

Edwards County 4-H Clover Chatter

December 2020/January 2021

To Make the Best
BETTER



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

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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 pro-
gram 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.



Happening Now

December

- 4 Tag-A-Long Coloring Contest Sheets Due

January

- 1 Steer Enrollment Deadline - must be in possession
- 11 Deadline to contact and register your steers!

Clubs will meet only if state guidelines allow it. Leaders will contact members on the status of meetings. Social distancing and masks are required for all individuals in attendance.

Congratulations to Kaylie Vallette, she was named 4-H member of the year! Hallie Shelton and Aly Williams were honored as the Novice and Junior 4-H members of the year. We had great participation in the virtual shows and the completion of projects. Thank you to the leaders and families for supporting our 4-H youth.

I PLEDGE ... MY HEAD TO CLEARER THINKING



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.

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.



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

I PLEDGE ... MY HEART TO GREATER LOYALTY



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

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 new members enrolled in these projects and or any members who have not taken it before.

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 call the Extension Office.

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.

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.



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.

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.

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>

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 and get your name in the hat for a chance to win a prize! Winners 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. If you need help contact djc@illinois.edu.

Steer Deadline Fast Approaching

All steers need to be in the 4-H members possession by Jan. 1, 2021. If you have steers contact djc@illinois.edu or 618-599-3275 by Jan. 11 to register them. We need to know how many you have, what color they are, and if they are registered or crossbreeds.

Tag-A-Long Coloring Contest

Coloring contest sheets need to be returned by Friday, December 4. They can be returned to Extension office and placed in the tote by west door or emailed to djc@illinois.edu.

4-H in a Bag

Unit #25 Extension will be putting together some fun activities for 4-H youth during the months of January - April. See flyer in this newsletter and watch Edwards Co 4-H Facebook for registration. There will be something for everyone!

Speech Contest-Challenge

Speech Contest date has not been decided at this time. We hope to have it confirmed soon.

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.

NATIONAL 4-H COUNCIL ANNOUNCES THE UPCOMING 2021 NATIONAL YOUTH AGRI-SCIENCE 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.

4-H IN A BAG

**Looking for a fun educational activity that you
can do from home?**

Unit 25 extension has you covered! Join in on our monthly subscription bags. For the months of January thru April we will have a different activity planned for you each month. All you have to do is register for our event. We will prepare a take home bag for you with all the materials you will need for the projects. Then you can join us live on Facebook as we teach you the lesson. Or you can catch our videos on replay!

January

- Explosion in a bag
(cloverbuds only)
- What's in that bottle?!

February

-Fresh Chef

March

-Origami

April

-DIY Birdfeeder

