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**INSERTS:**
Agricultural Science Series
Lamb Grant Project Calendar

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The 4-H Office in Baltimore County will be CLOSED on:
- November 11, 2013
- November 28-29, 2013

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**WE’VE HEARD FROM YOU...**

In September, club leaders participated in a full day training. During this training, they engaged in an Appreciative Inquiry session to assess: 1) Current Baltimore County 4-H programs, 2) Opportunities for improvement, and 3) The plan for the future.

After reviewing the Appreciative Inquiry and volunteer survey results, we’ve heard the following themes:

1. **4-H Marketing and Communication:** Volunteers expressed the need to increase promotion of 4-H opportunities to the public and schools. Volunteers would also like increased methods of communication (online and paper form) and connections.

2. **4-H Education and Resources:** The majority of volunteers were satisfied with the educational opportunities offered through 4-H. They see technology as the future in our communities and programs. However, they wanted more animal science programs, 4-H project resources for club meetings, and joint club opportunities. Volunteers also requested a youth survey that can be distributed to club members.

3. **4-H Policy Review:** Club leaders expressed the importance of the 4-H office reviewing policies related to attendance, inactive officers, fair entries, and other club related topics.

In response to your feedback we have begun the following efforts:

1. **The TECH CONNECT Launch:** In the month of October,

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**LET’S GROW OUR 4-H PROGRAM**

The 4-H program is a great way for youth to gain life skills that will prepare them to be successful adults. Youth learn a variety of skills including leadership, science, citizenship and healthy living. We want to reach at least 2,000 young people ages 5-18 with 4-H in 2013 through clubs, afterschool programs, school enrichment programs, camp, special interest and individual study. We challenge each club and 4-H program to increase their reach in 2013!

For promotional ideas, please contact Nia Fields at Nfields@umd.edu.
Continued from page 1

Pick a Convenient Time for Everyone to Meet
Picking a time that is convenient for everyone is the key to having successful meetings and a great 4-H club. Make sure that the dates for meetings are good for most of the members.

Work with the club president to create an agenda and distribute it ahead of time
Having an agenda can ensure that your group stays on task and covers everything that needs to be done. You should use the county newsletter as a starting point. If possible email the agenda for the meeting ahead of time so members know the group will be talking about, so that they can bring their questions and ideas.

Have the Secretary take down notes
Having the secretary take notes and minutes at a meeting is important because everyone can go back to the notes in order to remember all of the ideas and comments that were said. This way members can refer back for new ideas and comments made. Note-taking is also a good skill for youth to develop.

Encourage all the Members to Participate and Contribute
Sharing ideas on various topics will help make 4-H events very successful. You want everyone to feel valued at the 4-H meetings.

Remember the Three Components of a Club Meeting
These components are the business meeting, the education portion (project work, demonstrations, guest speakers, etc.), and recreation/social time. Having all of these aspects ensures that every topic and issue of the 4-H club is being addressed, and allows the members to learn and interact with each other.

To get more ideas about running effective meetings, visit the National 4-H website at www.4-h.org

NATIONAL SENIOR TRIPS
All seniors interested in applying for National Congress, Older Members Conference, Virginia 4-H Congress, and Camp Miniwaca must turn in their Senior Resume, Essay and Application by January 13, 2014. The essay topic this year is “How do the life development skills you have learned through 4-H help you serve as a mentor to others?”.

Senior Portfolio forms and examples can be found here: http://extension.umd.edu/baltimore-county/record-book-ideas. You may also visit the MD 4-H Awards and Recognition page here: http://extension.umd.edu/4-h/youth-families/awards-recognition for additional information.

This is a wonderful opportunity that former Seniors who have attended speak very highly of it!

RECORD BOOK TRAINING
All other Senior Portfolios, Record Books, Project Completions and Award Nominations are due to the 4-H office by February 3, 2014 (as Feb, 1st is a Saturday).

Record keeping is one of the skills that youth learn in 4-H. Each year, youth are expected to record what they’ve learned in the form of a clover book, project completion, record book or senior portfolio. Learn about what these are and how to put one together! Youth with exceptional projects, record books and portfolios are recognized at our annual achievement event.

The record book training was held on November 6th. For more information call 410-771-1761 or e-mail Wendy Dilworth at wendydil@umd.edu.

TIPS FOR RUNNING AN EFFECTIVE 4-H MEETING
Pick a Convenient Time for Everyone to Meet
Picking a time that is convenient for everyone is the key to having successful meetings and a great 4-H club. Make sure that the dates for meetings are good for most of the members.

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Have the Secretary take down notes
Having the secretary take notes and minutes at a meeting is important because
Baltimore County 4-H members from Life Source Christian School and the Be More Home School club joined over 100 fellow 4-Her’s at the 4-H National Council Youth conference center in Chevy Chase, Md to learn about GPS/GIS technology. This was the sixth annual National Youth Science Day event to celebrate National 4-H Week. Sparking interests in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math is just one way that Baltimore County 4-H continues to “Make the Best Better”.

4-H members from Baltimore County celebrated National 4-H Week by joining thousands of 4-Her’s from around the world in the sixth annual National Youth Science Day project on October 9th. This year’s experiment explored GPS/GIS technology as participants designed their own park. Computer models of the park designs were uploaded to a national gallery. It’s not too late to get involved, visit www.4-h.org/4-h-national-youth-science-day to learn more about the experiment and to design your own park.

Baltimore County 4-H has four new clubs this year: The Be More Home Schoolers, The Catonsville StemSharks, The Hillcrest Afterschool Robotics Club and the Hunt Valley Robotics Club. All four clubs are off to a great start.
**LAMB GRANT PROJECT INFORMATION**

The Baltimore County 4-H Lamb Grant Project is now accepting applications for participation. Grants are given to Baltimore County 4-H members (ages 9-18 yrs. old) interested in purchasing and caring for a lamb.

The Lamb Grant Project’s goal is to increase the total enrollment of 4-H market lamb projects in the county. The grant program is directed towards 4-H members who haven’t the facilities or the financial resources to carry a lamb project.

The selection of those members receiving grants will be based on the evaluation of an essay written by the 4-H member to the Baltimore County 4-H Lamb Grant selection committee. The essay should cover the following points:

Why would I like to carry a market lamb project?

What do I expect to learn from the project?

Goals I wish to achieve with a lamb project.

Essays must include; name, address, phone, email, age, 4-H club name, and be received no later than March 8th at the 4-H office, University of Maryland Extension, Baltimore County, 1114 Shawan Road, Suite 2, Cockeysville, MD 21030.

4-Hers will be interviewed by the Livestock Sale Committee members. The interview date is Thursday, March 20th at the sponsor’s farm in White Hall, MD beginning at 7:00 pm. Parent or guardian must attend the interview. The awarding of grants will be forwarded by mail. The requirements for those selected will be as follows:

The market lamb must be shown at the Baltimore County Fair, July 8-13, 2014.

The market lamb must be sold by auction at the Baltimore County Fair Livestock Sale. Only lambs not meeting grade or weight standards may be sold by private treaty. In the event of a private treaty sale, the Lamb Grant Project must be reimbursed at the time of the sale.

The member will be required to maintain a project record of each animal, and the record submitted to his/her 4-H leader by the end of the calendar year.

If you were in the Lamb Grant Project last year, and would like to participate this year, all you need to do is send an essay to the 4-H office by March 8th. You will not have to be interviewed.

We are also looking for parent volunteers to assist with this project. If you wish to be a volunteer, please contact the 4-H office at 410-771-1761.

**FARM MANAGEMENT CLASSES FOR ADULT WOMEN**

The University of Maryland, Delaware Cooperative Extension and Baltimore County Farm Bureau will conduct Annie’s Project during the winter of 2014 at various sites in Maryland. Annie’s Project focuses on the many aspects of farm management and is designed to empower adult women in overall farm decision making and to build local networks throughout the state. The target audience is women with a passion for business, agriculture and involvement in the farm operation. Topics for the sessions cover the five areas of Risk Management – Production, Marketing, Financial, Legal Risk, Human Resources. This course is open to anyone interested in farm management practices.

The course will be 8 sessions starting on Monday, January 20, 2014 from 6 – 9 pm. The Baltimore County Center for Maryland Agriculture and Farm Park will be the host site. The cost of the entire course including meals and materials is $75. Please register by January 10th - space is limited. For more information visit the website www.extension.umd.edu/annies-project or call 410-771-1761. Registration is now open. If you require special assistance to attend the classes please contact the site at least two weeks prior.

**POULTRY**

As of January 2010, over 3400 flocks have been registered

**Why a poultry registration program?**

This program helps protect the Maryland domestic poultry industries from the spread of diseases such as avian influenza.

