January 2015

HOWARD COUNTY 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
2015 MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT

In order to enroll in the Howard County 4-H Program, a youth must:

Must attend a club meeting prior to completing enrollment paperwork (Enrollment Form, Behavior Expectations, Animal Code of Ethics, E-mail/photo/text usage)

A member may not be enrolled in more than one county 4-H Program

A member must designate the projects in which they intend to exhibit at the 2015 Howard County Fair by June 1st of 2015.

Members may not drop a project after June 1st.

Projects may be added throughout the entire calendar year

COMPLETEING A PROJECT INCLUDES:

Must exhibit in the project
Give a project related visual presentation or project talk
Develop and express growth/knowledge within the project
4-H members are to complete a project records for all projects enrolled in as of June 1st (Note all areas in the project record must be completed accurately.)

Monthly Club Meeting Information

Meeting Attendance–Members are expected to regularly attend club meetings. Members need to attend a minimum of 6 business meetings per year. (If members are absent from a meeting or meetings, they should not miss more than 2 consecutive meetings in a row.)

Late Attendance–Members are expected to be punctual when attending meetings. Members who arrive at the club meeting after the first 10 minutes will not be counted as in attendance for the meeting.

Members Attending College–Members who are enrolled in a college and not residing at home are excused from attending meetings when they are physically at college. Those members are expected to attend club meetings when they are home on break or in the summer. Members who are attending a local college or community college and residing at their home residence are expected to attend club meetings on a regular basis according to the outlined criteria for meeting attendance.
**ICE CLOVER**

**SCHOOLS CLOSED**

When schools are closed, ALL 4-H programs are canceled. This includes closing early due to inclement weather.

**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.

**FAIR SPECIAL AWARDS**

The Howard County 4-H Program is looking for sponsors of Special Awards for the 2015 Fair.

Please visit our website at www.howard4-h.org, to view our current list of available trophies.

If you are interested in picking up any of these awards, please contact Rick Hodiak at 410-313-1914 or hodiak@umd.edu.

**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.

**2015 4-H CALENDAR**

The 4-H Calendar for 2015 is available at the 4-H web site at www.howard4-h.org. Please remember there will be changes and additions throughout the year. If you do not have internet access and need a printed copy, please contact Amy Brueckmann at 410-313-1906 or amyb@umd.edu.

**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. We are anticipating great success so all our 4-H’ers have a t-shirt at no cost!

**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 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 Friday, April 24th.
RECORD BOOK INFORMATION!

Record books for January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014 are due in the 4-H Office by Monday, February 2, 2015. Records are judged on project achievements, leadership development, participation and growth. All record book forms are available on the 4-H website: www.howard4-h.org

4-H’ers should have all the necessary project record sheets they need. If you do not, see your club leader. The leader has a list of the projects you need in the record book. Even if your club does not require record books and you choose not to do the record book, you still MUST COMPLETE project records for ALL projects carried in 2014. These need to be turned into the club leader and they will forward them to the 4-H Office with record books from the club by February 2, 2015.

The Howard County UME Office will be closed:
Monday, January 19th in observance of Martin Luther King Day.

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.

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

The Howard County 4-H All Stars are currently planning the 2013 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. Donation forms can be found on-line at www.howard4-h.org.

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 have a planning meeting schedule for Thursday, February 26th at 7p.m. at the Howard County Fairgrounds. 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 carry the sewing project 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 either of the following committees (Narrations, Decorations, and Foods) for the show. So mark your calendar to attend!

If you have any questions please contact Chris Rein at Crein@umd.edu.

VISUAL PRESENTATION/COMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOP AND CONTEST

To prepare for the 2015 Central Cluster Communications Contest, Howard and Montgomery County 4-H will be hosting a series of workshops. Communication Contest workshop will be held at the Howard County Fairgrounds on Saturday, January 31st from 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.. These categories for the Communications Contest are: Extemporaneous, Prepared, Radio Spot, and Interpretations. A workshop highlighting Visual Presentations will be held at the Montgomery County Extension Office on February 7th from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

This is an excellent opportunity, whether a 4-H’er carries a public speaking project or not, to receive valuable tips, and advise to enhance public speaking abilities and presentation. Champions will have the opportunity to move on to the State competition. Please register for the workshops through Eventbrite.


The contest will be held on March 14, 2015 at Bushy Park Elementary School.
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

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. The first practice will be on Wednesday, January 7th at 7:00 p.m. and will be held in the Dining Hall at the Howard County Fairgrounds. The practice schedule is below:

Wednesday, January 7th
Wednesday, January 14th
Saturday, January 17th
Wednesday, January 21st
Wednesday, January 28th

Wednesday, February 4th
Wednesday, February 11th
Thursday, February 19th
Saturday, February 21st
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.

LIVESTOCK RATE OF GAIN REQUIREMENTS

Beef Steers, 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**
0.40 lbs. per day

**SWINE**
1.50 lbs. per day

**BEFEE**
2.00 lbs. per day

**MARKET GOAT**
0.20 lbs. per day

SAVE THE DATE!
4-H MODEL DOG SHOW

February 21, 2015
9:00am
Howard County
Fairgrounds- Activities Hall

*Snow Date*
February 28, 2015
The Howard County 4-H program continues to be a strong youth development program that actively involves many youth throughout the county. The 2015 Howard County Fair, scheduled for Saturday, August 3rd-10th, 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 4th 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.

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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

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Basket & Bag 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.

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