



UMass Extension 4-H Program

February 11, 2022

Weekly NewsBlast

The UMass Extension 4-H E-NewsBlast is sent to all UMass 4-H families and volunteers. 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/>

Look for archived NewsBlast issues at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h>

2022 UMass 4-H Annual STEAM Festival

The STEAM Festival open for your entries! All registered UMass Extension 4-H members are invited to participate in classes that include Science, Engineering, Technology, Animals, the Arts, Crafts, Photography and more! The STEAM Festival entry book is available at this link: <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h> Contact Kim Pond or Lauren DuBois with questions or if you have difficulty entering. To submit your entries visit: <http://steam-festival.fairentry.com/>

Science: Greenhouse, Garden Design, Science Experiment, Space Project, and Science miscellaneous

Technology: Scratch Coding, Webpage Design, Hackathon, 3-D Printed design, Video, Robot (electric), and tech. miscellaneous

Engineering: Rube Goldberg, Cardboard Arcade, Paper Chair Design, Catapult/Trebuchet, Robot (non-electric), Lego structure, and engineering miscellaneous

Art: Mission Patch, Challenge Coin, Upcycled Art, STEAM Collage, Quilt, functional upcycle project, Shoebox float, and art miscellaneous

Math: Tangrams, Analog Game, and math miscellaneous



Career Exploration Series

February 16	<p>Maeve Kiley AmeriCorps</p> <p>Registration link: https://bit.ly/3Gex5B2</p>	<p>What is AmeriCorps? Did you know AmeriCorps experience is a great way to get work experience while learning about a career and making an impact in your community? Join this UMass 4-H Career Exploration Zoom to talk with an AmeriCorps volunteer, learn what roles AmeriCorps plays in a community, and specifically about the aquifer education program that Maeve Kiley is involved with on Cape Cod.</p>
March 2	<p>Dr. Thomas Russell</p> <p>Silvio O. Conte Distinguished Professor Polymer Science and Engineering Department Visiting Faculty, Materials Sciences Division Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory</p> <p>Registration link: https://bit.ly/3nobcvt</p>	<p>What are Polymers and what do they do? Did you know that you use items with polymers every day, such as plastic bags, Styrofoam products, and more!</p> <p>Plan to attend the CES zoom with Dr. Thomas P. Russell to learn more about this science and how you interact with polymers!</p> <p>Dr. Russel is the Distinguished Professor of Polymer Science and Engineering at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Learn a little about his research and interest and how it affects you!</p>

Massachusetts 4-H Facebook Page Survey

Last chance to take part in the UMass 4-H Facebook Page survey is this coming Tuesday, February 15. Those taking part have an opportunity to be entered into a drawing to win one of three \$10 Dunkin gift cards. Help us to improve your Facebook experience by visiting the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2X3P39G>

Animal Science Programs

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

Animal Science Meetings, Workshops and Contests

February 16 – 7:00pm Zoom – MA 4-H Dairy Advisory Meeting
February 16 - 6:30pm Zoom – State 4-H Horse Communications Contest Overview
February 18 – 7:00pm Zoom – State 4-H Horse Judging Contest Overview
February 28 – 7:00pm Zoom – State 4-H Horse Bowl Contest Overview

State 4-H Horse Contests Zoom Series

Meet Coach Darlene Welch on February 16th at 6:30pm on Zoom to learn about the State 4-H Horse Communications Contest. Learn how to perfect your presentation and about the opportunity to make the national team. Horse Judging is scheduled with Coach Heather Chmura on February 18th at 7:00pm to go over the tips on how you can best prepare for the state contest.

Horse Bowl is scheduled for February 28th at 7:00pm with Coach Rose Blomgren. Find out how you can try-out for this fun activity that is similar to the game of Jeopardy but is focused on horse facts.

On-line Beef and Horse Judging Contests Kick-off

Livestockjudging.com is available again in 2022. Starting on Monday, February 14th, the beef judging and horse judging classes will begin. This a chance for you to try out your skills at judging whether you are just beginning or are experienced. Each week, new classes will be offered for you to test your knowledge. To receive the instructions to enter, email Carrie Sears.

UConn 4-H Goat Workshop

UConn 4-H Goat Day 2022 is scheduled for April 2nd in Ratcliffe Hicks Arena, Storrs, CT. This program is open to 4-H youth and volunteers from across New England. The registration deadline is March 9th. Early registration is encouraged, as registration will be closed once capacity is reached. COVID-19 may cancel or change plans for this program and UConn COVID guidelines must be followed.

Registration Packet is available at s.uconn.edu/goatday22

Online registration can be completed at s.uconn.edu/4Hgoatday

Rules for 4-H Clubs and 4-H Members Bringing Animals into Nursing Homes, Elderly Housing and to Community Events in 2022

4-H staff have been asked by clubs and members about the rules for visiting nursing homes, elderly housing, and participating in community events with their animals. This is a good time to review these rules with your club and to get the youth and animals pet therapy certified. By going through a certification program, they learn all the proper protocols for on-site visits plus the therapy animal has been signed off by expert evaluators.

