



Massachusetts 4-H Program

August 14, 2020

The UMass Extension 4-H E-NewsBlast is sent to all 4-H families and volunteers throughout the state. Each county 4-H office may add information that is specific to that county or region. Unless otherwise noted, all virtual programming is available to 4-H members throughout the state, not matter where you live or what club or group you belong to!

We look forward to seeing all of your entries in the MA 4-H Virtual State Fair! The entire 4-H Team is working behind the scenes to answer questions, approve entries, provide trainings, and more! Send us an email if you need any assistance.

The new enrollment period for 4-H Clubs and Groups is fast approaching. Remember that your club needs to turn in their financial forms and proof of IRS filings before you can re-enroll in 4-H online. More details below!

The next State Rabbit Advisory Meeting will be a Zoom meeting on August 18 at 7PM. Contact Carrie Sears for the link

MASSACHUSETTS 4-H VIRTUAL STATE FAIR

The fair is currently open for entries! Go to www.fairentry.com to submit your entries and then follow the information below. You can find the fair book at

<https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/events/2020-massachusetts-virtual-state-fair>

When Submitting:

- Go to www.fairentry.com. Click on "Find Your Fair" then "Search by State" and look for 2020 Massachusetts State 4-H Fair. Do not use Internet Explorer. Instead use Google or Firefox
- You can then log in using your 4-H Online user name and password OR if you do not have a 4-H Online account click "[Not in 4-H and need to create a FairEntry account?](#)" to create one.
- Submit all of your entries at one time. If entries are done a few at a time, you will have to wait for their one entry to be approved before submitting any additional entries.
- Entries close on August 19 – try to have your entries in as soon as possible so the 4-H staff has time to approve them for judging!
- Judging will occur after that date.
- You can find a step-by-step instruction sheet for entering on the MA 4-H Webpage

All entries are virtual and are submitted as videos or photos. Photos can be uploaded right in the FairEntry program. For entries requiring videos, you can choose to submit a link where your video is already located and can be viewed, or upload it to our new UMass 4-H YouTube site at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYLgg94_zFxpvk_7aVITYLA. Be sure to click 'private' when you upload.

FAIR ZOOM SESSIONS –

Virtual Fair Judges Training will take place on August 20 at 7pm. Go to this link: <https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/97466748840>

To view a variety of resources and videos for the virtual fair visit

- Massachusetts 4-H Webpage at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/events/2020-massachusetts-virtual-state-fair>
- Massachusetts 4-H Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Mass4H/>

Are you entering a decorated cake? Watch a video of How to Assemble and Decorate a Layer Cake here:

<https://www.kingarthurbaking.com/videos/bake-it-better-with-kye/how-to-assemble-and-decorate-layer-cake>

Club, Advisory Council, Fair Board Annual Financial Reports Due!

Clubs, boards, and committees need to submit a financial report each year; these were due on **August 1**. If you have not yet submitted your report or need assistance, contact your local 4-H office which can be found at the end of this NewsBlast. All forms can be found at https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/annual_club_report_and_financial_form_0.pdf.

Returning clubs will not be activated until financial reports are received. Important to note:

Once you submit your 990-N form, be sure to check that the status is ACCEPTED. Pending is not accepted by the IRS and can cause your EIN number to be revoked if you have a pending status for three consecutive years.

Coding Challenge!

Computational thinking is all around us if we look. Here are some coding challenges – and exercise challenges too! Your challenge is not only to try and code the Double Dutch Hop Challenge seen in this video link with your family, but code it! Send your codes/video to ma4hset@gmail.com. There will be a surprise to the first three people who compete. See the double Dutch hop challenge video on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/lowasNewsNow/videos/761763814558837>

Did you know? Written instructions can also be considered code or algorithms. Code and algorithms are in many of our daily routines, games and dances. What other Algorithms do you use? If you enjoyed the activity above, go further and check out the 2018 National Youth Science Day "Code Your World" where one activity is to "Code Your Dance". Find it at <https://4-h.org/parents/4-h-stem-challenge/4-h-nysd-2018-code-your-world/>

STEM Mars Base Camp Challenge Kits for Clubs and Individuals

The 2020 Mars Base Camp Challenge Kits are ready for you to order. In the past these were the National Youth Science Day Experiment Kits (NYSK). Because we are not yet meeting face to face or offering in-person workshops, we are offering a new way to work with the STEM challenge kit!

