



UMass Extension 4-H Program

August 27, 2021

Weekly NewsBlast

The UMass Extension 4-H E-NewsBlast is sent to all 4-H families and volunteers in Massachusetts. Unless otherwise noted, all virtual programming is available to 4-H members everywhere, no matter where you live or what club or group you belong to!

Check these sites, and your local county Facebook page, for more details and for updates to programs: <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h> and <https://www.facebook.com/Mass4H/>

4-H Records online- currently unavailable due to software upgrades

Due to the 4honline updates in the software platform, the online 4-H records platform that is affiliated with 4honline is unavailable for 2020-2021. For those who submitted records in 2019-2020, be sure to keep the paper copies you submitted for judging. If you need assistance to download the records you submitted online, email Kim Pond kima@umext.umass.edu by August 20th, 2021 with the following information: County, Members Name and Project year.

Club Reports and Financial Summaries Due

Thank you to those clubs and groups who have already submitted their financial forms! Each 4-H club is required to submit an Annual Club Report and Financial Report Form for all financial accounts (i.e. checking, savings, CD's or other investment accounts) to their local 4-H Educator; these are currently due. If you are having difficulty completing your form or need assistance, reach out to your local 4-H educator or the state 4-H office. This year, each 4-H office will file your IRS 990-N Filing for you! You do not need to do this piece on your own. Forms are located here: https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/annual_club_report_and_financial_form_6.2021.pdf

Club members cannot re-enroll in 4honline for the new 4-H year until your 4-H office receives the club financial report!

PHOTOGRAPHY CHALLENGE – FINAL Challenge!

Keep those photos coming! Only a couple of weeks left to this Photo Challenge! Up to 2 photos can be submitted each week per person.

🚫 **One BIG rule** – no pictures of people. This is to avoid any issue with photo releases so that we can share the pictures.

This week's challenge theme: Something you are proud of

Submit photo(s) by: Wednesday, September 1

Submit photo(s) to: vwallace@umext.umass.edu

Be sure to put Photo Challenge in the subject line of your email

Please Note: This summer photography challenge does not replace the annual state photography contest!

NEW - Making the Connection: Home Schooling & 4-H

Join our NEW information session connecting Home School and 4-H! Participants will get a chance to learn all about the UMass Extension 4-H program, hear from 4-H volunteers that conduct home school programs, learn about 4-H curriculum, and hear from 4-H members that are home schooled. See how 4-H and home schooling can connect with joining or creating clubs and taking part in programs.

To register, go to: <https://bit.ly/2XP9rd9>

The Information Session will be held on Wednesday, September 29, 2021, 7:00 PM on Zoom

IT'S BACK! Career Exploration Series

The first CES presentation of the new 4-H year will be on Wednesday, September 22, 7-8 PM (Eastern Time)

<p>September 22</p>	<p>Joyce Ward, Director Juan Valentin, Education Program Advisor</p> <p>United States Patent & Trademark Office, Department of Education</p> <p>Registration link: https://bit.ly/2WtgDv3</p>	<p>Joyce is the Director of the Office of Education (OE) for the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Her work expands the influence of the outreach offerings of the USPTO to provide K12 educators and students with unique learning experiences and resources designed to integrate knowledge of invention, innovation, entrepreneurship, and STEM. Her office encourages the creation and protection of intellectual property.</p> <p>Under Joyce's direct leadership the OE successfully conceived, and implemented numerous projects which have garnered national recognition for the agency, such as the <u>Science of Innovation</u> series, a collaboration between the USPTO, the National Science Foundation, and NBC Learn; the exemplar <u>National Summer Teacher Institute on Innovation, STEM, and Intellectual Property(NSTI)</u>; an <u>Intellectual Property</u> patch with the Girl Scouts organization, and the first <u>USPTO Inventor Trading Card</u> series. Prior to her current position Joyce was the Director of Program Support and Intellectual Property for the National Inventors Hall of Fame (NIHF). Before going to NIHF, she served as a Trademark Examining Attorney and later as an Education Specialist in the Office of Public Affairs at the USPTO. Joyce received her undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and her law degree from the Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, DC.</p> <p>Juan Valentin is an Education Program Advisor in the Office of Education (OE) at the United States Patent and Trademark Office where he is responsible for the development and implementation of educational projects of national and international scope, with a particular emphasis on directing and coordinating the development of STEM, design-thinking, or invention-focused projects infused with intellectual property (IP) concepts. Cultivating relationships and finding areas for collaboration with external organizations, academic institutions and federal agencies also is a significant part of Mr. Valentin's job.</p> <p>Prior to joining the OE team, Mr. Valentin was a USPTO patent examiner for 12 years, specializing in the art of optical measuring and testing devices. Community outreach is an important part of Mr. Valentin's life, his volunteer work with the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers includes youth education and outreach on behalf of engineers and leadership training for members of all levels within the organization. Mr. Valentin holds a Bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the Clarkson University.</p>
<p>October 6</p>	<p>John Crocker</p> <p>Director of School Mental Health & Behavioral Services, Methuen Public Schools Founder & Director, Massachusetts School Mental Health Consortium (MASMHC)</p> <p>Registration Link: https://bit.ly/3jgtsBE</p>	<p>John Crocker has worked in public education for over a decade, primarily as the administrator for the Methuen Public Schools Counseling Department. He has overseen the planning and implementation of the "Mental Health Initiative," which has focused on the establishment of a comprehensive school mental health system (CSMHS) in partnership with the National Center for School Mental Health (NCSMH). John has worked with the NCSMH as a member of the National School Mental Health Task Force and as the Massachusetts team leader for the National Coalition for the State Advancement of School Mental Health (NCSA-SMH). In his role as the director of school mental health & behavioral services, he is charged with overseeing the district-wide implementation and evaluation of Methuen's CSMHS and positive behavioral interventions and supports (PBIS). His work has focused on developing a district-wide system of universal mental health screening, advancing the use of psychosocial</p>

