Spring ~ 2014

Thank you to all of the clubs who turned in all of their annual paperwork. We appreciate your effort to accomplish this in a timely manner.

4-H YEARBOOK
Thank you to all of the clubs who turned in ads for the 4-H Yearbook. The yearbooks and the online fair entry forms should be available for you to register for the fair in early May.

MARCH 8 – MEAL APPEAL
Don’t know what Meal Appeal is all about, call the Extension Office or come to 4-H Camp - they are excellent! Start time is 12:30 noon and all clubs are to be set up and ready to go at that time. The event will be held at 4-H Camp DCO building, 8 Cherry Hill Road, Street, MD 21154.

MARCH 8 – STATE LIVESTOCK SKILLATHON
Good luck to all participants. Practice what you’ve learned and enjoy your new friendships.

MARCH 15 – MANDATORY ANIMAL HUSBANDRY/QUALITY ASSURANCE ONLINE TRAINING WEBSITE OPENS
The site will be reopened on March 15, 2014 to certify exhibitors for the 2014 Harford County Farm Fair and the Maryland State Fair. To complete this program go to: http://webtools.moo.edu/AHQA.

If you completed this program in 2013 as a junior, intermediate or senior and are still a junior, intermediate or senior in 2014, you do not have to redo the program in 2014. However, if you completed the program in 2013 as a junior or intermediate and have become an intermediate or senior in 2014, you will need to redo the program for your appropriate age group (juniors 8-10, intermediates 11-13 and seniors 14-18) after March 15, 2014. All new 4-H members would have to complete the program or members that will be showing a different species. THIS TRAINING MUST BE COMPLETED BY JULY 1.

The University of Maryland is equal opportunity. The University’s policies, programs and activities are in conformance with pertinent Federal and State laws and regulations on nondiscrimination regarding race, color, religion, age, national origin, sex and disability. Inquiries regarding compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Educational Amendments; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; and the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990; or related legal requirements should be directed to the Director of Personnel/Human Relations, Office of the Dean, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Symons Hall, College Park, MD 20742.
APRIL 4
HARFORD COUNTY 4-H COMMUNICATION CONTEST

The 4-H Communication Contest will be held at St. Margaret Elementary School located at 205 Hickory Avenue in Bel Air starting at 6:30 p.m. Call the Extension Office to register.

MARCH 22
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Howard County Fairgrounds
Fairgrounds Road, West Friendship, MD

$15 registration fee is due by March 7 and it includes lunch, Sample Notebook and all materials. Workshop topics include: Seam finishes, pressing & ironing, hems, facings and waistbands, fitting, closures, plaids, interfacing, tailoring, design & creativity, advanced seam finishes & bound buttonholes and finishing details. Participants to bring sewing machine with manual if available. Workshop topics are subject to change. Call the Extension Office for a registration form.


Volunteers are requested to visit the AGNR Calendar to register for each session at: http://www.agnr.umd.edu/AGNRCalendar/. Search under 4-H by month to register for each session.

Please contact Chris Anderson at canders2@umd.edu or 301-314-7187 for more information or if you have questions.

MARCH 29 – THE 19TH ANNUAL MARYLAND 4-H FOUNDATION SPORTING CLAYS TOURNAMENT

This tournament benefits the MD 4-H Shooting Sports Programs. It will be held at Schrader’s, 16090 Oakland Road, Henderson, MD 21640. Awards include: 3-4 Lewis Classes, Ladies Awards, Youth Awards, Team Awards and Door Prizes. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. and the Shoot begins at 9:30 a.m. Last shooter starts at 11:30 a.m. Pit beef lunch served from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Cost for adults $60 and youth $35. For additional information or to register, contact Brittany Hoffman at 301-314-7826 or bhoffma2@umd.edu, MD 4-H Foundation at 301-314-7835, Schrader’s Outdoors at 410-758-1824, or Conrad Arnold at 410-228-8800 or carnold@umd.edu.

