



## March 2009



**Inside this issue:**

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION DINNER	2
VOLUNTEER DINNER TALENT VOLUNTEERS	2
VOLUNTEER TRAINING	2
4-H ALL STAR BASKET BINGO	3
4-H T-SHIRT	3
SPONSORSHIP	
LIVESTOCK QUALITY ASSURANCE	4
SHEEP TAIL DOCKING POLICY	5
WILLS FAIR	5
FASHION REVUE	6
HAPPY HOUNDS CLUB	6
COVER DESIGN CONSTEST	6
4-H CAMP	7
4-H SCHOLARSHIPS	8

## SPECIAL NEWS ALERT!



This will be the last paper edition of the Howard County 4-H Cloverleaf. Due to budget constraints and in an effort to "Go Green", we will no longer be sending the newsletter in the mail. Instead, you will be able to find each and every newsletter on our website at [www.howard4-h.org](http://www.howard4-h.org). If this presents a problem for you, please contact Rick Hodiak at [hodiak@umd.edu](mailto:hodiak@umd.edu) or 410-313-1914.

If you wish to have the newsletter automatically emailed to you, please go on our website at [www.howard4-h.org](http://www.howard4-h.org) and then go to the Cloverleaf page. You will be able to enter your email address so the newsletter will be sent to you.

### 4-H PROJECT ADDITIONS, DELETION AND MEMBER ENROLLMENT

All project additions and deletions are due to Rick Hodiak at the 4-H Office by May 1, 2009 to be eligible for fair participation. All club leaders will have a listing of all projects you are enrolled in at both the March and April meetings. Be sure to check, make additions or deletions, and initial to verify the changes. You can only make changes through your club. **Do not directly call the 4-H office to make changes.** It needs to be done at your meeting or through your organizational leader. All enrollment forms and dues need to be in to Rick Hodiak by May 1st. Forms received after that date will not be eligible for 4-H fair participation. If you know someone who is planning to join 4-H, they need to attend the March or April meeting of the club they are interested in. The 4-H office will not enroll someone without them attending a club meeting. Also, enrollments have to come through the organizational leader.

## SHARE YOUR TALENT FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS!



Can you play an instrument, act, etc? We are looking for individuals or groups of 4-H'ers to provide entertainment during this year's Volunteer Recognition Dinner. If you have a talent you would like to share for our terrific volunteers, please contact Maria Gordon at 410-313-1906 or by email at [mgordon@umd.edu](mailto:mgordon@umd.edu) no later than Friday, March 6th.

## 4-H CLUB DISPLAYS AT VOLUNTEER DINNER!

Each club is responsible for supplying a display for the Volunteer Dinner scheduled for Saturday, March 21st.

The displays can be a tribute to your club volunteers, a 2008 review of club activities, a focus on a special community service project etc., etc. Your Organizational Leader is not responsible for completing. Members of the club should be working on this.

## 4-H VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION DINNER

### "VOLUNTEERS-THE TREASURE OF 4-H"



Howard County 4-H Clubs will recognize their 4-H Volunteers for their years of service on Saturday, March 21st at the **Lisbon Fire Hall**. We are looking for donations of door prizes for the volunteers. If you can provide some type of door prize contact Maria Gordon at 410-313-1906 or at [mgordon@umd.edu](mailto:mgordon@umd.edu). Donated door prizes will need to be delivered to the 4-H Office on **Thursday, March 19th** or brought to the event on March 21st.

## ASSISTANCE NEEDED FOR VOLUNTEER DINNER

The 4-H staff needs several 4-H'ers to assist with Volunteer Dinner on Saturday, March 21st. We need greeters, photographers, a 4-H'er to lead the pledges, and 4-H'ers to speak about the importance of our volunteers. All 4-H'ers who participate will have the cost of dinner covered by the 4-H program. If you would like to participate contact Maria Gordon at 410-313-1906 or by emailing her at [mgordon@umd.edu](mailto:mgordon@umd.edu) by Friday, March 6th.



## VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Any interested adult desiring to work with the 4-H program must complete the Volunteer Policy Training. If you are interested in becoming an MCE Volunteer, a training will be held on **April 23, 2009 at 7 p.m. in the Cooperative Extension Office**. The agenda will include completion of the application, an interview, a description of job responsibilities and the MCE Policy on AIDS, Use of Alcoholic Beverages, Drug-Free Work Place, Prevention of Child Abuse, Sexual Harassment, and Employee Accident Prevention Procedures. The completion of the training is **ABSOLUTELY MANDATORY**. Please let us know if you will be attending this training. Contact Chris Rein at 410-313-1915 or by email at [crein@umd.edu](mailto:crein@umd.edu) to register. **YOU MUST REGISTER!!!!** The class will only be held if there are 5 participants registered.

## NORTH LAUREL LEADERS 4-H CLUB SPIRIT NIGHT

The North Laurel Leaders 4-H Club is hosting a Spirit Night at Chick-Fil-A at the Columbia Mall on Wednesday, March 11th from 5:00 p.m.-8:00 pm. They will be there representing their club and to bring awareness about the 4-H program. Chick-Fil-A will make a donation to this club with the presentation of a club coupon. The Chick-Fil-A cow will be there for pictures too! For more information and to obtain a club coupon please contact Kathy Raley at 301-497-2230. Thanks for your support!!

## 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 27th at the Mt. Airy Volunteer Fire Department Activities Building. 4-H All Stars sponsor many 4-H awards and activities throughout our county. We need clubs, families, and individuals to sponsor baskets. If you would like to make a donation for the fundraiser or would like tickets, please contact Marjie Eyler at 301-829-1449 or Martin Hamilton at 410-489-6258.

## HOWARD COUNTY 4-H T-SHIRTS

We are still in the process of planning for the 4-H t-shirts that all Howard County 4-H'ers receive to wear at the fair. Over the past several years, local businesses/community organizations generously made contributions to help defray the cost of the shirts. In 2009, 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](http://www.howard4-h.org).



## T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST



*Are you creative? Computer savvy? Then you may want to read on...*

The 4-H team is looking for someone to design the front of the t-shirt 4-H'ers will wear at the 2009 Howard County Fair. We are looking for a black and white computer generated design that includes the official clover. The person who designs the selected shirt design will be awarded \$50. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of the 4-H staff. All designs must be submitted to the Howard County MCE office no later than Friday, May 1st.

## ACHIEVEMENT NIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Achievement Night Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the 4-H Activities Building at the Howard County Fairgrounds. All interested 4-H'ers and volunteers are welcome to attend. We will make decisions about the theme, food, etc. at this meeting. In 2009, four clubs have been assigned to help plan this event. At least one adult volunteer and one 4-H'er from each of the following club needs to be in attendance:

Horizons  
Hare Raisers

West Friendship  
Spotlight

## MARYLAND STATE FAIR CHANGES

There has been a change in the Maryland State Fair Schedule for the 2009 Fair. 4-H and Open Beef Cattle will all be shown on the first weekend which is August 27th-30th. 4-H and Open Dairy Cattle will all be shown on Labor Day weekend. For more information check out the Maryland State Fair website at:

[www.marylandstatefair.com](http://www.marylandstatefair.com)



## Congratulations...

to our senior 4-H members who participated in "Out of State" trip Interviews! Those who participated were:

Brittany Bowman  
Danielle Bauer  
Austin Carroll  
Emilia Slotnick  
Jocelyn Butrum  
Sarah Giordano  
Ellen Crafton  
Kaeley Secan  
Amy Albrecht

## BEEF FIELD DAY

Beef Field Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 25th.

This year it is mandatory that all 4-H'ers enrolled in a beef project attend Beef Field Day. Please contact Sheryl at 410-313-1912 or email her at [sherylb@umd.edu](mailto:sherylb@umd.edu) if you have a conflict. Beef Field Day packets have already been mailed. All forms for the Howard County 4-H Beef Field Day can be found on our website at [www.howard4-h.org](http://www.howard4-h.org).



## MARKET

### LIVESTOCK TAG

### REPLACEMENT



Each year we have market animals that lose their ear tags. This creates a challenge re-tagging the right animals. Animals need to be housed and handled so they do not lose their tags. Replacement tags will cost \$10.00 each this year. Animals will be re-tagged at weight checks and the Saturday of lamb check-in at the fair.

## 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 are not sure if you need to attend this year, contact Sheryl at 410-313-1912 or [sherylb@umd.edu](mailto:sherylb@umd.edu).

