### March

1. **4-H Project Deadline**
   1. Edwards County Farm Bureau Young Leaders Scholarship due
   1. Farm Bureau Women’s Committee 4-H Grant Apps. due
1. Tractor Safety Class 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. at Extension Office
1. Little Wabash Ramblers Mtg. 4:00 p.m.
1. Cardinals Mtg. Christian Church 6:30 p.m.
1. Edwards County Farm Bureau Foundation Scholarship due
1. Yankees Mtg. 7:00 p.m. at Moravian Church
1. YQCA Training Moravian Church 6:30 p.m.
1. Effie Faye & Co. Workshop 10:00 am. & 1:00 p.m.
1. Blue Ribbon Mtg. at COUNTRY Financial Hall 6:00 p.m.
1. Ellery Panthers Mtg. 6:00 p.m. at Little Prairie Church
1. Shooting Sports Mtg. 8:00 a.m. at Sportsmen’s Club
1. Barrow Booster pick up 9:00 a.m. at 4-H Swine Barn
1. Abbi’s Salads to Go Go workshop 4:00 at ECHS Home Ec. Room

### April

1. Mama’s Little Kitchen workshop 4:00 at ECHS Home Ec. Room

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### Volunteer Appreciation Month

April is Volunteer Appreciation Month. We couldn’t make it without the help of our wonderful volunteers. Take time and thank them for all they do for our 4-H program.

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

4-H Outdoor Skills Challenge returns for 2023!
Ready to challenge yourself and then prove it to your 4-H Leader or another trusted adult? You could teach them a thing or two! Learn these skill levels and compete for some great prizes that will help you enjoy the outdoors!

https://go.illinois.edu/4-HOutdoorSkillsChallenge

Get your tackle ready! The 2023 4-H Hooks-Us-Together Statewide Fishing Tournament will run from April 1 – June, 30 2023. Details on how to register coming in March!

April – Crappie State 4-H Tournament
May – Largemouth Bass 4-H State Tournament
June – Channel Catfish 4-H State Tournament

Alumni

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 4-H SENIORS!
As you embark on a new chapter upon graduating high school, the Illinois 4-H program is PROUD of your accomplishments. You have excelled in your 4-H work and beyond. You have managed and overcome challenges. You have given back to your families and communities.

We ask that you complete a 4-H Senior Survey. This survey is designed for graduating seniors to share your experiences in 4-H, tell us about your career path, and if 4-H influenced your school or career decisions.
Deadline March 15, 2023
Seniors participating in the 4-H Senior Survey will receive a 4-H graduation tassel as a memorabilia item to remember your time in the Illinois 4-H program AND be entered into a drawing for 1 of 4 $50 VISA Gift Cards.

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK!!
Search "Edwards County 4-H" and of course Like
April is Month of the Military Child

Celebrating Military Families in our Community!

4-H Clubs looking for a service project during the Month of April might want to explore doing something for the military families living in their communities. 4-H clubs looking for a service project this spring should explore ways to support military local families during April which is the Month of the Military Child! Military families make up a very special part of our nation’s population. Behind every service member is a family that supports them whether they are at home or deployed. For Illinois military families, this includes more than 27,100 active-duty service members; 33,200 National Guard and Reserve members; which translates into nearly 17,000 military spouses; and more than 30,000 children.

In addition to inviting youth of military families to join your 4-H club, here is a list of other potential projects 4-H clubs might do to show their support:

• Contact your local Library and schedule a Celebrating Military Kids Day by hosting a Cloverbud Story Time and providing them with snacks (plan for food allergies).

• Coordinate a special day with hands-on activities for military families.

• Invite youth of military families to provide a picture of their service member to create a Wall of Heroes that can remain on display during the month of April at a local venue, possibly the local library or school.

• Create Family Packs for military families in your community. The Family Packs can include items that support family activities such as board games; craft kits; gift cards for local family-oriented experiences and/or restaurant!

