



NEWSFLASH



September 9, 2021

Find Your Spark!

Stephenson County
2998 W. Pearl City Rd
Freeport, IL 61032
P: (815) 235-4125
F: (815) 232-9006
Website:
go.illinois.edu/jsw

• **Margaret Larson**
County Extension
Director

• **Brenda Heimann**
Program Coordinator
4-H Youth
Development

• **Julie Miller**
Office Support
Assistant



Find us on
Facebook!

4-H Families , Leaders, & Volunteers,

September is here
and we are looking
forward to kicking off
this 4-H year with a BIG
“Spark!” 2021-2022 4-H
theme is “Find Your
Spark!”



FIND YOUR SPARK

As we embark on a new year, I encourage you to look for that “spark.” What made you want to join 4-H? What makes you keep doing it? What are the things that make you get excited about 4-H? For me, my spark is seeing youth come together to learn about new things and form a friendship that lasts a lifetime!

As we start off a new 4-H year it is my intent to help you as youth, leaders, and volunteers to find your spark in 4-H! We have some new projects coming out this year, that might spark your interest: Cover Crops & Quilting! Did you know that each project area has a “spark” sheet that helps give you an idea of that project and what you can learn? You can find all the spark sheets here! <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/project-spark-sheets>

We will start off our 4-H year with the National 4-H Week, October 3-9. Watch for upcoming info on how you can participate!



Til' next time,

~Brenda

2021 Superior Young Dairy Producer Award Winner



Magen Busker-
Country Cuzins
4-H Club

The 2021 Superior Young Dairy Producer Award (SYDPA) program was held August 21st, at the Illinois State Fairgrounds. Twenty-two 4-H dairy project members from across Illinois took part in the event. The purpose of the contest is to create an educational activity that promotes youth development, career development, and personal growth through increased knowledge of the dairy industry. This three-phase competition emphasizes the youth's knowledge of the dairy industry.

Magen placed in the "top three" overall in this program. She was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship, sponsored by Prairie Farms Dairy. Way to go, Magen!

PASSION **CREATIVITY** **INTELLEC** **CONFIDENCE**

National 4-H Week- October 3-9, 2021



FIND YOUR SPARK

DISCOVER MORE AT 4-H.ORG

UNDERSTANDING

FUN

LOGIC

COMMUNITY

LEARNING

CAREERS

PERSEVERANCE

WORK ETHIC

LIFE SKILLS

COMPASSION

GIVING BACK

HEALTHY HABITS

Stephenson County 4-H News

~September & October Dates to Remember~

September-

10– Club Books & Award Applications Due by 4:00 p.m. at Ext. Office

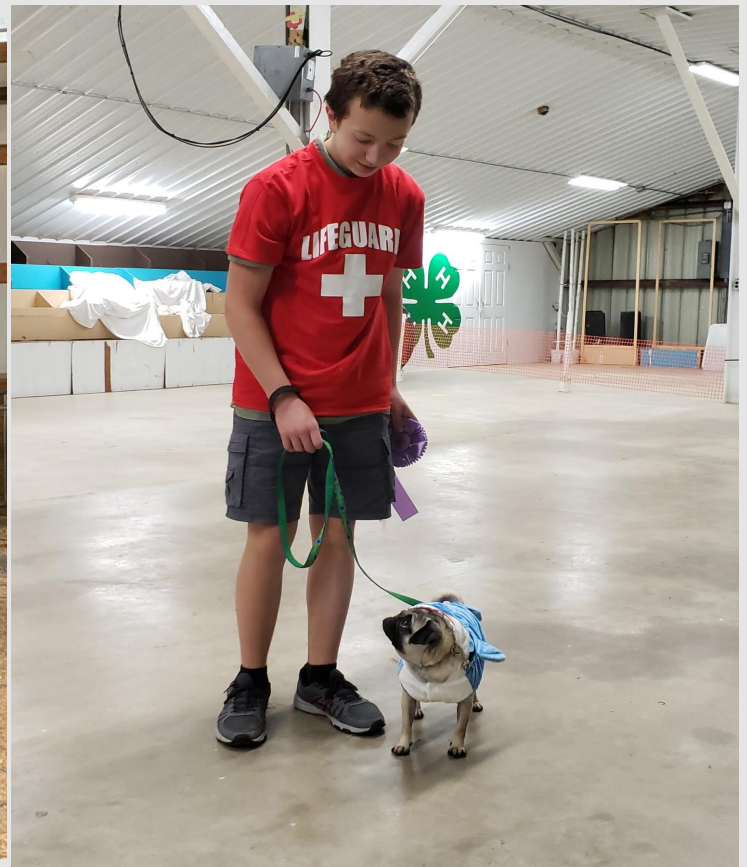
14-15– All State 4-H Team Conference, in Champaign (Brenda out of Office)

22– Leaders Meeting—At HCC, 6 p.m. Room 153, Bldg R

October-

3-9– National 4-H Week– Find Your Spark!

16– Award & Volunteer Event– at Farm Bureau Building 2p.m.



Stephenson County 4-H News

~EXPERIENCE AWARDS~

4-H'ers- Now is the time to start your Experience Award Applications. This is NOT a 4-H requirement, however it does help you with : record keeping, reaching goals, and tracking your progress with your projects & personal growth! And you receive an award!

FORMS are online at: <https://extension.illinois.edu/jsw/4-h-stephenson-county>

Scroll to Information & Events Link and select EXPERIENCE AWARDS.



AWARD APPLICATIONS are due: September 10th by 4:00 p.m. to the Extension Office!



Stephenson County 4-H News



Illinois Holstein—Friesian Association Award

This award is for ANY 4-H member who is enrolled in the dairy project area & who showed a Holstein animal at the 4-H Show.

Application Deadline: September 10th at 4pm & the Extension office.

Application can be found on our website at:

<https://extension.illinois.edu/jsw/4-h-stephenson-county>

Under Stephenson County Information & Events tab & is enclosed with this E-news as an attachment.

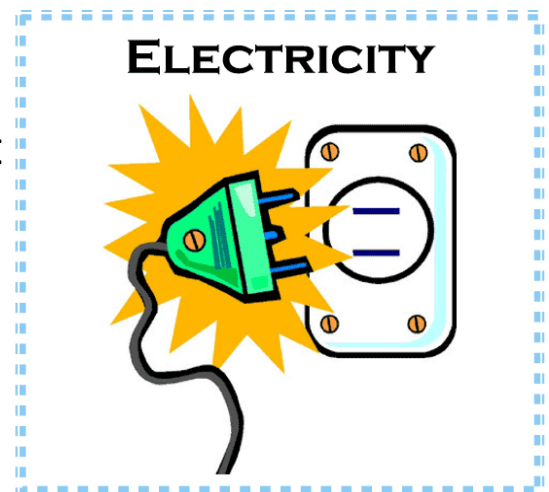
Illinois Electricity Achievement Award

This award is for any member who took an Electricity Project to General Projects day. We had several of them!! You can find the application— it is very simple at:

<https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/awards>

Application Deadline: September 10th at 4pm at the Extension office.

You can only win this award once in your 4-H career.



STEPHENSON COUNTY 4-H NEWS

4-H Ambassadors



WHAT—is a 4-H Ambassador? A 4-H Ambassador is a youth voice in promoting the 4-H program here in Stephenson County and across our state! 4-H Ambassadors role model good leadership skills to their younger peers & help bring awareness to the community of what 4-H is all about!

WHO— who can be a 4-H Ambassador? Youth who are at least 11 years old and have been in 4-H for at least a year, and are able to meet 1 time a month as a team.

WHY— why would you want to be an ambassador? It helps you build leadership skills, prepares you for speaking in front of others, builds new friendships, provides you with positive youth development & knowledge, & gives you a voice in the 4-H program!

**Now is the time to enroll, if you would like to be a 2021-2022 4-H Ambassador
in
Stephenson County!**

Contact Brenda or a current Ambassador, if you would like an application!!

