

4-H Happenings

A Monthly Newsletter For Hancock County 4-H Participants

**AUGUST
2020**

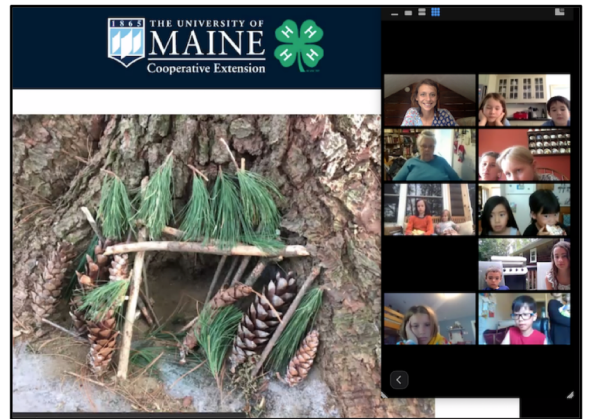
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Summer Learning Series

August marked the conclusion of the Summer Learning Series. Community Education Assistant Zabet NeuCollins was excited to lead the workshop 'Celebrating Summer Plants!' with Landere Naisbitt, a 4-H volunteer and the Outreach Coordinator for Blue Hill Heritage Trust. Participants came from all over the state, and we were proud to see some Hancock County youth in attendance! Participants learned about the White Pine tree, how to make pine needle tea, and how to make a pine needle fairy broomstick that could also serve as a paintbrush!



We all sang a resounding rendition of the Pine Tree Song, reprinted on page 4 for your convenience. Don't hesitate to reach out to Landere to hear her sing its melodic tune!

(See Pine Tree Song and Pine Needle Tea Recipe on page 4)

Be sure to check out our Facebook page for more 4-H photos – facebook.com/hancock4H

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

August 15 – September 15		Help ME Conquer the Maine Coastline – See page 3 for details
September 15		Deadline for 2020 Maine 4-H Dog Photo Contest – see State News page 5
October 3-31		Ellsworth Big Read
October 7 - 18		Fall Paper Clover at Tractor Supply Company – See page 4
October 13	4:30 pm	Leaders' Meeting via Zoom – Contact us for the private link
November 25		Re-enrollment Deadline – More details coming soon

COUNTY NEWS

Extension Office Protocol - The Hancock County Extension office is now open to the public by appointment! We encourage telephone and email communication if possible to reduce Covid-19 exposure risk. If an in-person consultation is necessary, please contact us to make an appointment. Following the University of Maine guidance and protocols, staff and clients will practice physical distancing, wear face coverings, use hand sanitizer frequently, and minimize the number of people in the office by meeting outside if possible. Please see page 6 for a letter from Dean Hannah Carter about restarting in-person 4-H programs.

Leaders' Meeting - The next Leaders' Association meeting will be by Zoom on October 13, at 4:30 pm. Email carla.scocchi@maine.edu for the private link.

Help ME Conquer the Maine Coastline - University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H is hosting a virtual fun run along the Maine coastline Aug. 15–Sept. 15. The event is open to the public. [Help ME Conquer the Maine Coastline \(https://extension.umaine.edu/4h/virtual-fun-run/\)](https://extension.umaine.edu/4h/virtual-fun-run/) is a virtual run, walk, and bike along all 3,478 miles of Maine's coastline. The event includes an interactive map to follow as the miles add up, and videos about points along the way.

The event is free; registration is required. Register on the [program webpage](#). Participants can register at any time prior to logging total miles beginning Aug. 15. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact Cathy Gray, cathy.gray@maine.edu

Re-enrollment 2020-2021 - Another 4-H year begins on October 1! Re-enrollment packets will be ready soon. All paperwork must be returned to the Extension Office by Wednesday, November 25th in order to be processed before the state deadline on December 31. Absolutely no exceptions will be allowed after that date.

Steer Ticket Fundraiser - This annual fundraiser is the largest for the Hancock County 4-H Leaders Association and we are bummed to let you know that we will not be holding the Steer Ticket Raffle this year. Special thanks to **Trenidy**, Independent 4-H'er, and the Doug Gross Family Farm in Bucksport for raising the Simmental Angus Cross for this year's raffle and for their flexibility in allowing us to "pay it forward" for next year!