We have a limited number of 4-H Military Wall of Heroes Banners available to 4-H Clubs interested in creating a Wall of Heroes. We also have some sets of children’s story books focused on military families for clubs interested in planning and hosting a Cloverbud Story Time event. If interested in securing either of these resources, please reach out to Pat McGlaughlin, patm@illinois.edu.

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 Co. Extension office at 618-445-2934. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your access needs.

I PLEDGE ... MY HANDS TO LARGER SERVICE
Citizenship Washington Focus

Through Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF), Illinois 4-H teens have the opportunity to experience Washington D.C. like never before. Using the nation’s capital as their classroom, CWF connects youth leaders from across the nation in an opportunity to gain the skills and experiences to:

- Better understand the legislative process
- Recognize their views and opinions matter
- Develop a mindset of who important it is to be involved in decisions that will impact them both now and in the future
- Exploration into career opportunities available to them
- Travel around Washington, D.C. and the surrounding area to visit and experience firsthand a living history which represents the combined efforts of the people to establish the governmental process under which the United States operates

Illinois & Indiana are teaming up for the 2023 Citizenship Washington Focus Trip and teens will be able to experience their nation’s capital during one of the most amazing weeks to experience Washington D.C. as they travel **July 2 – 7, 2023**! The delegation will be traveling by bus, with a stop in Gettysburg, for a visit at the battlefields there.

**Register by March 6, 2023 to reserve your spot!**

**Important Details:**

**Target Audience**  
4-H members ages 14 – 18 (by May 1 the year they travel)

**Estimated Cost**  
$2,000 (three installments; last payment could be slightly less depending on final numbers)

**Space is Limited**  
Illinois currently has 10 spots available; **with a possibility of increasing that number**

**Contact for Registration Details:**  
Registration opens 2/22: [https://4h.zsuite.org/eventregistrations/19340](https://4h.zsuite.org/eventregistrations/19340)

Patricia McGlaughlin, [patm@illinois.edu](mailto:patm@illinois.edu)
4-H members and clubs continue to demonstrate they are True Leaders in Service, as they work to support both their personal and club goals of making a difference in their community while focusing on the 4th “H” and pledging their HANDS to larger service!

Please share your story of how you and/or your club are supporting your community by going to the Illinois 4-H website’s Community Service page, https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/participate/4-h-community-service. To be identified as having participated in the National 4-H Day of Service, you first must click on the “Register You 2023 Event” box and share your plan for positively impacting your community. Once you have completed your service outreach efforts, then be sure to go back to the webpage use click the “Report 2023 Community Service” box and report what you accomplished and how you and your club made a difference. The accomplishments of both individual members and clubs will be highlighted on the Illinois 4-H Website so make sure you go use the reporting link to document your positive efforts. Please note – this site is open year-round so if you do multiple projects throughout the year, please continue to share that information both on the registration side and on the reporting side. The impact made by individual 4-H members and by clubs in their communities is valuable. It makes Illinois communities stronger; it helps support unity among community members; and it provides valuable support to those in need.

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.
4-H BY THE DECADES 1980S
Tuesday, February 28, 2023
We are seeking Illinois 4-H History from our 4-H alumni by the decades! Join us to visit about how 4-H impacted your life during the 1980's growing up in the Illinois 4-H program. We will also be seeking photos of special memories, mementos, and awards of each decade to share on a new Illinois 4-H History website to be developed. Share with us your 4-H story!
Register by Friday, February 20: https://form.jotform.com/223474513372151
The link will be sent to registered attendees on Monday, February 27.

4-H BY THE DECADES 1990s
Tuesday, March 21, 2023
We are seeking Illinois 4-H History from our 4-H alumni by the decades! Join us to visit about how 4-H impacted your life during the 1990's growing up in the Illinois 4-H program. We will also be seeking photos of special memories, mementos, and awards of each decade to share on a new Illinois 4-H History website to be developed. Share with us your 4-H story!
Register by Friday, March 17 - https://form.jotform.com/230454284435152
The link will be sent to registered attendees on Monday, March 20.
Sponsored by the Illinois 4-H Alumni Association

Tractor Safety
March 11, 2023
8:00 AM-5:00 PM
Edwards County Extension Office
Questions?
Contact Debra Collier
(618) 445-2934 or djc@illinois.edu
Class will be taught by:
Ryan Littlejohn
Wayne Co. 4-H Program Coordinator

Be sure to sign up for the Tractor Safety course!
https://go.illinois.edu/Edwardstractorsafety
A reminder that the Extension office is moving locations!

As of April 1, 2023, the Edwards County Extension office will be located at

7 N 5th St,
Albion, IL 62806
in the former Speir Chiropractic building.
618-445-2934
https://extension.illinois.edu/elrww

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
Sign Up for these Great Food Workshop Opportunities!

**Abbi Cook of Abbi's Salad to Go Go**
will be instructing on preparing a salad/grain bowl. Participants will learn about what makes a well-composed dish. Along with knife skills and presentation.

A 90 minute session will be on March 27, at the ECHS Home Ec. Room 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
Open to youth ages 12- up. Non 4-H members welcome!

[https://go.illinois.edu/AbbisSaladtoGoGo](https://go.illinois.edu/AbbisSaladtoGoGo)

**Ryan Scott of Mama's Little Kitchen**
will be instructing. Participants will learn the history of bread and will make pizza and cinnamon rolls from prepared dough.

**BREAD WORKSHOP**
April 3, at the ECHS Home Ec. Room 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

[https://go.illinois.edu/mamaslittlekitchen](https://go.illinois.edu/mamaslittlekitchen)
Speech and Demonstration Contest

The Speech and Demonstration Contest was held Monday evening, February 20, at the Farm Bureau Community Room. Emersyn McVaigh gave an Illustrated Speech “Red-Eared Sliders”. Alyssa Smith gave a Formal Speech “The Milking Cow”. Emersyn and Alyssa both received Blue Ribbons and were selected as State Fair Delegates. Congratulations!

New Members

We have many new members this year. We are very happy to have them join Edwards County 4-H!

Off-Premise Forms

If you are housing livestock off of your own premises, remember you must fill out an off-premise form and turn it in to the Extension office. You can find this form on our website, ZSuite or contact the office.

Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification (QAEC)

We have a few 4-H members that need to complete online QAEC in order to show at the 2023 Edwards Co. Fair. Leaders know the members, in their clubs, that need certification. If you are enrolled in horses, poultry, rabbits, dogs, cats or small pets for the first time this needs completed by June 1.

Leases on Animals

If you plan to lease an animal be sure to have a written agreement with both parties involved. Also, drop a copy by the Extension office. Anyone needing a basic lease form can find them on the website, ZSuite or contact the office. State Fair will only except lease papers on Horses and Dogs.

YQCA

A reminder that anyone taking a large livestock species, will need to complete the YQCA certification before showing. Register at https://yqcaprogram.org

4-H Changes

The 4-H changes are in the newsletter again this month, in case, you overlooked it last month.

Congratulations Emma Wiseman!

Emma will be receiving an Emerald Award for her 2021-2022 Experience Award application to the State 4-H office. Well done Emma!

State Fair Entry Deadlines

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

Beef Weigh-In

Thank you to everyone that took part in the Beef Weigh-In in February. We had beautiful day to work outside in. The volunteers and members did a great job getting this completed in a timely manner. Thanks to Albion Stockyards for the use of their facilities.
We are pleased to announce that the registration for the **20th annual 4-H Day With the Cardinals** is now open and will run through 11:59 p.m. March 31.

Game day is May 20 at 6:15 p.m. against the LA Dodgers. Tickets are $30.00 each and includes a specially designed t-shirt. Raffle chances are $1.00 each for the chance to throw out the first pitch (must be a 4-H member), all others can win autographed baseballs and tickets to future games. **New – option to purchase a ball cap for $10.00 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of this event (limit one per order).** A shipping and handling fee will be added to each order.

Everyone will have the chance to participate in a parade around the field. Tickets and t-shirts will be mailed May 4 with more instructions for the day. Please note – groups that wish to sit together, must submit one order. Get tickets here: https://extension.missouri.edu/events/4-h-day-with-the-cardinals-2023

**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
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.