NEW MEMBER/PARENT ORIENTATIONS – MARCH 31, APRIL 17, MAY 15 or JUNE 4.

What are your expectations of joining 4-H? This meeting is to welcome you, help guide you to a better understanding of the 4-H Youth Development program, how it works and how it can benefit your family. This is your opportunity to be informed and have all of your questions answered about club meetings, activities, programs, community service, camps, fairs, etc. and about our expectations.
Congratulations to LAURA FIELDER for qualifying as our Harford County representative to attend the 2014 National 4-H Conference in Chevy Chase, Maryland April 5th through 10th. The National 4-H Conference is for 4-H members (15-19 yrs.) from across the U.S. and its territories. The conference is administered by 4-H National Headquarters of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

APRIL 6 - 13 NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK
Thank you to the many 4-H Volunteers that make a difference in the lives of so many Harford County youth.

APRIL 15-17 UME TRACTOR SAFETY TRAINING/CERTIFICATION FOR YOUTH/VOLUNTEERS
The University of Maryland 4-H staff is planning a weekend of training to provide certification for youth and adults wanting to work on a farm. Youth must be 14 years and older to participate. Location for this year’s training is at the Baltimore County Ag Center, 1114 Shawan Road, Cockeysville, MD 21030. The weekend training will cost $30. The registration fee and application are due to the Baltimore County Extension Office by MARCH 20. For more information or reservations call 410-771-1761.

APRIL 18-19 MARYLAND-DELAWARE SHEEP SHEARING SCHOOL
This school is open to anyone in Maryland, Delaware and surrounding states who wants to learn to shear sheep. It will be held at Ridgely Thompson Farm, 1942 Uniontown Road, Westminster, MD 21157 starting at 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. The registration fee is $80.00 and includes a copy of ASI’s Sheep Shearing Notebook and an instructional DVD. Everyone must pre-register by April 14. Participation is limited to the first 25. The minimum age is 16.

Checks should be made payable to the Carroll County Extension Advisory Council and mailed to David L. Greene, 2014 White Hall Road, White Hall, MD 21161.

It is sponsored by University of Maryland and Delaware Extension, the Maryland Sheep Breeders Association and the Delaware Sheep and Wool Producers Association.

EASTER EGG HUNT
Saturday, April 19
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Come and join the fun! Invite a friend to come along!
Enjoy your beautiful campgrounds and a free Easter Egg Hunt.

The egg hunt will be done according to age groups.

This event is sponsored by the
4-H Ambassadors and the Junior Leaders/Exchange 4-H Club.
APRIL 24 - HARFORD COUNTY FARM BUREAU SCHOLARSHIP

Harford County Farm Bureau, Inc. announces the availability of a scholarship(s) to help fund the education of a candidate whose family are members of Harford County Farm Bureau. The candidate’s chosen curriculum must be in an approved program in agriculture or in an agriculturally related field. A maximum of $1,000 is available for each scholarship. All applications must be delivered or postmarked no later than April 24, 2014. For more information or an application contact the Farm Bureau at 410-836-7773 or Harford@MdFarmBureau.com or the Extension Office.

APRIL 26 – MARYLAND DAY/AG DAY COLLEGE PARK from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Visit marylandday.umd.edu to find out how you can promote 4-H to the many family visitors on this fun filled day!!

APRIL 26 – 4-H STATE COMMUNICATIONS CONTEST at College Park
As part of the 2014 Maryland Day, we will highlight our 4-H Youth Development Program by bringing county/city Public Speaking Champions to campus to participate in our 2014 State 4-H Public Speaking Contest. Good luck to everyone who qualifies.

DOG OBEDIENCE & AGILITY TRAINING
4-H Dog Agility classes will begin on Monday, APRIL 28 and the cost will be $25. For more information and to sign up, email Jill Blackburn at philjill@juno.com. The Obedience, Rally and Showmanship classes will start the first week in May and run for 8 weeks. Time and location to be determined, the cost will be $25 for these classes also. Contact Deb Flock at debflock@aol.com for more information.

