

# Knox County 4-H Hilite

## February 2021

# To Make the Best BETTER



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1 pm — 4:00 pm

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#### COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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## Dear 4-H Families and Friends,

The 4-H year is now in full swing and before you know it, warmer weather will bring fair season right along with it. General Show projects must be signed up for by March 1<sup>st</sup>. These projects don't roll over in 4-H Online this year so be sure to double check that you are signed up for everything you want to learn more about. To add a project, email Nicole! I also want to remind you that to show at the fair, you must give a talk or demonstration and attend at least 4 meetings. Check with your club leader for additional club requirements and to see how many meetings you have attended.

February is a busy month for those of you in livestock projects! Don't forget to weigh in your steers, take the YQCA training, and make sure you know the ownership deadlines for livestock! A great way to keep up with the news about workshops being hosted is by liking your local 4-H Facebook page. Don't worry, we will still write about them in your monthly newsletter! Yours in 4-H,



Shelby R. Carlson

# 4-H Steer Weigh-In Scheduled

If you are planning on bringing a steer to the County 4-H Show or to the State Fair, please plan to weigh-in at the

Knox County Fairgrounds—Saturday, February 6 from 10-11:30 am.



If you have issues with the Knox Fairgrounds date,

please contact the office. Abingdon Festival Grounds will be doing a weigh-in the following weekend and need headcounts of who will be attending.

Please call the Extension office to specify how many you plan to weigh-in and with a number to call in case of bad weather. We would like to remind members that weigh-in should be done in the county of your enrollment. *New this year we ask that all members and families attending wear a mask.* 



I PLEDGE...MY HEAD TO CLEARER THINKING

## **States 4-H International Exchange**

**Host an international student:** Host a Japanese youth this summer through 4-H International! Expand your family's cultural understanding, learn about new foods and customs, and possibly learn a new language all while sharing your own. Your children will build lifelong friendships and will gain new perspectives on their own country too! SCHEDULE: Hosting takes place mid-July through mid-August. REQUIREMENTS:



- Families hosting a youth must have a child the same gender and approximate age (12-18) as the incoming youth.
- · Youth must have a separate bed; a separate room is not required.
- · Host family selection is dependent on completion of an application and screening process, as well as student availability and personality compatibility.

RECRUITMENT PERIOD: January- May or until all placements are made **Apply Today** <u>https://www.states4hexchange.org/apply/host/</u>

## Travel abroad with 4-H

Start planning now for a trip in 2022. Are you curious about daily life, culture, and youth programs in other countries? Travel abroad with 4-H and experience foreign countries for a month-long cultural immersion experience. Delegates live with volunteer host families and engage in experiential learning about a new way of life.

TRAVEL PERIOD: 4 –8 weeks (dates vary by program June-August) REQUIREMENTS: Youth ages 12-18 (some programs 15-18) Cost: \$2700-5000\* Based on previous years (price varies by year, program and length of stay) RECRUITMENT PERIOD: September-November <u>https://www.states4hexchange.org/apply/go-abroad/</u> Costa Rica · Japan · Korea · Norway · Finland · Romania · Taiwan · Argentina \*Country availability changes each year

For more information, visit https://www.states4hexchange.org/ or contact us by email: Miriam Rosenbohm at <u>rosenbohm07@comcast.net</u> or Elisha Hughes at ehugh2@illinois.edu <u>https://www.facebook.com/illinoisstates4hexchange/</u> Instagram @states4hinternatonal

## 2021 National 4-H Youth Agri-Science Virtual Summit

Registration is now open for the 2021 Youth Agri-Science Virtual Summit. This is a great opportunity for high school students to 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. Register here: <u>https://4-h.org/parents/national-youth-summits/#agriscience</u> Registration closes on Friday, February 19th. Contact Mark Becker with any questions at <u>mbbecker@illinois.edu</u>

### Free Pre-College Summer Programs

Check out these FREE pre-college summer programs provided by the University of Illinois College of ACES and the USDA. Open to students grades 9-11 these programs will be held virtually. Don't delay in applying!

**Discovering STEM in ACES** is a two-week virtual experience, July 11-23, 2021, via Zoom from the University of Illinois. It is designed to help the students explore STEM programs dealing with food, environment, and human sciences. Students are selected based on grades, stated interest in STEM areas, letter of recommendation, and a final zoom interview. The application deadline is Friday-March 19,2021. https://aces.illinois.edu/acad.../diversity/discovering-stem.

**Ag Discovery Program** For students interested in exploring opportunities associated with becoming a veterinarian and working with wildlife, there is a program offered through the USDA called Ag Discovery Program. This program is also virtual via Zoom, July 11-30, 2021. The deadline to apply is Thursday- March 25, 2021. See the link to access the application: <u>https://academics.aces.illinois.edu/diversity/ag-discovery</u>



### I PLEDGE...MY HEART TO GREATER LOYALTY

## GET READY FOR .... Barred Owl Nest Box Monitoring Season

Remind your local 4-H families and clubs involved in the Barred Owl Nest Box Challenge to prepare to monitor their nest boxes weekly or bi-weekly in March and April! Send the NestWatch data sheet to Curt Sinclair at sinclair@illinois.edu by June 1, 2021 so we can tally the results! Momma owl is looking for nesting sites right now and she'll decide in February what suits her best! Stay the course – good science takes effort.

#### **INTERESTED IN SHARING YOUR 4-H STORY?**

Interested in sharing your 4-H story for a 4-H Alumni profile? We are seeking 4-H alumni to share their 4-H story to be highlighted on our social media accounts for a "Member Monday" 4-H profile! Feel free to share your 4-H Story today!

### **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.

#### **Shooting Sports**

Results of the first annual Illinois 4-H Shooting Sports Virtual Shoot are now posted on the Illinois 4-H events website, or click here: https://go.illinois.edu/4HVirtualShootResults2020 Over 420 scores were posted and ribbons have

been mailed to the top ten winners in shotgun; air rifle; compound archery; and recurve archery. Congratulations to all the participants and especially the 4-H leaders that went to the extra effort to

VIRTUAL SHOOT offer this contest to their local shooting sports 4-H clubs! Thank you, volunteers!

#### Speaking for Illinois 4-H

We're looking for 4-H members interested in spreading the great news about 4-H. 4-H members 14 years of age or older can join the Speaking for Illinois 4-H team. There will be a virtual training offered on Saturday, March 6.

This virtual training, provided by the Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team, gives you the chance to explore your own 4-H history and why you are involved, put that story into words, and learn the best ways to approach donors, civic groups, elected officials, and others to talk about 4-H. Learn

why 4-H believes in Positive Youth Development and how we emphasize the essential elements of Belonging, Independence, Generosity and Mastery. All of this – and more – is a part of Speaking for Illinois 4-H! Once you're trained, you'll receive an invitation to be a part of our Legislative Connection events.

Registration is open NOW @: https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/speaking-illinois-4-h-training. **Registration will close March 4.** 

### We're Looking for New Members!

You see them at state 4-H events in their bright green shirts. Now YOU can become an Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team member.

Length of service: Two years Deadline: March 15, 2021 Eligibility: Age 16 to 19 **Apply online:** go.illinois.edu/4HYLT. Look for the "application" at the bottom of the page.

The State Youth Leadership Team plans and implements the state Jr. Leadership Conference, plans and teaches the Speaking for Illinois 4-H program, and assists (behind the scenes and in front of the audience) for many other statewide events. Team members have the opportunity to serve on statewide planning committees and advisory groups, including the Illinois 4-H Foundation Board of Directors, Illinois Farm Bureau Youth Education Committee, Illini Summer Academies planning committee, and Teen Leadership Conference planning committee. Members also have the first opportunity to attend National 4-H Conference in Washington, D.C. each spring. Molly Warner of Williamsfield Town & Country is currently on YLT! If you have questions, feel free to reach out!

#### I PLEDGE...MY HANDS TO LARGER SERVICE

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Illinois Shooting Sports

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## **4-H VOLUNTEER CAFÉ CONVERSATIONS!**

Register to participate in the **4-H Volunteer Café Conversations**. We are so excited to continue 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 have two upcoming Café Conversation opportunities coming up in the next few months. We will address two topics during each Café Conversation so bring your ideas, questions, and since this is a Café Conversation, feel free to bring a snack!

4-H Volunteer Café Conversation - Thursday, February 18, 2021; 7 PM

TOPICS will include: **It's Cold Outside: Are Your 4-H Clubs Still Hot? - Let's Play!** Link to register for the **February 18, 2021** Volunteer Café Conversation: https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=22728

#### 4-H Volunteer Café Conversation - Thursday, May 20, 2021; 7 PM

TOPICS will include: **One for the Project, Two for the Show, Three to Get Ready...Go Clover Go! - Summer Fun!** Link to register for the **May 20, 2021** Volunteer Café Conversation: <u>https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=22738</u>

Don't forget - all 4-H volunteers and members in leadership roles who participate in 75% (3 of the 4) Volunteer Café Conversations will receive their very own limited edition 4-H Volunteer Café Conversations Ceramic mug! We have had great participation so far and if you have already attended at least one session, you are on your way to receiving you Café Conversations mug!

#### 4-H ALUMNI EVENT – VIRTUAL TRIVIA NIGHT – FEBRUARY 4, 2021

Join 4-H Alumni for some fun and networking on February 4, 2021 for our first 4-H Alumni event! We will host a trivia night and Lisa Diaz, IL 4-H Assistant Dean & Director, will provide an update on Illinois 4-H! Registration is now open! https://buff.ly/2LL4tIC Cost is \$10/per person. Register by February 1!Time: 7:00 pm Platform: Zoom Cost: \$10/per person

#### **SHARE YOUR 4-H NEWS**

Do you have news to share with the Illinois 4-H Alumni Association? Moved - New Address? Did you get a new job? Married? Promotion? New Baby? A recent death of a 4-H alum? We would love to hear your updates and stay connected! <u>Share your 4-H News</u>

#### **4-H VOLUNTEER TRAINING OPPORTUNITY!**

During this period when 4-H members find themselves experiencing restrictions associated with gathering with friends and club members face-to-face, having the opportunity to be part of an engaging and fun, yes we said FUN virtual meeting might be the highlight of their week! Register now for this upcoming **Volunteer Training** – *Leading in a Virtual World!* 

If you question whether you have the skills or tools you need to put together a virtual club experience, this webinar will help you become comfortable interacting in a virtual meeting format; and more importantly support you as you include every part of the club meeting virtually. You can conduct club business; engage members in group decision-making; create positive learning experiences; and give members an opportunity to laugh and have fun together! Be sure to encourage your 4-H members in leadership roles to participate as well.

Link to register for the **February 25, 2021** volunteer training opportunity <u>https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=23034</u>

#### I PLEDGE...MY HEALTH TO BETTER LIVING

## 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, February 16th at 5:30. Email Shelby at srcarls2@illinois.edu to for more information or to get the meeting link.** 

## **Project Highlight: MAKER**

Have your heard about the new project? Maker! Over the last decade, Do-it-yourselfers have shown the world that you do not need to be an engineer or computer scientist to create useful, innovative devices, gadgets, and gizmos through what is known as the Maker Movement. In fact, with very little background, and a can-do attitude, almost anyone can enter the Maker world and create anything their imagination guides them to.

This year, Illinois 4-H has brought the Maker Movement to your doorstep through a Multi Media curriculum experience called DIY Make & Build! DIY Make and Build is an opportunity for youth to learn about design, engineering, manufacturing, electricity and computer programming while being innovative and imaginative. You can still add the Maker project until March 1!

## **Knox County Fair**

We are currently working on the details for our Shows and Showbook. We want to help you plan ahead in case our 4-H families need to request time off of work or want to invite family and friends to the fair. Locations and method of shows will be determined using the most up to date COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines. Please mark these dates on you calendar(s):

- Public Presentations & Food Demonstrations—March 25
- Dog Show—TBD
- General Show & Clothing Show NEW THIS YEAR—Saturday, July 10
- Fair Week—July 11—14; tentative additional dates July 15 & 16 if show needs to be spread out
- Horse Show—Sunday, July 17

#### **Public Presentation Contest**

As we finalize a date and location for our Public Speaking Contest we want to give you a friendly reminder that there is still time (**March 1**) to add this project if the contest is something that interests you. Below is the list of categories that you can choose from. Please note that 4-H members are able to attend the State Contest in one category.

- Formal Speech |Self-written | Notes Allowed | No props | Individual | 4-8 minutes
- Illustrated Speech | Self-written | Notes allowed | Illustrations Required | Individual | 4-8 minutes
- Original Works | Self-written | Notecards allowed | Props and Costumes Allowed |
- Individual or 2-Person Team | Manuscripts sent in Advance | 4-8 minutes
- Oral Interpretation | Published work | Props and Costumes Allowed | Individual or 2-Person Team | Manuscripts sent in Advance | 4-8 minutes

We offer a "4-H Pledge" class to 4-H youth ages 8-10 years old as of 9/1/20.

## Our Day at the State Fair

Mark your calendars Knox County's day to exhibit General Show projects at the Illinois State Fair is **Sunday**, **August 15**. To help plan ahead we are sharing that parking passes for the State Fair will **NOT** be available to purchase ahead of time in our offices. This is to help mainstream the parking process on the fairgrounds.

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

# Here's help to pay for college

## IAA FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

The IAA Foundation offers 78 awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$7,500. While applicants may apply for multiple awards, they can only receive one scholarship. Certain scholarships may have more specific requirements. Online application and guidelines are found at <u>www.iaafoundation.org</u>, along with a full listing of eligibility requirements and a FAQ section. For additional information please contact the IAA Foundation office at 309.557.2232 or email jsmith@ilfb.org Application period **opens on January 1 and ends February 15.** Completed applications must be electronically submitted on or before **February 15.** 

## KNOX COUNTY FARM BUREAU FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Online application and guidelines are found at <u>http://www.knoxcfb.org/scholarships</u> along with a full listing of eligibility requirements. **Applications are due February 15.** 

## • DON TEEL SCHOLARSHIP

Applicants must have a home address within Knox County and be a past or present 4-H member. They must be enrolled as a full time student in a university or community college with a declared agriculture or related course of study. An applicant may only be awarded this scholarship once. Completed applications must be received no later than **April 1**. Submit completed applications to: Knox County Farm Bureau, 180 S. Soangetaha Road Galesburg, IL 61401, (309) 342-2036. Application can be found at <u>https://extension.illinois.edu/hkmw/4-h-knox-county</u> under "Resources"

## KNOX COUNTY SWCD - MAX AND FRANCES SANFORD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Applicants must be Knox County residents enrolled or planning to enroll in an Agricultural or Environmental related program. Applications are due **April 1** and can be found at <u>https://</u> <u>knoxcountyilswcd.wixsite.com/knox/about</u>

## KCAHCE EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

This **\$500 scholarship** is designed to be awarded to Knox County 4-H Members, relatives of KCAHCE members (past and present), or KCAHCE members who are attending college. Applications must be submitted to the Knox County 4-H and Extension Foundation, 180 S. Soangetaha Road, Suite 108, Galesburg, IL 61401 by **April 15** each year. Past recipients of this scholarship are not eligible to reapply. Application can be found at <u>https://extension.illinois.edu/hkmw/4-h-knox-county</u> under "Resources"

## GROWMARK FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

The GROWMARK Foundation will provide 15 \$1500 scholarships to students pursuing agriculturerelated degrees or certificates at colleges, universities, or technical schools in the United States and Ontario, Canada. Applications are due by midnight (Central Time) on **April 15**, 2021. Scholarship recipients will be notified by July 1, 2021. Please direct questions to Karen Jones, 309-557-6184 or kjones@growmark.com. Application can be found at <u>https://form.jotform.com/210104555232138</u>

## • KNOX COUNTY 4-H AND EXTENSION FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

The Knox County 4-H and Extension Foundation offers scholarships each year to incoming freshman and sophomores attending a university, college, junior college, or technical school Criteria for selection will be achievements and leadership in 4-H, community service, academic record and usage of scholarship. Applications must be submitted to the Knox County 4-H and Extension Foundation, 180 S. Soangetaha Road, Suite 108, Galesburg, IL 61401 by **May 14** each year. Past recipients of this scholarship are not eligible to reapply. Application can be found at <u>https://extension.illinois.edu/hkmw/4-hknox-county</u> under "Resources"



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 January meeting of the Delong Livestock 4-H club was called to order at 5:02 pm on Sunday January 10th. Katelyn Engel told us about the last Federation meeting. We also discussed the diaper drive that ends in February and the club goal is to collect 350 diapers. Shelby Taylor shared her talk on the Facebook page. The meeting was adjourned at 5:16 pm. The next meeting will be held February at 6pm.

Williamsfield Town & Country Report by Jolene Smith This month's meeting was held online due to the number of COVID-19 cases and keeping our members safe. To encourage club activity we began out meeting by having a scavenger hunt around our houses. Some of these items included a football, sanitizer, and a 4-H tee-shirt. At the start of the meeting we kicked off our hygiene drive for our local food pantry which will run until our March meeting. President, Molly Warner encouraged all members to donate to the annual diaper drive. Molly Warner encouraged members to participate in the 4-H fair book cover contest because we have had members win the past. We are excited for our Ethnic night in February, where the Williamsfield French teacher will be giving a presentation on her time spent in the Netherlands. We are excited to start up the showing season as well!



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 March: Rio Livestock May: Rusty Spurs August: Walnut Grove Progressors **November:** Willing Workers

June: Union **September:** Wataga Trailblazers December: Backcountry Braves

## Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)

4-H members enrolled in dairy cattle, beef cattle, swine, sheep, and goats must completed their annual YQCA training either on-line at **yqca.org** (\$12) or at an in-person training (\$3) by **May 1.** Find registration instructions here https://go.illinois.edu/YQCA-register-instructions. In-person trainings are scheduled as follows and subject to change pending weather and COVID status. Details will be confirmed a week before the training. In-person trainings will be held at Knox Agri Center Meeting Room: February 18 | April 12

QAEC training is required for members enrolled in cat, dog, horse, poultry, and rabbit. This training must be completed once in a members career. Training must be completed by May 1. https:// web.extension.illinois.edu/gaec/

### **Registering for Events:**

4-H has so many opportunities for its members to take part in. Did you know the local extension office will help cover the cost of state conferences and events? It's true! Make sure you follow the correct procedure so you don't miss out on any opportunities. The Extension office will cover half of the fee up to a total of \$300 per year per member. The local 4-H Foundation may choose to cover more of the cost.

\*Contact your local program coordinator and let them know what event you are interested in attending.

# Federation Meeting

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 Nicole for more information; 309-342-5108 or email nenelso2@illinois.edu.

Our next meeting with be on Sunday, February 21 @ 5:pm. Contact Nicole for Zoom link. Zoom link is the same for each meeting.

## **Dates to Remember**

Dates to Kemember		
February 1	Horse Team Meeting	
February 6	Steer Weigh In—Knox County Fairgrounds	
February 15	DEADLINE: IAA Scholarship	
February 15	DEADLINE: Knox County FB Foundation Scholarship	
February 18	YQCA In-Person Training	
February 19	Diaper Donation Deadline	
February 21	Federation Meeting	
February 28	DEADLINE: Fair Book Cover Contest	
March 1	DEADLINE: General Project Enrollment	
March 6	Speaking for Illinois 4-H	
March 25	Public Presentations Contest	
April 1	DEADLINE: Don Teel Scholarship	
April 1	DEADLINE: Knox County SWCD Scholarship	
April 12	YQCA In-Person Training	
April 15	DEADLINE: KCAHCE Scholarship	
April 15	DEADLINE: GROWMARK Foundation Scholarship	
May 1	DEADLINE: Horse Paperwork	
May 1	DEADLINE: YQCA/QAEC	
May 14	DEADLINE: Extension Foundation Scholarship	
June 1	DEADLINE: Dog Paperwork	
July 10	General & Clothing Show	
July 11-16	Knox County 4-H Fair (15 & 16 tentative)	
July 17	Horse Show	



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

## 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, 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. <u>To be considered for the contest and to receive the prize, entries must meet the following re-</u> <u>quirements:</u> 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

### Art Night—With Art Defined

Knox County 4-H Federation is planning an Art Night in March. We will be painting candy bowls. Art Defined will instruct and give helpful tips and tricks on how to harness your creativity to make your perfect bowl. We plan to have this open with both in-person and virtual formats but may need to adjust last minute as per COVID restrictions. More details will be posted soon on our Facebook page.









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