



# 4-H FAST FACTS



A Newsletter for **Christian County 4-H Families**

**December 2020**

## 2019 PREMIUM CHECKS

Checks for premiums from the 2019 county-eligible shows were mailed to members last week. **Please cash these checks as soon as possible.**

## 2020-2021 4-H Enrollment is Open!

Don't forget to re-enroll in 4-H as soon as possible. This helps us make sure we have the most up-to-date information for our members so that you don't miss out on any upcoming opportunities or reminders.

Il.4honline.com Detailed instructions were sent in last month's newsletter and can be found on our website.

If you have specific questions or need access to a computer or paper enrollment form, please contact our office.

## UNIT 18 - *Serving:*

***Christian, Jersey,  
Macoupin &  
Montgomery Counties***

## OFFICES

### ***Christian County Extension***

1120 N. Webster Street  
Taylorville, IL 62568  
Ph.: 217-287-7246 Fax: 217-287-7248

### ***Jersey County Extension***

201 West Exchange, Suite A  
Jerseyville, IL 62052  
Ph.: 618-498-2913 Fax: 618-498-5913

### ***Macoupin County Extension***

#60 Carlinville Plaza  
Carlinville, IL 62626  
Ph.: 217-854-9604 Fax: 217-854-7804

### ***Montgomery County Extension***

#1 Industrial Park Drive  
Hillsboro, IL 62049  
Ph.: 217-532-3941 Fax: 217-532-3944

## STAFF

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## DECEMBER OFFICE HOURS AND STAFF AVAILABILITY

Our office continues to remain closed to the public, but staff are still working remotely or from the office. If you need to contact someone directly, email is often the best method. If you need to pick up or drop off at the office, please call ahead to make an appointment.

## HOLIDAY HOURS

The Christian County Extension Office will close on Thursday, December 24th and will not reopen until Monday, January 4th. Staff will return phone calls and emails when they return in January. On behalf of the Christian County Extension Office, have a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year!

To keep up with 4-H happenings in Christian County, including workshops, check us out on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Christian4h>



Like us on  
**Facebook**



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

[extension.illinois.edu/cjmm/4-h-christian-county](https://extension.illinois.edu/cjmm/4-h-christian-county)



**I** "PLEDGE YOUR HEALTH TO BETTER LIVING"

## 4-H VIRTUAL HOLIDAY YOGA FOR KIDS

JOIN LISA KLAUS ON ZOOM FOR AN INTERACTIVE YOGA SESSION

**TUESDAY DEC 15**  
**3:00-3:30PM**  
AGES 8-18  
NO COST



Register online: <https://extension.illinois.edu/cjmm/events>  
or call 217-854-9604

Open to 4-H members in Montgomery, Christian, Jersey and Macoupin Counties. If you would like to become a member and participate in this program, please contact us at [harding@illinois.edu](mailto:harding@illinois.edu)

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COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign - US Department of Agriculture - Local Extension Councils Cooperating  
University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programming and employment.  
If you need reasonable accommodations to participate in this program, please contact 217-854-9604. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your access needs.



 **FREE!**

*4-H Holiday Ornament Kits*

*Cloverbuds 5-7*  
*Youth Ages 8-18*

ALL KITS WILL BE MAILED OUT TO PARTICIPANTS PRIOR TO DEC 18

Register at:  
<https://extension.illinois.edu/cjmm/4-h-macoupin-county>

**ALREADY FULL**

Christian, Jersey, Macoupin, and Montgomery County 4-H



## 4-H Holiday Photography Contest

Submit Your Digital Holiday Photograph by Dec 18 to [harding@illinois.edu](mailto:harding@illinois.edu)

Rules:  
Take a picture with a holiday theme  
Photograph must be taken by 4-H member  
For Youth Ages 8-18  
Prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place

If taking 4-H Photography, use skills from the 4-H Photography Manual  
Questions should be directed to Kate at [harding@illinois.edu](mailto:harding@illinois.edu)  
Winners Announced and Pictures Displayed on County 4-H Facebook Pages

**ILLINOIS Extension**



## SELF-CARE & RESILIENCY TOOLKIT

**TEENS LEARN TOOLS & SKILLS TO HELP IN DIFFICULT TIMES**

This interactive, online workshop will help you address your emotional, psychological, physiological, social/community, and spiritual needs. We will work collaboratively to create a self-care/resiliency toolkit to combat the effects of quarantine.

**WHAT CAN YOU HOPE TO LEARN?**

- How to maintain your wellbeing and identify self-care tools for physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual health.
- How to increase your resiliency and capability to cope with adversity, uncertainty, and stress.

Open to youth ages 8-18 in Christian, Jersey, Macoupin, and Montgomery Counties

**TWO SESSIONS:**  
Dec. 28 from 2 to 3 p.m.  
&  
Dec. 30 from 2 to 3 p.m.

**Attendance required for both sessions**

Register at: [go.illinois.edu/selfcare](https://go.illinois.edu/selfcare)



**THE GUEST SPEAKER**

Cierra Garrow is a Registered Psychotherapist (Qualifying), practicing and living in Northwestern Ontario. Cierra works as a Psychiatric Rights Adviser for PPAO through the MOHLTC, a Children's Mental Health Therapist for FIREFLY, and a Post-Secondary Instructor for Seven Generations Education Institute in their Social Service Worker Program. As a practicing mental health professional, advocate, and educator, Cierra has experienced the catastrophic effects of burnout, vicarious trauma, and compassion fatigue. The toll this had on her mental health was devastating and could have been mitigated through a self-care plan. To be able to help others and ensure all people can fulfill their potential and live with dignity, equality, and health, we need to be healthy ourselves.

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University of Illinois | U.S. Department of Agriculture | Local Extension Councils Cooperating  
If you need reasonable accommodations to participate in this program, please contact 217-532-3941.  
Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your access needs.



## OPPORTUNITIES COMING IN JANUARY



Starts in January 2021!

Culture, Cuisine and Conversation: Travel the World with 4-H is a biweekly series for teens. Participants will prepare a dish from a different country with a provided recipe ahead of each meeting, have access to videos created by 4-H partners in the country of the week to tour kitchens and homes, and more. Each Participant will receive a country kit with goodies and activities from the countries we are covering.

Countries may include:

- Japan
- Finland
- Brazil
- Australia
- Thailand
- South Korea
- Kosovo

The cost is \$10 through December 15, and \$15 after. This covers a supply kit that will be provided. Non 4-H'ers are welcome to participate!

Groups will meet these dates weeks: January 17, 31, February 14, 28, March 14, 28.

**Registration closes Sunday, January 10**

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/?RegistrationID=22726>

For more information contact Elisha Hughes at [ehugh2@illinois.edu](mailto:ehugh2@illinois.edu)



### All County 4-H Meetings

While COVID meeting policies are restricting some clubs from meeting in person, the Christian County Extension Office is hosting county-wide meetings for our members to stay connected.

#### Who can attend?

Any current 4-H member **OR** new families that are interested in learning more about what 4-H is are welcome to attend. These meetings will count as club meetings on your end-of-year award applications. Members will have the opportunity to fulfill me

Register online to receive the zoom link. [extension.illinois.edu/cjmm/4-h-christian-county](http://extension.illinois.edu/cjmm/4-h-christian-county)

**\*7:00 PM\***

**\*Held online via Zoom\***

**Thursday, January 28th**

**Thursday, February 25th**

**Thursday, March 25th**

**Thursday, April 22nd**

**Thursday, May 27th**

### 2020-2021 Livestock Updates & Reminders

All livestock families will receive information in the mail after the first of the year regarding livestock requirements and reminders.

- QAEC or YQCA will still be required for exhibitors to show their animal projects at either the county or state fairs. At this point, we are not able to provide in-person YQCA trainings.
- Weigh-in and tagging information will be sent after the first of the year.

