



NEWSFLASH

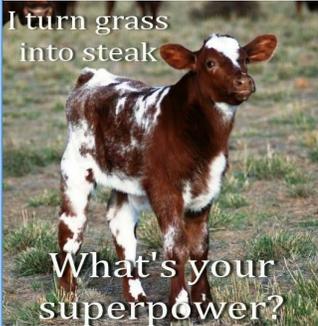


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[Find us on
Facebook!](#)

April 30, 2020

Inspired to Lead– Called to Serve

Good afternoon 4-H Families,

The wind seems to have finally calmed down this afternoon. It seemed to shake the whole house at times the past couple of days! I hope all of you are doing well and able to get out to enjoy the much needed sunshine in the upcoming days! Hard to believe tomorrow is the first of May (and horse paperwork is due)! Things sure are different than they normally are this time of year!

I will continue to update you about programming, project books and fair as I receive the information. I so much appreciate all of your patience and words of encouragement and kindness!

Please continue to check in with each other. I would love to feature photos and videos on our social media account of how Stephenson County 4-H members are keeping busy during the Stay-at-Home order. You all really make Stephenson County 4-H THE BEST! (We won't tell the other counties!)

Thank you all! Have a fabulous weekend!

Becky Gocken



Meet our newest fur-baby– Willow Gocken! Willow was born February 18, 2020 and just turned 10 weeks old! She's a bundle of energy!



STEPHENSON COUNTY SHOUT-OUTS



Pearl City Hornets 4-H member Brogan shows his heifer Melody to his classmates at school for e-learning Show-and-Tell.

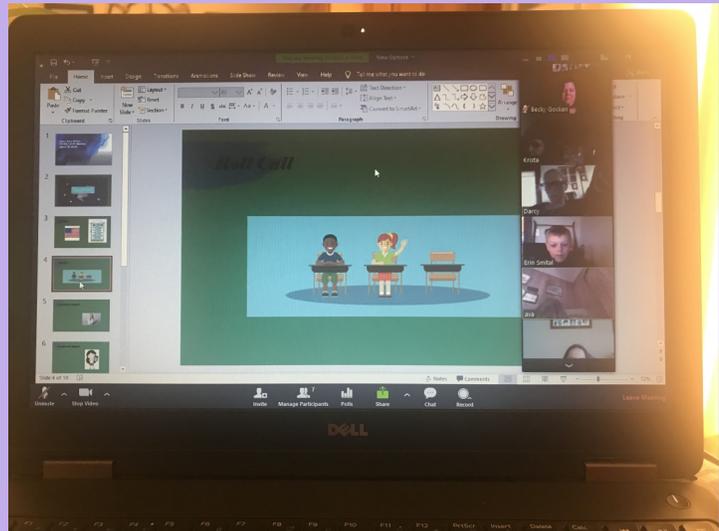


Davis Rockets Cloverbud Levi has been keeping busy with his arts and crafts projects! He made a washcloth bunny and fun dough!



Sign up as a member of the IL 4-H alumni association to receive newsletters and invitations as we grow our new association!

<https://go.illinois.edu/4halum>



Lena Live Wires

First virtual 4-H meeting via Zoom! Krista did a fantastic job leading with a Power-Point presentation!

STEPHENSON COUNTY ALUMNI SHOUT-OUTS

Thank you to our 4-H Alumni working in Medical-Health & Public Safety Professions!



Rachel Clay

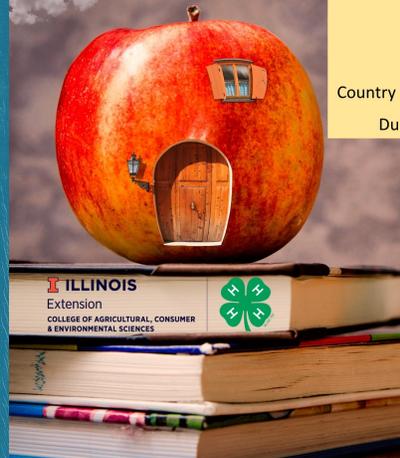
Stephenson County Sheriffs Office— Corrections & Dakota Volunteer Fire Department
4-H Alumni for Country Cuzins
"I went into the profession of law enforcement/ corrections because I love helping people and being there for them at their most vulnerable times. Sometimes physically being present is all someone needs.
Being in 4-H taught me both professional communication and leadership skills that help me within my daily duties as a correctional officer.
I am also a new member of the Dakota Volunteer Fire Department. 4-H taught me what community really meant, which is why I continually try to help out in the community. No part is a small part."



