



MONTGOMERY COUNTY NEWS & NOTES

DECEMBER 2021

Montgomery County 4-H
18410 Muncaster Rd
Derwood, MD 20855
(301) 590-9638
extension.umd.edu/
montgomery-county/4-h-
youth

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

Sheila Ford
Program Assistant
(301) 590-2824
sheilaf@umd.edu

Santana Mays
Agent Associate
(301) 590-2813
smays1@umd.edu

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

Anna Hamann
Administrative Assistant
News & Notes Editor
(301) 590-2820
ahamann@umd.edu

A PDF Version of this newsletter is available on the [Montgomery Country 4-H website](#)

The next issue of News & Notes will be published on the **first week in February 2022**. Please submit your articles to **Anna Hamann, ahamann@umd.edu, by January 21, 2022**.

If you need special accommodation for a 4-H program, event, or activity, please call 301-590-3210 or e-mail jshriver@umd.edu.

Message from the 4-H Faculty and Staff

Dear 4-H Family and Friends,
We thank you for all that you do to make the 4- H Program so successful.

Happy Holidays to you and your families.
Be safe and healthy in 2022





December		
Beef Steer Registration	December 22	Ms. Mays at smays1@umd.edu
Stem Challenge Kits	Fist Serve-First Come	Mark DeMorra at mdemorra@umd.edu
January 2022		
Record Books, Resumes, Diamond Clover Levels 1-4 Reports, President 's Volunteer Service Award nominations, Club Youth Nominations. Portfolio & Out-of-State Trip applications	January 3	MoCo 4-H County Office
Beef Weigh-In	January 8	Ms. Mays at smays1@umd.edu
4-H Enrollment	TBD	4-H Online
February		
The National 4-H Healthy Living Summit	February 10 -13, 2022	https://4-h.org/parents/national-youth-summits/#healthyliving
4-H Dairy Fun Day	February 12	Ms. Mays at smays1@umd.edu
Maryland 4-H Dog Skillathon	February 20, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Ms. Mays at smays1@umd.edu
March		
Maryland 4-H Horse Bowl	March 5 & 6. Virtually via Quiz Bowl Pro	Ms. Mays at smays1@umd.edu

The National Agriculture Science Summit	March 10-13, 2022	https://4-h.org/parents/national-youth-summits/#healthyliving
Maryland 4-H State Livestock Skillathon	March 12	Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Gaithersburg, MD. Ms. Mays at smays1@umd.edu
Maryland 4-H State Dairy Skillathon	March 26	Carroll County
April		
State Horse Communication Contest	April 4-18. Virtual	Ms. Mays at smays1@umd.edu
Maryland 4-H Dairy Bowl Contest	April 23. UMD College Park, MD	Ms. Mays at smays1@umd.edu

Club Leaders

Club Leaders, please check the information about your club on our Montgomery County 4-H website. We want to keep your club information up to date for future 4-H members.

If you need to add, update, or change your club description, please send the corrections to **Sheila Ford at sheilaf@umd.edu**, and **Anna Hamann at ahamann@umd.edu**.

Due in January

If you plan to do a Record Book for this year, please refer to the guidelines you received in November.

In addition, please:

1. Ensure that the President’s Volunteer Service Award paperwork is at the end of each Record Book, if applicable.

2. Place a rubber band around each Record Book so the book stays together.

3. Contact a 4-H Staff to be available to receive the Record Book(s.)

If you have any questions, please contact Jeannine Shriver at jshriver@umd.edu.

Please have the following items to the County 4-H Office **on or before Friday, January 3, 2022.**

FOR MEMBERS

- Resumes

Resume Information Format

<https://extension.umd.edu/locations/anne-arundel-county/4-h-youth-development/4-h-forms>

- **Record/project books** are due to the 4-H County Office **by January 3, 2022.**
- **Completed Diamond Clover Reports for levels 1 – 4.**

Please use the Maryland 4-H Website for a sample of the Diamond Clover Reports

- **2021 President’s Volunteer Service Award** – Forms must be completed and turned in to the 4-H County Office by **January 3, 2022.**

<https://extension.umd.edu/programs/4-h-youth-development/program-areas/youth-and-adult-leadership/diamond-clover-awards-and-scholarships>

ANIMAL Science News

Steer Weigh-In and Tagging



January 8 at the Montgomery County fairgrounds. Those who wish to show a steer **MUST** attend and complete the

livestock registration form beforehand. More information to follow.



4-H Dairy Fun Day:

February 12, 2022, 9:30 AM-11:30 AM on Zoom. Come learn about, practice and try your hand at Dairy Skillathon, Dairy Quiz Bowl, and Dairy Educational Experience.

Please reach out to Ms. Mays to sign up by February 9.



Maryland 4-H Dog Skillathon

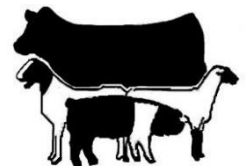
February 20, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM.



Maryland 4-H Horse Bowl

March 5 & 6. Virtual via Quiz Bowl Pro.

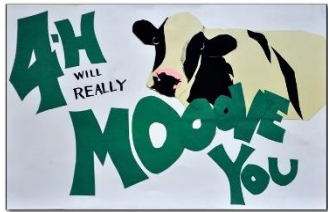
LIVESTOCK SKILLATHON



March 12 at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds. To participate please reach out to Ms. Mays at smays1@umd.edu to be included in communications. Practices are usually held at the Howard County

Fairgrounds. However, there is a chance of hybrid practices.

No prior knowledge of livestock required.



Maryland 4-H Dairy Skillathon

March 26. Carroll County Extension.

State 4-H Horse Communication Contest



April 4-18. Virtual.



Maryland 4-H Dairy Bowl Contest

April 23. UMD College Park, MD.

National Youth Summit Series.

The National Youth Summit Series are immersive, three-day experiences where you dive into the issues, expand your career

horizons, and grow as a leader while working with and learning from other teens and experts with shared passions.

Healthy Living Summit, February 10-13, 2022.

Agri-Science Summit, March 10-13, 2022
More information and registration at:

<https://4-h.org/parents/national-youth-summits/#healthyliving>

4-H STEM Challenge Kits

4-H STEM Challenge kits, Junk Drawer Robotics packages, and other **FREE** STEM supplies are available for local clubs, schools, and programs to use (and in most cases, keep!)! The only requirement is that any programming they are used for should be reported to Mark DeMorra for record-keeping. List of supplies:



4-H STEM Challenge Kits:

- Mars: Base Camp
- Code Your World
- Drone Discovery
- Motion Commotion
- Power of Wind
- Galactic Quest (coming soon!)

4-H Junk Drawer Robotics Kits:

- Level 1 Youth Kit
- Level 2 Youth Kit

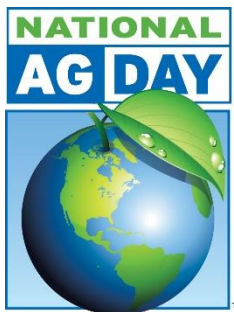
Robotics Tool Kit
Level 1 Materials Kit: Small

Other Supplies:

Lego Mindstorms NXT 2.0 Kits (For Loan)
Google Cardboard VR kits, to learn more:
<https://arvr.google.com/cardboard/get-cardboard/>

E-mail Mark DeMorra at
mdemorra@umd.edu if you are interested
in obtaining any of these kits. Some
supplies are limited and will be distributed
on a first come first-serve basis.

National Ag Day Essay and Video Contest



Students across the country are invited to enter the National Ag Day essay and video contest, sponsored by the Agriculture Council of America. This year's theme is, *"American*

Agriculture: Growing a Climate for Tomorrow?"

National Ag Day's objective is to celebrate agriculture and to help consumers better understand how farmers and the companies serving them produce abundant, healthy, nutritious, and safe food that while caring and tending for the land, leading the way in preservation and innovation for the health of our planet and our families.

All entries must be received at the Agriculture Council of America office by midnight CST, January 31, 2022.

More information can be found at:

<https://www.agday.org/essay-contest>

Fair Chairpersons

Thank you to all the Fair Chairpersons that attended the post-fair meeting. We appreciate your feedback for the 2022 Fair Catalog and welcome other comments that you might have by February 4, 2022.

