Edwards County 4-H Clover Chatter

February 2023

Happening Now

February
5  Beef Weigh-In 1:30 at Albion Stockyards
14  Cardinals Mtg. Christian Church, 6:30 p.m.
15  Yankees Mtg. at WS Moravian Church 7:00 p.m.
17  Sign-Up Deadline for Speech & Demonstration Contest
19  Little Wabash Ramblers Mtg. 4:00 p.m.
20  Speech & Demonstration Contest at Farm Bureau 5:30 p.m.
21  Blue Ribbon Mtg. at COUNTRY Financial Hall 6:00 p.m.
22  Ellery Panthers Mtg. 6:00 p.m. at Little Prairie Church
25  Shooting Sports Mtg. 8:00 a.m. at Sportsmen's Club

March
1  Farm Bureau Young Leader's Collegiate Scholarship Apps. Due
1   4-H Project Deadline
1  Farm Bureau Women's Committee 4-H Grant Apps. Due
11  Tractor Safety 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Extension office
14  Cardinals Meeting Mtg. Christian Church, 6:30 p.m.
15  Farm Bureau Foundation Scholarship Apps. Due
15  Farm Bureau Vocational and Trades Scholarship Due
15  Yankees Mtg. at WS Moravian Church 7:00 p.m.
21  Blue Ribbon Mtg. at COUNTRY Financial Hall 6:00 p.m.
22  Ellery Panthers Mtg. 6:00 p.m. at Little Prairie Church
25  Shooting Sports Mtg. 8:00 a.m. at Sportsmen's Club
Little Wabash Ramblers TBD

I PLEDGE ... MY HEAD TO CLEARER THINKING
4-H SHOOTING SPORTS VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

2023 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Trainings:

Saturday, February 25, 2023
Kane County Fairgrounds, St. Charles, IL
Disciplines offered: Rifle; Pistol; Archery; Coordinator

Saturday, May 6, 2023
4-H Memorial Camp, Monticello, IL
Disciplines offered: Shotgun, Rifle; Pistol; Archery; Coordinator; Hunting/Outdoor Skills

If interested, contact your local University of Illinois Extension office for registration information. These dates are 9-hour “field days” which teach range management. An additional 3-hour on-line 4-H training will complete the certification process. Registration will be open Dec. 15, 2022 – Feb. 15, 2023.

Questions? Contact Curt Sinclair, Illinois 4-H State Office at sinclair@illinois.edu

TIME TO PREPARE FOR THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT!

Get your bird feeders ready; download free awesome bird I.D. and species reporting apps; and decide if you want to report as an individual or a group! Do this as a 4-H Club activity!

When? The official count is February 17-20, 2023

Learn more at: www.birdcount.org

I PLEDGE ... MY HEART TO GREATER LOYALTY
REGISTER YOUTH FOR THE LITTLE ROOTS GARDENING PROGRAM

The Little Roots program is now accepting registrations for Cloverbuds ages 5-7 who want to be inspired to learn more about how to grow their own food. Registrants will receive a weekly activity calendar along with seed packets and educational materials for a self-paced gardening experience. To learn more, and register for the program, please contact your local 4-H staff.

Save the date! 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. Stay tuned for registration in the spring of 2023.

Beef Weigh-In

When: February 5, 1:30 p.m.
Where: Albion Stockyards

All members, with a steer, wanting to participate in Rate-of-Gain must be weighed and tagged. All steers going to the 2023 IL State Fair will be tattooed at Weigh-IN.
NEW ILLINOIS 4-H ALUMNI AWARDS TO LAUNCH IN 2023

The Illinois 4-H Alumni Association will launch a new Illinois 4-H Alumni Awards program on January 9, 2023. The Illinois 4-H Alumni Awards program will recognize alumni for their individual achievements, contributions to their industry or profession, service to the community, and loyalty to the Illinois 4-H program.

Illinois 4-H Alumni Award
Established in 1981

The highest honor bestowed upon a 4-H alumnus by the Illinois 4-H Association and Illinois 4-H program on behalf of the University of Illinois. This award recognizes an elite group of Illinois 4-H alumni for their outstanding career accomplishments and leadership in civic, community, and professional activities.

