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ST. CLAIR COUNTY
4-H Family News



County Director
Amy Cope

**4-H Youth Development
Educator**
Rachel Hazen

**4-H Program
Coordinators**
Angie Abernathy
Kelly Brandt

Office Support
Paige Brown
Patty Stanton
Mary Kay Rahn

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w/featured](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcQyNuFs9HEfghpWMnCXw/featured)

**The office will be
closed December
24-January 1.**

Happy Holidays!



Please take a moment to
register for the 2020-2021 4-H
year if you haven't already.

v2.4honline.com

Remember that the deadline
to register in order to show
projects is January 1, 2021.
Enrollment fees of \$10/youth
can now be paid directly to

Extension here:

<https://go.illinois.edu/4-HEnrollment>

You are still welcome to pay
your club leader directly.

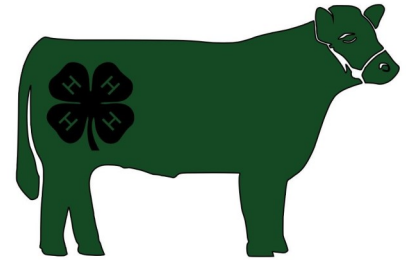
Monroe County Office
901 Illinois Ave., PO Box 117
Waterloo, IL 62298
618-939-3434, 618-939-7708 Fax

Office Hours:
Monday- Friday:
8:00 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.

Madison-St. Clair County Office
1 Regency Plaza, Suite 200
Collinsville, IL 62234
618-344-4230, 618-344-5602 Fax

St. Clair County Steer Weigh-In

- ♦ **Date:** Saturday, February 13, 2021
- ♦ **Time:** 9-11 a.m.
- ♦ **Place:** Ag. Building Scheve Park
Harnett St. & Harper Rd. Mascoutah IL.
- ♦ **RSVP by:** Monday, Feb. 8, 2021
@ angielyn@illinois.edu



A Livestock Record Book is something that we encourage you to fill out as a way of demonstrating your knowledge and respect for your animals. Record books can be turned in at the end of the year for additional awards. If you are showing beef, dairy, goats, horses, poultry, rabbits, sheep or swine, please start your record book now and continue with entries until show time.

Record Book:

https://extension.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/livestock_record_writable.pdf

Tip Sheet:

https://extension.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/livestock_record_book_instruction_guide.pdf



It's never too early to start filling out your county award application. If you are doing ANY 4-H projects, you should start on these now and add to them throughout the year.

Please remember that you only need to fill out 1 application per project area and all projects that fall under that category will apply to the one application. I will have an award training in the Spring or Summer.

County Award Application:

https://extension.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/st_clair_county_4-h_award_application_2020_1.pdf

Tip Sheet:

https://extension.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/st_clair_award_app_tips_1.pdf

Hats for the Homeless is a service project Creative Critters took on in October. They planned a workshop demonstrating how to use a circular loom to easily hand-knit stocking caps. Members used mostly donated yarns and worked throughout October and November to complete hats to donate in early December. The Hats for the Homeless committee, comprised of Ethan Amburgey, Callie Lowrance and Julie-Anne Erickson, met virtually with Rachael Bearth, Youth Minister at St. John's United Church of Christ, on November 25 to "hand over" the club's donation. Co-Leaders Jessica Erickson and Stephanie Lowrance, due to the pandemic restrictions, delivered the hats safely as needed. Hats have been and will continue to be delivered throughout the year as members complete them. The club has donated over 51 handmade stocking caps to date. These hats will be given to local shelters and those in need in the St. Louis area.



The Creative Critters 4-H Club began a larger service project this year that will span over the next two years which combine two of their passions - recycling and accessibility. They are teaming up with Green Tree Plastics' ABC Promise Program for recycling and creating an ADA Table that will be donated to the city of Mascoutah to place in the Scheve Park. The city has approved the ADA table and will work with our group on this long-term project. Additional information about the ABC Promise Program is available at:

<https://www.greentreeplastics.com/abc-program/>

We are collecting plastic lids with #2,4,5 recycling codes for the project and am open for funding opportunities. If you are interested in donating, please feel free to contact Jessica Erickson or Stephanie Lowrance for more information.

Jessica: jesserick@hotmail.com

Stephanie: grtpt1@gmail.com



4-H Premium Checks for the 2019 shows have been mailed as well as the State Fair checks from the 2020 shows. If you have not received your check yet, please contact me as soon as possible. It is very important that you update your contact information in 4-H online so that you receive these in a timely manner.

Scholarship Information

Organization	Information	Amount	Deadline	Website
Farm Credit Illinois	Available to high school seniors with agricultural career aspirations planning to enroll in an ag. based college curriculum next fall.	\$2,000	March 12, 2021	www.farmcreditil.com
TEACH Outdoor & Jacob Bouxsein Memorial Scholarship	The scholarship will be awarded directly to a student who is furthering his or her education by attending college, a university or trade school.	\$1,000	January 15, 2021	www.teachoutdoors.org
IAA Foundation Scholarships	All applicants must be a high school graduate or be graduating in 2021 and must be accepted for enrollment or be enrolled at an accredited college, university, community college or trade school.	\$1,000-\$7,500	February 15, 2021	www.iaafoundation.org
Garden Clubs of Illinois	Available to juniors, seniors and graduate students planning careers related to gardening, landscape design, environmental issues, floral design or horticulture.	\$4,500	March 15, 2021	www.gardenclubsofillinois.org

New Horticulture/Floriculture Opportunities



Thanks to Paige Obernuefemann from the St. Jacob 4-H Club you can look forward to some additional project opportunities this year. The State will be adding some opportunities to grow and display herbs in Horticulture as well as display dried herbs in Floriculture. Once these requirements have been updated, they will be added to the show book.

Maker Curriculum



If you are interested in doing a Maker project for 4-H, then you will love these activities and they are FREE! Anyone can be a maker! You can make things with no tech, low tech, or high tech gadgets. These activities will give you a taste of what it's like to be a Maker. Then you can think of something that you would like to create for a project.

FREE maker curriculum:

<https://uofi.box.com/s/gvyf8zip3kv2zriihjdqx2o41yoxqp3t>

eSports




eSports are video games played competitively. If you are at least 12 years old and would like to join an eSports virtual SPIN club, please register by January 15, 2021:

[https://web.extension.illinois.edu/
registration/default.cfm?
RegistrationID=22817](https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=22817)

Meetings will begin the 3rd week of January 2021. eSports Curriculum will be available in the future as it is currently being developed.



Quads Away-Drone Curriculum



The University of Illinois College of ACES has created an App that will allow you to access Quads Away: A Drone Curriculum for All and it is FREE! You can download this app by searching for 4-H University in the app store. It can also be accessed through the Google Play Store:

<https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/projects/technology-drones>



ILLINOIS 4-H FOOD ADVOCACY

Ideas for fighting food insecurity during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Learn more about COVID-19 in Illinois: <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19>



CONTACT LOCAL FOOD BANK

[Illinois Food Bank Map](#)

[Find Food IL Database](#)

Contact your local food bank or food pantry to find out what you and your team can do to help. If you are far from a major food bank, look for the food pantry closest to you.



PRE-PACKAGE FOOD

[Backpack Programs](#)

[4-H Food Drive](#)

Pre-package food while socially distanced; whether in backpacks to be distributed at a local school or boxes to be delivered to the places in your community that need a little extra help.



MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

[Farmers Market on Wheels](#)

Help increase distribution of much needed food and target locations that are more accessible for underserved areas in your community such as corner stores parking lots or local libraries.



FOOD LIBRARIES

[Neighborhood Mini Pantries](#)

[4-H Pantry Project](#)

Whether you need a little extra help or you have extra food to donate, mini-pantries around your community can help nourish your neighbors and get food to those who need it.



SUPPORT LOCAL FARMERS

[Extension Guide](#)

Farmers have been hit particularly hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. Work to help them distribute produce and farm products to those who need it in your community and make a positive impact.



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[Find More Food Advocacy Ideas Here!](#)

NUTRIEN ANNOUNCES COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN GRANT

In coordination with the National 4-H Council and the Illinois 4-H Foundation, youth leaders will work with an industry leader in addressing topics of sustainable agriculture and environmental stewardship. Teams must consist of three youth leaders and one adult mentor. Applications are due December 31st, 2020. Projects will be supported up to \$1,000.

Link to application: <https://go.illinois.edu/NutrienCAP>

For more information, contact Mark Becker, mbbecker@illinois.edu.

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.

4-H Food Advocacy Grant:

Any clubs interested in helping people with access to healthy food; applications are due December 21st.

See attached flyer

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE FIRST ILLINOIS 4-H VIRTUAL ESPORTS SPIN CLUB?

With eSports becoming one of the largest growing tech industries in the world, with an annual revenue of \$1.5 billion with an expectation to reach \$2.2 billion by 2023, it is time that our youth become poised and ready to meet the demands of this growing field.

Are you **at least 12 years old and own a computer or gaming system**? This year Illinois 4-H released a pilot curriculum focused on the growing field of electronic sports, or eSports, and we would like to pilot it with you! As a pilot, we hope to add to and modify the curriculum based on the feedback and input of the youth involved. Under the direction of Illinois 4-H Computer Science Innovator Eric Li, youth will be virtually guided (using Zoom) through the eSports Pilot curriculum, learn the basics of the eSports field, and learn about the hardware and software that makes eSports possible. In addition, youth will be able to play and practice their favorite games as a team, and potentially compete in one or more eSports competitions through the Spring and Summer.

Registration for this opportunity will open on Dec. 1 and close on Jan. 15, with meetings beginning the third week of January. Schedule and goals will be determined/presented in the first meeting with plans on meeting at least twice a month (and more frequently before competitions).

Interested youth can sign up at the link below:

[https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?
RegistrationID=22817](https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=22817)

For questions or comments, please contact the Illinois 4-H STEM Team at Illinois4h-STEM@illinois.edu



If you are curious as to what college or career is right for you, plan now to join us and discover new possibilities at the Illini Summer Academies (ISA)! At ISA you can expect a fun and exploratory experience featuring a virtual academy session and a variety of new workshops and fun virtual activities. For questions, contact us at illini-4h@illinois.edu.



FARM CREDIT ILLINOIS

Fifty \$500 Community Improvement Grants are available to 4-H Clubs to assist youth members in bringing positive change to their local community. Deadline to apply is March 12, 2021.

www.farmcreditIL.com



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The Country Clover Journalism Club

If you are interested in writing, photography,
interviewing, newspapers, etc. then this is
the club for you!

If you would like to see your works
published in the Troy Times-Tribune
please contact Angie today at
angielyn@illinois.edu





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THE ILLINOIS 4-H FOOD ADVOCACY TEAM
PRESENTS THE

4-H FOOD ADVOCACY GRANT

Investing in the next generation of food access leaders

**APPLICATIONS DUE
MONDAY, DEC. 21ST, 2020**

Want to do more to fight food insecurity in your community?

Learn More & Apply Here:

<https://go.illinois.edu/FoodAdvocacyGrant>





States' 4-H Winter Pen Pal Program



CONNECT WITH STATES' 4-H YOUTH FROM
AROUND THE GLOBE THIS WINTER!

**OUR PEN PAL PROGRAM RUNS FROM
MID JANUARY - MID APRIL 2021!**

Steps to Participate

Sign up!

- 1) Visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7N8RBHY> and fill in your information.

Match!

- 2) We will pair you with a same gender, similar aged youth from a country of your preference (if possible).

Connect!

- 3) Write at least twice per month with your match (you should each receive and send at least two messages per month).

Make Friends!

- 4) Share fun facts about your daily life and culture with your pen pal. Be sure to check out our recommended topics of the month as a starting point for your messages.

Share!

- 5) At the end of the program we will be creating an online space for participants to share what they learned from their pen pal.



**LET'S MAKE INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS
THIS WINTER!**