CALLING ALL NEW VOLUNTEERS!

UME Volunteer Training is available. This class will provide participants basic information on the University of Maryland Extension 4-H Youth Development program. It will cover UME policies and procedures and detail the process to becoming an appointed UME 4-H Volunteer. The course will be taught via Webinar. Participants will need access to a computer with internet connection as well as telephone. The sessions will not be recorded.

However, before taking the class you must contact Chris Rein at the Howard County office at 410-313-1915 or email Crein@umd.edu for UME Volunteer paperwork, that must be completed before attending the training.

Once all your paperwork is returned to the office, Chris will be able to register you for a class.

4-H DAY IN ANNAPOLIS

Come spend this President’s Day, Monday, February 16th with other Maryland 4-H’ers and volunteers as we tour our State Capitol. This annual event has you meeting with Maryland legislators who will share information about how a bill becomes law in Maryland while meeting new friends. Also, listen as various government officials describe their role and also how we as citizens can become more involved in our state government. If interested in learning more about Maryland and our state government, and your role as a citizen of Maryland, then this program is for YOU! We will need an adult volunteer to chaperone for this event or it cannot take place. If you would like to attend this tour, please contact Amy Brueckmann at amyb@umd.edu or 410-313-1906 no later than Tuesday, February 3rd.
**OFFICER TRAINING FOLLOW-UP**

Holding an office in your 4-H club is a privilege and a great leadership opportunity. If you are a 2015 club officer you should be proud of yourself for being elected into an office and for furthering your leadership development.

In December, the annual Officer Training Workshop was held with great attendance. We would like to take this opportunity to thank UME Volunteer, Karen Murdock for teaching at this valuable workshop.

If you are a club officer and were not able to attend, a follow-up packet will be mailed to you. Included in the packet is an assignment to assist you with having a better understanding of your officer role. Remember the assignments need to be returned to the office by Monday, March 16th.

---

**HOWARD COUNTY 4-H ALL STAR 2014 BASKET AND BAG BINGO**

The Howard County 4-H All Stars are currently planning the 2015 Basket and Bag Bingo Fundraiser. It is scheduled for **Friday, March 27th** at the Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Department Activities Building. 4-H All Stars sponsor many 4-H awards and activities throughout our county. If interested in making a donation for the fundraiser or would like tickets, please contact Marjie Eyler 301-829-1449 or Martin Hamilton at 410-489-6258.

---

**4-H VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION DINNER**

Howard County 4-H Clubs will recognize their 4-H Volunteers for their years of dedication on **Saturday, May 2nd**. We are looking for clubs to consider making monetary donations to cover the expenses for this program. Our budget has decreased, therefore, we are relying on donations to help recognize these hard working and dedicated volunteers. Please discuss this with your club! Club leaders will be receiving a letter regarding specifics regarding this request.

---

**HOWARD COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS E-MAIL**

The Howard County Fairgrounds e-mail is info@howardcountyfair.com. Please use this e-mail address for all future reservations. Be sure that you contact the Fairgrounds in advance of any cancelations.

---

**DESIGN CONTEST**

Have you seen the last few designs our t-shirt winner created? Would you like to be one of them? Then you may want to read on. The 4-H team is looking for someone to design the front of the t-shirt. We are looking for a black and white computer generated design that includes the official 4-H clover. The person who designs the selected shirt design will be awarded $50. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sheryl at 410-313-1912 or sherylb@umd.edu. All t-shirt designs are due no later than Fri-

---

**HOWARD COUNTY 4-H T-SHIRTS**

Back another year by popular demand!! The process has begun again and we are in the process of planning for the 2015 4-H t-shirts all Howard County 4-H’ers receive to wear at the Howard County Fair. In this Cloverleaf, please find the sponsorship form. If you know of a business or organization that may be interested, please pass along the letter and form enclosed. If additional forms are needed, they can be found on our website [www.howard4-h.org](http://www.howard4-h.org). We are anticipating great success so all our 4-H’ers have a t-shirt at no cost!
INCLEMENT WEATHER

SCHOOLS CLOSED
When schools are closed ALL 4-H programs are canceled. This includes closing early due to inclement weather. If the snow emergency plan goes into effect after the regular school day, then activities are cancelled.

