June 5, 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/

Home Alone

What can you do when you are home alone? What snacks can you make or activities might you do? Join this virtual program held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4-5:30PM to find out more. The program is designed for all youth ages 10 and older. This collaborative program is brought to you by UMass and UConn 4-H programs. Contact VaShon Hiltpold with questions and use the following link to register: https://forms.gle/LgXJfBGChhYdme9Z9

“Space: the 4-H Frontier”

Did you order your kit and sign up to learn more about space and science? Everyday materials are used by participants ages 8 and older. Remember, all final products can be entered in fairs or potentially used for school projects in the future! Teens who participate will be given the opportunity to replicate the experiments and activities during the fall! Those teens who participate and wish to replicate the program will receive a free SET Challenge Kit. Contact Kim Pond at klima@umext.umass.edu for more details.

Anyone can attend the sessions below, held on Fridays in July from 10am-noon. Sessions will include tips and tricks, Q & A sessions and more. After attending each session, complete the experiments in your own time. Sessions will be recorded.

- July 2 Training Academy: Prepare for space
- July 9 Are You ready? 7 Aerospace Adventures
- July 16 SPACE Explorer
- July 23 Mission Control/Debrief

4-H FilmFest 2021

FilmFest 4-H is a national film festival for youth that are filmmakers, visual artists, aspiring actors, and those that are just interested in meeting other creative people. FilmFest helps youth become producers, not just consumers, of digital media. The FilmFest will take place on August 7-8 online, via Canvas and Zoom. Submissions as well as registration to attend the virtual conference will be open from June 14th – July 11th.

Imagination, fun and curiosity are essential! Cameras, smart phones and mobile devices are strictly encouraged. Courtesy and creativity are always in style. All Massachusetts 4-H members are encouraged to submit videos!

New this year at FilmFest: Screenwriting competition!

In addition to traditional youth film submission categories, this year entries are welcome in the category of youth-created screenplays! More information about the category rules and guidelines can be found on the website below. Keep checking for updates and registration details. https://extension.missouri.edu/programs/missouri-4-h/4-h-projects-opportunities/4-h-opportunities/4-h-filmfest

Enrollment Deadline to Participate in 4-H Fairs

Individuals can join the Massachusetts 4-H program at any time throughout the year; there are no deadlines for joining. The date to have a completed enrollment submitted to your local 4-H office has been updated. Membership enrollment paperwork and fees must be submitted by June 11.

Those who complete membership or are new members after June 11 are still allowed to join and to become 4-H members, of course! However, anyone completing membership after June 11 may not enter items in the Massachusetts 4-H fairs. Verification forms are still due by June 1. See the Animal Science Information in the NewsBlast for more details. Contact your local 4-H office if you need help completing your enrollment.
Career Exploration Series

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>June 16</th>
<th>Lindsey Larson</th>
<th>Economist - World Bank</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Register at: <a href="https://bit.ly/34903RI">https://bit.ly/34903RI</a></td>
<td>Lindsey is an Economist in the Agriculture and Food Global Practice at the World Bank. In this role, she oversees a portfolio of projects that address environmental sustainability, rural livelihoods, and food security. This includes serving as the Deputy Program Manager of FOLUR, a $300 million program covering 27 countries and 8 agricultural commodities. Before the World Bank, she worked for over a decade with conservation nonprofits. Lindsey holds a BA from Dartmouth College in Environmental Studies, a Master of Environmental Management from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, and an MBA from the Yale School of Management. A 4-H alum, she raised prize-winning dahlias and poultry as a member of the Flora, Fauna and Feathers club in Essex County, MA.</td>
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<tr>
<th>July 7</th>
<th>Sara Schilling</th>
<th>Dancer</th>
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<td>Sara has been competing professionally in dance since 2006 and has been a dance instructor for over 18 years. She and her partner, Evgeni 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 Evgeni 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.</td>
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<th>July 21</th>
<th>Kerry Henry</th>
<th>Kerwin (Kerry) Henry</th>
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<td>Head Miller, Ardent Mill, Ayer, MA</td>
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<td>Have you ever wondered how the flour you bake with ends up in your kitchen? Kerry Henry is the Head Millwright at Ardent Mills in Ayer, MA, where he helps run the mill. 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.</td>
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ANIMAL SCIENCE