4-H Young Alumni Award
Established in 2023

The Young Alumni award is bestowed upon alumni by the Illinois 4-H Alumni Association and Illinois 4-H program on behalf of the University of Illinois. This award recognizes a young alumnus that has demonstrated significant accomplishments and is an emerging leader in their professional or civic contributions to their community. They have proven to be ambassadors for the Illinois 4-H program and the 4-H young alumni community.

IL 4-H Family Spirit Award
Established in 2002

The Illinois 4-H Family Spirit award recognizes an Illinois 4-H family who has substantially benefited from and continues to advocate for the Illinois 4-H program over at least three generations. This award is presented to the family on behalf of the Illinois 4-H Alumni Association and Illinois 4-H program on behalf of the University of Illinois.

Previously, the Illinois 4-H Alumni award and the Illinois 4-H Family Spirit awards were established and presented by the Illinois 4-H Foundation. The Illinois 4-H Alumni award was discontinued in 2015. The Illinois 4-H Alumni Association will work with the Illinois State 4-H Office to continue these awards.

Nomination Deadline: March 1, 2023.
Edwards County 4-H General Rules

There are a couple of General Rules that have been overlooked the last few years.

These include:

• After the first year in 4-H, a member must carry more than one project unit.

• In order to qualify for the livestock auction, a 4-H member, after selling a particular market animal one year, must carry a breeding project of the same species any subsequent year.

Master of Ceremonies

If you would like to volunteer to be the Master of Ceremonies for our annual Speech and Demonstration Contest, call the Extension office at 618-445-2934. The contest will be held on Monday evening, February 20, at 6:30 p.m. at the Farm Bureau basement.

Stay Tuned for Upcoming Workshops

We have a few workshops that will be coming up soon.

• Tractor Safety Workshop will be held March 11, at the Extension office from 8:00—5:00 Registration is open!

• Leather Workshop date TBA

• Art Workshop date TBA

• Woodworking Workshop date TBA

• Foods Workshops; 2 Sessions March 27 & April 3. Registration opening soon!

Unit #25 Tractor Rodeo

Plans are being made for a Tractor Rodeo for the Unit #25 4-H members. The counties include, Edwards, Lawrence, Richland, Wabash and Wayne. It has been scheduled for Saturday, June 10, at the Edwards County Horse Arena, starting at 8:00 a.m.. More information will be coming in a future newsletter and on the Edwards County 4-H Facebook page.
State Livestock Event Dates & Locations

- Lamb Premiere Show is an ultrasound scan show for carcass data
- Poultry Show Thursday, August 10, Barn #26 One day, in/out show
- Rabbit Show Saturday, August 12, Barn #26 One day, in/out show
- State 4-H Poultry Judging Contest Barn #26 Thursday, August 10
- State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest, U of I Stock Pavilion, Tuesday, June 20
- State 4-H Dog Show, Granny Rose K-9 Enrichment Center, August 26, Dixon, IL
  - Illinois State Fair Junior Horse Show, July 23-29
  - State Fair Junior Livestock Shows August 11-13
    - Friday-Breeding Females
    - Saturday–Junior Market
    - Sunday-Open Market
Edwards Co. 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.

Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification (QAEC)

All 4-H members enrolled in horses, poultry, rabbits, dogs & cats MUST complete online QAEC to show at Fair. 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 will receive a notice in the mail.

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 contact Debra at djc@illinois.edu

YQCA CERTIFICATION

If you are enrolled in dairy cattle, beef cattle, swine, sheep and goats this certification is required to show your animals for the 2023 show season. There is a $3.00 fee for instructor led training, which will need paid by a credit/debit card. Dates will be announced soon.

Off Premise Forms

If your livestock is not housed at your home you need to get a livestock Off Premise Form have it signed by proper signatures and turn it in to the office.

This needs to be done even if you house your livestock at a grandparents home!
COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR 4-H CLUBS

It is time to roll up your sleeves and make a positive impact in your community! Farm Credit Illinois is inviting 4-H Clubs to apply for a $500 grant to assist club members in being positive change agents by making their local communities better places to live. Eligible clubs are those located in one of the counties served by Farm Credit Services Illinois in Extension Units in southern & central Illinois. Applications are due February 28, 2023.