"Teachers plant the seeds of knowledge that will grow forever."

Nicole Trampel

Rock Run Clover 4-H Alumni
Country Cuzins 4-H Volunteer Leader Assistant
Durand Elementary School Teacher



Thank you to our 4-H Alumni working in Medical-Health & Public Safety Professions, Famers and Teachers!
Are you a 4-H Alumni Essential Worker and would like to be featured on our social media?

Please send me an email (rgocken@illinois.edu) with your name, photo, job title and what 4-H club you are an alumni from.

Thank you to our 4-H Alumni working in Medical-Health & Public Safety Professions!



Ethan Trampel

Volunteer Fireman for Rock City Fire Department & CNA at Oakley Courts Assisted Living Community
Alumni of Country Cuzins 4-H Club

"I started 4-H when I was 8, and I continued until I was 18. Over the years, I was taught many leadership and communication skills and the importance of them in our daily lives. I learned these skills through F.F.A., Boy Scouts, and 4-H. I also earned my Eagle Scout in 2018. I enjoy helping my community and making it stronger."



Thank you to our 4-H Alumni working in Medical-Health & Public Safety Professions!



Karlene Beckmeier

RN— FHN Office Practice Setting

"I've been an RN since 1986. I chose to become an RN because I had some health issues as an infant and toddler I always admired the nurses that took care of me. I was a member of the Eleroy Lads and Lassies 4-H club starting at the age of 9."



To those that work in acres and not hours, we thank you!



Brian & Kristi Dinderman

Dairy Famers
Kristi is a Snappy Snazzers
4-H Club Alumni
Brian is a Pearl City Hornets
4-H Club Alumni

ATTENTION: STEPHENSON COUNTY ALUMNI

SEEKING 4-H ALUMNI AREA OF EXPERTISE:

The Illinois 4-H Program is developing an exciting new resource for 4-H members and their families called Illinois **4-H Spark Sheets**. Illinois 4-H Spark Sheets will be created for all ninety-one projects that 4-H members can enroll in. Each 4-H Spark Sheet will be a one page resource sheet (front/back) and will focus on a specific project.

During the month of May, extension staff statewide, along with input from their local 4-H families, will be

creating the first draft of all 4-H Spark Sheets. The next step will be to gather input and review from a broader cross-section of people.

That's where our 4-H Alumni can help! We are asking our 4-H alumni to identify your expertise in relation to the 4-H project areas. It might be your career or job, a hobby or passion or maybe a 4-H project that you excelled in as a member.

In early June, we will compile all of the draft 4-H Spark Sheets written by Extension staff and their local teams and send them out to alumni who register. We'll ask you to review the document and suggest input related to:

- Does the content reflect the current industry or subject area?
- What industry or subject area resources should 4-H families be aware of?
- What career opportunities are available in this area?
- What innovative ways is technology utilized?

Are there events sponsored by industry or organizations that would benefit 4-H members?

The review can be done completely via e-mail or possibly by phone or a video conference with a small group of alumni sharing a similar project area interest.

You can [sign up](#) for just one project area, or more, if you'd like. We anticipate that this will take about one hour for a single 4-H Spark Sheet ... it's that simple! **Please respond by Friday, May 22.**

Please email your county 4-H Coordinator if you are interested. We thank you for your support of Illinois 4-H and continuing to help us "**Make the Best Better**"!

4-H PLEDGE

I pledge my **HEAD** to clearer thinking,
my **HEART** to greater loyalty,
my **HANDS** to larger service,
and my **HEALTH** to better living,
for my club, my community,
my country, and my world.



