



UMass Extension 4-H Program

July 3, 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/>

Pen Pal Project

Have you ever corresponded with someone in another state? Are you curious about other places? Sign up for this program that is sponsored by a collaboration of UMass 4-H and six other states!

Meet a 4-H member from another state and get to know them, learn about their state, and be part of a Zoom "Meet Up" during National 4-H Week (October 3-9, 2021).

The registration date is coming up soon – you must register by July 13, 2021 at this link: https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/Multi_State_4H_Pen_Pal_Sign_Up_237.

For more information contact either Cathy Acampora, cacampora@umext.umass.edu, or Angelica Paredes, angelica@umext.umass.edu.



The Second Annual Massachusetts 4-H Virtual Fair



Entries are now open through July 31, 2021 with the results announced on August 9th at 7pm. Some new classes are offered this year. You can enter your items in both the virtual and in-person fairs. The entry book and entry instructions are located on the MA 4-H website at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/events/second-annual-massachusetts-4-h-virtual-state-fair>. Results of the fair will be announced on August 9th at 7pm.

****NEW** PHOTOGRAPHY CHALLENGE – for the fun of it!**

Take part in this new summer challenge! Each week a new photography challenge will be issued in the NewsBlast! Your mission, if you should choose to accept it, is to take a photo based on that week's challenge and submit it by the following Wednesday. Photos will be featured in future NewsBlasts, state 4-H Facebook posts, and wherever we can brag about our amazing 4-H members! Up to 2 photos can be submitted each week per person – we know that it can be difficult to choose, but we know you can do it!

☞ **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: RED, WHITE & BLUE
Submit photo(s) taken by: Wednesday, July 7
Submit photo(s) to: vwallace@umext.umass.edu

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

ANIMAL SCIENCE

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

Zoom Meetings & Workshops

July 6 – Horse Coaches Meeting – 7:00pm

Premise ID's

Youth interested in showing dairy and beef cattle need to have a premise id before ordering their RFID tags. First step is to contact Carry Shulock Sexton at The MA Division of Animal Health – Carry.shulock-sexton@mass.gov, or call 857-348-3922. Carry will assign you a premise id which you will need before you order your RFID tags for your cattle. RFID tags are becoming a requirement some of the larger shows in the state and throughout the country. It is a way to track the movement of the animal if sold or exhibited at fairs. RFID tags can be ordered from your respective breed associations. Important - you must have the 840 number on the electronic button tag. Please remember this when ordering. If you have any questions, please contact Carrie Sears at ccsears@umext.umass.edu

Poultry Testing For Shows

The MA Poultry Inspectors can now go into the field to test poultry for shows. Families should contact the MA Dept. of Animal Health – Poultry Testing- Megan Megrath at Megan.Megrath@mass.gov or phone 617-626-1798

Livestock Conservancy

Heritage animals once roamed the pastures of America's pastoral landscape, but today these breeds are in danger of extinction. Heritage breeds store a wealth of genetic resources that are important for our future and the future of our agricultural food system. Explore the heritage breeds at the Livestock Conservancy

<https://www.livestockconservancy.org/index.php/heritage>

The Big E – September 17-October 3, 2021

The Big E is looking for 4-H livestock demos at the fair on the weekends that the 4-H livestock shows have been held in the past years. Dairy – September 18 & 19, Beef – September 25 & 26 (Steer show and sale will be held at this time), Sheep & Goats – October 1. If you are interested in participating, please contact Carrie Sears for further details at ccsears@umext.umass.edu

Massachusetts 4-H Dairy Show

Open to enrolled 4-H youth ages 11-18 as of Jan 1st, 2021. The show is August 6-8 at the Franklin County Fairgrounds in Greenfield, MA. The Entry Book is on-line at https://aq.umass.edu/sites/aq.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/2021_ma_4-h_show_entry_book.pdf Youth will participate in quiz bowl, judging, grilled cheese and milk shake contests as well as dairy showmanship and breed classes. For further information, please contact Carrie Sears at ccsears@umext.umass.edu