At this time, visits to nursing homes, elderly housing and senior community events is not permitted. We will continue to monitor situations and COVID regulations and will re-evaluate this moving forward. However, until that time, it is not allowed.

In the meantime, clubs or 4-H youth who have their animals pet therapy certified may get permission to visit sites such as nursing homes, and short term care facilities. In order to obtain permission, the youth or club leader needs to:

1. Notify their local 4-H Educator that they plan to conduct a visit. They will need to provide the name of the facility, date and time of the visit, and all animals that are certified as well as the name or names of the youth(s) attending. A copy of the pet therapy certification and health information of each of the animals also needs to be provided.
2. The therapy animal is required to have up-to-date health certificates (current) that are carried with the youth/club when they are going onto a site. i.e. rabies for dogs, cats, small pets, livestock, and mini horses, along with a health certificate issued by a certified veterinarian for livestock and Coggins for horses.

We will be holding trainings for leaders and youth interested in outreach with their animals. Watch your email and newsblast for dates and times.

For clubs planning to take the youth members and their animals out to local events, such as Tractor Supply, visits, or town events, the following procedures must be followed:

1. Club leaders need to notify their educator with the location, date and time of the event and provide a list of all the animals and the youth who will attend.
2. All animals need to have their up-to-date health paperwork. This paperwork must be brought with them to the event. This requirement is no different than animals being exhibited at fairs and shows. Rabies certificate and health charts on livestock issued for the current along with horses needing a Coggins for the current year.

Visual Presentation Updates and Workshops

Deadline Fast Approaching! Register Today!

Visual Presentations: Central-Southeast & Western Regions

(Berkshire, Bristol, Franklin, Hampden, Hampshire, Norfolk, and Worcester Counties)

When: March 5, 2022 via Zoom

Registration: open now until 2/18 at 4 PM by logging into 4honline (<https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>), click "Events", click VPs 2022. No late registrations will be accepted!

Email Martina Jasiewicz at mjasiewicz@umext.umass.edu no later than 2/16 if you are not able to register

Seeking VP Judges:

If you are an adult interested in volunteering to help as a judge or in another capacity for the Central-Southeast and Western Regions VP day on March 5th, please register using this

link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1GA6yVM451PoyP2NDotseZehDmssNpNSQ-tbgAfUTQck/viewform?edit_requested=true

All judges will be required to attend a judge's training on one of the following dates: **Saturday 2/19 at 10 AM** or **Thursday 2/24 at 7 PM** and you can select your date when you register to be a judge.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: All Visual Presentation events statewide will be held by Zoom in 2022. This year, all participants ages 10 or older can choose to enter using either posters or PowerPoint/Google Slides in any category.

Visual Presentation categories are divided into three age divisions (age determined Jan. 1): Cloverbuds, ages 5-7 Juniors, ages 8-13 Seniors, ages 14-18. Cloverbuds may enter at the county level only and receive participation awards. Pre-registration is required for each competition.

Middlesex County VP's will be held on March 12. Registration is open; reach out to your 4-H educator with questions and to register! State Visual Presentations will take place via Zoom on April 2.

Heroes Wear Scrubs Program

Heroes Wear Scrubs participants will interact with college students at UMass Amherst Elaine Marieb School of nursing, visit the simulation lab on campus, and explore a wide variety of topics around the health field. This is for 4-H members ages 8-18. To register go to <https://bit.ly/3qJePJB>

The Program occurs on Wednesdays from 3:30-4:40PM for seven weeks starting on February 16.

NEW Art Program for ages 10-13

Are you interested in art and design? Then this program is for you! UMass 4-H Extension is partnering with the UMass Amherst College of Humanities & Fine Arts to offer an experience in Design Thinking. This is for youth ages 10-13 and will occur both virtually and for one Saturday on the UMass Amherst campus.

You will work with art students to help them create and design a product. You will be able to design one of your own as well! To register for this unique program go to: <https://bit.ly/3HyLqJy>

Opportunities for Teen 4-H Members

Kent Lage Leadership Award Scholarship:

The Kent Lage Leadership Award is presented in honor of the late Kent Lage to two 4-H members who have demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities, including public speaking abilities and a background in community service activities. The first place award will be a \$1,000 scholarship and second place will be a \$500 scholarship. This award is a scholarship to further your education. To be eligible you must

- Have been a member of MA 4-H for a minimum of four years
- Be currently enrolled if age eligible and still in high school
- Currently be a senior in high school or freshman in college
- Plan to go on for higher education or post-secondary school education/training
- Complete the application requirements and submit on time (March 15, 2022)

For more information and to obtain the application form, go to

<https://www.mass4hfoundation.org/for-families-clubs/grants-and-awards/>

Additional Scholarship opportunities are listed on the UMass 4-H scholarship page at

<https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/youth/awards-scholarships>

Western Mass Teen Leaders: Planning for the 80th annual Berkshire Youth Fair has begun! This historic fair will happen on August 20, 2022, will you be a part of it? What makes this UMass 4-H leadership group unique is their club project is the fair itself. Teens from all over western Mass join together to make this one day fair possible for ANY youth 5-18, regardless of 4-H membership status. Meetings are being held virtually during the school year. If you are 13-18 and interested in being a part of this group, email Angelica at angelica@umext.umass.edu. The next meeting will be Monday, February 28, 7:00 PM.

2023 YOUTH IN ACTION AWARDS Applications are open for the 2023 4-H Youth in Action Awards! Now is the chance for 4-H members ages 15-19 to tell their 4-H story of impact, leadership, and purpose. Learn more about the application process and set your calendars to apply by March 28, 2022. Go to <https://4-h.org/parents/4-h-youth-in-action-awards/> for more information.

Registering for 4-H in 4honline

You must be registered as a current 4-H member in order to take part in any activities, contests or events. Need assistance completing your registration or joining for the first time? Contact your local 4-H office (see below) for assistance. Follow these steps if you are already a member and wish to re-enroll.

Go to <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in> Be sure to use Google Chrome or Safari - not internet explorer

Check to see that the email in your profile is current! If it has changed you need to update it in 4honline. Need help, or forgot your password? Reach out to Kim Pond for assistance.

Update your health form, club and project information and click through until you hit final "submit" button. You will get an automated response your re-enrollment was submitted so you know it went through and ready for the office to approve.

Find resources and tips for using 4honline at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/about/4h-online>

For Payment: When you are In 4honline please select "Non-Electronic" payment and proceed to the end regardless of payment method. You will then be directed on where to mail your check or pay by credit card. You do not pay directly to 4honline, but instead pay at the 4-H portal <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/membership-payment>

Safety Measures and Precautions

UMass Extension 4-H continues to ask for your cooperation by wearing masks in any UMass building, including 4-H offices. In addition adult volunteers and youth members need to wear masks at any 4-H indoor club meetings or events, no matter the location. COVID guidance can change daily; following daily guidance of the CDC and UMass 4-H when holding 4-H club meetings is required. See below for more details. Thank you for helping to keep our 4-H members safe and healthy!

- Any 4-H club meetings or events held indoors: Masks must be worn by all participants and adults. All CDC/health guidance must be followed regarding social distancing at the time of the event or meeting.
 - Any 4-H club meeting or event involving youth under 12: Masks must be worn by all participants and adults. Youth must be socially distanced according to CDC guidelines at the time of the meeting or event.
 - Any outdoor 4-H club meetings or event: Masks must be worn by all participants and adults if youth under 12 are present. Youth must be socially distanced according to CDC guidelines at the time of the meeting or event.
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UMass Extension 4-H Offices and Contact Information:

Contact the 4-H person you wish to meet with prior to visiting to ensure they are scheduled to be in. Thank you.

State 4-H Office: 100 Venture Way, Suite 334; Hadley MA 01035

Linda Horn, UMass Extension 4-H Program Director lrhorn@umext.umass.edu

Carrie Sears, 4-H Animal Science Program Manager – ccsears@umext.umass.edu

Deb Comeau – State 4-H Administrative Assistant – dcomeau@umext.umass.edu

Western MA: Franklin, Hampshire, Hampden and Berkshire Counties

100 Venture Way, Suite 334; Hadley MA 01035

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

Lauren DuBois, Urban 4-H Educator – ldubois@umext.umass.edu

Lizmarie Ulloa, Urban 4-H Program Assistant - llopezortiz@umext.umass.edu

Central and Southeastern MA: Auburn 4-H Office: 7 Midstate Drive, Suite 102; Auburn MA 01501

Bristol and Norfolk Counties:

Cynthia A. Bushey, 4-H Educator – cabushey@umass.edu

Kim Henderson, Administrative Assistant – khenders@umext.umass.edu

Worcester County:

Meg McDermott, 4-H Educator – memcdermott@umass.edu

Martina Jasiewicz, Administrative Assistant – mjasiewicz@umext.umass.edu

State 4-H STEM Program Manager:

Kim Pond – 4-H SET Program Manager – kima@umext.umass.edu

Northeastern MA: Essex, Middlesex & Suffolk Counties:

UMass Mt. Ida Campus, Halden Hall; 100 Carlson Avenue, Newton, MA 02459

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: 44 Obery Street, Plymouth MA 02360

Molly Vollmer, 4-H Educator: mvollmer@umext.umass.edu

Cathy Acampora, 4-H Educator: acampora@umext.umass.edu

Meghan Riley, Ag Extension Educator: mriley@plymouthcountyma.org

Tia Quinn, Administrative Assistant: tquinn@plymouthcountyma.gov

Barnstable County: Box 367, Barnstable MA 02630

Sandi Shepherd-Gay, Barnstable County Youth Extension Educator:

sandi.shepherdgay@barnstablecounty.org

Dawn Johnson, Administrative Assistant: dawn.johnson@barnstablecounty.org



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