4-H AMBASSADOR SPOTLIGHT— KRISTA KEENE

Name: Krista Keene

Club: Lena Live Wires

How long have you been in 4-H? **10 years**



How long have you been a 4-H Ambassador? Why did you want to become a Stephenson County 4-H Ambassador?

I have been an Ambassador for two years. I wanted to become an Ambassador because I wanted to help promote 4-H to a greater extent.

How would you describe 4-H to someone that has never heard of it?

4-H is an organization that many youth participate in. In 4-H you make new friends, learn new skills, and show your projects.



What is your favorite 4-H memory/ story?

My favorite 4-H memory was when I went to 4-H camp and there was a tornado one night.

What is your favorite indoor/outdoor activity?

My favorite indoor activity would be singing.

Tell us something about you that might surprise us.

I am not as quiet as you think I am.

If you could learn to do anything, what would it be?

Something that I want to learn is how to ride a horse.



What advice would you give to someone just starting out in 4-H?

My advice to someone who is just starting 4-H would be, don't be afraid because everyone is here to support you!

4-H VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT— KATHY BAUNGARTNER

Name: **Kathy Baumgartner**

Occupation: **Farmwife, retired RN**

How long have you been a 4-H volunteer? **About 35 years**

How are you involved as a 4-H volunteer? **I have been the leader of the Lena Live Wires for 30+ years.**

Were you involved in 4-H as a child? If so, how many years? **I was a member of the "girl's" club, the Winslow Winners so I could learn to sew and cook and was a member of the Winslow Rivals, a "boy's" club so I could raise chickens! I was a member at least 10 years.**

What does 4-H mean to you? **4-H is a great opportunity for kids to learn about lots of different projects, to learn to give a talk in front of people and how to be a leader**

What is your favorite 4-H memory/ story? **My brothers and I always raised chickens during our 4-H years. I always remember the year we split our profit for the year - \$2.50 between the 3 of us! That's when I realized that raising your own chickens for meat and eggs was not necessarily a money making proposition.**

What is your favorite indoor/outdoor activity? **I like to read and Bruce and I love to camp and hike. In the winter we play pool and shoot darts a lot.**

Tell us something about you that might surprise us. **I am an Army Nurse Corps veteran and spent 14 months working in an army hospital in Vietnam during the Vietnam war.**

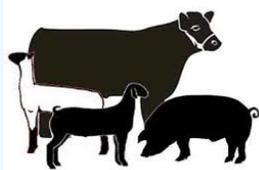
If you could learn to do anything, what would it be? **Not sure, I've tried a lot of different things in my life.**

What advice would you give to someone just starting out in 4-H?
For a kid, ask questions of your leader, attend as many meetings as you can so you don't miss something really interesting, and become an actual part of the club. For parents or new leaders, encourage your child to take part in as many activities as possible both on the club level and county level, get them to the meetings and encourage them to try different projects.

**Volunteer
Spotlight**



STEPHENSON COUNTY 4-H INFORMATION



Attention 4-H Swine, Sheep, Goats, Beef and Dairy Show Participants:

The YQCA annual training is required by the state 4-H office this year to show in any 4-H Swine, Sheep, Goat, Beef or Dairy livestock show. All in-person trainings have been suspended. You will need to complete the training online for \$12.

<https://yqca.learngrow.io/Account/Login>

All other livestock shows still require the QAEC training which can be found at <https://web.extension.illinois.edu/qaec/>.

These trainings must be completed by June 1, 2020!

We are currently seeking a new Technologies Superintendent for the fair!

Please email or call Becky if you are interested!

815-235-4125 or rgocken@illinois.edu

COVID-19 UPDATES

Illinois Extension event cancellation notice: Stephenson County 4-H

Effective immediately, ALL face-to-face events organized by Illinois Extension have been cancelled, suspended, or transitioned to online delivery. This means that all 4-H club meetings are cancelled through May 31, 2020 unless otherwise notified.

During this time, we are committed to supporting you in your continued 4-H project experience at home. Right now, we are preparing a series of statewide 4-H Online engagement opportunities through our Facebook page (Illinois 4-H). Please check there for updates. As additional resources are identified, we will share through social media and e-blasts.