MAY 1 – ALL NEW HORSE & DOG I.D. CARDS AND ANY ANIMAL LEASE AGREEMENTS ARE DUE

MAY 1 – 4-H ENROLLMENT DEADLINE FOR THE FAIR
All 4-H project additions, deletions and a signed member enrollment form with payment are due to the Extension Office by May 1, 2014 to be eligible for fair participation. That does not mean to your leader but to OUR office. (All animal projects must be listed on your enrollment form for each species in order to show and to insure that you receive project deadlines). All projects must be listed on your enrollment form (foods, horticulture, crafts, woodworking, etc.) to be eligible to exhibit an item in that specific category.

MAY 1 – HARFORD COUNTY 4-H MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
The Harford County 4-H Memorial Scholarship is replacing the Ben Keyes Scholarship. This name change is to memorialize several Harford County 4-H members who have lost their lives because of accidents or health issues before completing their 4-H careers. The applications are available at the Harford County Farm Bureau office or the Extension Office. Applications must be postmarked no later than May 1, 2014. For more information contact Alice Archer at 410-836-7773 or Harford@MdFarmBureau.com
MAY 3-4 MARYLAND SHEEP & WOOL FESTIVAL
HOWARD COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
The Maryland Sheep Breeders Association in conjunction with the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival are offering two scholarships in the amount of $500 each to students who have been accepted or are in the process of applying for continuing education at a college or university, a technical or vocational school. Completed applications are due by JULY 1. For more qualifications and information contact: Liz Cavey: elizabethcavey@gmail.com or Ashley Stevens-Travis: ashleyjanelle@comcast.net.

MAY 4 – SHEEP & GOAT SKILLATHON
Howard County Fairgrounds, 8:00am-2:00p.m.
The Junior Sheep & Wool Skillathon has been changed to the Junior Sheep & Goat Skillathon. All skillathon stations will pertain to both sheep and goats; all aspects, including meat, fiber and dairy production. This event is open to any youth between the ages of 8 and 18. Individuals and teams (of 3 or 4) from any county or state may compete. Youth compete according to their age as of January 1st of the current year as juniors (8-10), intermediates (11-13) or seniors (14-18). The pre-registration deadline for individuals (requested) and teams (required) is APRIL 28. Preregister by sending names, ages, and team affiliations via e-mail to Susan Schoenian at sschoen@umd.edu or via fax at (301) 432-4089. There is no cost to participate in the skillathon, but a small donation is requested to cover the cost of lunch (pizza+ sodas).

http://www.sheepandgoat.com/programs/skillathon/skillathon.html

4-H Robotics Challenge Is Now Open for Registration
One of the fastest growing areas of 4-H across the country is robotics. 4-H members in Maryland have the opportunity to participate in robotics through the Maryland 4-H Robotics Challenge. The challenge has two contest: the LEGO Robotics Challenge and the Robotics Engineering Challenge. The theme for this year’s LEGO Robotics Challenge is Technology for Seniors – Using Technology to Improve the Quality of Life of Senior Citizens. Participants will build LEGO Mindstorm robots to do a variety of tasks related to the life of Senior Citizens on a 4’ X 4’ field. Part of the challenge will also have members completing a service project that will assist seniors with using technology. Four! will likely be heard, as members that participate in the Robotics Engineering Challenge will be building robots to get golf balls in various holes on the 12’ X 12’ playing field.

These two challenges are patterned after FIRST’s First Lego League (FLL) and First Tech Challenge (FTC) robotic games. This year in Maryland there are over 400 FLL and FTC teams with over 3,000 youth participating in these robotic challenges. The 4-H Robotic Challenges are an excellent way to get youth involved with 4-H.

4-H members that want to participate in the robotics challenge can visit the Maryland 4-H Robotics website at http://extension.umd.edu/4-h/4-h-program-areas/robotics-0. The game manuals and registration forms are available at the bottom of the page. Teams must register for the challenge through their county 4-H office.
The Maryland 4-H Foundation, Inc. Academic Scholarship Awards – Each year scholarships are awarded to current 4-H members or alumni(ae) who will be enrolled at an accredited college, university, or post high school vocational program in the fall of the year in which they apply. Go to: www.maryland4hfoundation.com/programs/scholarships for an application and more information. Applications are due to the State 4-H office prior to June 1.

UPPER CHESAPEAKE DAIRY PRINCESS PROGRAM

Josie Dallam and Mary Archer Stewart are working with the Upper Chesapeake Dairy Princess Program. They are trying to find eligible young ladies from the ages of 16-21 with an interest in the Dairy Industry to participate in this amazing program! Candidates must be residents in MD and be associated with the dairy industry. As an Upper Chesapeake Dairy Princess you travel across the region (Cecil, Harford, and Baltimore counties) and the state representing dairy farmers and promoting the dairy industry. It is a great learning experience and is very rewarding. Girls ages 13 and older may also participate in the program as Dairy Maids. It is time for us to show the state the strength of the Upper Chesapeake Dairy Industry!

Anyone who is interested in getting involved in this great program or that may have questions can contact either Mary or Josie (contact information below). Thank you very much!

Mary Archer Stewart
Upper Chesapeake Dairy Princess Program Coordinator
443.604.4095
maryarcher@mindspring.com

Josie Dallam
Upper Chesapeake Dairy Princess Program Committee
443.356.9212
khjosephined@gmail.com

SUMMER 2014 EXPERIENCE JAPAN without leaving home!

Open your home to an exchange delegate and open your lives to the world! Through States’ 4-H International, families will have an opportunity to experience Japan by hosting an exchange delegate between the age of 12 and 16 for four weeks this summer. Delegates have limited English language skills, but they are excited to communicate and learn more about daily life in the U.S. To find out more about this opportunity visit http://www.states4Hexchanbe.org/ or contact Alisha Targonski at alishat@umd.edu or 301-314-7319.

(Upper Chesapeake Dairy Princess Program Coordinator) Mary Archer Stewart was working with the Upper Chesapeake Dairy Princess Program. They are trying to find eligible young ladies from the ages of 16-21 with an interest in the Dairy Industry to participate in this amazing program! Candidates must be residents in MD and be associated with the dairy industry. As an Upper Chesapeake Dairy Princess you travel across the region (Cecil, Harford, and Baltimore counties) and the state representing dairy farmers and promoting the dairy industry. It is a great learning experience and is very rewarding. Girls ages 13 and older may also participate in the program as Dairy Maids. It is time for us to show the state the strength of the Upper Chesapeake Dairy Industry!

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(Pictured left) Sarah Fielder was recognized at the 4-H Gala for being selected as one of two Maryland representatives at the Virginia State 4-H Conference.

(Pictured right) Nick Carini was recognized for achieving his Level 5 Diamond Clover award and as a Japanese Host Family in 2013.

(Pictured center) Karen Vaughan was presented with the W. Sherard Wilson 4-H Service Award at the 4-H Gala.
The winners of the clubs 2013 dessert contest were 1st place Madie Poteet with Cannoli Dip, 2nd place Joey Burgess with Raspberry Streusel Bars, and 3rd place Sarah Fielder with Chocolate Peanut Butter Cheesecake.

On Dec 15th, the Blue Ribbon 4-H Club wrapped gifts and collected food for the family they adopted this Christmas. The Poteet family hosted the annual party, which included a potluck dinner and member gift exchange. Back row from left: Paul Johnson, Samantha Welsch, Joey Burgess, Madie Poteet, Becky Burgess, Katie Poteet, and Laura Fielder. Front row: Brandon Smithson, Sarah Fielder, Samantha Fielder, Courtney Jacobs, Natalie McCann, Mekenzie McCann, and Hannah Burgess.

