County and State Visual Presentation Days

We had 30 youth participate in County Visuals from Bristol County on March 11 and 52 youth from Norfolk County on March 4!

Congratulations to the following members who were chosen to represent Bristol County at State Visuals: Avery Almeida, Candence Almeida, Zoey Andrade, Kahlyn Baresel-Haskell, Michael Bartz, Julia Bernier, Cavan Botelho, Sadie Brown, Joelle Camara, Daniel Clapp, Trevor Clapp, Amelia DuPonte, Gabe DuPonte, Julianne DuPonte, Riley Goodrich, Lily Krauzyk, Katie Lee, Kaci Leonard, Katherine Miller, Alana Riedeau, Madison Root, Elizabeth Ross, Nicole Silva, Isabel Toste, Julianne Toste, Mia Vargas and Paige Vargas.

Congratulations also go out to the following members who were chosen to represent Norfolk County at State Visuals: Ivy Albright, Mia Almeida, Lee Ammons, Elizabeth Aspinwall, Skyler Barry, Hans Boericke, Ashley Braren, Caleigh Brown, Maya Dancey, Riley

DoRosario, Maria Fabiano, Sophia Fabrizio, Nora Garland, Mattea Garrett, Julia Goldson, Sakeenah Graves, Niamh Grehan, Caroline Hall, Bella Hamblin, Alexis Harlow, Finbar Heaslip, Samantha Hertzberg, Eva Hourigan, Charlotte Hughes, Madison Lane, Libby Lukas, Hannah Marsh, Olivia McCann, Julia Nerenberg, Sam Oldmixon, Emma Pannone, Gabby Pannone, Ava Richardson, Celidih Scott, Kilian Tennis, Ronan Tennis, Leah Trayers and Jenna Woodard.

Unfortunately, due to a weather forecast of over a foot of snow in the Bedford area on April 1, the State Visual Presentation Day had to be cancelled. We are all disappointed that we had to cancel such a worthwhile 4-H program but the safety of our 4-H members, parents, judges and other volunteers is of the utmost importance.

In addition, the following 4-H members received Big E Quality ribbons from their judges at the County Visual Presentations. These 4-H’ers will be invited to do a visual presentation, stage presentation or action exhibit at the Big E in September!

Bristol County: Julianne DuPonte, Joelle Camara, Trevor Clapp and Riley Goodrich.

Norfolk County: Elizabeth Aspinwall, Maya Dancey, Riley DoRosario, Niamh Grehan, Hannah Marsh, Ava Richardson and Julia Nerenberg.
Thank You to Our Great Volunteers!

A huge “thank you” goes out to our dedicated **Bristol County** volunteers who judged County Visual Presentation Day: Betti Martin, Shirley Higgins, Millie Gedrites, Sherrill Hunnibell and Dyanne Spatcher.

A big “thank you” to our volunteers who judged at **Norfolk County** Visual Presentation Day: Olivia Lee, Tim Pothier, Val Stone, Amanda Hamblin, Genevieve Kerr, Denise Dulude Pothier, Daria Fabiano, Nora Reardon, Aurora Luce, Maria Comery, Carol Donnelly and Olivia Godfrey.

A special “thank you” also goes out to 4-H leaders Cindy Innes, Shari Morris and Darlene Lee, and their parents and members of the Mini Whinnies 4-H Club, who helped run the food booth at the Norfolk County Visual Presentation Day!

Thank you to all of our volunteers for all the time, compassion and enthusiasm that you provided to our 4-H’ers at these worthwhile events!

Dates for Westport Fair

4-H livestock clubs in **Bristol and Norfolk Counties** should save the dates of July 12-17 for the Westport Fair. The Westport Fair is located in Southeast Massachusetts and is a fair dedicated to promoting agriculture. 4-H/youth livestock shows include dairy, beef, rabbit, sheep, dairy goat and pygmy goat shows. For more information, contact Paula Simmons at 508-974-5641.

We plan to have a 4-H information booth this year at the Westport Fair. If any **Bristol County** club would like to staff the 4-H booth for a few hours at the fair, the MA 4-H Foundation will provide your club with a $50 recruitment stipend. Contact Jay Field at jfield@umext.umass.edu with a specific day during the fair that you would like your club to run the 4-H promotion booth. Thank you!

Spring Fling Dog Show

The Norfolk County Thunder Hill Canine Encounters 4-H Dog Club will be holding their Spring Fling Dog Show on Thursday evening, May 25, at the Norfolk County Agricultural High School, 400 Main St., Walpole. It is open to all 4-H members enrolled in 4-H dog project. For more information, go to the 4-H website at [www.mass4h.org](http://www.mass4h.org). Go to Dogs and then Dog Shows and Camps. Here is the link: [http://aq.umass.edu/sites/aq.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/thunder_hill_k9_4-h_dog_show_2017.pdf](http://aq.umass.edu/sites/aq.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/thunder_hill_k9_4-h_dog_show_2017.pdf) Or contact Cathy Quinn at thunderhill4h@aol.com.