SNOW

EMERGENCY PLAN
If a Snow Emergency Plan for Howard County is in effect at 7:00 a.m. on either Saturday or Sunday, ALL programs and activities, 4-H, school and community, will be canceled. Should the Plan go into effect after 7:00 a.m., programs in progress may be completed at the discretion of the activity leader.

UME CLOSED....
In observance of Presidents Day, the Howard County UME Office will be closed on Monday, February 16th.

FARM BUREAU SCHOLARSHIP
The Howard County Farm Bureau is offering two $2000.00 scholarships. A scholarship will be awarded to a member in the age range of 14 to 16 and a scholarship will be awarded to a member in the age range of 17 to 19. Applicants or their parents/guardians MUST be a member of the Howard County Farm Bureau to be eligible. To apply, students must return the proper application form and write an essay. Applications and more information can be found at www.howard4-h.org. The deadline for applications and essays is February 25, 2015.

HIPPOLOGY/HORSE JUDGING WORKSHOPS
Great opportunity for members whom are interested or have a love for horses! Horse Judging and Hippology practices will begin on Monday, March 23rd. Practices will held 6:30 p.m. at The Cullum’s House. Participants of all age levels will acquire skills and knowledge about horses to make them better horsemen and prepare for the State Contests. Competing in the contest is not a requirement. For more information please contact Diana Cullum via e-mail at diana.cullum@verizon.net

Horse Judging focuses on confirmation and movement.

Hippology covers several areas such as feed, equipment, bones, terminology, body parts, confirmation, and tack.

Please register through Eventbrite- https://www.eventbrite.com/e/4-h-hippology-and-horse-judging-workshops-tickets-15601514550

2015 4-H CAMP
Howard County 4-H Camp is a one-week residential camp, located in beautiful Garrett County Maryland, at the 1,100 acre Western Maryland 4-H Education Center. This ACA accredited camp will now be held from Sunday, June 21st - Saturday, June 27th. All youth, ages 8 (as of January 1, 2015) through 14, are welcome to apply. Applications will be available online the first week in March at www.howard4-h.org.

The fee includes transportation to and from camp and room and board for 6 nights. Camper activities include: crafts, canoeing, swimming, hiking, archery, sports, nature class, candle-making, riflery, campfires, talent show, a one-night rustic camping opportunity, all in a natural outdoor setting. Parents and campers are required to attend the upcoming orientation being held in May 21st at the Howard County Fairgrounds. Registration forms are accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Please keep in mind 4-H members will received preferred status prior to Monday, April 6th. After that date, it will be open to all youth (ages 8-14) and placement will continue until spaces are filled. TRY NOT TO WAIT UNTIL THE DEADLINE, SPACE GOES FAST!!

After the camp registration deadline passes, additional information will be mailed to all applicants regarding their acceptance to camp. Need-based scholarships are available for those who qualify. For more information, please contact Chris Rein at 410-313-1915 or by email at crein@umd.edu.

FARM BUREAU SCHOLARSHIP

Howard County Farm Bureau

The Howard County Farm Bureau is offering two $2000.00 scholarships. A scholarship will be awarded to a member in the age range of 14 to 16 and a scholarship will be awarded to a member in the age range of 17 to 19. Applicants or their parents/guardians MUST be a member of the Howard County Farm Bureau to be eligible. To apply, students must return the proper application form and write an essay. Applications and more information can be found at www.howard4-h.org. The deadline for applications and essays is February 25, 2015.

HIPPOLOGY/HORSE JUDGING WORKSHOPS

Great opportunity for members whom are interested or have a love for horses! Horse Judging and Hippology practices will begin on Monday, March 23rd. Practices will held 6:30 p.m. at The Cullum’s House. Participants of all age levels will acquire skills and knowledge about horses to make them better horsemen and prepare for the State Contests. Competing in the contest is not a requirement. For more information please contact Diana Cullum via e-mail at diana.cullum@verizon.net

Horse Judging focuses on confirmation and movement.

Hippology covers several areas such as feed, equipment, bones, terminology, body parts, confirmation, and tack.

