Welcome to the New 4-H Year!

We are excited to see the new 4-H year begin and to think about all that a new 4-H year brings: a fresh start and new opportunities for learning, growth, and fun! We welcome back all returning volunteers, members, and families, and we welcome new members and volunteers! Remember, 4-H staff are ready and willing to help you, so feel free to contact your local 4-H educator, program assistant, or administrative assistant with any questions.

There are a few big changes this year!

• The 4-H year now starts on September 1 and ends August 31.
• 4-H records are due October 1 (instead of November 1).
• Returning members and volunteers will re-enroll online.

Please read this newsletter carefully for detailed information on these three changes as well as other important information.

NEW THIS YEAR
All Returning Members and Volunteers Enroll Online!

The parents of all returning members should re-enroll them online through our database, 4honline. There are no paper forms required from re-enrolling members.
All Returning Members and Volunteers Enroll Online!
(continued)

There is an enrollment fee of $60—complete the process by November 1 and take advantage of the early-bird special rate of $50. The fee must be paid by check (payable to UMass 4-H) or credit card; you will print an invoice as part of the re-enrollment process. Checks are sent to your local 4-H office. To charge the fee, go to https://umassextensionbookstore.com/products/87.

Please print and read the instructions carefully before re-enrolling. Go to http://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/4honline_re-enrollment_instructions_2017.pdf. It is important that you use the profile 4-H created for you last year and not create a new profile. That means you need to log in with the email address you gave the 4-H office for the adult in your family. The database puts the entire family profile (account) under one family email address. So, don’t log in with the child’s address—use the adult email address. If you have any questions about the email address used to create your family profile, contact your local 4-H office and they can provide it for you.

Returning volunteers must also activate their status through 4honline each year. Only active volunteers are able to serve as club leaders and board members and be covered by insurance.

All new members must fill out paper enrollment forms. They are available on the “Forms” page of the 4-H website under “Member Forms.”

Welcome New Staff Member
Deb Comeau

We bid a fond farewell this summer to Paula Burgliewicz, state 4-H office administrative assistant, and welcomed new administrative assistant Deb Comeau. Deb has a BA from UMass with a concentration in organizational development. She worked for UMass as a business manager for the Department of Campus Services and as an office manager/administrative assistant for the College of Information and Computer Sciences and the College of Education before joining us. In her free time, Deb and her husband are avid hikers and have backpacked throughout New Hampshire and Vermont, as well as Arizona, Montana, Colorado, and Idaho. You may see Deb out and about on her Piaggio motorcycle, as she often commutes to work this way! Join us in welcoming Deb to our 4-H team.

Tenth Annual Fall Community Service Project
“I Pledge My Hands to Greater Service”

The statewide 4-H Community Service Project held each fall is one way for us to demonstrate the impact of 4-H community service efforts across our state. It is important that every 4-H club participate in this effort. All of us involved with 4-H pledge our hands to greater service.

Your club may collect food again this year or, if you are looking for a change, you may collect other items for those in need—clothing, books, items for an animal shelter, etc. Every family will receive a recyclable bag that can be used for the collection. Each club can tailor the drive to suit its own needs. The only requirements are that the club collect an item for those in need, donate it to a pantry/shelter/other facility of its choice, and report the donation’s what and where to its 4-H educator via email or an online survey, which will be sent to each club leader in November.

Thank you in advance for your participation!
Reporting Reminder for 4-H Leaders

All leaders are reminded that the annual club report was due in August. Club leaders will not be able to re-enroll their club if the complete report is not on file. Also, each leader must file the 990-N annually between the dates of July 1 and November 15. *Both of these must be done regardless of whether the club has any income or bank account—there are no exceptions.*

Report forms and instructions are found in the “Volunteer” section of the website: [http://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/volunteers/for-current-ma-4-h-volunteers/financial-management-insurance-report-forms](http://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/volunteers/for-current-ma-4-h-volunteers/financial-management-insurance-report-forms).

Important information for club leaders and advisory/program council presidents: *all clubs and councils must be successfully file the 990N. If cannot successfully file, you must contact your educator for assistance.*

4-H Records Due October 3

Record keeping teaches 4-H members valuable skills, and the recorded information is critically important for teens when they fill out applications for scholarships, college admissions, and jobs. Records are used to determine 4-H county medals and some other 4-H awards. All 4-H members are encouraged to fill out 4-H records! Records must be turned in to your local 4-H office; records received after October 3 will not be considered for awards. To access record forms and instructions, go to the Communications Program page of the website: [http://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/programs/communications-program/record-keeping](http://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/programs/communications-program/record-keeping).

