Extension Staff

Tara Buerster
County Extension Director

Samantha Gaither
Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development

Ryan Littlejohn
Extension Program Coordinator, 4-H Youth Development

Sheri Pitts
Office Support Assistant

December
6- Federation Meeting
10- Mandatory Club Officer Training @ 9AM
21- Afterschool Christmas Workshop
23-Jan 2- Office Closed

January
1- Re-Enrollment Deadline
1- Project Book Order Deadline 1
3- Federation Meeting
11-Fly to The Sky Workshop
18-Fly to The Sky Workshop
21-22- Youth Livestock Conference
21- New Member Workshop
25-Fly to The Sky Workshop

February
1-Market Beef Ownership Deadline
1-Fly to The Sky Workshop
4-Beef Weigh In
7-Federation Meeting
8-Fly to The Sky Workshop
15-Fly to The Sky Workshop
22-Fly to The Sky Workshop

If you have something you would like to highlight about your club or a picture please send it Ryans's way!
Richland County Federation
All 8th-12th Graders are invited to join Federation!
Meetings are the first Tuesday of the Month at 7 PM in the Extension Office Meeting Room.

4-H Enrollment
Re-Enrollment Deadline Jan 1
New Member Enrollment Deadline March 1

Illinois 4-H switched our enrollment and registration system from 4-H Online to ZSuite this fall. We believe this new system will offer a more user-friendly experience and features that will help you stay connected to the 4-H program and find new exciting experiences and opportunities for your kids! Registration is open!
go.illinois.edu/4HOnlineEnrollment

PROJECT BOOK RECYCLE
If anyone has books that they have received in the last few years and you NEVER wrote in it. Can you please bring them back to the office to let someone else use them. Typically you use the same book for 3 years before you get a new one so if you still need it please keep it. But if you are not planning on using it or are out of that level please bring them back to the office!

YQCA & QAEC
Starting this year YQCA will be taught at club meetings starting in January. Everyone taking Beef, Dairy, Goat, Swine, or Sheep are required to take it. Watch for the schedule on when Ryan will be attending your club meeting. If you are not there, 2 make up sessions will be offered.
QAEC will still be offered in an online format. QAEC must be completed by May 1 2023.

Project Books
In 2023 we are doing 2 Project Book orders. One in January after returning members enroll and one in March after new members finish enrolling. Reminder Project Books are designed to be used for 3 years. Please check the 4-H Fair Book for which projects need a book. All members have until March 1 to make final project decisions. Each 4-H member will get 3 project books covered by the Extension Office. If you need more then three books please contact the office to place your order. If you have questions please contact us at the office. 618-395-2191 or spitts@illinois.edu
Please use this form to order them: https://go.illinois.edu/ProjectBooks
Join us for an afternoon of creating Christmas decorations that can be take home.

December 21st, 2022
3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Richland County Extension Office

Any youth ages 5-18 as of sept. 1, 2022 welcome

Register here: https://go.illinois.edu/Christmasornamentworkshop

Join us as we learn about rockets to airplanes and everything in between. Wednesday's afterschool from January 11 through March 15.

Any youth ages 8-18 as of sept. 1, 2022 welcome

Register here: https://go.illinois.edu/flytothesky
State Events 2023

• January 21-22 Youth Livestock Conference
• February 10-12 4-H Food Action Summit
• March 4-5 4-H Changemakers
• March 9-12 Ignite by 4-H
• April 1 State Awards Banquet
• April 14-19 National 4-H Conference
• April 29 State Public Speaking Competition
• May 13 State Robotics Competition
• June 4 on – 4-H Camp
• June 25-29 4-H Illini Summer Academies
• June, exact date TBD Citizenship Washington Focus
• July 6-8 4-H Teen Leadership Camp
• July 10-13 True Leaders in Equity Institute
• July 24-August 4 Digital Agriculture Training Course
• August 11-13 General Projects days at State Fair

New this year!!!!
4-H members will be receiving a member's record book in January. It will have everything they need for the 4-H year; records, ownership paperwork and awards. Be on the lookout for these.

2023 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Trainings:
#1. Saturday, February 25, 2023
   Kane County Fairgrounds, St. Charles, IL
   Disciplines offered: Rifle; Pistol; Archery; Coordinator

#2. Saturday, May 6, 2023
   4-H Memorial Camp, Monticello, IL
   Disciplines offered: Shotgun, Rifle; Pistol; Archery; Coordinator;
   Hunting/Outdoor Skills

If interested, contact your local University of Illinois Extension office for registration information. These dates are 9-hour “field days” which teach range management. An additional 3-hour on-line 4-H training will complete the certification process. Registration will be open Dec. 15, 2022 – Feb. 15, 2023.
4-H Memorial Camp

Summer Youth Camp dates for 2023 at 4-H Memorial Camp are set! Youth age 8-16 (actual age) can attend camp during the following sessions:
- June 4-8
- June 11-15
- June 25-29

June 30 - July 4 (check out is at 11am this session)

Online registration via the camp website will open for 4-H Club members on January 23rd. Registration will open for non 4-H Club members on February 6th. The fee for camp is $315 for 4-H Club members, $355 for non 4-H Club members. Links for registration and additional details will be available on the 4-H Camp website closer to the time of registration. Please contact Andy Davis ardavis1@illinois.edu or Monika Hammerschmidt hammersc@illinois.edu with any questions.

Spring Family Camp

Spring Family Camp will be back again May 19-21. Bring the whole family to enjoy camp a weekend of camp fun! Registration will open up in late February. More details including activities and fees will be available soon! Please contact Andy Davis ardavis1@illinois.edu or Monika Hammerschmidt hammersc@illinois.edu with any questions.

Camp Corral

4-H Memorial Camp will once again be holding the Camp Corral July 16-21, 2023. This 6 day youth camp is for youth age 8-15 who has one or more parents or guardians who are military veterans.

The Mission of this program is “To transform the lives of children of wounded, ill, and fallen military heroes by providing camp, advocacy, and enrichment programs.” To learn more about this program, please visit the Camp Corral website. Registration will open on January 18th via the Camp Corral website. You do not need to be a 4-H Member to attend this program. Please contact Andy Davis ardavis1@illinois.edu or Monika Hammerschmidt hammersc@illinois.edu with any questions.

Hiring

4-H Memorial Camp needs you! Running a successful summer camp program takes a lot of people. We will begin accepting applications for summer employment starting January 1st. We are looking to fill the following positions.

Counselors
- Dates: May 30 - June 15, June 25 - July 4, and July 16-21
- Positions: Junior Counselors 16-17 years old, Senior Counselors 18+ years old
- Program staff: 18+ years old

Positions: Seasonal Assistant Director, Outdoor Ed., Lifeguard, Recreation, Arts & Crafts, Creation Station, Climbing Tower

Applications and additional information will be available on our website. Please contact Andy Davis ardavis1@illinois.edu or Monika Hammerschmidt hammersc@illinois.edu