February 2014 – March 2014
Montgomery County 4-H
18410 Muncaster Road
Derwood, MD 20855
(301) 590-9638
montgomery.umd.edu/4-H/

Alganesh Piechocinski, CFLE
Senior Extension Educator
4-H Youth Development
(301) 590-2804
algapie@umd.edu

David Gordon
Extension Educator
4-H and Agriculture
(301) 590-2813
Dgordon3@umd.edu

Jeannine Shriver
Administrative Assistant
(301) 590-3210
jshriver@umd.edu

ACCESS 4-H – Online 4-H
Enrollment System
enrollment.4-h.org/

A PDF Version of this newsletter is available on the Montgomery County 4-H Website

National Youth Summit Series for High School Students
The last Summit Series to be held at the National Council 4-H Youth Conference Center will be on Robotics on 13 – 17 February 2014. If you registered for the Series, or any of the workshops, please let Ms. Alga Piechocinski. 4-Hers must be accompanied by an adult leader. The office will recruit and arrange for an adult volunteer if needed. Registration is on your own. However, we may provide a minimal scholarship upon request as needed. Registration at: www.nationalyouthsummit.org

Cluster Sewing Workshops
The Sewing Workshops are open to all youth carrying the clothing project or may be thinking about carrying the clothing project.

17 February 2014, 9:00 AM – Noon; Project Workshop - potholders; tentatively 4-H Camp and Activities Center.

11 – 14 April 2014 - Fashion Premier Weekend will be held at the 4-H Camp and Activities Center.

14 June 2014, Central Cluster Fashion Revue Show, Frederick-TBA.

Re-scheduled 2014 Healthy Lifestyles Workshop for 22 February!
Have fun learning about nutrition, healthy living, exercise, and making animal decorations with vegetables. All 4-Hers are invited to attend the Healthy Lifestyles Workshop on Saturday 22 February 2014 from 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM at the Heritage Building in the Montgomery County Fairgrounds.

We have a great program planned so I hope that you can attend. We'd love to get back all the 4-Hers who originally signed up---plus more! The program will start out with a nutrition presentation by a student at UMD, and will be followed by a workshop on making vegetable garnishes. Then after we break for lunch, there will be a presentation about the Nutrition Facts label and an awesome class on cardio kickboxing by the owner of the ProFIT club in Gaithersburg. And of course we'll end with our famous yogurt sundaes!

This is a great opportunity for a county-level event on your Diamond Clover plan, as well as a nice entry for next year's record book, especially if you carry a
food project. However, the best reason to come is that you are going to have a great time with all your county 4-H friends and learn some cool stuff!

Lastly, Volunteers are needed for the Workshop. We ask that 4-H'ers 12 and over sign-up to volunteer for this opportunity which can be used as community service hours and used to learn leadership skills. Please sign up with Jeannine Shriver at the 4-H office know no later than February 18. YOU MUST BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH. Beverages will be provided.

Central Cluster Communications Contest
The Central Cluster (Howard, Montgomery, and Frederick Counties) will host their annual Communications Contest on Saturday 1 March 2014. This all day event is open to any Clover or 4-Her from the three counties. The contest is going to be held at:

Oakdale Elementary School
9850 Old National Pike
Ijamsville, MD 21754

New for 2014 - Local High School groups may pre-register to participate in the event! Please contact Samantha Murdock at (301)-600-3583 or email smurdock@umd.edu if interested in more information.

You can also find more information at: https://extension.umd.edu/frederick-county/4h-youth-development/public-speaking

Fun with Gardening Workshop
The Neighborhood Garden Club of Gaithersburg/Washington Grove is sponsoring a hands-on workshop again this year for 4-H youth. They will learn how to mix soil for potting plants, select appropriate plants, care for and nurture plants. Participants will work on new things this year and will take home a beautiful Dish Garden. This wonderful finished product would be great to enter into the 2014 Montgomery County Agricultural Fair, give as a gift to friends or family members, donate to a retirement home, or keep for yourself. **Limited to the first 25 youth.** Please register by Friday 14 February 2014 using the attached form or by sending an email to Jeannie Raines at jraines@umd.edu.

- Where/When: Montgomery County 4-H Office 15 March 2014; 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM.
- Who: 4-H Youth ages 8-18 who want to learn about potting plants and how to care for them.
- Items to Bring: TBD
- Containers and soil for the Dish Garden and other necessary items for the project will be sponsored by the 4-H Office.
**Adventures in Science**

Adventures in Science (AIS) is a hands-on science education activity for children ages 8-15 running on Saturday mornings from late October to March. The goal of AIS is to present science as an exciting activity and a way of thinking about the world, rather than as a compendium of facts. The topics presented reflect the interests of the children and of the volunteers, rather than any prescribed curriculum. Registration for AIS is due 2 April 2014. Please contact Ms. Alga Piechocinski at algapie@umd.edu for more information.