*Please note the date that 4-H records are due has changed. Your county may be offering a one-year grace period to adjust to this change. Contact your local educator if you have questions.*

It’s Not Too Early to Prepare for the 2017 State Photography Contest!

All the rules and guidelines are posted on the 4-H website. Check out the state website, under “Forms & Applications” then “Contests,” for the information. Why not start today?

Important – All Volunteers, Parents, and Members

4-H Policy, Guidelines, and Procedures

As we start another 4-H year, you are reminded that all 4-H volunteers, parents, and members must be familiar with and adhere to 4-H policies and guidelines. These are found in the “About” section of the 4-H website [http://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/about/policy-guidelines](http://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/about/policy-guidelines).

Policy and guidelines found on the “About” page include:

- 4-H policy for clubs, members, and volunteers
- Cloverbud guidelines
- Guidelines for parents and adults

Important resources found on the “Volunteer” page:

- Financial management information
- Youth club officer guides
- Liability and insurance coverage (including information about accident/medical coverage for all members and volunteers)
- Overnight chaperone guidelines

Horse and fair guidelines found on the “Horse Program” page under “Horse Show Resources” include:

- MA 4-H horse show rule book
- 4-H fair and animal show safety guidelines

Support for 4-H Volunteer Training

The 4-H Youth Development Program supports the training and development of 4-H volunteers. While 4-H volunteers are encouraged to attend workshops and conferences that 4-H offers, the 4-H program can’t provide all of the training needed by volunteers. To support volunteers in obtaining the training they need to improve in their volunteer roles or obtain required certifications (such as ServSafe for volunteers running food booths), funds are available for partial reimbursement. These funds are generously provided by the 4-H Foundation and administered by 4-H Director Sherrie Guyott. To apply for funding, go to the “Volunteer” page of the 4-H website, click on “Resources,” then click on “4-H Volunteer Application for Funds to Support Workshops/Conferences/Training Sessions.”
NYSD — National Youth Science Day
This year’s challenge, Drone Discovery, explores the design, operation, and purpose of drones in the real world. The challenge guides youth through the engineering design process to developing drone-based solutions to real-world problems. Through the challenge, youths come to understand concepts including flight dynamics, drone safety, drone operation, payload/remote sensing, and more. The Drone Discovery challenge is designed to take approximately two hours and is appropriate for students in grades 4 and above. Additional activities provide suggestions to extend learning about drones to real-world applications. For Drone Discovery experiment guides and additional resources, visit: www.4-H.org/NYSD.

Why not incorporate NYSD in one of these ways?
• Use the official social media hashtag #4HNYSD.
• Don’t forget to tag 4-H in your post with @4H for Twitter and @4-H for Facebook.
• Use the activity to promote 4-H during National 4-H Week or Tractor Supply Weeks.
• Borrow a kit from your local 4-H office and use it to kick off the 4-H year with your club.
• Promote 4-H in your local community—coordinate with “Lights On Afterschool” or your local library.
• Jump off to “Hour of Code” in December with the Scratch activities.
• Expand with additional activities and run as a 4-H IMPACT program.

Planning a Trip to Washington, D.C.?
Consider staying at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland. It is minutes from D.C., youth friendly, and has an all-you-can-eat dining option. For details, go to salesinfo@4-Hcenter.org or call 800-368-7432.

MA 4-H Foundation Fundraising Update
The Shirley Kane Memorial Golf Tournament raised $46,000 for 4-H programs! Many thanks to all of you who supported this effort and participated as sponsors, players, and volunteers.

Horse Contests Resources for 2016–2017 (Horse Roundup)
It is time for horse project members to begin to prepare for the Horse Bowl, Hippology, and horse judging contests.

For information about contest rules and sources, go to: http://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/programs/animal-science-program/horses/contests-rules-resources.

Congratulations to Our Award-Winning Members!
State 4-H Photography Contest
Youth from seven counties submitted photographs for our annual MA 4-H Photography Contest. A total of 10 photographs were selected as Big E Quality Photos. Congratulations to these Big E winners: Benjamin French of Worcester County, Alexandra Enos and Cole Kraus of Essex County, and Hayden Kane and Julia Kane of Middlesex County.

Big E Morris Scholarship
Congratulations to Gabby Melnick of Worcester County who was selected as the Massachusetts recipient of the Morris Scholarship. The Morris Scholarship was presented on 4-H Day at the Big E. Gabby is currently an agricultural business major at SUNY Cobleskill.