Order your own individual or family kit from National 4-H at <https://shop4-h.org/>. Follow the directions and have fun with the experiments; there are even some virtual materials to support you along the way. Family kits are \$15.95; Educator kits are \$23.95 and include a facilitator guide. For those families who wish to take part in the 2020 STEM Challenge in October, you can be reimbursed for your purchase! To qualify for a reimbursement, you will need to meet the following criteria:

- Be fully enrolled for the new 2020-2021 4-H Year by November 30. This includes all fees being paid
- Conduct the 2020 STEM Challenge using the kit in your home.
- Submit a photo or two of your family and 4-H member(s) conducting some portion of the experiment
- Complete a short survey
- Submit your invoice for the cost of the kit. Shipping will not be reimbursed; only the cost of the kit.

We will reimburse up to 40 kits. More details as to where to submit your information will be coming in future NewsBlasts.

Spinning Your 4-H Story

It's almost time for 4-H members to submit their records...at least to start writing your 4-H Story. For those of you interested, how would you feel about MIXING THINGS UP? Join us for a two-part Zoom series; spaces are filling up fast!

Part One – How to **WRITE** your 4-H Story - learn this in time to use this technique with this year's 4-H Records.

These three sessions will be held on Thursday August 27, September 3 & September 10, from 7:00 – 8:00 PM. What if your cow could talk about how hard practicing for showmanship could be? What if your rabbit wanted to tell the world all about the great treats you gave her? What if your horse had an opinion about changing to a bitless bridle, your sewing machine wanted to gush about all the cool projects it got to help with, or your model rocket could tell us all about what it saw from way up high? What other aspect of your 4-H project might we discover by letting your project take over the narration?

Join our special guest Teddy Hansen-Dewar for a virtual workshop series on a new way to tell your 4-H story! She is a 23 year 4-H member and volunteer, and has written many 4-H stories of her own. She is now a poetry and fiction writer! Instead of you being the narrator ("This year, I learned how to prepare a chicken for judging, including making her feathers look nice"), you'll learn how to let someone else be the narrator ("This year, I learned how to stand still while a judge remarked on how handsome I was, and how shiny my feathers were"). We'll work on some exercises to help you

think about how the world might look from things in your room, or in your barn, look at some examples of writing from different perspectives, and then let you be creative write a brand-new kind of 4-H Story!

REGISTER by contacting Angelica Paredes at: angelica@umext.umass.edu by August 20. Space is limited! Include the following information:

✓ Member Name	✓ Member Age	✓ 4-H Club/Program Name
✓ County	✓ Leader's Name	✓ 4-H Project(s)

Part Two – How to **TELL** your 4-H Story – These sessions will take place later in the year, in time to get you ready to present it at 4-H Visual Presentations in a new category!

Career Exploration Zoom Series

Join this highly popular series to learn more about a wide range of careers. Talk with an expert and find out what it takes to work in that career. Everyone is welcome to attend, no matter your age or project area, or even if a 4-H member! Invite a friend to attend too! To obtain the Zoom link, contact Angelica Paredes at angelica@umext.umass.edu with: session date, youth name, club/school, County (add state if other than MA