Career Exploration Series

July 7	Sara Schilling Registration Link: https://bit.ly/34a7CaI	Dancer Sara has been competing professionally in dance since 2006 and has been a dance instructor for over 18 years. She and her partner, Evgueni Chaoulski, have had tremendous success in worldwide competitions, and continue to achieve even more, having a highly successful studio in Enfield, CT – EdanSe Company and Ballroom. Currently, they compete in the 10-dance divisions (International Ballroom and Latin styles), representing Canada. Sara and Evgueni are honored to have had the opportunity to compete at the World Championships, not once, but 9 times! Tokyo, Japan in 2009; Kiev, Ukraine in 2010; Gatineau, Canada in 2011; Valleyfield, Canada in 2012; Valleyfield, Canada in 2013; Innsbruck, Austria in 2014; Moscow, Russia in 2018; and in Penang, Malaysia in 2019. They were also crowned Canadian 10-Dance Champions in 2010 and have been consistently Canadian National Finalists. She holds her Licentiate degree in Standard and her Licentiate degree in Latin. Sara is a proud coach of UConn, UMass, Wesleyan University, Trinity College, and Team EdanSe Ballroom Teams. She judges all over the East Coast at collegiate competitions such as MIT, Harvard, Brown University and many more. Sara prides herself in teaching high quality lessons while striving to learning fun and inspiring. Sara grew up wanting to ride horses, which her parents said would only happen if she learned about them through 4-H. The 4-H program proved to play a giant role in her life. Sara was part of the Mansfield Trotting Tribe, and the Uncle Remus Gang. She was president of the Uncle Remus Gang, showing rabbits. She showed horses, rabbits, dogs, and loved the activities building in the Tolland County 4-H Fair. She was Vice President for Tolland County 4-H Fair and helped to oversee all the exhibits in that building. She was Homemaker of the Year 3 years in a row and showed over 50 items ranging from cooking to horses. As an adult, she wanted to give her riding students the same teaching she had, so she started her own 4-H club called Stable Mates. Stable Mates even ran their own horse show! As Sara loved horses, she also began ballroom dancing. As dancing got bigger, she was pulled in 2 directions. With winter being hard for horse activities, and dancing professionally is an opportunity only for a short time frame, she decided to focus on her ballroom dancing for the time being. She still does equine work for 2 local families and is an equine wellness consultant for Yucc' It Up Equine Supplements. She also began a side embroidery business that has grown by leaps and bounds, bringing back fond memories of her Homemaker of the Year days.
July 21	Kerry Henry Registration Link: https://bit.ly/3viOuVK	Kerwin (Kerry) Henry Head Miller, Ardent Mill, Ayer, MA Have you ever wondered how the flour you bake with ends up in your kitchen? Kerry Henry is the Head Miller at Ardent Mills in Ayer, MA, where he helps to get it there! Originally from Vermont, Kerry started in millwrighting and traveled throughout New England working on feed mill equipment. After moving to Ayer, MA with his family, Kerry worked his way up at the mill in that town for more than a decade. Every day at the mill is different, but the main goal remains the same: getting everything you can out of the wheat kernels that are dropped off by rail and truck. Different parts of that wheat kernel become things you see all the time, like your kitchen flour and feed for animals. Some of Kerry's main tasks are running the mill smoothly to make as much product as possible, making sure everyone remains safe, and maintaining food safety through activities such as audits and sanitation protocols.

FAIRS

UMass 4-H fairs will occur throughout the summer, offering 4-H members many opportunities to show 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
Hampden Co 4-H Fair 7/24	Yes	Big E Fairgrounds	Tom Waskiewicz
Hampshire Co 4-H Fair 8/14	Yes	Cummington Fairgrounds	Tom Waskiewicz
MA State 4-H Dairy Show 8/6-8/8	Yes	Franklin Co Fairgrounds	Carrie Sears
Middlesex Co 4-H Fair	Still being determined	Middlesex County Fairgrounds	Pam LeFave
Topsfield Fair	There are 4-H classes; check with contact person	Topsfield Fairgrounds, Essex	Nancy McCarthy
Worcester County 4-H Fair 8/28	Yes	Barre, Mass	Meg McDermott
East Middleboro 4-H Fair 9/4-9/5	Yes	E Middleboro 4-H clubhouse; Thompson St, Middleboro	Molly Vollmer
Barnstable Fair – July 19-25	Yes, and open youth	Cape Cod Fairgrounds, Falmouth	Sandi Shepherd-Gay
Marshfield Fair Aug 20-29	Open to all New England 4-H members and open youth	Marshfield Fairgrounds	Molly Vollmer
The New England Summer 4-H Fair at Eastern States Exposition -July 26-29	Youth registrations deadlines have passed	Eastern States Exposition 1305 Memorial Avenue West Springfield MA	Carrie Sears

2021 New England 4-H Horse Show July 26-29, 2021

This event takes place at the New England 4-H Summer Fair on the Eastern States Exposition Grounds.

Eligibility: Exhibitors (Riders/Drivers/In-Hand/ Small Equine)

- 1) This show is open to currently enrolled MA 4-H members 12-18 years of age as of January 1, 2021.
- 2) Youth may enter up to two horses. No limit on the number of delegates for this show. Horse Verifications must be submitted on the horses that will be entered.
- 3) Horse Sharing will be allowed. Members must be in the same county. Youth must submit separate Horse Verification Forms indicating Shared Project. Each youth must also submit separate entries on-line.



Timeline: Some items on this timeline have passed. If you need more information contact Carrie Sears

- 1) **By June 11th**, youth will submit their intent to show to Carrie Sears at ccsears@umext.umass.edu
- 2) **On June 12th**, the youth who have contacted Carrie Sears will be forwarded to their 4-H club leader(s) for approval.
- 3) **By June 16th**, the leaders will notify Carrie Sears of the approved youth. Youth that may not be ready for the show can be considered as a Junior Leader and assist at the show. Junior Leaders help with handing out ribbons, assisting the horse youth in their state. Youth are not required to stay overnight.
- 4) **By June 18th**, youth will need to complete a current Horse Verification Form(s) on up to two horses that they plan on exhibiting and file with Carrie Sears via email.
- 5) **On June 21st**, youth will be notified of approval to enter. Entry link and packet information will be emailed to the youth.
- 6) **July 9th - Deadline to enter online.**
- 7) **Starting June 27th**, horses will need to have a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) completed within 30 days of arrival at the Big E Fairgrounds (July 27th).
- 8) **On July 11th**, a mandatory orientation for the delegates will be held via Zoom.