- ◆ Team Building Activities
- ◆ Community Service Projects
- ◆ Giving Presentations
- ◆ Games & Fun
- ◆ Food
- ◆ Mentoring



New Things Happening in Illinois 4-H

Do you like to write? Illinois 4-H is offering a CREATIVE WRITING contest! Use the prompt: "4-H ALLOWS ME TO BE...." to write an essay, song lyrics, poetic forms, word art, short stories, or a speech! Your finished project should be: your original work, less than 500 words in length, & something that tells your story & inspires you!

If your work is chosen, you will be asked to submit at a later date:

- Your final piece written in your own handwriting for the final publication
- A picture of yourself for publication and social media promotion
- A video of you performing your piece (reading your poem, singing your song, etc.)
- A talent release for releasing your work for publication in the 2021-2022 Cloverseed

Submissions are due by Friday, September 24th at 5p.m. winners will be notified the following week. This is open to ALL 4-H members. Please submit your work through JotForm: <https://form.jotform.com/212454747041149>



I ♥ Creative Writing

New Things Happening in Illinois 4-H

2021 Illinois 4-H Junior Leadership Conference presents ...

The Game of Leadership

October 16-17, 2021



Conference location: Decatur Hotel & Conference Center, 4191 US 36 West, Decatur, IL 62522; Hotel phone: 217-422-8800

Open to: any 4-H member in 7th or 8th grade

Cost: \$50 (t-shirt, lunch, conference supplies and activities)

Registration deadline: October 1, 2021

- Registration is limited to the first 25 youths who register for each day.

Participants are encouraged to register early as this conference usually reaches capacity before the registration deadline. A waitlist will be activated once capacity is reached.

How to register: Participants may visit the event website, go.illinois.edu/4Hjlc to register. Link is in the green box on the right side.

Required forms: Participants need to submit an **Emergency Medical form**. Fill in the form, sign and email to Katie LaPointe, klapoint@illinois.edu by **October 1, 2021**. The Code of Conduct and Media Release Forms will be reviewed and accepted online during registration.

Contact Brenda for more details if you are interested in attending! 815-235-4125

New Things Happening in Illinois 4-H



Standing Together Taking Action (STTA) 4-H SPIN Club

Navigating Social Justice for Teens
Social justice is the view that everyone deserves equal economic, political and social rights and opportunities.

**A 7-PART
VIRTUAL
SERIES FOR
YOUNG
LEADERS AGES
13 & OLDER**

**October 5th & 19th
November 2nd, 23rd & 30th
December 4th & 21st**

STTA Club meetings will
be held from
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm CST.

**TOPICS INCLUDE: LEADERSHIP, RACIAL EQUITY, CONFLICT
RESOLUTION, SERVICE LEARNING & MORE!**

APPLY BY SEPTEMBER 15, 2021
TO APPLY: [HTTPS://GO.ILLINOIS.EDU/STTA](https://go.illinois.edu/stta)

*EXPLORE SOCIAL JUSTICE IN A RESPECTFUL AND
NON-JUDGEMENTAL ENVIRONMENT*

What's HAPPENING at the EXTENSION:

Food Certified Food Protection Manager Course : This is a two-part class and is American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited course, which meets the Illinois Department of Public Health's Food Service Sanitation Code Requirements.

The class will take place locally at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau– 210 W. Spring St. Freeport, IL on Tuesday, November 30 from 9 AM –3 PM AND Friday, December 3 from 9 AM– 3 PM

Visit our website for more information on this course, or to register at: go.illinois.edu/jsw



Falling Into The Vegetable Garden

As your vegetable garden begins to wind down for the season, you might be thinking about what tasks you should or could be doing to ensure that next year is ready for growing. In this program, Grant McCarty, Local Foods and Small Farms Educator, will help you determine what tasks you should do right now, what you should do soon, and what you should do later. The tasks will include planting garlic and cover crops, overwintering perennial vegetables, getting a soil test, orchard management, and many others.

Falling into the Vegetable Garden will be held as a virtual program on Wednesday, September 22, at noon. You must pre-register by September 21 to receive the meeting link to join the program. The program is being offered free of charge but donations to help offset the cost of future Extension programming will be accepted. To register or for more information, visit us online at go.illinois.edu/jsw or call us at 815-235-4125

