



Newsletter

Howard County • 3525-L Ellicott Mills Drive • ELLICOTT CITY, MD 21043 • (410) 313-2707 • FAX (410) 313-2712
www.howard4-h.org

4-H CLOVERLEAF

January 2008



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Happy New Year!

We look forward to an exciting 2008 4-H year

WELCOME, WELCOME, WELCOME!!!!

The Howard County Extension Office would like to welcome our newest team member, Maria Gordon. Maria is the administrative assistant whose primary responsibility will be to work with the 4-H program. Please keep in mind that Maria will be working part-time in our office. She will be available Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:00 a.m.— 4:30 p.m. She can be reached at 410-313-2707 or 410-313-1906.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!

The Howard County Office of the Maryland Cooperative Extension wishes you and your family a very safe and happy, holiday season.



INCLEMENT WEATHER

SCHOOLS CLOSED

When schools are closed. **ALL** 4-H programs are canceled. This includes closing early due to weather.

SNOW EMERGENCY PLAN

If a Snow Emergency Plan for Howard County is in effect at 7:00 a.m. on either Saturday or Sunday, **ALL** programs/activities, 4-H, school and community will be canceled. Should the Plan go into effect after 7:00 a.m., programs in progress may be completed at the discretion of the activity leader.

2008 CALENDAR

The 4-H Calendar for 2008 is included with this Cloverleaf. It will be also available on the 4-H web site at www.howard4-h.org If you would like to have items included, please send them to Rick Hodiak at hodiak@umd.edu. Please remember there will be changes and additions throughout the year. The most up to date calendar will be on the web.



FASHION REVUE

The 2008 4-H Fashion Revue Planning meeting is scheduled for January 24th at 7:00 p.m. at the Glenwood Library. Any 4-H'er carrying the Clothing or Fashion Revue projects can participate in the Fashion Revue Show. There are several other opportunities for 4-Hers carrying Theater Arts or Public Speaking to help out with the show. So plan to come out and help plan the 2008 Fashion Revue. There will be sub-committees (Food, Narrations, Decorations, and Entertainment) that will need plenty of help to make this year show the best yet!

Fashion Revue is scheduled for June 6th and 7th at the Glenwood Community Center.

COMMUNICATIONS CONTEST

The Communications Contest is scheduled for March 1, 2008 at the George Howard Building. This is an opportunity to come out and give a speech! There are four categories you can participate in Extemporaneous, Prepared, Radio Spot, and Interpretations. All first year 4-H'ers and Clovers are invited to come out and do the 4-H Pledge. Champions will go on to the State competition this year. Registration forms will be due February 15th. Forms, rules, and guidelines will be available on our 4-H web site soon. Mark your calendars now!

SENIOR PORTFOLIOS

ATTENTION all senior 4-Her's. It is time to begin thinking about applying for the Out of State Trips. These are wonderful and rewarding opportunities for senior 4-H members. They are "once in a lifetime" experiences! Please think about submitting your senior portfolio by January 10th. If you have any questions, please contact Sheryl at 410-313-1912 or sherylb@umd.edu. Specific information about the portfolios Can be found at <http://www.agnr.umd.edu/Extension/4H/Programs/Portfolio%20Program/index.cfm> or on our website www.howard4-h.org.

RECORD BOOK INFORMATION!

Record books for the January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007 are due in the 4-H Office by February 2, 2008. Records are judged on project achievements, leadership development, participation and growth. All record book forms are available on the 4-H website:

www.howard4-h.org

4-H'ers should have all the necessary project record sheets they need. If you do not, see your club leader. The leader has a list of the projects you need in the record book. Even if your club does not require record books and you choose not to do the record book, you still **MUST COMPLETE** project records for **ALL** projects carried in 2007. These need to be turned into the club leader and they will forward them to the 4-H Office with record books from the club by **February 2, 2008**.

Reminder:

Senior members who plan to submit their portfolio to be considered for National 4-H Club Congress need to submit their portfolios to the Extension Office by January 10, 2008.



CLUB BOOKS!

Program Planning and Secretary Books for 2007 and 2008 Program Planning Books are due in the 4-H Office by February 2, 2008.

Remember, this is the same planning book you filled out in January 2007 with club plans for that year submitted to the office in February 2007 and entered in the 2007 Howard County Fair. The Secretary's Book records events as they occur during the year. Program Planning and Secretary's Books are compared to see how well you planned and carried out the 4-H program. We realize some dates and plans change, but these changes are noted throughout the secretary's records.

