



Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Knox County 4-H Hilite

December 2020

To Make the Best BETTER



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Monday Through Friday
8 am — Noon
1 pm — 4:00 pm

extension.illinois.edu/hkwmw

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Local Extension Councils Cooperating
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If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate, please contact your local extension office.
Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your access needs.

Dear 4-H Families and Friends,

Happy Holidays from your 4-H Extension Team! Happy Holidays to you! Our 4-H year does look a little different this year, but there are still many deadlines and events you should be aware of. Crack open this newsletter and rediscover the gift of 4-H. If you have any questions, please contact us. As a reminder, you must be enrolled in all livestock and companion animal projects by **January 1st**! This year, 4-H online won't allow you to add projects after you have enrolled. Don't worry! All you need to do is give Nicole a call or email and she will get that added for you. Again, Happy Holidays and enjoy your time with your families!

Please remember that the Extension Office will be closed December 23th through January 3rd and will resume normal business hours January 4th. This means if you have questions about registering for your livestock project, we won't be available right away. Contact us prior to January 1 at 11:59 pm to have met the deadline to add livestock projects. Please don't delay. Registration is open now!

Yours in 4-H,

Shelby R. Carlson



Knox County 4-H 96th Annual

Salute to Excellence Awards Drive-Thru

12.12.2020 @ 1:30-2:30 PM | Knox Agri Center
180 S Soangetaha Rd | Galesburg, IL 61401

Please remain in your car, ride only with your household members, and wear masks when in the drive-thru to keep with current COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions. Thank You!

Unit-Wide Policies

- The new year begins September 1. Please make sure you read and understand the policies. We are trying to keep the deadlines consistent so it is easier for everyone to remember the dates. If a deadline lands on a weekend, the paperwork needs to be turned in the drop box on Monday prior to 7:59 a.m. before the office opens.
- **October 11** - RISK forms need to be turned into the office by all new members and those who do not have one on file. Medical forms need to be turned into your leader.
- **December 1** - Re-enrollment, project selection, and RISK forms need to be completed. **If you were a member last year, and you miss the December 1 re-enrollment deadline, you will not be eligible to participate in the 2021 4-H shows at the fair.** Check with your club leader about the \$20 program fee. Each club will be invoiced for the total amount due.
- Members will need to **attend at least four meetings** a year to be eligible to participate in your county's 4-H fair. **This year attending meetings virtually as well as in person counts for attendance .**
- At minimum members must complete **a talk or demonstration**. However, clubs may require both.
- Secretaries are required to **send attendance sheets to the Extension Office monthly** after each 4-H meeting. Attendance reports may be emailed, scanned, mailed, or dropped off. We ask that you use the online Secretary Record Book. You may print it out.
- Treasurers need to make sure they are **balancing accounts monthly** and providing reports during each meeting. Also, make sure you are using the required online Treasurer Record Book.
- **January 1** – Livestock and Companion Animal (dogs and cats) Project Enrollment deadline. This is the last date you may add **ANY livestock** project and still be eligible to show that project at the county 4-H fair.
- **March 1** – General Project enrollment deadline. This is the last date you may add a general project and still be eligible to show that project at the county 4-H fair. Remember that you already turned in your enrollment in December, but if you need to add a general project you may do so before this deadline.
- **May 1** - Horse project members' ownership/lease papers and pictures due to the office.
- **May 1** – **Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)** yearly certification is required of all livestock project members (aside from cats, dogs, horses, poultry, and rabbits). For all other animals, QAEC will still be required. If you plan to show livestock at the county and/or state fair, this is now a state requirement for all of us at the county level. Ask your local extension office about ways to complete this training online or in person. **For all other animals (cats, dogs, horses, poultry, and rabbits), QAEC will still be required.**
- **June 1** – Dog project members' ownership/lease papers due to the office.
- **4 weeks before show** – Online entries will be due at the close of the day. This is where you tell us what projects you are bringing to the fair. Keep in mind—do not delay!

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)

4-H members exhibiting animals entering the food production system will be required to complete the **Youth for the Quality Care of Animal** certification (YQCA). It will replace former trainings: PQA and QAEC. This program is the industry-standard certification. The training must be completed each year. Details about registering to come soon.

*We will be hosting in person trainings **January 18** and **February 18** in Knox County.*

Horses, dogs, cats, poultry, and rabbits will still be required to take the **Quality Assurance and Ethics** (QAEC) training. This training is only required once in the member's career.

