



Hamilton County Clover News

Club Meetings Resume

Because of the recent change in mitigation and the return to Phase 4 you can now resume your 4-H club meeting, as long as you have your club safety plan on file with the Extension office. 4-H members, leaders and guest will still be required to wear masks and practice social distancing. No more than 25 people in attendance or 25% capacity of the room. We are excited to resume some 4-H activities and start planning for the upcoming months.

Cloverbud Meeting Scheduled

If you are enrolled in any 4-H club and are in grades K-2 make plans to join us for a fun Cloverbud meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 3 at the courthouse at 5 pm. Sydney Lay will host the meeting and offer an educational lesson and craft. It has been months since the kids could come together and we really miss them. RSVP by Monday, February 1 so we can get supplies.

Hamilton County 4-H Federation

The February Federation Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 11 following the after school classes ending at 3:30 in the courthouse basement. Please plan to attend so we can organize the donations for the Veterans Hospital and make valentines to send. We will also make plans for the upcoming year.

Returning to Office

As of today the office remains closed and we are working remotely from home. 4-H activities can resume following the CDC recommendations and if your club has a safety plan filed with the office,

As we look to the summer it is completely undecided what that will be at this time. You can start working on your projects and hope we can have a 4-H show. If we are not allowed to meet in person we will offer a virtual option like last year.

Hang in there and bear with us through this unprecedented time.

February 2021

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JOIN THE TEAM. CHANGE THE WORLD.



4-H Memorial Camp

4-H Memorial Camp is currently working on summer programming plans for 2021 to align with Phase 4 and Phase 5 of the Restore Illinois Plan. The camp website will be updated with information concerning both camping and summer employment.

Shooting Sports

Results of the first annual Illinois 4-H Shooting Sports Virtual Shoot are now posted on the Illinois 4-H events website, or click here:

<https://go.illinois.edu/4HVirtualShootResults2020>

Over 420 scores were posted and ribbons have been mailed to the top ten winners in shotgun; air rifle; compound archery; and recurve archery. Congratulations to all the participants and especially the 4-H

leaders that went to the extra effort to offer this contest to their local shooting sports 4-H clubs! Thank you, volunteers!

**We'll send a separate email when the press release is available in the coming days!



4-H Shooting Sports Leader Certification Training



9am – 7pm; Saturday, June 5, 2021

Location: 4-H Memorial Camp, Monticello, IL

Registration Details Coming Soon.

2021 Ag Innovators

Experience

This next year's theme will be Curbing Our Carbon Appetite. The 2021 4-H Ag Innovators Experience, Curbing Our Carbon Appetite Challenge, is a series of interactive, hands-on activities that help youth understand why everyone has a role to play in addressing climate change. Participants will learn how human activity including burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, soil mismanagement, and unwise food systems are increasing atmospheric carbon and contributing to climate change. The activity leads them through an exploration of actions that three carbon influencer groups—agriculture, business and industry, and individuals and families—can take to reduce atmospheric carbon.

Register

here: <https://go.illinois.edu/CurbingOurCarbonAppetite>

Valentines for Veterans

Once again we are collecting items to be delivered to hospitalized Veterans near Valentine's Day. You may bring items to the Extension office any time before February 12. just put them on the table by the door.

Following is a list of acceptable items:

Books	Sugar	Creamer	Socks
T-shirts	Razors	Kleenex	Coffee
Quarters (loose)		Cards/stamps	
Toothpaste	Toothbrushes	Denture Cleaner	
Shampoo	Conditioner	Shaving Cream	
Dental floss	Sweat suits	Puzzle books	
Playing cards			



They will also accept all the Valentines we can make so you can start making these and drop them off with your supplies.

Farm Bureau Scholarships Available

If you are a senior and planning to pursue a degree in an agricultural field you can apply for a scholarship from the Hamilton County Farm Bureau Foundation. Call Sydney at 618-643-2347 or email jhmanager@jeffersoncnfb.org

Scholarships and Grants Available

Farm Credit Illinois will once again offer scholarships to High School Seniors and grants to Community Programs.