The best books are nominated and judged for the Maryland Outstanding Club Award. Your club cannot be nominated for the Maryland Outstanding Club Award unless both the 2007 Program Planning and 2007 Secretary's Books are submitted.

2008 Program Planning Books are also due in the 4-H Office by February 2, 2008. This includes "Tentative Monthly Plans" and "Special Meetings Planned" for 2008. We review your plans and return this book to your club by the end of February. A club plan reflecting these plans should be given to each 4-H'er in your club.

Treasurer's Book - Submit the 4-H Club Audit Report, Treasurer's Book, and all financial records (bank statements, canceled checks etc.) by February 15, 2008. This is available on the web at www.howard4-h.org

Treasurers - Please note!!! - When making out checks to the Howard County 4-H Department, please make them payable to Howard County 4-H Foundation.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES AND VISUAL PRESENTATIONS

Healthy Lifestyles and Visual Presentations will be held together again this year on April 4th, 2008, at 6:00 p.m., at the Howard County Fairgrounds. Registration forms, Healthy Lifestyle posters, and menus will be due March 17th, 2008. This is a great opportunity to come out and participate in a county event!



REMINDERS FOR YOU!

YOU MUST REGISTER...

if you want to attend workshops. We need to know the amount of materials to have available. From time to time, workshops are canceled, locations and times are changed, etc. and if you do not register, you will not be notified!!

LIVESTOCK SKILLATHON

Whether you carry a livestock project or not, Livestock Skillathon is a great way to work with other 4-H'ers and learn valuable information. In March, all those interested can compete at the state contest, therefore, we will begin practices Wednesday, January 9th at 7:00 in the



4-H
Dinning
Hall at the
Fair
grounds

LIVESTOCK RATE OF GAIN REQUIREMENTS

Beef Steers, Market Lambs, and Market Pigs will have minimum "rate-of-gains" required to show in 2008. This means that market animals will have to gain a certain amount per day from Tag-In Day to the County Fair:

SHEEP

.40 lbs. per day

SWINE

1.50 lbs. per day

BEEF

2.00 lbs. per day

MARKET GOAT

.20 lbs. per day

HORSE BOWL—2008

It is time to start preparing for our 2008 program. Coaches for 2008 are:

Seniors: Darryl-Ann Buschling 301-854-2102

Intermediates: Al Starr 410-442-5810

Juniors: Joan Bosmans 410-531-2370

Please contact the appropriate coach if you would like to participate. Beginners should practice with their appropriate age group. Our county contest will be **February 10, 2008** in the **Dining Hall** at the Fairgrounds at 1 p.m. **Marcie Barnard** is coordinating the County Horse Bowl Contest. The State Horse Bowl Contest is scheduled for **March 10, 2008** at the Animal Science Building in College Park. There is not a division for Clovers.

LIVESTOCK QUALITY ASSURANCE

The Livestock Quality Assurance class dates have already been selected and are listed below. Please mark the dates on your calendar NOW! Remember, in order to be able to show livestock at the County Fair, you **MUST** attend the training **every other** year. If you have questions or aren't sure if you need to attend this year, contact Sheryl at 410-313-1912 or sherylb@umd.edu.

Wednesday, **March 26, 2008**

Wednesday, **May 28, 2008**

(All classes will be held in the Dining Hall at the Howard County Fairgrounds.)

STEER REGISTRATIONS

All beef and dairy steer project members should have received a steer registration packet for 2008. The ownership deadline for all steers is January 1, 2008. The registration form needs to be received in the Extension Office by January 2, 2008. The Beef I.D. Day is scheduled for Saturday, January 5th between 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. at the fairgrounds. Due to the change in health paper regulations, no vet work will be done at the identification day. In the event of snow, there will be a message at 410-313-1912 regarding any changes or cancellations.



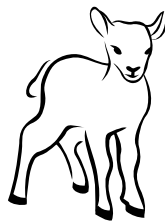
ATTENTION 4-H SHEEP MEMBERS

The National Scrapie Eradication Program went into effect in November 2001. It applies to you. All market lambs and breeding sheep ARE REQUIRED to have scrapie tags in the ears at all shows, fairs etc. Make sure your market lambs are tagged when you purchase them even if purchased from out-of-state. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS. If you want to find out more information look at: www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/scrapie

or

www.animalagriculture.org/scrapie

You ARE REQUIRED to list SCRAPIE NUMBERS for each animal on your health papers.



