

CHARLES COUNTY

SPRING 2025 4-H Voice

4-H Team

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Reminders

FOR WEEKLY UPDATES:

JOIN OUR ONE-LIST:

Email Bonnie at bboyden@umd.edu to be added to the list.

Facebook Group: Charles County 4-H

*Our Facebook group is a closed group designed to keep enrolled 4-Her's, parents, and volunteers up to date with activities and programs. Updates will be posted as available.

When requesting membership, please answer all prompts or your request will be denied.

Registration Policy

For fee-based programs, a completed application, other required forms, and payment must be mailed or brought into the office. Email registration is not an option for workshops that charge a fee. At least five youth must be registered for our event to take place. Please make sure you get your registrations in on time.

UPCOMING 4-H EVENTS

All dates are subject to change,
registration required for all events.

April 2025

4/3.....Vet Science.....5:30 - 7:30pm
4/8.....Sheep & Goat Quality Assurance.....6pm
4/9.....Sewing Workshop
4/10.....Vet Science.....5:30 - 7:30pm
4/13.....Teen Training.....2-5pm
4/14.....Algae Academy9am-11:30am
4/15.....Algae Academy9am-11:30am
4/16.....Sewing Workshop
4/17.....Hippology Practice.....5pm
4/18.....HOLIDAY - OFFICE CLOSED
4/22- Rabbit Judging.....5pm
4/22- Poultry Judging.....6pm
4/23.....Sewing Workshop
4/24.....Hippology
4/24.....Algae Academy Teens.....3pm
4/27.....Teen Training.....1-4pm
4/28.....Spring Show Planning Meeting.....6pm
4/29.....Robotics Information Meeting.....5:30pm
4/30.....My Family's Garden.....5:30pm
4/30.....Clover Night.....5-6pm

May 2025

5/1.....Algae Academy I.....3pm
5/1.....Hippology Practice.....3pm
5/1.....Ads for Livestock Ad Book Due
5/4.....Teen Training.....1-4pm
5/4.....Spring Clover Picnic.....2pm
5/6.....Robotics Practice.....5:30pm
5/7.....First Time Livestock Exhibitor's Quality Assurance.....6pm
5/8.....Hippology Practice.....5pm
5/9.....Day Camp Registration Due
5/13.....Robotics Practice.....5:30pm
5/14- Poultry Judging.....6pm
5/14- Rabbit Judging.....5pm
5/15.....Hippology Practice.....5pm
5/15.....Ear Tag Order Form Due (Market & Breeding)
5/15.....My Family's Garden.....5:30pm
5/17.....SOMD Robotics Workshop.....11am
5/20.....Robotics Practice.....5:30pm
5/20.....Spring Show Entry Forms Due

5/20.....Sheep & Goat Weigh-In.....3-7:30pm
5/21.....Swine Weigh-In.....3-7:30pm
5/21.....Clover Night.....5-6pm
5/22.....Hippology Practice (Tentative).....5pm
5/22.....My Family's Garden.....5:30pm
5/22.....New Volunteer Training.....6:30-8:30pm
5/26.....HOLIDAY, OFFICE CLOSED
5/26.....Robotics Practice.....5pm
5/29.....Hippology Practice (Tentative).....5pm
5/30.....Overnight Camp Registration Due & Commitment Fee
5/31.....Horse & Pony Cards Due
5/31.....Dog Cards Due
TBD- Beginner Shotgun Begins