Financial Assistance for 4-H Camps

All currently enrolled **Bristol and Norfolk County** 4-H members are eligible to apply for camperships/scholarships to attend a 4-H camp. To apply, fill out the attached Financial Assistance Form and mail it to the 4-H Office, 400 Main Street, Walpole, MA 02081. The due date is May 1. If you want to be considered for a campership/scholarship for a 4-H event coming up before May 1, please mail in your Financial Assistance Form right away!

4-H Legislative Visits

We are looking for clubs who would be willing to meet with their local legislator(s) and talk about why 4-H is important to them. Clubs could set up a time for their legislator to come and visit where they hold their club meetings and activities or set up an appointment to go to their local legislator office to talk about 4-H. A legislative visit information sheet is included with this newsletter. We also have handouts available at the 4-H Office that you can request such as 4-H magnets and 4-H coffee mugs that you could present to your legislator.

Contact Information

Jay Field, Extension 4-H Educator
jfield@umext.umass.edu
Kim Henderson, Administrative Assistant
khenders@umext.umass.edu
Massachusetts 4-H Program
400 Main St, Walpole, MA 02081
Phone: (508) 668-9793
4-H Legislative Visits

The Massachusetts 4-H Youth Development Program thanks you for being willing to meet with your legislator(s) and talk about why 4-H is important to you. We want to make sure that all legislators have a basic understanding of 4-H and how it is a part of UMass Amherst. We ask that you include the five talking points below as part of a general introduction so they all receive a consistent message. Then, you are encouraged to tell your personal 4-H story; why you are passionate about 4-H and the difference that it makes in the lives of young people; your own life and/or the lives of youth that you know.

Introduction:

- 4-H is the youth development program of UMass Extension which is part of UMass Amherst.
- The mission of 4-H is to empower youth to reach their full potential working and learning in partnership with caring adults.
- Currently youth participate in 4-H clubs, 4-H clubs for youth from military families, special interest programs (such as Babysitters’ Training), school enrichment programs (such as Embryology) and 4-H camps.
- According to the Tufts Study of Positive Youth Development, 4-H members are more likely than non-members to excel in school, lead their peers and give to their communities.
- The focus areas of 4-H in Massachusetts are science, engineering and technology; and citizenship development which includes communication skills, leadership and community service.

Volunteers:

Suggested topics:

- Why I volunteer my time for 4-H
- The difference 4-H makes in the lives of youth
- Benefits to the community

Parents:

Suggested topics:

- The positive changes in my child/children as a result of their involvement in 4-H
- Why our family is involved in 4-H

Youth:

Suggested topics:

- Their current projects and areas of focus
- Why 4-H is important to them
- How 4-H has helped them to develop life skills and work skills, especially leadership, communication, responsibility and teamwork

NOTE: Make sure you have handouts and 4-H pencil, magnet or other 4-H memento to leave behind (they are all available from your 4-H office)
4-H Financial Assistance Form

A limited amount of funds are available from the Bristol & Norfolk County 4-H Advisory Councils to assist 4-H members who will attend 4-H camp in Massachusetts. The funds will be awarded as partial camperships/scholarships. The amount and number given will depend upon the number of requests received and the amount of funds available.

These camperships/scholarships are provided to 4-H members in good standing and are not based on financial need. Financial need may be taken into account when determining the amount of assistance given. Criteria used when awarding the financial assistance includes volunteer service and activity of the 4-H member at the club and county levels (also, state level 4-H activity for teens).

All those receiving financial assistance will be encouraged to volunteer at 4-H activities throughout the year.

To apply for a campership/scholarship, fill out the form below and mail to the 4-H Office, 400 Main Street, Walpole, MA 02081. All applications must be received by May 1.

Please do not wait to get your camp applications in or there may not be space available!

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4-H Campership/Scholarship Application

Name ________________________________________________________________

Street _____________________________ Town _________________ Zip _________

Telephone # ___________________________ Date of Birth _____________________

Number of years in 4-H __________ Name of Club Leader ______________________

Email Address ___________________________ County ____ Bristol ____ Norfolk

I am applying for assistance to attend: Full Cost of Camp or Program:

_____ 4-H Camp Farley $______________

_____ Other 4-H Camp

Camp Name: ____________________________

Write several paragraphs about why you want to attend this camp/program and why you think you should receive a campership/scholarship. Be specific about your contributions to the 4-H program. Please write/type this on a separate sheet of paper and attach to this form.