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Extension

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER
& ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



McDonough County

4-H Clover

September 2020

To Make the Best
BETTER



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Monday Through Friday
8:00-Noon
12:30 –4:00

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Dear 4-H Families and Friends,

Happy New Year! 4-H style of course! We are getting ready to kick-off the 2020-2021 4-H year. Our 4-H members have worked so hard this summer. While our fairs looked a bit different this year, the projects continued to amaze me.

Again, this year you will be enrolling or re-enrolling on the 4-H Online system. Starting September 21, you will select the projects that you want to learn about this year. Don't forget you need order a project manual if you want one. This year, rather than your 4-H leader handing out folders which have step by step instructions on how to complete your online enrollment., you will receive that information and more in an email from Beth. As always, we are available to assist you with completing your registration. Let's work together to inspire others in "Making the Best Better"!

As you prepare for the new successful 4-H year, it is important to remember a few things. To show at the fair, you must have attended at least four meetings and given a talk or demonstration. Not comfortable attending face to face meetings? Attendance via a virtual format counts. If your club is not offering a virtual option as we continue to fight COVID –19, email Beth at chattert@illinois.edu. Be sure to talk to your leader, some clubs have additional rules! Also note that all deadlines will be enforced. See new year email from Shelby and the newsletter for reminders of deadlines. We do our best to remind our members via social media as well!

In 4-H, health is one of our top priorities, it is one of the 4 "H"s after all! On page 5 you will see some of the guidelines clubs and members must follow when meeting to help minimize the risk of spreading COVID-19. Please follow directions given by club leaders and reach out to me at srcarls2@illinois.edu if you have any safety concerns.

Yours in 4-H,

Shelby R. Carlson

I PLEDGE...MY HEAD TO CLEARER THINKING

4-H Hall of Fame Inductee

Service is a hallmark of the Illinois 4-H program. The Illinois 4-H Foundation annually honors longtime volunteers and former staff members for their selfless dedication to 4-H, the University of Illinois Extension youth development program. In 2020, 87 individuals received the Foundation Hall of Fame Award, presented during a virtual ceremony Aug. 18. The Illinois 4-H Foundation established the statewide Hall of Fame in 2005 to honor and celebrate extraordinary 4-H alumni, volunteers, and former 4-H staff. Each inductee receives a commemorative Hall of Fame medallion.

McDonough County was happy to honor Sherry Lowderman for her 20 plus years of service as a 4-H volunteer. To say that Sherry bleeds green is an understatement. Her 4-H journey started as a member, becoming a club leader and continued on as a committee member of the 4-H Buildings and Grounds.

Sherry and her husband, Jack supported their four sons through the 4-H program, all the way to club congress. However, their work isn't done yet, the youngest two of their five grandchildren will be 4-H age very soon. Thank you Sherry for all your support.

End of Year Award Time Approaching

Whether you are a first-year 4-H member or a longtime member, it's time to focus on pulling together information for your 4-H award applications. Even younger members can submit the 4-H Experience Application and be eligible for 4-H recognition. Older members can submit both the 4-H Experience Application and the Illinois 4-H Scholarship Application to be eligible for state recognition, scholarships, and/or trips.

The **Illinois 4-H Experience Award Application** focuses on all of those events and activities that you have experienced during the 4-H year in four areas: *Participation, Community Service, Leadership, and Project Learning*. Your family calendar, 4-H notes or county summary, checkmarks, and a few written details are all that's needed for even the youngest members to submit this application. This application can be found @ <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/awards>. The deadline to turn this application into the local Extension Office is **September 28**.



The **Illinois 4-H Scholarship** is a merit-based scholarship to award outstanding work in project areas. Five \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded in each of the following categories: Animal Science, Civic Engagement/Global Living, Creative Performing Arts & Communication, Food Systems, Healthy Living/ Nutrition, Leadership, Natural Resources & Environmental Science, Personal Growth and STEM/Robotics. The deadline to apply is **November 1**. Apply online @ go.illinois.edu/4Hscholarships.

Each 4-H member has a story to tell and are eligible for our 4-H awards program – tell YOUR stories and see where they take you!

Officer Books Due

All officer books are due to the Extension Office by September 15. This year only, digital signatures are allowed. Please turn in the secretary book, treasurer book via the drop box or by emailing Beth at chattert@illinois.edu to make other arrangements. Our office is closed to the public until September 14.