		<p>data to inform school mental health staff's therapeutic practice, and the development and evaluation of the CSMHS in Methuen. He has worked to scale up evidence-based therapeutic services across Methuen through the provision of district-wide professional development and the design and implementation of group- and individual-therapy programs. Mr. Crocker founded the Massachusetts School Mental Health Consortium (MASMHC), a group of approximately one-hundred and fifty school districts across Massachusetts committed to advocating for and implementing quality and sustainable school mental health services and supports. Most recently, MASMHC co-led the <i>Massachusetts Collaborative for Improvement and Innovation Network (CollIN) for Comprehensive School Mental Health and Thriving Minds</i>, a professional development series focused on building comprehensive school mental health systems. He received the National Center for School Mental Health's School Mental Health Champion Award in 2018 and was nominated the 2019 Massachusetts School Counselors Association (MASCA) Administrator of the Year and the 20-21 Massachusetts Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Counselor of the Year.</p>
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Last week to participate in the Earth Day 4-H Club Challenge

A Season of Thanks and Service Earth Day Club Challenge - April 1st – September 1st

"...I pledge my hands to larger service... for my club my community my country and my world."

These words found in our 4-H pledge are meaningful to so many of today's 4-H families as they have been to past members and volunteers throughout the years. Community Service has been one of the main components of 4-H programming over time.

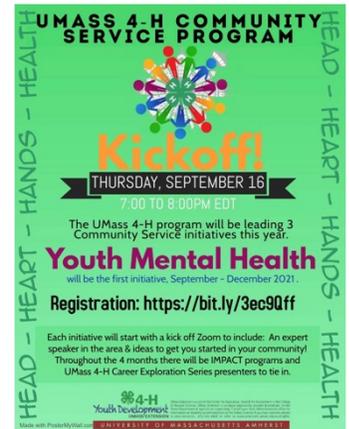
For more information and submission form visit: <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/news/earth-day-4-h-club-challenge> Forms and pictures due October 1st and will be highlighted during 4-H Week.

UMass Extension 4-H Fall Community Service Program Kickoff September 16

The UMass 4-H Program statewide community service project for the new 4-H Year will kick off on September 16! This will be the first of 3 community service initiatives this year; each initiative will last for a period of four months. The focus of the first initiative will be Youth Mental Health and will take place from Sept - Dec 2021.

Each of the three initiatives will include a Zoom kickoff event which will have a speaker who is an expert in the field for that initiative, ideas to get you started in your community, and a tie into Head-Heart-Hands-Health! Throughout each four month initiative our program will have a variety of IMPACT/SPIN programs and UMass 4-H CES presentations that will also connect with the theme. Join us for the first session of this initiative focusing on Youth Mental Health on **Thursday, September 16, 7:00 - 8:00 PM**. To register for the kickoff event, go to: <https://bit.ly/3ec9Qff>

Be aware that the statewide community service program DOES NOT mean that 4-H'ers cannot conduct their own individual or club based planned community service!



4-H FAIRS

UMass 4-H fairs are still taking place! 4-H members have opportunities to showcase what they have learned in their project areas. For most of these fairs, all registered Massachusetts 4-H members are welcome to enter classes. However, be sure to check with the contact person listed below to obtain a link to the fair entry book and before entering your projects!

Not entering items in a fair? Be sure to visit at least one and get some ideas for what you might participate in during the next 4-H year!

