Massachusetts 4-H Program

May 21, 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
https://www.facebook.com/Mass4H/

4-H Program Opening
From Linda Horn, Interim Director UMass Extension 4-H

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 programing 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 restrictions 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
lrhorn@umass.edu

Please Note: Anyone interested is welcome to attend a Zoom where these guidelines and reopening information will be discussed. No registration is necessary, and we welcome your comments, concerns and questions. The Zoom is open to all and will be held on Monday, May 24 at 7:00PM. Contact Linda Horn or Kathleen Geary to obtain the Zoom link.

You may submit questions prior to the event to either person listed above.
ONLINE PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES:

What Will You Enter?

The 4-H Fair Workshops will take place tomorrow, May 22nd on Zoom between 10am and 2pm. Some ideas are: Baking cupcakes and displaying them at the fair; Creating a simple flower arrangement; Creating a digital photo; The best way to show your animal; How to make a simple craft item. What can you teach? All items made through this workshop can be entered in any fairs!

Contact Angelica Paredes at angelica@umext.umass.edu.

Life: Ready for YOUR World

There is one final session left to the Life: Ready for YOUR World series. It will be held on May 25 from 7-8PM. Use this form to register: https://forms.gle/U8sqNaAGbH2iH2Wm8. The session will focus on Volunteering and Networking.

Two Great Hands-On Workshops

Memorial Day Wreath virtual class: Make a patriotic wreath for Memorial Day or 4th of July! This virtual program takes place next Wednesday, March 26 at 7:00PM. Sign up at https://tinyurl.com/49ww8ymj. Have questions? Contact Cathy Acampora at acampora@umext.umass.edu. A list of materials will be sent after registration.

Trash to Treasure Tiki Torch: Make a tiki torch out of a recycled bottle. Join this virtual program on June 2nd at 7:00PM. A list of materials will be sent after registration. Sign up at https://tinyurl.com/6f7pjivev. Email Cathy Acampora acampora@umext.umass.edu with questions.

Are You Ready to Stay Home Alone?

Join this virtual program held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4-5:30PM starting on June 2. Open to all youth ages 10 and older, this meet up will talk about a variety of topics including basic first aid, simple meal ideas, and ways for young people to be safe and responsible if home alone. This is a collaborative program 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/LgXJfBGCnhYdme9Z9.

Summer of Science: “Space the 4-H Frontier” - July 2021

There is still time to order your kit and to sign up for the Summer of Science with 4-H and learn about Space and science using everyday materials or by purchasing a kit. The projects are designed for ages 8 and older and 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 – details to follow! Those teens who participate and wish to replicate the program will receive a free SET Challenge Kit.

- Kit – Kits must be ordered by June 1 to receive them in time for the program. There are two steps to obtain a kit:
  - Email Kim Pond with your name, contact information (email and phone), mailing address, age, and club or group that you belong to.
  - Send a check for $5 for registered Massachusetts 4-H youth or $20 for all others. Fee includes all materials and the cost of mailing your kit to you! Make checks payable to the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation and mail to: Massachusetts 4-H Foundation, 1671 Worcester Road Suite 403, Framingham MA 01701. Mark the envelope ATTN: Beth Bomarsi.

Choose to attend optional Informational sessions which will be 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.
Imagination, fun and curiosity are essential! Cameras, smart phones and mobile devices are strictly encouraged. Courtesy and creativity are always in style.

**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](https://extension.missouri.edu/programs/missouri-4-h/4-h-projects-opportunities/4-h-opportunities/4-h-filmfest)

**4-H Garden Competition**
The final session of the 4-H Garden competition will be held on Monday, May 24 at 7PM. Join UMass Extension and our friends from Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Massachusetts Master Gardeners to discuss the topic of Disease and Pest Control. Contact Meg McDermott at [memcdermott@umass.edu](mailto:memcdermott@umass.edu) for information and to register.

**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. However, in order to participate in a Massachusetts 4-H Fair **membership enrollment and fees need to be completed by June 1**.

Those who complete membership or are new members after June 1 are still allowed to join and to become 4-H members, of course! However, anyone completing membership after June 1 may not enter items in the Massachusetts 4-H fairs. They are welcome to help with tasks such as fair set up, take down, volunteering at the fair, or just visiting to preview items they may wish to enter the following year. Contact your local 4-H office if you need help completing your enrollment.

**National 4-H Congress**
November 26-30 2021
UMass 4-H Extension is hoping that by the Fall we will be able to travel out of state and participate in National 4-H Congress. 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](http://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](mailto:mass4hteens@gmail.com).

That 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.

**Steam Bitmoji Classroom – Space Exploration**
The 4-H STEAM Bitmoji Classroom has a variety of themed Classrooms that each have 4 bitmoji rooms and 4 assignments. Once all four assignments are completed and submitted you will receive a certificate of completion in the mail. You may complete the themed Classroom at your own pace; it can be accessed when it is convenient for your schedule.