Club Recognition Award

Is your 4-H Club doing outstanding work in the areas of Community Service, Leadership or Project Mastery? If so, you should apply for the Illinois 4-H Club Award! Clubs receiving this award will receive a \$75 cash incentive and an award certificate. This is also a great tool to set goals and plan for the upcoming 4-H year. This application can be found @ <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/awards>.

Just the Help You Need for your 4-H Club

The Illinois 4-H Website and your New Year email have all of the resources and forms needed to guide 4-H club officers, committees, and members as they plan for the new 4-H program year. Check out the helpful links included on your 4-H Guide and plan for a great year of “Learning By Doing”.

- For resources from the State 4-H Office go to go.illinois.edu/IL4H
- Click on the **Clubs** tab.
- Scroll to Meeting Resources near the bottom of the page
- Find these helpful documents:
 - **Club Meeting Agenda** – this fillable form is a useful fill-in-the-blank form your club officers can use as they plan each section of the meeting. This useful form provides them with the meeting structure they can use to identify who from the club should be in charge of each potential item that may be included in a meeting.
 - **Club Committee Planning Worksheet** – the Committee Planning Worksheet is an excellent tool to give to committee members as they plan club events and activities.
 - **Club Yearly Program Plan** – this helpful tool guides the club officers and club members as they identify club goals to work toward during the year and brainstorm what programs, events and/or activities to plan for the club to engage members in fun, hands-on learning experiences throughout the program year.
 - **More** – Don’t forget to download your new secretary book, treasurer book, tips for good club meetings, tips for using the 4-H name, and more other important resources.

Illinois Department of Agriculture Junior Livestock Expo

Sept 11-13, 2020 (beef / sheep / dairy goats / pygmy goats / rabbits / poultry)

Sept 18-20, 2020 (swine / dairy cattle / meat goats)

Open to ages 8-21. Held at Illinois State Fairgrounds, Springfield, IL.

This is not a 4-H sponsored activity but may be of interest to you enrolled in related 4-H project areas. For more information: <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Documents/20%20JrLivestock.pdf>

Illinois Department of Agriculture Junior Horse Show

August 29-30, 2020 (English Show Portion)

September 5-6, 2020 (Western Show Portion)

Open to ages 8-21. Held at Du Quion State Fairgrounds, Du Quion, IL

This is not a 4-H sponsored activity but may be of interest to you enrolled in related 4-H project areas. For more information: <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Documents/20%20JrHorse.pdf>

Congratulations to our IL State Fair Delegates

Adkins-Covert, Corda, Visual Arts Fiber, Award of Excellence & Division Champion

Butcher, Mullen, 4-H Cooking 201, Award of Excellence

Campbell, Claire, Visual Arts Computer-Generated Art, Award of Excellence & Division Champion

Curley, Anna, Photography 3, Award of Excellence

English, Isabelle, Visual Arts Paper, Award of Excellence

Fackrell, Jessica, Civic Engagement 1, Award of Excellence

Hoyt, Ethan, Woodworking 2, Award of Excellence

Jackson, Bailey, Creative Writing, Award of Excellence & Inspire Award

Jackson, Reese, Veterinary Science, Award of Excellence

Johnson, Samantha, Visual Arts Chalk/Carbon/Pigment Division A, Award of Excellence

McMillan, Macyn, Visual Arts 3-D Design/Mixed Media, Award of Excellence & Division Reserve Champion

Shannon, Tyler, Visual Arts Leather, Award of Excellence

Stortzum, Allison, Passport to the World-Indiv., Award of Excellence



4-H Shooting Sports Fall Update

After a survey of shooting sports discipline instructors; key volunteers; and state shooting sports venues - the decision has been made to move all in-person state shoots to a virtual tournament format for health and safety reasons. This will allow for smaller, local competitions to be conducted and supervised by certified Level I 4-H discipline instructors who will then report the youth scores centrally through an on-line system.

VIRTUAL SHOOT

Also, we are happy to announce that our 2020 Illinois 4-H Shooting Sports team members who were scheduled to attend the National 4-H Shoot last June (cancelled due to COVID-19) will be invited to shoot at the same national event in 2021 if they are still age eligible. Our 2020 virtual shoot results and the data from 2019 State Shoots will then be used to fill any gaps in the 2021 Illinois team.

The virtual shoot will run for the months of September – December, 2020. Registration will be free and have both a Junior (11-13 years) and Senior (14-18 years) division! Disciplines offered will be compound archery; recurve archery; shotgun (trap); and air rifle. The rules, registration link, and score submittal link are attached to this email and also posted on the Illinois 4-H website at: <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/illinois-4-h-virtual-shoot-fall-2020>

Virtual Shoot registration opens Sept. 1st. Email Julian Inniss, 4-H SPIN Program Coordinator at jinniss@illinois.edu to learn more or to register for the Virtual Shoot. Due to safety reason, members will only be allowed to shoot in disciplines they have previously been enrolled in. Stay tuned for more information about joining 4-H Shooting Sports in the spring.

There are no current plans to conduct an in-person 4-H Shooting Sports adult certification training in the fall of 2020 at this time. This situation is still pending and is dependent on pandemic management guidelines.

Share Your Story – True Leaders in Service

4-H members and clubs have continued to demonstrate they are **True Leaders in Service**, as they have worked independently to support both their personal and club goals of making a difference in their community by focusing their energies on the 4th “H” and pledge their HANDS to larger service! Illinois 4-H members and clubs have demonstrated how to **Make the Best Better**, during the COVID-19 crisis by developing plans and taking action collecting and donating food to stock shelves at local food pantries; reaching out vulnerable populations who may not have family members close to pick up needed supplies; and by making hundreds of face masks to distribute to medical facilities; local businesses; and in communities.



If you have not registered your plan for serve outreach, please use this link to share what your plan <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/clubs>. Be sure to also follow-up and report what you accomplished on through your service project. The accomplishments of both individual members and clubs will be highlighted on the Illinois 4-H Website so make sure you go use the reporting link located in the middle of the page where it says, **CLICK HERE** to report your 4-H Community Service Activity to provide your club update!

Virtual Livestock Judging Opportunity

The John Wood Community College Ag Alumni Livestock Judging Contest is going virtual this year and is open to 4-H and FFA members. This contest will be hosted on the JWCC Ag Alumni Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/jwccag> and starts September 21st. There will be a Junior Varsity and Varsity Division. Both divisions will have 10 questions per class. For more information, visit their Facebook page or contact Justin Lewis, Livestock Judging Coach, at jlewis@jwcc.edu.

Keeping Safe During Club Meetings

As 4-H'ers, we consistently go above and beyond to ensure the health, safety, and wellbeing of others. During the current pandemic we are facing, I have been amazed at the selflessness displayed by 4-H members across the county, state, country, and world. We once again call on your to practice this service to others by following the following protocol during club meetings.

- Once your leader determines if your club will meet in-person or virtually, they will be in contact. Clubs may also offer both a virtual and in-person options. Please practice proper online etiquette if that option is used. If you are uncomfortable meeting in person and your club is not prepared to offer a virtual option, email Beth at chattert@illinois.edu to make other arrangements. For this year, virtual attendance counts as being present at a meeting.
- All attendees must wear a mask and practice proper social distancing. Those from different households should be at least 6 ft apart at all times.
- All surfaces will be sanitized before and after the meeting. Please refrain from sharing writing utensils during the meeting unless it has been properly sanitized.
- Refreshments can not be served during meetings. You may choose to bring your own snack but you are unable to share this snack.
- Follow all directions given by club leaders posted signs and stay home if you are feeling unwell.
- Please contact Beth at chattert@illinois.edu if you have concerns, questions or need assistance. This 4-H year is going to look a little different but we are always working to "make the best better".

Thank you West Central FS

Join us in saying a HUGE Thank You to West Central FS! They have so kindly donated \$20 per member to each of our 4-H Clubs. Please make sure to write a thank you card to West Central FS during your 1st 4-H Club Meeting, we want them to know how much we appreciate them.



Mark Your Calendar With 2020-2021 Dates– More to Come!

September 1	New 4-H Year
September 15	Officer Books Due
September 21	4-H Online Open for Re-Enrollment
September 28	Experience Awards Due
October 4-10	National 4-H Week
December 1	Re-Enrollment Deadline
January 1	Livestock Project Deadline
March 1	General Project Deadline
May 1	Horse Paperwork Due
May 1	YQCA/QAEC Due
June 1	Dog Paperwork Due



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 McDonough 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. The Family Movie day at Rialto was thanks to the BBQ tickets sales from last year.

Anyone interested in becoming a part of Federation is welcome! Please contact Beth for more information; 309/837-3939 or email chattert@illinois.edu.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday To You, Happy Birthday To You.....

A very Happy Birthday to all the 4-H members born in August and September!

We want to celebrate with you! Please stop into the Extension office anytime once we reopen (After September 14th) to pick out a 4-H birthday gift and let us wish you a "Happy Birthday."



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