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Fair/Livestock Thank-You cards/letters to all buyers and trophy/award sponsors are important and required, and should be done immediately after the fair but no later than September 15, 2014. All trophies should have a sticker on the bottom with the award sponsor's name and address. All thank-you letters (stamped, sealed and ready to mail) must be turned in to University of Maryland Extension Office, or given to your 4-H Leader or FFA Advisor. If given to leader or FFA Advisor, they need to notify the office. Checks will not be issued until thank-you letters are sent. We appreciate the time Casselman Veterinary Service, 77 Hemlock Drive, Grantsville, MD 21536 volunteered at weigh-in to do the health checks. If your animals were included, please include them when sending thank-you notes. You may also want to include other individuals who helped you with your livestock projects.

Garrett County “4H All Stars” Congratulations to Paul, Shauna, and Mikhail Perrine who are Garrett County’s newest 4-H All Stars. They were inducted into the Maryland 4-H All Star organization during an initiation ceremony at the annual conference at the Howard County Fairgrounds on Saturday, June 28. A big thank you to Paul, Shauna, and Mikhail for the dedication, work and service in the 4-H programs and activities!

Ag Progress Days The University of Maryland Extension is collaborating with Tucker County FFA Chapter to plan a trip to Ag Progress Days, Wednesday August 14, 2013. The trip is open to any and all agricultural enthusiasts from Allegany and Garrett Counties. Ag Progress Days is an annual event sponsored by Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences, and it is a showcase of new technologies, equipment and research related to many topics including livestock production, corn, small grain, forage production and gardening. Research tours are also available to the public and admission is free. Located at the Russell E. Larson Agricultural Research Center, this outdoor agricultural exposition has something for everyone to see. For additional information you can visit the website at http://agsci.psu.edu/apd. If you are interested in attending, please contact 301 334-6960 by August 6, 2013. Limited seating.

Prefer to receive our newsletter by email? Send a note to wguard@umd.edu

The University of Maryland Extension programs are open to any person and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, national origin, marital status, genetic information, political affiliation, and gender identity or expression. If you have a financial/disability need that requires special assistance for participation in any of the programs, please contact the office at 301 334-6960.
4-H Partyline

Did You Know!

4-H National Youth Science Day
Rockets to the Rescue!

National Youth Science Day (NYSD) is an exciting, interactive learning experience that engages thousands of youth across the country in conducting the National Science Experiment. The national 4-H NYSD event will take place on October 8, 2014 in Washington, D.C. The University of Arizona developed the 2014 National Science Experiment: Rockets to the Rescue! Learn more about this exciting activity which focuses on aerospace engineering. Science kits for the 2014 National Science Experiment are available from the 4-H Mall at www.4-hmall.org/home.aspx

Hunter Safety Certification Camp
Do you know someone that wants to complete the hunter safety course? This fall, 4-H and DNR are teaming up to provide a fun way to earn your hunter safety certification at the 4-H camp near Bittinger. Any youth may attend and those under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Dates: September 6-7, 2014. The weekend will include all the required information for the hunters safety class plus some fun outdoor activities such as, canoeing, campfire, archery, and hiking. This includes the hunter safety certification training, 4 meals and lodging. Additional family members, not receiving certification are welcome. A daytime only option is also available for those not wishing to stay overnight. Registration forms will be available at the office or the website after August 15th. Registration is limited.

Northeast Regional 4-H Volunteer Forum

The 4-H Program is a global youth organization that focuses on positive youth development through hands on learning of essential life skills. This would not be possible without the many 4-H volunteers that help to bring these programs to life. Maryland has the honor of acting as host for the 2014 Northeast Regional 4-H Volunteers’ Forum to be held November 20-23, 2014 at the Marriott Inn & Conference Center in College Park, Maryland. As many as 350 4-H volunteers from across 13 states will come together to explore new places, experience innovative programs and exchange new ideas. Scholarships will be available to lower the cost for teens of adult volunteers who wish to attend. Visit https://extension.umd.edu/news/ for more details regarding the conference.

Maryland State Fair

The Maryland State Fair offers opportunities for people of all ages to enter their most prized items, whatever they may be. There are two main areas (4-H and Open Class) in which to enter in the Maryland State Fair.