August 19	Dr. Jay Pasachoff	<p>Jay Pasachoff is Field Memorial Professor of Astronomy and Director of the Hopkins Observatory at Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts. A veteran of 72 solar eclipses, he is Chair of the International Astronomical Union's Working Group on Solar Eclipses. His recent research includes studies of the dynamics of the solar corona. He also studies the atmosphere of Pluto through observation of stellar occultations and participated in the occultation study of Arrokoth that led to the diversion of NASA's New Horizons spacecraft to image it on January 1, 2019, with the farthest-from-Earth photograph ever taken. His current eclipse research is supported by the Solar Terrestrial Program of the Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences Division of the U.S. National Science Foundation. His Pluto/Arrokoth research has been supported by NASA.</p> <p>Pasachoff received the 2003 Education Prize of the American Astronomical Society, the 2012 Janssen Prize of the Société Astronomique de France, the 2015 Richtmyer Lecture Award from the American Association of Physics Teachers, and the 2019 Klumpke-Roberts Award from the Astronomical Society of the Pacific.</p> <p>Pasachoff was born in Manhattan, grew up in the Bronx, and attended the Bronx High School of Science before Harvard for his A.B. and Ph.D. He was a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard and Caltech before coming to Williams College. One junior-high student from Pittsfield who interviewed him in a career discussion went on to become a NASA astronaut who flew into space 4 times!</p> 
August 26	Erika Hamilton	<p>Erika is a professor in the Department of Microbiology at UMass Amherst. Her background is in studying how germs like viruses and bacteria make us sick, and how our bodies work to fight off these invaders. In her presentation, she will talk about microbes like bacteria and viruses and the fascinating lives they lead. These microbes have a huge influence on us (the current coronavirus pandemic is a great example of this), and understanding this influence is essential to improving our lives. She'll also talk about what it means to be a scientist, the steps to take to become one, and the many different career opportunities open to scientists.</p>
Sept. 2	Senator Anne Gobi	<p>Anne M. Gobi was first elected as State Representative of the 5th Worcester District in 2001 and as State Senator in 2014. A native of Spencer and Worcester County, Gobi began her college education at Worcester State College with a B.S in History. To continue her education at Massachusetts School of Law for her J.D, Gobi taught at Leicester Public Schools as a history teacher and also at Nichols College as an Adjunct Professor for Political Science.</p> <p>Sen. Gobi has been a steadfast advocate for the constituents of the 5th Worcester District and now the Worcester, Middlesex, Hampden & Hampshire District. She and her staff are always available to help those in need to get the help that they have a right to. She has also been a devoted voice for the towns in the district, assisting with grant applications, state assistance, and legislative matters that benefit the district.</p> <p>Sen. Gobi was chosen by Senate President Spilka to serve as Senate Chair of both the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture and the Joint Committee on Higher Education. She was also appointed as Vice-Chair of the Joint Committee on Public Service and as a member of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. Her priorities include land conservation, clean energy, clean water, support for veterans, economic development (especially in rural communities), and support for public education, food security and support of farmers, and reducing costs for municipalities.</p>
September 23 – New Date!	Sheriff Bowler	<p>Prior to his election as Sheriff in November of 2010, Sheriff Bowler was a 24-year veteran of the Pittsfield Police Department, serving as a Detective since 1988. He was a key player in solving some of the city's largest crimes, including narcotics offenses, kidnapping, sexual assaults, armed robberies and homicides. In addition to his work in the Detective Bureau, he served in the Drug Unit and as an Arson Investigator.</p>

	<p>Sheriff Bowler was also an Assistant Deputy Superintendent-Security Affairs at the Berkshire County Jail and House of Correction from 2000 to 2002, where he played an instrumental part in moving the inmates from the former jail on Second Street to the new facility on Cheshire Road.</p> <p>In addition to the Berkshire County Jail and House of Correction, Sheriff Bowler operates the Berkshire County Sheriff's Communications Center in Pittsfield, providing fire, police and ambulance emergency 911 and non-emergency communications for 23 communities in Berkshire and Hampden County 24 hours a day.</p> <p>As chief law enforcement officer in Berkshire County, Sheriff Bowler oversees an average daily inmate population of nearly 200. In addition to the operation of the Berkshire County Jail and House of Correction and the Communications Center, he oversees the Sheriff's Office Uniform Division, the Civil Process Division and the Berkshire County Underwater Search and Rescue Team.</p>
--	---

Additional Programs and Resources

4-H At Home: Cooking and Nutrition: Kids will explore new foods and adopt healthier eating habits with this week's 4-H at Home activities on food and nutrition! Visit the links to learn more about the activity and check back every Monday for new ideas and hands-on, educational resources for all young people. Learn how to make ice cream in a bag, nutrition with play dough, soft pretzels, and see a cooking demo with the author of the 4-H Fresh Chef's Cookbook, Carla Hall. Go to <https://4-h.org/about/blog/4-h-at-home-cooking-nutrition>

