



April 2020

**To Make the Best
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8 am — Noon
1 pm — 4:30 pmextension.illinois.edu/hkmwUniversity of Illinois • United States
Department of Agriculture • Local
Extension Councils CooperatingUniversity of Illinois provides equal
opportunities in programs and
employment. If you need a reasonable
accommodation to participate in this
program, please contact your county
Extension Office**Dear 4-H Families and Friends,**

What unique time to be in 4-H. The impact of COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) continues to create uncertainty and concern both globally and here in our community. In accordance with University of Illinois policy, Illinois Extension has deployed public health strategies designed to protect everyone's health and safety. Effective immediately, ALL face-to-face events organized by Illinois Extension have been cancelled, suspended, or transitioned to online delivery. This means that all 4-H club meetings are cancelled through May 31, 2020. Information about cancellations can be found on our Facebook page and our website.

Your fairbook can be found on our website at extension.illinois.edu/hkmw/4-h-knox-county under the "Fairs and Shows" tab. Scroll to the bottom of the page and look under the "Fairs and Shows" tab. Consider this book your guide to a successful 4-H fair. If we need to make any changes or updates, you will find them in your newsletter.

This time of year, there are many deadlines approaching. Be sure to check out the back page to keep up with all the important dates! Several contests have been cancelled or changed and usual policies have had to be modified. Please ask your Program Coordinator, Nicole, or your leader any questions you might have.

Yours in 4-H,

Shelby R. Carlson

4-H Event Update

- April 4 ~ WIU 4-H Livestock Judging Contest - Canceled
- April 10 ~ 4-H Workshop Day - Canceled
- April 10 ~ Welding Workshop - Canceled
- April 18 ~ Share-The-Fun - Canceled
- April 19 ~ Cookie Baking & Decorating Workshop - Canceled
- April 19 ~ Federation Meeting-Moved to a Skype Call
- April 25 ~ Fairgrounds Cleanup –Canceled
- May 1 ~ Horse Lease and Ownership Papers to Office - extended to June 1
- May 1 ~ YQCA & QAEC Certification Due - Courses only available on line now
- May 9 ~ State Robotics Challenge - Canceled
- May 30 ~ Warren County Livestock Judging Contest - Canceled
- June 1 ~ State Fair Junior Horse Entry Forms - Postponed to June 20th
- June 8 ~ Deadline for Fair Entry in 4-H Fair
- June 13 ~ Knox County 4-H Dog Show-Reschedule TBA
- June 15 ~ State Livestock Judging Contest

Foundation Hall of Fame ceremony set

The Illinois 4-H Foundation will honor one volunteer leader from each county at a ceremony during the Illinois State Fair. The celebration begins at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 18 as part of Ag Day at the fair right before the Sale of Champions activities begin. Supporters and families of the recipients are welcome to attend.

Entry deadlines approaching

The deadline to enter the Illinois State Fair Junior Horse Show has been extended to June 20. The deadline to enter the Illinois State Fair Junior Livestock Show is July 1. The show is open to current Illinois 4-H and FFA members. 4-H membership is 8 to 18, thus youth who were 19 and older on Sept. 1, 2019 and too old for 4-H can only enter as FFA alumni. Your entry forms **MUST** be signed by either the county 4-H office where you are a member or by your local FFA instructor who must verify your membership.

UPDATE: June 1 is horse ownership/lease papers due date

For this year only, the deadline to file horse ownership/lease papers with the local Extension office is being moved to June 1. In addition to the ownership/lease papers, a photo of each side of the animals is required. We strongly encourage members who own or lease more than one horse to file paperwork on ALL potential exhibit horses by the deadline. If a horse is injured or dies, it may be replaced ONLY by a horse whose paperwork is already on file by the deadline. A horse may only be owned or leased to and exhibited by ONE 4-H or FFA member at the State Fair Junior Horse Show. Download the form @ <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/projects/horse> .



Study food science and win cash

Science is cool, and now it pays! A \$50 cash prize will be awarded to the top food science project in each county by the Chicagoland Food Science Foundation. Look for more information this summer.