I PLEDGE...MY HEART TO GREATER LOYALTY

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.

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.

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.

What is Federation?

The purpose of the 4-H Federation is to cooperate with the University of Illinois Extension 4-H program in unifying and strengthening the 4-H Youth Development program in Knox County. Federation bands together the local 4-H clubs into a central representative body for the improvement of the 4-H club program. Federation makes recommendations regarding the 4-H program, carries out unit-based 4-H activities and events such as camps, contests, fund-raising activities, recreational events and achievement night. Anyone interested in becoming a part of Federation is welcome! Please contact Beth for more information; 309/837-3939 or email chattert@illinois.edu.

Our next meeting with be on Saturday, December 12 @ 2:45 pm. Contact Nicole for Zoom link.

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

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

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.

Free to Good Home! First come, first serve! Call us at 309-342-5108



Entomology Case & Accessories



Milking Stanchion

I PLEDGE...MY HEALTH TO BETTER LIVING

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>

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.



4-H VOLUNTEER CAFÉ CONVERSATIONS!

Register to participate in the **4-H Volunteer Café Conversations**. We are so excited to be launching this new Illinois 4-H opportunity creating a platform for 4-H Volunteers from across Illinois to meet virtually and discuss topics of interest, share both ideas and challenges. Volunteers will gain access to tools & techniques to support their volunteer efforts, strengthening 4-H club and member learning experiences. We will address two topics during each Café Conversation so come with your ideas, questions, and since this is a Café Conversation, feel free to bring a snack as well!

- **Thursday, November 19, 2020; 7 PM**

TOPICS will include:

1. **Planning Service Learning & Community Service Experiences that Make a Difference**
2. **Communicating Effectively with 4-H Families**

Link to register for the next Volunteer Café Conversation:

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=22724>

Future 4-H Volunteer Café Conversations are scheduled in February & May! We are excited with our participation so far and will be recognizing volunteers and 4-H members who participate in 75% of the Volunteer Café Conversations with a token of our appreciation! Be sure to save the dates!

- **Thursday, February 18, 2021; 7 PM**
- **Thursday, May 20, 2021; 7 PM**

4-H Can Make a Difference

Our clubs do an amazing job helping others in the community! This is a very busy time for community service and every extra helping hand counts. COVID has presented some unique challenges to our 4-H clubs but everyone is rising to the occasion. Please keep us in the loop of any projects you have planned this season so we can help get the word out. You can do so by emailing Nicole Nelson at nenelso2@illinois.edu or calling the office at 309-342-5108.

Virtual 4-H Meeting Options

Some of you may not be comfortable meeting in person. Some clubs may not be able to offer a virtual option. That's okay! Our office will be offering a virtual meeting option if you are unable to meet with your club virtually or in person. Our next meeting will be **Tuesday**, December 15 at 5:30. Email **Shelby** at srcarls2@illinois.edu to for more information or to get the meeting link.



Social us on social media!

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 Dylan Nimrick The November meeting of the Delong Livestock 4-H club was held on November 8th via Zoom call. Dylan and Drake Nimrick told the club about the Officer and Leadership training that they attended. Katelyn Engel reported on the news from the last federation meeting. It was also reported that Tompkins State Bank donated \$ 2,500 to the club to be used on their members. Dylan Nimrick, Aurora Buchanan, Kyle Engel and Andy Bates all gave talks. The club also voted to buy gifts for the angel tree this year, with Caleb Mason buying for the boy and Paige Nimrick buying for the boy. We also voted to amend the budget for the angel tree to \$40-\$45. It was also decided that the club will pay all entry fees for members this year. We also set our goals for this year and formed a community service committee consisting of Shelby Taylor, Jack Link and Paige, Dylan, and Drake Nimrick. The next meeting will be held December 13th at 5pm via Zoom.

Henderson Aggies Report by Julia Robinson The Henderson Aggies 4-h meeting was called to order at 7:11 pm over a zoom call on November 9th. Pledges were led by Seth Hawkinson. The secretary's report was given by Esther Gibb, approved by Seth Hawkinson, and seconded by Julia Robinson. The treasurer's report was given by Luke Hawkins, approved by Seth Hawkinson, and seconded by Harrison Gibb. Josh Gibb then gave us a presentation on beekeeping. He has hives at his home and harvests his own honey. It is a hobby of his and he enjoys it. After the presentation the club moved onto old and new business. Under old business we had elections. Elections were held last meeting and we filled those positions. Under new business we had presentations which will be given in the future by various volunteers. It was approved by Seth Hawkinson and seconded by Harrison Gibb. Then we had announcements which included information on talks and demonstrations. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Esther Gibb and Seth Hawkinson seconded.

Rio Livestock Report by Clara Asplund The virtual Rio Livestock meeting was held on Sunday, October, 8th via zoom at 3 am. We discussed different service projects. One of the main projects we talked about was the Angel Tree, we decided to take on more kids this year seeing as this year has been harder on people. We had guest speaker Madison Flack come in and talk to us about Forgotten Initiative. The meeting was adjourned at 3:45pm.

Williamsfield Town & Country Report by Jolene Smith Due to COVID-19 our meeting was holding virtually while the officers met in person. The officers helped plan out our draft calendar for member approval before the meeting took place. Our entire club can not meet in person so we would like to keep an interactive activity for each meeting to help keep our members motivated to keep showing up. A few ideas we came up with were group yoga or a scavenger hunt at home! These activities are centered around team involvement and leadership skills to help our members get some key skills that they would otherwise learn at conferences and at large gatherings, which can not occur due to COVID-19. We also had several members place in the window display contest which was very exciting! We had members place second, third, and two honorable mentions. We also set club goals to help give us something to work for and to help keep us on track and motivated. Last year we reached $\frac{4}{5}$ goals so we are striving to get all 5 this year! One of our main goals is to get more members involved at the county level not just within our club. These goals will help our club strive to be the best it can be especially in these circumstances. Through these challenges our club members have done a great job staying involved and we hope that continues!

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!

January: Henderson Aggies

April: Rising Clovers

July: Victoria Cloverleaf

October: Williamsfield T&C

February: Knox County Power Clovers

May: Rusty Spurs

August: Walnut Grove Progressors

November: Willing Workers

March: Rio Livestock

June: Union

September: Wataga Trailblazers

December: Backcountry Braves



4H_HKM



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Date to Remember

December 12	Awards Drive-Thru
December 12	Federation Meeting
Dec 24–Jan 3	Office Closed

January 1	Livestock Project Deadline
January 18	Cards Due for Federation Service Project
February 19	Diaper Donation Deadline
February 28	Fair Book Cover Contest Deadline
March 1	General Project Deadline
May 1	Horse Paperwork Due
May 1	YQCA/QAEC Due
June 1	Dog Paperwork Due

Holiday Greetings Service Project

The Knox County 4-H Federation are making Christmas and Holiday cards and pictures for local nursing homes. We welcome all clubs and members to join us in this project! These cards and pictures will brighten the spirits of the elderly that are unable to have visitors this year. Please bring all cards to the Knox County Extension Office by January 18th or before so that we can share them with the nursing homes.

Loving Bottoms Diaper Bank Diaper Drive

The Knox County 4-H Federation and Unit federations will be collecting diapers to donate to the Loving Bottoms Diaper Bank . Once again, we will be making it a competition between, but this year it will be between counties in the Unit! The first place club will “save” their Program Coordinator from eating baby food. The winner will be chosen based on the number of individual diapers brought in per member by each county. All sizes and brands of diapers in open or unopened packaging are welcome. Diapers can be brought to the office now up until February 19th. More information, dates, and deadlines will be coming to our Facebook page and website soon!



4-H Fair Book Cover Contest

Any 4-H members interested in creating an original design for the 2021 Knox County 4-H Fair Book must submit their entry to the Extension Office by **February 28**. The entry that is selected for the cover will receive a prize and will have their art on display. **To be considered for the contest and to receive the prize, entries must meet the following requirements:**

Title: Knox County 4-H Fair Book

Paper: 8.5x11 piece of paper with at least 1/2 inch border on all sides.

Ink: Black ink or Black Marker (pencil isn't dark enough and the book is printed in black and white)

Originality: Everything must be freehand. You may not use a computer or copyright graphics.

Fair Date: Leave a 1x3 inch space for the Extension Office to insert the dates and locations of the 4-H Show and Project Show.

4-H Clover: The 4-H Clover may not be distorted or rotated. Do not place text or pictures over the 4-H Clover. For a list of guidelines regarding the 4-H Clover, please contact your local Extension office.

Deadline: Friday, February 28