4-H Partnering with the Ellsworth Public Library - The NEA Big Read is a series of community events focused around one book. This year, we're reading the memoir *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren. Hope is a geobiologist who believes that anyone can be a scientist— all you need is curiosity and to be willing to experiment. In this spirit, we're encouraging people to get outside and explore their backyards by taking up gardening, participating in citizen science initiatives, or planting a tree. We're planning workshops, presentations, a keynote speech from Amy Stewart and more! Check out the [NEA Big Read: Ellsworth Facebook page](#) for more information! The Big Read will kick off on October 3 and go through the end of the month, ending on October 31. All of our programming will be held virtually on Zoom; however, there will be a few 4-H kits that youth can check out from the library in October. Stay tuned!

Registration information for these programs is coming soon. We'll be adding more programming soon, so stay tuned!

COUNTY NEWS

Maine 4-H State Exhibit Hall - There were 86 participants in the University of Maine 4-H state virtual fair. Hancock County was well represented with nine 4-H youth participants! Thank you **Alan, Edward, Brianna, Alexis, Robert, Ava, Maddox, Annabelle,** and **Kowen** for submitting your work. Here are some of the entries that they submitted:
(Be sure to check out the Maine 4-H Virtual Exhibit Hall at <https://extension.umaine.edu/4h/virtual-fair/exhibit-hall/> for all the entries)



Maddox – Cooking –
3 Brownies



Edward – Science –
Hardneck Garlic



Kowen – Photography -
Butterfly



Robert – Computer
Science - Rooster



Annabelle –
Arts & Crafts 2D
& 3D – Egg Ball



Edward –
Woodworking –
Chicken Tractor



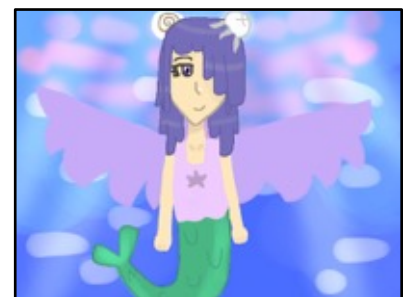
Ava – Gardening
– 3 Cucumbers



Alex – Art - Rings



Alan – Arts & Crafts 2D &
3D - Wasp



Brianna – Arts & Crafts
2D – Mermaid Drawing

COUNTY NEWS

Paper Clover Campaign at Tractor Supply - The Fall paper clover campaign will be held October 7-18, with the opportunity to donate to 4-H in-store and online. This year, due to the COVID-19 crisis, Tractor Supply is requesting no physical presence from 4-H programs at their stores including outdoor spaces like parking lots. We will have to be creative in how we encourage people to donate!

Cloverfest - The 4-H Leaders Association and 4-H Staff are brainstorming how to celebrate the 2020 4-H year and your accomplishments throughout this unique year! Stay tuned for more details on how Cloverfest will be different this year. Thank you always for your patience and flexibility!

Masks for Hancock County program - is working on a large order for the Ellsworth School system. They are looking for any mask makers (kids or adults) who might be willing to help them out this month. They have funding and can provide supplies. They are hoping to find both people who can sew masks and people who can cut the fabric. They're putting together kits to make twenty-five masks with everything precut, thinking that this will make it much easier for the people sewing. If you can help, please contact Abby Morrow, Community Engagement Librarian, at the Ellsworth Public Library, 20 State Street, Ellsworth, (207) 667-6363 or email to amorrow@ellsworthlibrary.net. They have material and elastic cut and ready to go if people would like to pick up a packet at the library

Summer Learning Series (continued) –

Pine Needle Tea Recipe

Instructions:

- Identify a white pine tree and gather some of its needles. Thank the tree!
- Boil water in a pot either on your stove or over a campfire*
- Place needles in boiling water and let simmer for 10 minutes.
- Strain needles out and pour tea into mugs
- Add honey to taste
- Enjoy the piny flavor and the burst of vitamin C!