Illinois 4-H Message from 4-H Director

See new blog post from IL 4-H Director at <https://extension.illinois.edu/blogs/our-illinois-4-h-story/2020-03-30-message-illinois-4-h>

Project Highlight: Civic Engagement

By Shelby Carlson

4-H civic engagement programs empower young people to be well-informed citizens who are actively engaged in their communities and the world. Youth learn about civic affairs, build decision-making skills and develop a sense of understanding and confidence in relating and connecting to other people. These life skills help grow 4-H youth into true leaders. Our citizenship programs engage youth in programs, organizations, and communities where they share a voice, influence, and decision-making authority. 4-H citizenship programs equip young people with confidence and leadership skills to be leaders today and tomorrow.

4-H members contribute hundreds of thousands of hours back to their community every year. Service is a hallmark of all 4-H programs, teaching youth about the importance of giving back, improving our communities and developing innovative solutions to solve problems, large or small. 4-H members learn skills such as teamwork, critical thinking, community engagement and build a sense of compassion, confidence, and pride. Think about what steps you can take to contribute to your community during this time.

Keeping in Touch While Keeping Your Distance

Social distancing can cause feelings of isolation when you halt your normal daily routine and seclude yourself from others. To help with this, why not make use of your time at home and start on your “someday” projects?

- **Organize** family pictures. Get the family involved and go through them together. Photos are wonderful triggers for reminiscing about life events and sharing family stories.
- **Declutter** your closets and junk drawers. Sort and Pitch. Have a decluttering party or cleaning competition!
- **Read** for pleasure. Set aside a time each day to read as a family.
- **Get moving** and get outdoors. Take a walk in your yard and notice nature.
- **Reach out to your friends and family** through phone calls, texts, emails, and social media. Bring back the art of letter writing.

Social distancing is a precautionary measure to prevent the spread of disease, but it can also be a gift of time. For more ideas on how to stay busy at home, what you can do in your garden, healthy eating and general wellbeing During this time check out the University of Illinois Extensions Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/UIExtension/>

Beat the stay at home Boredom

Check out the Livestock E Quiz. Choose between 3 different levels (Elementary, High School, and College) in any live-stock species.

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/equiz/>

Become a Heart Hunter! Join the thousands of families across the nation by decorating your window(s) with hearts and then go “Heart Hunting” when you go for a family walk around your neighborhood or on your way to the grocery store.

Discover a new recipe, learn how to read food labels, get moving and save money at University of Illinois Extension’s Eat, Move, Save website

<https://eat-move-save.extension.illinois.edu/eat>

NEW: 4-H State Scholarship Opportunities

The Illinois 4-H Awards program will be expanding for the 2019-2020 program year! We will be offering five \$1,000 scholarships in each of our program areas. More information, applications and training video will be released prior to May 1st. The applications will be due November 1st. We thank our generous donors and the Illinois 4-H Foundation for providing this opportunity for our members!

New Statewide Leadership Opportunity: Illinois 4-H Food Advocacy Team

The Illinois 4-H State Office is pleased to announce the launch of a new statewide leadership opportunity for Illinois youth seeking to improve food security and food access in their community. The Illinois 4-H Food Advocacy team is a group of teens and young adults from across the state of Illinois who are recognized for their dynamic leadership and who want to increase their impact on the future of food in Illinois. Team members will influence the annual Illinois 4-H Food Action Summit event and provide support for Food Systems programming in Illinois. You will also be eligible for state and nationwide opportunities.

If you're looking for a way to serve your community while strengthening your leadership, communication and advocacy skills, this is the next step for you. Applications, along with one professional reference, are due to the Illinois State 4-H Office by Saturday, May 2nd, 2020. For more information please contact Mark Becker (mbbecker@illinois.edu), Illinois 4-H Food Systems Specialist.

Application Link: <https://go.illinois.edu/Illinois4-HFoodAdvocacyTeamApplication>

Professional Reference Link: <https://go.illinois.edu/Illinois4-HFoodAdvocacyTeamReference>

State Robotics Challenge

Date: TBD

Virtual Competition

The state's robotics clubs are encouraged to continue working on their robots until we determine the new date and logistics of a potential online virtual competition. Details including date, format, and registration are expected to be finalized and announced the week of April 6.

For up to date information, please visit our Facebook Group at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/il4hrobotics>

Download the challenge at go.illinois.edu/2020CHALLENGE.

Watch the video at youtu.be/IEAv1USEGS8.

NEW: Illinois 4-H Virtual Fishing Fun-Fest

4-H members currently enrolled in Fishing 1, 2, or 3 are eligible to win big this spring! Between April 17 – May 15 these 4-H members can enter a statewide fishing contest (Fun-Fest) via smartphone. New spinning rod and reel combos will be given away weekly to the longest largemouth bass and channel catfish entered. The simple contest details can be found on the Illinois 4-H Events Page and Illinois 4-H Facebook page. Contact Curt Sinclair at sinclair@illinois.edu with questions. Stay safe and enjoy the sunshine on the lake!

Look for These Changes at the Illinois State Fair

- Exhibits must be in place by 9:30 AM and remain on display **until 4 PM**. (new release time)
- The awards will include **Champion Medals** for the highest score in each project class and **Reserve Medals** for the second highest score in each class. Cash premiums from the state will be paid to the medal winners. **Innovation Awards** will be given to exhibits judges find inspiring, innovative, or creative and are not based on scores. Medal winners cannot receive the innovation award in 2020.
- **New projects** at the state fair include: Child Development, Leather, Sports Nutrition, Family Heritage, and Shooting Sports
- The **State 4-H Public Speaking Contest** will be held at the same time as the state fair. Youth can compete in a speech and also bring a project to the General Project Show. Youth must be selected in their county contest to advance and will speak the same day as their county exhibit day.
- **Ewe lambs** are now eligible for the premier show.
- The **junior poultry show** begins Monday, Aug. 17.
- The **State 4-H Poultry Judging Contest** will be held at the state fair on Monday, Aug. 17.
- The **junior rabbit show** begins August 17.
- Check out all the livestock ownership deadlines online @ go.illinois.edu/4Hlivestock.
- The office will not have extra admission tickets for the state fair this year. Please plan accordingly.

Important Dates for 2020 Illinois State Fair Junior Show

Active 4-H members who are 8 to 18 years of age (9/1/19) are eligible to exhibit in the Illinois State Fair Junior Show. Youth older than 18 may exhibit if active FFA alumni. Below is the tentative schedule for the junior livestock show. Check the Illinois State Fair website for any updates.

ARRIVAL TIMES

- **BEEF:** Performance Cow/Calf must be in place by noon on 8/11
- **BEEF:** Heifers must be in place by noon on 8/11
- **BEEF:** Steers must be in place by 8 PM on 8/11
- **DAIRY:** must be in place by 5 PM on 8/18
- **GOATS:** Meat Goats must be in place by noon on 8/12
- **GOATS:** Dairy Goats must be in place by 8 AM on 8/16
- **GOATS:** Pygmy Goats must be in place by 11 AM on 8/21
- **SHEEP:** Market Lambs must be in place by 8 PM on 8/13
- **SHEEP:** Breeding Sheep must be in place by 9 PM on 8/15
- **SWINE:** Gilts must be in place by 8 AM on 8/12
- **SWINE:** Barrows must be in place by 8 AM on 8/13
- **POULTRY:** must be in place by 9 AM on 8/17
- **RABBITS:** Meat pens must be in place by 9 AM on 8/17
- **RABBITS:** All others must be in place by 3 PM on 8/21

SHOW TIMES

- **SUPERIOR YOUNG PRODUCER CONTEST BEEF/SHEEP/SWINE:** 7 PM on 8/12
- **SUPERIOR YOUNG PRODUCER CONTEST DAIRY:** 8:30 AM on 8/22
- **MASTER SHOWMANSHIP:** 7:30 PM on 8/14
- **BEEF:** Showmanship: 1 PM on 8/12
- **BEEF:** Performance Cow/Calf: 8:30 AM on 8/13
- **BEEF:** Heifers: AOB, Charolais, Chianina, Hereford, Polled Hereford, Maine Anjou, Maintainer: Time TBA on 8/13
- **BEEF:** Heifers: Angus (at 8:30 AM), Limousin, Shorthorn, Shorthorn Plus, Simmental, %Simmental: on 8/14 (other breed times TBA)
- **BEEF:** Steers: 8:30 AM on 8/15
- **DAIRY:** Brown Swiss: 9 AM on 8/19
- **DAIRY:** Holstein: 1 PM on 8/19
- **DAIRY:** Guernsey: 9 AM on 8/20
- **DAIRY:** Ayrshire: 1 PM on 8/20
- **DAIRY:** Milking Shorthorns: 9 AM on 8/21
- **DAIRY:** Jersey: 1 PM on 8/21
- **GOATS:** Breeding Meat Goats: 8 AM on 8/14
- **GOATS:** Wether Meat Goats: after breeding show on 8/14
- **GOATS:** Market Meat Does: after wether show on 8/14
- **GOATS:** Dairy Goats: 9 AM on 8/16
- **GOATS:** Pygmy Goats: 8:30 AM on 8/22
- **SHEEP:** Market Lambs: 8 AM on 8/15
- **SHEEP:** Breeding Sheep: 8 AM on 8/17
- **SWINE:** Showmanship: 5 PM on 8/13
- **SWINE:** Gilts: 7:30 AM on 8/14
- **SWINE:** Barrows: 7:30 AM on 8/15
- **POULTRY:** 10 AM on 8/17
- **RABBITS:** Meat Pens 10 AM on 8/17
- **RABBITS:** All Others 9 AM on 8/22

RELEASE TIMES

- **BEEF CATTLE:** released after 5 PM (or after all steer classes have shown) on 8/15
- **DAIRY CATTLE:** released after 4 PM on 8/22
- **MEAT GOATS:** released after the meat goat show on 8/14
- **DAIRY GOATS:** released after the dairy goat show on 8/16
- **PYGMY GOATS:** released after the pygmy goat show on 8/22
- **MARKET SHEEP:** released after the market show on 8/15
- **BREEDING SHEEP:** released after the breeding show on 8/17
- **SWINE:** released after the barrow show on 8/15
- **POULTRY:** released after the poultry show on 8/17
- **MEAT PEN RABBITS:** release after the show on 8/17
- **ALL OTHER RABBITS:** release 8/23

Superior Young Producer Scholarship Program,

This is offered by the Illinois State Fair to 4-H members in Beef, Sheep, Swine, Dairy, and Horses as an educational activity at the Illinois State Fair to promote youth development and personal growth. Three \$1,000 scholarships will be provided in horses and three \$1,000 scholarships will be provided in dairy. A total of nine \$1,000 scholarships will be provided in a combined contest for beef, sheep, and swine contestants.

Taking an animal project? READ THIS. Deadline May 1

For members enrolled in dairy cattle, beef cattle, swine, sheep, and goats:

- The YQCA is a new livestock quality assurance program that is replacing PQA which no longer exists. All 4-H exhibitors of these animals will be required to certify in the YQCA program each year starting for the 2020 show season. Attend either a face to face class or certify on-line via the website yqca.org The YQCA program is for youth ages 8-21. The online version is broken into age divisions as follows: juniors 8-11, intermediate 12-14, senior 15-18, and young adults 19-21. This certification is needed each year with test out options of 1-3 years. Youth exhibiting swine at the Illinois State Fair and 4-H fairs are no longer required to be PQA plus certified. The estimated cost for the face-to-face training will be \$3 and \$12 for the online version.

For members enrolled in horses, rabbits, poultry, dogs, and cats:

- The Quality Assurance and Ethics training is required for youth in horses, rabbits, poultry, dogs and cats. You only need to take it once in your lifetime. Those who don't complete the training will be removed from the animal science project and will not be eligible to exhibit at county fairs. The website is open year round @ web.extension.illinois.edu/qaec/. NOTE: Youth must be logged on to a computer for this program, either a desktop or laptop; not an iPad or iPhone.

How strong is your 4-H family spirit?

The Illinois 4-H Foundation welcomes nominations for the 2020 4-H Family Spirit Award. The Illinois 4-H Family Spirit Award recognizes a family with at least three generations and at least 15 different family members (including in-laws) that have either been 4-H members, leaders, or volunteers with at least 100 cumulative years of 4-H membership or volunteerism represented within the family. Selection is based on the total number of family members with 4-H connections, the total number of years of 4-H involvement, the diversity of experiences and recognitions earned by the 4-H members, and the collective impact that family members have made as advocates of their county and state 4-H programs. On-line applications are available at: 4hfoundation.illinois.edu/content/family-spirit-award. **Nominations are due May 1.**



Club Reports

Club Report Submissions are due by the 26th of each month by 11:59 PM to Nicole, nenelso2@illinois.edu
Please keep your submissions to a maximum of 200 words to ensure space for all club reports.

Delong Livestock Report by Cora Buchanan The March meeting was called to order at 6:02 P.M. at the Orange Township building. The Treasurer's Report was given and was approved by Andy Bates and Ally Hopkins. Old business was discussed, and so was new business. The president, Kit Hopkins, went over the Hilite. Ally Hopkins gave a talk about hoof care for livestock and Cora Buchanan gave a talk about cooking precautions. The next meeting will be on Sunday, April 5, at 6:00 P.M. due to Easter. Ally Hopkins motioned to adjourn the meeting, Cora Buchanan seconded.

Henderson Aggies Report by Julia Robinson The Henderson Aggies meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm on March 9th. The Henderson Aggies members listened to a presentation about storm tracking. The storm trackers Colby Martin and Ethan Chessler started storm tracking in 2010. The storm trackers taught us the difference between a storm spotter and a storm tracker. A storm spotter spots a storm and reports it, while a tracker follows the storm. When following the storm, the trackers must haul around lots of equipment to record their data. They informed us that you should have a safety plan at home when a storm hits your area. Check your phone for warnings if a storm is on its way and always be prepared for a future storm. Under new business, the club decided to make March 27th the date for the bowling trip. The club discussed the 4-H Share the Fun and May Day baskets. The leader's reports included some upcoming 4-H events including tractor safety and a welding workshop. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Federation Meetings

The Knox County 4-H Federation Board would like to welcome you to their next meeting happening April 19 @ 6 pm via Skype. Member and Club input is crucial to help decide what events and contests the board will hold for the 2019-2020 year! Everyone is invited to attend. Please contact Nicole Nelson if you would like the information to join the meeting.

Want to apply to be part of the board? Fill out the application by May 29 and email to nenelso2@illinois.edu! You can find the application under "Resources" on our webpage <https://extension.illinois.edu/hkmw/4-h-knox-county>

You are invited

Farmer's Forecast

Please submit all Farmer's Forecast articles and JPG photos to nenelso2@illinois.edu. Articles are due no later than the 26th of the month at 11:59 PM. Need Ideas about what to write? Just ask!

May: Williamsfield Town & Country

June: Willing Workers

July: Backcountry Braves

August: Bracken Busy Bees

September: Cameron Kids

October: Delong Livestock

November: Hague Hustlers

December: Happy Hustlers

Celebrate 4-H Volunteers

April 19-25 Illinois 4-H will celebrate the more than 11,000 4-H adult volunteers supporting and guiding 4-H members during National Volunteer Week, April 19-25. 4-H volunteers are the caring adults who are empowering and preparing youth for success as 4-H members provide service to others and in their communities. Today's 4-H youth are engaged in diverse learning experiences where they practice skills employers want; grow and distribute food to communities in need; steward our natural resources; identify local issues and initiate positive change in local, state, national, and global issues; and they make and influence positive choices for healthy living. All of these things happen because of engaged volunteers in local communities.

National Volunteer Week is an opportunity to celebrate the impact of volunteer service and the power of volunteers to tackle society's greatest challenges, to build stronger communities and be a force that transforms the world. Each year, we shine a light on the people and causes that inspire us to serve, recognizing and thanking volunteers who lend their time, talent and voice to make a difference in their communities.

National Volunteer Week was established in 1974. Today, as people strive to lead lives that reflect their values, the expression of civic life has evolved. Whether online, at the office, or the local food bank; whether with a vote, a voice, or a wallet – doing good comes in many forms, and we recognize and celebrate them all.

In Knox County, there are 58 leaders and countless more volunteers who inspire youth involved in local 4-H programs. Be sure to share how much you appreciate your leader by going to go.illinois.edu/VolunteerThankYou . Your messages will be shared with them during volunteer week!

