

4-H News

A Monthly Newsletter for Franklin County 4-H Participants



**January
2019**

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Franklin County Calendar

January 17	4-H Leaders Association
January 21	Martin Luther King, Extension Office Closed
January 26	UMaine Unconference
Looking Ahead	
February 1	ESE Horse Intent to participate for to And/Sag Office ESE Intent to participate forms for- Dairy, Sheep, Goat, and Dog are due to Franklin County Office
February 1	County Fair Poster Contest entries due in Extension Office
February 16	Children's Festival @ Mt. Blue Campus
February 21	4-H Leaders Association Meeting
February	State Dairy Quiz Bowl (snow date February 19)
February 18	Presidents Day, Extension Office Closed

4-H Leaders Association Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday evening, **January 17 at 7pm**, here at the Extension Office.

Franklin County 4-H Public Speaking

Time to be thinking about your public speaking topics. We are going to be having a competition again this year. If you are a Jr. or Sr. and score high enough you can qualify to go to go the State Competition.

Franklin County 4-H Public Speaking Clinic

Sunday, March 23rd from 9:00 A.M. -3:00 P.M.

Snow Date Sunday, March 30th from 9:00 A.M- 3:00 P.M.

Robert's Learning Auditorium at the University of Maine at Farmington

Farmington Fair Book Suggestions

If any of our 4-H volunteers have suggestions that they would like to share regarding 4-H livestock shows and/or 4-H hall exhibit requirements/categories in the 2019 Farmington Fair book, we ask that they be put in writing and returned to Tara or Judy at the extension office. Please have this information to us by January 31st so that we have an opportunity to take a look at it before passing on to the fair committee.

County Fair Art Contest-Theme “4-H Grows Here”

4-H members are once again invited to participate in a County Fair Art Contest. The winning submission will be used as the art work for the cover of the 2019 Farmington Fair book. What an exciting opportunity!! Participants are welcome to submit a hand drawn poster, done with your own original ideas. Guidelines for the theme and contest will be available in the office. Completed posters are due in the Extension office by **February 1, 2019**. All sub-missions will be on display at the 2019 Farmington Fair.

Save the Date for 2019 Maine 4-H Days

Maine 4-H Days will take place July 19-21, 2019 at the Windsor Fairgrounds. If you are interested in helping to plan next year's event, please contact Jessy Brainerd at jessica.brainerd@maine.edu or 207.581.3877.

Maine 4-H Days Planning Committee

July will be here before you know it, and we are looking for a few good volunteers to join the fantastic current Maine 4-H Days Planning Committee. Joining this committee gives you the chance to help come up with ideas and plans for one of our biggest statewide events! If you are interested in joining the Maine 4-H Days Planning Committee, or have general questions/comments/recommendations about the event, please email jessica.brainerd@maine.edu, or call 207.581.3877.

Citizenship Washington Focus

Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) Start making plans now to visit our Nation's Capital during the week of June 29 to July 6, 2019. CWF is a leadership program conducted by the National 4-H Council for high school youth ages 14 to 18. Delegations of 4-Hers from across the country spend six days touring the city and attending leadership skill-building workshops. This summer, the Maine delegation will travel down on Saturday, June 29 and travel home Saturday July 6, 2019. You will stay at the National 4-H Conference Center just outside Washington, DC. Visiting the most popular sites in Washington, DC will be a part of the trip, including spending the 4th of July in our nation's capital. There is a mandatory orientation for Maine delegates on April 27th, 2019. For more information visit <https://extension.umaine.edu/4h/annual-events/citizenship-washington-focus/>. Contact your county 4-H office for details about how to be a part of this experience if you don't hear from them very shortly. All county offices have different criteria/dates to apply, so please contact them ASAP. Websites are currently being updated. For specific questions, please contact Heidi Palmer, State Activities Coordinator at: heidi.thuotte@maine.edu.

National Trips

National 4-H Trip Applications Are due March 8th, 2019 (Conference and Congress) National 4-H Trips are excellent opportunities to meet 4-H members from across the nation. Participants learn about many career options, and learn through educational workshops at Congress or become a part of a team making recommendations to National 4-H Council at Conference. To learn more about these trips, visit: <https://extension.umaine.edu/4h/national-trips/>. Websites are currently being updated. For specific questions, please contact Heidi Palmer, State Activities Coordinator at: heidi.thuotte@maine.edu

Eastern States Exposition Horse Intents

2019 Eastern States Horse tryouts intent to participate is available at: <https://extension.umaine.edu/4h/animal-science-resources/horse/>. AGE CHANGE for 2019, youth who are aged 13-18 (as of December 31, 2018) are eligible to try out as a rider/driver or teen leader. Please contact Kristy Ouellette (kristy.ouellette@maine.edu) if you have any questions. Intent to participate forms must be post marked by 2/1.

CLUB UPDATES

Dairy Club

Community service work has been the focus for the month of December through two projects. The Franklin County Dairy Club participated in the Rotary Club's pajama drive for children in this area. We donated 17 pairs. On Sunday, December 2nd in connection with the Smith family and friends and Beef Boosters, we hosted a Christmas party for local adults with special needs. Members shopped and wrapped gifts for 55 guests. 4-H families also donated food for the meal. At the party members decorated and set up the church, greeted the guests, wrote name tags, sorted gifts, helped the guests make various crafts, served cookies, supervised the piñata, danced with the guests, and helped Santa pass gifts. The Beef Booster members helped serve dinner to our guests. After an evening of fun, members helped clean up.



The Franklin County Circuit Hackers Club is looking to add a few members to their club.

Robotics is a great way to learn and put into practice many STEM related skills! Circuit Hackers currently meet on Fridays at 4:00 PM at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. If you are interested in attending email James House @ james@housefam.org

Rabbit and Cavies 4-H Club

The Rabbits and Cavies 4-H Club are looking for members. The next club meeting is Sunday, January 12 at 2 p.m. here at the Extension office. If you are interested in joining the club contact the Extension Office at 207.778.4650.

The University of Maine does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, including transgender status and gender expression, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status in employment, education, and all other programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies: Director, Office of Equal Opportunity, 101 North Stevens Hall, Orono, ME 04469, 207.581.1226.

State News

UMaine 4-H Unconference - not your average volunteer forum!

UMaine 4-H Unconference – a volunteer forum led by 4-H volunteers for 4-H volunteers. UMaine 4-H Unconference will be an organized forum for 4-H volunteers, club leaders, afterschool providers, teachers, parents and teens leaders to gather. UMaine 4-H Unconference is intentionally designed to have YOU teach and learn from each other. There is no agenda – you come with 4-H ideas and topics you want to talk about or learn more about, and we'll guide the process to get folks into groups where YOU are the experts. All experience levels are welcome and no one person has all the answers. Door prizes will be given at the end of the day. Register online at: <https://extension.umaine.edu/4h/volunteers/unconference/>

Join us for one or both of these awesome dates! Registration begins at 8:30 and door prizes will be drawn by 3:00.
Lewiston – Saturday, January 12, 2019 (snow date January 19, 2019)
Orono – Saturday, January 26, 2019 (snow date February 2, 2019)

2019 Engineers' Week Expo

Every year, near George Washington's Birthday, engineers across the country celebrate National Engineers Week, as George was a civil engineer who founded our nation. Here in Maine, our custom is to hold a huge "Expo" for all those young engineers (people who explore ingenuity) to visit and get to know us better. Our next Expo will be in southern Maine at USM in Gorham, with a banquet event the night before in Portland. Those of you who've come, already know how intense and fun it can be! We hosted over 3,000 last time it was at USM!

Our Expo will be from 9:00-2:00 Saturday, March 2, 2019 in the Field House at USM's Costello Sports Center. Snacks will be available, with souvenir tee shirts. Campus tours will be available. See <http://www.engineeringme.com> for general information. Depending on our sponsors, some busing costs will be available.

4-H Page Day in Augusta – January 29, 2019

UMaine Day at the Legislature, Tuesday, January 29, is approaching. It's a day where Cooperative Extension gets to highlight our awesome programs, and 4-H is one of the best! Since legislators like to see 4-H members from their districts, 4-Hers (age 13 or older) are encouraged to serve as Honorary Pages. The Maine 4-H program has up to 30 slots for Honorary Pages.

What does a page do? Legislators are constantly communicating and making decisions while in session and pages make that communication possible. Pages hand out information packets or place the paper information on their desks. Pages will also run communication and documents directly from legislator to legislator.

If you are interested in serving as a page, please contact Diana at 207-622-7546 or diana.hartley@maine.edu.

NEW: Expanded Page Day: Explore American Civics even more in Augusta!

Afternoon tour and activities with the newly opened First Amendment Museum. After lunch we invite participants of Page Day to explore this new museum experience located in the Gannett House, next door to the Blaine House, on State Street, in Augusta. From 1:30-2:30pm on January 29 the First Amendment Museum will showcase displays as well as have interactive experiences to explore the "Five Freedoms" guaranteed by the First Amendment. There may be limited space for this tour, please indicate when you RSVP for Page Day whether you and your chaperone plan to join.

