



January 2021

## To Make the Best BETTER



**Lisa Torrance**  
County Director

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

**Jill Cook**  
4-H Program Coordinator  
jillcook@illinois.edu

**Vicki Jackson**  
Office Support Staff  
jacksn@illinois.edu  
Henderson County 4-H  
410 E. Main  
PO Box 540  
Stronghurst, IL 61480  
Phone: 309-924-1163  
Tuesday and Thursday 8 a.m. — 4 p.m.

**Diana Dugan**  
Office Support Staff  
dugand@illinois.edu  
Warren County 4-H  
1000 North Main Street  
PO Box 227  
Monmouth, IL 61462  
Phone: 309-734-5161  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
8 a.m. - Noon & 12:30 p.m. — 4 p.m.

[extension.illinois.edu/hkmw](http://extension.illinois.edu/hkmw)

### COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

University of Illinois, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Local Extension Councils Cooperating University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. 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,

I hope you enjoyed the holiday season and are as excited as I am to get back into all things 4-H! In this newsletter there are many scholarships, conferences and contest that you can take part in. Think about taking advantage of all that 4-H has to offer. There are several local, state, and national 4-H workshops or conferences that you can attend for a reduced fee due to the local 4-H Scholarships. All members qualify for these scholarships! Make sure you talk to the office before you register online.

Please read all the deadlines and if you have any questions, please contact us. Many important dates regarding livestock projects are coming up. The deadline to add any general show projects you want to take to the 2021 4-H Fair is March 1. This is where you tell us what projects you want to learn more about. You will tell us what you plan to bring to the fair at a later date. Email Jill to get your projects added.

Yours in 4-H,

Shelby R. Carlson

## 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, January 19 at 5:30.**  
**Email Shelby at [srcarls2@illinois.edu](mailto:srcarls2@illinois.edu) to for more information or to get the meeting link.**

## 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!

### 4-H Steer Weigh-Ins Scheduled:

If you are showing steer at the County 4-H Show or going to the State Fair, please plan to weigh-in at one of the following locations.

**Henderson County Fairgrounds | Saturday, February 6 | 9 -11 am**

**Abingdon Festival Grounds | Saturday, February 13 | 8 - 9:30 am**

**Mike Houston Farm | Monday, February 15 | 9 -11 am**

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. New this year we ask that all members and families attending wear a mask. We would like to remind members that weigh-in should be done in the county of your enrollment.

### Henderson & Warren County Fairs:

We are currently working on the details on our 2021 Warren and Henderson County Fair Books. The plan is to have them in your hands in March. We want to help you plan ahead incase our 4-H families need to request time off of work or want to invite family and friends to the fair. Please mark these dates on you calendar(s):

**Warren**

**Henderson**

**July 20 - 22**

**July 25 - 31**

### 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](http://yqca.org) (\$12) or at an in-person training (\$3) by **May 1**. An email from Jill will follow with details for registering. 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 the Warren-Henderson County Farm Bureau Auditorium:

**February 15 5:30 -7:00pm | February 17 5:30 -7:00pm**

QAEC training is required for members enrolled in cat, dog, horse, poultry, and rabbit. This training must be completed once in a member's career. Training must be completed by **May 1**.

### Our Day at the State Fair:

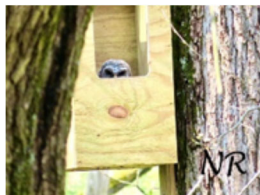
Mark your calendars! Warren and Henderson County's day to exhibit General Show projects at the Illinois State Fair is Sunday, August 15. To help plan ahead we are sharing that parking pass for the State Fair will **NOT** be available to purchase ahead of time in our offices. This is to help mainstream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

### Project Highlight: Health and Fitness:

Not only does a new year often bring plans to eat right and move more, but in 2020, health care professionals were the talk of the town. If you have a new interest in health and fitness and want to learn more, consider enrolling in the 4-H health and fitness project. In this project, you will learn about first aid, learn about health care professions, design personal health plans, and more! Careers relating to health and fitness are nearly endless. We all think about doctors and nurses, but there are a number of people working to keep you healthy each and every day. From personal trainers and nutritionists to phlebotomists and office managers. Check out the health and fitness project today!