State 4-H Community Service Project

This summer and early fall, all 4-H members are invited to join in a statewide effort to support youth and families in transition. Unfortunately, social services doesn't have the financial means to purchase suitcases to pack a child's belongings before being brought to a foster home. If the child does not have any donated duffel bags/suitcases, social services must use trash bags for a foster child's belongings. Moving is a stressful enough time, but then to have all of his/her belongings placed into trash bags often places a feeling of emptiness on the child. For a foster child who frequently moves from home to home, having an item to keep along the way can make them feel at home, which is important when coping with intense emotions.

There are two ways you can participate in this short-term project:

1. You can collect gently-used suitcases for the Foster Program.
2. You can make a unique pillowcase for a foster child. To the children, these are more than pillowcases. For this project, you will receive simple and fun instructions for creating your own whimsical pillowcase.

For ease and efficiency, there will be several drop-off points for you to bring your suitcases and/or pillowcases. Please note the dates and locations. If these dates/times are not convenient for you, please email Tom at waskiewicz@umext.umass.edu

July 24	Hampden County 4-H Fair	Big E Fairgrounds, W. Springfield
August 14	Hampshire County 4-H Fair	Cummington Fairgrounds
August 28-29	Middlesex County 4-H Fair	Westford
August 28-29	E. Middleboro 4-H Fair	Middleboro
August 26-27, 11-6PM	Worcester County 4-H Fair	Barre

To register for participation and to receive your pillowcase pattern and instructions, email Tom at waskiewicz@umext.umass.edu by July 20th.

2021 4-H STEM Challenge



Designed by Clemson University, the 2021 4-H STEM Challenge, Galactic Quest, focuses on the mysteries and adventures of space exploration. Kids learn foundational STEM skills while they wrestle with the same questions as today's top aerospace scientists and engineers! Activities can be done all at once or individually, making it great for classrooms, afterschool programs, clubs, parents and more. Visit this website <https://4-h.org/parents/4-h-stem-challenge/> to learn more about this hands-on event and watch for more Massachusetts 4-H STEM Challenge events! Kits will be available at www.shop4h as well as through you 4-H office in the near future.

Astro Adventure

This unplugged board game promotes teamwork as kids gather the resources needed to live and work in deep space.

Stellar Optics

In this offline activity, kids build a telescope and learn about physics and light and how telescopes have been used to explore space.

Cosmic Claw

Kids work hands-on to engineer a mechanical arm that works to harvest crops in space.

Cyber Satellite

In this computer science activity, kids learn about cyber security and decoding to stay safe from obstacles in orbit.

"Space: the 4-H Frontier"

Contact Kim Pond at kima@umext.umass.edu for more details.

For those that ordered kits, expect to receive them soon. Kits will be mailed next week. You can still sign up to participate by utilizing everyday materials; if you are interested contact Kim and a list will be provided.

These activities are great to use with a 4-H group, at home with your children or in any other program with youth. The activities are designed for youth 8 and older and prepare participants for this Fall's 2021 STEM Challenge: Galactic Quest. Teens who participate will be given the opportunity to replicate the experiments and activities during the fall in 4-H Programming. Those teens who participate and wish to replicate the program will also receive a free STAM Challenge Kit "Galactic Quest". Contact Kim Pond for more details and plan to go onto one or more of the online zoom sessions to learn how to conduct the activities for each week. Obtain your link from Kim for each Zoom session which will be held on Fridays in July from 10am-noon. Complete the experiments in your own time after attending. Sessions will be recorded for you to come back to and review at your own pace.

July 9 Are You ready? Aerospace Adventures

July 16 SPACE Explorer

July 23 Mission Control/Debrief

Global Citizen Program

Join this 4-H virtual program and explore the world! Visit all of the continents, meet people from different countries, learn travel information and become a better global citizen. Speak live with teens, young adults, & adults from all over the globe. What's it like to be a teenager in Kenya? Do you wear school uniforms in Brazil? How do you say "Good Morning" in Chinese? This program is for youth ages 12-18. Register at this link: <https://bit.ly/2Tx4rrt>. Contact Angelica Paredes for more details or information.



4-H At Home

Be sure to visit <https://4-h.org/about/4-h-at-home/> often! Activities and projects are always changing on this site throughout the year. This week, fine Activity guides that contain over 100 activities focusing on STEM, crafting and more. Also find Food Fun – Craft Your Own Food and activities for an at-home Virtual 4-H Camp and Solar Oven Smores. Some of the projects you make can be entered in 4-H fairs this summer. Have fun exploring!

UMass Extension 4-H Offices and Contact Information:

The 4-H Program is operating remotely; we are available to answer questions. 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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