We know that you may also have questions and concerns about summer events. We will be actively monitoring the situation and providing updates as they are available. We know that you have put a lot of work into your 4-H projects. Be assured that we are exploring all possibilities for providing continued judging, exhibit, and showcase opportunities.

Resources for Responding to COVID-19: <https://extension.illinois.edu/global/resources-responding-covid-19>



STEPHENSON COUNTY IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

MAY 2020

- 1 **Ownership/ Lease Deadline for Horse Show– due to Extension Office**
- 2 **Ownership deadline for all Swine (no paperwork to Ext. Office)**
- 15 Ownership deadline for Sheep Wethers and ALL Meat Goats

JUNE 2020

- 1 **Deadline for YQCA & QAEC Certification**
- 1 **Ownership deadline: Beef Heifers, Beef Bucket Calves, Dairy Goat Kids, Dairy Goat Yearling (not in milk), *ALL Pygmy Goats, Dairy Calves & Heifers, All Poultry, Rabbit & Cavies (No paperwork to Ext. Office)**
- 1 **Ownership/ Lease Deadline Dog Show—due to Extension Office**
- 3, 10, 17, 24 6 p.m. Dog Class, Stephenson Co. Fairgrounds, Foresight Commercial Bldg.
- 14 2020 Northern Illinois 4-H Horse & Pony Show, Stephenson County Fairgrounds, Freeport
- 15 **LAST DAY TO REGISTER IN FAIR ENTRY**
- 19 9-2:30 p.m. Babysitting Clinic, Pearl City Park District
- 20 Stephenson County Ag Breakfast
- 20 9:00 a.m. 2020 Western Illinois 4-H Horse Show, Monmouth, IL
- 22 5:30 p.m. Fair Committee Meeting
- 23 **6:30 p.m. Public Speaking Contest, HCC, Bldg. H-127**

JULY 2020

- 1 6 p.m. Dog Class, Stephenson County Fairgrounds, Foresight Commercial Bldg.
- 3 9:00 a.m. 4-H Stephenson County Fashion, Highland Community College Cafeteria
- 3 1-1:30 p.m. 4-H Candy Making Shows, Highland Community College Cafeteria
- 3 1:30-3:30 p.m. 4-H Cake Decorating, Cookie Decorating, Highland Community College Cafeteria
- 3 2:30 p.m. 4-H Flower Arranging Contest, Highland Community College Cafeteria
- 4 Extension Office closed for Independence Day

Find Help for Your Projects

We have dozens of projects you can choose to take, and ways to help you learn! Check out the resources available @ <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/project-resources>. Some are available from the county Extension office. Others you can order directly from Shop 4-H or other state Extension programs.

Give us a call if you have questions.

STEPHENSON COUNTY IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

JULY 2020

8	9 a.m.	General Projects Day , Stephenson County Fairgrounds, Foresight Commercial Bldg.	
8	6 p.m.	Dog Class, Stephenson County Fairgrounds, Foresight Commercial Bldg.	
10	6 p.m.	Dog Class, Stephenson County Fairgrounds, Foresight Commercial Bldg.	
11	9:00 a.m.	Stephenson County 4-H Dog Show, Stephenson County Fairgrounds, Foresight Commercial Bldg.	
11	1:00 p.m.	Stephenson County 4-H Cat Show, Stephenson County Fairgrounds, Foresight Commercial Bldg.	
20	9:00 a.m.	4-H Crops, Cooking, Cloverbuds Shows, Stephenson County Fairgrounds, Foresight Commercial Building	
20	1:00 p.m.	Cloverbud Show, Stephenson County Fairgrounds, Foresight Commercial Building	
21-25		Stephenson County Fair	
21	8:30 a.m.	4-H Rabbit & Cavy Show, Rabbit Barn	
21	8:45 a.m.	4-H Poultry Shows, Poultry Barn	
21	9:00 a.m.	4-H Swine Show, Swine Barn	
21	9:00 a.m.	4-H Beef Show, Beef Show Ring	
21	9:00 a.m.	4-H Sheep Show, Sheep Show Ring	
21	9:30 a.m.	4-H Goat Show, Goat Show Ring	
21	9:30 a.m.	4-H Dairy Show, Dairy Show Ring	
23	5:30 p.m.	Parade of Excellence, FHN Grandstand	
25	1:00 p.m.	4-H Master Showmanship Contest (Swine, Sheep, Beef Show Rings)	
26	8:30 a.m.	4-H Stephenson County Horse Show- Rain or Shine	

