April

3 Mama’s Little Kitchen Workshop
7 Sr. Federation Mtg. 11:30 a.m. at Extension office
11 Bone Gap Cardinals Mtg. at Christian Church at 6:30 p.m.
16 Little Wabash Ramblers Mtg. 4:00 p.m.
18 Blue Ribbon Mtg. 6:30 p.m. at COUNTRY Financial Hall
19 Yankees Mtg. 7:00 p.m. at Moravian Church West Salem
22 Shooting Sports Mtg. 8:00 a.m. at Sportsmen’s Club
22 Animal Grooming Workshop @ Doggett’s Animal Grooming 9-11
24 Informational Dog Mtg. Extension office 6:30 p.m.
26 Ellery Panthers Mtg. 6:00 p.m. at Little Prairie Church
29 State Public Speaking Contest

May

1 Fair Entry Opens

Celebrate 4-H Volunteers April 16 – 22

Illinois 4-H will celebrate the more than 11,000 4-H adult volunteers supporting and guiding 4-H members during National Volunteer Week, April 16 – 22. 4-H volunteers are the caring adults who are empowering and preparing youth for success as 4-H members provide service to others and in their communities. Today’s 4-H youth are engaged in diverse learning experiences where they practice skills employers want; grow and distribute food to communities in need; steward our natural resources; identify local issues and initiate positive change in local, state, national, and global issues; and they make and influence positive choices for healthy living. All of these things happen because of engaged volunteers in local communities.

In Edwards County, there are numerous volunteers who inspire youth involved in local 4-H programs.
Congratulations to the 2023 4-H Project Grant Recipients

Over $2,400 in grants awarded

- Kayson Kelsey
- Gracie Fenton
- Waylon Pritchett
- Elaina Kearbey
- Emersyn McVaigh
- Hannah Bare
- JJ Spray
- Zoey Bare
- Josie Duncan
- Hannah Perry
- Conner Perkins
- Evalynn Edwards
- Ava Perkins
- Aiden Houser
- Liam McKinney
- Justin Bunting
- Rosen Bell
- Emmette Spray
- Alivia Houser

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4-H SHOOTING SPORTS VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

Saturday, June 17, 2023
A Workshop for 4-H Rifle Club Leaders and 4-Her’s.

Prepare to take your 4-H Air and or Smallbore Rifle coaching to the next level! Certified 4-H Rifle Coaches learn how to advance your students beyond beginner levels. In one day, learn what goes on at a 3-Position, Standing, and silhouette competitions while having a blast!

Register at: https://rivervalleysharpshooters.club/4-h-rifle-coaching
Questions? Contact Curt Sinclair, Illinois 4-H State Office at sinclair@illinois.edu

I PLEDGE ... MY HEART TO GREATER LOYALTY
4-H Outdoor Skills Challenge returns for 2023!

Ready to challenge yourself and then prove it to your 4-H Leader or another trusted adult? You could teach them a thing or two! Learn these skill levels and compete for some great prizes that will help you enjoy the outdoors!

https://go.illinois.edu/4-HOutdoorSkillsChallenge

Get your tackle ready! The 2023 4-H Hooks-Us-Together Statewide Fishing Tournament will run from April 1 – June, 30 2023. Details on how to register coming in March!

April – Crappie State 4-H Tournament
May – Largemouth Bass 4-H State Tournament
June – Channel Catfish 4-H State Tournament

Are you ready to try a social media career on for size? Applications are open for the NEW Illinois 4-H Influencers!

On this team, you will receive university-level social media management training as you get hands-on experiences and portfolio pieces for college/future careers in this awards-eligible statewide leadership team. You'll also strengthen your communications and marketing experiences ahead of college, award, and job applications. Apply here: go.illinois.edu/IL4HInfluencers

The State Public Speaking Show will be held April 29th. The event will be held at Parkland Community College in Champaign, IL.
Register Now! Illinois Summer Academies will be back June 25-29 on the UIUC campus!

Participants attend academy sessions led by university professors and enjoy a variety of engaging activities that provide a taste of just how cool college life can be. Imagine getting to work alongside university professors while you’re still in HIGH SCHOOL! Imagine spending four days with kids your age from all across Illinois. That’s what happens at Illini Summer Academies, so stop imagining it and just do it! This program offers teens the opportunity to explore various degree programs of University of Illinois and learn of potential careers associated with those degrees. Register on ZSuite: https://4h.zsuite.org/event-registrations/18940

Tell Your 4-H Story –
Join the Speaking for Illinois 4-H Team

We’re looking for 4-H members interested in spreading the great news about 4-H. 4-H members 14 years of age or older can join the Speaking for Illinois 4-H team. There will be a virtual training offered on Monday, April 10.

This virtual training, provided by the Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team, gives you the chance to explore your own 4-H history and why you are involved, put that story into words, and learn the best ways to approach donors, civic groups, elected officials, and others to talk about 4-H. Learn why 4-H believes in Positive Youth Development and how we emphasize the essential elements of Belonging, Independence, Generosity and Mastery. All of this – and more – is a part of Speaking for Illinois 4-H! Once you’re trained, you’ll receive an invitation to be a part of our Legislative Connection events.

Registration is open NOW at https://4h.zsuite.org/event-registrations/20152. Registration will close April 7.
4-H members and clubs continue to demonstrate they are True Leaders in Service, as they work to support both their personal and club goals of making a difference in their community while focusing on the 4th “H” and pledging their HANDS to larger service!

Please share your story of how you and/or your club are supporting your community by going to the Illinois 4-H website’s Community Service page, https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/participate/4-h-community-service. To be identified as having participated in the National 4-H Day of Service, you first must click on the “Register You 2023 Event” box and share your plan for positively impacting your community. Once you have completed your service outreach efforts, then be sure to go back to the webpage use click the “Report 2023 Community Service” box and report what you accomplished and how you and your club made a difference. The accomplishments of both individual members and clubs will be highlighted on the Illinois 4-H Website so make sure you go use the reporting link to document your positive efforts. Please note – this site is open year-round so if you do multiple projects throughout the year, please continue to share that information both on the registration side and on the reporting side. The impact made by individual 4-H members and by clubs in their communities is valuable. It makes Illinois communities stronger; it helps support unity among community members; and it provides valuable support to those in need.

*All Fair Entries will be done On-Line Again This Year*

4-H Fair entries will be done online by the 4-H Families.

Starting May 1st you can go online to:

http://edwards4-hfair.fairentry.com

All entries must be complete by June 1st. All 4-H members will receive a cheat sheet in the mail soon!
We are pleased to announce that the registration for the 20th annual 4-H Day With the Cardinals is now open and will run through 11:59 p.m. March 31.

Game day is May 20 at 6:15 p.m. against the LA Dodgers. Tickets are $30.00 each and includes a specially designed t-shirt. Raffle chances are $1.00 each for the chance to throw out the first pitch (must be a 4-H member), all others can win autographed baseballs and tickets to future games. **New – option to purchase a ball cap for $10.00 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of this event (limit one per order). A shipping and handling fee will be added to each order.

Everyone will have the chance to participate in a parade around the field. Tickets and t-shirts will be mailed May 4 with more instructions for the day. Please note – groups that wish to sit together, must submit one order. Get tickets here: https://extension.missouri.edu/events/4-h-day-with-the-cardinals-2023

If you have not taken your certification this year and you are doing an online training you can set up your account and purchase the training with a credit card. If you need an instructor led course, contact Debra at the Extension office at 618-445-2934. Registration link is yqcaprogram.org
You’re Invited! Celebrate AG DAY at the Illinois State Fair

From corndogs and champions to fellowship and funnel cakes, the Illinois Department of Agriculture invites all active Illinois FFA members to celebrate agriculture with us. This year, Agriculture Day will be held on Friday, August 11. This move allows more of our youth exhibitors and their families to join us for this annual celebration on the state fairgrounds in Springfield. As a special treat, the Illinois State Fair is offering all Illinois 4-H and Illinois FFA members an exclusive opportunity to purchase tickets to this year’s Ag Day concert before the general public!

This year’s Ag Day concert will feature award-winning country music superstars OLD DOMINION. This is a two day sale – so time is limited. Here’s what you need to know:

When: Pre-Sale starts 3/28 at 10am
Where: Ticketmaster website
Promo Code: AGDAY
Note: Sale ends 3/29 at 10pm

JOIN US FOR AN ANIMAL GROOMING WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 22, 9:00-11:00 a.m.
At Doggetts Animal Grooming Salon
2087 IL Rt. 130 West Salem, IL

Learn About:
Grooming
Bathing
Nails
Ear Cleaning

https://go.illinois.edu/doggrooming
4-H BY THE DECADES 2000s
Tuesday, April 25 2023

We are seeking Illinois 4-H History from our 4-H alumni by the decades! Join us to visit about how 4-H impacted your life during the 2000s growing up in the Illinois 4-H program. We will also be seeking photos of special memories, mementos, and awards of each decade to share on a new Illinois 4-H History website to be developed. Share with us your 4-H story!

Register by Friday, April 21 - https://form.jotform.com/230640697701153
The link will be sent to registered attendees on Monday, April 24.
Sponsored by the Illinois 4-H Alumni Association

4-H BY THE DECADES 2011 – Present
Tuesday, May 23, 2023

We are seeking Illinois 4-H History from our 4-H alumni by the decades! Join us to visit about how 4-H impacted your life during the 2000s growing up in the Illinois 4-H program. We will also be seeking photos of special memories, mementos, and awards of each decade to share on a new Illinois 4-H History website to be developed. Share with us your 4-H story!

Register by Friday, May 19 - https://www.jotform.com/build/230640732381147
The link will be sent to registered attendees on Monday, May 22.
Sponsored by the Illinois 4-H Alumni Association

Looking for a serious citizen science project with your 4-H Club? The Illinois 4-H Foundation will fund your training with the Illinois RiverWatch Network (a $40 value) for the first 20 members. Learn more about when and where training sessions will be in 2023 at: http://www.ngrrec.org/Riverwatch/
Off-Premise Forms

If you are housing livestock off of your own premises, remember you must fill out an off-premise form and turn it in to the Extension office by June 1. You can find this form on our website, ZSuite or by emailing djc@illinois.edu. This rule applies to animals that are even on grandparents property! If it is not legally your property, you need to have an off premise form.

Local County Fair Dates

Wayne: July 7-15  
Lawrence: July 8 –14  
Wabash: July 15-22  
Richland: July 22-28  
Edwards: July 26—August 5

Local and State Equine Show

ALL youth that are mounted on a horse must be wearing a helmet. This is for your safety and we are required to go by this State rule.

Goal Sheets and Livestock Records

If members and families have questions about goal sheets or livestock records, be sure to call the office or ask your leader for help. Goal sheets will need to be completed and brought to the shows with your project. Livestock records will need to be completed and turned in at Fair Clean-up.

State Fair

- YQCA is mandatory for livestock projects.  
- Jr. Show entries will need to be signed by County Extension Staff before the exhibitor mails entry forms to State Fair Entry Office. Deadline is July 1 to the state.  
- Horses—Ownership, Lease papers, & pictures are due to the State by June 1, 2023. The County office needs this information by May 24th!!

More State Fair…Important!

Registration papers (pedigrees) will be required in all purebred classes. Registration papers must show ownership of the animals in the name of the exhibitor or ownership by immediate family members including the exhibitor. Certificates from breed association representatives will not be accepted in lieu of registration papers. The entry form itself still has to be in the individual exhibitors name.

Unit #25 Showmanship Clinic

Wabash County will be hosting the Unit #25 Showmanship Clinic. It will be held at Mable A. Courter Youth Center (Wabash County Fairgrounds) on June 24. Be watching for updates on Facebook and in the newsletter.

Unit #25 Tractor Driving

A fun day of tractor driving will be held at the Edwards County Fairgrounds. All 4-H members from the five county unit will be welcome to attend. A flyer and more information will be coming out soon! This will be a fun and learning experience and getting to know other 4-H members from within our unit.
Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification (QAEC)

All 4-H members enrolled in horses, poultry, rabbits, dogs, cats & all other small animals. MUST complete online QAEC to show at Fair. This rule applies to 4-H Members who exhibit live animals AND poster exhibits. This is a one time certification and is valid your entire 4-H career. You only need to take QAEC in one livestock area regardless of the number of livestock projects you are enrolled in. All members needing to take QAEC have been sent a notice by email and your leader has been notified.

This is your responsibility to complete.
The deadline to complete QAEC is JUNE 1.
You can find the online training at:

http://web.extension.illinois.edu/qaec

Please remember to print a copy of your certificate for your records.
If you have trouble or questions, please call the Extension Office.

Animal Livestock Dates

Ownership dates for animals is as follows:
All market barrows, goats, wethers and ewe lambs must be in member's possession at least 60 days prior to show. Market goats will need to be between 4-8 months old at the time of the show. Gilts and all swine breeding stock and beef or dairy yearling heifers must be in the member’s possession by April 1. Bucket Calves must be born between February 1 and April 1. They must be in member’s possession within 2 weeks of birth and must be at least 90 days old when shown. Steers must be in members possession by January 1.

These rules are on page 3 rule # 6 of Project & Activity Book.
If you haven’t received book from leader go the Extension Website:

http://extension.illinois.edu/elrww

Lamb & Goat-Illinois State Fair

Tattoo & Weigh-In Locations-
Anyone needing information contact the office ASAP for details!

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK!!
Search “Edwards County 4-H” and be sure to LIKE the page!
Animal Leases

Don’t forget!! If you are leasing an animal you need to fill out a lease form and have it turned in to the Extension office by June 1st.

Upcoming Fair Shows and Events

Soon it will be time for fair shows and events. Everyone is welcome to attend the shows and watch all that is happening in the Edwards Co. 4-H program. Help spread the word and bring your family and friends out to the fair this year!

Very Important!

Around the first of May you will receive an envelope in the mail about how to register your 4-H projects online for the upcoming fair events. Be sure you get this done by June 1st to be eligible to show! This is an absolute deadline, no excuses. Also, make sure you have completed the QAEC, YQCA and attended 2/3rds of your club meetings. (If you are a college student you are required to attend 3 meetings). If these requirements are not met we will not be able to let you show and participate at the fair. We don’t want anyone to miss out, so get your registrations in ASAP!

Coggins Testing/Health Papers

It is standard procedure you must have coggins testing done on your horse prior to the Equine Show on July 28, 2023. Bring your papers with you that day, we will be checking them when you register.

Health Papers for animals-talk with your leader. Many clubs do the testing as a group to cut down on costs. Some prefer to do it on an individual basis. It does not matter how you do it, just make sure you have it done if it is required for your animals. Health Papers will be checked after weigh in.

Health Papers are required for Sheep, Goats, Swine, and all female cattle over 6 months. No health papers are required for 4-H 1-day poultry shows where the entries are taken to the show and returned home the same day. Rabbits do not require health papers for our fair.

Congratulations

The Ellery Panthers 4-H Club received a $500 Farm Credit IL grant for their “Little Prairie Cemetery Project” Great job!
FAMILY CAMP AT 4-H MEMORIAL CAMP

Are you ready to get outside for a fun family weekend? We are kicking the summer off with Family Camp at 4-H Memorial Camp. Your family will get to stay in their own cabin, have all meals provided from Friday Dinner through Sunday Lunch, and get to participate in all the fun activities we have planned including swimming, boating, fishing, arts & crafts, zip lining, rock climbing, fun S.T.E.M. activities, hikes, tie-dying t-shirts, building model rockets and so much more!

**Dates:** May 19-21, 2023

**Fees:**
- Cabin Rental: $215
- Participant Fee:
  - 8 years old and older: $84/person
  - 4-7 years old: $56/person
  - Under 3: No Charge

*At least one child must be 4-H Age (5-18)*

Each cabin has 10 beds

More information and registration forms can be found on the 4-H Memorial Camp Website [https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/4-h-memorial-camp/4-h-family-camp](https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/4-h-memorial-camp/4-h-family-camp)

If you have any questions, please contact:
- Monika Hammerschmidt [hammersc@illinois.edu](mailto:hammersc@illinois.edu) (217) 762-2741
- Andy Davis [ardavis1@illinois.edu](mailto:ardavis1@illinois.edu) (217) 762-2741

You can find pictures of last year’s Family Camp on our [Facebook Page](https://www.facebook.com). Come see for yourself what everyone is talking about!

**Fall Family Camp at 4-H Memorial Camp**

We just opened Spring Family Camp registration and everyone is already excited about the Fall Family Camp as well! Dates for the Fall Family Camp are Sept. 8-10, 2023. Registration will open Monday, June 5th with Fall registration materials available on our website starting that morning. Spring registration is currently open. [https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/4-h-memorial-camp/4-h-family-camp](https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/4-h-memorial-camp/4-h-family-camp)

**Summer Youth Camp at 4-H Memorial Camp**

There are still spots available for Summer Youth Camp, June 30-July 4 at 4-H Memorial Camp. Check-out is at 11am on July 4th so you can still celebrate the Holiday! We anticipate all spaces filling. Details and a link to the online registration are available at [https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/4-h-memorial-camp/4-h-summer-camp-programs/4-h-memorial-summer-camp](https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/4-h-memorial-camp/4-h-summer-camp-programs/4-h-memorial-summer-camp).

There is also information concerning placing your child on the waiting list for one of the full weeks should any space open up. Please contact Monika Hammerschmidt [hammersc@illinois.edu](mailto:hammersc@illinois.edu) (217) 762-2741 with any questions.

**Camp Corral- Camp for Children of Military Families**

4-H Memorial Camp will once again be holding Camp Corral, July 16-21, 2023. Camp Corral offers Summer Camp Opportunities to children of wounded, ill, and fallen military and veterans. Kids will find adventure, build confidence, challenge their fears, and make life-long friends. Open to children ages 8-15, this incredible week of adventure is offered at no cost to the family. Spots are available on a first come/first served basis so don’t wait. More information and a link to the application site are available at [https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/4-h-memorial-camp/4-h-summer-camp-programs/camp-corral](https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/4-h-memorial-camp/4-h-summer-camp-programs/camp-corral).

You do not need to be a 4-H member to attend. Please share this information with anyone or any organization you think would be interested. For more information or to receive advertising pieces to share with others, please contact Andy Davis [ardavis1@illinois.edu](mailto:ardavis1@illinois.edu), (217) 762-2741.