Please register through Eventbrite- https://www.eventbrite.com/e/4-h-hippology-and-horse-judging-workshops-tickets-15601514550

2015 4-H CAMP
Howard County 4-H Camp is a one-week residential camp, located in beautiful Garrett County Maryland, at the 1,100 acre Western Maryland 4-H Education Center. This ACA accredited camp will now be held from Sunday, June 21st - Saturday, June 27th. All youth, ages 8 (as of January 1, 2015) through 14, are welcome to apply. Applications will be available online the first week in March at www.howard4-h.org.

The fee includes transportation to and from camp and room and board for 6 nights. Camper activities include: crafts, canoeing, swimming, hiking, archery, sports, nature class, candle-making, riflery, campfires, talent show, a one-night rustic camping opportunity, all in a natural outdoor setting. Parents and campers are required to attend the upcoming orientation being held in May 21st at the Howard County Fairgrounds. Registration forms are accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Please keep in mind 4-H members will received preferred status prior to Monday, April 6th. After that date, it will be open to all youth (ages 8-14) and placement will continue until spaces are filled. TRY NOT TO WAIT UNTIL THE DEADLINE, SPACE GOES FAST!!

After the camp registration deadline passes, additional information will be mailed to all applicants regarding their acceptance to camp. Need-based scholarships are available for those who qualify. For more information, please contact Chris Rein at 410-313-1915 or by email at crein@umd.edu.
SUNSHINE CLOVER CLUB JUNIOR LEADERS

Leadership is a life skill that will be needed throughout one's entire life. 4-H exposes a member to multiple opportunities to participate in a leadership role.

Sunshine Clovers is looking for Livestock and General Junior Leaders for 2015.

General Junior Leaders—assist with club programming.

Livestock Junior Leaders—teach Clovers about livestock and participate in the Clover Livestock Showmanship.

Areas of Interest:
- Assist with leading a business meeting
- Lead a program
- Give a demonstration
- Helping with crafts
- Reporter for the club
- Historian for the club
- Assist with club workshops

Like working with kids? Have knowledge to share?

Please contact Amy Brueckmann at sunshineclovers@howard4-h.org if interested.

4-H FASHION REVUE

The 2015 Central Cluster Fashion Revue will be on June 6, 2015 at Bushy Park Elementary School. We are having a planning meeting schedule for Thursday, February 26th at 6:30 p.m. Pizza will be provided and the meeting will start at 7 p.m. at the Montgomery County Extension Office. All youth and adults from the Central Cluster are invited to attend the meeting. At this meeting we will start organizing our plans and committees for the show. We will also pick the theme for this year's show by voting with the youth in attendance on the 26th. Please keep in mind you don’t have to be a sewer to be part of the Fashion Revue show. We have several committees needing 4-Hers to help make the show happen. Looking for a great leadership opportunity come chair and lead one of the following committees (Narrations, Decorations, and Foods) for the show. Mark your calendar to attend!

If you have any questions please contact Chris Rein, 4-H Program Coordinator, Howard County via e-mail crein@umd.edu or 410-313-1915.

CENTRAL CLUSTER 4-H COMMUNICATION CONTEST

The Central Maryland 4-H Communication Contest will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2015, 9:00 a.m. at Bushy Park Elementary School. 4-Hers may participate in 4 different Communication Contest Areas: Prepared Speech, Interpretations, Radio/Public Address, and Extemporaneous Speech. Clovers are welcome to participate in the Prepared Speech Area only, reciting the American or 4-H pledge.

Ribbons will be given in each of the age categories for each county. Extemporaneous presenters will draw for their speaking topics upon arrival of scheduled time. Juniors and Intermediates have 30 minutes and seniors have 15 minutes of preparation time.

A letter will be mailed out with assigned time of speeches. If you have any further questions or concerns regarding the 2015 Communications Contest please contact Chris Rein, 4-H Program Coordinator, Howard County at (410)313-1915 or email crein@umd.edu. If you need special accommodations please let Chris know by due date.

Registration Due Date: Friday, February 27, 2015

4-H Members may register through Eventbrite—https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2015-central-maryland-4-h-communication-contest-tickets-15355486674

Not familiar with Eventbrite? Please contact the Howard County UME Office for assistance.
TAGGING REQUIREMENTS FOR LIVESTOCK SHOWS

With the start of the 2015 show season, members need to remember several regulations established for all livestock exhibits of cattle, sheep, goats, and swine in 2014.