Intermediate and Senior Members-**Monday, March 30th** at 7:00 p.m.  
First Year and Junior Members-**Wednesday, April 27th** at 7:00 p.m.

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

---

## 2009 MARKET LIVESTOCK RATE-OF-GAIN PROGRAM

Market Livestock (beef steers, market lambs, market pigs, and market goats) must gain a certain amount of weight per day to show in market classes at the 2009 Howard County Fair. Weight gain per day is calculated from weigh-in/tag day to weigh-in at the County Fair. There are several weight check days scheduled at the fairgrounds scale for 4-H'ers to check market animals' weight. Dates are listed in the 4-H calendar.

Beef - 2.0 pounds of gain per day  
Sheep - .40 pounds of gain per day  
Swine - 1.5 pounds of gain per day  
Goat - .20 pounds of gain per day

---

## SHEEP & WOOL SKILLATHON

The Sheep and Wool Skillathon will be held on Sunday, May 3rd from 9:00 a.m.— 12:00 p.m in the Rabbit Building at the Sheep and Wool Festival . A skillathon provides youth with the opportunity to blend knowledge and skills acquired in livestock judging, demonstrations, and care and exhibition of animals into a single activity. A skillathon competition consists of a series of stations where youth are tested on their knowledge and abilities related to livestock. Station topics may include identification (breeds, parts, diseases, equipment, meat, wool, or feed); evaluation/judging (fleeces, live animals, hay); a problem solving activity; and a written quiz. All of the stations in this contest will pertain to sheep and/or wool. The Sheep & Wool Skillathon is open to any youth between the ages 8 and 18. Individuals and teams (of 4) may compete.

- **Classes:** Individuals and teams: Juniors: 8-10; Intermediates: 11 - 13; Seniors: 14 - 18
- **Awards:** Top ten individuals in each age class and top three teams in each age class.

Pre-registration is requested by April 27th. Teams must be pre-registered in order to compete. Name and ages of youth should be sent to Susan Schoenian at the Western Maryland Research & Education Center, 18330 Keedysville Rd., Keedysville, MD 21756 or [sschoen@umd.edu](mailto:sschoen@umd.edu).

Information about the skillathon and study aids can be found at [www.sheepandgoat.com/programs/skillathop/skillathon.html](http://www.sheepandgoat.com/programs/skillathop/skillathon.html).

## TAIL DOCKING POLICY

The 2009 Maryland 4-H Tail Docking Policy remains unchanged from 2008. 4-H lambs should be docked no shorter than the distal end of the caudal tail fold. The caudal fold is a flap of skin attached to the underside of the tail near the rectum and is clearly visible when the tail is lifted. Lambs docked in this manner will have a minimum tail length of 0.7 inches at the time of show. Purchased lambs (market and breeding) should have a minimum tail length of 1.4 inches at the time of "weaning." This gives a high probability that the lamb's tail will measure at least 0.7 inches at the time of show. 4-Hers should use the DeTail device to select lambs that have been properly docked.

In 2009, compliance with the Maryland 4-H Tail Docking Policy will be VOLUNTARY. Lamb tails (docks) will not be officially measured at Maryland 4-H activities. No lambs will be disqualified from showing due to tail length, unless the short dock results in a rectal prolapse. Any sheep or lamb that exhibits a rectal prolapse at a 4-H activity will be ineligible for the activity and sent home by the Extension Educator, Sheep Superintendent, or other appropriately deemed individual. The following will be used as a guideline to determine occurrence of a rectal prolapse:

"A rectal prolapse is defined as an inversion of the rectum that protrudes 4 cm (1.6 in.) or more outside the body and remains exterior to the body while the animal is standing." If a lamb is observed with a rectal prolapse (by one of the above people) and in the future is not observed with a rectal prolapse, it is still classified as having a rectal prolapse. This was the criteria used in the 2003 multi-year study published in the Journal of Animal Science that established a scientific link between tail length and the incidence of rectal prolapses in lambs fed concentrate diets. Questions about Maryland's 2008 4-H Tail Docking Policy should be directed to Susan Schoenian at (301) 432-2767 x343 or [sschoen@umd.edu](mailto:sschoen@umd.edu).

