Maryland State 4-H Leader
Invites Local Alumni to Check In, Help Youth Win $10,000 Science Sponsorship

★ The Maryland 4-H Program is competing in a national contest to win a $10,000 “Innovation Incubator” Science Sponsorship. Local 4-H alumni will determine the outcome.

★ The contest is part of the 4-H GROWN Alumni Campaign, sponsored by National 4-H Council and HughesNet. The interactive campaign invites the estimated 25 million 4-H alumni across the U.S. to help direct scholarship funding by checking in, tagging friends and casting votes to bring more science innovation experiences to youth in their hometown communities.

★ When a local 4-H alum “checks in” at www.4-H.org/4HGROWN, Maryland will get one vote closer to winning the $10,000 Science Sponsorship for the state. With the scholarship, 4-H leaders will engage local youth in hands-on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) activities, and will challenge them to design innovative solutions to solve a real community problem.

★ If Maryland 4-H wins a sponsorship, up to two local young innovators will also have a chance to receive an all-expenses paid trip to the flagship 4-H National Youth Science Day event in Washington, D.C., where they will participate in the world’s largest youth-led science experiment.

★ This is an exciting chance for 4-H alumni who understand the life-changing 4-H experience to help us reach more young people and show them that STEM can be rewarding and fun.”

★ National 4-H Council and HughesNet are offering this opportunity through their collaboration to spark more youth interest in STEM.

★ To check in as a 4-H alum and help Maryland win an "Innovation Incubator" Science Scholarship, visit www.4-H.org/4HGROWN. Be sure to select Maryland as your "4-H Club State" when you check-in.

★ To learn more about the National 4-H Council and HughesNet partnership, visit www.hughesnet.com/4h, or Contact Catherine Porterfield, Maryland 4-H Events Coordinator, (301)-314-7823, cporterf@umd.edu
Animal Science
Rabbit and Poultry Judging and Avian Bowl Workshops

The Maryland 4-H Animal Science Program is pleased to offer a series of Rabbit and Poultry Judging and Avian Bowl Workshops for new and experienced 4-H members, parents, and coaches during January thru March 2015!

Winter Workshops: 5 Dates – 5 Locations across Maryland!
★ March 21 Charles County

General Agenda
★ 9:00 am Registration and Refreshments
★ 9:30 am Welcome / Introduction to Judging and Bowl Events
★ 10:00 am Breakout Sessions - divide into Poultry and Rabbit Groups if group size permits
★ 12:30 pm Adjourn

Workshop Topics
★ What to Expect at Judging and Bowl Events, What to Look at When Judging a Class, Resources to Help You Learn More

Registration
★ A $5.00 registration fee covers workshop handouts and refreshments. Please register using the attached registration form no later than one week before your selected session.
Please see this link for more information!

SCHOLARSHIPS HELP TACKLE COLLEGE EXPENSES
Do good to make the world a better place for others.

DoSomething.org offers two types of scholarships -- and you can enter to win both! Go to DoSomething.org for further details.
★ Campaign Scholarships: Rock a campaign and send pics for your chance to win a scholarship.
★ Seasonal Scholarships: Complete any campaign to enter for another $10,000 scholarship. We award one of these four times a year. Hooray, $$$$!

4-H is the nation's largest positive youth development and youth mentoring organization, empowering six million young people in the U.S.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL 4-H MEMBERS AND 4-H PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS AND/OR GUARDIANS

Please note the following 4-H scholarship information and examples of scholarship offers that are available to all 4-H youth who:
★ complete projects; become junior and teen leaders; achieve significant leadership experience; organize community service projects; create camping programs; mentor younger members; speak out for what they value (public speaking or demonstrations).
★ These life skills cannot be developed overnight or in one after-school program, or two 4-H club years. These life skills take time, practice and guidance to achieve. Responsibilities, dedication and the skills you have accomplished listed on a scholarship application or a college application will gain recognition and quite possibly win that scholarship or acceptance to the college of your choice.

MD 4-H FOUNDATION BAG & BASKET BINGO

“The University of Maryland is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Equal Access Programs”
The Maryland 4-H Foundation is hosting a bag and basket bingo to benefit Maryland 4-H! Join us at Maryland State Fairgrounds on Sunday, April 26th and play over 20 games of bingo for a chance to win a filled Longaberger Basket or Thirty-One Purse.

★ Tickets are $15 in advance or $20 at the door. Doors open at 1pm. We will have door prizes, a 50/50, food and much more!

SCHOLARSHIP - 2015 Youth in Action

Legacy 4-H Awards

The Youth in Action award recognizes an outstanding 4-H’er who epitomizes 4-H youth empowerment. We are looking to acknowledge and honor a confident, accomplished 4-H’er who has gained critical life skills through their 4-H program and has utilized those skills to overcome a challenge, or challenges, they have faced. The award winner will also demonstrate how they positively impact the community through their 4-H experience.

The winner of the Youth in Action Award will receive a $10,000 scholarship for higher education and an all-expenses paid trip to Washington, DC to receive their award. The Youth in Action award is given at National 4-H Council’s annual Legacy Awards on Thursday, April 23, 2015, a special evening of celebration that honors the accomplishments of both 4-H youth and the adults who make life-changing experiences possible for millions of 4-H young people.

Applicants should be a 4-H member or recent alumni, ages 16-21, that represent the diversity and passions of 4-H youth nationwide, demonstrate outstanding leadership, showcase the essence of 4-H positivity and possess a proven ability to engage others. For more information, guidelines, and the application, please visit the following link.

Awards & Recognition

4-H Teen Leaders vie for State Awards

These are but a few of the comments shared during the Interview Process as a part of the selection of our 2015 Maryland 4-H Out-of-State Leaders:

“4-H changed the trajectory of my career field.”

“I don’t know what I’d be doing without 4-H, it’s been a big part of my life.”

“4-H is my family.”

“Thanks to 4-H for being a ‘foundation’ for my future.”

★ Fifty-seven senior 4-H members prepared their resumes, an essay and three interviews. These youth demonstrate daily the impact that participation in the Maryland 4-H Program has had on their lives and recognize the contribution made to their futures!!

★ Special thanks to our 4-H Leaders and our 4-H Educator Team in 17 participating counties who encouraged these youth in their life skill development.

★ If you are looking for a venue to highlight the positive youth development reflected in 4-H Teens, ask your county government officials, your state legislators, your school board members, community leaders to judge some of your 4-H events, i.e. Record Books, Public Speaking Contests, Community Service Projects, etc. Our Maryland 4-H youth speak for themselves. Their accomplishments provide us with pride and enthusiasm!

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4-H International Exchange Programs

Welcome a new family member for 4 weeks during the summer! Delegates come from Argentina, Cameroon, Japan, Korea, and Norway. You’ll host a youth that shares hobbies and interests with your own children.

AT A GLANCE:
Costa Rica (7 teens- sharing with Virginia)
- Dates: June 24-July 19
- Ages: 15-17
- English language skills vary

Japan (10 middle school age and 1 adult)
- Dates: July 25-August 22 (Dates may change)
- Ages: 12-15
- English Language Skills vary- this is an English immersion program for them, English is a college and work-ready skill

Hosting Requirements:
- The Host Sibling should be within two years of the Delegates age, and be the same gender
- Everyone 18+ in the household must pass a background check
- You do NOT have to be in 4-H to host!
- Must have own permanent bed for them to sleep on, and preferred to share a room with same gender.
- Go to this website to fill out an online application: [http://www.states4hexchange.org/](http://www.states4hexchange.org/)

If you host for one month you receive $100 off a States' 4-H International Exchange trip (Up to $300). If you host for the school year you receive $1000 off the cost of a trip. School year hosting opportunities are available.

Save the Date
Two Special Events in April
April 11th 9-12
Project Clean Stream
Where: East New Market Town Hall 9am
Register by emailing beth5846@yahoo.com
or call 443-366-3741

&

April 18th 10-2
DCPG Horseshoe Tournament
To honor All Dorchester Volunteers
Where: Spocott Windmill Earth Day
Sign up now!
Register by emailing beth5846@yahoo.com
or call 443-366-3741

“Spring is the time of plans and projects.”
— Leo Tolstoy, Anna Karenina

20th Annual Sporting Clays Fundraiser
The 20th annual Sporting Clays Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, March 28th at Schrader’s. [Click here for more details!](#)

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WHAT IS 4-H?

The 4-H emblem:
The H's on each leaf stand for the words Head, Heart, Hands, and Health.

✦ 4-H Colors: Green and White
✦ 4-H Slogan: "learn by doing"
✦ 4-H Motto: "to Make the Best Better"
✦ 4-H pledge: "I pledge my Head to clearer thinking, my Heart to greater loyalty, my Hands to larger service and my Health to better living, for my club, my community, my country, and my world."

Annual Participation Fee: $10
Membership Age:
★ 5 to 7 - Clovers
★ 8 to 18 - 4-H

Do you want to learn more about 4-H?
4-H members, parents, and volunteers can find out about Dorchester County 4-H by going online to: https://extension.umd.edu/dorchester-county or; about State-Level 4-H programs, policies, and forms by going online to: www.extension.umd.edu/4-h

Waiting to Grow

Little white snowdrop just waking up,
Violet, daisy, and sweet buttercup,
Think of the flowers that are under the snow,
Waiting to grow!

And think what a number of queer little seeds,
Of flowers and mosses, of ferns and of weeds,
Are under the leaves and under the snow,
Waiting to grow!

Think of the roots getting ready to sprout,
Reaching their slender brown fingers about,
Under the ice and the leaves and the snow,
Waiting to grow!

No seed is so small, or hidden so well,
That God cannot find it; and soon he will tell
His sun where to shine, His rain where to go,
Making it grow!

by Frank French

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ATTENTION ALL 4-H CLUB LEADERS
4-H MEMBERS AND FAMILIES

I realize your club leaders have already shared this information with you, however, I am including it in your Newsletter as a reminder. 4-H has been asked to help in these following spring and summer community service events. If each 4-H club adopted one event 4-H would achieve more exposure in Dorchester County as involved county advocates. Bring friends and family – it’s not just for 4-H. Please give this some thought and let me know. Thank you for considering these community service events for your 4-H members.

STORM DRAIN STENCILING

Seeds of Change 4-H Club
✈ Project was introduced in Fall of 2014 and will be continued as a 4-H Community Service
✈ Upcoming stenciling event on March 28th. We will meet 10:00 a.m. at the County Building, 501 Count Lane, for a short practice workshop, groups will then move out into the neighborhoods (accompanied by an adult) and finish up the stenciling around 11:30-12:00.

RAIN GARDEN AT OLD TRINITY PARISH

Nanticoke Watershed Alliance
✈ Installation of a rain garden at Old Trinity Church is scheduled to begin in April 2015, sometime during or around the week of Earth Day, Wednesday, April 22nd 2015.

"PLANT SEEDS OF HOPE TO GROW FOOD FOR CHANGE."

Waugh Chapel United Methodist Church - Construction will be done in 2 Phases. First Phase to begin in May around Mother’s Day, Sunday May 10th
✈ The goal of this project is to bring food security to the poorer residents by making fresh produce easily accessible, encouraging residents to learn to grow the food themselves, and in educating the residents, especially the younger ones, in ways to prepare and preserve the fresh produce throughout the growing season.
✈ Our vision for this community garden provides:
✦ a place for those who want to grow their own food
✦ a place for gardeners to congregate and assist each other
✦ a sanctuary
✦ food for the gardeners, the community and the food banks
✦ a reason to talk and gather together and a safe place to do it

STORMWATER DEMONSTRATION PROJECT AT SAILWINDS

Dorchester Citizens for Planned Growth (DCPG) - Construction Will Be Started Sometime This Summer
✈ A natural resource restoration and education project to be located at the Sailwinds Park in Cambridge, Maryland. It will consist of a stormwater demonstration station, rain barrels, and rain garden. The plan is to raise the stormwater inlets and plant rain gardens in the grassy areas

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between the parking lots. This will allow the stormwater time to soak into the ground and be absorbed by the vegetation. Educational signage will be installed around the stormwater station and rain gardens explaining the structure and how it benefits water quality. All plants will be native to the area.

ENVIRONMENTAL MARKET RESEARCH - UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION & UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Chesapeake Water and Septic Homeowner Education Project

★ UME and UMD School of Public Health are looking for assistance in public surveys that apply to rural communities where people have septic systems. The information is needed for the ongoing environmental research into how best to maintain septic systems for public protection and for the watershed. The interview would only last about 3 minutes. There are about 6 questions, i.e.:

▲ How long have you lived in your current home?
▲ How many people reside in your house for 300 days or more?
▲ How many people reside in your house on a part-time basis (e.g. college students, home day care)?
▲ How often would you say you have your tank pumped?
▲ What is the main reason you pump your tank?

★ Most of the questions are multiple choice. There is a script for the kids to follow, since we want to make sure that each interview goes exactly the same; future follow-up questions will vary depending on answers.

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Our club held an open house at the Thendara 4-H Center on Saturday, January 17. The purpose was to allow youth to experience some of the activities that our club members do on a regular basis and to recruit new youth and families into the club. 45 youth and a large number of parents attended the day. Since that time, a large number of youth have joined the club and have been meeting twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Members and parents have been introduced to Archery, Air Rifle and Air Pistol. Each evening over 25 youth and their parents gather for club meetings. A number of club meetings were called off in February due to weather conditions. Hopefully weather is now improving and activities will be more regular with Spring approaching.

Spring 2015 Hunter Safety Class Scheduled:

A seven session Hunter Safety Education Class is scheduled for the following dates: March 23, 25, 27, 30, April 1, 3 (6:30 pm to 8:30 pm) & Saturday April 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All sessions will be held at the Thendara 4-H Center, Lord’s Crossing Road near Hurlock. Ages 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult parent or guardian. The class is open to all interested persons. If you have a disability that requires special assistance for your participation in this class, please contact Conrad Arnold at 410-330-5967 prior to March 16th.

This class will meet requirements of the Department of Natural Resources Police for an individual to be eligible to obtain a Maryland Hunting License. To successfully complete the course, you must attend all seven class sessions, pass a written and practical exam, as well as participate in live firing exercises. Class content will include wildlife management, hunter ethics, basic firearms safety, first aid and survival, and much more.

Must preregister online at: http://www.register-ed.com/events/view/59796

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20th Annual
Maryland 4-H Foundation

Sporting Clays Tournament
(50 Target Shoot)

BENEFIT: MD 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS PROGRAMS

Saturday, March 28, 2015

Schrader’s
16090 Oakland Road
Henderson, MD 21640
(410) 758-1824

Awards Include:
3-4 Lewis Classes (Depending on number of shooters)
Ladies Awards  Youth Awards
Team Awards  Door Prizes

Registration Begins at: 9:00 a.m. / Shoot Begins at 9:30 a.m. /
Last Shooter starts at: 11:30 A.M.
Pit Beef Lunch Served: 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Adults $60.00
Youth $40.00

For additional information or to register, contact
MD 4-H Foundation 301-314-7835 / Brittany Hoffman 301-314-7826 / Schrader’s 410-758-1824
Email: bhoffma2@umd.edu

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religion, national origin or disability.