June 2025

6/2.....Day Camp Leader & Volunteer Meeting...5:30 & 6:30pm
6/2.....Volunteer Professional Development.....5pm
6/3.....Robotics Practice.....5:30pm
6/3.....New Volunteer Training (In-Person).....6-8pm
6/4.....Hippology Practice.....5pm
6/5.....My Family's Garden.....5:30pm
6/5.....Spring Show Pen Set Up.....5pm
6/6.....SOMD Spring Show (Lamb Show)
6/7.....SOMD Spring Show (Swine, Beef, & Rabbit Shows)
6/8.....SOMD Spring Show (Dairy & Meat Goat Shows)
6/9.....Spring Show Clean Up
6/10.....Robotics Practice.....5:30pm
6/10.....Last Day of School
6/12.....Hippology Practice.....5pm
6/12.....My Family's Garden.....5:30pm
6/16 - 6/20.....Day Camp
6/19.....HOLIDAY, OFFICE CLOSED
6/23.....STEM Workshop.....1pm
6/24.....Robotics Practice.....5:30pm
56/25- Poultry Judging.....6pm
6/25- Rabbit Judging.....5pm
6/26.....My Family's Garden.....5:30pm
6/30.....Clover Night.....5-6pm
6/30.....Overnight Camp Leader
& Volunteer Meeting.....4:30 & 6pm
TBD- Teen Training

Camp News!

Day Camp: June 16 – 20th 2025

The 2025 Application for Day Camp will be sent out to all enrolled 4-H'ers in the near future. The cost will be \$100.00 due by May 9th. Space is limited so it is a first come basis. We may fill before the deadline, so don't delay.

4-H'ers will need to bring lunch and a drink each day. There will be a camp store where 4-H'ers may spend \$2.00 Mon-Thurs for an afternoon snack.

The deadline for registration is Friday, May 9th. Payment and all forms must accompany the application. There are no refunds.

Teen Leader Training

Training for returning leaders will be on April 13 from 2–5 p.m. and April 27 from 1–4 p.m. This is for those who were leaders last year at camp only. You must email Bonnie to register (bboyden@umd.edu).

The next training for in training LIT's will be on Tuesday, April 22nd at 5:30 p.m. You must email Bonnie to register (bboyden@umd.edu).

Overnight Camp: July 13–19th 2025

Cool nights, campfires, canoeing, archery, hiking and lots of fun is what is in store for you at the Western MD 4-H Center. The Overnight Camp forms will be emailed to all currently enrolled 4-H youth. The cost of the camp is \$400.00. We do offer a two-payment plan. The first payment is a commitment registration of \$200.00 due May 30th and the second payment is due June 27th.

No refunds and space is limited due to buses, so get your forms in before the deadline.

Please do not share the camp forms with friends that are not enrolled in 4-H. If we have space after the commitment deadline of May 30th, we will then open it up to those who are not currently enrolled.

There is a required first-time camper orientation for overnight camp that youth must attend. It will be on Wednesday, July 2nd at 6 p.m. at the 4-H Office.

For more information or questions please email Bonnie at bboyden@umd.edu.

Camp Gift Cards Available for Purchase

Does your 4-H'er have a birthday coming up? Give the gift of 4-H camp! Head over to the 4-H office and grab a Camp Gift Card! Gift cards are available in amounts from \$5 to \$400 and can be applied toward the cost of camp.

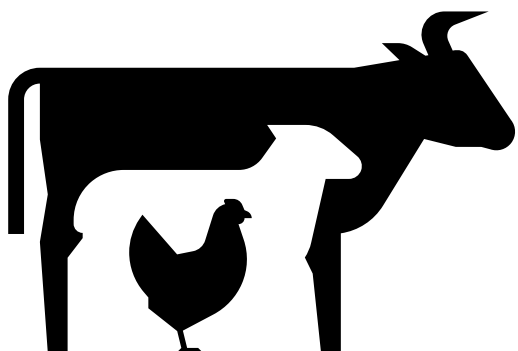
Please note: A gift card purchase does not guarantee a spot at 4-H day or overnight camp. Timely registration is required.

Livestock News

Breeding Stock Registration

For all 4-H'ers with breeding stock: the copies of your registrations for your animals are due in the office by July 1. This includes all species: beef, sheep, swine and goat.

The registration forms for breeding animals are included in this issue of the VOICE. We will need copies of your registrations from the breed association at that time, too.