Access the application using the following link: www.farmcreditIL.com/community

FARM CREDIT ILLINOIS AGRICULTURE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 4-H MEMBERS

4-H members who are Illinois High School Seniors with agricultural career aspiration planning to enroll in an agriculture-based college curriculum next fall can apply for one of 30 $2,000 scholarships. Two student applicants of color will be recognized as Diversity in Agriculture Scholars. Applications are due February 28, 2023.

Access the application using the following link: www.farmcreditIL.com/scholarship

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**2023 Edwards County Farm Bureau Scholarships**

**Young Leaders Scholarship:** Due March 1, 2023

$750 or more will be awarded in a scholarship or scholarships. For students who will be a freshman or sophomore in college studying agriculture and/or have been in 4-H and/or FFA for their entire high school career. Must have an Edwards County address. Scholarship application is online and link will be sent upon contacting us.

**Foundation Scholarship:** Due March 15, 2023

At least one scholarship in the amount of at least $1,000, for students who will be a junior or above in college studying agriculture. Scholarship application is online and link will be sent upon contacting us.

**Vocational and Trades Scholarship:** The Edwards County Farm Bureau Foundation is accepting applications for their vocational and trades scholarship. The applicant must be working towards a vocational or trades degree or certificate during the 2023-2024 academic year. The applicant must have graduated from Edwards County High School or be a resident of Edwards County, Illinois. The application can be found online and the link can be emailed to potential applicants. Due March 15, 2023.

For the complete criteria for each scholarship or for a direct link to be emailed to you; email manager@efb@gmail.com
Fair Dates for Unit #25 Counties
Wayne Co.—July 7-15
Lawrence Co.—July 8-14
Wabash Co.—July 15-22
Richland Co.—July 22-28
Edwards Co.—July 26—August 5

State Community Service Club Awards
The Ellery Panthers and Blue Ribbon 4-H clubs have been awarded State Community Service Club Awards. Congratulations!

Food Advocacy Grants Awarded
The Bone Gap Cardinals and Little Wabash Ramblers have both received Food Advocacy Grants. Both clubs will be working with Food Pantries in West Salem, to distribute the food items. Great Job!

Project Paperwork
Goal sheets, livestock and small animal records, along with lease and off-premise forms are downloaded to the ZSUITE website. They are under files and can be accessed easily. Members and leaders are still welcome to ask for copies from the office.

Fair Schedule for 2023
The fair schedule is out and is attached to the back page of the newsletter!

State Fair Entry Deadlines
- Junior Fair Livestock entries due July 1.
- Horses ownership, lease paper, photos and entries due June 1.

Farm Bureau Women’s Grants Due
Are you a young 4-H member ages 8-12 years old? If so this is a great opportunity for you. Fill out a simple grant form and have the chance to receive money to help assist you in your 4-H project. Examples: art supplies, display boxes, halters, cages etc. The Farm Bureau Women’s Committee has offered this grant for several years, and helps youth prepare and have the supplies they need for a successful 4-H project. Be sure to turn your application in to the Farm Bureau office by March 1 to qualify.

Tag-A-Long Cloverbuds
Tag-A-Longs have the opportunity to take part in the Little Roots program again this year. If you have not enrolled or have not verified with Debra that you want to take part please do so soon. Contact Debra at djc@illinois.edu or phone the office at 618-445-2934.

Enrollments
If you haven’t enrolled for the 2022-2023 4-H year get this completed soon! Everyone has received information for the new enrollment system.

Youth Auction Fee
The fee to go through the Youth Auction has been changed to $5.00 this year. In the past the fee has been $10.00. This will be collected at Livestock Registration on Monday morning, July 31.

Important Reminder—4-H Project Deadline March 1st, no projects can be added beyond this date!
Speech & Demonstration Contest

We are looking for youth from each community club to participate in our annual speech and demonstration contest on Monday, February 20, 2023 starting at 6:30 p.m.

