



Deadlines:

May 1 Horse Papers

June 20 State Horse Entries

Events:

All in-person events cancelled through May 31.



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McCala Crawford, the new Rock Island County 4-H Program Coordinator, is looking forward to sharing a little bit more about herself! McCala was a 12 year 4-H member of the County Kids 4-H Club out of Mercer County. This club is now lead by her mother, and her younger brother is a current member! McCala explains, "4-H is a family affair!" McCala grew up in a family of five. Everyone participated in 4-H in one way or another! McCala's older brother James started the tradition by joining 4-H at a young ago. "I continued in his footsteps," McCala says. Our mother always made sure we attended meetings and helped out with our General Projects, and our father helped with the livestock side of 4-H. McCala participated in a wide variety of 4-H projects including Child Development, Veterinary Science, Photography, Horse, Dog, and Beef, to name a few. "I have learned many lifelong skills through 4-H and I would not change my experience for anything!" McCala encourages current members to explore projects that interest them or that may potentially become a career. 4-H gives excellent background information within projects to help members cultivate their interests. 4-H may help you find your future job!



After graduating from Southern Illinois University with a Bachelor's degree in Agriculture Communications, McCala was sure she wanted to work with youth and inform them about the importance of Agriculture in their every day lives. This passion gave McCala many options in life, but once again, 4-H was calling her home! As a new resident of Rock Island County, McCala and her newly wedded husband purchased several acres where they plan to grow their crop and livestock operations. McCala grew up on an Angus based cow/calf operation where she learned from her father and has applied that knowledge and love to her farm.

When McCala is not at work, she enjoys spending time with her family and being a homemaker to her husband and fur family! McCala enjoys preparing meals for her family and keeping a tidy home! McCala admits her guilty pleasure is binge-watching reality TV shows on Netflix in her free time! If you would like to know more or introduce yourself to McCala please feel free to email her at mmmille@illinois.edu.

Editors note: We are VERY glad she's here!



FAQ/What Does This Mean For....

Fair Entry



At this time, the opening of faireentry.com for fair entries is on hold. When we know more about the plan for summer programs and fairs, we will update you. Know that we will offer some kind of exhibit opportunity - even if it has to be virtual.

Dog Obedience



Due to the no in-person events rule, dog obedience is moving online. If you are enrolled in dogs and plan to show at the county fair or just want to work on obedience, register for the classes at <https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/?RegistrationID=22112> Registration closes on April 6 at which time you will be sent a link to a private Facebook group for your county. Instructors will be posting videos and instructions for techniques to work on with your dog each week.

Horses



*Regional horse bowl contests are cancelled as of this moment. The information surrounding those contests is constantly changing.
***The State Junior Horse Show entry deadline has been extended from June 1 to June 20.**
*We will be lenient on the traditional May 1 deadline for horse ownership/lease/registration papers and pictures.

Public Presentations



All county public presentation contests are on hold for now. The deadline to submit state fair delegates was pushed to August 1. When we know more about the status of summer programs and fairs, we will update you on these contests.

Project Manuals



The campus warehouse is closed and we are not allowed in our offices at this time. We have no way of getting you project manuals. If you want to work on projects and find you need a manual, you can find many of them at the National 4-H Mall (shop4-h.org). Some project curriculum is also available as an online download. Look up your project on the State 4-H website (4h.extension.illinois.edu) to see all the resources available. Exhibit requirements are posted on our website at extension.illinois.edu/hmrs.

Livestock



All Premiere tattooing and weighing is postponed.
-As of March 30, sheep & goat nominations are due by May 15. Forms will be available on our website and emailed out to everyone enrolled in sheep & goats. Remember that these forms require a picture of the scrapie tag in the ear.
-As of March 30, YQCA is still a requirement. See pg. 2 for updates.
*As with everything, this is subject to change.



NEWS & notes

Local & State

Rural Go Getters Report Submitted by: Hannah Close



It is time again to nominate someone who has impacted the 4-H program in Rock Island County for the IL 4-H Hall of Fame. Nominations are due by April 30 via email to McCala. The induction ceremony will be August 18 in Springfield.



