friendship Outdoor Skills 4-H Club
- Intermediate Division - Amelia Sim, 13, Millersville, Kinder Farm Park 4-H Club
- Senior Division - Cassie Rose, 17, Halethorpe, Friendship Outdoor Skills 4-H Club
- Adult Women - Becky Rose, Harmans, Friendship Outdoor Skills 4-H Club Alumnus
- Adult Men - Ray Weston, Crownsville

A few pictures are attached! Thank you to everyone for attending and to all that worked so hard to put it on!

**Need service hours?**
The 4-H Office could use your help! Contact Amanda with your availability in the new year if interested!