



MONTGOMERY COUNTY

NEWS & NOTES

SEPTEMBER 2023

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The next issue of News & Notes will be published on the first week of December 2023. Please submit your articles to Anna Hamann, ahamann@umd.edu, by November 20, 2023.

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



Wow, what a time! You all showed me what a fair is!!! I enjoyed watching all of your hard work come into the 4-H building, you made such creative crafts and outfits, and grew mouthwatering fruits, yummy preserves, jams, and honey. As I write this, I have a smile of my face watching you all in the show ring. Sometimes with some fun and quirky outfits with your animal. I am tired, but Fair was truly "the nine best days of summer!" Until next year!

- Arnelle

DATE	EVENT
September	
18	National 4-H Dairy Judging Contest -All American Dairy Show, Harrisburg, PA
20	Diamond Clover Level 6 Proposals due to MoCo 4-H Office.
30	Diamond Clover Level 6 project Reports due to 4-H Sate Office. Via Online Portal.
TBA	Maryland 4-H Fashion Revue. MD State Fairgrounds, Timonium.
TBA	Aerospace Contest
29-10/8	Keystone International Livestock Exposition, Harrisburg, PA.
October	
2	World Dairy Expo Judging Contest, Madison, WI.
15	Diamond Clover Level 5 Report due to MoCo 4-H Office
November	
4-6	Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup, Louisville, KY
4-6	National 4-H Dairy Bowl Contest - North American International Livestock Expo (NAILE), Harrisburg, PA.
4-6	Southeastern Regional 4-H Judging Contest, Louisville, KY?
4-6	Southeastern Regional 4-H Skillathon Contest, Raleigh, NC.
14-16	National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest - North American International Livestock Expo (NAILE), Harrisburg, PA.
14-16	National 4-H Livestock Skillathon Contest - North American International Livestock Expo (NAILE), Harrisburg, PA.
16-17	National 4-H Poultry Judging Contest - North American International Livestock Expo (NAILE), Harrisburg, PA.
December	
3 (Tentative)	Maryland 4-H Dog Bowl Contest, ANSC Bldg., UMD, College Park.
9	Youth Mental Health First Aid Training. 4-H Building, Muncaster Rd., Derwood

Cake Auction

Our Annual Cake Auction fundraiser was a big success. We surpassed last year's donations and we raised \$44,000+! Thank you to the 25 4-H'ers who donated their beautiful cakes, 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.



Cake trivia

Did you know that Queen Victoria was the first one to have pure white icing on her wedding cake? That is how the term “Royal Icing” came into usage.



Having a cake during Christmas is a tradition that the whole world follows. However, in the medieval era, parties were held to bring closure to Christmas celebration where live birds and frogs used to burst out a giant cake!



There is truly a difference between a cake and a pie but do you know that a Boston Cream Pie is a cake?

In the 1800’s in America, only pie tins were common and that is why it was prepared in a pie tin. Therefore, that is how you get such a confusing name.

Sood Shruti, (2019, July 31) *Interesting Trivia & Fun Facts Around Cakes*, <https://www.fnp.com/blog/interesting-trivia-fun-facts-around-cakes>

Maryland’s cake quiz:

1. What is Maryland’s number one preferred cake?
2. What is Maryland’s official desert?

Thank your sponsor

With your award, you received the name and address of your award sponsor. Do not forget to handwrite your thank you notes.

The sponsors are always happy when they hear from the 4-H members that received their awards. A handwritten “Thank You” note shows that you took the time to stop and think about the person who is receiving it.

Personally, I was thrilled with the thank notes I received. I got a picture of the chickens and their names from the member who won first place in brown eggs. I also

got a picture of a member with a Champion presentation.

Do not forget to write the award you won on your thank you note. Sponsors look forward to hearing from the 4-H members, and they appreciate knowing who won their awards and/or trophies.

Thank you all!

The Montgomery County 4-H Staff wants to thank:

- The many amazing volunteers that came during workdays. Their hard work made the building ready for fair week in just two weekends!
- The Chairpersons and Judges. Our Chairpersons and Judges are truly dedicated and an important part of the fair success. The Chairpersons helped the exhibitors to be comfortable, specially the first year exhibitors, and helped the judges with the different classes. The Judges spent time interviewing the exhibitors and judging the 4-H entries.
- 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.
- **A BIG THANK YOU** to the volunteers that most people forget about, the volunteers that clean up the fairgrounds after the fair ends. If you know any of them, please let them know we appreciate their efforts.

Level 5 Diamond Clover Plans & Reports

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: Sheila Ford, 18410 Muncaster Road, Derwood, MD 20855 or email to sheilaf@umd.edu.

Levels 1-4 reports are not due to the county 4-H office until January 2024.

