

To: Hampshire County 4-H Families
Re: 2018 4-H Fair Challenge Classes

Once again, the Hampshire County 4-H Fair Association will sponsor Challenge Classes. These classes are a fun way to try some new activities and prepare some exhibits for the 2018 Hampshire County 4-H Fair. In challenge classes, everyone starts out with the same materials and instructions. The challenge is to complete your classes and to exhibit them at the 4-H Fair, Saturday, July 7, 2018.

To sign up for challenge classes, use the registration form at the end of this letter. There are classes for youth and for adults so the whole family may participate.

Registrations must be postmarked by May 10th. Challenge materials will be distributed at:

**Amherst Farmers Supply, 320 South Pleasant Street, Amherst
Saturday, May 19th 10:00 am - 2:00 pm**

Following is a listing of this year's Challenge Classes. This list includes several community service classes. Each participant **MUST** participate in at least two community service classes. After the 4-H Fair, all community service items will be donated to local hospitals, shelters, etc.

2018 4-H Youth Challenge Classes

1. **Picture Pillow** - You will receive a pre-made canvas pillow. Decorate your pillow however you choose, stuff the pillow, and add a photo in the special spot.
2. **Design a Cap** - Choose from a wide variety of colored baseball type caps. Decorate your cap to make it a one of a kind.
3. **Plaster Craft** - You choose a plaster plaque from several designs, paint and add other embellishments if you like.
4. **3-D Scene** - Transform a plastic tray (provided) to create a scene such as farm, outer space, forest circus, zoo, etc.
5. **Egg Art** - Use two real blown eggs to create whatever your imagination comes up with.
6. **Coloring** - You will choose from several pre-printed pictures to color.
7. **Wooden Snake** - Participants will receive a jointed, wiggly, wooden snake. You can finish your snake to look like a real snake or create a snake with fantasy markings.
8. **Picture Frame** - You will receive a wooden picture frame to decorate as you choose. Do not forget to insert a photo in your finished frame.
9. **Decorated Wood Craft** - Select a wooden item from the variety offered and finish as you like.

10. **Decorated Plate** - You will receive a clear plastic plate and directions to turn it into a one-of-a-kind serving plate.
11. **Thank You Card** - Put your artistic skills to work to create a 4-H Thank you card. Your design must include the 4-H clover. One of the entries will be reproduced to be our 4-H Thank you card for 2018.
12. **Bug House** - Convert a jar into a comfortable, temporary home for some creepy, crawly friends.
13. **Kindness Rocks** - You will receive a rock and directions to paint and transform your rock into "a special way" to share some kindness.
14. **Gnome** - You will receive directions and some materials. In addition, you will need to provide a recycled bottle or can that you will transform into an adorable gnome.
15. **Tomato Plant** - Participants will receive a started tomato plant. This is a container project so plants can be transported to the 4-H fair.
16. **Marigold Plant** - This is also a container project. Your plant should be big and blossoming at fair time.
17. **Petunia Plant** - This is a wave petunia known for its growth and many blossoms. By Fair time, you will have a container full of bright blossoms.
18. **Sunflower Seeds** - You will receive peat pellets and seeds for dwarf sunflowers. As your sunflowers grow they will be transplanted, but will still be of a size to bring them to the 4-H fair.

YOUTH COMMUNITY SERVICE CLASSES

These entries will be eligible for ribbon and premium awards and after the fair, they will be distributed to various hospitals, shelters, etc. **ALL CHALLENGE PARTICIPANTS MUST DO AT LEAST TWO COMMUNITY SERVICE CLASSES.**

19. **Dog Bed** - You will receive instructions on how to make a cuddly bed for a shelter dog.
20. **Cat Bed** - Instructions will direct you on how to use a box and a recycled tee shirt to make a hide-a-way resting place.
21. **Cat Toys** - You will receive fabric and catnip to use to sew (by machine or hand) toys to keep shelter cats entertained. Participants will make two cat toys)
22. **Pillowcase** - You will receive fabric to sew (by machine) into a colorful child friendly pillowcase. Your finished pillowcase will add a little brightness to a child's hospital stay.
23. **Handmade Scarf Knit** - or crochet a scarf to warm a homeless person next winter, dimensions 4" x 48".
24. **Totes for Tots** - Decorate a small tote bag and then insert a few items such as crayons, coloring books, small toys and stuffed animals. Shelters will share finished totes with children who are in transition.
25. **Personal Care Holder** - Some simple machine sewing will transform a washcloth into a convenient way to keep care items together. Washcloths and ribbon will be provided; - you add a few items such as small shampoo, comb, toothbrush, etc.
26. **Ornaments** - Although the holidays are 6 months away, the Cancer Connection is collecting handmade felt ornaments. A hill town tree farm sells the ornaments and all profits come back to provide services and support to people with cancer. Instructions and felt will be provided - class participants will make at least two ornaments.
27. **Hospital Bear** - You will receive fabric, yarn, pattern and directions to sew a simple stuffed toy. Some simple machine stitching is necessary.

ADULT CHALLENGE CLASSES

1. **Petunia Plant** - You will receive a started wave petunia to grow and exhibit at the fair.
2. **Marigold Plant** - This is another opportunity to have your "green thumb" work its magic.
3. **Tomato Plant** - Your started tomato plant will produce yummy, fresh tomatoes for you to enjoy.
4. **Sunflowers** - You will grow sunflowers from the seeds provided. This is a smaller container type of sunflower.
5. **Coloring** - Relax and return to your childhood as you color a pre-printed picture.

ADULT COMMUNITY SERVICE CLASSES

After the 4-H Fair, these items will be donated to local charities. As with youth participants, adults must also sign up for at least two community service classes.

6. **Lap Blanket** - These small blankets bring comfort and color to patients. You may sew, knit, crochet or any method to make your blanket. After the fair, blankets will be donated to Cooley Dickinson Hospital.
7. **Pillowcase** - Brighten the hospital stay of a child by sewing a colorful pillowcase.
8. **Totes for Tots** - Decorate a pre-made tote bag and add some fun activities to occupy a boy or girl.
9. **Hospital Bear** - You will receive fabric, yarn, pattern and directions to sew a simple stuffed toy. Some simple machine stitching is necessary.
10. **Dog Bed** - Provide a comfortable bed for a shelter dog.
11. **Cat Bed** - Recycle a tee shirt into a cuddly hide-a-way for a shelter cat.
12. **Personal Care Holder** - Some simple sewing will turn a face cloth into a helpful organizer for people in transition.
13. **Ornaments** - You will receive felt and instructions to sew ornaments that will be sold to benefit the Cancer Connection. Adults are asked to craft three ornaments.
14. **Handmade Scarf** - Knit or crochet a scarf to warm a homeless person next winter, dimensions 4" x 48".

CLUB CHALLENGE CLASSES

1. **Club Banner**
2. **Club Scrapbook**
3. **Club Collage**
4. **Club Tote Bag** - Members will work together to decorate a tote that will be given to a person in transition.

Your completed registration, with your entry fee, must be postmarked by May 10th. Checks made payable to "Hampshire County 4-H Fair." You may sign up for as many classes as you choose, but you must include at least two community service classes.

*The entry fee covers all the classes you have chosen.

Are you ready to take the 4-H Challenge?**2018 Hampshire County 4-H Challenge Registration**

Name _____ Age _____

Street _____ Town _____

Zip _____ Telephone _____

Email _____

Entry Fee:

____ \$5.00 1st child ____ \$2.00 additional child ____ \$1.00 adult ____ Club- free

____ Yes, I want to take the 4-H Challenge - please sign me up for the classes checked below.

I understand that participating includes exhibiting my finished work at the July 7th 4-H Fair in Cummington.

**I understand that I am responsible for picking up my Challenge supplies on
Saturday, May 19th 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Amherst Farmers Supply, 320 South Pleasant Street, Amherst**

Youth Classes

____ Picture Pillow

____ Decorated Plate

____ Cat Bed

____ Design a Cap

____ Thank You Card

____ Cat Toys

____ Plaster Craft

____ Bug House

____ Pillow Case

____ 3-D Scene

____ Kindness Rock

____ Handmade Scarf

____ Hospital Bear

____ Gnome

____ Totes for Tots

____ Egg Art

____ Tomato Plant

____ Personal Care Holder

____ Coloring

____ Marigold Plant

____ Ornaments

____ Wooden Snake

____ Petunia Plant

____ Picture Frame

____ Sunflower Seeds

____ Decorated Wood Craft

____ Dog Bed

Adult Classes

_____Petunia Plant

_____Lap Blanket

_____Cat Bed

_____Marigold Plant

_____Pillow Case

_____Personal Care Holder

_____Tomato Plant

_____Totes for Tots

_____Ornaments

_____Sunflower Seeds

_____Hospital Bears

_____Handmade Scarf

_____Coloring

_____Dog Bed

Club Challenges

_____Club Banner

_____Club Scrapbook

_____Club Collage_____Club Tote Bag

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: HAMPSHIRE COUNTY 4-H FAIR

Entries must be postmarked by May 10th and mailed to:

**Nancy Searle
550 Amherst Road
Belchertown, MA 01007**



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