HAPPY HOUNDS CLUB

Happy Hounds Club's is beginning registrations for the 2008 Canine Obedience and Fitting and Showing classes. These classes will be held at the Howard County Fairgrounds. These 8 week classes will start Thursday, March 20th and will end on Thursday, May 15th. All interested 4-H members may contact Carolyn McGraw at 410-489-5653.

Registrations forms are available on the 4-H web site at: www.howard4-h.org. Space is limited so send in your registration forms as soon as possible.



STATE DOG BOWL COMPETITION

This year's State Dog Bowl Competition will be held on Saturday, April 12, 2008. Beginning January 5th, 2008, practices will on Friday evenings at the Howard County Fairgrounds. Any 4-H'ers interested in participating, please contact Stephanie Stull at 301- 831-5723 or sstull@aol.com.

DOG AGILITY CLASSES

Have your dog take the cues from you in the exciting sport of Agility Training. Get a great work out for you both by enrolling in the Dog Agility Classes. These one hour long classes for beginners and advanced members, begin on March 22nd, 2008 and will last for 8 weeks. Contact Elaine Geiser at 240-568-9498 or email her at Geiser7777@comcast.net for information. Registration forms can be found on the 4-H website at: www.howard4-h.org. Class size is limited so register soon!



POULTRY TESTING

All poultry to be shown at exhibition will need Pullorum Typhoid and Avian Influenza Testing in 2008. Contact the Animal Health Lab nearest you for testing. The phone number for the Frederick lab is 301- 694-1548 and the phone number for the College Park lab is 301-314-1870.



IMPORTANT!
IMPORTANT!
IMPORTANT!

**IF YOU HAVE NOT
TURNED IN AN
ENROLLMENT FORM FOR
2008 TO YOUR CLUB
LEADER, GUESS WHAT?
THIS WILL BE YOUR
LAST CLOVERLEAF!**

ACHIEVEMENT NIGHT ! - MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The 2008 4-H Achievement Night has already been scheduled. It is planned for Friday, October 3rd. In 2008 Achievement Night will have a new location and new look. It will be held in the Sheep/Goat Barn with a fall harvest theme. There will be a DJ and dance after the program.

WILLS FAIR NEEDS HELP

The Wills Fair Livestock Show is in need of financial support. Clubs who would like to contribute for the 2008 show should send their donation to:

Wills Fair
c/o Judy Iager, Treasurer
8115 Murphy Road
Fulton, MD 20759

HOWARD COUNTY 4-H T- SHIRTS



We are in the process of planning for the 4-H t-shirts, that all Howard County 4-Hers receive to wear at the fair. In 2007, several businesses/community organizations generously made contributions to help defray the cost of the shirts. In 2008, our goal is to have enough contributions to cover the entire cost of the shirts. Enclosed with this newsletter you will find a sponsorship form. If you know of a business or organization that may be interested, please pass along the letter and form

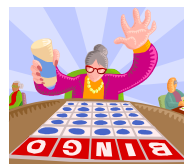
enclosed with this copy of the Cloverleaf. If you need additional forms, they can be found on our website www.howard4-h.org.

HOWARD COUNTY 4-H ALL STAR BASKET BINGO

The Howard County 4-H All Stars are currently planning a basket bingo fundraiser. It is scheduled for Friday, March 28th at the Mt. Airy Volunteer Fire Department Activities Building. 4-H All Stars sponsor many 4-H awards and activities throughout our county.

If you would like to make a donation for the fundraiser or would like tickets, please contact Marjie Eyer 301-829-1449 or Martin Hamilton at 410-489-6258.

More information will be provided in the February Cloverleaf.



OFFICER TRAINING

The officer training workshop is scheduled for Friday, January 11, 2008 at 7 p.m. at THE GLENWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER. All officers are expected to attend this workshop. Please put this date on your calendar, now! To register for the workshop, please contact Chris Rein at 410-313-1915 or crein@umd.edu. Thanks!



The Howard County Cooperative Extension Office will be closed from Wednesday, December 19 through Tuesday, January 1, 2008. We will reopen on Wednesday, January 2, 2008! Also, in observance of Martin Luther King Day, we will be closed on Monday, January 21, 2008.