Massachusetts 4-H Program

September 4, 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!

NEW PROGRAM - 4-H 101 Series - Open to all 4-H Volunteers

4-H Club Leaders, Advisory Council and Board Members are invited to attend this new training designed just for 4-H volunteers. The training is divided into four separate series, each containing four modules. Series one starts on Tuesday, October 6 at 7:00pm, and continues weekly through Tuesday October 27. The topics in each series are listed below.

To register for Series One, contact VaShon Wallace, vwallace@umext.umass.edu or Tom Waskiewicz, waskiewicz@umext.umass.edu by October 1st. You will receive the Zoom link once you register. Feel free to share this information with other 4-H volunteers.

Series 1: Elements and Structure of 4-H- Begins October 6
Lesson 1 Introducing Youth Development – October 6
Lesson 2 The Essential Elements of 4-H Youth Development – October 13
Lesson 3 The Organizational Structure and History of 4-H – October 20
Lesson 4 Understanding the Culture of 4-H – October 27

Series 2: Engaging Youth 4-H- Begins November 3rd
Lesson 1 Understanding 4-H Youth Development Delivery
Lesson 2 Life Skills and the Experiential Learning Model
Lesson 3 Knowing and Using 4-H Curricula
Lesson 4 Putting the Experiential Learning Model to Practice

Series 3: Creating 4-H Clubs- Begins December 1
Lesson 1 4-H Club Basics
Lesson 2 Starting 4-H Clubs
Lesson 3 Conducting Club Meetings
Lesson 4 Planning the 4-H Club Year

Series 4: Opportunity4all- Begins January 5
Lesson 1 Marketing 4-H Clubs
Lesson 2 Recruiting, Training and Recognizing Volunteers
Lesson 3 Recognizing 4-H'ers Accomplishments
Lesson 4 Making Action Plans

Club, Advisory Council, Fair Board Annual Financial Reports

Reminder: Send your club, council, or fair board financial report to your local educator at the regular mailing address found at the end of the newsletter. No group can re-resister without this being turned in. Need help? Contact your local 4-H educator! We are here to help! All forms can be found at
https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/annual_club_report_and_financial_form_0.pdf

Remember, you cannot re-register for 2020-2021 until your group's financial reports are received.

MASSACHUSETTS 4-H VIRTUAL STATE FAIR – Results!

The Massachusetts 4-H Virtual State Fair was very successful! Over 70 individuals attended the Opening Ceremonies on August 29 where the 4-H Pledge was recited, the National Anthem was presented by video sung by two 4-H members, and opening remarks were given by Educator Tom Waskiewicz and Interim Director Dr. Linda Horn.

Look for an email or an attachment with the NewsBlast showing all of the fair results. Those who participated will be receiving a limited edition Massachusetts 4-H Virtual Fair T-Shirt in the mail soon. The fair is highlighted in the most recent weekly newsletter on Center for Food and the Environment's (CAFÉ) homepage! Go to https://ag.umass.edu/news-events/highlights/first-4-h-virtual-fair-in-massachusetts-held-august-29-0

If you participated in the virtual fair, we need your input! Help us to Make the Best Better by taking a few minutes to complete a short survey at this link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3GQF9XG

Animal Science Program Information

Upcoming Animal Science Zoom Meetings:
September 8 – Rabbit Advisory – 7-8pm
September 9 – Dairy Advisory Meeting -7-8pm

Animal Science Resource:
Check out the NGSS Biology site for animal science and biology activities. Link is https://www.ngsslifescience.com/science.php/science/biology_lesson_plans_animal_science

New England Goat Trivia Contest – Thursday October 1 at 7PM
Take part in this opportunity for 4-H members to demonstrate their dairy goat knowledge! Open to all New England 4-H members; recommended for youth 12-18 years old. Trivia Questions will be generated from the American Dairy Goat Association Website and Cornell 4-H Dairy Goat Resources. Questions about this event can be sent to Jen Cushman at jennifer.cushman@uconn.edu.

- Register by creating a Student Account on Quizizz by following the sign up at https://quizizz.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360027855392-Signing-up-as-a-student Pre-registration is required!
- Once you have you an account and user name, register by September 28th at https://uconn.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3f10nPTZ0pf5bzD
- Watch your email for the quiz code which will be sent on September 29th to the email provided during registration.
- Log on by 6:50pm on October 1st to participate.
- Latecomers will not be able to join.