---

## COUNTY HORSE BOWL



Congratulations to all 4-H members who have given every Monday evening for the past several months to study for the County Horse Bowl Contest. Your hard work and dedication for learning about horses was apparent at the contest. All of you should be very proud of your accomplishments. The following Howard County 4-H members participated in Horse Bowl on Sunday, February 8, 2009: Amy Albrecht, Danielle Jacobus, Kaeley Secan, Sara Gordon, Caitlin Smits, Cathy Churilla, Camryn long, Cyndi Koster, Teri Koster, Jocelyn Butrum, Alyssa Sumpster, Janine Vickers, Brianna Mentle, Julia Wolfrey, Nikki Wolfrey, Meredith Pecukonis, Jenni Strakna, Amelia Dashielle, Beth Lemmon, Briana Vidi, Caroline Kingsbury, Victoria Vidi and Caitlin Beckjord. Also, thanks to our dedicated coaches: Joan Bosmans, Al Starr, and Darryll Ann Buschling. Marcie Barnard coordinated the County Contest and we appreciate all of her time and dedication to this event!

## WILLS FAIR

The R. N. Wills Spring Fair will be held on **Saturday, May 16th**, at the Howard County Fairgrounds. Classes will be offered in the areas of dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep, dog, goat, poultry, and rabbits for 4-H'ers from Central Maryland.

The Wills Fair catalog will **ONLY BE AVAILABLE** on the 4-H web site at: [www.howard4-h.org](http://www.howard4-h.org). **Catalogs will not be mailed. Entries are due in the 4-H Office by April 9, 2009. NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

---

## HORSE JUDGING

Horse judging practices will begin in March. This program teaches you how to judge confirmation of horses as well as judging the different groupings like hunter, etc. Coaches for 2009 are Bud and Diana Cullum. Practices will be held at The Cullum's house. You need to register for this program. To register, call the Cullum's at 410-442-5849.



## 4-H MARKET LAMB WORKSHOP

If you are enrolled in a market lamb project, do not miss this workshop! This lambing workshop will take place on Sunday, March 22nd at 1:00 p.m. in the 4-H Activities Building at the Howard County Fairgrounds. Tom and Mara Mullinix will be presenters and topics will include selecting a market lamb, feeding and nutrition, and proper care. To register, contact Maria Gordon at 410-313-1906 or via email at [mgordon@umd.edu](mailto:mgordon@umd.edu).

## FASHION REVUE

Judging will take place on **Friday, June 5th at 3 p.m.** and the Show will be held **Saturday, June 6th at 7:30 p.m.** at the Glenwood Community Center. The theme for this year's Fashion Revue will be "**FASHIONS IN BLOOM**". The Rules and Entry forms are up on our 4-H web site at [www.howard4-h.org](http://www.howard4-h.org). Please read them carefully! Entries are due in the **4-H Office by April 17th. NO LATE ENTRIES.** Forms must be complete and include a narration and swatch of fabric. There is plenty of help still needed on the Decorations, Entertainment, Food, and Narration Committees. Please call Chris at 410-313-1915 or email at [crein@umd.edu](mailto:crein@umd.edu) for additional information.

## HAPPY HOUNDS CLUB



The Happy Hounds Club is beginning registrations for the 2009 Canine Obedience and Fitting and Showing classes. These sessions will be held at the Howard County Fairgrounds. These 8 week classes will start Thursday, March 19th and will end on Thursday, May 14th. All interested 4-H members may contact Leah Yancey at 410-788-1847. Registrations forms are available on the 4-H web site at: [www.howard4-h.org](http://www.howard4-h.org). Space is limited so send in your registration forms as soon as possible.

- **Beginner Classes:** For any one who has not taken beginner obedience classes before. (Experience of dog is not the determining factor, we teach handlers how to train their dogs.) These classes will run from 6:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m. The Beginner Fitting and Showing Classes will run from 7:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m. You may choose to take either class or both.
- **Advanced Classes:** For any handlers who have had beginner obedience classes with Happy Hounds. (Experience of dog is not the determining factor, we teach handlers how to train their dogs.) Advanced Fitting and Showing Classes will run from 6:30 p.m. —7:30 p.m. Advanced Obedience Classes will run from 7:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m. You may choose to take either class or both.

Classes are free for all Happy Hound members if you have been a member for three months prior to April 1st. Non-members may take one or both classes offered for \$25.00 each. Space is limited!! All forms are due by Tuesday, March 3rd. If you have any questions, please call Leah Yancey at 410-788-1847 or via email at [Yancey4h@verizon.net](mailto:Yancey4h@verizon.net).

### CHANGE OF DATE FOR 2009 DOG AGILITY CLASSES!!!!

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE: THE 8 WEEK DOG AGILITY CLASSES HAVE BEEN CHANGED FROM THE START DATE OF MARCH 21ST TO MARCH 28TH. FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT LEAH YANCEY AT 410-788-1847 OR VIA EMAIL AT: [Yancey4h@verizon.net](mailto:Yancey4h@verizon.net).**

### REMINDER-DOG IDENTIFICATION CARDS

The Dog Identification Card is available at our 4-H office. This form, as well as Vaccination Records, and a county dog license **MUST** be mailed in with your registration form.

## COVER DESIGN CONTEST

Once again, the Howard County Fashion Revue will be having a program cover contest and will be recognizing the top 4-H'er at the Revue. Create a design depicting our theme as a program cover. The theme for this years Fashion Revue will be "**FASHIONS IN BLOOM.**"

The design can be in color or black and white. The design should be completed on a half sheet of 8 ½" by 11" white paper. All cover designs entered will be on display the night of the show. Covers are due to the 4-H Office **NO LATER** than **April 17th.**

## 2008 HOWARD COUNTY 4-H CAMP



The Howard County 4-H Camp is just around the corner! Camp will be held from June 21, 2009 - June 27, 2009. Campers, ages 8 - 13 as of January 1st will be given the opportunity to experience another outstanding week at the Western Maryland 4-H Center. The Center is located in a small town called Swanton, which is in Garrett County. If you have never been to camp, you have missed a week of a lifetime. The camp is located in a wooded mountain area which includes a 25-acre lake. Visualize a large heated recreation hall, kitchen/dining hall, hospital, restrooms and showers surrounded by 12 cabins. 144 campers and teen leaders, along with 18 adult staff, are housed within this facility. The week is jam packed with fun and educational activities. The camp application is available at [www.howard4-h.org](http://www.howard4-h.org).

First preference will go to 4-H'ers until April 2nd. After the April 2nd date, non 4-H'ers will be placed into available slots. Registration forms are accepted on a first come first served basis, so you need to get your forms back to us as soon as possible. **DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE DEADLINE!** After the camp registration deadline has passed, additional information will be mailed to all applicants of their acceptance to camp or not.



## MARYLAND 4-H SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Nine(9) college scholarships are awarded to current/former 4-H members who will be enrolled at an accredited college, university, or in post high school vocational programs in the Fall of 2009.

Students wishing to apply for any one of the scholarships may obtain further information and a Scholarship Form from the State web site:

<http://www.agnr.umd.edu/Extension/4H/4HFiles/ScholarshipApp09.doc>

*An individual may win one of the listed scholarships:*

- WILLIAM & EILEEN KLINGEHOFER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - \$500
- J. O'NEAL & ROSA MOXLEY JOHNSTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - \$1000
- HOWARD WARFIELD CLARK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - \$1000
- BEATRICE PUE STREAKER PFEFFERKORN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - \$500
- BARBARA PUE STREAKER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - \$500
- LAWSON KING MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - \$1000
- BRENDA BOURNE STAIR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - \$1,500
- EDWIN D. & SUSAN C. FRY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - \$500
- RIPPEON FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP- \$2500

**Scholarships are administered by The Maryland 4-H Foundation.**

**Complete** applications are due in the Howard County Cooperative Extension Office by **Friday, May 1st**. You need only one form to be considered for each of the above-listed scholarships

## 2009 HEALTHY LIFESTYLES AND VISUAL PRESENTATIONS

Healthy Lifestyles and Visual Presentations will be held on Saturday, April 4th at the Howard County Fairgrounds. Both programs will run at the same time. Registration that evening will be at 9:30 a.m. Judging will begin promptly after the judges are briefed. The theme for the 2009 Healthy Lifestyles will be "EVERYDAY, THE HEALTHY WAY".

Registration forms and rules are on the web.

Registration forms, posters, and menus will be due by Friday, March 20th at the Howard County Extension Office. For additional information, contact Chris Rein at (410) 313-1915 or email [crein@umd.edu](mailto:crein@umd.edu).

## HOWARD COUNTY FAIR COUNT DOWN

Are you ready?

There are only **161** days left until the 2009 Fair!

