Can you believe that we are at the end of 2014? We have had a fast and remarkable year. 2014 was a challenge for us in many ways. From last winter’s events having to be cancelled and rescheduled due to snow to the new barns at the fairgrounds.

But still, Charles County 4-H had some new and exciting programs added in 2014. We were happy to join with many non-profits to offer a great community event at the fairgrounds last December- the Kris Kringle Christmas Market. This was a huge success with over 3000 people going through the gate. We are looking forward to the 2nd year and hope that it will be just as successful.

We had many of our youth participate in regional, state and national 4-H events. We had 3 great camps even after having to change the date due to the youth getting out of school so late in June. 4-H’ers were able to showcase their livestock in the most amazing barns and showing at the fair this fall. All of these things would not have been possible without the outstanding 4-H’ers and volunteers in Charles County.

In October, Extension celebrated its 100th Anniversary and to start off the next 100 years, we in Charles County are happy to have added a new member to our staff, Vera Figueiredo. She joined us this fall as the new 4-H Educator and is looking forward to increasing the youth’s knowledge in the environmental sciences area. She has great ideas to share with us. Check out her introduction in the newsletter.

Thank you everyone for always “Making the Best Better” during our year of change! We could not have done it without you!

The Charles County Staff are looking forward to a great 2015 4-H year!
NEW ENROLLMENT PROCEDURE FOR 2015

Yes, we have another new enrollment system!

Starting in 2015 all enrollments will be done by YOU!!! ONLINE. We will be visiting each club in January to explain the process. It will be each family’s responsibility to enroll both youth members and adult volunteers in the new online system.

2015 PARTICIPATION FEES REMAIN THE SAME

There is a $10.00 membership fee payable to your primary club.

Clovers (ages 5-7) do not have to pay.

There is a multiple family fee which the max paid per family is for 3 youth. ($30.00)

Do you get our weekly updates???? If not, YOU need to become a member of our one-list for 4-H information please email https://cc4h-subscribe@yahoogroups.com to become a member and get all the 4-H news.

4-H Youth Membership Requirements

4-H’ers in order to be a member in good standing you must attend a percentage of club meetings as established in your club by-laws (EXAMPLE: BYLAWS Say your club will have 10 MEETINGS A YEAR, SO YOU NEED TO ATTEND 5 OF THE TEN) to be eligible to participate in events, such as but not limited to, county and state fairs, showing animal science projects, participating in county and state contests.

There are also enrollment deadlines for participation. This is why it is important to attend your monthly meetings to get deadline and event information.
Please check the calendar for upcoming dates and deadlines!
Remember all dates are subject to change or programs to be canceled due to weather or lack of registration. Please make sure you register for all programs!

REMEMBER WHEN THE SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER
4-H PROGRAMS ARE ALSO CANCELLED!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Registration required for ALL events!

DECEMBER
5-6 Kris Kringle at the Fair
10- Volunteer Training 6:30 p.m.
15-Record Books Due
15-Senior Resume Workshop – 6:00 p.m.
25- Happy Holidays Office Closed

JANUARY 2015
1&2-Happy New Year Office Closed
5-Steer Registration Due
7-Club Youth Officers Training 6:15 p.m.
8-Skillathon Practice – 6:00 p.m.
9-Senior Resume Due
12-Skillathon Practice – 6:00 p.m.
14-Public Speaking Workshop – 6:30 p.m.
19-Martin Luther King Day – Office Closed
30-Club Secretary & Program Handbooks Due
31 – Steer Weigh In and Tagging

FEVERARY
6-Public Speaking Contest
16-Presidents Day – Office Closed

ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES AND CANCELLATIONS

http://extension.umd.edu/charles-county/4-h-youth

RECORD BOOKS
&
Diamond Clover

DUE DATE
December 15, 2014

► All livestock youth must turn in a record book to be able to show livestock for 2015. Livestock Record Sheets are available on the County website.

► Some individual clubs also have record book requirements.

► Clover 4-H’ers may also turn in record books.

Record Books will be sent out to be judged. Books will be returned to the clubs in January. Book awards will be presented on the club level.

Record Sheets are available at the office and many are posted on our website:

http://extension.umd.edu/charles-county/4-h-youth

PLEASE DO NOT USE RECORD SHEETS FROM OTHER STATES or COUNTIES!

If you need help with your record book or have questions let us know 301 934-5404.
OFFICERS INSTALLATION KIT

We have an officer installation kit available at the office that you may borrow to use at your club officer installations. Please call ahead to reserve the kit.

If you would like Bonnie to attend your club officer installation, please let her know in advance so she can put you on the schedule.

4-H SENIOR RESUME’ WORKSHOP

Would you like to represent MD and meet 4-H’ers from around the country? Then this is your opportunity! We will be having a Senior Resume’ Workshop on Monday, December 15th at 6:00 p.m. at the 4-H office. You must call to register 301 934-5404.

