Massachusetts 4-H Program

October 9, 2020

The UMass Extension 4-H E-NewsBlast is sent to all 4-H families and volunteers throughout the state. Each county 4-H office may add information that is specific to that county or region. Unless otherwise noted, all virtual programming is available to 4-H members throughout the state, not matter where you live or what club or group you belong to!

Enrolling for the 4-H Year

All volunteers must re-enroll in the 4honline database each year. Go to http://ma.4honline.com to update your information, being sure to verify your contact information, address, phone, and email are all correct. The 4honline system has been updated, and all volunteers will need to enter their birthdate this year when updating their profile. If you do not, the system will not recognize you as a valid volunteer and will not allow you to view your club or group.

All returning members will re-enroll in 4honline at http://ma.4honline.com. If you are returning you already have a 4honilin system profile; you do not need to create a new one! Just click "forgot password" and a temporary password will be sent to your email. Once you receive the temporary password, you can re-set it to create your own. Tip sheets on using 4honline are on the 4-H website at https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/about/4h-online. If you do not see your club listed, check with your local educator. We are still obtaining some 2019-2020 club reports which must be returned before a club can re-enroll.

FEE FOR THIS YEAR ONLY: The fee to enroll has been reduced to $40 this year. The deadline for re-enrollment for the $40 participation fee is December 31. After that date, the enrollment fee doubles to $80 per member. The participation fee is not refundable for any reason.

We are very aware that families may have financial strains due to many circumstances, including some caused by the Corona virus. Fees have been reduced, and families may still apply for waivers. Refer to the 4-H Website for details about how to apply, what evidence needs to be presented, and where to send the waiver.
https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/2020-2021_waiver_of_fee_guidelines_0.pdf  Waivers must be submitted to your local 4-H educator and you must receive an approval before going online to re-enroll. After December 31 only half-waivers will be available; full waivers will no longer be an option.

Payment: Credit cards are processed through the UMass Bookstore, not through 4-HOnline directly. Because of this, you will have an extra step to follow. When enrolling a 4-H member, you will come to the Payment Screen. Here you need to select the option for Non-Electronic Payment. You are not able to pay by credit card on this page but instead need to go to the UMass Bookstore site to pay at https://umassextensionbookstore.com/products/87 We apologize for this extra step!

Local offices receive notifications of payments made and will approve once payment is made.

New members will need to contact their local 4-H office to enroll. You will receive instructions on how to enter.

Quick Updates

Record Books: Record books will still be judged! You can submit your records by email or regular mail this year. If emailing, scan this year’s records only and email them to your local 4-H educator. If mailing, find the address of your local 4-H office at the end of the Newsblast and send a copy of this year’s records there. All submissions must be received by midnight, November 30, 2020.

Key Award: The 2020 Key Award application may be submitted by regular mail or by email to your local 4-H educator. The form is available at https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/key_award_application_2020.pdfs and is due by midnight, November 30, 2020. If you already mailed in an application, you do not need to re-submit a new form!
The National 4-H Youth Summit on STEM is scheduled to occur virtually on November 6-8. The Summit will be full of great activities around the theme of exploring Mars, including hands on activities and a virtual space mission. Participants take on the roles of aspiring aerospace engineers, designing and building a rocket launch system capable of launching the Mission to Mars Team into space.

The tentative schedule is as follows:

**Friday Nov 6 –**
- 6PM-8:30PM: Welcome, Overview of Mission, Rocket Design Process, and Closing Remarks

**Saturday, Nov 7 –**
- 11:30am-1PM: Overview of Day, Landing Systems, Goose Chase Challenge
- 3PM – 8PM: Mission #1, Mars Base Design, Share Out, Rover Challenge, and Debrief

**Sunday, Nov 8 –**
- 11:30AM-12:45PM: Claw Showcase, Career Panel
- 1:30PM – 3:30PM: Intro to Mission 2, Final Debrief, Closing Remarks

A registration link will be posted soon! The Massachusetts 4-H Program will pay the $75 fee for those selected to attend. All participants will receive a box of supplies to use throughout the summit in order to complete the online activities.

*If you are interested in attending, contact Kim Pond by next Tuesday, October 13, 2020.*

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**Virtual Halloween Activities**

Join Massachusetts 4-H for some virtual Haunted Happenings and Contests! Watch your email and the MA 4-H Facebook page *this weekend* for registration information. 4-H Cloverbuds, Members, and even adults and 4-H volunteers are encouraged to enter.

Contests include 1) Pumpkin Carving and Decorating for Cloverbuds 2) Animal Costume Class and 3) Scarecrow Contest. Deadline to enter is October 22nd. A virtual awards ceremony will take place on October 28th at 7pm. A slide show of the contestants and winners will be announced.

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**Clovertober Activities throughout the Month**

The Acton CRAFT & Zingers Compact Club has created a “Clovertober” Team. As a way of virtually connecting together, the club has decided they are going to do a simple pen and ink drawing every day for the month of October. The goal was a 10-15 minute sketch with some sort of 4-H theme, hence the “Clovertober” in the name! We are looking forward to seeing all of the #clovertober and #clovertober2020 pictures on social media! Create a daily pen drawing based on the Clovertober prompt of the day

- Plan to spend just 10-15 minutes for a simple drawing
- As an added challenge to this 4-H activity, try to include a 4-H theme or feeling
- Take a picture of your drawing, post it on social media, tag your photo #clovertober and #clovertober2020
- As a community service project, include a short note of encouragement with your picture to brighten the days of people in nursing homes, hospitals, and your neighborhood
- Questions? Contact the Acton C.R.A.F.T. 4-H Leader, Elaine Shirron with “Clovertober” in the subject line at ElaineShirron@gmail.com

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**Massachusetts 4-H Foundation Online Auction**

Time is running out to donate to the Massachusetts 4-H Foundation Auction!

Do you have:
- A **special skill** you can share and teach?
- A beautiful artistic piece you’ve made if you’re creative?
- An **extra retail gift card** lying around?
- High-tech product, wine basket, or spa service?

Then consider donating any one of these items to Massachusetts 4-H Foundation's online auction to be held November 1-15. Due to this year’s financial squeeze of typical donors like restaurants and theaters, we need donations!
How to Donate - 3 Easy Options:
1. Make an auction donation online here
2. Email your donations to: lflanagan@mass4hfoundation.org
3. Mail or drop off your auction items to: Massachusetts 4-H Foundation, 1671 Worcester Road, Suite 403, Framingham, MA 01701
Contact Laurie Flanagan, Executive Director, if you have any questions, Phone 508-881-1244.

Fall Paper Clover Campaign
Tractor Supply Company will hold the fall paper clover campaign from October 7-18. This year no in-store participation from 4-H clubs or members is allowed. However, check with your local store to see if they will allow a static exhibit for 4-H! During this campaign, TSC is matching all purchases made with the TSC credit card as well! Let your local 4-H office know if you put up a display or have a photo of a 4-H display at your local store! We would love to share that with others!

STEM Activities – Museum of Science
This October the Museum of Science will be supporting Massachusetts STEM week "See Yourself in STEM" through a weeklong online Engineering Design Challenge for Grades Prek-8. They have developed three free engineering design challenges for the week.

PreK–Grade 2: Tuesday, October 13 - 3:30–4:00pm ET
Grades 3–5: Wednesday, October 14 - 3:30–4:00pm ET
Grades 6–8: Thursday, October 15 - 3:30–4:00pm ET
Register to participate and get access to resources through this link https://tinyurl.com/MASTEM20

4-H Volunteer Professional Development Series:
4-H 101:
4-H Club Leaders, Advisory Council and Board Members are invited to attend this zoom for 4-H volunteers. To register and receive your zoom link, contact VaShon Wallace, vwallace@umext.umass.edu or Tom Waskiewicz, waskiewicz@umext.umass.edu. Feel free to share this information with other 4-H volunteers.

Series 1: Elements and Structure of 4-H
The Essential Elements of 4-H Youth Development – October 13
The Organizational Structure and History of 4-H – October 20
Understanding the Culture of 4-H – October 27

National 4-H Week October 4-10
National 4-H Week is an opportunity to highlight the remarkable 4-H youth in our communities and showcase the incredible experiences that 4-H offers. This year’s theme for National 4-H Week (October 4-10) is Opportunity4All. Visit the 4-H Marketing Online Resource Center to download the promotional toolkit.

4-H believes that young people, in partnership with adults, can play a key role in creating a more promising and equitable future for youth, families and communities across the country. In 4-H, we believe every youth should have an equal opportunity to succeed. We believe every youth should have the skills they need to make a difference in the world.

Your 4-H Story: To begin National 4-H Week, Massachusetts 4-H is launching Your 4-H Story. We encourage you to share your particular story about what 4-H has inspired you to do. Who or what inspired you? What were you experiencing? Consider emotions, energy, optimism, challenges, accomplishments, knowledge gained, skills learned, role models, disappointments, and support from leaders, family and friends. The story can be any length. We encourage you to include up to four pictures with your story. Be sure to add a short caption to each. Your 4-H Story can be the one you include with your 4-H Record or an entirely separate one – your choice! Stories will be featured throughout the 2021 year. Contact Tom Waskiewicz to register by November 30 at waskiewicz@umext.umass.edu
Families who purchase a Mars Base Camp kit and take part in the 2020 STEM Challenge in October may qualify for a reimbursement from Massachusetts 4-H. To obtain a reimbursement, you will need to meet the following criteria:

Be fully enrolled for the new 2020-2021 4-H Year by November 30. This includes all enrollment fees being paid

Conduct the 2020 STEM Challenge using the kit in your home.

