



UMass Extension 4-H Program

March 18, 2022

Weekly NewsBlast

The UMass Extension 4-H E-NewsBlast is sent to all UMass 4-H families and volunteers. 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/>

Look for archived NewsBlast issues at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h>

4honline – Be sure to re-enroll

Remember: You must be registered as a current 4-H member in order to take part in any activities, contests or events. Need assistance completing your registration or joining for the first time? Contact your local 4-H office (see the list at the end of the NewsBlast). Go to <https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>

UMass Extension 4-H Program Safety Precautions

As of Wednesday, March 9, the University has lifted the indoor mask requirement. This means that when meeting indoors, 4-H members and volunteers are no longer required to wear masks.

Individuals are welcome to wear masks at their own discretion and without question. Masks are recommended for individuals or anyone in their household who have a weakened immune system or an increased risk for severe illness. Individuals who are not fully vaccinated and boosted should also continue to wear masks indoors.

With this transition, we encourage everyone to respect the choices that individuals will make about their own masking. The university also recognizes that COVID-19 presents a fluid public health situation, and we may need to require face coverings in the future should guidance change.

Thank you for your cooperation in supporting health, safety and wellbeing within our 4-H community.

Congratulations to these STEAM Festival Awardees!

Thank you to all who entered the second annual STEAM Festival. We had a wonderful variety of entries and participation was awesome! Congratulations to these award winners:

Science - (Projector to demonstrate Peppers ghost Illusion) Julianna Maksian - Worcester County, Upton Hoofbeats
Technology - (Mars Rover Video) Siddharth -Raj Monagari - Middlesex County, Ashland Innovation
Engineering - (High Altitude Balloon Build-3rd flight)- Maxwell Kendall- Norfolk County, Science Explorers
Art - (Acrylic Painting Birds at sunset) - Rupinika Golla- Middlesex County, Ashland Innovation
Math - (Tangrams) Ashwanth Aroon-Middlesex County, Ashland Innovation

Outstanding Senior Exhibitors - Faith& Hope Motta - Berkshire County, UNO Wacky Steamsters
Cloverbud Shoutouts: Molly Kendall of Norfolk County for her Stop Animation Movie and Srimanth Aroon of Middlesex County for his Ship made from paper and cardboard

Take some time to view these video entries from our 4-H exhibitors:

- Stop Motion <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SETSjMHnwRY>
- Pepper's Ghost Science winner - <https://photos.app.goo.gl/mSHVDneecfDqA9o87>
- High Altitude Balloon Build Engineering Winner <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pDGSaZW2EUQ&t=33s>
- Tangram - Math Winner <https://drive.google.com/file/d/12M483xROJfcNFgFUfOtl1j5ePxltto1/view?usp=sharing>
- Mars Rover Movie - Technology Winner -<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ByZwENU3E4g>

National 4-H Agri-Science Summit

The UMass Extension 4-H Agri-Science Summit Team was very busy of participating in many workshops and events during the event on March 10-13 held in Bethesda, Maryland. Owen Weigel and Hope Healy from Plymouth County were accompanied by 4-H educator Meg Riley. While there, they were welcomed by Jennifer Sirangelo, President and CEO of National 4-H Council and heard a keynote speech from the President of Bayer Crop Science of North America.

In addition to participating in a series of workshops, our 4-H members visited Smithsonian Museums, learned about the wide range of Careers in Agriculture, and worked on their state project presentation. They had time to finalize their presentation, "4-H Lead to Change" Project and visited the national monuments during a night tour.

Hope and Owen presented their "Lots to Plots" project at the summit and heard a talk given by the 2022 Youth in Action Award Winner in Agriculture Tashina Red Hawk from South Dakota.

We are looking forward to hearing about their project and about the new resources, projects and ideas happening throughout the country in 4-H!

National 4-H Congress Opportunity for Teen Members



National 4-H Congress —November 25-29, 2022 - Atlanta
An educational experience designed to make an impact.

Are you a 4-H Teen? Want to learn more about applying for National 4-H Congress and what this program is all about? Join the information Zoom session on Wednesday April 6 at 7:00PM which will be hosted by former participants, 4-H staff, and chaperones. Teens, parents, and 4-H volunteers are welcome to join to find out more! Register at <https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJloceihpjlSg9w1pcT-lggZxVfzYl3qFufI> Once you register, you will receive a confirmation email containing the link and any additional information you need for the session.

