

4-H Partyline



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NATIONAL 4-H WEEK
BEYOND READY
OCTOBER 5-11
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This year's National 4-H Week theme is Beyond Ready. From fairgrounds to classrooms, community gardens to robotics, 4-H youth in Garrett County are proving they're not just ready for the future – they're Beyond Ready. Watch for our Garrett County Facebook posts and join in on all of the fun this week.

Ready to lead. Ready to serve. Ready to build. Ready to conquer. More Youth. More Community.

More Ready.



**Master Showman 2025
Bryliee Miller, Winner**

Calendar of Events

September, 2025

- 1 **DUE:** Fiscal Year 2025 End of Year Club Documents
- 30 **DUE:** Diamond Clover Levels 1-5
- 30 **DUE:** Diamond Clover Level 6 Proposals for 2026

October, 2025

- 1 **DUE: Attendance Waiver to GCLA**
- 4 GCLA AG Bash Fundraiser-12:00 noon-4:00pm--Ag Heritage Building
- 5 GCLA Annual Picnic starting at 1:00 pm --Ag Heritage Building
(counts as a make-up meeting)
- 5-11 National 4-H Week-Watch for daily Facebook posts
- 15 **DUE:** Senior 4-H Portfolios for National Trip Applications

November, 2025

- 1 Beef Fall Weigh-In at GC Fairgrounds 8am - 2pm
- 10 Club Leader Meeting via Zoom @ 6:30 pm-see article
- 14-16 Volunteer & Teen Forum~Ocean City, MD
- 15 **DUE:** Maryland 4-H State Council Application



This year the following 4-H members/clubs participated in the Maryland State Fair. **Congratulations to all!**

4-H Club Booth Exhibit: Country Explorers 4-H Club, Red House 4-H Club

Farm Tractor Contest: Jonathan Malone

Livestock Judging Contest: Autumn & Lea Custer, Matthew & Nathan Stoner

Rabbit Judging & Skillathon Contest: Bristol Ketterman, Julia Ramsey

Beef: Carmen Knotts, Bryliee Miller, LilyAnn Zimmerman

Swine: Caleb Brenneman, Brady & Keeley Garlitz, Braxton Glotfelty,

Jakob & Malea Fullerton, Chase & Laken Preston, Evan & Owen Rowe

Sheep: Lea & Autumn Custer, Keeley Garlitz, Xaiver House (FFA),

Carmen & Colt Knotts, Bryliee Miller, Chase Preston & Laken Preston, LilyAnn Zimmerman

Goat: Ava Brackenrich, Connor Clary, Malea Fullerton

Rabbits: Jeremy & Maddox Gordon, Bristol Ketterman, Isabel & Noah Whiteside

4-H Club Leaders Meeting

The next scheduled meeting will be held by Zoom on Monday, November 10th at 6:30 pm. Organizational leaders from each club are encouraged to participate. The agenda for the meeting will include an update on volunteer status for each club, planning for re-enrollment for 2026 and closing out the 2025 year. Please call the office to register.

Maryland 4-H State Council

The Maryland 4-H State Council is the premier leadership opportunity in Maryland. It comprises active 4-H members from around the state interested in developing high-level leadership skills and representing their county 4-H program. State Council members have the opportunity to learn from each other, volunteers, and faculty/staff outside of their club and county. The State Council is led by a youth officer team and faculty/staff advisors. Maryland 4-H State Council Membership Applications open September 15 and close November 15. **For more information, and resources visit:** <https://extension.umd.edu/programs/4-h-youth-development/program-areas/youth-and-adult-leadership>


Maryland 4-H Senior Portfolio for National Trip Applications


This program is used by the State 4-H program to select delegates to represent Maryland at the five National 4-H Leadership Opportunities supported by the Maryland 4-H Program and the Maryland 4-H Foundation. The portfolio consists of a resume and essay. To be considered for one of the five leadership trips, it must be accompanied by a National 4-H Leadership Opportunity application and applicants must be interviewed. Maryland 4-H Senior Portfolio and Applications for National 4-H Conference trip opens September 15 and closes October 15. **For more information, and resources visit:** <https://extension.umd.edu/programs/4-h-youth-development/program-areas/youth-and-adult-leadership>

Diamond Clover Award Summaries Due ~ September 30th

This award is designed to encourage 4-H members ages 8 to 18 to engage in a variety of projects and activities that will enable them to acquire the skills necessary to lead successful lives as competent, caring and contributing members of society. Diamond Clover Award Forms for Levels 1-5 are due September 30th. These forms must be verified and signed by your club leader and submitted to the UME Garrett 4-H office. Level 6 proposals are due September 30th for completion the following year.