On Nov. 10th, the Blue Ribbon 4-H Club stuffed and wrapped several shoeboxes and donated them to Operation Christmas Child. Back row from left: Hannah Burgess, Joey Burgess, Samantha Fielder, Sarah Fielder, Samantha Welsch, Madie Poteet, Katie Poteet, Beth Johnson, and Paul Johnson. Front row: Mackenzie Pelt, Caroline Hilyard, Ava Grabowski, Will Pelt, and Brandon Smithson.

The Homeschool Heart in Hand 4-H Club met with the Harford County Sheriff’s Office December 11 to assist with the 31st Annual Christmas Drive. In addition to donating food, toys, and gift cards, the club members sorted and organized donations.

The officers of the Homeschool Heart in Hand 4H Club present Sheriff L. Jesse Bane with donations of food, toys, and gift cards for the Harford County Sheriff’s Office 31st Annual Christmas Drive on December 11. Pictured, left to right: Captain Stephen Thomas; Joanna Miller, club leader; Amelia Beichler, Treasurer; Megan Merryman, Secretary; Brianna Walsh, Vice-President; Samantha Heston, President; and Sheriff Bane.
4-H CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH
8 – MEAL APPEAL
8 – STATE LIVESTOCK SKILLATHON
11-UME ONLINE VOLUNTEER TRAINING
15-ANIMAL HUSBANDRY QUALITY ASSURANCE ONLINE TRAINING WEBSITE OPENS
15-HORSE BOWL CONTEST
18-FASHION REVUE MEETING
22-4-H ACHIEVEMENT NIGHT & AWARDS+
22-MD MAKE IT WITH WOOL SEWING SCHOOL
29-ANIMAL SCIENCE VOLUNTEER WEBINAR
29-MD 4-H FOUNDATION SPORTING CLAYS TOURNAMENT
31-NEW MEMBER/PARENT ORIENTATION

APRIL
MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD
4 - HARFORD COUNTY 4-H COMMUNICATION CONTEST
5 – NATIONAL 4-H CONFERENCE
6-13 – NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK
15-17 – UME YOUTH/VOLUNTEER TRACTOR SAFETY TRAINING/CERTIFICATION
17-NEW MEMBER/PARENT ORIENTATION
18-19 – MD/DEL SHEEP SHEARING SCHOOL
19-EASTER EGG HUNT
24-HARFORD COUNTY FARM BUREAU SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DUE
26-MARYLAND DAY/AG DAY
26-STATE 4-H COMMUNICATIONS CONTEST
28-4-H DOG AGILITY CLASSES START

MAY
1 – ALL ANIMAL I.D. CARES DUE (HORSE & DOG)
1 – 4-H ENROLLMENT DEADLINE FOR THE FAIR
1 – HARFORD COUNTY 4-H MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DUE
2-4 – 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS INSTRUCTOR TRAINING
3-4 – MARYLAND SHEEP & WOOL FESTIVAL
4 – SHEEP & GOAT SKILLATHON
5 – ANIMAL SCIENCE VOLUNTEER WEBINAR
15-NEW MEMBER/PARENT ORIENTATION

JUNE
1 – STATE 4-H SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE
4 – NEW MEMBER/PARENT ORIENTATION
22-27-4-H INTERMEDIATE CAMP

JULY
1 – DEADLINE TO COMPLETE ANIMAL HUSBANDRY/QUALITY ASSURANCE ONLINE PROGRAM
6-10 – JUNIOR 4-H CAMP
31-AUGUST 2 – HARFORD COUNTY 4-H FARM FAIR
31 – MARYLAND STATE FAIR 4-H/FFA ENTRY DEADLINE

AUGUST:
20-SEPT 1 – MARYLAND STATE FAIR
If you require special assistance to participate in any 4-H program, please contact the Extension Office two weeks prior to the event.

“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, national origin, marital status, genetic information, political affiliation and gender identity or expression.”

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