The schedule of events and 4-H classes can be found on the Competition page at: http://www.marylandstatefair.com/index.cfm?page=competition

4-H Online Entry (Closes 7/31):
https://fairs.centergy.com/msf4h/default.asp

Fair Schedule:

Important Club Reminder: Treasurer’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.
There are six levels of the Diamond Clover Awards. The goal of the program is to encourage youth to continue to grow and accept new challenges as they gain more experience in the 4-H program. Each level requires a slightly higher level of participation. The expectations for each level give members a guide to assist them in planning their activities for the year. Once they master the new level, they are recognized for their achievements by receiving a Diamond Clover pin. The final level, Diamond Clover 6, is the highest award a 4-Her in Maryland can receive. It requires that the youth be active in their county 4-H program and also that they plan and conduct a significant community service project.

For More Information
A summary of the requirement for each level is available on the State 4-H website at extension.umd.edu/4-h/youth-families/awards-recognition. Level 6 applications are due September 15th. If you have any questions or need assistance, please call Ann at 301-334-6960.

Diamond Clover Awards

There are six levels of the Diamond Clover Awards. The goal of the program is to encourage youth to continue to grow and accept new challenges as they gain more experience in the 4-H program. Each level requires a slightly higher level of participation. The expectations for each level give members a guide to assist them in planning their activities for the year. Once they master the new level, they are recognized for their achievements by receiving a Diamond Clover pin. The final level, Diamond Clover 6, is the highest award a 4-Her in Maryland can receive. It requires that the youth be active in their county 4-H program and also that they plan and conduct a significant community service project.

Fall Master Gardener Course
University of Maryland Extension is excited to announce the fall Master Gardener Basic Training course. The course will consist of twelve basic training classes and will cover many topics of interest. Please call Ashley at the University of Maryland Extension Office in Garrett County at 301-334-6960 or email abachtel@umd.edu for more information.

A training fee of $110.00 includes the purchase of the University of Maryland Master Gardener Handbook. Training topics include insect problems, and plant diseases, soil science, as well as landscaping advice and information on growing small fruits and much more.

Master Gardeners receive education on basic concepts and donate 40 hours of community service in order to receive the official title of Maryland Master Gardener. Additional opportunities include advanced training and travel to the International conferences.

The Maryland Master Gardener vision is a healthier world through environmental stewardship. Sign up today so that you can become a leader in your community: begin meeting new people, gaining knowledge, and making a difference!

President’s Service Award – to qualify, a 4-H member needs to have a record of their various volunteer or community service activities completed throughout the calendar year. (January through December). The number of hours of service needed to receive an award is:

- Youth ages 8–14: At least 50 hours
- Youth ages 15–18: At least 100 hours

Awards are presented at Achievement Night in the spring. To be eligible, the member needs to turn in a completed President’s Service Award summary. A complete description of the program, along with the form is available on our website.

August is a great time to catch up on your paperwork!

At the end of the 4-H year, each member has an opportunity to apply for two special awards. They are the President’s Service Award and the Diamond Clover Award series. The forms to apply for these awards are due at the same time as your record books, by February 1st of the new year.

4-H Alumni & Friends Group
A new group is forming, Garrett County 4-H Alumni and Friends! We will have kick-off events at this year’s Garrett County Fair. Everyone is eligible to join, past 4-H members and other 4-H supporters. A $20 lifetime membership fee will help support current 4-H activities. The initial project of the group will be to offer support to help teen and adult leaders attend the upcoming Northeast Leaders Volunteer Forum. Future projects for the group will include assisting youth with their Diamond Clover service projects, providing scholarships, and working on a history project of Garrett 4-H. Look for more information during the fair and in future articles in the newspaper. The group will be selling 4-H magnets to allow members to show their 4-H support.

Garrett County Master Gardeners
University of Maryland Extension

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4-H Calendar of Events

July, 2014
7/26-8/2 Garrett County Agriculture Fair, McHenry, MD

August, 2014
1 Tractor Engineering Event at 4-H Stage starting at 9:00 am
   (Details in July’s Newsletter)
2 4-H/FFA Livestock Sale at 4:00 pm at the Fairgrounds
3 Indoor Exhibits Released 11:00 am to 1:00 pm
3 Final Fairground Clean-up 12 noon - 4:00 pm
8/22-9/2 Maryland State Fair

September, 2014
1 Due: Annual Financial Report & Club Inventory for July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014
6-7 Hunter Safety Camp at 4-H Camp (See page 2 for details)
15 Due: Diamond Clover Level 6
15 Due: Thank you letters to all buyers & trophy/award sponsors

October, 2014
8 4-H National Youth Science Day (See page 2 for details)

November, 2014
20-23 Northeast Regional 4-H Volunteer Forum (See page 2 for details)