ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL FAIR

We thank the 4-H members who entered exhibits at the fair this year. The entries clearly showcased our members’ interests and skills and were enjoyed by many fair attendees.

We thank the Judges for their dedication, time, and energy in judging the 4-H entries. Our Judges are an integral part of the fair success.

We also want to thank the Indoor and the Outdoor Award donors. Our long-standing awards program provides a strong foundation for 4-H success. The support and contributions of the donors help recognize the accomplishments and hard work of our 4-H members.

Kudos to the many volunteers that came during workdays, volunteered at the 4-H Building, and helped take down. We cannot thank enough our 4-H youth and adult volunteers, and our non-4-H volunteers for all your hard work before, during and after Fair week. Your help and “can do” attitude was crucial to our success.

Many thanks go to the Damascus Community 4-H Club and the Potomac 4-H Club for taking the leadership to help with the 4-H activities, before and during fair week.
Finally, we want to thank the Montgomery County Fairgrounds team for all the support they provide to the 4-H members, volunteers, and staff all year round!

CAKE AUCTION

Our Annual Cake Auction fundraiser was a big success. A “thank you” to the 4-H’ers who donated their beautiful cakes, and those who bid on the cakes. You are truly helping Montgomery County 4-H “make the best better”!

The major source of income to support the many county 4-H activities comes from the Annual 4-H Cake Auction. Therefore, we encourage other 4-H’ers to enter their cakes at the fair and help contribute to this event.

- 40% - scholarships for youth and adults to participate in camp, state events, and national leadership training and conferences.
- 30% - recognition awards, merit ribbons, clover award pins, and other merit items.
- 15% - resource materials for leaders, including judging manuals, videos, and coaching materials.
- 10% - promotional items for exhibits, teaching/workshop materials, Close Encounters with Agriculture, club family
- 5% - Miscellaneous 4-H activities

DONOR “THANK YOU” NOTES

Don’t forget to write your thank you notes! You may think, handwritten “Thank You” notes are a waste of your time. However, donors look forward to hearing from the 4-H members. They appreciate knowing who won their awards and/or trophies.
You don’t know what to write? Thank them for sponsoring the award. Make it personal. Tell them about yourself and the project you won the award for. You can also tell them about the other 4-H projects you are enrolled in and the activities you enjoy doing in 4-H.

4-H SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Montgomery County 4-H office is seeking potential sponsors for the 2020 Fair Awards. Donations allow 4-H members to be recognized and awarded for their achievements, therefore, encouraging our youth to continue worthwhile activities like 4-H. In addition, all donations to 4-H are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by the law.

The following awards need a sponsor:

Award for the Junior and Senior Champion of the Aerospace Division.
Award for the Junior and Senior with the Best Overall Entry in single stage rockets.
Award for the Junior and Senior with the First Place Entry in Aerospace, gas, or electric powered flight.
Award for the Junior and Senior Reserve Champion in Clothing.
Award for the Junior and Senior Champion Presentation Team in Agriculture
Award to a Junior Champion Presentation
Award to a Senior Champion Presentation

If you are interested in sponsoring any of the awards on the list, please contact Anna Hamann at ahamann@umd.edu by November 15.

ANNUAL LEADERS MEETING

The 4-H Leader Meeting will be on October 2 starting at 6:00 PM in the multipurpose room at the 4-H Office. At the meeting we will cover tax information, club charter renewal requirements, reenrolling in 4-H, and other important information.

You will receive more information by e-mail soon. Please contact Sheila Ford, (301) 590–2824 or sheilal@umd.edu by September 27 to indicate how many leaders from your club will attend. Every club must have at least one Co-Leader and Project Leader attending the meeting. Light dinner will be served.
CLOSE ENCOUNTERS WITH AGRICULTURE

Fall with its’ crisp air, vibrant leaves with colors of red, yellow, golden-yellow or combinations of both is perfect for spending time outdoors. Fall also brings the largest agriculture education program at the University of Maryland Extension, Derwood, MD.

Want to share your knowledge of agriculture, food science, and the environment with children and enjoy nature at the same time? We are looking for volunteers to help with the Montgomery County Extension’s Close Encounters with Agriculture Program. The program runs in the mornings from Oct. 10–30, and from 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM during the school week. However, you don’t have to volunteer for every day! We will teach over 3,000 Montgomery County fourth graders about agriculture, environmentalism, and healthy living. Don’t know what to teach? Don’t worry, we have you covered, you will receive training and a script to follow. In addition, you will be fed a great lunch after the program!

For more information you can contact Doug Tregoning, at dwt@umd.edu or 301-590-2809.

NEW 4-H FAMILY ORIENTATION NIGHT

If you have recently joined 4-H and want to learn more about our programs or you have questions that need answering, then we welcome you to join us for our new family orientation on Tuesday, October 15 at 6:30 PM. This invitation is also open to any non-members who are interested in finding out more about 4-H. The orientation will be held at the Montgomery County 4-H Office—18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood, MD 20855. Youth attendees must be accompanied by an adult.

To register, please contact Jeannine Shriver, 301 590 3210 or jshriver@umd.edu by October 11. If registering by e-mail, please include your name, address, and phone number.

DIAMOND CLOVER LEVEL 5 PROJECT PLAN AND REPORT

Diamond Clover Level 5 Project Plan and Report form due to the 4-H Office by October 15

All Diamond Clover Level 5 Plan and Report forms are due to the 4-H Office by October 15. Don’t forget to complete the report section of the Level 5 Plan and Report form and have it signed by your Club leader and Extension Educator.
DIAMOND CLOVER LEVEL 6 PROPOSAL APPLICATIONS

Diamond Clover Level 6 Proposal Applications and Final Project Reports due at State 4-H Office by September 30.

All NEW Diamond Clover – Level 6 applications are due to the state 4-H Office by September 30. The County/City Educators will need to review 4-H’er Level 6 proposals before they are submitted to the State. 4-H’ers should download all documents, fill in all information, and then upload them to the Portal below.

Diamond Clover Guidelines:

Diamond Clover Forms:
https://extension.umd.edu/4-h/youth-families/leadership-trips-awards-and-scholarships

Diamond Clover Level 6 PROPOSAL Portal:
https://www.jotform.com/build/80215479640154

Note: Submit PROPOSAL Documents to this portal ONLY. Final project reports are to be submitted to the portal below.

Diamond Clover Level 6 Final Project Reports for completed projects are also due on September 30. All completed materials for recognition should be submitted by 30 September to the Final Project Portal below.

Diamond Clover Level 6 FINAL PROJECT Portal:
https://form.jotform.com/82215674049156

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Nia Imani Fields at 301-314-7317 or nfields@umd.edu

OUT-OF-STATE LEADERSHIP TRIPS

You can apply for various exciting Out-of-State Leadership trips through the state 4-H Office. These trips provide senior 4-H’ers with leadership experience and allow them to meet people from all over the country. To be considered for a Leadership Trip, a 4-H member must complete a portfolio package which includes an application, 4-H resume, essay and interview.
All trip applications, and Portfolio Program Overview can be found at: 
https://extension.umd.edu/4-h/youth-families/leadership-trips-awards-and-scholarships

Apply by October 15, 2019. Counties may set earlier deadlines, check with your county 4-H educator.

- National 4-H Conference – The Conference will take place from March 28 to April 2, 2020 at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, MD. Teen delegates take the lead by serving on consulting groups to make recommendations for the future direction of 4-H and engage in personal development experiences that increase their knowledge, resources, and skills.

The Registration to attend the National 4-H Conference is coordinated through each state’s 4-H program office. Youth and adult participants are selected by their respective state 4-H program and attend the conference as part of a group delegation.

Interviews will be held on the 2nd Sunday in November at the Maryland 4-H Center in College Park. Participants may participate in-person or virtually (video conferencing).

For the following Out-of-State Leadership trips, you must apply by January 15, 2020:

Download, fill out, save and submit to your county 4-H educator for review and approval. County 4-H Educator will submit approved application/portfolio packages to the portal. Please check the Portfolio Program Overview for more information. In addition, please contact your Club Leader and former participants to learn about the interviewing process, and what were their experiences participating in any of the out-of-state trips.

- West Virginia 4-H Older Members Conference – six days in mid- to late June at the West Virginia 4-H Camp outside West Virginia University. This program develops leadership among older 4-H’ers by giving them an opportunity to participate in discussion of timely issues and problems, and teaches new skills which can be used in their local clubs and communities.

- Virginia 4-H Congress – three days in mid- to late June at Virginia Tech. Virginia 4-H Congress provides competitive and non-competitive educational experiences to teens and helps them to develop life skills and leadership abilities to become contributing citizens in their communities.

- National Leadership Conference (NLC) Camp Miniwanka - held on 360 wooded acres on a mile-long stretch of Lake Michigan and aims to develop character, leadership skills, personal and group effectiveness, and a nurturing balance within your life. The camp will take place in June 2020. Financial aid and scholarships are available at https://ayf.com/camps/miniwanka/national-leadership-conference/#scholarships
- **National 4-H Congress** - five day event held in Atlanta, Georgia during the Thanksgiving break. For more than 99 years, National 4-H Congress has been a premiere nation-wide opportunity for 4-H members across America, and receives around 100,000 visitors. The event “engages high school aged 4-H members in leadership, citizenship, global awareness, and inclusion. Participants not only have the opportunity to participate in state-of-the-art educational workshops and hear from world-renowned speakers, they also have the opportunity to network with other 4-H members from across the United States”.

### MONTGOMERY COUNTY AGRICULTURAL FAIR - JUNIOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Montgomery County Agricultural Center Junior Board of Directors will be accepting applications for prospective Board members. Applicants must be between 16-22 years old and either current or past 4-H members, FFA members, and/or fair volunteers.

To learn more or to request an application, please visit mcagfair.com, General Information, Volunteer Information or contact the Montgomery County Agricultural Center at (301) 926-3100, ext. 205.

### REGIONAL 4-H VOLUNTEER FORUM

**Saturday, November 16, 2019 - 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM, UMCP, Washington Co, Carroll Co, Queen Anne’s Co**

The Regional 4-H Volunteer Forum will be a single day conference this year. The Forum is going to be held in four separate locations, University of Maryland College Park, Washington Co, Carroll Co, and Queen Anne’s Co. A variety classes will be available and duplicated at each location.

Participants will gather with others from across their region to collaborate, educate and inspire one another to strengthen leadership skills with new ideas, new projects and new goals.

All 4-H volunteers, parents and senior 4-H members are invited to participate.

Registration will be via 4-H Online. Please contact Jamie Morris, jkenton@umd.edu or 301-314-7826 for more information.
FAIR SCHOLARSHIPS

The Montgomery County Agricultural Center, Inc. Fairgrounds offers over $35,000 in post-secondary scholarships to individuals who are planning to further their education in agriculture, family and consumer sciences, or related fields of study. Applicants must provide documentation of volunteer service to a non-profit organization to be eligible for these scholarships. Scholarships are awarded in March at the Fairground’s annual meeting.

A completed application, transcript and supporting documentation must be returned to the Montgomery County Agricultural Center, Inc., 16 Chestnut Street, Gaithersburg, MD 20877 no later than 4:30 PM on November 10, 2019 for consideration. The scholarship winners will be notified by mail in February and announced at the annual meeting in March.

Download the 2019 scholarship application here (pdf):

http://mcagfair.com/about-us/scholarships/

RECORD BOOK AND RESUME TRAINING

The Record Book & Resume Training Workshop will be on November 21 starting at 6:30 PM at the 4-H Office. It should run between one to one and a half hours. The workshop will be split into two groups—those wanting record book training and those who are seniors wanting resume training.

All 4-H’ers are encouraged to create yearly record books of their project work, accomplishments, and learning experiences. The record book training will teach you to organize your record book properly so that you can, if you want, enter it in the record book judging in January. You will be given an official 4-H record book cover at the workshop. You can find out more about 4-H record books and see the forms we use at our website in the 4-H Member Area:


Senior 4-H’ers (14 years old and up) can create resumes that can be used to apply for the county fair court and out-of-state 4-H trips—this workshop will help you gain the skills needed to craft an excellent resume. The training will also help you when creating professional resumes for job hunting.

Register before Wednesday, November 20. To register, please contact Sheila Ford, (301) 590–2824 or sheilaf@umd.edu.
OTHER IMPORTANT DATES IN JANUARY

Please have the following items to the County 4-H Office on or before Friday, January 3, 2020:

- **Resumes**—see instructions here (pdf):
  [http://extension.umd.edu/sites/default/files/_docs/programs/4-H/awards/The4-HResume.pdf](http://extension.umd.edu/sites/default/files/_docs/programs/4-H/awards/The4-HResume.pdf)
- **Record/project books**—most Club leaders will collect your books well before January 5 and turn them in to the County Office. See record book instructions here:
  [https://extension.umd.edu/montgomery-county/4-h-record-books](https://extension.umd.edu/montgomery-county/4-h-record-books)
- **Completed Diamond Clover Reports for levels 1 - 4**
- **FOR LEADERS:** The achievement awards nomination form can be found at:
  [https://extension.umd.edu/montgomery-county/4-h-youth/club-leader-area](https://extension.umd.edu/montgomery-county/4-h-youth/club-leader-area)

RE-ENROLLING IN 4-H FOR 2020

Every 4-H youth member, ages 5 through 18, and adult volunteers who wish to remain in 4-H in 2020, will need to re-enroll in 4-H Online. Youth 4-H’ers need to pay the $10.00 membership fee online. Adult volunteers do not have to pay the $10.00 membership fee. The 4-H Online website should be operational by the third week in January. Club Leaders will be notified when the website is up and running. You must re-enroll for 2020 or you will be unable to participate in county, cluster, or state 4-H activities.

We encourage everyone to pay their membership fee through the online system. If you belong to multiple clubs you need to give your check to the club that is listed as your primary club in 4-H Online. Club leaders will be sent club rosters late in February listing everyone who has re-enrolled and paid their dues online, as well as anyone who has yet to pay online.

If you have any questions, please contact Sheila Ford, (301) 590-2824 or sheilaf@umd.edu.
ZENITH CLUB WOODWORKING WORKSHOP

By Andrew J. Chen

Club member, Andrew Chen, led a woodworking workshop on June 13th during Zenith 4-H Club’s monthly meeting.

The workshop started with safety instructions followed by three basic carving techniques: the push cut, paring cut, and stop cut. After practicing these cuts on basswood blocks, members used these cuts to sharpen pencils, which helped them get further familiarized with carving. Lastly, everyone was invited to carve anything they wanted. Many members stayed with pencil carving, but a few attempted interesting designs of their own, such as smiley faces and six-sided dice.

In the end, all the members had fun and brought home some very unique creations, including the world’s shortest pencil. Members were encouraged to continue woodcarving on their own at home. Woodcarving is not only a great skill to learn but also a wonderful activity to develop many essential traits that 4-H promotes.

The Zenith 4-H Club is largely made up of homeschool families, but everyone is welcome. The club focuses on public speaking, community service, and leadership opportunities. If you are interested in the club, please contact Mrs. Sarah Stecher (sarahestecher@gmail.com), Mrs. Minghsi Chang (minghsi@gmail.com), or Mrs. Theresa Chen (tclin2@gmail.com).

Starting clock-wise: Aurea, Ian, Lena, Andrew, Marcel, and Paul
“THE MARYLAND CONSTRUCTORS” PLACE FIRST AT THE STATE 4-H ENGINEERING CAMP

By Eric and Ryan Guernsey

Are you thinking of becoming an engineer? If you like solving problems and working with your hands? Then, you should check out State 4-H Engineering Camp held every year at Deer Creek Overlook, Harford County. Four members of the Lucky Clovers attended the camp this year – Loren, Ryan and Eric Guernsey and Brennan Zhao.

The campers were divided into teams and decided a name for their team.

There were many different challenges at camp. One challenge was to build a shelf out of cardboard that would hold the most weight using bean bags, a board game, and a box of dominos. Another challenge was a Pictionary game where 2 teams had to guess a technical word from a drawing. The word “watershed” was guessed right away because someone drew water next to a shed, but nobody guessed the word “ultrasonic sensor.”

For the boat challenge, Each team was given a motor, a piece of wood, 2 pool noodles and a miscellaneous box of items that could be cut or refitted to make a boat that could go across the length of the pool. All the teams made boats that were too big and heavy for the size motor. None of the boats made it across the pool. Teams with moving boats got the most points.

For the egg cracking Rube Goldberg the Maryland Constructors used a funnel, a marble run with some PVC piping and a pool noodle, then a hammer at the end to crack the egg. The team crushed it! Luckily, they didn’t have to eat the eggs for breakfast!

Other workshops were dissecting a computer, working with snap circuits, building a lamp, learning how to weld from a certified welder, and tractor safety and how to drive a tractor. Before the workshop ended, the camp staff tallied the points for all the different challenges. It was pretty close between all the teams. However, “The Maryland Constructors” won the competition, and received a 3-D printed medal!

Make sure to add Engineering Camp to your plans next year. It was fun!
LEARNING LEADERSHIP QUALITIES AT CAMP MINIWANCA

By Heather Guernsey

The National Leadership Conference at Camp Miniwanka was held in Shelby, Michigan from June 14 to June 21, 2019. The mission of the camp is to inspire participants to always be at their best by keeping the good of the community and the world in mind with every decision they make. The rural setting of the camp on the shore of Lake Michigan really puts the participants in the mindset to have thoughtful conversations with other youths from all over the country about some of the biggest challenges facing their generation. The camp really helps build character, boost confidence and inspire knowing that one person can make a difference by being at their best all the time.

There are lots of fun activities at the camp that encourage team building, creativity and problem solving. Since it is a one week program, the staff really encouraged the participants to get to know everyone through fun (and funny) ice-breaker activities. One activity was working on a MiniWONKA Chocolate Factory skit. Another fun activity was running around the camp pretending to be the Golden Snitch from Harry Potter. Campers also can meditate while walking around the labyrinth as long as they are adept at finding their way out!

If you are 14 or older, the 4-H office accepts applications for Out-of-State Trips [Leadership Trips--Ed.] in January of each year. A 4-H resume and essay are usually required with the application. One application covers several Out-of-State trips [Leadership Trips--Ed.] including West Virginia Older Members Conference, Virginia 4-H Congress, National 4-H Congress and Camp Miniwanka.

CAMP TAWASENTHA: TIPS TO A FUTURE FIRST-TIMER

Special article submitted by Mr. Ed Hogan, Camp Coordinator

By KL Plano-Faber

Okay, here are key things I would tell a first-time Tawasentha camper:
Foremost, pack cough drops. The song singing and yell yelling gets intense. Prepare your memory, too, because there are hours between practice and performance. This is for big stakes--the spirit stick and the vaunted gems! Choir experience may sound like a help, but these aren't your typical songs. Some are nonsense memorization, and the rest are 'twisted tunes’ about camp. Bonus singing example: I had to sing “Baby Shark” at breakfast for forgetting my name tag. Don't worry, there is so much singing, everyone gets used to it Pro tip: Don’t sign up for choir camp the next week. You will have no voice!

Then there are the Competitions. I mentioned the songs and yells, but, wait, there’s more. There are the water games, council challenges, marksmanship--actually, *everything* is a competition. Don't worry. It is fun. The adult leaders really help you get better by week's end.

Lastly: There’s “The Bog Hike.” It's optional, but you should consider it. At the least bring socks you don't care about. I didn't know what a bog hike would be like, and expected something totally different. I pictured standing at the edge of an overgrown place like a southern bayou or swamp, and look on from solid ground, or maybe hiking in shallow puddle-like areas. I didn't imagine slogging through almost knee-deep mud that's like quicksand, in light rain, and that veterans would tell me that "at least we won't go into the neck deep area." (What!?) We learned walking techniques along the way, such as what plants to walk on to not sink. Ask Seth M. more about this. The scenery was cool, including pitcher plants, a water snake, a striped oak, and wild blueberries out in the bog. It was superb, but a mess. I still can't wash some of the mud out of my boots. (Borrowing camp boots is another option.).

Well, those are my tips. Ask anyone who was at camp to tell you more, and I hope to see you there next year! "
4-H members showcased their fashion knowledge and sewing skills at the 2019 4-H Fashion Revue Central MD Cluster competition held on June 8. The participants at this year’s Fashion Revue were: Kendall D, Eliana W., Anvita D., Abigail Z., Isabella R., Preston C., Rhiannon K., Kaitlyn R., Rachel Z, Kayla R., Samantha M., Caroline C., Mica B., Shea C., Catherine Z., Layla E., Grace P., Sierra R., Elizabeth M., Lillian K.

If you need special accommodation for a 4-H program, event, or activity, please call 301 590 3210 or e-mail jshriver@umd.edu

The University of Maryland, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources programs are open to all and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, political affiliation, or gender identity and expression.
September, 2019

Dear Nominee,

The Junior Board of Directors (JBOD) at the Montgomery County Agricultural Center is a motivated and high achieving group of young adults that have the desire to become more involved in the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair (MCAF).

The rationale for forming and nurturing the JBOD is to:

- Provide an avenue for the development of leadership skills to help ensure long term personal involvement with the MCAC.
- Provide opportunities to learn the operational and business aspects of the MCAC and the MCAF.
- Provide our youth membership a forum in which they can discuss and implement new ideas to improve the MCAF.

Members of the Junior Board attend scheduled meetings, participate in monthly meetings with the elected Board of Directors, and attend conference for the Maryland Association of Agricultural Fairs and Shows. The JBOD also coordinates identified events during Fair week, assists and serves on various committees, and works to promote a successful future for the MCAC.

We are very excited to start planning for 2020, and cordially invite you to apply to serve as a JBOD member. Nominees must be a registered volunteer for the MCAC, or a current or former 4-H or FFA member.

Please be sure to read the Bylaws and consider whether you have time for such a commitment. The Board currently meets on Sunday, every other month during the school year, every month during the summer, and as otherwise needed. There are typically 7 or 8 meetings and attendance is expected. If selected as a member, your role would be to respect the Bylaws, contribute substantively to the discussion and work that is planned by the JBOD, and represent the MCAC to the very best of your ability.

We will be conducting interviews starting at 9 am on the morning of Saturday, November 17, 2018. If your application is accepted, you will be contacted to set a time and location for your interview to occur. Participation in this interview is essential. If you are unable to attend, please do not apply at this time and do so in a subsequent year.

If you wish to be considered for membership on the Junior Board of Directors, the Nomination Form must be completed and delivered to the address below by 4:30 p.m. on the first Friday in November of this year. Nominations hand delivered after this date and time or from USPS or other carriers will not be accepted.

16 Chestnut Street Gaithersburg Maryland 20877 301-926-3100 ext. 205

To learn more or to request an application, please visit mcagfair.com, General Information, Volunteer Information or contact the Montgomery County Agricultural Center at (301) 926-3100, ext. 205.