Diamond Clover Level 6 Proposal Applications and Final Report

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 Six 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. If you are having problems uploading, please contact Sarah Garrick at sgarrick@umd.edu for assistance.

National 4-H Leadership Opportunities

At the National 4-H Conference you can connect with other teens from across the nation. You will experience opportunities that will influence your community, the nation and the world.

Youth are eligible for leadership trips opportunity by completing a SENIOR 4-H PORTFOLIO. Portfolios are due to the state by October 15. Local programs can set an earlier date to review before final state submission. The Montgomery County 4-H Office may submit up to three portfolios.

To be considered for a Leadership Trip, you must complete a portfolio package that includes an application, 4-H resume, essay, and interview.

For more information visit the State website under National 4-H Leadership Opportunities at

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

For more information regarding MOCO's due date, please contact Sheila Ford at (301) 590-2824 or sheilaf@umd.edu.

Background Check Renewal for UME 4-H Certified Volunteers

UME policy requires that volunteers be background checked every 3 years. Calendar year 2024 would be the first recertification period for individuals who completed their background check in 2021.

All UME 4-H certified volunteers will need to complete the background check. The first batch of recertification invites were sent out this week.

UME will provide notification of the need for renewal according to the following schedule:

- September - volunteers initially screened in January – April of 2021
- October – volunteers initially screened in May – August of 2021
- November – volunteers initially screened in September – December of 2021

You will receive an email from Sterling Volunteers to agree to the background check.

The background check should be completed within 30 days of the invitation to avoid separation and dismissal, and ensure your 2024 enrollment is approved by the March 1 target deadline.

Annual Financial Reports

Due: By email no later than Monday, October 9, 2023.

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 this year should match your ending balance from last year; 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 you have \$0 value.

If you have any questions, please e-mail Sheila Ford at sheilaf@umd.edu

Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA)

When: Saturday December 9
Where: 4-H Building, Derwood, MD

Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) teaches participants how to help youth

experiencing a mental health challenge, crisis, or addiction issue. The course introduces common mental health challenges and teaches a 5-step action plan for how to help young people in both crisis and non-crisis situations. Topics include anxiety, depression, substance use, psychosis, disruptive behavior disorders, and eating disorders.

For more information, please see flyer the end of the News and Notes.

and chocolate frosting slathered over the whole cake.

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

Maryland's cake quiz:

1. What is Maryland's number one preferred cake? Ice cream Cake.
2. What is Maryland Official dessert? The Smith Island Cake. Traditionally, the cake consists of eight to ten layers of yellow cake with chocolate frosting between each layer

SPOTLIGHT



Camp Miniwanca

By Eric G.

One of the most amazing experiences I have ever been a part of, so far, is Camp Miniwanca. I was immediately inspired Lake Michigan's rustic cabins, tall sand dunes, and beautiful sunsets by. However, the staff, the activities, and the campers are what really made the camp amazing. Throughout the week, I connected with people from all over the US and shared my journey with them. The other campers were funny, supportive, respectful, and inclusive of me, which

made it easy to make friends. Most activities encouraged everyone to try new things or share a unique skill or talent to help the rest of their community during the camp.

We did loads of fun activities, ranging from tug of balance, to hoisting people up between an “electric fence”. Working on the various challenges and activities throughout the week with such a supportive community really built up my confidence and willingness to try new things. Camp Miniwanca encouraged me to step outside my comfort zone and do amazing things I never thought I would do. The range and breadth of experiences the camp offered was amazing. On a typical day, I started with an exhilarating “polar bear” plunge into Lake Michigan followed by workshops or an afternoon challenge or skit, and ended the day by watching a skit, variety show, or listening to heartfelt tributes at the fire circle.

One of my favorite activities was the Community Cheer Showcase, where I was able to use my radio spot skills as the ‘radio host’ during a skit to showcase our cheer. Another fun event I did was The Quest, where my leadership group and I participated in several activities, usually involving overcoming some sort of challenge. One of these activities involved a tug of balance, where another camper and I were blindfolded, and five people on each side of the rope had to balance while leaning backward. Another favorite activity I participated in was the Community Cup, which included various challenge activities and relay races where being familiar with your teammates’ respective skills and experience could make a difference in how your team placed in an event. The activities included a wet sponge relay, a ball game, a hula-hoop pass, a ‘snake’ version of capture-the-flag, and a multi-event relay race that included a dizzy bat spin, 3-legged race, wheelbarrow race, crab walk, and side shuffle. We won some events and lost others, but we ultimately learned valuable skills in working together as a team and making the most of everyone’s respective strengths for the different challenges.

In summary, I highly recommend attending Camp Miniwanca. The camp setting, activities, and people there will encourage you to step outside your comfort zone while making new friends and learning more about yourself and others. The memories and connections you make there will leave you counting the days until next year’s camp!