We have all faced stress in the past year and for a Senior approaching graduation, that stress is magnified. Whether it be finalizing the decision of where to go or wondering how they will be able to afford everything, it can be difficult. That is why Farm Credit Illinois is pleased to offer thirty \$2,000 Agriculture Scholarships to eligible High School Seniors. These seniors must plan to enroll in an agriculture-based college curriculum this fall. Two students will be recognized as “Diversity in Agriculture Scholars” and will also receive \$2,000. All interested applicants will use the same application and complete academic verification forms. Those chosen as FCI Scholarship Recipients will receive \$1,000 for the Fall 2021 Semester and the remaining \$1,000 will be available to students continuing an agriculture degree during the Fall 2023 semester. We are seeking students that have excelled in academic achievement, participation and leadership within school and community organizations, and those who have a commitment to pursuing an agriculture-related career, applications close March 12th, 2021!



In addition to offering scholarships for High School Seniors, they are also offering fifty \$500 Community Improvement Grants to FFA chapters and 4-H Clubs. These grants help assist youth members in bringing positive change to those around them. If your chapter or club is considering a project that brings value and change to your community, I strongly encourage you to apply. Applications for the Community Improvement Grant close March 12th, 2021. I would be glad to help you get these written, as we have done in the past, if you get me the information.

Instructions and applications for both can be found at www.farmcreditIL.com.

2021 Agri-Science Summit is now open

This summit provides an opportunity for high school students (grades 9-12) will 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 who are knowledgeable in areas of Agri-science. As a cornerstone of their experience, participants are challenged to identify and develop action plans that address issues related to agriculture in their community. The sessions will take place from March 5-7th 2021 and will bring together hundreds of young people from around the country with a shared interest in how Agri-science can address their generations most pressing issues.

There are several tracks available to participants which will provide a diversity of perspectives on Agri-science in today's world. They include:

- o Ag Literacy/Advocacy
- o Ag Technology
- o Animal Science
- o Environmental Science
- o Food Science
- o Food Security & Equity
- o Plant Science



Remember this will count as a National event attended.

Here is the link to find the registration portal: <https://4-h.org/parents/national-youth-summits/#agriscience>

Speaking for Illinois 4-H

Tell Your 4-H Story

Join the Speaking for Illinois 4-H Team



We're looking for 4-H members interested in spreading the great news about 4-H. 4-H members 14 years of age or older can join the Speaking for Illinois 4-H team. There will be a virtual training offered on Saturday, March 6.

This virtual training, provided by the Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team, gives you the chance to explore your own 4-H history and why you are involved, put that story into words, and learn the best ways to approach donors, civic groups, elected officials, and others to talk about 4-H. Learn why 4-H believes in Positive Youth Development and how we emphasize the essential elements of Belonging, Independence, Generosity and Mastery. All of this – and more – is a part of Speaking for Illinois 4-H!

Once you're trained, you'll receive an invitation to be a part of our Legislative Connection events.

Registration is open NOW @:
<https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/speaking-illinois-4-h-training>. Registration will close March 4.

Illinois 4-H Dairy Judging Workshop

Virtual Workshop

January 30, 9am-12pm



This workshop will cover dairy cattle evaluation and introduction to reasons. It will also be counted as an state event

attended.

Participants can register until January 29th using the following link:
<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=22954>

Farm Bureau

Farmers Breakfast



Set your alarm for an early morning on Tuesday, March 23 as Hamilton County

4-H will prepare and serve the Farmers Breakfast from 6:30-9:30 a.m. at the Hamilton County Farm Bureau Office. We plan to serve biscuits and gravy, scrambled eggs, sausage, milk, juice and coffee. We will begin cooking at 5:30 a.m. and kids can leave when they need to get to school. It would be great if we could get a few parents to stick around to finish and clean up.

This is a great opportunity for 4-H and the Farm Bureau to work together to show appreciation for our farmers.

Please call the office and let me know if you can work or would like to donate eggs, milk, juice etc.

Valentine's For Seniors Program

In an effort to lift the spirits of Illinois' senior citizen community, Dale Fowler is encouraging residents to participate in my newly introduced Valentine's For Seniors Program!

This ongoing health crisis has taken so much from so many people, but one of the communities hit hardest during this pandemic has been our senior citizens.

As our senior citizens are some of our most vulnerable and at-risk citizens to this virus, they have been extremely isolated during this time. And, as someone with a loved one in a nursing home facility, I know firsthand how lonely and challenging these past few months have been for our seniors. Which is why it is so important that we show our support and bring what joy we can to those seniors throughout our communities who have felt secluded and alone.

He is encouraging churches, schools, and community members of the 59th Senate District to write Valentine's Day cards that can be dropped off or mailed to my district offices. Once all the cards have been collected, they will be delivered to the various long-term care facilities that make up the district.

The collection of Valentine's Day cards will run through Wednesday, February 10. Those wishing to participate will have the option to either mail their card or drop it off.

