Illinois Extension

Impacting YOU "Impacting You is a monthly represented by the second sec

March 2021

"Impacting You" is a monthly report used to communicate University of Illinois Extension - Unit 26 programming impacts to stakeholders.

Dear Valued Stakeholder:

Extension plays a vital role in building a strong community by providing services that help solve problems, develop skills, and create a better future for local residents and youth. From reliable information to help businesses weather the economic effect of COVID-19 to activities to help families stay healthy in body and spirit, Illinois Extension remains a trusted source to address the most pressing issues in the state of Illinois relating to food, health, environment, community, and economy.

It is my pleasure to present this brief impact report of the programs and events offered to the residents of Franklin, Jackson, Perry, Randolph and Williamson Counties during this past month.

Lynn Heins, County Extension Director Serving Franklin, Jackson, Perry, Randolph & Williamson Counties



Jackson County Extension office serves as mobile vaccination site

In mid-March, the Jackson County U of I Extension office served as a mobile vaccination site for all eligible individuals under Phase 1A, 1B, or 1B+. Through the one-day event, 480 vaccines were administered to Illinois residents by the Mobile Vaccination Augmentation Team.

Individuals were able to pick up prepackaged seed kits prepared by Extension. Those in the waiting area also viewed a looped video playlist highlighting Extension programming within the unit.

The mass vaccination effort was made possible through cooperative partnerships among the Region 5 Hospital Coordinating Center, Jackson County Health Department, and the US Army National Guard.

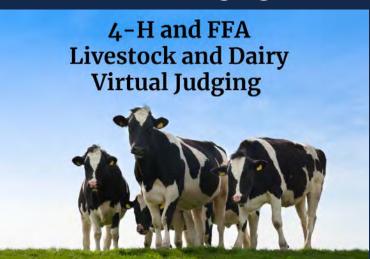


"Mobile vaccination sites throughout southern Illinois are helping to meet people where they are. When local agencies band together, we can help remove some of the barriers that may be preventing eligible people from receiving the vaccine. The Extension office in Murphysboro is easily accessible for rural and agricultural participants."

- Lynn Heins, County Extension Director

Local youth place in virtual livestock and dairy judging contest

Livestock and 4-H go hand-in-hand, and many local youth had a chance to put their skills to the test through the virtual livestock and dairy judging contest. Fifty-five local 4-H and FFA members from eleven counties evaluated each animal's characteristics and compared other animals to determine the ideal standard of that particular class. The events teach youth how to evaluate livestock that will enter the food system. Many of the youth who participated in the contest went on to (virtually) showcase their own livestock at local fairs this summer.



Local teen receives Illinois 4-H scholarship in STEM



Congratulations to Jackson County 4-H member Michelle Wang on receiving the Illinois 4-H Scholarships in STEM! Michelle has served on the 4-H in Space Mission Control Team (MCT), and has been a member of the Jackson County 4-H Computing Club since fifth grade. She serves as junior leader for the club and helps teach Python programming to the club members ranging from fourth-grade students to first-year high school students. Michelle will receive a \$1,000 educational scholarship, and all winners were recognized during a virtual Illinois 4-H recognition event in the spring.

SNAP-Ed team shares healthy recipes through video series

Our Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) team provides services, information and skills to empower families to make positive changes for their health.

Our SNAP-Ed community workers recently taped a video series that includes recipes from Eat.Move.Save. which not only taste great but also help participants stick to their budget! The series can be viewed at go.illinois.edu/healthyrecipesforyou

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Recipe Video Series



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