

# Edwards County 4-H Clover Chatter

To Make the Best  
**BETTER**



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

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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 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 your access needs.

December 2024/January 2025



## Happening Now

### December

- 3 Blue Ribbon Mtg. 5:30 p.m.
- 6 PSEP testing for farmers 10 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Farm Bureau Basement
- 10 Bone Gap Cardinals Mtg. at the Christian Church 6:30 p.m.
- 11 Ellery Panthers Mtg. Little Prairie Christian Church 6:00 p.m.
- 18 Yankees Mtg. 6:00 p.m. at Moravian Church
- 23 Mistake To Masterpiece Tag-A-Long Workshop 9:00-10:30 a.m.
- 24-Jan. 1 Extension Office will be closed for Holiday**  
Little Wabash Ramblers TBA

### January

- 1 Steer Enrollment Deadline - must be in possession
- 10 Steer Registration Deadline
- 13 PSEP testing for farmers 10:00 a.m. Farm Bureau Basement
- 14 Bone Gap Cardinals Mtg. at the Christian Church 6:30 p.m.
- 15 Yankees Mtg. 7:00 p.m. at Moravian Church
- 18 New Member Workshop 10 a.m. register by calling 618-445-2934
- 20 Extension Office Closed Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 21 Blue Ribbon Mtg. COUNTRY Financial Hall 6:30 p.m.
- 22 Ellery Panthers Mtg. Little Prairie Christian Church 6:00 p.m.
- 22 YQCA Training after Ellery Panthers meeting.**  
Little Wabash Ramblers TBA



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

## Public Speaking Contest

We have exciting news to share about the public speaking contest this year! The five counties have gotten together, and we will be providing a unit-wide public speaking contest. The event will be on February 17 at 6:00 in the evening in the basement of the Edwards County Farm Bureau office.

How judging will happen is everyone will speak in front of two judges, and we will have an overall placement of 1-5 with awards. Then each county will have the opportunity to promote speakers from their counties to the state competition in April. If you have questions, please contact your local Extension office.

## Livestock Changes for 2025

Important changes to livestock are being made this year for exhibition at the state and county levels. All beef, dairy, and swine will be required to have a USDA official animal identification number ear tag ("840" tag). The tag must be both visually and electronically capable of reading. Thus, means at check-ins at fair staff/superintendents will be checking tags with an electronic reader.

Some common questions:

Who must have the 840 Tag?

Beef- All Heifers, All Cows, All Steers being exhibited at fair

Dairy- All Heifers, All Cows, All Steers being exhibited at fair

Swine- All Gilts, All Barrows being exhibited at fair

Where do I get the 840 Tag?

Breeder you purchase your animal from

Local Veterinarian

Purchase Tag from a farm supply (Valley Vet, Nasco)

How do I purchase my own tags?

The location of where the animal is being kept will have to have a registered premise ID with the state of Illinois. With the premise ID you will be able to purchase tags from a farm supply store such as Valley Vet or Nasco to name a few.

I do not have a Premise ID how do I get one?

Obtain an application for the Illinois Department of Agriculture and send it in. The turn around time is very fast to get one. (<https://agr.illinois.gov>) Search for a fillable premise form.

If you have any questions about the new changes to the 840 tag requirement for exhibition please contact your local Extension office.

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

## COMMUNICATIONS: PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Enrollment in the Public Presentations project is required to participate in this section. No live animals are allowed in speeches. A 4-H member may advance in one individual category and one team category. **Participating Youth must be 8 years of age on or before September 1, 2024. Participating youth turning 14 years of age on or before September 1, 2024 must enroll as advanced.**

### Contest Division and Class

#### Formal Speech | Self-written | Notes Allowed | No props | Individual | 4-5 minutes (Beginner) | 5-6 minutes (Advanced)

Formal Speeches share the presenter's own unique view and are intended to motivate, persuade, or inform an audience and may include a call to action. Youth deliver a speech on any topic they wish.

\*This category will be broken down into the following classes by age.

- Beginner: 8-13 years of age
- Advanced: 14 years of and up

#### Illustrated Speech | Self-written | Notes Allowed | Illustrations Required | Individual 4-5 minutes (Beginner) | 5-6 minutes (Advanced)

Illustrated Speeches may be used to inform, persuade, or motivate the audience while using a visual aid. Visual aids may be two dimensional, three-dimensional, or digital. Youth may include audience participation. Digital visual aids must be stored on a USB flash drive. Illustrated speeches may be:

- How-to demonstrations which show the audience how to do something.
- Object lessons which use objects as metaphors to share a message.
- Educational models where drawings or diagrams help explain a topic.
- Beginner: 8-13 years of age
- Advanced: 14 years of and up

#### Original Works | Self-written | Notes Allowed | Props and Costumes Allowed | Individual or 2-Person Team | Youth must provide printed manuscripts to judge | 4-6 minutes

Original works must be written entirely by the presenter. It may be presented as an individual or a two-person team entry. Manuscripts or transcripts must be submitted to the Judge on the day of the presentation. Presentations may be designed for TV, radio, or online media and must be presented live. The types of entries could include:

- Prose and Short Stories
- Poetry/ Spoken Word
- Broadcast Media Program
- Theatrical
- Combined Program: Combine any number of the above elements along with other creative presentation forms

#### Oral Interpretation | Published Work | Props and Costumes Allowed | Individual or 2-Person Team | Youth must provide printed manuscripts to judge | 4-6 minutes

Presentations in Oral Interpretation must be published works, and manuscripts or transcripts must be submitted to the Judge on the day of presentation. They may be presented as an individual or a two-person team entry. The types of entries could include:

- Prose and Short Stories
- Poetry
- Theatrical Interpretation
- Published Speech Recitation: Excerpt from a spoken presentation delivered by a public figure, such as Winston Churchill, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., or Maya Angelou

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

## NEW MEMBER WORKSHOP

Understanding 4-H, Records, Projects, Question and Answer Time, Etc.

January 18 | **Extension Office 10:00 a.m.**

PLEASE RSVP TO THE EXTENSION OFFICE BY JANUARY 15, 618-445-2934



Illinois Extension

## YQCA Training

We will be having YQCA trainings starting soon. Members that have projects in Beef, Swine, Sheep and Goats are required to take this training yearly. Ellery Panthers will be having a training after their monthly meeting on January 22.



We will be having a new member workshop at the Extension Office on Saturday, January 18th. Any family that is needing guidance on 4-H records or have questions is welcome to attend. Please call the office to get your name on the list. We will give a courtesy call the week of the workshop, as a reminder.

Art-Lit to Go! This workshop is open to any youth 5-7 years of age. Learn about accidental inventions-inventions that were made by mistake. We will read the book "Beautiful Oops" by Barney Saltzberg. The link to register is [go.illinois.edu/MistakeToMasterpiece](http://go.illinois.edu/MistakeToMasterpiece)



You still have time to drop off items for the personal care drive for WADI in Edwards County.

August 8th is General Project date at the 2025 Illinois State Fair!

Jr. Livestock dates are August 8—10th.

## Invites

Have you invited a friend to join you at a club meeting this new 4-H year?? Did they attend? If so, please contact [djc@illinois.edu](mailto:djc@illinois.edu) or the Extension office at 618-445-2934 and get your name in the hat for a chance to win a prize! Winner will be announced in January!!

## 4-H Enrollments

Thanks to the members who have completed their enrollment/re-enrollments! If you have not yet done this, don't delay. We will be getting project books to members after your enrollment has been completed. If you need help contact [djc@illinois.edu](mailto:djc@illinois.edu).

## Steer Deadline Fast Approaching

All steers need to be in the 4-H members possession by Jan. 1, 2025. If you have steers contact [djc@illinois.edu](mailto:djc@illinois.edu) or 618-445-2934 by Jan. 10 to register them. We need to know how many you have, what color they are, and if they are registered or crossbreeds.

## Women's Committee 4-H Grant

Grant applications are available. Leaders will have the application for members that ages 8-11, (4-H age) at the December meetings. Applications have to be completed and submitted to the Farm Bureau office by February 14. If you are applying make sure you have enrolled for the 2024-2025 year.



## Speech Contest-Challenge

Speech Contest date is Monday, February 17, at the Farm Bureau basement, starting at 6:00 p.m.

We would like to challenge each club to have at least TWO members do a speech this year! We know it's hard to get up in front of people and make a speech.....just think of it as telling a story. You do not need to be an expert, we would just like to see more kids take on this challenge! Are you up for it?

Your speech can be about whatever you like. It does not have to be project related. Tell us about a hobby, (deer hunting, knitting, reading, sports, riding a horse) Just give it a try! See what creative ideas you can show us!!

## 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.

**The above dates are when all 4-H'ers with these projects must have the animals in their possession.**