Mail-in or drop-off location:

2 North Vine, 6th Floor
Harrisburg, IL 62946

For more information or to arrange a separate drop-off time, call 618.294.8951

4-H Alumni News & Events

Join us for a 4-H Alumni Event February 4, 2021

The Illinois 4-H Alumni Association invites you to join us for our first 4-H alumni gathering virtually on Thursday, February 4, 2021.

Share your 4-H spirit and network with 4-H alumni as we participate in a virtual trivia night! Trivia night will be hosted by Hambone Entertainment, and trivia questions will cover a wide range of knowledge, including history, sports, pop culture, and of course, 4-H! Teams will be randomly assigned at the event to encourage new connections.

Following the program, Lisa Diaz, Assistant Dean & Director, will share updates on the Illinois 4-H program.

We hope you will join us for an evening to celebrate 4-H youth development with Illinois 4-H!

Date: Thursday, February 4, 2021

Time:

7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Welcome & Program: Hambone Entertainment Trivia

8:00 - 8:45 p.m. Illinois 4-H Updates

Platform: Zoom, a link will be sent with your registration confirmation.

Cost: \$10.00/per person

Registration Deadline: Monday, February 1, 2021

We look forward to seeing you!

Register Online



Interested in Sharing Your 4-H Story?

Interested in sharing your 4-H story for a 4-H Alumni profile? We are seeking 4-H alumni to share their 4-H story to be highlighted on our social media accounts for a "Member Monday" 4-H profile!

Feel free to share your 4-H Story today!



Share Your 4-H News

Do you have news to share with the Illinois 4-H Alumni Association? Moved - New Address? Did you get a new job? Married? Promotion? New Baby? A recent death of a 4-H alum? We would love to hear your updates and stay connected!

We hope you will engage with us online and help create a network of 4-H alumni.

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

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

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

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/il4halumni/>

Help for 4-H Clubs

The Illinois 4-H Website has all of the resources and forms needed to guide 4-H club officers, committees, and members as they plan for the new 4-H program year.

Go to go.illinois.edu/IL4H

Click on the Clubs tab.

Scroll to Meeting Resources near the bottom of the page

Find these helpful documents:

Club Meeting Agenda – this fillable form is a useful fill-in-the-blank form your club officers can use as they plan each section of the meeting. This useful form provides them with the meeting structure they can use to identify who from the club should be in charge of each potential item that may be included in a meeting.

Club Committee Planning Worksheet – the Committee Planning Worksheet is an excellent tool to give to committee members as they plan club events and activities.

Club Yearly Program Plan – this helpful tool guides the club officers and club members as they identify club goals to work toward during the year and brainstorm what programs, events and/or activities to plan for the club to engage members in fun, hands-on learning experiences throughout the program year.

More – Don't forget to download your new secretary book, treasurer book, tips for good club meetings, tips for using the 4-H name, and more other important resources.



Travel Abroad with 4-H

Start planning now for a trip in 2022.

Are you curious about daily life, culture, and youth programs in other countries? Travel abroad with 4-H and experience foreign countries for a month-long cultural immersion experience. Delegates live with volunteer host families and engage in experiential learning about a new way of life.

TRAVEL PERIOD: 4 –8 weeks (dates vary by program June-August)

REQUIREMENTS: Youth ages 12-18 (some programs 15-18)

Cost: \$2700-5000* Based on previous years (price varies by year, program and length of stay)

RECRUITMENT PERIOD: September-November

<https://www.states4hexchange.org/apply/go-abroad/>

Costa Rica · Japan · Korea · Norway · Finland · Romania · Taiwan · Argentina *Country availability changes each year

For more information, visit <https://www.states4hexchange.org/> or contact us by email:

Miriam Rosenbohm at rosenbohm07@comcast.net or Elisha Hughes at ehugh2@illinois.edu

<https://www.facebook.com/illinoisstates4hexchange/> Instagram @states4hinternational

States 4-H International Exchange

Host an international student: Host a Japanese youth this summer through 4-H International! Expand your family's cultural understanding, learn about new foods and customs, and possibly learn a new language all while sharing your own. Your children will build lifelong friendships and will gain new perspectives on their own country too!



SCHEDULE: Hosting takes place mid-July through mid-August.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Families hosting a youth must have a child the same gender and approximate age (12-18) as the incoming youth.
- Youth must have a separate bed; a separate room is not required.
- Host family selection is dependent on completion of an application and screening process, as well as student availability and personality compatibility.