Please visit <https://extension.umd.edu/locations/garrett-county/4-h-youth-development/garrett-county-4-h-forms> for complete details.






**We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to
1st United Bank and Trust and Jason Rush
for the generous donation of a steer purchased at the
Garrett County Agriculture Fair.**

First United Bank and Trust purchased Jett DeWitt's market beef weighing 1264#.

Thanks again for your support of the Garrett County 4-H youth!

These funds are used to present our annual achievement program.





Garrett Co. Livestock Association Updates



Ag Bash - Fundraiser

The Ag Bash is planned for October 4, 2025 from noon to 4:00 pm at the Ag Heritage Building at the fairgrounds. Tickets are available from any Livestock Association member. Any 4-H member that sells an Ag Bash ticket will receive free admission to the Bash. There will be an opportunity for high school youth to earn service learning hours by helping with the Ag Bash. Please return any sold Ag Bash tickets and money as soon as possible to the 4-H office or Livestock Association.

Annual Picnic & Meeting

The annual picnic and meeting will be held on Sunday, October 5, 2025 starting at 1:00 pm at the Ag Heritage Hall building at the fairgrounds. The Association will provide meat, potatoes, green beans, rolls, drinks and tableware. Individuals attending are asked to bring a side dish and/or dessert to share. ***Remember that attendance at this meeting can be counted as a make-up meeting for 4-H members who may have missed club meetings.***

Election of officers and directors will be held at the October 5th meeting. Elections will be held for the offices of President and Secretary along with two board members for 2025. To be eligible to run for any Livestock Association position a person must have been a paid member of the Association in both 2024 and 2025. Any eligible member that would like to be added to the ballot, please contact a member of the nominating committee: Andrew Harvey [802-359-3832](tel:802-359-3832), Sandy Harvey [301-501-2968](tel:301-501-2968), Chaz Stoner [301-616-7735](tel:301-616-7735) or Crystal DeBerry [301-268-5402](tel:301-268-5402).

Association Dues

2026 Association dues of 25 cents are automatically collected from the check of any 4-H and FFA youth who exhibited and sold a market animal at the 2025 Garrett County Fair. Dues for other youth (18 years of age or younger) are 25 cents. Adult dues are \$5.00 per year, or \$30 for ten years. 2026 dues may be paid between August 1, 2025 and January 31, 2026. Dues should be mailed to: Garrett County Livestock Association, 1916 Maryland Hwy, Suite A, Mt. Lake Park, MD 21550.

Club Meeting Attendance

The requirement for club meeting attendance for eligibility to sell a market animal at the 2026 Garrett County fair will be in effect for the coming year. For many years, the 4-H program and the Garrett County Livestock Association have outlined the expectations for young people who wish to earn the privilege of selling an animal at the fair. The livestock sale is extremely successful and offers members a chance to receive more money for their projects than would commonly be available in the regular market. Because of this advantage, we feel that it is important for members to demonstrate responsibility and show effort in their participation.

The two expectations that are required:

1. Completion of a record book with summaries for any animal that was **tagged** at the fall and/or spring weigh-ins.
2. Satisfactory club attendance: 4-H clubs holding 8 meetings or less, a member may miss only one meeting. 4-H clubs holding 9 or more meetings, a member may miss two meetings. FFA members must attend 75% of the meetings held.

The Garrett County Livestock Association allows a member to attend two make-up meetings. There are four opportunities that can count as a make-up meeting

1. Attendance at the fall GCLA meeting and picnic, held on October 5th
2. Attendance to help set up for Spring Weigh-in and District Show, held in early May, actual date and time will be communicated to all clubs.
3. Showing a market animal at the Western MD District Livestock Show
4. Fair clean-up and preparation (date to be announced)

Attendance for youth who sold an animal at the 2025 fair begins with the next meeting after the fair and continues until August 2026. Attendance for new youth who did not sell an animal begins in January 2026 when they enroll in a market livestock project.

Club Meeting Attendance Waiver

Requests from older youth for a club meeting attendance waiver must be received by the GCLA by October 1st. If a situation changes after that date, the member should submit the waiver request as soon as possible (prior to missing meetings). Attendance Waiver due date: October 1st. For eligibility guidelines and request form, please contact Jackie Wright at 240-321-0553.

Beef Steer Fall Weigh-In

Members planning to sell a steer at the 2026 Garrett County Fair must bring their steer to the fall weigh-in event.

Reminder: We will only be having one weigh-in day.

Date: Saturday, November 1st from 8:00 am until 2:00 pm.

Location: Garrett County Fairgrounds

****Families will be provided a registration link to select a weigh-in time to avoid long waiting lines.**

In case of bad weather, cancellation announcements will be made on radio stations, WFRB and WKHJ. If the weigh-in needs to be rescheduled, the make-up date will be **Saturday, November 8th**.

At the weigh in: your steer will be weighed and tagged.

The Livestock Association will provide triangle nine immunizations, if needed. The Garrett County Livestock Association representatives who will be conducting the weigh-in understand that you have not had a lot of time to work with your animal. To have the weighing and tagging go as smoothly as possible please abide by the following guidelines:

There will be Livestock Association helpers at the scales who will help assist with your animal but your animal should be wearing a halter (this does not mean it is expected to be halter broken, the halter will be used for restraining purposes). Please try to work with your animal enough that it is comfortable with you and controllable. **Fall Weigh-in is a mandatory event for all youth with the market steer project.** Please share this information with anyone who may be planning to have a steer for the first time in 2026.

Livestock Registration Forms will be mailed out to all members that had a 2025 steer early September. Additional forms can be obtained from the 4-H Office. The registration link will be provided with the forms. Please refer to the Guidebook for 4-H/FFA Market Animals at: <https://extension.umd.edu/locations/garrett-county/4-h-youth-development/events/>

Any questions can be directed to the Livestock Association (301) 746-7141 or the UME Garrett Office (301) 334-6960.

County Bred Animals

The county bred card must be completed including the signature of the breeder. Please have the card completed when you arrive for weigh-in and tagging. Market Animals that are bred by a full-time County resident and born in Garrett County are eligible for competition in the County Bred program.

Animals purchased at the stockyard may be eligible for the county bred program if they were bred and born in Garrett County. The stockyard staff can provide you with the name and contact information to help you determine eligibility. Animals purchased from a producer outside of the county by a Garrett County resident and resold to a Garrett County 4-H or FFA member are not eligible for county bred program because they were not born in Garrett County.

Animals not declared as county bred at the time of tagging will not be eligible for the county bred program at the 2026 Garrett County Fair.

****RFID Tag Requirement for 2026 Market Steers****

All swine and cattle including steers must have a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tag. Steers should be tagged by the producer. If the steer that you purchased does not have an RFID tag, you may obtain one through a veterinarian. All steers **will need** an RFID tag prior to the November 1st weigh-in. RFID tags **will not** be supplied at weigh-in.

Producers needing RFID tags will need their premise identification number and can call (410-841-5810) and purchase through a USDA approved manufacturer. Detailed information can be found at https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/SA_Traceability



Volunteer & Teen Forum

Eligibility: 4-H volunteers and youth members ages 13-18 can register to attend the workshops and activities. Special classes for Cloverbud, Junior, and Intermediate 4-H members (ages 5-12) will also be available on Saturday.

Date of Event: November 14-16, 2025 (Discounted hotel rates are available for November 14-15)

Location: Holiday Inn (65th St., Ocean City, MD 21842)

Hotel Reservation: To book your room, call 410-524-1600 and mention the Maryland 4-H Volunteer and Teen Forum room block. You can also reserve a room through the [reservation website](#). Rooms are available at a special rate of \$99 per night plus taxes and fees. Please note that hotel reservations must be made separately from the event registration.

Important Dates:

- Early bird registration until July 15, 2025 (Ended)
- Regular registration from July 16 through October 15, 2025.

Cost:

Full-Time Attendance

- Regular Registration Fee: \$120.00

One-Day Attendance

- Regular Registration Fee: \$100.00

Here's what to expect

Friday

Fun and engaging activities for youth and volunteers.

Saturday

A full day packed with professional development workshops, hands-on learning experiences, poster sessions, and fun evening activities! Get ready to dive into sessions like 4-H camp, competition, communication skills, and working with diverse populations.

* Bonus! Attend specific camp sessions to earn camp training hours.

Sunday

More exciting opportunities to collaborate and connect as youth and adult leaders. There will be a panel session as well.

This event is a fantastic way to develop your leadership skills while enjoying a weekend getaway in beautiful Ocean City with your family. Watch your email for registration confirmation.

We can't wait to see you at the Forum!

For questions and concerns, please contact Joseph Y. Cho at jcho8@umd.edu

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION  Beyond Ready

VOLUNTEER AND TEEN FORUM

4-H Beyond Ready to Lead the Future

November 14-16, 2025
The Holiday Inn on 65th Street in Ocean City

Who: 4-H members age 13-18, a separate classrooms for Clover, Juniors and intermediates (parents must be in the hotel), 4-H volunteers and professionals

Fun engaging learning, with time to dance, beach walks, teen led sessions, camp workshops, club enhancement, STEM, Ag Sciences and so much more!

Early registration is open from May 23rd to July 15th, while regular registration runs from July 16th to October 15th.

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