The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) has identification requirements for national animal disease traceability (ADT). All livestock being bought to shows in 2015 must have an “official identification”. This identification will be tied to a registered premise. For most livestock this means a tag bearing the official US shield.

- Sheep and goats scrapie identification is an acceptable identification, including breed registration tattoos (tattoos must be legible and follow scrapie program requirements)
- Cattle must have an official tag, brands and tattoos will not be accepted
- Swine must have an official tag, ear notches and tattoos are not accepted

What does all of this mean for 4-H projects?
- Official identification will need to be done by the producer or veterinarian to tie the identification to a registered premise.
- 4-H animals will still be tagged with a Maryland state 4-H tag
- Registered purebred animals will still be exempt from the Maryland state 4-H tag but must have an official identification with the US shield for shows
- For 4-H shows both the official identification and the Maryland 4-H identification must be listed on your CVI (heath papers)

For more information about the tagging requirements please visit: www.mda.maryland.gov/animalHealth/Pages/Fairs-Shows.aspx

LIVESTOCK RATE OF GAIN REQUIREMENTS

Beef Steers, Market Goats, Market Lambs, and Market Pigs will have minimum “rate-of-gain” required to show in 2015. This means that market animals will have to gain a certain amount per day from Tag-In Day to the County Fair:

- SHEEP .40 lbs. per day
- SWINE 1.50 lbs. per day
- BEEF 2.00 lbs. per day
- MARKET GOAT .20 lbs. per day

WILLS FAIR

Wills Fair will be held Saturday, May 16, 2015 at the Howard County Fairgrounds. The Catalog with rules and regulations for each department as well as entries forms are available online.

Entries are to be mailed to the 4-H Department, Carroll County - UME, 700 Agriculture Center, Westminster, MD 21157. Entries need to be received on or before April 24, 2015.

You can find the information on the Howard 4-H website at www.howard4-h.org.

BEEF FIELD DAY

Mark your calendar now! The Howard County 4-H Beef Field Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 25th. It will be held at the Howard County Fairgrounds. It is mandatory that all Junior, Intermediate and First Year 4-H’ers carrying a beef project attend and exhibit one animal at this event. If you have a conflict, please contact Sheryl ASAP at 410-313-1912 or sherylb@umd.edu.
MARYLAND-DELAWARE SHEEP SHEARING SCHOOL

A beginning sheep shearing class will be held on April 17th and 18th at Ridgely Thompson Farm in Westminster, Maryland. Participants will learn the New Zealand method of shearing, how to adjust and take care of hand held shearing machines and how to properly handle wool after shearing. You must be at least 16 years old to participate. Spaced is limited to the first 25 who register. Registration is due no later than April 5th.

LIVESTOCK SKILLATHON PRACTICES

Whether you carry a livestock project or not, Livestock Skillathon is a great way to work with other 4-H’ers and learn information about livestock. Practices are being conducted weekly and will be held in the Dining Hall at the Howard County Fairgrounds. The practice schedule is below:

- Wednesday, February 4th
- Wednesday, February 11th
- Wednesday, February 18th
- Saturday, February 21st (field trip)
- Wednesday, February 25th
- Wednesday, March 4th

Please register through Eventbrite https://www.eventbrite.com/publish?crumb=9def326d5ac754&eid=14110804797. For more information, please contact Amy Brueckmann at amyb@umd.edu or 410-313-1906.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

All animal science quality assurance trainings will be completed online for 2015. The online Quality Assurance program will be available online after March 15th.

Please read the following information very carefully:

Anyone enrolled in the following projects must complete online Quality Assurance training: alpaca, beef, dairy, goat, horse, poultry, rabbit, sheep, and swine.

- If you completed online Quality Assurance training last year please read the following bullet points:
- If you have not added any new animal projects and have not changed an age level (Junior to Intermediate or Intermediate to Senior), then you do not need to do anything this year.
- If you have a new animal project this year, then you must complete the introductory section as well as the specie specific section of the online Quality Assurance training.
- If you changed age levels this year, then you are required to complete the introductory section and all animal sections related to your projects.
- If this is your first year in 4-H, then you are required to complete the introductory section and all sections related to your projects.

2015 BEEKEEPING CLASS

The Howard County Beekeepers Association will be holding their annual bee keeping short course this spring. Topics will include honey bee biology, bee keeping laws in Howard County, obtaining and installing bees, setting up your equipment, inspecting bees, bee diseases, and products of the hive.