**Who needs to register?**

All individuals involved in keeping or caring for all types of poultry and any number of birds, which would includes: Small households, all forms of live poultry production, production facilities/ farms, suppliers, dealers, haulers, wholesalers, live bird markets, and participants in MD’s fairs and shows. By definition poultry includes: Chickens, turkeys, ratites, waterfowl, game birds and domestic/captive pigeons.

**Who is exempt from registration?**

Registration is not required if five (5) or less birds are housed for less than 120 days in a 12 month period. Exempt premises may not have other poultry on the property. Poultry can not be moved from the exempt premises, participate in shows or be sold. Examples of exempt poultry: Easter chicks, school or 4-H broiler projects and certain pets.

**Who is already registered in the program?**

1. Contract poultry growers have been registered by their poultry company. 2. Layer locks enrolled in the MDA Egg Law program and MDA certified flocks have been registered by MDA.

**Exotic Bird registration is voluntary** and is not mandatory. However, if your birds are associated with high risk activities, registration is recommended. High-risk activities include: showing, trading, breeding, multiple bird households and activities which involve commingling with poultry or other birds.
The Baltimore County 4-H Program is committed to educating 4-Hers and the general public about the importance of Agriculture. We have created a series of Ag and Animal Science based workshops for 4-H and non (future) 4-Hers. We encourage you to participate in these opportunities and to spread the word. These will be ideal experiences for 4-Hers to add to their record books and animal person of the year nomination forms! The cost is $20 for all 4 sessions or $7 per class.

We hope to see you there! To register for these sessions, please call the 4-H office at 410-771-1761. Sessions will be held at the Ag Center/4-H Office at 1114 Shawan Road, Cockeysville, MD 21030. All classes will be from 1pm – 4pm. The next sessions are:

**November 9, 2013**  
*Introduction to Maryland Agriculture*  
This class will include information about buying and growing local fruits and vegetables using the model of a farmers market.

**December 14, 2013**  
*Animal Health – Quality Assurance*  
Learn the importance of ethical practices in production animal agriculture. 4-Hers will learn how to have healthy, high quality food sources from their animals.

**March 8, 2014**  
*Animal Anatomy and Reproduction*  
This class will include information about genetics, choosing sires, reproductive anatomy, and A.I. breeding. *This class is better suited to intermediate and senior members.*

**April 12, 2014**  
*Soil Science*  
Participants will discover soil as a natural resource, what are its properties and how it used in agriculture.

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 natural origin, marital status, genetic information, political affiliation, or gender identity and expression.

If you Need Special Assistance to Participate in an activity, please contact the University of Maryland Extension, at 410-771-1761 at least two weeks prior to the activity.
### January

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<td>MD Horse World Expo and 4-H Art Contest</td>
<td>Martin Luther King Day</td>
<td>4-H Office Closed</td>
<td>Officer’s Training 6:30 pm in the 4-H Office</td>
<td>Fair Board Meeting 7:30 p.m. in the New Building at the Fairgrounds</td>
<td>MD Horse World Expo and 4-H Art Contest</td>
<td>Winter Workshop 9:00 am – 1:30 pm The New UME Ag Center</td>
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- **1st February**: President’s Day 4-H Office Closed 4-H Day in Annapolis
**November**

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<td><strong>Record Book Training</strong>&lt;br&gt;6:30 p.m. at the 4-H Office</td>
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<td><strong>IRS 990-N e-Postcard</strong>&lt;br&gt;(Club Tax reporting)</td>
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<td><strong>Fair Board and Association Meeting</strong>&lt;br&gt;7:30 p.m. in the Museum Building at the Fairgrounds</td>
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**December**

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<td><strong>Member/Volunteer enrollments, mandatory charter renewal forms, club by-laws, club annual calendar, AA form &amp; club information sheets due.</strong></td>
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CLUB CORNER

Fair Board and Association:
All meetings are held at the Museum Building at the MD Fairgrounds at 7:30 pm
Nov. 21 FB & A

University of Maryland Extension
4-H Volunteer Training:
This is for New UME 4-H Volunteers the Webinar is 2 hrs.
A volunteer must have completed all UME Volunteer paperwork before attending the training. Please call 410-771-1761 to register.

4-H Volunteer Association Meeting
February 6, 2014 @ 7:30 pm

4-H Open House
February 20, 2014, 4 – 7 pm

Winter Workshop 2014

Join us on this fun filled day of hands-on classes. Registration forms included in this newsletter.

Date: January 18, 2014
1114 Shawan Road
COCKEYSVILLE, MD
9:00 am – 1:30 pm

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