CHALLENGE

The 4-H Pledge challenge begins this week. Each week, we will be issuing a challenge related to one of the 4 H's - Head, Heart, Hands & Health plus an ending bonus. Those challenges will be posted to our 4-H Facebook pages and Instagram.

- See the first video, up now, for full instructions.
- If you post to Facebook use #virtual4Hchallenge.
- All submissions must include a photo or video, the name of the member(s) and which "H" they are completing.
- There will be prizes for those who fulfill all 5 challenges. Plus, each week the most creative response will be entered into a grand prize drawing.



University of Illinois Extension has put together a fun virtual wellness challenge to inspire healthy lifestyles during the month of April. Each week participants will receive a new BINGO card with a variety of activities to promote healthy habits at home. The BINGO card activities incorporate all dimensions of wellness and all ages can participate.

Sign up for the Virtual Wellness Challenge [here](#)

YQCA Updates

YQCA is offering a 25% discount for the month of April for the online training. All in-person trainings are cancelled due to our restriction on in-person meetings through May 31.

As of now, it is still required that youth exhibiting in beef, dairy, goats, sheep and/or swine complete YQCA. If you still need to fulfill the requirement, you will have to take the training online at yqca.org.

Here are a few instructions:

- Use the 4-H Online option to log-in.
- If you want to pay online using a credit card, you have to pay the full \$12. The 25% discount cannot be applied through the online payment method.
- If you want the discount, follow the instructions sent in an email from Jennifer. Those instructions include a coupon form that you must mail in along with a check for \$9.
- You can still test out of age ranges, but that also requires paying the full \$12/year fee.
- At this time, we don't anticipate rescheduling any in-person trainings for this 4-H year.
- The deadline to complete this training is still **June 1**. If that changes, we will let you know.



All of the 4-H staff would like to give a big shout-out to our leaders in honor of National Volunteer Week. The 4-H program only exists because of your dedication and gifts of time and talent.

The work you do with the youth is extraordinary and appreciated. We wish we could thank you in person!

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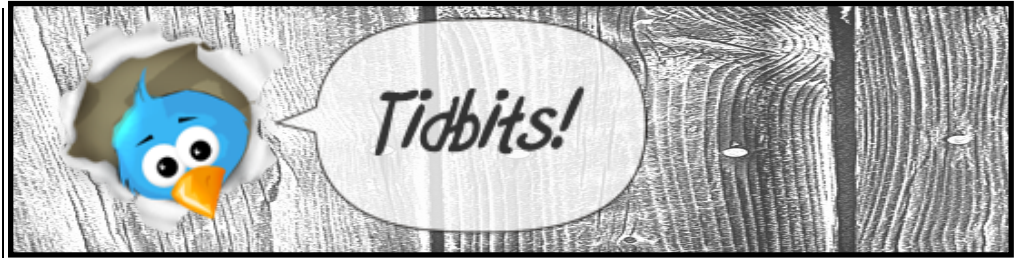
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closed for lunch 12 – 12:30 p.m.



Greeting!

Hello from our first couple weeks working from home. We hope you are all safe and healthy!

This has been a big adjustment for all of us. 4-H is all about community - learning in a hands-on manner, helping others, supporting each other. We have always taken that spirit of physical togetherness for granted. Now, we must find ways to maintain that togetherness without the physical gathering.

We are working on ways to stay connected with all of you and turning the 4-H program virtual. This is an evolving process happening at both the state and local levels. We are counting on all of you to help us by continuing to participate and interact with these new initiatives.

Right now, everything is a moving target. We will pass along updates about fairs, summer programs, deadline changes, etc. as we get them. Please be patient with the number of emails you are likely to receive, and contact us with any questions. We are still available during normal work hours, though email is now the best way to reach us.

We are thinking of all of you and anxiously awaiting the day we can all be face-to-face again.



*Warmest regards,
McCaia & Jennifer*

*Find us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/RockIslandCounty4H*

State · County · Local Groups · United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating University of Illinois provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

Programs and activities sponsored by University of Illinois Extension are open to anyone. If a special accommodation must be addressed in order for any individual to participate, please contact Jenny Garner at 309-756-9978 in advance of the event.