## 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/#lagri-science>  
For more information, contact Mark Becker, [mbbecker@illinois.edu](mailto:mbbecker@illinois.edu).



### 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](mailto:sinclair@illinois.edu)

### 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!



### ISA TEEN PRODUCTION TEAM:

Join us and be a part of the Illini Summer Academies Teen Production Team! Help us plan and lead this summer, state-wide, virtual event! For more information on what the Teen Production Team does and, how to apply, please click on this [here](#). Application Link: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe4gGo5XdZACJT0S9NNzMrA2zD1YO\\_LdneVinliCQkFcuDFNQ/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe4gGo5XdZACJT0S9NNzMrA2zD1YO_LdneVinliCQkFcuDFNQ/viewform?usp=sf_link)

Due: Friday, January 8, 2021 Interviews will be a part of the application process!

Contact information: Roxana Cejeda [illini-4h@illinois.edu](mailto:illini-4h@illinois.edu) | 217-333-0910

### ISA TRAILBLAZER SCHOLARSHIP:

The Illinois 4-H Foundation offers scholarships to assist youth in attending Illini Summer Academies. Trail Blazers Scholarships are provided to make college exploratory experiences accessible to all youth by encouraging participation of scholars who are under-represented in certain career fields and who may find the cost of attendance to exploratory programs a significant challenge. For more information on requirements and how to apply, please click [here](#). Application link: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc2vAsJuQ3L6TTkT0LQEJ7WX-Gu\\_Fx-x45INE\\_3HBK-La4eNg/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc2vAsJuQ3L6TTkT0LQEJ7WX-Gu_Fx-x45INE_3HBK-La4eNg/viewform?usp=sf_link)

Due: Friday, January 22, 2021 | Contact information: Roxana Cejeda [illini-4h@illinois.edu](mailto:illini-4h@illinois.edu) | 217-333-0910

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

## Dates to Remember:

February 8	Fair Book Covers Due
March 1	General Project Deadline
May 1	Horse Paperwork Due
May 1	YQCA/QAEC Due
June 1	Dog Paperwork Due

## Scholarships:

- **TEACH OUTDOOR SCHOLARSHIP**

A **\$1000 Scholarship** will be awarded to a student who will be a freshman or sophomore in college or trade school in the fall of 2021. Applications are **due January 15** and can be downloaded @ <http://www.teachoutdoors.org/scholarship.html>

- **JACOB IRA BOUXSEIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

A **\$1,000 Scholarship** will be awarded someone enrolled as a full time freshman or sophomore in an accredited college, university, or trade school during the Fall of 2021 Applications are **due January 15** and can be downloaded @ <http://www.teachoutdoors.org/scholarship.html>.

- **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 [www.iaafoundation.org](http://www.iaafoundation.org), 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@ifb.org](mailto:jsmith@ifb.org) Application period **opens on January 1 and ends February 15**. Completed applications must be electronically submitted on or before **February 15**.

## 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](mailto:mbbecker@illinois.edu).

## Hello Henderson and Warren County Families!

My name is Jill Cook and I am your new 4-H Program Coordinator. I am a past 4-H'er myself and love all that 4-H has to offer. I am looking forward to getting to know each of you. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or to introduce yourself. You can contact me at [jillcook@illinois.edu](mailto:jillcook@illinois.edu), or call/and or visit our office.



### **Henderson County 4-H**

410 E. Main | PO Box 540

Stronghurst, IL 61480

Phone: 309-924-1163

Tuesday and Thursday

8 a.m.— 4 p.m.

### **Warren County 4-H**

1000 North Main Street| PO Box 227

Monmouth, IL 61462

Phone: 309-734-5161

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

8 a.m.—Noon & 12:30 p.m - 4 p.m.

## Loving Bottoms Diaper Bank Diaper Drive:

The Warren and Henderson 4-H Federation and Unit Federations will be collecting diapers to donate to the Loving Bottoms Diaper Bank . We will be making it a competition 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! Please call to arrange drop off while our office is closed.

## 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.

## 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 Jill if you are interested in attending an event.

## 4-H Fair Book Cover Contest:

Any 4-H member (age 8-18 only) interested in creating an original design for the Henderson and Warren County 4-H Fair Books must submit their entry to the Extension Office by **February 8 at 4 pm**. The entry that is selected for the cover will receive a 4-H swag bag and will have their art on display. All other entries will receive a 4-H cup. **To be considered for the contest and to receive the prize, entries must meet the following requirements:**

**Title:** Henderson County 4-H Fair Book or Warren 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

\*Do not use pencil. It is not dark enough to copy. Also, the finished copy is in black and white. Do not make a multi-colored copy.

**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.

## Farmers Forecast Schedule:

Please submit all Farmer's Forecast articles and JPG photos to [jillcook@illinois.edu](mailto:jillcook@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

**February:** Knox County Power Clovers

**March:** Rio Livestock

**April:** Rising Clovers

**May:** Rusty Spurs

**June:** Union

**July:** Victoria Cloverleaf

**August:** Walnut Grove Progressors

**September:** Wataga Trailblazers

**October:** Williamsfield T&C

**November:** Willing Workers

**December:** Backcountry Braves

## Helpful Tips for First Year 4-H Families:

Is it possible to be both excited and confused at the same time? Yes, just ask any 1st year 4-H parent. That is why we have put together a few helpful tips to get you through your 1st year.

- Make sure to review the projects your kiddos are signed up for on [v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in](https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in)
- There is still time to enroll for General show projects (basically anything non livestock). You have until March 1 to add General Show projects.
- Once you get your 4-H Fair Book, hold it in your hands and say out loud “this is my fair book, there are many like it, but this one is mine.” Sounds a bit silly but by saying it, you are allowing yourself to highlight, star, and mark up the pages within. We encourage families to do this so that they can remember what projects their youth are signed up for and this is a great way to make looking up project details and fair dates quicker.
- Is your kiddo signed up for a livestock project? If yes, make sure they have completed their QAEC and or YQCA. Details are within this newsletter.
- Fair entries will be completed online. This is when you choose exactly what projects you want to take to the 4-H Fair. Please know that you by no means need to take everything that you signed up for. Choose projects that the 4-H member is most excited about and that you know you have time to complete.
- Know that your 4-H Program Coordinator, Jill Cook, and the rest of the Extension Office are here to help you with fair entries. We are more than happy to make arrangements for 1 on 1, to help you complete the entries or help answer questions about project details.
- Remember that everyone in your club or Extension office has had a 1st year in 4-H and are more than happy to help you with your questions. Feel free to ask your 4-H Club leader, officer team, fellow members and other 4-H families.
- Lastly, take a deep breath you are doing great! You are more than half way through your 1st year. The second year will be a walk in the park. **Here is to a great 4-H year!**

## ***Happy Birthday To You, Happy Birthday To You.....***

A very Happy Birthday to all the 4-H members born in January!

We want to celebrate with you! Please stop into the Extension office anytime during this month to pick out a 4-H birthday gift and let us wish you a “Happy Birthday.”

Emerson Forbes	Stronghurst Hustlers
Nolan Forbes	Stronghurst Hustlers
Aubrey Killey	Happy Hustlers
Liza Mahoney	Happy Hustlers
Gwendolyn McGinity	Bald Bluff Blue Ribbons
Isaac Mohr	Terre Haute Superstars
Lexi Payne	Cameron Kids
Dexter Ricketts	Bald Bluff Blue Ribbons
Kenna Tatman	Backcountry Braves
Ross Vancil	Stronghurst Hustlers

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**