National 4-H Items and Links

National 4-H Week is October 4-10. Find some resources at www.4h.org. Here are some fun things you might do individually or virtually during National 4-H Week:

- Meet virtually with your club
- Wear your 4-H gear
- Shout-Out on social media about 4-H, highlighting some of your projects or your club
- Send a 4-H Thank You to your club leader(s) or someone who has been a positive influence in your life.

4-H at Home provides hands-on, educational activities for kids and teens all year long. Get our latest 4-H at Home Activity Guide, activities from 4-H Land-Grant Universities, and more at https://4-h.org/about/4-h-at-home/

TRACTOR SUPPLY PAPER CLOVER FUNDRAISER – Each Fall, the Tractor Supply Company helps raise funds for 4-H Programs with the Paper Clover Campaign. Because of the pandemic, 4-H clubs will not be allowed to have displays or activities at local Tractor Supply Stores. But the Paper Clover Campaign will go on!

- Dates: Oct. 7 – Oct. 18, 2020
- 90% of the funds raised in Massachusetts go right back to Massachusetts 4-H! 10% of funds go to National 4-H Council
- Customers can donate with their in-store purchase or in other ways. More details coming soon!

STEM Mars Base Camp Challenge Kits

There is still time to purchase your 2020 Mars Base Camp Challenge Kit from National 4-H at www.shop4h.org. Family kits are available at $15.95.

Families who take part in the 2020 STEM Challenge in October may qualify for a reimbursement from Massachusetts 4-H for your purchase! 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 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.

40 kits will be reimbursed More details as to where to submit your information will be coming in future NewsBlasts.

More Mars Base Camp Challenge Resources:

https://4-h.org/parents/4-h-stem-challenge/#!2020-challenge

Professional Development Opportunities at https://4-h.org/parents/4-h-stem-challenge/#!webinars

- STEM Challenge Overview for Educators + Kit Unboxing-recording online
- Creating and Adapting Programming for Virtual and Hybrid Delivery-September 10th at 1pm ET

INSIGHT FROM MARS Celebrate the 2020 4-H STEM Challenge by Coding an Insight from Mars!

- This is now online at https://4-h.org/parents/4-h-stem-challenge/insight-from-mars-activity/

Spinning Your 4-H Story

The first part of the Spinning Your 4-H Story took place on August 27. Still interested in taking part? Contact Angelica Paredes to find out if there is still room! This is a great way to put a new perspective on your annual record book 4-H Story!

Session three will be held on September 10 from 7:00 – 8:00 PM

What if your cow could talk about how hard practicing for showmanship could be? What if your rabbit wanted to tell the world all about the great treats you gave her? What if your horse had an opinion about changing to a bitless bridle, your sewing machine wanted to gush about all the cool projects it got to help with, or your model rocket could tell us all about what it saw from way up high? What other aspect of your 4-H project might we discover by letting your project take over the narration?

Part Two – How to ***TELL*** your 4-H Story – These sessions will take place later in the year, in time to get you ready to present it at 4-H Visual Presentations in a new category!

Career Exploration Zoom Series

Talk with an expert and find out what it takes to become involved in specific careers. The chart below gives you the dates and a bio about each of the upcoming speakers. Everyone is welcome to attend, no matter your age or project area, or even if a 4-H member! Invite a friend to attend too! 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! Starting in late September, this series will continue every other week.

SEPTEMBER	9	Ag. Extension Panel	Dr. Mandy Bayer - Dr. Bayer is an Extension Assistant Professor of Sustainable Landscape Horticulture. She majored in Landscape Contracting at Penn State and worked as a landscape designer before returning to graduate school. She has a Master's Degree in Crop Sciences from the University of Illinois and a PhD in Horticulture from the University of Georgia. Her background is in studying how we can improve the sustainability of ornamental plant production through improved irrigation practices. She also studies how to improve establishment of plants in the landscape, and is also the advisor for the AS and BS horticultural science programs in the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at UMass, along with being a part of UMass Extension. Dr. Bayer will talk about the many areas of Horticulture.