*Only use fire under supervision of adult

Pine Tree Song

Oh Pine Tree standing tall,
From the hills I hear your call -
Arising! Clear and strong!
In my heart I hear your song

UMaine Cooperative Extension Programs during COVID-19

Visit the **COVID – 19 Hancock County Resources Report Page**
<https://extension.umaine.edu/hancock/covid-19-hancock-county-resources-report>

STATE NEWS

1. Maine and Northeast Regional 4-H Dog Photo Contests

Enter the Maine 4-H Dog Photo Contest! Photos will be uploaded and judged virtually. Winners in each of five categories will move on to the Northeast Regional 4-H Dog Photo Contest to compete against winners from several other states. ALL enrolled 4-Hers may enter, not just dog or photography project members. Go to this web page: extension.umaine.edu/4h/animal-science-resources/dog/dog-photo-contest/ for more information.

2. State 4-H Dairy News

The Maine 4-H Dairy Committee would like to announce the results of the Promote Your Passion video contest. This contest gave youth the opportunity to create a short, informational video about the dairy industry and share their passion for dairy cattle with others. We would like to congratulate Lydia S. for winning the Sr. division with her video *The Milking System*. Congratulations also go out to Amelia R. who won first place in the intermediate division with her video *The Pasteurization Process*. A close second place in the intermediate division was awarded to Isabelle G. for her video

HANCOCK COUNTY 4-H LEADERS' ASSOCIATION

The Hancock County 4-H Leaders' Association Meeting for August 2020 was canceled.



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August 20, 2020

Dear 4-H Members, Families and 4-H Volunteers,

As members of UMaine 4-H, we have asked you to be patient these past few months as our in-person programs, activities and events were shut down due to COVID-19. We are pleased to announce that we will begin to gradually restart in-person Extension programming. We know that some of you may still not feel ready or comfortable with in-person activities and that's okay. We also know that many of you are anxious to resume some form of participation and we want to try to make that happen.

We know this unprecedented time has been hard on our families, our programs and has changed how we can proceed. Currently, the COVID-19 data in our state looks promising. We are also aware that things can change very rapidly. We plan to follow the guidance from the Maine CDC and local school districts in their Red- Yellow-Green statuses. We will also be constantly monitoring the spread of the virus and will send out changes to our guidelines as soon as possible if they occur.

Knowing that, we are cautiously optimistic about moving forward with allowing in-person events. It is important to note this process will be gradual. All 4-H Volunteer led gatherings/meetings will be small, for now that means 10 or less total people. They will also need to take place outside, or in a well-ventilated space like a barn or garage (not in homes). Face coverings will also be required for all people present (until there is six feet of social distance between participants). These requirements will be revisited as new information emerges and weather conditions change.

During the previous months many have been connecting virtually, this is still very much an option (and preferred). Please check in with your 4-H Club Leader about upcoming club plans. Some clubs will choose to continue virtual meetings/activities and some might choose ways to gather under the new guidelines. It will be up to individual families to decide if/how they wish to engage with those offerings.

County staff may also be able to provide other engagement opportunities for independent members or others who are interested. These offerings can be virtual, in-person, or a combination.

If you have any questions about meeting/activity requirements, or other related issues please reach out to your local county 4-H staff. They can help you!

Sincerely,

Dr. Hannah Carter,
Dean of University of Maine Cooperative Extension

www.extension.umaine.edu

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Maine 4-H Youth

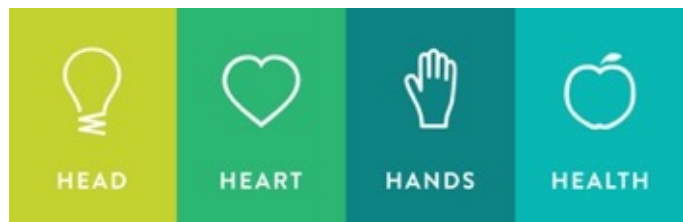
Development Mission

To educate and empower Maine youth through hands-on and community-based experiences.

Maine 4-H Youth

Development Vision

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.



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