Learn about stars, Mars, and the solar system from afar. Contact [ldubois@umass.edu](mailto:ldubois@umass.edu) to receive a google classroom invitation. All those who complete the 4 assignments by May 31st will be entered into a drawing for one of two- $15 Gift Cards to Dunkin Donuts. Good luck!
### Career Exploration Series


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<th>June 2</th>
<th>SPECIAL PROGRAM To Be Announced</th>
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<td>Lindsey Larson</td>
<td>Economist - World Bank</td>
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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.

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<th>June 16</th>
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<td>Lindsey Larson</td>
<td>Sara Schilling</td>
<td>Kerry Henry</td>
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#### Zoom Meetings & Workshops

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

**May 24 – League of Protein Producers – 7:00pm**

Dr. Joe Emenheiser, UConn Livestock Specialist – Guest Speaker

**May 26 – Ag Summit Team – 7:30pm**

**June 1st Deadline is fast approaching if you want to exhibit your animal at a 4-H event**

**NEW - REQUIREMENT FOR THIS YEAR:** Livestock Verification Forms If you have your project animal(s) selected and own or lease, you can start completing your Verification Form available on our website under the livestock section. You will only do on animals that you plan to show. Please return the completed form to your respective 4-H office. **June 1st for sheep, goats, alpacas, llamas and swine.** [https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf/doc-ppt/ma_4-h_animal_verification_form_3.pdf](https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf/doc-ppt/ma_4-h_animal_verification_form_3.pdf) You will receive a signed-off copy from their county office to keep with their project animal registration papers and veterinarian health charts for fairs.

### ANIMAL SCIENCE

**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.

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**Sara Schilling**

Dancer

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; Gattleau, 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 and showed them at this early age. Sara’s first experience was with rabbit showing at the local 4-H Fair while she was in 3rd grade and she’s been showing ever since. Sara has been the 4-H Overall Grand Champion multiple times and has shown in various categories such as small animals, large animals, small fruits and vegetables, and poultry as a member of the Flora, Fauna and Feathers club in Essex County, MA.

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**Kerry Henry**

Kerry Henry (aka Kerwin) is the Head Miller at Ardent Mills in Ayer, MA. He is responsible for the production of wheat and barley flour at the mill.

Kerry grew up on a family farm in Vermont and has been working in the milling industry for over 20 years. He has been with Ardent Mills since 2004 and has held various positions in the company, including millwright and head miller.

Kerry is a toddler at heart and loves to play with his 7 children. He enjoys spending time with his family and is an active member of the community. He is passionate about his work and is always looking for ways to improve the milling process.
NEW – Dog Verification Form June 1st is the deadline to submit your Dog Verification Form on your project dog (owned or leased) to your county 4-H office. Please find the form June 1st is the deadline to submit your Dog Verification Form on your project dog (owned or leased) to your county 4-H office. Please find the form at https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-docppt/2021_dog_verification_form.pdf

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 own 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 Diagnostic Testing
If you plan on exhibiting your birds at shows, you need to get them tested for salmonella-pullorum-typhoid. Contact the Megan McGrath at the MA Division of Animal Health https://www.mass.gov/service-details/diagnostic-testing-services

Equine Site with Up-To-Date Disease Outbreak Information
Outbreak of Strangles and Respiratory Equine Herpesvirus – A horse was confirmed positive in Hampshire County with the Respiratory Equine Herpesvirus There are confirmed Strangles cases in Middlesex and Essex Counties. For fact sheets diseases can be found at https://equinediseasecc.org/disease-information
This site also has good information on outbreaks in other states if youth are traveling to out-of-state horse shows.

Showmanship Tips
Here are some good videos to take a look at to give you some pointers:
Beef - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PmjLJ0R8Ceo
Dairy - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IY301IG0eus
Sheep - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_1S3_QAGooc
Goats - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahUN3OClyus

National Story Writing Contest
Did you participate in Massachusetts 4-H program Spinning Your Story? Are you a person who enjoys creative writing? Then this National Contest is for you!

What’s Your Story?
What do you think would happen if the toy company Sleich got together with 4-H to create the most fantastic animal tale of all time? Find out with the “Create Your Story” contest, launching NOW! Ask your 4-H families to join in the fun by creating a story only they can imagine. The top 10 stories will go to a vote and the top two will be part of an interactive “create your own adventure” video premiering this fall! Go to https://createyourstorywith4h.com/

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 – cbushey@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@umass.edu
Pam LeFave, Program Assistant – plefave@umext.umass.edu
Debbie Beaubien, Administrative Assistant – debbieb@umext.umass.edu
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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

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