			Dr. Madeiras - Dr. Madeiras is a plant pathologist working in the Extension Plant Diagnostic Lab, where she diagnoses plant health problems in vegetables, fruit, turf, and greenhouse crops. Many people are unaware that plants get diseases too, and that these diseases can have a big impact on our food supply and the livelihoods of all kinds of growers. Being a plant pathologist is sometimes a little like being a detective- you have to gather all the clues you can and put them together. In her presentation, Dr. Madeiras will talk about what makes plants sick, what a routine case might be like, and some of the different career paths open to plant pathologists. Randall Prostak - Randy Prostak is an Extension Weed Specialist. As the grandson of a dairy farmer, Randy fell in love with agriculture at a young age. In 1994, Randy joined the University of Massachusetts and in 2000 he became an extension weed specialist. He is a member of the UMass Extension Landscape Nursery and Urban Forestry team and is an active contributor to the turf and Crop Dairy Livestock Equine extension teams. He currently serves on the Massachusetts Invasive Plant Advisory Group. Randy is an active member of the Weed Science Society of America and served as president of the Northeastern Weed Science Society. In February 2013, Randy received the Northeastern Weed Science Society's Outstanding Educator Award. The 2020 growing season will mark Randy's 32nd year working in weed science. Tawny Simisky - Tawny Simisky is an Extension Entomologist with the Landscape, Nursery, and Urban Forestry Program. She has a Master of Science in Ecology and Environmental Science with a focus in Entomology from the University of Maine where she studied a native, ground-nesting wasp. She taught as an adjunct professor at Westfield State University and in the summers, worked for the MA Department of Conservation and Recreation. Eventually she joined MA DCR full-time as the ground survey supervisor for the Cooperative Asian Longhorned Beetle Eradication Program in Worcester, MA. In 2016 she joined UMass Extension, she creates entomology-related programming for professionals, and provides diagnostic support to the UMass Plant Diagnostics Laboratory.
SEPTEMBER	23	Sheriff Bowler	Prior to his election as Sheriff in November of 2010, Sheriff Bowler was a 24-year veteran of the Pittsfield Police Department, serving as a Detective since 1988. He was a key player in solving some of the city's largest crimes, including narcotics offenses, kidnapping, sexual assaults, armed robberies and homicides. In addition to his work in the Detective Bureau, he served in the Drug Unit and as an Arson Investigator. Sheriff Bowler was also an Assistant Deputy Superintendent-Security Affairs at the Berkshire County Jail and House of Correction from 2000 to 2002, where he played an instrumental part in moving the inmates from the former jail on Second Street to the new facility on Cheshire Road. In addition to the Berkshire County Jail and House of Correction, Sheriff Bowler operates the Berkshire County Sheriff's Communications Center in Pittsfield, providing fire, police and ambulance emergency 911 and non-emergency communications for 23 communities in Berkshire and Hampden County 24 hours a day. As chief law enforcement officer in Berkshire County, Sheriff Bowler oversees an average daily inmate population of nearly 200. In addition to the operation of the Berkshire County Jail and House of Correction and the Communications Center, he oversees the Sheriff's Office Uniform Division, the Civil Process Division and the Berkshire County Underwater Search and Rescue Team.
OCTOBER	7	Ron Schreier, NFL	Senior Audio Mix Engineer, NFL Films Ron has worked in recording studios, mixed live concerts, designed sound systems and is currently working as a senior audio engineer for NFL Films. His recent assignments include mixing Good Morning Football on NFL Network and Hard Knocks on HBO. He has won three Emmy awards and has been nominated eight times.

			Ron started as a freelance studio recording engineer, transitioned to live sound and location recording. Using his network of clients, he landed freelance work at NFL Films and two years later was offered a full-time position. This will be his 19th season as a full-time audio engineer at NFL Films. Along with discussing his career path, what the true meaning of a "dream Job" is; it's not what you think. He'll also discuss working in the Film and Television industry and the importance of finding work that meets all of your life's expectations.
OCTOBER	21	Alexander Daugherty, J.D.	Probation Officer for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts 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.

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 -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

Southeastern MA (Bristol and Norfolk):
Jay Field, 4-H Educator – jfield@umext.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

Some Images from the MASSACHUSETTS 4-H VIRTUAL STATE FAIR!

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.

4-H Youth Development UMASS EXTENSION

UMass Extension is a unit of the Center for Agriculture, Food & the Environment in the College of Natural Sciences. UMass Extension is an equal opportunity provider & employer, United States Department of Agriculture cooperating. Contact your local UMass Extension office for information on disability accommodations or the UMass Director if you have concerns related to discrimination, 413-545-4800 or refer to www.extension.umass.edu/civilrights.

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST