



# 4-H FAST FACTS



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

September 2020



Help Christian County celebrate National 4-H Week in one of the following ways!

### 2020 Theme: Opportunity4All

#### At-Home Decoration Contest

Instead of a window display, decorate a front window, your mailbox, or your yard with 4-H signs or other items.

#### 4-H in the News

Write an article for the newspaper on the following topic: "How 4-H has created opportunities for you." One winner will be selected and their article will run in their local newspaper. Other submissions will be featured in the October 4-H newsletter.

#### 4-H in Pictures/Video

Share a picture or create a video that either 1) promotes 4-H to a new audience, or 2) shows how 4-H has given you unique opportunities.

#### Opportunity4All Challenge

Send a special invite to a friend that is not in 4-H. Write them a letter, invite them to a club meeting, or share something you've learned in your project.

**Submit proof of your entries (files, pictures of your displays, etc.) using the following link.** All entries will be recognized during Achievement Night and in the October issue of the newsletter.

**Deadline to submit is October 10th, 2020.**

[go.illinois.edu/Christian4HWeek](http://go.illinois.edu/Christian4HWeek)

To keep up with 4-H happenings in Christian County, including



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

**UNIT 18 - Serving:**  
**Christian, Jersey,  
Macoupin &  
Montgomery Counties**

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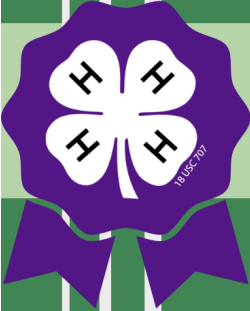
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## 4-H Enrollment opens October 1!

Instructions and further details will be sent to all families.



## 2020 State Fair Results


Congratulations to the following 4-H members for excelling in their project areas at the 2020 Illinois 4-H Virtual State Fair!

NAME	PROJECT AREA	AWARD*
Maria Brockamp	Visual Arts - Fiber	Reserve Champion
Riley Brown	Visual Arts - Clay	
Abby Erlenbush	STEAM Clothing 3 - Sewn Non-Clothing	Champion
Chloe Grant	Interior Design	
Conner Grant	Visual Arts - 3D Design/Mixed Media	Champion
Elayna Harker	Cooking 201	
Mackenzie Harmon	Vegetable Gardening Display	
Kyle Jackle-Hugh	Weather & Climate Science 1	Inspire Award
Charlee Ryan	Cooking 101	
Deacon Shanks	Visual Arts - Metal	
Abigail Wamsley	Visual Arts - Food Decorating (Beg.)	Inspire Award
Benjamin Wamsley	Interior Design	Reserve Champion

*\*All participants received the Award of Excellence in addition to any listed awards.*

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### State Fair Results

Congratulations to the 4-H members who participated in the virtual state fair this year.

Members will receive an email from the state 4-H office with instructions on how to retrieve judging comments. All ribbons and medals won will be mailed to the Extension Office later in September/early October. We will notify you when your items are ready for pick up.

### Awards

Champion—Best project in that project area and level

Reserve Champion—Second best project in that project area and level

Inspire Award—Chose by judge as unique or special project in that area

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## 4-H OFFICER TRAINING

**Open to any current 4-H officers or any members  
who are interested in becoming an officer!**

**TWO SESSIONS - 9:00-10:00 AM VIA ZOOM**

**OCTOBER 17 – BEING A BETTER OFFICER  
(TOPICS INCLUDE: COMMUNICATION/PUBLIC SPEAKING,  
KEEPING MEETINGS ENGAGING)**

**OCTOBER 24 – OFFICER ROLES &  
RESPONSIBILITIES  
(OFFICER ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES; HOW TO RUN A  
MEETING/PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE)**

**Register at [go.illinois.edu/cjmm4-Hofficertraining](https://go.illinois.edu/cjmm4-Hofficertraining)  
or call Montgomery County Extension Office at  
217-532-3941**

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University of Illinois | U.S. Department of Agriculture | Local Extension Councils Cooperating  
If you need reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please contact your local Extension office.

## Join the Christian County Youth Leadership Team!



Our first meeting of the new year will be October 6th. We are still unsure if we will meet in-person or virtually via Zoom.

Membership on the youth leadership team (YLT) is open to any 4-H member age 13 and up. YLT helps plan and promote county-wide 4-H events.

If you are interested in joining Christian County YLT, please email Sara at [marten1@illinois.edu](mailto:marten1@illinois.edu) or call the Extension Office at 217-287-7246.

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# 4-H Awards

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1ST**

4-H EXPERIENCE AWARD APPLICATION\* (“replaced” yearly record book submissions)

- Open to all members, ages 8-18
- Award Levels—Bronze, Silver, Gold (Diamond and Emerald awarded at the state level)

4-H LIVESTOCK RECORD

- Open to all members enrolled in a livestock project, ages 8-18
- Complete a separate record for each animal specie

4-H CLUB AWARD APPLICATION

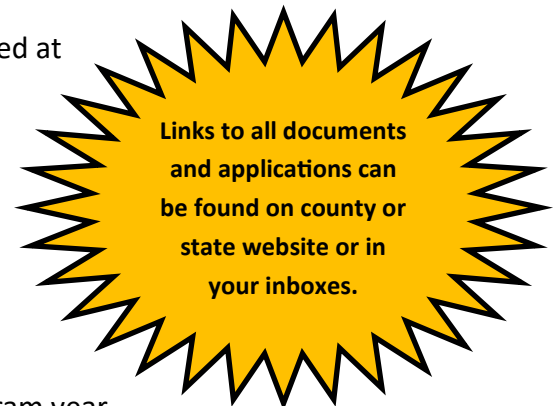
- Open to all 4-H clubs that were active during the 2019-2020 program year
- State winners receive monetary awards

ILLINOIS 4-H SCHOLARSHIP (similar to past Illinois State 4-H Award)

- Open to all members, age 15-18
- Apply in specific category (Animal Science, Civic Engagement/Global, Creative Arts, Food Systems, Healthy Living, Leadership, Natural Resources/Environmental, Personal Growth, STEM)

SUSTAINING THE FUTURE AWARD (formerly LCP Award)

- Open to all members, age 17-19
- Applicants should show outstanding leadership potential and experiences in the agricultural industry



## SAVE THE DATE

Christian County 4-H Achievement Night

Friday, October 30th—Details and Location TBD

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*extension.illinois.edu/cjmm/4-h-christian-county*

## National 4-H Week – October 4-10, 2020

### Theme: Opportunity4ALL

National 4-H Week is our time to tell the world about 4-H. This year's theme, **Opportunity4ALL**. 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 4 – 10. 4-H Spirit Day will be held Wednesday, October 7. Encourage your clubs to show their 4-H pride and wear a clover! Use the hashtag #Opportunity4All or #National4HWeek as you share your 4-H activities on social media. We will be sharing more information in the coming weeks.



### Other dates to consider for October 2020

- October 1-31 – STEM Challenge Month
- October 4-10 – National 4-H Week
- October 7-18 – Tractor Supply Company Paper Clover Promotion

### Inspire your club to promote 4-H during National 4-H Week

*During times of COVID19, please plan accordingly to adhere to all social distancing guidelines in your area. Some face to face activities may not be feasible this year.*

- Post 4-H window signs in your windows (downloadable) “Proud 4-H Member Lives Here” or “Proud 4-H Volunteer Lives Here”
- Change your Facebook cover for National 4-H Week
- Have a day to wear a 4-H shirt to work or school. – 4-H Spirit Day will be held on Wednesday!
- Start a county 4-H alumni club or solicit 4-H Alumni names through the paper and newsletter to join the Illinois 4-H Alumni Association.
- Host a “To Me Opportunity Means \_\_\_\_\_” event in your community. (downloadable file) Have 4-H members, alumni, volunteers share their sign on social media to promote 4-H.
- Join the National 4-H Week Spirit week on Illinois 4-H Facebook page.
- Use the Facebook Photo Frame to show you are a proud member of 4-H
- In a 4-H meeting or remote schooling, use the 4-H zoom backgrounds during National 4-H Week.
- Have a flag-raising ceremony at a local bank, park, business, veterans club or school. Could the 4-H flag also be hosted by a business during National 4-H Week?
- Print bookmarks (downloadable) and ask banks to include a bookmark or flyer about 4-H at their drive-thru facilities.
- Share handouts or bookmarks with schools, home school organizations, and youth-serving agency boards.
- Get Social! Start a social media engagement post —What did you gain in 4-H? and distribute it to your social media channels and encourage other club members to post too.
- Post 4-H alumni signs, National 4H week signs, or join 4-H signs in the yards of current or past 4-H members.
- Have a poster contest with your members, then display them in local business windows.
- County Window Display Contest to have clubs host a 4-H window display in a local business.
- Write letters to your congressional leaders or local legislators about how important 4-H is to you.
- Attend a city council meeting and have the mayor/councilmen sign the Proclamation. Or have them present via Zoom or Google Meet to your 4-H Club and share on social media.
- Host a quiz night—Are You Smarter than a 4-Her?
- Promote 4-H livestock projects at the feed store.
- Promote 4-H technology projects at the electronic/phone/computer stores.
- Promote 4-H foods projects at the grocery stores.
- Promote 4-H entrepreneur projects at the banks.
- Promote 4-H family projects at the doctor offices.
- Promote 4-H on local advertising signs, billboards, church message boards.
- Take a plate of 4-H cookies to local businesses with an appreciation poster for them to post.
- Take thank you flowers to all your club leaders.
- Have a county-wide or club community service day and have the members all report back what they did, then prepare an impact story about how important 4-H service is.
- Carve pumpkins with a 4-H logo and take them to area homes, businesses or have a photo contest to see which ones get the most likes.
- Create a 4-H promotion to run at the local movie theater during previews.
- Have members bring projects and speak at local civic organizational meetings.
- Plant a tree in honor of 4-H.

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## JOIN COLLEGIATE 4-H AT U OF I

A great way to meet people at U of I is by joining C4-H, the registered student organization for 4-H alums attending University of Illinois. For more information, contact Brittney Muschetto at [uiuccollegiate4h@gmail.com](mailto:uiuccollegiate4h@gmail.com).

## 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.



The **Illinois 4-H Experience Award Application** focuses on all of those events and activities that you have experienced during the 4-H year in four areas: *Participation, Community Service, Leadership, and Project Learning*. Depending upon the type and number of experiences you can report on, members can receive recognition on the Bronze, Silver, Gold, Diamond or Emerald Clover Award level. Your family calendar, 4-H notes or county summary, checkmarks, and a few written details are all that's needed for even the youngest members to submit this application. This application can be found @ <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/awards>.

The **Illinois 4-H Scholarship** is a merit-based scholarship to award outstanding work in project areas. Five \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded in each of the following categories: Animal Science, Civic Engagement/Global Living, Creative Performing Arts & Communication, Food Systems, Healthy Living/Nutrition, Leadership, Natural Resources & Environmental Science, Personal Growth and STEM/Robotics. The deadline to apply is November 1. Apply online @ [go.illinois.edu/4Hscholarships](http://go.illinois.edu/4Hscholarships) .

Each 4-H member has a story to tell and are eligible for our 4-H awards program – tell YOUR stories and see where they take you!



## CLUB RECOGNITION AWARD

Is your 4-H Club doing outstanding work in the areas of Community Service, Leadership or Project Mastery? If so, you should apply for the Illinois 4-H Club Award! Clubs receiving this award will receive a \$75 cash incentive and an award certificate. This is also a great tool to set goals and plan for the upcoming 4-H year. This application can be found @ <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/awards>.

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## JUST THE HELP YOU NEED FOR YOUR 4-H CLUB

The Illinois 4-H Website has all of the resources and forms needed to guide 4-H club officers, committees, and members as they plan for the new 4-H program year.

- Go to [go.illinois.edu/IL4H](http://go.illinois.edu/IL4H)
- Click on the **Clubs** tab.
- Scroll to Meeting Resources near the bottom of the page
- Find these helpful documents:
  - ◇ **Club Meeting Agenda** – this fillable form is a useful fill-in-the-blank form your club officers can use as they plan each section of the meeting. This useful form provides them with the meeting structure they can use to identify who from the club should be in charge of each potential item that may be included in a meeting.
  - ◇ **Club Committee Planning Worksheet** – the Committee Planning Worksheet is an excellent tool to give to committee members as they plan club events and activities.
  - ◇ **Club Yearly Program Plan** – this helpful tool guides the club officers and club members as they identify club goals to work toward during the year and brainstorm what programs, events and/or activities to plan for the club to engage members in fun, hands-on learning experiences throughout the program year.
  - ◇ **More** – Don't forget to download your new secretary book, treasurer book, tips for good club meetings, tips for using the 4-H name, and more other important resources.

### ILLINOIS 4-H VOLUNTEER CAFÉ CONVERSATIONS



Let's  
**CHAT**

We LOVE to TALK to our Volunteer's!

## 4-H VOLUNTEER CAFÉ CONVERSATIONS!

Register to participate in the **4-H Volunteer Café Conversations**. We are so excited to be launching this new Illinois 4-H opportunity creating a platform for 4-H Volunteers from across Illinois to meet virtually and discuss topics of interest, share both ideas and challenges. Volunteers will gain access to tools & techniques to support their volunteer efforts, strengthening

4-H club and member learning experiences. We will address two topics during each Café Conversation so come with your ideas, questions, and since this is a Café Conversation, feel free to bring a snack as well!

*Session #1 – Thursday, August 20, 2020*

Session #2 - Thursday, November 19, 2020

Session #3 - Thursday, February 18, 2021

Session #4 - Thursday, May 20, 2021

SAVE THE DATE! Registration link will be provided soon

## 4-H VOLUNTEER VIRTUAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

- Code of Conduct – Thursday, October 15, 2020
- Effective & Engaging Meetings – Thursday, November 7, 2020
- Parliamentary Procedure – Date Pending

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## 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS FALL UPDATE

After a survey of shooting sports discipline instructors; key volunteers; and state shooting sports venues - the decision has been made to move all in-person state shoots to a virtual tournament format for health and safety reasons. This will allow for smaller, local competitions to be conducted and supervised by certified Level I 4-H discipline instructors who will then report the youth scores centrally through an on-line system. Only Level I certified instructors may enter scores from 4-H members.

Also, we are happy to announce that our 2020 Illinois 4-H Shooting Sports team members who were scheduled to attend the National 4-H Shoot last June

(cancelled due to COVID-19) will be invited to shoot at the same national event in 2021 if they are still age eligible.. Our 2020 virtual shoot results and the data from 2019 State Shoots will then be used to fill any gaps in the 2021 Illinois team.

The virtual shoot will run for the months of September – December, 2020. Registration will be free and have both a Junior (11-13 years) and Senior (14-18 years) division! Disciplines offered will be compound archery; recurve archery; shotgun (trap); and air rifle. The rules, registration link, and score submittal link are attached to this email and also posted on the Illinois 4-H website at: <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/illinois-4-h-virtual-shoot-fall-2020>

Virtual Shoot registration opens Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>

There are no current plans to conduct an in-person 4-H Shooting Sports adult certification training in the fall of 2020 at this time. This situation is still pending and is dependent on pandemic management guidelines.

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## PROGRESS IN A NEW SUSTAINABLE AG PROJECT

In collaboration with the Illinois 4-H Foundation, Illinois Farm Bureau, and the FarmBot company we are beginning to roll out several pilot sites for the implementation of STEM programming in Ag Education. This educational program is aimed at developing the critical thinking and STEM-related skills of Illinois youth by bringing them into contact with precision agriculture technology and promoting design-thinking approaches to agriculture's greatest challenges. See this link for a short interview with Illinois Farm Bureau to learn more about the progress we've made.

<https://vimeo.com/438292870>



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## ILLINOIS 4-H SUPERIOR YOUNG DAIRY PRODUCER CONTEST

September 19th from 2 PM to 6 PM

South Show Ring Illinois State Fairgrounds

**Eligibility:** Any Illinois 4-H member who is a current dairy project member in their local 4-H club and 14 years or older, as of January 1, 2020 is eligible to participate.

**Register at:** <https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/?RegistrationID=22494> or in person at the time of the event

**Awards:** The top three youth with the highest point scores in the total contest will receive a \$1,000.00 scholarship sponsored by Prairie Farms Dairy, Inc.

**Contest Format:** Participants will be able to complete the contest anytime between 2 PM and 6 PM. The contest should take approximately 1 hour to complete. The contest will have three phases:

**Phase 1:** Dairy test relating to dairy management and facts

**Phase 2:** Skillathon: series of three learning stations with specific tasks and questions - Station 1) Feed ID; Station 2) Pedigrees; Station 3) Equipment ID.

**Phase 3:** Dairy Management Scoring: body condition score and locomotion score dairy cattle videos. Scoring guides can be found at:

Locomotion Scoring:

<https://www.zinpro.com/lameness/dairy/locomotion-scoring>

Body Condition Scoring:

[http://cdrf.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/13\\_1\\_Body\\_condition\\_scoring.pdf](http://cdrf.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/13_1_Body_condition_scoring.pdf)

Contact Derek Nolan with any question: [dtnolan@illinois.edu](mailto:dtnolan@illinois.edu)

## 4-H SUPERIOR YOUNG LIVESTOCK PRODUCER CONTEST

Who: 4-H members ages 14-18 as of January 1<sup>st</sup>. On-site walk-up registration

What: 2020 4-H Livestock Skillathon. Compete for one of nine \$1,000 scholarships.

When: Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. You can start any time between 9:00am - 2:00pm

Where: South show ring of the Junior cattle barn, Illinois State Fairgrounds

Test your knowledge on:

- Breeds of cattle, swine and sheep
- Multiple choice quiz
- Marketing
- Equipment identification
- Quality assurance

Send questions to Dan Jennings (815-218-4358)

## ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE JUNIOR LIVESTOCK EXPO

Sept 11-13, 2020 (beef / sheep / dairy goats / pygmy goats / rabbits / poultry)

Sept 18-20, 2020 (swine / dairy cattle / meat goats)

Open to ages 8-21. Held at Illinois State Fairgrounds, Springfield, IL.

This is not a 4-H sponsored activity but may be of interest to you enrolled in related 4-H project areas. For more information: <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Documents/20%20JrLivestock.pdf>

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## mark your calendar!