Livestock Weigh-In

Swine: The 2025 swine weigh-in and ear tagging will be held on **Wednesday, May 21st** at the Charles County Fairgrounds from 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. If you are planning to raise swine for 4-H you must bring your pigs to the fairgrounds at that time. If you have any questions, email

Bonnie bboyden@umd.edu.

Sheep and Goat will be held on **Tuesday, May 20th from 5 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.** If you are planning on raising market lambs or goats for the 2025 fair you must bring your animals to the Charles County Fairgrounds on this day for them to be weighed in and tagged. If you have any questions, please email Bonnie at **bboyden@umd.edu.**

Livestock Judging

Here is a great way to learn more about your livestock project and what the judge looks for in the showing. You will have fun and travel to different farms. The kick-off meeting for judging will be Monday, May 12 and Monday, May 19 at the 4-H office at 6:00 p.m. If you are interested, email Bonnie to register.

First Time Exhibitors and Make-up Quality Assurance

If this is your first-time showing livestock or you missed your Quality Assurance Training, you **MUST** attend this meeting **May 7th at 6:00 p.m.**

Southern Maryland Spring Livestock Show

The Spring Livestock Show will be June 6, 7 and 8 at the Charles County Fairgrounds. More information will be coming soon.

2025 Livestock Auction

It is time to start thinking about the 2025 Livestock Auction. Time to reach out to last year's buyers and ask them to hold the date for the auction. September 13, 2025!

Maryland State Fair

The Maryland State Fair dates are August 21 – September 7, 2025. Visit the website for more information.

<https://marylandstatefair.com/>

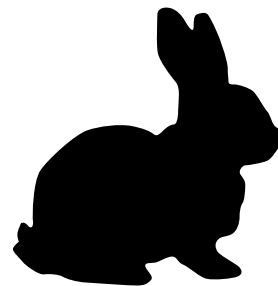


Rabbit Cards

If you are planning to show your rabbit at the County Fair, you must have a rabbit card on file in the office by **August 1**. Reach out to Jeanne if you have questions, jeanneh@umd.edu.

Southern Maryland Spring Rabbit Show

The show will be at the Charles County Fairground on the weekend of June 7 and 8. Date to be determined. This is a great opportunity to learn and practice for the fair. More details will be coming in the future.



Horse and Pony Cards are due May 31st

All youth who are participating in the horse and pony project need to have a card on file with the 4-H office. Reach out to Jeanne to update your card or submit a new card.

MANDATORY!! Online Quality Assurance

The online quality assurance is for any youth in the beef, sheep, swine, goat, horse, poultry, or rabbit projects. You must complete the online training if you:

- are a first-time shower
- moved up in age division (junior to intermediate or intermediate to senior)
- are showing a new animal species

The online quality assurance program is not up and running yet but as soon as it is open we will send out the link.

Tractor Supply Paper Campaign

The fundraiser will be April 21-May 5. You can support our county 4-H program by purchasing a clover for just a \$1.00. Please share with your friends and family!



State Skillathon Results

The state Skillathon contest was held on March 1st in Fredrick County. There were over 130 youth participating. The results for the Charles County youth are below:

Juniors:

Joseph Bologna – 4th
Piper Hayden – 9th
Elizabeth Bowling-Cook – 12th

Intermediates:

Ethan Abell – 2nd
Francesca Bologna – 3rd
Charles Schaecher – 6th
Luke Barrett – 20th
Zoey Herron – 25th
Layla Hayden – 27th

Seniors:

Bella Verdiglione – 8th

MD Engineering Camp

Located at the Harford County 4-H Campgrounds, the Engineering Camp introduces some of the numerous Engineering projects and opportunities available through 4-H, and provides hands-on experiences. The last day to register is April 20 and you must register through 4-H Online.