Submit a photo or two of your family and 4-H member(s) conducting some portion of the experiment

Complete a short survey

Submit your invoice for the cost of the kit. Shipping will not be reimbursed; only the cost of the kit.

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**Online Programs**

**NEW: SET Virtual Program**
Lauren DuBois, Springfield Educator and Kim Pond, State SET Educator, have teamed up to lead a Bitmoji classroom with a focus on Science, Engineering and Technology. During the month of October, they will be providing weekly activities that connect with the 2020 SET Challenge "Mars Bound" for an out of this world experience!

The Kick Off will take place on October 5 in the interactive classroom. The classroom will be open to 4-H youth of all ages; however, the content and hands-on activities will target youth in grades 4 through 7. There will be 4 main activities offered each week of the month. In addition, there will be supplemental activities, videos and challenges to try. Watch for our "Moo the dog Mascot" to make an appearance. To register: email Lauren DuBois at ldubois@umext.umass.edu to let her know you are interested. Once registered you will receive the google classroom code on Monday, Oct. 5th, 2020.

**Animal and Agricultural Storytime - Tuesdays at 11:30AM - Live on Facebook**
Come listen to an agricultural or animal story live on Plymouth County 4-H Facebook page each Tuesday.
https://www.facebook.com/plymouthcountyma4h

**What to Do with All those 4-H Ribbons? October 15th 7 pm**
Join us to learn about ways to display your ribbons and project accomplishments. Pre-register at acampora@umext.umass.edu or by phone at 774-404-7020.

**Let’s Get Cooking - October 19-30 M,W,F 4:30-5:30 pm**
6 Week basic cooking program $25 Learn about kitchen safety, tools in the kitchen, oven baking, reading a recipe and more. Each week you will be given a shopping list so you can cook along. Pre-Registration required by Oct 1 Register at https://plymouthcounty4h.org/4-h-lets-get-cooking Instructor: Harley Anne Hamilton

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**Career Exploration Zoom Series**
Talk with an expert and find out what it takes to become involved in specific careers. This popular series will take part every other week. The next session will be held on October 7th. Upcoming speakers are highlighted in the chart below. Everyone is welcome to attend, no matter your age or project area, Invite a friend to attend too; all are welcome! To obtain the Zoom link, contact Angelica Paredes at angelica@umext.umass.edu with: session date, youth name, club/school, County. Please add the state you live in if outside of Massachusetts!

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<tr>
<th>OCTOBER 21</th>
<th>Alexander Daugherty, J.D.</th>
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<td>Probation Officer for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts</td>
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Dr. Daugherty has worked as a Probation Officer for 23 years. His first 18 years were as a juvenile Probation Officer; currently he supervises adults on probation for criminal charges. In his role as Probation Officer he takes part in every aspect of a person’s involvement with the courts, from paperwork to home visits to court appearances. He is also an Adjunct Professor at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. Alex teaches classes in Criminal Justice.
Prior to working in the court system, he worked on legal issues within several different facets of housing, from title searches to adjudicating over housing disputes.

**NOVEMBER 4**

**Dr. Robert Welton & Ashley Lantz**  
Western Regional Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

Dr. Welton is a medical examiner at the Western Regional Office of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. He received his BS and MS in biological sciences from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell, PhD in biology from Boston College, MPH in epidemiology and biostatistics from Boston University School of Public Health, and his MD from the University of Illinois at Chicago. He completed his intern year in anesthesiology at the University of Illinois Medical Center, followed by a residency in anatomic and clinical pathology at Baystate Medical Center and a fellowship in forensic pathology at the Massachusetts Office of the Chief Examiner. He is currently board certified in Public Health and has been at the Chief Medical Examiners’ Office for almost seven years.

Ashely Lantz is a Medicolegal Investigator at the Western Regional Office of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Massachusetts. She has a BA in anthropology with a minor in biology from Hartwick College and then received her MA with a focus in forensic anthropology from The George Washington University. She has worked at the Medical Examiner’s Office for nearly ten years as a Medical Examiner Assistant, Office Support Specialist and now a Medicolegal Investigator. She participated in her first autopsy as a Clinical Pathology Assistant during college and completed an internship and coursework at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. while in graduate school.

**NOVEMBER 18**

**Dan Weissbrodt**  
Master Puppeteer-Artist-Designer-Vocal Actor, Extraordinaire!

Dan Weissbrodt is currently with The Walt Disney Company under Disney Creative/Character Programming and Development. He is currently a puppet master/specialist, and programmer for Disney Cruise Line, Walt Disney Parks Live Entertainment, and Disney Creative Operations.