AUGUST 2020

14		Stephenson County State Fair Show Date
29		State 4-H Dog Show, Granny Rose K-9 Enrichment Center, Dixon, IL

SEPTEMBER 2020

11-12		Stephenson County 4-H and Extension Foundation Cub Foods Brat Stand Fundraiser
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STATE 4-H INFORMATION:

4-H Shooting Sports Volunteer Certification Field-Day Training Dates:

Western Illinois: Saturday, June 13 at Gardner Camp, Hull, IL. Register between April 1 – June 3.

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.
- \$85 fee covers two meals; all equipment and ammunition; on-line curriculum fee; instructors manual; complete full-day individual instruction; and Level I instructor cap.

Foundation Hall of Fame Ceremony

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.



Illinois 4-H Virtual Fishing Fun-Fest

4-H members currently enrolled in Fishing 1, 2, or 3 are eligible to win big this spring! Between April 17 – May 15 these 4-H members can enter a statewide fishing contest (Fun-Fest) via smartphone. New spinning rod and reel combos will be given away weekly to the longest largemouth bass and channel catfish entered. The simple contest details can be found on the Illinois 4-H Events Page and Illinois 4-H Facebook page. Contact Curt Sinclair at sinclair@illinois.edu with questions. Stay safe and enjoy the sunshine on the lake!

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ILLINOIS 4-H ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

LET'S BUILD A 4-H ALUMNI NETWORK



Facebook Group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/il4halumni/>



Linked In - <https://go.illinois.edu/LinkedIn4HALumni>



Instagram - #il4halumni



Twitter - <https://twitter.com/IL4halumni>

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& ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



STATE 4-H INFORMATION:

Look for These Changes at the Illinois State Fair

With the timing of the state fair and the anticipated start of school, the 4-H General Project Show at the state fair has been condensed to three days: Aug. 14, 15, and 16.

- 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.
- Steers advancing to state fair **must be weighed by Feb. 29**.
- 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 Saturday, Aug. 22.
- Check out all the livestock ownership deadlines online @ go.illinois.edu/4Hlivestock.

Our exhibit day is August 14, 2020.

August 14	Bureau, Carroll, Champaign, Coles, Cumberland, DeWitt, Ford, Fulton, Henry, Iroquois, Jo Daviess, LaSalle, Lee, Macon, Marshall-Putnam, Mason, Mercer, Moultrie-Douglas, Peoria, Piatt, Rock Island, Shelby, Stark, Stephenson, Tazewell, Vermilion, Whiteside, Winnebago
August 15	Christian, Clark, Clay, Cook, Crawford, DeKalb, DuPage, Edgar, Effingham, Fayette, Franklin, Jackson, Jasper, Jersey, Johnson, Kane, Kendall, Livingston, Logan, Macoupin, Massac, McLean, Menard, Montgomery, Ogle, Perry, Pulaski-Alexander, Randolph, Sangamon, Union, Williamson, Woodford
August 16	Adams, Bond, Boone, Brown, Calhoun, Cass, Clinton, Edwards, Gallatin, Greene, Grundy, Hamilton, Hancock, Henderson, Jefferson, Kankakee, Knox, Lake, Lawrence, Madison, Marion, McDonough, McHenry, Monroe, Morgan, Pike, Pope-Hardin, Richland, Saline, Schuyler, Scott, St. Clair, Wabash, Warren, Washington, Wayne, White, Will



STATE 4-H INFORMATION:

Illinois 4-H Message from 4-H Director

See new blog post from IL 4-H Director at

<https://extension.illinois.edu/blogs/our-illinois-4-h-story/2020-03-30-message-illinois-4-h>



Stand up and be heard: Compete in Public Presentation Contest

Three youth from each county will advance to the State 4-H Public Presentation Contest in August at the Illinois State Fair. The contest will be held August 14th-16th. All ages are eligible to compete in any of the four divisions: Formal Speech, Illustrated Speech, Original Works, Oral Interpretation. Youth may participate in this contest AND exhibit a project at the Illinois State Fair. All presentations must be 4 to 6 minutes in length. See the rules and scoresheets online at 4-H.illinois.edu. Click

Our county 4-H public presentation contest will be June 23, 2020. We will select who advances to state competition at that contest

New Statewide Leadership Opportunity: Illinois 4-H Food Advocacy Team

The Illinois 4-H State Office is pleased to announce the launch of a new statewide leadership opportunity for Illinois youth seeking to improve food security and food access in their community. The Illinois 4-H Food Advocacy team is a group of teens and young adults from across the state of Illinois who are recognized for their dynamic leadership and who want to increase their impact on the future of food in Illinois. Team members will influence the annual Illinois 4-H Food Action Summit event and provide support for Food Systems programming in Illinois. You will also be eligible for state and nationwide opportunities.

If you're looking for a way to serve your community while strengthening your leadership, communication and advocacy skills, this is the next step for you. Applications, along with one professional reference, are due to the Illinois State 4-H Office by Saturday, May 2nd, 2020. For more information please contact Mark Becker

(mbbecker@illinois.edu), Illinois 4-H Food Systems Specialist.

Application Link: <https://go.illinois.edu/Illinois4-HFoodAdvocacyTeamApplication>

Professional Reference Link: <https://go.illinois.edu/Illinois4-HFoodAdvocacyTeamReference>

Taking an Animal Project? READ THIS

For members enrolled in dairy cattle, beef cattle, swine, sheep, and goats:

The YQCA is a new livestock quality assurance program that is replacing PQA which no longer exists. All 4-H exhibitors of these animals will be required to certify in the YQCA program each year starting for the 2020 show season. Attend either a face to face class or certify on-line via the website yqca.org The YQCA program is for youth ages 8-21. The online version is broken into age divisions as follows: juniors 8-11, intermediate 12-14, senior 15-18, and young adults 19-21. This certification is needed each year with test out options of 1-3 years. Youth exhibiting swine at the Illinois State Fair and 4-H fairs are no longer required to be PQA plus certified. The estimated cost for the face-to-face training will be \$3 and \$12 for the online version.

For members enrolled in horses, rabbits, poultry, dogs, and cats:

The Quality Assurance and Ethics training is required for youth in horses, rabbits, poultry, dogs and cats. You only need to take it once in your lifetime. Those who don't complete the training will be removed from the animal science project and will not be eligible to exhibit at county fairs. The website is open year round @ web.extension.illinois.edu/qaec/.
NOTE: Youth must be logged on to a computer for this program, either a desktop or laptop; not an iPad or iPhone.

NATIONAL 4-H INFORMATION:



4-H TALKS VIRTUAL LEARNING AND ACCESS WITH TREVOR NOAH AND MICROSOFT

To continue the discussion on virtual learning for America's kids, National 4-H Council President & CEO Jennifer Sirangelo joined Microsoft president Brad Smith and The Daily Show host Trevor Noah to discuss access to learning during COVID-19.

4-H AT HOME

FINANCIAL LITERACY, INDOOR GARDENING & ENGINEERING



This week's featured at-home learning resources from 4-H programs across the country dig into financial literacy, indoor gardening and engineering activities courtesy of University of Nebraska Lincoln sponsored by TD Ameritrade, Purdue University, Cornell University and Iowa State University.



APPLY FOR 2021 AG INNOVATORS EXPERIENCE LEAD LGU

National 4-H Council is proud to collaborate with Bayer for the eighth annual 4-H Ag Innovators Experience (AIE) that will drive youth awareness of, and interest in, agriculture innovation and agriculture careers. The AIE activity will be developed by a land-grant university (LGU) through this open RFA. The application deadline is July 1st.



TOGETHER WE MOVE FOURWARD

A global pandemic has put a sharper focus on the economic and social gaps existing in our communities and the lack of resources and solutions to address the problem. To support 4-H's capacity to create and deliver engaging, hands-on learning opportunities for all young people, as well as help their communities thrive even in the most difficult times, we have launched the FOURWARD Fund.

[Click Here to Learn More!](#)

4-H YOUTH IN ACTION DEADLINE EXTENDED

As we all adjust to the impact of COVID-19, we have delayed the deadline for the 4-H Youth in Action Awards application to May 18, 2020. Our hope is that this extension will allow 4-H leaders and youth alike adequate time to promote and complete the application. We will host a Youth in Action webinar for interested 4-H'ers on April 22 at 7 p.m. ET. Interested youth can register for the webinar [here!](#)

[Click Here for Youth in Action Awards Info!](#)



4-H AT HOME: HEALTHY HABITS, SEWING & MORE

Each Monday, 4-H will be sharing four at-home learning resources from 4-H programs across the country. In this week's 4-H at Home activities series, get daily tips on practicing healthy habits and learn how to make your own face cover.

How are you meeting the learning needs of children and families who are at home during COVID-19? [Submit your efforts](#) for an opportunity to be featured.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE EXTENSION:



GARDENING/LAWNCARE/
PERENNIALS/ANNUALS/TREES
& SHRUB QUESTIONS?

MASTER GARDENER HELPLINE

Our Helpline is "open for business" visit our website to submit a question or leave us a message at:

815-858-2273 - Jo Daviess

815-235-4125 - Stephenson

815-986-4357 - Winnebago

Go.illinois.edu/MGHelpline

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Master Gardener Helpline Open for Your Gardening Questions

It is that time of year again when the University of Illinois Extension Master Gardener volunteers offer the Master Gardener Helpline. Have a home gardening question? The Master Gardeners are here to help with research based information to solve your gardening issue. Questions can be submitted to the Master Gardener Helpline at go.illinois.edu/MGHelpline or a message can be left at the University of Illinois Extension at (815) 235-4125.

Each year the Master Gardeners field a variety of questions from across the region. These calls are logged in order to identify trends in disease issues or pest populations. Master Gardeners answer homeowner's questions regarding trees, shrubs, perennials, insects, lawns and more, answering the questions with research-based information from the University of Illinois.

To reach the Master Gardener Helpline fill out the form at go.illinois.edu/MGHelpline or leave us a message at (815) 235-4125. Be sure to visit us online at go.illinois.edu/jsw to see the multitude of on-line resources that are available for the home gardener, including upcoming webinars on garden topics, fact pages on garden related topics, recorded webinars and more.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE EXTENSION:

EXTENSION PROGRAMS

WE ARE OFFERING
MANY FREE ONLINE
WEBINARS

VISIT US AT
[GO.ILLINOIS.EDU/JSW](https://go.illinois.edu/jsw)

Health At Home Webinar Series

- Every Step Counts: Getting the Most out of Activity Trackers, April 29
- Take Your Kitchen Appliance Out For a Spin, May 6
- Diabetes, Practicing Self-Care During Difficult Times, May 12

Four Seasons Gardening Webinar Series

- Colorful Vegetables, April 28
- Landscape with Natives 101, May 5
- New Perennial Garden Theory, May 12

Everyday Environment Webinar Series

- Natural Lawn care Part 1: Assessment, Part 1, April 30
- Natural Lawn Care Part 2: Strategies, May 7
- Managing Waste In the Home, May 14

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Growing Horticulture in NW Illinois Webinar Series

- Northern IL Berry School Part 1: Introduction & Management, April 29
- Northern IL Berry School Part 2: Management & Disease, May 6
- Colorful Vegetables, May 13

SCHEDULE DOESN'T
ALLOW YOU TO JOIN
ONE OF OUR
WEBINARS?

CHECK US
OUT ON
YOUTUBE

Many of our webinars are
recorded and available to view
on your schedule.

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[HTTPS://GO.ILLINOIS.EDU/JSWEXTYOUTUBE](https://go.illinois.edu/jswextyoutube)

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