The MD 4-H Portfolio Program (Resume, Essay and Interview) is the method for the selection of the delegates to National 4-H Congress, the West VA Older Members Conference, Virginia 4-H Congress and Camp Miniwanca. You must submit a cover sheet and MD 4-H Application for Out of State Trips and your Resume’ by January 9th to the county office.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

WE NEED YOU!

You are valuable to us and we need you to complete your requirements to be a UMD Extension Volunteer! You will not be enrolled as a volunteer without having completed your training and completing all of the documentation that accompanies it. This applies to leaders of special interest groups as well as clubs. If you are not sure of your status, please call the office to get it straight! Continuing volunteers must complete an enrollment each year to remain a recognized volunteer.

Remember to be a volunteer in the University of Maryland Extension organization you MUST have completed:

a. Volunteer packet (application, references, job description, confidentiality statement, and appointment agreement.)

b. Enrollment form - annually

C. Online Trainings Part 1 and Part 2 – in office.

You are only required to complete the full training one time.

NEXT TRAINING

The next training will be December 10th at the office. Any adults would like to help out in the program please either call or email Donna Mohler at dmohler@umd.edu to register.
OFFICERS’ TRAINING WORKSHOP

The 2015 Officers’ Training Workshop will be Wednesday, January 7th at the 4-H Office at 6:15 p.m. The training is to help your new officers understand their role as President, Vice President, Reporter, Secretary or Treasurer. All of our clubs should be represented. Alternates may also attend. Call or email to register.

PUBLIC SPEAKING WORKSHOP

We will be holding a public speaking workshop for any 4-H’ers interested in learning how to prepare and give either a radio spot, a prepared speech, an extemporaneous speech or an interpretation on Wednesday, January 14th at 6:30 p.m. at the 4-H office.

The 2015 County Public Speaking contest will be on Friday, February 6th. Start preparing those speeches!

Please call 301 934-5404 to register or email Donna Mohler at dmohler@umd.edu.

Meet Vera Figueiredo,
4-H Extension Educator

I recently joined the University of Maryland Extension as the Charles County 4-H Extension Educator. I bring with me a comprehensive understanding of Environmental Sciences and Youth Development. My interest in the natural environment and working with youth led me to pursue career opportunities in Environmental Education. I moved to MD to work with North Bay Adventure Camp, teaching science-based programs and facilitating teambuilding activities for middle school students from all over the state. I continued my work in MD with the Anacostia Watershed Society as a Watershed Educator. Later, I moved to PA to work with Earth Force where I focused on helping Philadelphia students and communities plan projects to improve local environmental issues. I later returned to my home state to work as a Naturalist with NJ Audubon Society and the Outreach Coordinator with the Cora Hartshorn Arboretum. I believe with my academic and career background I bring a unique point of view to 4-H. I look forward to introducing new Environment, Forestry, and Natural Resource opportunities that suite the needs of Charles County residents.
Livestock News

As we complete another 4-H livestock year we would like to congratulate everyone on an amazing show year. The 24th Charles County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale was an enormous success. Thanks to the Charles County Fair Board and all our volunteers. This was one of the best shows and sales ever! We have the best volunteers in the country. Thank you for your support of the 4-H program.

STEER WEIGH-IN

The 2015 steer weigh-in and ear tagging will be held on Saturday, January 31st at the Charles County Fairgrounds from 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. If you are planning to raise a steer for 4-H you must bring the steer to the fairgrounds at that time. If you have any questions, please call 301 934-5404.

You must register your steer with the 4-H office by January 5th. There is a registration form in this issue of the Voice that needs to be filled out and returned by January 5th.

SKILLATHON PRACTICE STARTS

Thursday, January 8th at the Extension Office. If you would like to learn more about your beef, sheep, swine or goat then this is a great opportunity to learn about feeds, meat, breeds and equipment. Call 301 934-5404 or email Donna Mohler to register. dmohler@umd.edu

2015 Quality Assurance Classes

All youth participating in livestock are required to take these classes. You must take the on-line Quality Assurance training when the dates are announced if you are:
1. First time shower
2. Have moved up an age division
3. Added a species that you have not shown in the past.
You must also attend species workshops to show at the fair the dates are as follow:

Beef and Swine Quality Assurance

The 2015 Beef and Swine will be held on Monday, March 16th at the Charles County 4-H office at 6:00 p.m. You must attend this meeting to show your animals.

Sheep and Goat Quality Assurance

The dates for the 2015 Goat and Sheep class will be Monday, April 13th at 6:00 p.m. at the 4-H office. Any 4-H’er who will be participating in these projects for 2015 must attend this meeting.