**Premier Fashion Weekend**

Montgomery County is teaming up with both Frederick and Howard Counties to bring you a “Premier Fashion Weekend”. 4-H’ers 8 and above, beginner to advanced sewers are all welcome to join us for a weekend of sewing and overall training for the 4-H Fashion Show. **The program will begin on Friday 11 April 2014 and end on Monday 14 April.** The program will take place at the 4H Camp and Activities Center located at 3709-B Basford Road, Frederick, MD.

Attendees will work with volunteers as well as with each other on sewing, make-up, hair, interview judging, narrations, accessories, etc. This is a great opportunity for advance sewers to express their leadership skills and for beginners to get some great insight on fashion and what to expect at the Montgomery County Fashion show. The weekend will include meals. The cost is $25 if you provide your own supplies or $40 if supplies are provided for you.

**Club Leaders Meeting**

The spring meeting will be on 23 April 2014 at the Montgomery County 4-H building and will start at 6:30 PM. Light dinner will be served. We will update the 4-H Program, discuss the Fair activities, and network with each other.

Please call or email Jeannine Shriver and let her know if you are attending. Leader meetings are important for the development of the 4-H Program and sharing of new ideas. If the Club leader can’t attend, we strongly suggest that a Co-leader or Project leader attend this important meeting.

**Maryland Day**

Grab your family, friends and neighbors to join 4-H for Maryland Day 2014 on Saturday 26 April 2014. Come and explore the world of the University of Maryland. Throughout the campus there are fun-filled activities, demonstrations, exhibits, performances and other events that will demonstrate the impact of this world-class university. Various 4-H clubs will have table presentations through the campus so be sure to stop by and support your fellow club members. There is something for everyone at Maryland Day – bring the entire family!
Spring Judges School
The Spring Judges School will be held on Saturday 26 April 2014 in Cockeysville, MD. The Judges Certification Program provides a large pool of qualified and educated judges for fairs, shows, and expos. For more information, please visit the web site at www.maafs.com.

4-H In Action

My Dog Bowl Experience
By Anna Sapcariu, Kids N’ Dogs Club

I enjoyed competing in the 2013 MD State 4H Dog Bowl held in Charles County October 12. I learned lots of new information and I had a lot of fun. Many of the questions were very hard but I would definitely do it again! I would recommend dog bowl for all 4Hers!

It’s a Horse Thing 4-H Club
The “It’s a Horse Thing 4-H Club” is looking for new members. The club’s mission is to enhance equine knowledge and horsemanship skills through presentations, demonstrations from members and experts, real-life activities that provide hands-on experience, and field trips. For more information, please check out their webpage at: itsahorsething.weebly.com

4-H Legislative Day in Annapolis
“4-H Legislative Day in Annapolis” will soon be here again. Our annual trip to Annapolis to learn about our State’s government process, tour the Capitol, and tell our “4-H Story” to our state Delegates and Senators is scheduled for President’s Day, Monday 17 February. We hope that your County/City unit will send a delegation of youth and adults, joining other 4-H’ers from around the state.

The program in the morning, from 10:15 AM – 12:00 PM, will be held in the Miller Senate Office Building, President’s Conference Center East 1 & 2. Check-in will be from 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM. The program will include presentations by State 4-H Teen Council, State 4-H Staff, 4-H’ers, Legislative Services and some
of our State/County officials. The afternoon is open for your group to tour the Capitol, have lunch on your own, and meet with your County or City Legislators. (It is your group’s responsibility to set up the meetings with your County/City’s representatives.)

Educators, our Portfolio essay theme this year was “explaining to elected officials your experiences in 4-H and why they should continue to fund the 4-H program”. This is obviously one of the main reasons why we started “4-H Day in Annapolis” ten years ago. If you have Senior 4-H members who would like to present their essays as part of the morning program please let me know. Also if you have a Legislature or someone else that you know would like to talk to the group let me know, we are still finalizing the morning agenda.

I will appreciate it if you can contact me, Cynthia L. Warner, 410-638-3255, with the number people attending from your county/city by 13 February. I will also need the number of people that will be taking the tour of the Capitol. The tour will be conducted by the Legislative Services. Also, please feel free to contact me at cwarner1@umd.edu if you need information on how to contact Legislatures, need directions, need delegation registration forms, and/or sample waivers.

**4H Flying Monkeys**

By Trinity Babb

The 4H Flying Monkeys is a First Lego League team. We have five team members who meet once a week to discuss ideas, work on our FLL project, design and program our robot to complete as many missions as possible in the robot game and eat a big yummy dinner! We all bring something unique to the group. And through the FLL motto “To Make The Best Better” and the 4H slogan “Learn by Doing” we have learned to work together as a team, respect each other’s idea and have lots of fun.