4-H Lucky Clovers of MoCo present the 2023 4-H STEM Challenge
Sunday, October, from 2:00-5:00 p.m.
At the Montgomery County Fairgrounds

Welcome to the 2023 Power Protectors 4-H STEM Challenge! Join us for a fun and engaging event that focuses on renewable energy. Learn about sustainable power sources, the amount of energy that we use every day, and the importance of using energy wisely. Help the Power Protectors Superheroes design an energy efficient hideout. Design and build a model of a solar, wind or hydropower energy source to power your Superhero Hideout and help save Energy Island. Help Energy Island move from unsustainable carbon-based energy use to renewable solar, wind and hydropower.

Parents - Do not miss this opportunity for your kids to find the spark that ignites a passion to learn about and stay engaged in STEM.

Ages 8-12. \$5 per child.

Registration: Lucky Clovers 4-H on Rallyhood

CLUB CORNER

D Damascus **Community Club**

What is happening at the Damascus 4-H Club?

Evelyn B.

Here is what has been happening at the Damascus Community 4-H Club. During the July meeting, five groups met Beginning Foods, both D&D groups, STEM group and the Electricity group. Along with that, the members talked about the other cool things that that club has done, including a tour of NASA headquarters, the 4-H picnic, and the Senior Birthday Party.

In August, the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair took place. The club entered artwork, sewing, baking, vegetables, crochet, and other projects into the fair so that they could be judged.

The club also took part in the 4-H parade. The members walked around the fair dressed up as space cowboys with antenna and

handkerchiefs on because their theme was *New Frontiers*. Thank you to Kayla for being their spokesperson. The club got 3rd place and won \$30.

The club also saw Anvita and Rosie riding in a float because they were crowned Queen and Princess of the Damascus Fair. Abby, a member of the club, was crowned Princess of the Fair at the ceremony following the parade.

Congrats to Evalyn for Champion on the banner, Evalyn and Anvita for Reserve Champion on the Secretaries Book, and Lydia and Mrs. Wester for Champion on the Treasurer's Book. Also, congrats to Ren for Champion on the Historian book.

Thank you to all the families who did citizenship/promotional entries to the fair. Thank you to Mrs. Carley for collecting the first place hats for the chemo patients. Finally, congrats to Mrs. Suan, Mafo, Andrade, Zoe, and Kayla for the first place cookie basket, Mrs. Korzeniewski and the quilting group for the two first place quilt blocks, and to Mrs. Carver, Evelyn and Harrison, for the second place Christmas ornaments.



Montgomery County 4-H STEM Club

Montgomery County 4-H STEM Club Delivered a Birthday Party for People at Transitional Housing

Amy Wang

On August 16, 2023, 6 members and 5 volunteers of the Montgomery County Sunny 4-H STEM club brought a smiles, laughter, and joy heartwarming birthday party to residents at a local transitional housing. This 4-H citizenship project is designed to nurture young participants into active, engaged members of the community.

The recent August birthday celebration at the transitional housing facility demonstrates the 4-H citizenship project's core values. Members of the Sunny 4-H STEM club planned and organized a wonderful party, complete with decorations, games, birthday cake, ice cream, fresh fruits, birthday cards, balloons, etc. In addition, they brought a karaoke machine to sing songs to cheer people up when facing challenges in their lifetime. The event brightened the day of the residents, and helped 4-Hers learn how to assess community needs and then strategizing and executing projects to address those needs, to make a positive impact in the communities.

Members of the MOCO Sunny 4-H STEM club are encouraged to form long-term partnerships with community nonprofit organizations in support of Montgomery

County
emergency
housing shelter
residents.






UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION

Youth Mental Health First Aid Training

Private, in-person Youth Mental Health First Aid training
for Montgomery County 4-H.

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID
Saturday, December 9th

 18410 Muncaster Rd. Derwood, MD 20855
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM



**Mental Health
FIRST AID**

from NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR
MENTAL WELLBEING

ABOUT YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

- Suicide is the second leading cause of death in youth aged 10-24
- 1 in 5 children aged 13-18 will have a mental illness at some point in their life
- Over 5,000 students in grades 7-12 attempt suicide every day in the USA

Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) teaches participants how to help youth experiencing a mental health challenge, crisis, or addiction issue. The course introduces common mental health challenges and teaches a 5-step action plan for how to help young people in both crisis and non-crisis situations. Topics include anxiety, depression, substance use, psychosis, disruptive behavior disorders, and eating disorders.

Register Here!

https://MoCo4H_Dec9.eventbrite.com



MarylandROPTA.org



MarylandROPTA@umd.edu