1st Time Showers Quality Assurance

The 2015 Quality Assurance class will be held on Monday, May 11th at 6:00 p.m. at the Extension Office. If this is your first year showing livestock then you MUST attend this workshop.

If you have any questions about any of these meetings and requirements either call or email Bonnie.
2015 Requirements and Deadlines for Livestock

Mark these dates on your calendar NOW for 2015; deadlines sneak up on us!

1) You **must own and register** a market steer by January 5, 2015. Registration form is in this issue of the VOICE.

2) All breeding animals must be registered with 4-H and a copy of registration papers must be submitted to the office by **July 1**. If you do not register the animals, you will be unable to show them in 4-H. If you do not have registration papers, they will have to show in the crossbred class (commercial) in all species. Heifers, ewes and does must have a state breeding tag to be eligible to show in a 4-H class. Breeding animal may be leased but must have lease agreement on file with the office by **July 1**.

3) All market swine, goats and sheep must be owned and registered by **June 1, 2015**. They will be ear tagged prior to Spring Show.

4) 4-H’ers must own their Livestock project market animals.

5) There is no substitution of market animals once they have been registered and tagged. You may tag only 5 beef, sheep, swine and 3 goats. If you intend to show at the state fair, you may tag more than these limits, but they may only be shown at the state fair.

6) If your animal loses its state ear tag, save the tag and contact the office at once for a replacement tag. No animal will be shown or weighed at the fair that does not have a 4-H tag.

7) All male animals must be castrated prior to ear tagging or they will not be tagged.

8) You must turn in a record book to the 4-H office to be able to show livestock the following year.

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Horse News

ALL YOUTH PARTICIPATING IN THE HORSE AND PONY PROJECT MUST TAKE THE ON-LINE QUALITY ASSURANCE.

The date will be announced when the site is up and running. You must take the training if:

- First year showing your horse
- Moved up an age division

DATES TO REMEMBER FOR REQUIRED PAPERWORK:

Horse and Pony Cards due – May 31st!

Horse Leases due – May 31st!

HORSE BOWL, JUDGING AND HIPPOLOGY

If you are interested in learning more about horses this is a great way to learn and have fun! These 3 activities are a great way to learn about horses. The practices have started but if you are interested please call the 4-H office and we will get you in touch with the volunteers that are working with the groups.

Horsemanship Standards

Horsemanship Standards is the means to measure youth’s knowledge and riding ability. All 4-H’ers must pass riding and knowledge levels 1&2 to participate in county 4-H horse shows. To participate at the Maryland State Fair 4-H’ers must have passed riding levels 1, 2, & 3 and knowledge levels 1&2. Area UME volunteers are invited to become testers for the Standards. If interested, please call the 4-H office at 301 934-5404.
DOG NEWS

For all those youth who are planning on participating in the Dog Project for 2015 you must register your animal with the 4-H office. If you have a participated in the past and plan on using the same dog for this year you can call Elizabeth and ask her to update your Dog card for 2015. You must also have an up-to-date rabies certificate on file. This information must be on file by May 31st.

RABBIT NEWS:

We have a very active Rabbit Club and if you would like to learn more about this project call the office for more information. All youth who participate in the Rabbit Project must have a card on file with the office by August 1st. If you have a card on file and plan to use the same rabbit for 2015 all you need to do is call the office to update the card.

Poultry News

ALL YOUTH PARTICIPATING IN THE POULTRY PROJECT MUST TAKE THE ON-LINE QUALITY ASSURANCE.

Date will be announced in the future when the site is up and running.

You must take the training if:
1. First year showing your poultry
2. Moved up an age division

BROILER PROJECT!

For 2015 you may order you Broilers at any time between March 1st and June 30th. You must notify the office and fill out the required paper work to start the project.

Please contact Bonnie if you have any questions.
The 2014 Charles County Fair was an exciting achievement. Thank you to all the youth and volunteers who made it such a remarkable event!

**BUILDING CHAMPIONS**

Field Crops & Vegetables – Senior – Sabrena St. Clair  
Flowers – Jr. Ivy Phillips; Inter. Georgia Bowling; Sr. Gabbie Gonzales  
Food Preservation – Jr. Ivy Phillips; Inter. William Kendrick; Sr. Gabbie Gonzales  
Food Preparation – Jr. Jeremiah Tompa; Inter. Madison Osakowicz; Sr. Garrett Willingham  
Clothing – Jr. Bryanna Bode; Inter. Madison Osakowicz; Sr. Marie Ammar  
Home Environment – Jr. Victoria Drury; Inter. Molly Lancaster; Sr. Madison Reulet  
Needlework – Jr. Trent White; Inter. Charlotte Biles; Sr. Marie Ammar  
Arts – Jr. Ivy Phillips; Inter. Tre Giannini; Sr. Sebrena St. Clair  
Photography – Jr. Madison Palma; Inter. Tre Giannini; Sr. Courtney Hancock  
Posters – Jr. Eli Guzzone; Inter. Sam Guzzone; Sr. Ethan Chung  
Woodworking & Electric – Jr. Jeremiah Tompa; Inter. Tre Gianninni; Sr. Hunter Goldey  
Collections – Jr. Jeremiah Tompa; Inter. Hannah Piazza  
Natural Sciences – Jr. Libby Nelson; Inter. Parker Stonesifer  
Animal Sciences – Jr. Lucy Nelson; Sr. Hannah Sien  
Poultry – Jr. Madison Palma; Inter. Jack Sien; Sr. Josh Clark  
Rabbits & Cavies – Jr. Callie Hancock; Inter. Maya Tappen; Sr. Hannah Sien  
Rabbit Showmanship – Jr. Tiffany Abell; Sr. Hannah Sien  
Champion Dog Show – Jr. Madison Palma; Inter. Mikie Gonzales; Sr. Hannah Sien

**CONTESTS RESULTS:**

Purchase Power – Jr. Elijah Crispell; Inter. Erin Possehl; Sr. Max Bode  
Dog Knowledge – Jr. Bryanna Bode; Inter. Jordyn Sinsel; Sr. Hannah Lehew  
Horse Judging – Jr. Lucy Nelson; Inter. Hannah Piazza; Sr. Callie Maginnis  
Horse Skillathon – Jr. Lucy Nelson; Inter. Haley Fuese; Sr. Heidi Kisamore  
Horticulture Judging – Jr. Bryanna Bode; Inter. Noah Hancock; Sr. Hannah Lehew  
Livestock Skillathon – Inter. Jake Collins; Sr. Caitlin Olejnik

**4-H Club AWARDS:**

Club Banner – Mounted Wanderers 4-H Club  
Club Booth – Creative Critters 4-H Club  
Club Scrapbook – Kidz-4-Change 4-H Club
LIVESTOCK RESULTS:

MARKET ANIMALS
*Grand Champion Market Animals*
Beef – Caitlin Nutter; Goat – Heather Bowling; Lamb – Evan Charles; Swine – Austin Bowling

*Reserve Grand Champion Market Animals*
Beef – Annette Braun; Goat – Heather Bowling; Lamb – Annette Braun; Swine – Austin Bowling

SHOWMANSHIP CHAMPIONS
Beef Showmanship – Champion – Rebecca Giannini; Reserve Champion – Evan Charles
Sheep Showmanship – Champion – Ashley Braun; Reserve Champion – Evan Charles
Swine Showmanship – Champion – Hunter Burch; Reserve Champion – Taylor Burch
Goat – Dairy Showmanship – Champion – Tyler Thorne; Reserve Champion – Heidi Kisamore
Goat – Meat Showmanship – Champion – Jamie Roberts; Reserve Champion – Makenzie Charles

BREEDING ANIMAL CHAMPIONS
Beef – Heifer – Annette Braun
Dairy Goat – Tyler Thorne
Meat Goat – Ashley Braun
Sheep – Ewe – Caitlin Nutter and Ram – Bryanna Bode;
Swine – Female – Tyler Thorne

Congratulations TO ALL OUR CHAMPIONS
2015 MARKET STEER REGISTRATION FORM

DUE BY: Monday - JANUARY 5, 2015

4-H'ER NAME: ___________________________ Phone __________________

CLUB________________________________________________________ Age (as of 1/1/15) ________

To show at the state fair, your steers must be registered in the appropriate association. ALL INFORMATION MUST BE FILLED OUT!

1) EARTAG NUMBER OR TATTOO ___________ DATE OF BIRTH ___________

BREED_________________________ Date Purchased ___________ or Bred & Owned____

PURCHASED FROM: Name______________________________________________

City___________________________ State_______________________________

2) EARTAG NUMBER OR TATTOO ___________ DATE OF BIRTH ___________

BREED_________________________ Date Purchased ___________ or Bred & Owned____

PURCHASED FROM: Name______________________________________________

City___________________________ State_______________________________

3) EARTAG NUMBER OR TATTOO ___________ DATE OF BIRTH ___________

BREED_________________________ Date Purchased ___________ or Bred & Owned____

PURCHASED FROM: Name______________________________________________

City___________________________ State_______________________________

4) EARTAG NUMBER OR TATTOO ___________ DATE OF BIRTH ___________

BREED_________________________ Date Purchased ___________ or Bred & Owned____

PURCHASED FROM: Name______________________________________________

City___________________________ State_______________________________

5) EARTAG NUMBER OR TATTOO ___________ DATE OF BIRTH ___________

BREED_________________________ Date Purchased ___________ or Bred & Owned____

PURCHASED FROM: Name______________________________________________

City___________________________ State_______________________________

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