



Knox County

4-H Hilite

June/July 2020

To Make the Best **BETTER**



Lisa Torrance
County Director

Shelby R. Carlson
4-H Youth Development Educator
srcarls2@illinois.edu

Nicole Nelson
4-H Program Coordinator
nenelso2@illinois.edu

Julian Inniss
4-H SPIN Coordinator
jinniss@illinois.edu

Avis Skinner
Office Support Staff
askinnr@illinois.edu

Knox County Extension Office
180 S Soangetaha Rd, Ste 108
Galesburg, IL 61401-5595
Phone: 309-342-5108

Monday Through Friday
8 am — Noon
1 pm — 4:30 pm

extension.illinois.edu/hkmw

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program, please contact your county
Extension Office

Dear 4-H Families and Friends,

Below you will find more information about the Virtual Show Opportunities.

You will receive details about entering projects in the virtual show to the email you have listed in 4-H Online. This email will also let you know when Fair Entry is open! Make sure you have your fair book handy! You will need it to work on your projects. You will submit your projects using Fair Entry. Entries may include pictures or videos and a project report. See the forthcoming email for specific requirements for each project. **All projects must be uploaded by the Fair Entry deadline.** Some livestock classes may be limited this year due to the transition to virtual.

Show results will be posted a week after the original show date. An awards ceremony will be announced at a later date. Projects may be featured on the Knox County Facebook page.

Fair Entry Dates

Knox (All Projects) June 5 to July 3

Fair Entry Office Hours—Links will be emailed

Monday, June 8 5:30-6:30 via Zoom

Tuesday, June 16 5:30-6:30 via Zoom

Wednesday, June 24 5:30-6:30 via Zoom

Thursday, July 2 5:30-6:30 via Zoom

Fair Book—Scroll down to “Fairs and Shows” tab

<https://extension.illinois.edu/hkmw/4-h-knox-county>

Please send questions to Nicole at nenelso2@illinois.edu.

Your 4-H Team,

Lisa, Shelby, Nicole, Julian, and Avis

Virtual County Fair Information

Fair Entry– Knox County

Due to the challenges presented by COVID-19 (novel coronavirus), Fair Entry will open on **June 5 and close on July 3** for all project exhibits. More directions will be sent to the email listed in 4-H Online and posted on the Knox County 4-H website under “Fairs and Shows.” Please send questions to Nicole at nenelso2@illinois.edu.

County Fair Participation

We can't wait to see you and your projects at the fair! Remember the policies that effect showing at the fair. You had to re-enroll in 4-H by December 1 and risk forms must be completed and on file at your local Extension Office. You needed to enroll in all livestock projects by January 1 and general show projects by March 1. Members must have completed the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Certification (YQCA) and/or Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification (QAEC) (depending on the livestock project enrolled in) by May 1 in order to be eligible to show livestock. **For this year only, you must attend at least 1 meeting** and give a talk or demonstration (club rules may vary). Talks and demonstrations will have to look a bit different as we practice social distancing. Talk to your club leader for ideas. FairEntries must be completed in FairEntry no later that **11:59 pm on Friday, July 3**.

Need Help With 4-H Fair Entries?

We understand! Sometimes it is just easier to talk it through. Contact Nicole Nelson at nenelso2@illinois.edu with questions or to schedule some one-on-one time. Or join us for our Office Hours on June 8, 16, 24, and July 2.

Mobile Friendly Fair Book

Physical copies were not passed out this year due to current circumstances. Have no fear! You can still access our Fair Book! Our website is smart device friendly! Just go to our website extension.illinois.edu/hkmw/4-h-knox-county and scroll down to Fairs and Shows. All our information for this years virtual show will be posted here. Its as simple as that!

Conference Judging

The 4-H General Show is a time for conference judging. This year things will look a bit different! All judging will take place virtually through FairEntry. Instructions will be shared with you and put on the county webpage. So keep an eye out!

Hall of Fame Honoree

Congratulations to Pete Holmes! Pete was chosen to represent Knox County 4-H as the 2020 inductee to the Illinois Hall of Fame. He will be honored on Tuesday, August 18 in the Orr Building at the Illinois State Fair. Pete has been a lifelong 4-H member. Pete is a current leader of Wataga Trailblazers where his passion for service and livestock inspires his members. Pete will be honored locally this fall at the Salute to Excellence Knox County 4-H Award Banquet.

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.



State Fair Information

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.

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 15**. 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.

Note on State Fair Tickets

The Extension Office will not have discounted State Fair tickets available for purchase this year. We want you to be flexible to invite anyone to State Fair without the worry of having to buy a ticket. The Sunday price is already reduced and advance tickets would not provide an additional value to families. Hope to see you at our day at State Fair on **Sunday, August 16!**

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.



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

4-H Family Learning Challenge



We are so excited to announce our **4-H Family Learning Challenge**. Those who complete all tasks will receive a prize bag (while supplies last) sponsored by the State 4-H office & Illinois 4-H Foundation!

Here are some highlights:

WHO'S IT FOR: ALL youth in Illinois – regardless of their 4-H membership status. Families can sign up at: go.illinois.edu/FamilyChallenge

HOW DOES IT WORK: Families sign up and automatically start at the beginning of the challenge. The program is made up of 9 individual challenges delivered via email every other day. All logistics are handled automatically and **families that complete all the challenges receive a prize pack sponsored by the State 4-H Office & Illinois 4-H Foundation (while supplies last)**. For 4-H members, this challenge is a State level experience as it is State sponsored. So you could put it on your awards applications!

THE CHALLENGES:

1. Cooking Challenge – Make a loaf of white bread
2. Veteran Smiles – create cards for Operation Veteran Smiles
3. Give a Speech
4. Family Heritage – create a family tree
5. 3-D Printing – design a 3d item!
6. Give back to the community – find a way to give back to the community!
7. Creative writing – write a short story
8. Code a computer game
9. Create a business plan

FOR MY CLUB, MY COMMUNITY, MY COUNTRY AND MY WORLD

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 Shooting Sports Volunteer Certification Field-Day Training Date:

- **Northern Illinois: Saturday, Sept. 12** at Torstenson Youth Education Center, Pecatonica, IL. Register between July 1 - September 2.

The Illinois 4-H program needs adults willing to serve as mentors and share their passion of shooting sports. Here’s what you need to do:

- Contact your local Extension office and complete the required forms and background checks. Most Extension offices cover training fees with 2 year commitment from volunteers. Your local Extension staff will complete your registration.
- Complete a 3-hour online training module at home.
- Attend a 9-hour hands-on field day which runs from 9 AM to 7 PM.

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!

July: Backcountry Braves
August: Bracken Busy Bees

September: Cameron Kids
October: Delong Livestock

November: Hague Hustlers
December: Happy Hustlers

Federation Meetings

The Knox County 4-H Federation Board would like to welcome you to their next meeting happening June 5 @ 7:30 PM via Google Meet. 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.

*You are
invited*

4-H Event Update

- 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 20**
- June 1 ~ Dog & Horse Lease & Ownership Papers due to **office or nenelso2@illinois.edu scans accepted this year**
- June 8 ~ Deadline for Fair Entry in 4-H Fair - **Postponed - Will be open June 5—July 3**
- June 13—Family Fun Day & Reunion—Postponed until further notice
- June 15 ~ State Livestock Judging Contest - **Postponed new date TBD**
- July 1 ~ State Fair Livestock Junior Show Entry Forms - **Postponed to July 15**

Mark Your Calendar With 2020 Dates

| | |
|------------------|---|
| June 1 | Dog & Horse Lease & Ownership Papers due |
| June 5 | FairEntry will open |
| June 8 | FairEntry Office Hours |
| June 10 | Sheep, Goat, & Swine Nomination Form deadline |
| June 16 | FairEntry Office Hours |
| June 20 | State Fair Junior Horse Entry Forms Deadline |
| June 24 | FairEntry Office Hours |
| July 2 | FairEntry Office Hours |
| July 3 | Deadline to Enroll in Fair Entry to show at the 4-H Fair |
| July 11 | Knox County 4-H General, Clothing, & Public Presentations Shows |
| July 12-14 | Knox County 4-H Livestock Shows |
| July 15 | State Fair Livestock Junior Show Entry Forms Deadline |
| July 18 | Knox County 4-H Dog Show |
| July 19 | Knox County 4-H Horse Show |
| July 27-August 2 | State Fair Junior Horse Show |
| August 16 | Our day at the State Fair |



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