George Farley Scholarship Awarded
Congratulations to Katrina Klobucher of Essex County and Liam Cleary of Hampshire County who were selected to receive the Farley Scholarship. This scholarship is presented each year to (former) 4-H members enrolled at UMass Amherst. Application details are on the 4-H website.
Massachusetts 4-H Dairy Show

The annual state show was held on August 5–7, 2016, at the Franklin County Fairgrounds in Greenfield, Mass. The show was judged by John Collins from Connecticut and Cody Pearson from New York.

The judging team members for 2016 are:

**Team A:** Deanna Gould, Samantha Goodfield, Abigail Shaw, Caitlin Small, and alternate Monica Howe

**Team B:** Daniel Clapp, Rachel Meacham, Austin Norris, Greg Norris, and alternate Cindy Shaw

Coached by: Moira Poitras

**Fitting Team:** Brian Belder, Gus Koebke, Chris Porrovecchio, and alternate Corinne Lee

Coached by: Greg Shaw

**Quiz Bowl Team:** Daniel Clapp, Trevor Clapp, Austin Norris, Greg Norris, and alternate Tim Noto

Coached by: Nicole Fletcher

**Grilled Cheese Team Members:**

**Team A:** Riley Goodrich, Darcey McMahon, and Karlene McMahon

**Team B:** Megan Howe, Tiffany Howe, and Sarah Jordan

Coached by: Rhonda Howe

**Show Exhibitors by county:**

**Bristol:** Daniel Clapp and Trevor Clapp

Helpers: Riley Goodrich, Darcey McMahon, and Karlene McMahon

**Essex:** Alyssa Girardo

Helpers: Alyson Ciarametaro and Caroline DeGrappo

**Franklin County:** Lauren Adams, Emily Allen, Hunter Apteker, Sophia Apteker, Brian Belder, Quinn Lucas, Siobahn Moore, Brian Peila, Chris Porrovecchio, and Chris Urgiel

Helpers: Natalie Apteker and Adam Maynard

**Hampden County:** Amanda Goodfield, Brynne Goodfield, Samantha Goodfield, Hayden Pike, Katelyn Poitras, Alexis Puza, and Caitlin Small

**Hampshire County:** Katelynn Adams, Emily Koehler, Rachel Meacham, Tim Meacham, Dylanie Nichols, Kirby Nichols, Austin Norris, Erin Norris, Gregory Norris, Samantha Riopelle, Chelsea Smith, Abigail Touchet, and Ethan West

**Plymouth County:** Corrine Lee

**Worcester County:** Bill Constantine, Sadie Constantine, Deanna Gould, Justin Hawkes, Reghan Hope, Megan Howe, Monica Howe, Tiffany Howe, Sarah Jordan, Curtis Koebke, Gus Koebke, Barry Nadon, Tim Noto, Lauren Olson, Abby Shaw, Cindy Shaw, Robert Shaw, Kelley Sullivan, and Rebekah Sullivan

Dairy Championships at the Big E (selected at the MA Dairy Show)
Make a donation to our online auction to support 4-H programs in Massachusetts!

Auction Dates: November 1-15th

What To Donate:
You, someone you know, or the company you work for may be able to help us! Are you a professional and can offer your services as an auction item? Do you have season tickets? Are there local businesses in your area that you could ask for a donation? Please join us to help make this auction a great success!

Donation Ideas:
Does your 4-H club have a special fall project in mind? The Massachusetts 4-H Foundation is pleased to be able to provide direct support to enrolled 4-H clubs and program councils! These grants are available for special projects or needs that the group has which support educational programs and other 4-H priorities. Applications will be reviewed on December 31, so submit yours soon!

- Restaurant gift cards, gas cards
- Sporting tickets
- Hotel stays, travel deals
- Museum passes
- High-tech products
- Concert or show tickets
- Private tour of your business
- Personal training
- Massage therapy, spa, nail care, hair services
- Professional photo shoot
- Wine baskets

How To Donate:
1. Mail your auction items to:
Massachusetts 4-H Foundation
1671 Worcester Road, Suite 403
Framingham, MA 01701

2. Or email your donations to:
lfanagan@mass4hfoundation.org

3. Tell us who donated the item.
We want to make sure that you or the donor are recognized for the contribution. Please remember to provide this information or download the auction donation form that can be found on our website www.mass4hfoundation.org and send it in with your donation.

Thank you for donating to our auction to support 4-H programs in Massachusetts!

Contact Laurie Flanagan, executive director, with any questions: lfanagan@mass4hfoundation.org or 508-881-1244.

www.mass4h.org
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