4-H Club Leaders, Project, and Activity Leaders' Dinner

The annual leaders' update program was held in person on November 29, at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds. After not meeting for two years, it was nice to see some of the leaders. We had a great time socializing and eating good food. We missed those that could not attend.

Since we have new incoming Club leaders, we conducted an orientation, discussed the Club Leaders' responsibilities and behavior expectations, and provided information on the 4-H Staff responsibilities. In addition, the 4-H Staff distributed references and resources for record book preparation, the Diamond Clover Award program, and Club reports.

We appreciate and thank very much those who took time to attend and participate in our discussion.

For those who could not attend, we appreciate any input that you may have regarding the 4-H program and resources.

Camp Tawasentha

Mark your calendars!

Montgomery county 4-H Camp will be held July 10-15, 2022! The adult staff has been planning for the best camp ever! mark

your calendars and watch for more information in the next news and notes. For teens who wish to be a teen counselor at Camp Tawasentha 2022 please contact Anne Clagett at clagettmom@gmail.com

Editor's note: Clip art appearing in this newsletter are copyright free from National 4-H, Shutterstock.com, and Clipart-library.com.

SPOTLIGHT

Olivia S

4-H is proud of Olivia, a Montgomery County 4-H'er. Olivia was the winner of the Collegiate Discussion Meet category at the Maryland Farm Bureau Conference in the Young Farmers Discussion Meet. On February 2022, Olivia will represent Maryland at the National Young Farmers and Ranchers Conference in Louisville, KY. Good Luck!

Aidan D

My parents enrolled me in 4-H so that I could have more activities to keep my curious mind busy. I joined the Rabbit club and then advanced to the Electric club. In the Rabbit Club, I learned to be more social, friendly, and organized. I also grew to love Biology. I learned to be a real engineer and electricity lover in advanced electric club.

My favorite thing about 4-H is that you get to learn at your own pace and with expert guidance from a patient leader. My Rabbit club leaders did not mind me going outside

and climbing a tree. I always returned ready to sit and listen. Thank you Kyla and Dr. Fitzpatrick!

At the Electric club, I could ask multiple questions and gained unlimited hands on experience with electric projects. Learning to be organized, I was able to take 2 years of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics in high school. Thank you Mr. Hogan, Mr. Leatherman, Mr. Evans, and Mr. Raskin!

I was interested in learning more, so I joined 4-H Maryland State Council. I met other 4-Hers from all over the state. I began to make more friends and learn how to advocate for others and myself.

I am at Louisiana State University, a state agricultural school, because of 4-H. I am happy to say, I enjoy LSU but I miss everyone at home.

I hope that anyone who is thinking about not continue to be a 4-H member, after such a challenging 2020, will give it one more chance. You will find that 4-H is a great place to make friends who accept you without judgement and learn about life on your terms.

Mathew R

I joined 4-H because my mom and many family members had all been in 4-H and involved in the fair. Therefore, I was excited to join when I was old enough. I was in 4-H 11 Years, plus 3 years as a clover - all in

the Goshen 4-H Club. I carried Projects in Photography, Horticulture, Baking, and Public Speaking & Citizenship.

One memorable experience I have in 4-H is my last 4-H cake auction at the Fair. I had five first place cakes sold, including the Sr. Champion cake. One of my cakes sold for \$3100, beating my Mom's cake which sold for \$3000 when she was in 4-H! I really enjoyed helping to raise funds for the 4-H program. Except for one year, I had had at least one first place cake in the Cake Auction every year.



I recommend joining 4-H because it is a great way to connect with people and volunteer your time. I loved the community service projects my club would participate in each year. I gained leadership and public speaking skills, and how to conduct a proper meeting.

I am a sophomore, currently attending American University, where I am majoring in Business (Marketing.) In addition, I play on the Men's Basketball Team. I look forward to helping out with 4-H in the future and volunteering at the Fair.

Catherine Z

My name is Catherine Zellers; I am an 18 year old freshman at the Rochester Institute of Technology and have been in 4-H for 11 years. I joined as a Clover because my mom thought it would be a good way to meet people and learn things.

4-H is great for building confidence and speaking skills. I hated public speaking; in fact, I remember clearly my first Public Speaking Competition when I was crying and super anxious. Despite the frustration, I kept doing demos and entering the Public Speaking Competition and eventually won Champion at all three age levels. 4-H also helped me learn how to lead. I started with smaller offices and eventually became the Club President. I learned a lot about how to get people to work together and how to motivate them. I thought these skills were so important that I began my own project group in our Club to teach the members how to hold leadership roles and to practice communications and teamwork

by playing a tabletop role-playing game called Dungeons and Dragons.

The Montgomery County Fair is probably my most memorable experience with 4-H. Once I was old enough to volunteer, I was there every day, either volunteering, or hanging out with friends. I really liked helping with VIP day, which is a program the Fair has to show kids with disabilities around the Fair. I loved working at the Big Cheese and helping with other activities. I liked talking to the judges about my projects and their enthusiasm encouraged me to continue working. The ribbons, appreciation, and awards made the Fair very rewarding for me.

This year on a field trip for ESHS (Environmental Sustainability, Health, and Safety), the speakers talked about how important it is to reach out and work with your community and how being able to make good connections is so vital to the job. I am now very confident in my career choice and very grateful to 4-H for all the skills I've learned.

CLUB CORNER

D Damascus Community Club

SUMMER FUN

By Anvita D.

The Damascus Community Club had a fun summer this year! The summer started with the Senior Center birthday party. At the party, the Club members played bingo and gave out ice cream and cake. Club members made sun catchers, and refrigerator magnets to award the seniors who won bingo!

On July 17, the Club had a Club picnic at Butler's Orchard. During the picnic, the members had a potluck that contained food brought in by many Club members. Many of the member were able to enjoy swimming in the pond as well. The Club members are very thankful to the Butlers for letting them host the picnic on their property.

The Club ended the summer with the MCAG Fair from August 10 to August 18, 2021. It was a lot of fun going to the Fair after the year of Covid. The Reporter is glad that the Fair took place this year! The Club members were very excited because the Club won Champion Ribbons for their booth and banner. The members also participated in the parade as a walking unit and won a

Champion Ribbon. Some members were also on the honor guard. Most of the Club members submitted entries and won ribbons and special awards.

Last, but certainly not the least, Grace Worth, from the Club, is this year's fair queen! Overall, it was a great summer!!!



P Potomac Community Club

A COMMUNITY COMPUTER RESTAURATION PROJECT

By Eliana W.

On September 18th, after their monthly business meeting, members of the Potomac Community 4-H Club gathered in a garage to take apart an old desktop computer. The club has been working on a community computer restoration project that

refurbishes donated computers and distributes them to those in need. To learn more about computer hardware, the club leader, Lily Liang, invited everyone to disassemble an old computer tower that otherwise would be considered a piece of junk.

A few kids surrounded a table with an assortment of screwdrivers and other tools piled on top. They started carefully removing the outer case and were delighted when it finally opened up. Inside, a mess of wires and metals were jumbled together. Within minutes, everyone was working on taking apart something. A few members fished the motherboard out of the case, while others removed the computer's hard drive.

Joshua Wang, a member who was experienced in computer science, explained each part of the computer, as it was deconstructed. As the afternoon progressed, refreshments were served, and parents also joined in on learning about the hardware. All the club members who attended said they had a lot of fun during the event and would like to participate again sometime.



A MEAL TO SHARE

By Vicky S.

After a successful food donation to Interfaith Works Becky's House in 2020, Potomac Community 4 H Club members once again arranged a home cooked meal delivery on October 30, 2021.

Each family again provided one dish. There was a combination of traditional Chinese dishes, such as dumplings and fried rice; and Western dishes, such as bread, mashed potatoes, pasta, and roast



chicken with vegetables. The club members also prepared homemade dessert -- mini pecan tarts.

Every member of Potomac 4 H Community Service Club was enthusiastic about this cooking and delivery project. Two of the club members had schedule conflicts. However, they still cooked the food and dropped them off ahead of time for other members to help deliver.

Upon seeing the assortment of food that the youth prepared, one of the parents commented, "They all did great, I'm so proud of the kids!"

Club members all agreed that this was another fun and meaningful experience