We would love to pages from all over the state represented. Slots, representing different state senators and representatives, will be filled in the order they are received, but the final deadline is January 20th. If the slot for your legislative district has been filled, your name will be added to a wait list in the order it is received. If you are leaving a message, please be sure to say "I am interested in serving as a 4-H Page at the Legislature on January 29". Your slot will be reserved if you leave this complete information:

- Full Name
- Age
- Mailing Address
- County
- Phone Number
- Email Address (this is how we will confirm you)
- Name of your School
- Name of your 4-H Club
- Name of your Maine State Representative
- Name of you Maine Senator
- Name of your Adult Chaperone
- Adult Chaperone's cell phone number

4-H Honorary Pages will be in the Capitol from 8:30am– 3:00pm. A parent or 4-H volunteer must provide transportation and chaperoning. If you have questions, please let Alisha know at alisha.r.targonski@maine.edu.

2019 Maine State Science Fair

It's time to announce the [2019 Maine State Science Fair](#), to be held Saturday, March 23 at Bowdoin College in Brunswick. **Prizes and awards include 12 four-year, full-tuition scholarships** to The University of Maine (including admission to the UMaine Honors College), and major scholarships from University of New England, College of the Atlantic, and Husson University. In 2018, MSSF awarded over \$1 million in scholarships and awards. Other scholarships may be announced in the coming weeks.

The Maine State Science Fair is open, without cost, to all Maine high school students who complete their own research or engineering project individually or in teams of 2-3. The purpose of MSSF is to present, learn, and discuss science with peers and STEM professionals from across Maine. Projects are invited from across **all STEM disciplines**: life sciences, agriculture, mathematics, computer sciences, psychology, energy, physics, marine science, environmental sciences, ecology, chemistry. All STEM projects are considered!

Important dates for this year's MSSF:

- January 18 - student [registration](#) deadline.
- February 1 - research plan deadline.
- March 1 - preliminary research results deadline.
- March 23 - Maine State Science Fair.

More information can be found online at: <https://www.jax.org/education-and-learning/high-school-students-and-undergraduates/maine-state-science-fair>

Please provide feedback on Project Records!

Click the following link to take the survey.

https://umaine.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bP1iUM659wuRVrL

You are invited to participate in a statewide research project being conducted by Kristy Ouellette and Jennifer Lobley, Extension Educators at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. 4-H volunteers and staff from all over Maine will participate in this study.

Purpose of this research project: We recognize the value of our 4-H volunteers. As a state we have rolled out new 4-H Project Records. We want to have a better understanding of your beliefs and understandings of the function of these records. **What will you be asked to do?** If you decide to participate, you will be asked to complete an on-line survey with questions pertaining to your attitudes and beliefs regarding 4-H project records in Maine. The survey will take you approximately 20 minutes to complete. **Risks:** Except for your time and inconvenience, there are no foreseeable risks to you in participating in this study. **Benefits:** You will be eligible to enter into a raffle for a \$25.00 gift card to Hannaford. **Confidentiality:** As a participant you will be anonymous. Investigators or a student will enter data into a computer. Data will be kept on a secured computer with only the investigators or a student having access. Data will be kept for a period of 5 years. **Voluntary:** Participation is voluntary. If you choose to take part in this study, you may stop at any time during the study. You may skip any questions you do not wish to answer. Participation in the on-line survey implies consent to participate.

Contact Information: If you have any questions about this study, please contact Kristy Ouellette at 207-353-5550 or kristy.ouellette@maine.edu If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, please contact Gayle Jones, Assistant to the University of Maine's Protection of Human Subjects Review Board, at 581-1498 (or e-mail gayle.jones@umit.maine.edu).



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Maine 4-H Youth Development Mission

Maine youth acquire the knowledge, life skills, leadership abilities and attitudes to help them succeed now and in the future through effective collaborations, hands-on experiential education and self-directed learning.

Check out Franklin County Website:

<http://extension.umaine.edu/franklin/programs>

State 4-H Website: <http://umaine.edu/4h/>

Like Franklin County 4-H on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/maine.franklincounty4h/>



Published and distributed in furtherance of Acts of Congress of May 8 and June 30, 1914, by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, the Land Grant University of the state of Maine and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. Cooperative Extension and other agencies of the U.S.D.A. provide equal opportunities in programs and employment.