School Resources for Parents and 4-H Volunteers

From WGBH Public Television: As schools and students, families and educators adapt to the current health crisis, WGBH in partnership with the [Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education](#), the [Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care](#), WGBY/New England Public Media, and The Basics, is supporting them by gathering some of our free, trusted digital resources from [PBS LearningMedia](#) and our award-winning educational [preschool programming](#). PBS LearningMedia resources span disciplines for grades PreK-12, are aligned to national and state standards, and include videos, comprehensive lessons, and other activities. [Family Activities](#) support learning and development for children ages 0 to 8. Resources are divided into Family Activities, Grade Level Activities, and additional resource collections. Go to <https://www.wgbh.org/distance-learning-center>

Back to School During COVID-19

Last Session: GARDENING: EATING WHAT WE GROW – August 18th from 10:00-11:00am

Join these fun interactive sessions to explore what plants eat, how to grow and harvest them, soil science, sunshine, recipes, and more! Appropriate for ages 8-18. Register [here](#).

4-H Office Contacts:

The 4-H Program is operating and available to answer questions. Reach out to your local office by email. Phone numbers are available at the 4-H Website at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/about/office-locations-contacts>

State 4-H Office: Linda Horn, Interim Director – lrhorn@umext.umass.edu
 Carrie Sears, 4-H Animal Science Program Manager – ccsears@umext.umass.edu
 Kim Pond – 4-H SET Program Manager – kima@umext.umass.edu
 Deb Comeau – State 4-H Administrative Assistant – dcomeau@umext.umass.edu

Western MA (Franklin, Hampshire, Hampden and Berkshire Counties):

Tom Waskiewicz, 4-H Educator – waskiewicz@umext.umass.edu
 Angelica Paredes, 4-H Educator – angelica@umext.umass.edu

Southeastern MA (Bristol and Norfolk):

Jay Field, 4-H Educator – jfield@umext.umass.edu
 Kim Henderson, Administrative Assistant – khenders@umext.umass.edu

Central MA (Worcester County):

Meg McDermott, 4-H Educator – memcdermott@umass.edu
 Martina Jasiewicz, Administrative Assistant – mjasiewicz@umext.umass.edu

Northeastern MA (Essex, Middlesex, Suffolk):

VaShon Wallace-Hiltpold, Acting 4-H Educator – vwallace@umext.umass.edu
Pam LeFave, Program Assistant – plefave@umext.umass.edu
Debbie Beaubien, Administrative Assistant – debbieb@umext.umass.edu
Nancy McCarthy, Program Assistant – nmccarthy@umext.umass.edu

Plymouth County:

Molly Vollmer, 4-H Educator: mvollmer@umext.umass.edu
Valerie Schell, 4-H Educator: vschell@umext.umass.edu
Cathy Acampora, Administrative Assistant: acampora@umext.umass.edu

Barnstable County:

Judy Vollmer, 4-H Educator: jvollmer@barnstablecounty.org
Dawn Johnson, Administrative Assistant: dawn.johnson@barnstablecounty.org

Massachusetts 4-H is an extension program at the University of Massachusetts. UMass 4-H follows the Massachusetts Governor's regulations for the re-opening of the state as well as the governance of the University of Massachusetts. Although guidelines for numbers of people who can gather have relaxed a bit for the state, the University guidance still states that no in-person 4-H meetings or activities are to take place at this time. This means our clubs and groups still may not meet in person. We will continue to monitor the situation and will allow in-person club meetings and activities to occur when university guidelines have been completed. We hope that your groups will continue to meet virtually and use some of the many programs, contests, and links that we have to offer online.



UMass Extension is a unit of the Center for Agriculture, Food & the Environment in the College of Natural Sciences. UMass Extension is an equal opportunity provider & employer, United States Department of Agriculture cooperating. Contact your local UMass Extension office for information on disability accommodations or the UMass Director if you have concerns related to discrimination, 413-545-4800 or refer to www.extension.umass.edu/civilrights.

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST