



**Illinois Extension**  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

# Edwards County 4-H Happenings!



September 2024

## Calendar of 4-H Events

To Make the Best  
**BETTER**

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign College of  
Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

**Tara Buerster**  
County Director

**Samantha Gaither**  
Youth Educator

**Debra Collier**  
4-H Program Coordinator

**Dana Hart**  
Office Support Assistant

**Theresa Reid**  
Office Support Associate

Edwards County  
7 North 5th St.  
Albion, IL  
618-445-2934

[http://  
extension.illinois.edu/  
elrww](http://extension.illinois.edu/elrww)

Unit #25—Edwards, Lawrence,  
Richland, Wabash, & Wayne

University of Illinois— U.S. Department  
of Agriculture—Local Extension  
Councils Cooperating University of  
Illinois Extension provides equal  
opportunities in programs and  
employment. If you need a reasonable  
accommodation to participate in this  
program please contact the Edwards  
County Extension office at 618-445-  
2934. Early requests are strongly  
encouraged to allow sufficient time for  
meeting you access needs.

### September

- 1 **New Year Start for 4-H: ZSuite will open in October to enroll!**
- 10 Bone Gap Cardinals Mtg. 6:30 p.m. Christian Church
- 17 Blue Ribbon Mtg. 6:00 p.m. COUNTRY Financial Hall
- 18 Yankees Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Moravian Church
- 20 **Records/Award Applications due at Extension Office**
- 25 Ellery Panthers Mtg. 6:00 p.m. at LPCC  
Little Wabash Ramblers to TBA

### October

- 6-14 National 4-H Week
- 7 **Achievement Night, 7:00 p.m. COUNTRY Financial Hall**

## National 4-H Week – October 6-14, 2024

### Theme: “Beyond Ready”

National 4-H Week is our time to tell the world about 4-H. We are lifting up youth voices and helping kids get equal access to the resources they need to thrive. You are encouraged to find ways to celebrate October 6-14. Encourage your clubs to show their 4-H pride and wear a clover! Use the hashtag #4HBeyondReady as you share your 4-H activities on social media. We will be sharing more information in the coming weeks.



**I PLEDGE ... MY HEAD TO CLEARER THINKING**



# Edwards County 4-H



## Award Forms

All forms for County Awards can be found on the Extension Website:

<http://extension.illinois.edu/elrww> If you are planning on applying for an award, please plan on attending Achievement Night.

## Buyer's Cards

Buyer's cards are available from your leaders if you haven't already received them. Please deliver them to your buyer in a timely manner.

## Sr. Federation

All high school age 4-H members are urged to join Sr. Federation. If you are a high schooler and would like to join Sr. Federation, sign up in Zsuite.

## Trophy Donors/Add On

If you received a banner or belt buckle at any of the livestock shows, addresses for the sponsors were on the back of the each of these, or if you received an add on at the auction. Please, take time to thank them with a card or a personal thank you. These businesses and individuals are supporting each of you!

## Fair Finds

We found a t-shirt and a button up long sleeve shirt in the changing room after the fair. We, also, found a weaver brush up on the announcing stand. If any of these are yours they can be picked up at the Extension office.

**Time to recruit new members, invite a friend to a meeting!**

## Record Collection

Records are due in Extension office by September 20. Please turn in all your records to your leader prior to this date in order to be eligible for awards. Remember if you turn in records make sure you have done them! Please note: All secretary and treasurer books **MUST** be turned in by this deadline!

## Achievement Night

Achievement Night is scheduled for October 7, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. Mark your calendars now. We hope to celebrate with all 4-H members and their families! If you apply for an award, please be in attendance!

## State Events

If you are interested in attending state events, either, virtually or in person. They can be found at: [4h.zsuite.org/events](http://4h.zsuite.org/events)

## Workshops

Workshops will be starting soon. They will be posted on the Edwards County 4-H Facebook page. If you want to volunteer to help or lead a workshop let the office know. We hope to have something for everyone!

## 2024-2025 Enrollments

Please wait on your enrollments for the 24-25 4-H year. We will put a Facebook post out when the State 4-H office has Zsuite ready to take enrollments.

**I PLEDGE ... MY HEART TO GREATER LOYALTY**

## **2024-2025 Illinois 4-H Project Selection Guide**

In 4-H, members learn about topics that interest them. These are referred to as members “projects.” That could be anything from learning how to cook, build a robot, or care for the environment. One of the most important aspects of 4-H project work is that the 4-H member decides what they want to learn and do as they explore their project. This allows the project to be self-paced, and gives children important skills in setting and working toward their goals. 4-H makes learning fun! A variety of projects are offered through 4-H so members can pick the ones that most interest them. Or they can find other young people with the same interest and study that topic with the help of a volunteer that shares the same interests. 4-H projects help members to learn by doing. Projects offer hands-on ways to learn about a topic of interest. Some projects have several levels. Youth can only enroll in one level per project.

Each 4-H family will receive a copy when the guide becomes available. Until then this is the link to see what projects look interesting:

[https://issuu.com/illinois4h/docs/4-h\\_project\\_selection\\_guide\\_2024\\_to\\_print\\_with\\_fin](https://issuu.com/illinois4h/docs/4-h_project_selection_guide_2024_to_print_with_fin)

### **Congratulations to our State Fair Participants**

#### **Grand Champion**

**Matthew Bare-Leather**  
**Aleya Bare-Service Learning**  
**Zoey Bare-Civic Engagement**  
**Hayley Perry-Food Science**

#### **Reserve Champion**

**Gracie Fenton-Design Decisions**

#### **Inspire**

**Hannah Bare-Geology**  
**Nate Greathouse-Woodworking**  
**Landon Loyd-Cooking**  
**Kylar VanMatre-Visual Arts Plastic Block Art**

#### **Participation**

**Olivia Bunting-Visual Arts Metal**  
**Sarafina Henson-Child Development**  
**Hannah Perry-Interculture**  
**Violet Rude-Cooking**  
**Elise Rude-Visual Arts Chalk/Carbon/Pigment**  
**Kayleigh Sanford-Cake Decorating**  
**Ellie Troyer-Scrapbooking**



**I PLEDGE ... MY HANDS TO LARGER SERVICE**

## END OF YEAR AWARD TIME IS APPROACHING

Whether you are a first-year 4-H member or a longtime member, it's time to focus on pulling together information for your 4-H award applications. Even younger members can submit the 4-H Experience Application and be eligible for 4-H recognition. Older members can submit both the 4-H Experience Application and the Illinois 4-H Scholarship Application to be eligible for state recognition, scholarships, and/or trips.



**You've done the work, now apply for the award!**

The 4-H Experience Award offers recognition for members who participate in activities and events from club to national events. Available levels you can qualify for include Bronze, Silver, Gold, Diamond, and Emerald. Head here: [go.illinois.edu/4HAwardsApply](https://go.illinois.edu/4HAwardsApply) to learn more and apply!



Do you have a passion for Animal Sciences, Civic Engagement/Global Living, Creative Performing Arts & Communication, Food Systems Healthy Living/Nutrition, Leadership, Natural Resources & Environmental Science, Personal Growth, or STEM/Robotics?

**Apply for a scholarship honoring your experience and passion in these areas!**

Scholarships are open to Illinois 4-H members age 15-18 as of 9/1/2024. To apply you must have been enrolled in the 2023-2024 4-H year and applicants can only win one scholarship per program year and can only win once in each of the different award areas.

Apply before November 1 when you head here: [go.illinois.edu/4HAwardsApply](https://go.illinois.edu/4HAwardsApply)



**Does your 4-H club excel in community service, leadership, or project learning?** Submit your club for a 4-H Club Recognition Award! Learn more and submit your application before October 1st here: [go.illinois.edu/4HAwardsApply](https://go.illinois.edu/4HAwardsApply)



**I PLEDGE ... MY HEALTH FOR BETTER LIVING**

## Illinois 4-H is Committed to Making Every Kid's Potential Count

In 4-H you belong and are part of a community. You are an active participant in your future and opportunities. You play a role in your community's success. And you have many paths to learning.

We welcome all young people! Our first priority is to create a safe, inclusive space for learning, sharing, and collaboration that is welcoming to people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives

To learn more about 4-H experiences in your area, contact the Edwards County Extension office @ 618-445-2934.



**FOR MY CLUB, MY COMMUNITY, MY COUNTRY, AND MY WORLD**

## 4-H Facts

### What is 4-H?

- 4-H is the largest non-formal youth educational organization in the United States.
- 4-H is for all youth ages 8 to 18.
- 4-H is for Cloverbuds ages 5 to 7.
- 4-H is led by volunteers.
- 4-H is kids having fun and learning with their friends.

### What can I do in 4-H?

- You can be involved in projects.
- You can attend events & activities.
- You can join a community club.
- You can develop skills for life.
- You can make new friends & have LOTS of fun!!

### 4-H Motto

"To Make the Best Better"

### 4-H Emblem

The 4-H emblem is the four-leaf clover with the four H's standing for **head, heart, hands, and health.**

### Colors

The 4-H colors are green and white. Green symbolizes nature's most common color and represents life, springtime, and youth. White symbolizes purity.

### Pledge

I pledge my head to clearer thinking,  
my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service, and my health  
to better living for my club, my community, my country, and my world.