Fair and Date(s)	Open to all MA 4-H members	Location	Contact Person
Marshfield Fair Aug 20-29 Ends this Weekend!	Open to all New England 4-H members and open youth	Marshfield Fairgrounds	Molly Vollmer
Middlesex Co 4-H Fair August 28-29 – This Weekend!	Check with contact person	Middlesex County Fairgrounds	Pam LeFave

Worcester County 4-H Fair August 28 & 29 This Weekend!	Yes	Barre, Mass The Worcester County 4-H Fair takes place on Saturday, August 28th and Sunday, August 29th. However, Hall entries need to be dropped off on Friday, August 27th.	Meg McDermott
East Middleboro 4-H Fair 9/4-9/5	Yes	E Middleboro 4-H clubhouse; Thompson St, Middleboro	Molly Vollmer
Topsfield Fair October 1-11	There are 4-H classes; check with contact person	Topsfield Fairgrounds, Essex	Nancy McCarthy

Pen Pal Project

Let's learn some fun facts about the Pen Pal locations. Pennsylvania here we come.

- Hershey, PA is the Chocolate Capital of the U.S.
- The Philadelphia Zoo is the first public zoo in the U.S.
- The first Driver's Education course in the U.S. was taught at State College Area High School in 1932
- Pennsylvania's largest agricultural crop is mushrooms
- In 1885 Dr. Holtzapple created the first device to give oxygen to a patient with pneumonia.
- The Rockville Bridge, built in 1902, was - and IS - the longest stone arch railroad viaduct in the world.
- In 1947 the first Little League Baseball World Series was played in Williamsport, and still is today.

UMass Extension 4-H Summer Community Service Project

Donate a suitcase, backpack, duffel bag or similar item to help foster children. Social services cannot provide suitcases for each child to use when packing their belongings; unfortunately, they are provided only with large plastic bags.

Bring your donations to any of the sites below for drop off – our 4-H educators will get the items to foster care. Or sew a pillowcase to donate! We will provide the pattern and instructions. If you need some assistance or to obtain the pillowcase pattern, email Tom at waskiewicz@umext.umass.edu All 4-H members are encouraged to take part in this special edition summer community service project.

August 28-29	Middlesex County 4-H Fair	Westford
August 28-29	E. Middleboro 4-H Fair	Middleboro
August 26-27	Worcester County 4-H Fair	Barre

ANIMAL SCIENCE

Contact Carrie Sears with any questions or to register for any of the events below at ccsears@umext.umass.edu

Zoom Meetings:

- August 27th - 4-H Dairy Judging Contest – Cummington Fairgrounds, Cummington, MA 7:00pm
- Monday, August 30 – 7pm – League of Protein Producers with Matt LeRoux – Cornell University
- Tuesday, August 31 – 7pm - State 4-H Dairy Advisory
- Wednesday, September 1 – 6:30pm State 4-H Horse Advisory Committee
- Friday, September 3 – 6:30pm State 4-H Goat Delegate Meeting on the Big E

Galactic Quest

You are invited to join a webinar: 4-H STEM Challenge - Galactic Quest. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email about joining the webinar. Tune in to learn all about the 2021 4-H STEM Challenge - Galactic Quest, designed by Clemson University. Galactic Quest explores the history of humans in space, the technology and resources needed for missions, and the obstacles humans encounter in orbit. Activities explore important STEM topics ranging from physics and engineering to computer science and space agriculture.



https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_YWgdHqP TSAqczMo_9eWizq?_cldee=a2ltYUB1bWV4dC51bWFZcy5lZHU%3d&recipientid=contact-e2a98fa908ebe911910a001dd8b71c7f-f2fb44af91ae4ec5a1276a32f56c28b4&esid=5388ae8a-acfb-eb11-9106-00155dcc3832

4-H Offices

Some of the 4-H offices are now staffed and some are in the process of moving! The Norfolk/Bristol and Worcester offices are currently only staffed remotely and will be moving very soon. Mount Ida and the state 4-H office in Hadley are staffed. However, please call prior to visiting to ensure someone will be at the office you wish to visit.

Also, please note that anyone visiting UMass facilities, including 4-H offices, is required to wear face coverings. This applies to vaccinated and non-vaccinated individuals. Face coverings must be worn in all indoor public spaces, including entries and exits to buildings, meeting rooms, restrooms and in all shared offices and work areas. Thank you for your cooperation!

UMass Extension 4-H Offices and Contact Information:

It is best to 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
Lauren DuBois, Urban 4-H Educator – ldubois@umext.umass.edu
Lizmarie Lopez Ortiz, Urban 4-H Program Assistant - llopezortiz@umext.umass.edu

Southeastern MA (Bristol and Norfolk):
Cynthia A. Bushey, 4-H Educator – cabushey@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-Hiltbold, 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, 4-H Educator: acampora@umext.umass.edu
Tia Quinn, Administrative Assistant: tquinn@plymouthcountyma.gov

Barnstable County:
Sandi Shepherd-Gay, Barnstable County Youth Extension Educator:
sandi.shepherdgay@barnstablecounty.org
Dawn Johnson, Administrative Assistant: dawn.johnson@barnstablecounty.org



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