Public Speaking Contest Results

Room A Prepared

Coordinator/Time Keeper: Bella Verdigione
Judges: Billy Moore & Sydney Garner



Seniors:

NAME	TITLE
Bella Verdigione	What Livestock Means To Me – Blue & Champion

Intermediates:

NAME	TITLE
Paige Warring	My Review of Middle School...So Far – Blue & Champion

Room B Clover Show & Tell

Coordinator: Mikayla Johnson & Lauren Mohler
Judge: Michelle Mohler

Show & Tell

Clovers

NAME	TITLE
Cade Bennett	Space Items
Emma Bynum	Backpack
Maddie Bynum	Artwork/Supply
Emmalynn Durst	Dolly Parton Photo
Carlie Lancaster	My Yellow Lab Sophia
Payton Lancaster	My Doll James
Madelyn Mohler	How to Cartwheel
Jordy Smith	My Favorite Cars
Audrey Williams	My 3-D Animals

*All Clover Members Received – Participation Award

Room C Interpretation

Coordinator/Time Keeper: Debbie Olejnik
Judges: Georgia Bowling & Joe Boswell

Juniors:

NAME	TITLE
Peyton Kemp	“Autobiography in Five Short Chapters” By Portia Nelson – Blue & Champion

Room E Extemporaneous

Coordinator/Time Keeper: Kelly Bryant
Prep Room Coordinator: Jeanne Williams
Judges: Billy Moore & Sydney Garner



Seniors:

NAME
Cole Barrett – Blue & Champion

Registration Table: Cole Barrett, Blaine Boyden
Emcee: Skylan Brassell

Room D Radio Spots

Coordinator: Blaine Boyden & Olive Swann
Time Keeper: Mike Mohler
Judges: Alison Bode & Caitlin Olejnik



Seniors:

NAME	TITLE
Blaine Boyden	4-H is Fun! – Blue & Champion
Olive Swann	What I Look Forward to All Year – Blue & Reserve Champion
Emilee Lancaster	Join 4-H! – Blue

Intermediates:

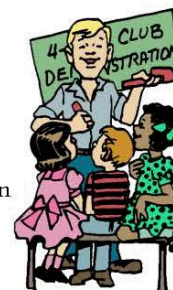
NAME	TITLE
Lizzy Winkler	The Best Part of the Fair – Blue & Champion
Luke Barrett	4-H Camp is Fun! – Red
Delana Bryant	4-H Overnight Camp is for You! – Blue & Reserve Champion

Juniors:

NAME	TITLE
Clayton Bennett	Come with Me to Camp! – Blue

Room F Demonstrations

Coordinator/Time Keeper: Debbie Olejnik
Judges: Joe Boswell & Georgia Bowling



Intermediates:

NAME	TITLE
Samuel Swann	Boater Safety – Blue & Champion

Room G Visual Presentations

Coordinator/Time Keeper: Skylan Brassell
Judges: Molly Gillingham & Patricia Hopkins

Intermediates:

NAME	TITLE
Charlie Schaecher	Greek Gods & Goddesses – Blue & Champion
Liam Kydd	Galileo – Blue & Reserve Champion

CALVERT COUNTY 4-H MEMBERS

Tristan Nicely	The Power of Theater – Blue & Champion
Nathan Dent	Lorcana – Blue & Reserve Champion

Juniors:

NAME	TITLE
Abigail Zarychta	Bluey! – Blue & Reserve Champion
Leigh Warring	All About Tornadoes – Blue & Champion
Lucas Kydd	Invasive Species – Blue

Judges' Room/Ribbons: Bonnie Boyden

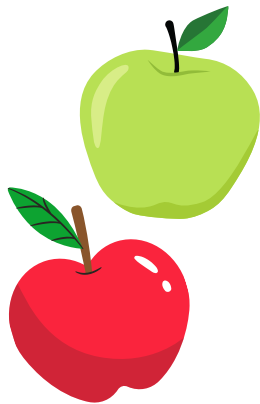
Junior, Intermediate & Senior Champions in each Speech Category are invited to participate in the
Maryland State 4-H Public Speaking Contest – April 26, 2025 at the University of Maryland College Park

Club News!