## ILLINOIS 4-H YOUTH LEADERS HIGHLIGHTED IN UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS VIDEO COMPETITION

On November 15th, Dr. Megan Dailey, Metropolitan Food and Environmental Systems Director at the University of Illinois, announced the winners of their Food Systems Video Challenge. The first-place prize went to Julia Heller, a 4-Her from Ogle County currently serving as the Illinois 4-H Food Advocacy Team President and studying Animal Sciences at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Second place was awarded to Elaan Bader, a 4-Her from Montgomery County and a Food Advocacy Team member. Both video submissions focused on the role which each of us plays in shaping our food system. Future video challenge competitions will be made available to 4-H members around the state who want to play a role in a healthier, more sustainable future. See the winning video submission on the Metropolitan Food and Environmental System Facebook feed here: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/MFSTIllinois/>

For more information, contact Mark Becker, [mbbecker@illinois.edu](mailto:mbbecker@illinois.edu).

## NUTRIEN ANNOUNCES COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN GRANT

In coordination with the National 4-H Council and the Illinois 4-H Foundation, youth leaders will work with an industry leader in addressing topics of sustainable agriculture and environmental stewardship. Teams must consist of three youth leaders and one adult mentor. Applications are due December 31st, 2020. Projects will be supported up to \$1,000.

Link to application: <https://go.illinois.edu/NutrienCAP>

For more information, contact Mark Becker, [mbbecker@illinois.edu](mailto:mbbecker@illinois.edu).

## NATIONAL 4-H COUNCIL ANNOUNCES THE UPCOMING 2021 NATIONAL YOUTH AGRISCIENCE SUMMIT

At the National 4-H Youth Summit on Agri-Science, high school students develop the skills and knowledge needed for the challenges facing agriculture, food security, and sustainability. Students will work with each other and experts in the agricultural community in this collaborative, hands-on educational setting. The summit will be an opportunity to meet like-minded peers from across the country, learn more about career opportunities, and network with professionals in the field of Agri-science. As a cornerstone of the experience, participants are challenged to identify and develop action plans that address issues related to agriculture in their community. For more information visit:

<https://4-h.org/parents/national-youth-summits/#!agri-science>

For more information, contact Mark Becker, [mbbecker@illinois.edu](mailto:mbbecker@illinois.edu).

## ILLINOIS 4-H FOOD ADVOCACY TEAM ANNOUNCES FOOD ADVOCACY GRANT

Want to do more about food insecurity where you live? With the support of the Illinois 4-H Foundation, youth leaders throughout Illinois will have the opportunity to receive financial support for projects addressing food security, food access, and food justice in their neighborhoods and communities.

Applications are due Monday, December 21st for review by the Food Advocacy Team.

For more information and ideas for service-learning projects, see the online application:

<https://go.illinois.edu/FoodAdvocacyGrant>

For more information, contact Mark Becker, [mbbecker@illinois.edu](mailto:mbbecker@illinois.edu).

## 2020 VIRTUAL 4-H SHOOT UPDATE

<https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/illinois-4-h-virtual-shoot-fall-2020>

Illinois 4-H Shooting Sports leaders have submitted 267 scores from 124 registered 4-H shooters in the on-going 2020 4-H Virtual State Shoot! This statewide competition runs through December 31, 2020 and awards will be given to the top five finishers in shotgun, archery, and air rifle in January, 2021.

For a list of local 4-H participants or any other questions, please contact Curt Sinclair at [sinclair@illinois.edu](mailto:sinclair@illinois.edu).



## BARRED OWL NEST BOX CHALLENGE

It's not too late to jump in on the Barred Owl Nest Box Challenge. Last year over 30 sets of boxes were installed, and are set to be monitored this coming spring! New boxes must be made and set by mid-January at the latest to give momma owl time to find and choose her favorite style of nest box!

For details and instructions, contact Curt Sinclair at [sinclair@illinois.edu](mailto:sinclair@illinois.edu)



## ILLINI SUMMER ACADEMIES

If you are curious as to what college or career is right for you, plan now to join us and discover new possibilities at the Illini Summer Academies (ISA)! At ISA you can expect a fun and exploratory experience featuring a virtual academy session and a variety of new workshops and fun virtual activities. For questions, contact us at [illini-4h@illinois.edu](mailto:illini-4h@illinois.edu).

## 4-H VOLUNTEER VIRTUAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES ILLINOIS 4-H VIRTUAL STEM CURRICULUM TRAINING!

We would like to invite you, your volunteers and teen teachers to the **Illinois 4-H STEM Curriculum Training!** This remote-access training is your opportunity to receive hands-on experience in using **Quads Away (Drones)**, **DIY Make and Build (Maker)** and our new **eSports Pilot Curriculum**. Many things have been updated or added to these materials since their introduction to better align with your programming needs in a virtual space. Updated versions of each will be sent out to all participants (and posted immediately following the training). This training is not meant to produce content experts, but rather process experts with the skills needed to incorporate these materials into your programming.

This training will be broken into 3 separate, 2 hour trainings focused on each curriculum topic. Attendees can feel free to attend one or all of them. During the training, participants will be briefly guided through each curriculum and will have the opportunity to do some of the included activities from each. In addition, participants will have the chance to explore SPIN and community club options with the 4-H STEM Team, and other PYD professionals and volunteers. For those that choose to enroll in the Maker training Before December 6th, they will receive a set of materials to complete Activity 1: Popsicle Flashlight from the DIY Make and Build Curriculum.

**Who:** 4-H Educators, Program Coordinators, Volunteers, Club Leaders, Teen Leaders, the University of Illinois Extension IT department, and invited partner-organization members.

**Date and Time:** Friday, December 11th, 2020

- **9:00 AM to 11:00 AM- Quads Away (Drones)**
- **12:00 PM to 2:00 PM- DIY Make & Build (Maker)**
- **3:00 PM - 5:00 PM- eSports Pilot Curriculum**

**Where: Zoom call.** A link will be provided with the day's agenda and other details before the training.

Please share this opportunity with your local volunteers, club leaders and teen leaders and note that you can register for this training. **Please note that registration closes on Thursday, December 10th, 2020, but to receive Maker materials, you must be registered by December 6th.**

Please feel free to send any questions or concerns to myself or The Illinois 4-H STEM Team at [illinois4h-STEM@illinois.edu](mailto:illinois4h-STEM@illinois.edu).

If you have not registered there is still time, use this link and sign up today:

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=22105>

## WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE FIRST ILLINOIS 4-H VIRTUAL ESPORTS SPIN CLUB?

With eSports becoming one of the largest growing tech industries in the world, with an annual revenue of \$1.5 billion with an expectation to reach \$2.2 billion by 2023, it is time that our youth become poised and ready to meet the demands of this growing field.

Are you **at least 12 years old and own a computer or gaming system**? This year Illinois 4-H released a pilot curriculum focused on the growing field of electronic sports, or eSports, and we would like to pilot it with you! As a pilot, we hope to add to and modify the curriculum based on the feedback and input of the youth involved. Under the direction of Illinois 4-H Computer Science Innovator Eric Li, youth will be virtually guided (using Zoom) through the eSports Pilot curriculum, learn the basics of the eSports field, and learn about the hardware and software that makes eSports possible. In addition, youth will be able to play and practice their favorite games as a team, and potentially compete in one or more eSports competitions through the Spring and Summer.

**Registration for this opportunity will open on Dec. 1 and close on Jan. 15, with meetings beginning the third week of January.** Schedule and goals will be determined/presented in the first meeting with plans on meeting at least twice a month (and more frequently before competitions).

Interested youth can sign up at the link below:

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=22817>

For questions or comments, please contact the Illinois 4-H STEM Team at [Illinois4h-STEM@illinois.edu](mailto:Illinois4h-STEM@illinois.edu)