National 4-H Congress is for teens between ages 15-18. Find out more about the UMass 4-H application process at https://ag.umass.edu/sites/ag.umass.edu/files/pdf-doc-ppt/nationaltrip_application_2021.pdf

Ready, SET, Spring into FUN

Looking for ways to infuse some STEM into your club focusing on some of the upcoming festivals and holidays? There are several zoom sessions coming up where STEM activities will be shared. Visit the UMass 4-H Facebook page for information about each session and when it will be held. Also, take part in a survey to provide your opinion about future STEM sessions at this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/K7FG6D9>

March 20 - Spring Equinox
April 22 - Earth Day
April 25- DNA Day
April 29- Arbor Day
May 4th - Star Wars Day
May 6th - Space Day
May 15-21 - Scratch Week

4-H Babysitter Training Course

The UMass **4-H Babysitter Training Course** will be offered across Massachusetts for youth ages 11 and older via Zoom during three sessions to be held on March 29th, April 5th and April 12th at 4:30-6pm. The course offers participants the opportunity to learn the basics of babysitting, including child development, entertaining children, safety guidelines, nutrition, the principles of positive discipline, and more. Upon completion of this course, participants will receive a certificate of completion and a babysitter's ID. The cost is free for registered UMass 4-H members and \$25 for youth that are not currently part of the 4-H program. Materials for the course will be mailed out. Registration is required by March 22, 2022. To register follow the link <https://forms.gle/yHNupkaZ56NVE4jv6>

Heroes Wear Scrubs

Join any of the final three sessions of Heroes wear Scrubs taking place on March 23, 30 and April 6. All youth ages 8-18 are welcome to attend. Join UMass 4-H educators VaShon Hiltbold and Angelica Paredes along with a group of amazing UMass nursing students to learn a wide range of information about your own body! For instance, did you

know that blood pressure measures the flow of blood both leaving your heart and entering your heart? Did you know that it is ok if you ask your doctor to better explain something to you?

Those interested should send an email to VaShon Hiltpold at vwallace@umass.edu. Please put Heroes Wear Scrubs in the subject line.

Animal Science Programs

Contact Carrie Sears with any questions or to register for any events below at ccsears@umext.umass.edu

Animal Science Meetings, Workshops and Contests

- March 21 – Regional 4-H Horse Committee – Zoom - 6:30pm
- March 21 – State 4-H Beef Advisory – Zoom – 7:00pm
- March 22 - State 4-H Goat Advisory – Zoom – 7:00pm
- March 24 - State 4-H Dairy Advisory – Zoom – 7:00pm
- April 9 – State 4-H Senior Horse Communications Contest – St. Williams, Tewksbury
- April 19 – State 4-H Dairy Day –Big E, West Springfield
- April 23 – State 4-H Horse & Hippology Contest – St. Williams, Tewksbury

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in Massachusetts

HPAI has been detected in either wild water birds, domestic birds, or both, along the east coast from Canada to Florida. Affected states include MA, CT, ME, NH, NY, and others. HPAI has also been found in KY, IN, and MI. HPAI surveillance of domestic and wild birds in MA is ongoing.

This means that all domestic poultry in Massachusetts may be at risk of exposure. Use good biosecurity to protect your flock and your facility against the HPAI virus. See MDAR's recommendations

here. <https://www.mass.gov/.../biosecurity-for-your.../download>

Report sick or dead birds: domestic 617-626-1795; wild 508-389-6300.

Important Dates for Animal Science Projects:

If you plan on showing your animal project at 4-H fairs, please note the following deadlines. All forms are located on the specific species pages.

Verification and Model Lease Forms:

Due by **May 1** to your local 4-H Office – Dairy and Beef cattle

Due by **June 1** to your local 4-H Office – Goat, Sheep, Swine Alpaca, and Llamas

Due by June 1 to your local 4-H Office - Dog Verification Form located at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/clubs-programs/animal-science-program/dogs>

Horse – Need to complete only if you plan on showing at the New England 4-H Horse Show (Big E) in September.

Please complete the Horse Verification Form located at <https://ag.umass.edu/mass4h/clubs-programs/animal-science-program/horses>

Tractor Supply Paper Clover Campaign

Tractor Supply Company will be holding the Spring Paper Clover campaign from April 27-May 8. Customers can donate \$1 and purchase a paper 4-leaf clover to support the 4-H program. Each state receives 90% of the funds raised, with National 4-H Council receiving 10%. All funds are designated to be used for leadership programs only. We have been using these to help defray costs of national 4-H congress, conference, academies, and other programs.

This spring, 4-H members will be allowed back in stores to present information about their projects and the 4-H program. They are allowed to ask for donations from the public. Check with Carrie Sears regarding regulations for 4-H members to bring any animals to this event. Also, be sure to inform your 4-H members to check with their local store if they wish to be present during the paper clover campaign.

Career Exploration Series

April 6	Shannon Hulst & Greg Berman Registration link: https://bit.ly/3mXqgwn	Water is a powerful force, therefore there are several careers that address the challenges of living near water. Do you know what a floodplain is? Have you heard of shoreline change/erosion? How do rising sea levels affect living near the ocean? Join the Career Exploration Zoom to learn about how Shannon Hulst and Gregory Berman both work on Cape Cod in Massachusetts to tackle these issues and more!
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		Join this Zoom to learn more about this topic and how it might affect the area where you live and how it may change the geography in Massachusetts.
April 20	No CES	April school vacation week
May 4	Kevin Podkowka Link will be provided in next NewsBlast	Forester with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Kevin became a Forester 25 years ago because he loved being outside. As a forester he has planned and supervised numerous logging operations, fought wildfires, served as a team member for major hydrologic restoration projects, worked with critically endangered species, helped build forest access roads, planned and supervised reforestation projects, planned and supervised large scale exotic vegetation control projects, and the list goes on. As a management forester Kevin is responsible for directing activities on state owned lands that meet the goals and objectives mandated by DCR. Log on to find out more about this and what a Forester does!

Other Opportunities to Explore

Butterfly Garden Seeds: [Free Milkweed Seeds & contributions for Live Monarch Foundation-Get your milkweed seeds for the Monarch Migration](#) Live Monarch is a company that will send 15+ Butterfly Garden seeds including Milkweed and growing instructions. This company will ask for a contribution but will send seeds even if you cannot afford a contribution. Go to the link above or visit www.livemonarch.com for details.



Gardening At Home: visit the 4-H at Home website to find lots of information and hands on activities for growing plants and herbs at home. <https://4-h.org/about/4-h-at-home/gardening-at-home/#!/post-content> These projects include all instructions, a list of materials needed, and are geared for grades 3-8. You can also download the series of 6 lesson activities for later projects. Have fun and be sure to enter some of your completed items in our upcoming fairs this summer!

UConn 4-H STEM DAY

4-H members ages 13-18 are invited to attend the UConn 4-H CSI program on April 23 from 9:00-2:30 at the UConn Storrs Campus. The fee is \$20 for enrolled 4-H members and \$25 for non-4-H youth. The fee includes a boxed lunch and t-shirt. Learn about the technology involved in real-life crime solving situations! Put your own problem-solving skills to the test! The Registration deadline is April 8. Contact Nancy Wilhelm at 860-486-4127 nancy.wilhelm@uconn.edu or Pamela Gray, 860-373-0357 pamela.gray@uconn.edu.

UMass Extension 4-H Offices and Contact Information:

Contact the 4-H person you wish to meet with prior to visiting to ensure they are scheduled to be in. Thank you.

State 4-H Office: 100 Venture Way, Suite 334; Hadley MA 01035
 Linda Horn, UMass Extension 4-H Program Director lrhorn@umext.umass.edu
 Carrie Sears, 4-H Animal Science Program Manager – ccsears@umext.umass.edu
 Deb Comeau – State 4-H Administrative Assistant – dcomeau@umext.umass.edu

Western MA: Franklin, Hampshire, Hampden and Berkshire Counties
 100 Venture Way, Suite 334; Hadley MA 01035
 Angelica Paredes, 4-H Educator – angelica@umext.umass.edu
 Lauren DuBois, Urban 4-H Educator – ldubois@umext.umass.edu
 Lizmarie Ulloa, Urban 4-H Program Assistant - llopezortiz@umext.umass.edu

Central and Southeastern MA: Auburn 4-H Office: 7 Midstate Drive, Suite 102; Auburn MA 01501

Bristol and Norfolk Counties:

Cynthia A. Bushey, 4-H Educator – cabushey@umass.edu

Kim Henderson, Administrative Assistant – khenders@umext.umass.edu

Worcester County:

Meg McDermott, 4-H Educator – memcdermott@umass.edu

Martina Jasiewicz, Administrative Assistant – mjasiewicz@umext.umass.edu

State 4-H STEM Program Manager:

Kim Pond – 4-H SET Program Manager – kima@umext.umass.edu

Northeastern MA: Essex, Middlesex & Suffolk Counties:

UMass Mt. Ida Campus, Hallden Hall; 100 Carlson Avenue, Newton, MA 02459

VaShon Wallace-Hiltbold, 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: 44 Obery Street, Plymouth MA 02360

Molly Vollmer, 4-H Educator: mvollmer@umext.umass.edu

Cathy Acampora, 4-H Educator: acampora@umext.umass.edu

Meghan Riley, Ag Extension Educator: mriley@plymouthcountyma.org

Tia Quinn, Administrative Assistant: tquinn@plymouthcountyma.gov

Barnstable County: Box 367, Barnstable MA 02630

Sandi Shepherd-Gay, Barnstable County Youth Extension Educator:

sandi.shepherdgay@barnstablecounty.org

Dawn Johnson, Administrative Assistant: dawn.johnson@barnstablecounty.org



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