Creative Critters Club Report: Making Apple Cider Vinegar

By Sophia Buzzeo, Reporter

During the February meeting of Creative Critters, we learned how to make apple cider vinegar. We got to make it from scratch! First we cut up apples and put them into a clean glass jar. We filled it up with the apples, but not all the way. Next, we put in water and a little bit of sugar. It took one month for it to turn into apple cider vinegar. Each day you had to stir it. Apple cider vinegar is good for many things, but my favorite is to eat it with crabs!



Country Clovers 4-H Club Report January to March 2025

Submitted by: The Country Clovers Reporters

The club welcomed the newly elected club officers:

President – Kaitlynn Diehl

Vice President – Taylor Carter

Secretary – Journee Grooms

Treasurer – Layla Everly

Historians & Reporters – Peyton Kemp, Nolan Kozloski, & Sydney Stoddard

The January meeting was held on the 2nd Monday of the month. The members had a regular business meeting followed by making a snowman candle craft.



The February meeting was held on the 2nd Monday of the month. The members had a regular business meeting followed by making a DIY dry eraser board. The members also collected donated snack items for the Claggett family.

The March meeting was held on the 2nd Monday of the month. The members held a regular business meeting followed by making a wooden bird ornament. The members collected donated items for Lifestyles in La Plata.



Program News

Weather Science STEM Night

On March 28th, the 4-H office hosted a fun and educational Weather Science STEM Night, where youth participated in hands-on experiments set up in stations. Each station focused on different weather phenomena, offering a unique learning experience.

At the “Tornado in a Bottle” station, participants created their own mini tornadoes, while another station explored the differences between El Niño and La Niña. The air pressure station demonstrated how pressure affects weather patterns, and at the final station, youth made their own cloud spotters to help identify different types of clouds.

The event was a great success, giving participants the chance to learn about weather science in a fun and interactive way. We look forward to holding more STEM nights in the future exploring different topics!



Clover Nights

Clovers come together for crafts and exciting new lessons once a month. In January, they “dug for dinosaurs,” reading the illustrated picture book biography *Dinosaur Lady* about Mary Anning, the first female paleontologist. After learning about Anning’s groundbreaking work, they got hands-on by searching for dinosaur fossils in a sandbox.

Last month, Clovers were introduced to 4-H! They learned the 4-H pledge and created their own “Welcome to 4-H” door hangers, marking the start of their journey in the club. Each Clover Night is a fun way to learn and get creative, and we can't wait for the next one!



Algae Academy Exploration

Algae have the potential to be a solution to some of society’s biggest challenges. What can we use as renewable fuel? Algae. How will we feed a growing population? Algae. What’s that green stuff growing in the pool? Algae.

The Algae Academy takes algae from “Ick” to “Awesome!” and will have kids asking their own big questions as they explore the potential of algae in their environment. Youth will cultivate algae, monitor its growth, analyze and interpret data, and make connections as to how algae production has a positive impact on the global environment.

During Spring Break, youth ages 8 – 18 may register to participate in a two day exploration of algae. A teens only program will be offered, as well, to take a deeper dive into algae in our world.

for more information or to receive the registration forms, email Kelly at kmbryant@umd.edu.

Spring Break – April 14, 15 – 9-11:30 AM

Teens Only – April 24 & May 1 – 3 – 5 PM

Charles County 4-H Poultry Judging Team

SOCK FUNDRAISER



\$12.95 A PAIR



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My Family's Garden

Coming in April and May is a program for youth to identify what they know about soils, plants, and the environment. Youth will plan a garden, present their plans, and explain why they made the decisions they did. Based on their decisions, seeds will be planted, grown, and then taken home for the youth to plant in their own family's garden.

Poultry & Rabbit Judging

Are you interested in learning more about poultry and/or rabbits? You do not need to own chickens or rabbits to participate. Practices will be held at the 4-H Office with rabbit judging at 5 PM and poultry at 6 PM. For more information or to join the teams, email Jeanne - jeanneh@umd.edu.