Dan is also an award-winning television, film, theater performer, creative mind, puppeteer, and manager, who has received accolades for his work with such organizations as The Walt Disney Company, Children’s Television Workshop, The Williamstown Theatre Festival, Disney+, Saturday Night Live, and The Moscow Ballet.

He has an extensive decorating, design and fabrication background. His project design, and management highlights include the Fêtes de Noël in NYC's Bryant Park, award-winning Christmas windows (including the Macy’s and Lord & Taylor displays), and numerous domestic and international productions.

He views himself as a perennial teacher and student, and welcomes all opportunities that will further enrich his abilities. While his work has taken him around the globe, Weissbrodt is currently splitting time between North Adams, Ma. and Winter Garden, Florida.

**December 2**

**Sarah Gardner, Certified Veterinary Technician.**

Sarah is a 10 year 4-H Alumni. Her 4-H Projects were Dairy Goats, Dogs, Community Service, Leadership, Veterinary Science, Photography, as well as all the public speaking and education that comes with showing these species at the fairs across New Hampshire. She attended NH Teen Conference, Citizenship Washington Focus in Washington, DC, and the National Dairy Quiz Bowl in Louisville, KY. She represented New Hampshire at the Eastern States Exposition showing Dairy Goats when she was 13, and dogs from the age of 14 - 19. She attended Vermont Technical College in Randolph Center Vermont, worked on the college’s dairy farm, was a member of the Dairy Club, and was on the school’s dairy show team. She graduated with an Associates of Applied Science with a Major in Veterinary Technology in 1994 and passed the NAVT and became a Certified Veterinary Technician the same year. She has been a 4-H leader for the past 25 years, currently a leader of the Dog, Goat club in her county and the leader of the only Swine Club in the state. She is on the state livestock curriculum committees, the Eastern States 4-H Dog Show Committee, and is also the advisor of the state 4-H Ag Ambassadors. She has been a Certified Veterinary Technician since 1994. Her current job of 17 years, is the Lead Veterinary Technician in a small animal hospital in southeast New Hampshire. The hospital is a very busy, 2 1/2 Doctor, hospital that focuses on routine care as well as dentistry, surgery, geriatric care, behavioral and alternative medicine.

**December 16**

**Nicholas Campbell, Alex Whiting, & Felix Soto**  
Microsoft  
(More details coming soon)
Animal Science Programs:

Zoom Advisory Meetings:
State 4-H Horse Advisory – October 14th – 7pm

Animal Biosecurity Learning Module:
For both adults and youth - Learn what steps you can make to your farm or barn area to help prevent disease transmission. This is a series that once you complete, you will receive a Certificate of Completion. https://www.healthyagriculture.org/training/youth-4h-ffa/biosecurity-learning-modules/?fbclid=IwAR1IjzRCBu5pDY3BZZHf49bnODD4WLq1TD-LJw-4aI5LGzUilyDjKEaDos

Rabbit and Cavy 4-H Survey
The Rabbit Advisory would like your input into the 2021 MA 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Workshop as well as other classes that you would like to see offered. Please take a few minutes to take the survey at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YJ8ZLVD

On-line Quiz Bowl Platform
Clubs have the opportunity to practice knowledge questions on-line by using the free platform - Buzzinlive https://buzzin.live/ Up to 8 players can participate via Zoom. Easy to use and no limits on the amount of times you can play.

Science Resources From PBS

Bring Science and Engineering to Life:
Help middle and high school students understand the real world application of science and engineering concepts with short videos on shape-shifting robots, 3-D mapping, and deep ocean exploration. View the Collection

Start an Engineering Invention Club
This guide takes you through the process of running a 6-week version of a Design Squad Global Club for middle school age students, which includes a welcome session, 4 hands-on activity sessions, and a party to celebrate at the end! Go to https://cptv.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/dsg16-sci-6weekguide/6-week-dsg-club-guide/

Winter Workshop Forums:
4-H Office Contacts:

The 4-H Program is operating and available to answer questions. 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

Southeastern MA (Bristol and Norfolk):
Meg McDermott, 4-H Educator – memcdermott@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

Barnstable County:
Judy Vollmer, 4-H Educator: jvollmer@barnstablecounty.org
Dawn Johnson, Administrative Assistant: dawn.johnson@barnstablecounty.org

Massachusetts 4-H is an extension program at the University of Massachusetts. UMass 4-H follows the Massachusetts Governor’s regulations for the re-opening of the state as well as the governance of the University of Massachusetts. Although guidelines for numbers of people who can gather have relaxed a bit for the state, the University guidance still states that no in-person 4-H meetings or activities are to take place at this time. This means our clubs and groups still may not meet in person. We will continue to monitor the situation and will allow in-person club meetings and activities to occur when university guidelines have been completed. We hope that your groups will continue to meet virtually and use some of the many programs, contests, and links that we have to offer online.