The first session of the Bee keeping Class will be held on February 17th at the Howard County Fairgrounds, from 7:00 am to 9:30 pm. 5 sessions, will be held on consecutive Tuesday evenings (2/24, 3/3, 3/17, and 3/24, plus one field day).

To register or for more information visit http://howardcountybeekeepers.org/index.php/learn-to-keep-honey-bees-short-course#Short_Course

4-H MODEL DOG SHOW

February 21, 2015
9:00am
Howard County Fairgrounds- Activities Hall. For more information, visit www.MDmodeldogshow.com
Basket & Bags Bingo
To benefit the Howard County 4-H All Stars

Friday, March 27, 2015
20 Regular Games plus Special Games & Raffles
ALL BASKETS & BAGS WILL BE FILLED

Doors Open at 5:30 p.m.
Bingo Starts at 7:00 p.m.
Food will be available!

Location:
Mt. Airy Fireman’s Activity Building
Twin Arch Road, Mt. Airy, MD 21771

Ticket prices: $18 in advance
$20 at the door

For Tickets Call:
Marjie at 301-829-1449
Martin at 443-472-8276

Please notify us if you have special needs, when ordering tickets.
We will do our best to accommodate you.

This bingo party is in no way connected with, nor is it approved or sponsored by, the Longaberger® or Vera Bradley Companies.
The name is used to describe the prizes that were purchased.

University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all citizens and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression.
The Howard County 4-H program continues to be a strong youth development program that actively involves many youth throughout the county. The 2014 Howard County Fair, scheduled for Saturday, August 8th-15th, is an event where Howard County 4-Hers participate in events ranging from showing and selling livestock to entering baked goods to participating in a rocketry contest. The projects 4-Hers enter at the fair are a culmination of many hours of hard work.

In 2015, the 4-H team would like to continue a tradition started in 2006, by providing every Howard County 4-H member with a 4-H shirt especially made for them to wear at the fair. The goal is for every member to wear their shirt at the Fair on Sunday, August 3rd and then periodically throughout the week. Fair attendees will easily recognize and identify 4-H members when they see the shirt. It is our hope that through this marketing tool, we can make the general public aware of the 4-H presence and high number of 4-H members in our county.

We are writing to ask your support of this project. It is our goal to have the total cost of the shirts donated so our 4-Hers will not incur a cost for their shirts. As a small token of our appreciation and to recognize our sponsors, all businesses that donate money towards this project will have their business name printed on the back of the shirt. This will be great publicity for your business as well as the 4-H program.

If you are interested in contributing, please detach the form below and return to the Howard County 4-H office.

---

Howard County 4-H T-Shirt Sponsorship Form

Name: _____________________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________________

Levels of Sponsorship

Head: $251 and up  Heart: $250  Hands: $100  Health: $50

Amount Enclosed: _______________ Thank-you t-shirt size: _________

Print below the Person, Business or Organization Name to be printed on the t-shirt:

_________________________________________________________________________________

Please respond no later than May 1, 2015

Please make checks payable to:
Howard County 4-H Foundation, Inc.
Attention: 4-H T-Shirt Sponsorship
3300 North Ridge Road, Suite 240
Ellicott City, MD 21043

University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all citizens and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression.
The Howard County Happy Hounds 4-H Club is proud to sponsor the 3rd Annual

2015

4-H Model Dog Show

Raffles, Games, and Give-A-Ways!

Saturday, February 21, 2015 at 11:00am
(registration begins at 10:30am)
Howard County Fairgrounds Activities Building
Registration fee: $15.00 per participant

Age Divisions: Each class will be divided into four age divisions. Age divisions are determined by contestants' age on Jan. 1, 2015:

- Clover (5-7 years old)
- Intermediate (11-13 years old)
- Junior (8-10 years old)
- Senior (14-18 years old)

Awards: Participation ribbons for Clovers. 1st - 6th place ribbons and Champion in all other age divisions.

Each participant can enter two dogs in each class. The class list will be posted on the website 45 days prior to the show.

For more information, visit our website at www.MDmodeldogshow.com or contact Lynne Ticknor Adamson at lynneticknor@gmail.com.

Food will be available

University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all citizens and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression.