



Montgomery County 4-H

September 2, 2025



If you need a special accommodation for a 4-H program, event, or activity at the 4-H Extension Office in Derwood, MD, please call 301-590-3210 or e-mail jshriver@umd.edu.

If you need to reserve a room or need a special accommodation at the MoCo Fairgrounds in Gaithersburg, MD for a 4-H program, please contact the Event and Sponsorship Coordinator, Ms. Monica Monroe at Monica@mcagfair.com.

The next issue of The Montgomery County 4-H News & Notes will be published the first week of October 2025. Please submit your articles to Anna Hamann, ahamann@umd.edu by September 22, 2025.

A PDF copy of this newsletter can be found, one week after publication, on the Montgomery County 4-H page. <https://extension.umd.edu/locations/montgomery-county/4-h-youth-development/news-notes/>

University programs, activities, and facilities are available to all without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class.

Maryland State Fair

You still have time to attend the Maryland State Fair! The last weekend is September 4-7!

For detailed information on things to do at about the 2025 Maryland State Fair, visit [tchrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://marylandstatefair.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Maryland-State-Fair-2025-FINAL-low-res.pdf](https://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://marylandstatefair.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Maryland-State-Fair-2025-FINAL-low-res.pdf)

Cake Auction

The Annual Cake Auction fundraiser raised \$38,900.00. Thank you to the 32 4-H'ers who donated their beautiful cakes, cookies and candies and those who bid on the cakes.

The Annual 4-H Cake Auction, is the major source of income to support the many county 4-H activities.

- 40%- scholarships for youth and adults to participate in camp, state events, and national leadership training and conferences.
- 30%- recognition awards, merit ribbons, clover award pins, and other merit items.
- 15%- resource materials for leaders, including judging manuals, videos, and coaching materials.
- 10%- promotional items for exhibits, teaching/workshop materials, Close Encounters with Agriculture, club family nights, etc.
- 5%- Miscellaneous 4-H activities.

Thank you notes

Do not forget to handwrite your thank you notes and write the award you won on your thank you note. The name and address of your award sponsor is either on the card or the envelope you received.

Some of the awards are given in the memory of someone that the sponsor loved and have passed on. A handwritten "Thank You" note shows them that you took the time to stop and think about the person who sponsored your award.

I enjoyed receiving a thank you from the 4-H'er that won the Blue Ribbon in Brown Eggs. You can tell that his chickens are very special to him.

Thank you all

The Montgomery County 4-H Staff wants to thank:

The many amazing volunteers that came during workdays and those who helped take down the building.

The Chairpersons and Judges. Our Chairpersons and Judges are truly dedicated, and an important part of the fair success.

The Indoor and the Outdoor Award Sponsors. The support and contributions of the sponsors help recognize the accomplishments and hard work of our 4-H members.

The Club Leaders, parents, youth, and non-4-H persons that volunteered at the 4-H building and provided a warm welcome to the visitors to the 4-H Building during fair week.

The Auction Cake buyers. The Annual 4-H Cake Auction is the major source of income to support the many county 4-H activities and scholarships.

The Livestock Auction Buyers. Thank you so much to all that participated in the Auction.

The Montgomery County Agricultural Center Staff for the support they provided to the 4-H members, volunteers, and staff.

Event Waste: What Happens after the Fair?

Many agricultural fairs, such as the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair, rely on the combined efforts of staff, and community volunteers to accomplish the massive post-fair cleanup.

After an agricultural fair, cleaning involves a comprehensive multi-step process focused on removing waste, disinfecting animal areas, and preparing the grounds for future use. This often requires significant coordination between fair organizers, exhibitors, and volunteers.

Therefore, how much human litter and livestock waste do you think an agricultural fair generates? Human litter generation varies, and depends on attendance, duration, and even event management. For a 5,000-person, one-day fair could generate as much as 10 tons of waste.

What kind of human waste?

- • Food waste: discarded food and uneaten meals.
- • Packaging and single-use items: plates, cups, cutlery, and napkins.
- • General waste: vendor displays, event signage, discarded merchandise, brochures, etc.

How about livestock waste?

These are some daily manure production estimates, calculated by the Michigan State University, in pounds per animal:

Animal	weight	manure
Lactating cow	1,400 lbs.	112 lb./day

Swine – growing and finishing	154 lbs.	10 lb./day
Horse (average sedentary & exercised)	1,100 lbs.	57 lb./day
Finishing beef	750–1,250 lbs.	64 lb./day
Poultry – broiler	2.6 lbs.	0.23 lb./day
Lamb – feeder	100 lbs.	1.05 lb./day

If you know anyone that helped clean the fairgrounds after the fair, please give them a big thank you. They are the unsung heroes of the fair.

Diamond Level 5 Project

Diamond Clover Level 5 Plan and Reports must be submitted to MoCo 4-H County Office by October 15. Please mail your materials to the Montgomery County 4-H Office, Attn: Chandini Montgomery, 18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood, MD 20855, or email plan and reports to cbmontgo@umd.edu.

Levels 1-4 Reports are not due to the County 4-H office until January 2026.

Level 6 Proposals

Level 6 project proposals must be submitted to the MoCo 4-H County Office by September 20. Diamond Clover Level 6 & Final Project reports are due in the portals on September 30.

Before you submit your proposal to the PORTAL, all NEW Diamond Clover – Level 6 proposals must be reviewed and approved by the County Educator, and the Diamond Clover Advisory Committee. Your Level 6 project proposal must be submitted to the MoCo 4-H County Office by September 20. Diamond Clover Level 6 & Final Project reports are due in the portal on September 30.

You can find a Word Document for Level 6 Service Learning Project Proposal Form and more information at

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

You must upload ALL documents into the PORTAL to be considered submitted.

Annual Financial Reports

Annual Financial Reports are due by email to Sheila Ford at sheilaf@umd.edu, no later than Monday, October 6, 2025.

Charter Renewal Process and Documentation

File your 990 postcard with the IRS. Once completed, save a copy for your records and email a copy to Sheila Ford at sheilaf@umd.edu. Please email a copy of the postcard that is filed as well as a copy of the confirmation page showing that the IRS accepted it.

Annual Financial Summary Report - Please make sure your document is signed. Your beginning balance for 2025 should match your ending balance from last year's 2024 Fiscal year reporting July 1 - June 30.

Property Inventory Report - Please make sure your document is signed. Every club needs to fill one out even if they have \$0 value.

CLUB & MEMBER CORNER

Inventors Club

Congratulations to the Inventors Club! The Club won best Middle School Division Rube Goldberg for 2025. This is the best they have ever done. They have gotten 3rd two times, and an honorable mention once. They are going to show Rube Goldberg one more time this year, then start building a new one.

You can see their entry at <https://www.youtube.com/live/Gl1InneN1Hs?t=775s> starting at the 25:52 mark.

4-H Fair Challenge winners

Congratulations to all of our 4-H Challenge winners. The 10 Challenges provided an opportunity to try something new, or increase the 4-H'er participation in a particular Division. There were 27 Juniors and 21 Senior that completed the Challenges.

Juniors

Arts & Crafts Challenge

Addie Cheng
Kellie Butts
Caelan Gregory
Declan Gregory
Mikaela Tan
Gabriel Castaneda
Gloria Castaneda
John Mckeon

STEM Challenge Declan Gregory

Horticulture Challenge

Sophia German
Walton Albritton
Shelton Mooney
Margaret Mooney
Hannah Keller

Mini Baker's Dozen Challenge

Billy Curran
Elizabeth Loy
Zoe Suan
Madeleine McCann
Kelly Butts

Meal Challenge

Gloria Castaneda
John McKeon
Ella Carrick
Gabriel Castaneda

Candy Challenge

Hannah Keller
Jack Carrick
John McKeon
Brooks Morris

Food Preservation Challenge

Brooke Morris

Flowers Challenge

Brooke Morris
Gloria Castaneda

Photography Challenge

Laila Strube
Harrison Brenner
Eleanor Reynolds
River Pinteá-White
Sophia German
Isabel Leatherman
Walton Albritton
Alex Hirshfield
Anabelle Rowden

Seniors

Arts and Crafts Challenge

Ren Maril
Grace Davis

Brent Korzeniewski
Hannah Williams

Horticulture Challenge

Jonathan Albritton
CJ Holland

Meal Challenge

Hannah Williams
Anvita Divvela

Candy Challenge

Hannah Willimas

Food Preservation Challenge

Abby Zimmerman

Home Life Challenge

Anvita Divvela
Lily Brown
Hannah William
Hannah Keller

Flowers Challenge

Hannah Williams

Photography Challenge

Jonathn Albritton
Katlyn Donnelly
Lela Steele
Lily Walker
K.L. Plano-Faber
Darren Booth
Daniel Miskelly
Ally Sewel
Tihun Oler
Lily Brown
Grace Brown
Hannah Williams
Clara Reesman
Marek Oszwaldowski
Shellay Ray
Abby Worth

The Kids 'N Dogs 4-H Club: 4-H Agility Fun Match Fundraiser

By Mia Y.

On Saturday, October 25, 2025 The Kids 'N Dogs 4-H Club of Montgomery County is hosting an event to raise funds for the purchase of a trailer for the club's dog agility equipment.

The Agility Fun Match is an opportunity for competitors to run their dogs through an agility course in a fun atmosphere. Various types of competitions will be available including a traditional agility course and a dog (and owner) costume and dog tricks contest.

The match is open to All Youth Ages 8-18 & Adults (19+).

The Agility Fun Match will be hosted at Warrior Canine Connection (WCC), 14934 Schaeffer Rd, Boyds, MD 20841.

For more information and to register, please visit their website: <https://www.4hkidsndogsclub.org/>

Damascus Community 4-H Club

By Chace B.

August was the Montgomery County Fair! The Damascus Community 4-H Club attended a fair workday to help prepare the 4-H Indoor building with hanging signs, setting up tables, cleaning, and many other duties. It was exciting to meet other volunteers from different clubs. Prior to the fair, many of the members worked as entry night runners.

During the fair, the club walked in the parade, volunteered at the Big Cheese, the 4-H Bake Sale, and VIP day. The members had fun working at the fair and earned SSL hours for their time. It was hard to disassemble the 4-H building on Sunday because it meant the fair was over. So sad. Every setup, entry, and display had to be removed and returned to the exhibitors.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered and contributed. The members enjoyed another successful fair and look forward to the 2026 fair!

By Addy B.

Isabel and Ivy L. work hard scrubbing dirt off the lattice panels.



Potomac Community 4H Club

By Allison Tang

In August 2025, the Potomac Community 4-H Club hosted a robotics demonstration highlighted two robots that were programmed using Python, as well as an explanation of the code used to program them.

The Giggiebot was programmed to be controlled using a remote controller microbit, allowing visitors to control and interact with the robot. The Cyberbot was programmed to execute functions when its' buttons were pressed, such as playing music and moving around. The club demonstrated to over 500 people, and it was a very fun experience because the members were able to teach many people about robotics and increase their interests in STEM.

The picture on the left shows the 4-H table display. The right picture on the right shows the demonstration.



4-H Calendar Due dates and Events

September

- 1 Application event opens 2026 National 4-H Conference. Submit on 4-H Online.
- 5 Maryland 4-H/FAA Dairy Goat Judging Contest, State Fair
- 14 State 4-H Rifle Match Patapsco Ranges, Baltimore
- 15 Application event opens 2025 4-H State Council Membership, Maryland State Fair. Submit on 4-H Online
- 18 National 4-H Dairy Judging Contest - All American Dairy Show, Harrisburg, PA
- 27 State 4-H Archery Contest, Carroll County Ag Center

October

- 18 State 4-H Shotgun Contest, Prince Georges Trap & Skeet
- 25 Outbound Program, Application Open. Submit on 4-H Online
- 28 NAE4-HYDP Conference Starts (October 28-30, 2025) Atlanta, GA
- 31 Due Date: 4-H State Council 2025 Officer Application. 4-H Online

November

- 15 Application event opens: 2025 National 4-H Leadership Trips (National 4-H Congress, Camp Miniwanca, VA 4-H Congress, WVOMC). Submit on 4-H Online
- 15 Due Date: 4-H State Council 2025 General Membership Applications. 4-H Online.
- 15 Due Date: Applications for 2025 National 4-H Conference. 4-H Online.
- 21 4-H Volunteer and Teen Forum Starts (November 21-23, 2025) Ocean City, MD
- 21 Fall 2025 Tractor Supply Company Paper Clover Campaign Starts (November 28-December 14, 2025)

December

- 1 Due Date: Volunteer Survey due date
- 1 2025 Youth/Volunteer Enrollment Closes. 4-H Online
- 7 State Dog Bowl Contest UMD, College Park
- 15 Outbound Program Application Deadline. 4-H Online



Agility Fun Match 2025
Oct. 25, 2025
Hosted by the 4-H Kids 'N' Dogs Club (Montgomery County, MD)

- Join us for Agility Fun at Warrior Canine Connection (WCC) in Boyds, MD.
- Bring your dog to compete in an agility course with various obstacles like ramps, jumps and tunnels.
- Whether you're an experienced handler or new to agility, there's something for everyone. The competition will have groups based on dog size and experience.
- Connect with fellow dog lovers and let your furry friend shine in a supportive environment.

Date: Saturday, Oct. 25, 2025
Time: Starts at 11am
Location: Warrior Canine Connection in Boyds, MD
Cost: \$15 to register (which includes one run through the course at a chosen level and height) + \$5 for any additional runs in any other class

All proceeds will go towards the purchase of a trailer for the Kids N Dogs club's agility equipment.

For more information and to sign up for the Agility Fun Match, visit our website:
<https://www.4hkidsandogsclub.org/>



Thank you Warrior Canine Connection for hosting us! Check out their website at warriorecanineconnection.org

Editor's note: Clip art appearing in this newsletter are copyright free from the National 4-H Foundation, Shutterstock.com, Clipart-library.com, the Graphics Fairy, NASA, <https://create.vista.com/>, and Freepik.

Question: Do you know what it is, and where was the picture taken?

Answer: This is the roof of the Elevator Silo at the 4-H Bldg. in Derwood, MD.

Chandini Montgomery, 4-H Educator, 301-590-2804, cbmontgo@umd.edu
Catherine Savage, Agent Associate, 301-590-2813, csavage9@umd.edu
Sheila Ford, Extension Program Assistance, sheilaf@umd.edu
Jeannine Shriver, Admin Asst., 301-590-3210, jshriver@umd.edu
Anna Hamann, Admin Asst. (part-time), Newsletter Editor, ahamann@umd.edu

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Our mailing address is:
Montgomery County 4-H
18410 Muncaster Rd
Derwood, MD 20855

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