Contact Carrie Sears to register or with questions at ccsears@umext.umass.edu

Zoom Meetings & Workshops
June 6 – Ag Summit Team Meeting – 7:30pm
June 7 – League of Protein Producers – 7:00pm

National Horse Team Practice
June 8 – For state contestants who qualified for national teams – 7:00pm

State 4-H Horse Judging Contest
All enrolled junior and senior horse project youth who are interested in competing in the State 4-H Horse Judging Contest on June 17th at 6:00pm should contact Carrie Sears by June 11. Provide your name, best email address to contact you, county you are enrolled in and indicate whether you are a junior or senior contestant. The format is different from past virtual contests in that you will log onto Zoom and receive the link to the judging classes. A time limit will be set for you to judge the classes. You will come back onto Zoom to present your set of reasons to the judges in assigned breakout room. The awards presentation will be held the following evening - June 18th at 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 Carri Shulock Sexton at The MA Division of Animal Health – Carry.shulock-sexton@mass.gov, or call 857-348-3922. Carri 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

MA Farm Bureau’s Inaugural Barn Cat Photo Contest
If you have a barn cat or know of a stable/farm that would like to nominate their own barn cat, please check-out the following link for the rules and prizes https://mfbf.net/mfbfs-inaugural-barn-cat-photo-contest/ No purchase is necessary.

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

Selection Guidelines for Delegates
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:

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.

This event takes place at the New England 4-H Summer Fair described Below

The New England 4-H Summer Fair – July 26-29, 2021

To be held at Eastern States Exposition Fairgrounds, 1305 Memorial Avenue, West Springfield, MA

This is a new fair for youth to participate in July. It is similar to the former New England 4-H Show held in September in that youth ages 12 (as of January 1st, 2021) -18 years of age are eligible to apply. It has been created to give youth the opportunity to meet and compete with other 4-H youth from across New England, showcasing their livestock, horse and dog projects. The fair will be different from the past Big E 4-H animal competitions in that youth will not be housed overnight in the Moses Dorms. This year, parents, guardians and parent assigned chaperones will be in-charge of the youth. Youth will check-in and check-out daily with their parent or assigned chaperone. Each show will have assigned night volunteers to watch the animals in the evening. There will be available for a fee on the grounds camper and tent spaces. Youth may also stay in hotels.

The fair will not have any entry fees. The Big E will provide for the youth and designated volunteers their meals while at the show. Also provided by the Big E will be the animal bedding. Youth will need to provide their own animal feed.

So how do I apply?
First, take a look at the show packet for the project animal you plan on showing at https://www.thebige.com/p/competitions/4-h/packets DO NOT ENTER YOUR ANIMAL UNTIL YOU ARE NOTIFIED. See below each project animal’s requirements.
Each species will have their own selection criteria set-up by their respective committee plus the youth must have a Verification Form on file. You will email Carrie Sears ccsears@umext.umass.edu of your interest in showing dairy, horse, goats, sheep and working steers. For the dog show, contact Meg McDermott memcdermott@umass.edu

Requirements
Beef Cattle – Entry Deadline has passed.

Dairy Cattle – Youth will notify Carrie Sears by June 7th and animals will be selected by designated volunteers. (limit one animal per youth and 35 animals total for the state).

Dogs – Youth will notify Meg McDermott of their interest by June 11th. The youth will have an evaluation done with their club leader.

Goats – Youth will notify Carrie Sears by June 7th. Youth must have 2+ years of 4-H goat project work. Youth will be selected with leader’s input.

Sheep - Youth will notify Carrie Sears by June 7th. Youth will be selected with leader’s input.

Working Steer – Youth will notify Carrie Sears by June 7th. Youth will be selected with leader’s input.

Horse – Youth will notify Carrie Sears by June 11th of their interest in participating. Submit a Verification Form to Carrie Sears by June 18th – Form is at https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/ma_4-h_animal_verification_form_5.pdf Youth will be selected with leader’s input.

Junior Leaders:
There are also junior leader positions available for most of the shows which is an option for youth who do not plan on showing an animal but would like to assist with the show. Notify Carrie Sears on the livestock and horse shows. Meg McDermott on the dog show.

Zoom orientations will be set-up prior to the show to go over rules and answer any questions for each of the species. Watch for dates and times.

2021 4-H SUMMER DAILY SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

SUNDAY, JULY 25

8:00-10:00am 4-H Dog Arrival Mallary East North End
12:00-2:00pm Youth Working Steer Arrival Mallary North
12:00-5:00pm 4-H Horse Committee Camper Arrival Available Mallary East North End
12:00-8:00pm 4-H Dog Activities Mallary East (Ring 2)

MONDAY, JULY 26

8:00am Youth Working Steer Teamsters Meeting Mallary North
8:00am-12:00pm 4-H Dog Activities Mallary East (Ring 2)
10:00am-12:00pm Youth Working Steer Showmanship Mallary North
10:00am-2:00pm 4-H Beef Arrival Mallary West South End
1:00pm-2:00pm 4-H Dog Departure Mallary East North End
1:00pm-6:00pm Youth Working Steer Cart Mallary North
By 4pm 4-H Dairy Arrival Mallary West North End
3:00-6:00pm 4-H Dairy Goat Arrival Mallary East North End
3:30pm-4:30pm 4-H Beef Orientation Mallary West
5:00pm-6:30pm 4-H Beef Judging Contest Mallary West
6:00pm-7:00pm 4-H Dairy Orientation Mallary West
7:00pm 4-H Dairy Goat Milk Out Mallary East (Ring 2)

TUESDAY, JULY 27

7:00am 4-H Dairy Goat Milk Out Mallary East (Ring 2)
7:00am-10:00am 4-H Dairy Goat Arrival Continued Mallary East North End
8:00am-1:00pm 4-H Horse Arrival C Barn
8:00am-1:00pm Youth Working Steer Drag & Awards Mallary North
8:30am- 4-H Dairy Goat Showmanship Mallary East (Ring 2)
9:00am-11:00am 4-H Beef Marketing Contest Mallary West
1:00pm-4:00pm 4-H Beef Showmanship Mallary North
2:00pm-3:00pm Youth Working Steer Departure Mallary North
2:00pm-6:00pm 4-H Horse Show Coliseum
3:00pm-5:00pm 4-H Dairy Clipping Contest Mallary West
4:00pm-6:00pm 4-H Sheep Arrival Mallary East South End
4:00pm-6:00pm 4-H Dairy Goat Jr Doe Show Mallary East (Ring 2)
5:00pm-8:00pm 4-H Beef Cooking Contest Mallary Rotunda
6:00pm-8:00pm 4-H Horse Committee Set Up Coliseum & Paddock N
7:00pm 4-H Dairy Goat Milk Out Mallary East (Ring 2)
7:00pm-8:00pm 4-H Dairy Goat Jr Doe Departure Mallary East North End

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28
Challenge events!

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 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.

UMass Extension 4-H Program Reopening Guidance

The UMass Extension 4-H Program will follow the guidance and policies provided by the state of Massachusetts for Health and Safety Standards in order to inform allowable 4-H program and outreach activities. The outline below provides current guidance for 4-H club, group, and program operations.

Both the University and UMass Extension will continue to monitor state guidelines and standards. As these change, UMass Extension and 4-H will readjust any guidance and provide updates and information to volunteers and families.

1. All outdoor 4-H Extension programming is allowed to resume immediately following all relevant Massachusetts state and CDC restrictions on gathering size, distancing, masking, and eliminating communal food.

2. All indoor 4-H Extension programming and club activities will be allowed to resume June 1, 2021 following all relevant Massachusetts state and CDC restrictions on gathering size, distancing, masking, eliminating communal food etc. in coordination with next phase of state guidelines. This date is consistent with permissions currently granted by the University.

3. Currently, the Governor’s emergency protocol is scheduled to end on June 15, 2021. After that date, participation in fairs of any kind will follow state compliance guidelines. All participants will be required to follow all Massachusetts state and CDC restriction for outdoor and indoor activities. 4-H Fairs controlled by UMass 4-H, through local authorized 4-H Fair Boards and Committees, will be allowed to go forward and be held in person in compliance with all regulatory standards. All enrolled 4-H members will be allowed to participate in UMass 4-H sponsored fairs.

4. Any fairs organized or operated by groups outside of 4-H or UMass are separate from the UMass Extension 4-H Program, and not controlled, organized, or operated by UMass 4-H. Enrolled Massachusetts 4-H youth may participate as individuals or with their clubs in other Agricultural fairs or those with specific 4-H classes.

5. Participation in the New England 4-H Summer Fair, to be held on the Big E grounds, West Springfield, in July 2021 will be allowed for registered Massachusetts 4-H members. This option is available to individuals or clubs for participation. Accommodations and chaperoning of 4-H participants is the responsibility of each family or club and will not be provided by UMass Extension 4-H. 4-H educators or other staff may be present and assisting at this event but will not be able to provide oversight for youth during the event or at night.

Please know that we appreciate your efforts during this unusual year. We appreciate your patience and commitment. If you have concerns or questions about 4-H Programming or this guidance, please reach out to either one of these individuals:

Kathleen Geary, Assistant Director of CAFÉ Administration
kmgeary@umass.edu

Linda Horn, Interim 4-H Program Director
lhorn@umass.edu

2021 4-H STEM Challenge

The 4-H STEM Challenge for 2021 is Galactic Quest and focuses on the mysteries and adventures of space exploration. Galactic Quest was 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. 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,
4-H STEM Ambassador Summer Intern Positions Open

4-H STEM Ambassadors are college age students who are trained to facilitate hands-on science, technology, engineering, and math activities with youth ages 7-12 during July and August. 4-H STEM ambassadors may be located in a variety of locations throughout Massachusetts, including greater Worcester, Framingham, Springfield, and greater Bristol/Norfolk/Mt. Ida areas. Those selected to be 4-H STEM Ambassadors will complete required hands on training about the 4-H Youth Development Program, working with children, and be trained in the curriculum and lessons that they will teach their audiences. Visit https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/about/employment-opportunities for more information and an application.

National 4-H Congress - November 26-30 2021

UMass 4-H Extension is planning to have a delegation of teens who can attend National 4-H Congress in person. We are able to add a few more teens to join the three delegates who are already selected from the cancelled event in 2020. This is a very short window of time to apply! Applications are due by June 14th 2021. Each person selected as a delegate is expected to contribute $300 toward the cost of the experience; all remaining costs are paid by the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation.

What is National 4-H Congress?
National 4-H Congress has served as the flagship event of the 4-H program for over 90 years. Congress provides youth ages 15-18 a quality educational and cross-cultural experience that exceeds what any state independently provides. It is designed to address the needs and issues of youth while helping to develop capable, competent and caring citizens. For more information visit www.national4-hcongress.com. This also will be a historic event to celebrate the 100th year of National 4-H Congress. To apply, you must submit a resume packet electronically at mass4hteens@gmail.com.

Your Application Packet must include (single sided only with a font size of 12 point or larger):
• A cover letter
• A resume (1 page preferred, 2 pages maximum)
• Your 4-H Story (double spaced, 5 page maximum)
• A completed 4-H Experience Sheet – This is not your 4-H Summary Sheet in your records.
  The 4-H Experience Sheet answers these 4 questions on a separate sheet of paper
  1. Briefly describe the leadership experiences that you have had in the 4-H program and through other organizations/school.
  2. Why do you feel it is important to develop communication skills?
  3. How will you apply your leadership experiences/skills to benefit the 4-H program in the next 2 years?
  4. Discuss any Community Service work that you have done and how it has impacted you and/or your community.
• Two written references and can be emailed (1 from a 4-H affiliated person, 1 from non-4-H: these cannot be relatives).
In addition, you may include up to 5 pages of supplemental materials presented in a professional manner. Please avoid duplicating materials:

Resumes are a great way to categorize your work by skills and listing awards. A resume is meant to be a short synopsis of your 4-H activities and accomplishments. Your 4-H story and 4-H Experience Sheet is a way to let the judges know how your projects and experiences have had an impact on you or elaborate on your experiences in more detail. For additional information about the cover letter and resume, see the information under Resume Guidelines, found in the Communications Program section of the Massachusetts 4-H website.

4-H Office Contacts:

The 4-H Program is operating, and we are available to answer questions. All 4-H staff is currently working remotely so 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 lhorn@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-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
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