First Lego League (FLL) is a robotics program for 9 to 14 year olds. To
complete teams must build an autonomous robot that will navigate the robot game to score points. Teams will also create a solution to a problem as part of the competition project and learn and live the FLL core values. All three of these things make up the FLL Challenge.

This year the FLL Challenge was all about Nature’s Fury! The FLL website describes the challenge this way “Teams explored the awe-inspiring storms, quakes, waves and more that we call natural disasters. In the Nature’s Fury Project, your team will: Identify a community that could experience a natural disaster; Identify a problem that happens when a natural disaster occurs; Create an innovative solution that helps people prepare, stay safe or rebuild; Share your problem and solutions with others.”

Our team chose to study the Great Japan Earthquake and Tsunami of 2011 and the resulting disaster at the Fukushima Daichi Nuclear Power Plant. After months of research the team decided to focus on how to clean the radioactive ground water being contaminated by the nuclear power plant that was damaged due to the tsunami and is currently being held in storage tanks at the plant. To learn more we visited the Japan Embassy in Washington, DC, a nuclear power plant, met with an expert from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and had an exclusive conference call with Mr. Tim Milner, Chief Technologist from Energy Solution – the company that designed the Advanced Liquid Processing System (ALPS) that is currently being used at Fukushima Daichi to filter radioactive particles from the contaminated ground water. Our team learned that the ALPS system does not filter out Tritium. Tritium is a cancer causing isotope of hydrogen that binds with the hydrogen in water making it almost impossible to remove from water. Our solution was to contain the contaminated water in mushrooms! We determined you could build a mushroom farm within the 3 mile exclusion zone around the power plant and build a greenhouse to grow the mushrooms. You could hire the farmers, who lost their farms to the nuclear disaster, to tend the mushroom farm and since tritium cannot penetrate human skin, the farmers would only need a simple jumpsuit and mask to be protected from the contaminated water. The water would need to be contained in the mushrooms until it decays to an industry accepted safe level which would take about 24 years, which is almost the same amount of time it is going to take to decommission the nuclear power plant. Our solution not only contains the contaminated water but also rebuilds the community by giving the farmers jobs, and not dumping all of the tritiated water into the Pacific Ocean!

Our team attended the FLL Regional Qualifier on 15 December 2013 hosted by the Glenelg Country Day School in Ellicott City, MD. After a full day of competition including Core Values/Team Work judging, Project Presentation and Robot Game we were all exhausted. The judges loved our project on the mushroom farm and we won First Place! Unfortunately, our robot didn’t do so well in competition but our disappointment was soon forgotten when they announced that our mentor, Trevor Babb won the FLL Teen Mentor Award! We all jumped up and yelled really loud because we were so happy for him. It was loads of fun and there is always next year!
4H Exhibit at the The Damascus Heritage Museum

The Damascus Community 4H Club has an exhibit about our club and 4H from February through May. The museum is open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 12-5pm. The local FFA club is also exhibiting. The Exhibit is called "FFA and 4H: Not Just Cows and Plows." There are all sorts of exhibits, from Woodworking to Sewing to Crafts to Insect Collections and Photography. Our club is proud of what we do and we would love to share our creativity with you.

At the Heritage Museum right now there are 4H scrapbooks for several years, including one of the very first years our club existed. You can see what we do in our club, and in 4H. Also several of our club members' winning entries from the Montgomery County Fair and the Damascus Community Fair are included. You'll see handmade clothing, quilts, centerpieces, wooden baskets, beaded jewelry, fused glass, photographs, artwork and so much more! You'll also see some historical photographs of Damascus and 4H.

It's a great way to learn about 4H and get involved and inspired! We will also be holding demonstration days once a month - so you can see first hand what we do. We hope to see you there!

Free Rice Challenge!

The Damascus Heritage Museum has a new exhibit showing our community how important 4H and FFA (Future Farmers of America) are to the area and our future. We can make changes in our world by doing little things, one way is to work together with World Food Programme to donate rice to end hunger.
FREE RICE is an online game ANYONE can play where you 'earn' rice as you answer trivia questions. It is more than a game as it can help feed the hungry. Can you help us donate 100,000 GRAINS of rice? Log on to Freerice.com and sign up (nothing more than making an account with your name and password) and then join the group DAMASCUS HERITAGE MUSEUM and help us meet our goal! IF you are a teacher, challenge your students to do this. There is a certificate on the website to print out. If you homeschool, challenge your students with their own goal and look up the learning links on the website. If you are someone who just likes to help the world, log on today and help. There will be a poster at the museum to keep track of the communities progress!

Prepared by Anna Hamann

For the latest news & events, please visit http://www.agnr.umd.edu/news

©2010 University of Maryland College of Agriculture & Natural Resources

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources’ three units—Academic Programs, the Agricultural Experiment Station, and Maryland Cooperative Extension—work in concert to educate students and citizens about critical issues and to solve problems in agriculture, food systems, and the environment. The college is an equal opportunity employer and provides equal access programs.

Necessary Forms Follow
The Flying Tigers 4-H Aerospace Club is pleased to present a special evening program featuring Historian John W. McCaskill. Join us Friday March 14th, 7-9PM at the Montgomery County 4-H Office.

John W. McCaskill of History Alive! is a World War II Historian, Educator and National Park Service Volunteer Re-enactor, dedicated to teaching youth leadership and teamwork through living history.

Come and....

- Learn what it took to be an Airman with the Army Air Corp during World War II

- Hear the amazing story of the Tuskegee Airmen, African American Aviators, and the vital role they played in service to our country.

- Gain a deeper understanding of our nation’s ‘Greatest Generation’

Space is limited. Reservations are required by February 21st, 2014. Call the 4-H Office at 301-590-9638

We encourage all 4-H families interested in history, aviation and service to come find out more about our WWII Veterans and Montgomery County’s continued commitment to serve all our veterans through the Honor Flights Network.

For more information or questions about the program, contact Rachel Harris at 240-252-4113 or email rkharris59@gmail.com
Announcing . . .

4-H Day in Annapolis
Monday, February 17, 2014
Check-In 9:30—10:00 A.M. Miller Senate Building
Annapolis, Maryland

If you are interested in learning more about Maryland State Government and your role as citizen and constituent, then this program is for YOU!

Come spend the day with other Maryland 4-H’ers and Volunteers as we:

🌟 Tour historic Annapolis, our State Capitol
🌟 Meet with Maryland Legislators to share information about University of Maryland Extension and 4-H
🌟 Listen to various government officials describe their role
🌟 Learn how a Bill becomes a Law

County 4-H Delegations will make appointments to meet with their own County Legislators in the afternoon following the general program in the morning.

To register your County Delegation and for more information about this unique citizenship opportunity, contact Harford County 4-H 410-638-3255 or cwarner1@umd.edu by 2/13/14

University of Maryland Extension 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.
4-H Presents:
PREMIER FASHION WEEKEND

April 11-14 2014
Friday-Sunday Overnight 4-H Age (13-18) $85.00
Saturday-Sunday Overnight 4-H Age (8-18) $75.00
Day workshops only 4-H Age (5-18) $35.00

4H Camp and Activities Center
3709-B Basford Road Frederick, MD 21703

This overnight sewing workshop is provided by Howard, Montgomery, and Frederick County 4-H.

Workshops for all ages (8-18) and experience levels!

More details to be announced but mark your calendars now!

Scholarships may be available,
Contact your local 4-H office for more Information.

University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all citizens 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, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression.
DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 2014

LOCATION: Oakdale Elementary School
9850 Old National Pike
Ijamsville, MD 21754

REGISTRATION: 9:00 a.m.

Ribbons will be given in each of the age categories for each county. Extemporaneous presenters will draw for their speaking topics upon arrival of scheduled time. Juniors and Intermediates have 30 minutes and seniors have 15 minutes of preparation time.

A letter will be mailed out with the schedule of events. If you have any further questions or concerns regarding the 2013 Communications Contest please contact Samantha Murdock, 4-H Faculty Extension Assistant, Frederick County at (301)-600-3583 or email smurdock@umd.edu. If you need special accommodations please let Samantha know by due date.

Registration Due Date: February 21, 2014

I am a member of: _____ Howard County 4-H      _____ Frederick County 4-H      _____ Montgomery County 4-H

Name:_____________________________ Age:
(As of January 1, 2014)

Address:

Phone:_________________________ Email: __________________________

I would like to participate in the following Communication Contest Events:

Prepared Speech:___________ Topic:

Interpretations:___________ Other Language___ Dramatic_____ Poetry____ Humorous

Radio/Public Address:_________

Extemporaneous Speech:

Clover- 4H Pledge:

MAIL ALL ENTRIES TO: Frederick County 4-H
330 Montevue Lane
Frederick MD, 21702

Attn: Samantha Murdock
Program Registration Form

Name:__________________________________________________________________________

Phone:__________________________________________________________________________

Email:__________________________________________________________________________

Mailing Address:__________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________

4-H Club:___________________________________

Circle One:

4-H Member          MCE Volunteer               Other:___________________

Please indicate which program(s) you are registering for:

_______ Fun with Gardening Workshop - 15 March 2014 (Register by 14 February 2014)

_______ Fashion Premier Weekend - 11 – 14 April 2014 (Register by 14 February 2014)

Call, e-mail, or send form to:
Montgomery County 4-H
18410 Muncaster Road
Derwood, MD 20855