You don't have to have experience, or be a polished speaker to give this a try! We want to really encourage you to participate. Call the office with your name, the name of your speech or demonstration, and what category it falls under and we will save you a spot!! Come on don't be shy, this will be fun! Official guidelines are below:

Beginners: 8-13 on or before September 1, 2022

Advanced: 14 & up on or before September 1, 2022

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

Illustrated Speech | Self-written | Notes allowed | Illustrations Required | Individual | 4-5 minutes (Beginner) | 4-6 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.

Deadline to sign up is Friday, February 17!

Original Works | Self-written | Notes allowed | Props and Costumes Allowed | Individual or 2-Person Team | Manuscripts sent in Advance | 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 must be sent in advance to the contest. 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 | Manuscripts sent in Advance | 4-6 minutes

Presentations in Oral Interpretation must be published works, and manuscripts or transcripts must be submitted prior to the event. 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 such as Winston Churchill, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., or Maya Angelou
- Combined Program: Combine any number of the above elements along with other creative presentation forms

Demonstrations—(not eligible for state fair)

Demonstrations may pertain to any topic. Demonstrations may be given by an individual or a team of two members. Exhibitors are responsible for furnishing all equipment and supplies needed. Demonstrations must be 8-10 minutes in length.
4-H Changes

A few changes have been made for the upcoming 2023 Edwards 4-H Fair that families need to be aware of, on the livestock portion of shows.

Master Showmanship Contest Rule Changes

- The winners of the senior showmanship division for beef, swine, sheep, and goats will be eligible to participate. If the winner chooses not to participate, the reserve showman for that species will be asked to participate. There will be no 2nd alternates selected.

- A 4-H member who qualifies for this contest in more than one species must represent the species that they are exhibiting the largest number of entries in, assuming they want to move up to Master Showmanship competition. The second place winner of the species not selected will be asked to participate.

- Each participant will be responsible for selecting their own animals for the competition. They may use their own 4-H animals, they have shown or use other 4-H members animals. If assistance is needed by an individual in getting a specific specie(s), the Chairperson of each specie will be available for assistance.

General Rule Change

- In order for a 4-H member to participate in showmanship classes, they must use an animal they have entered and shown in the specific specie show.

Livestock Departure Times

Due to safety issues we are asking that the moving of livestock, from the fairgrounds be done at these times.

- Animals not in the auction will be allowed to be moved between the hours of noon and 4:00 p.m. on August 3.
- Animals that go through the Auction will need to stay on the grounds until 6:00 a.m., Friday August 4th. If a family has a reason for leaving grounds early, with their livestock, they need permission from Fair Board President Neil Fearn and the Chairperson of the species.

Please park trailers in an area that will leave more space for Auction Buyers!
2023 Edwards County 4-H Fair Schedule

Monday, June 19...Clothing Show (COUNTRY Financial Hall) registration
5:00 p.m./judging at 5:30 p.m.
Food Show (COUNTRY Financial Hall) registration
5:00 p.m./judging at 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, July 11...General Show (COUNTRY Financial Hall) registration and viewing
5:30 p.m./judging starts 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 13...Fair Clean Up 6:00 p.m.—7:30 p.m. (turn in records by 7 p.m.)
(4-H Leaders need to turn in Livestock Judging Teams at Fair Clean Up.)
All livestock projects including small animals must be registered at Fairgrounds Clean Up.

Tuesday, July 25...Dog Show 6:00 p.m.

Friday, July 28...Equine Show 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, July 29...Fair Parade 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, July 30...Rabbit Show 2:00 p.m. Small Animal Show 2:00 p.m.
Flag Raising 7:00 p.m.

Monday, July 31...Weigh-In 6:00 a.m.
(Edwards County Farm Bureau will furnish snacks.)
Livestock Registration 6:00—7:30 a.m.
Livestock Judging Mini Session 9:00 a.m.
Livestock Judging Contest 9:30 a.m.
Sheep Show 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 1...Swine Show 8:00 a.m.
Goat Show 1:00 p.m.
Bucket Calf Interviews, as scheduled by Chairperson

Wednesday, August 2...Bucket Calf Show 8:00 a.m.
Beef Show 8:30 a.m.
Tractor Rodeo 1:00 p.m.
Master Showmanship 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 3...Poultry Show 8:00 a.m.
Youth Auction 5:30 p.m.