RECRUITMENT PERIOD: January- May or until all placements are made

Apply Today <https://www.states4hexchange.org/apply/host/>

4-H Volunteer Training Opportunity!

During this period when 4-H members find themselves experiencing restrictions associated with gathering with friends and club members face-to-face, having the opportunity to be part of an engaging and fun, yes we said FUN virtual meeting might be the highlight of their week! Register now for this upcoming Volunteer Training – Leading in a Virtual World!

If you question whether you have the skills or tools you need to put together a virtual club experience, this webinar will help you become comfortable interacting in a virtual meeting format; and more importantly support you as you include every part of the club meeting virtually. You can conduct club business; engage members in group decision-making; create positive learning experiences; and give members an opportunity to laugh and have fun together! Be sure to encourage your 4-H members in leadership roles to participate as well.

Link to register for the February 25, 2021 volunteer training opportunity
<https://illinois.zoom.us/j/83565174329?pwd=dDAvR2IxN3J3bmJqQVdmTy9raUZsZz09>

Leaders Meeting



A leaders meeting will be held on Monday, February 8 at 5:00 p.m. in the courthouse basement. Please wear a mask. We will need to discuss the possible fair dates and come up with some plan to reopen 4-H activities. Our office will remain closed to the public until April, but we will begin office hours in March. Please RSVP so we know we have enough to hold a meeting.

4-H Volunteer Café Conversations!

Register to participate in the 4-H Volunteer Café Conversations. We are so excited to continue this new Illinois 4-H opportunity creating a platform for 4-H Volunteers from across Illinois to meet virtually and discuss topics of interest, share both ideas and challenges. Volunteers will gain access to tools & techniques to support their volunteer efforts, strengthening 4-H club and member learning experiences. We have two upcoming Café Conversation opportunities coming up in the next few months. We will address two topics during each Café Conversation so bring your ideas, questions, and since this is a Café Conversation, feel free to bring a snack!

4-H Volunteer Café Conversation - Thursday, February 18, 2021; 7 PM

TOPICS will include:

It's Cold Outside: Are Your 4-H Clubs Still Hot?

Let's Play!

Link to register for the February 18, 2021 Volunteer Café Conversation:

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=22728>

4-H Volunteer Café Conversation - Thursday, May 20, 2021; 7 PM

TOPICS will include:

One for the Project, Two for the Show, Three to Get Ready...Go Clover Go!

Summer Fun!

Link to register for the May 20, 2021 Volunteer Café Conversation:

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=22738>

Don't forget - all 4-H volunteers and members in leadership roles who participate in 75% (3 of the 4) Volunteer Café Conversations will receive their very own limited edition 4-H Volunteer Café Conversations Ceramic mug! We have had great participation so far and if you have already attended at least one session, you are on your way to receiving your Café Conversations mug!



Upcoming Dates

January 30	Virtual Dairy Judging Workshop
February 3	CloverBud Meeting 5 p.m. Courthouse basement
February 9	Barbwire Gang Club Meeting 6:00 p.m.
February 8	Leaders Meeting 5:00 p.m. Courthouse basement
February 11	4-H Federation Meeting 3:45 p.m. Courthouse basement
February 12	Valentines for Veterans due
February 18	4-H Volunteer Café Conversations
February 20	Virtual Cupcake Workshop 10:30-11:30
March 6	Speaking for Illinois 4-H
March 12	Deadline for Farm Credit Scholarship
March 20	Scrapbooking Workshop 10:30-11:30
March 23	Farm Bureau Farmers Breakfast 6:30-9:30 a.m.
April 17	Fairy Garden Workshop 10:30-11:30
May 20	4-H Volunteer Café Conversations
June 5	4-H Shooting Sports Leader Training

4-H is Online 24/7

<https://extension.illinois.edu/global>



Be the first to email Paula with the correct answer and win a prize!

RIDDLE

Riddle: What happens once in a lifetime, twice in a moment, but never in one hundred years?

Last month:

What has a neck but no head, and wears a cap??

Congratulations to Blu Barrow who correctly answered a bottle!

Barbwire Gang Meeting

Mark your calendars for an in person meeting scheduled for February 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the courthouse basement. We will offer a virtual option for those who don't feel comfortable meeting in person. Let Dianna Robinson know if you are interested in the virtual option so she can get the information to you.

Watch your emails for more information about the upcoming workshops.

Youth Sponsors: Consolidated Grain and Barge, Wabash Valley Service Company, Hamilton County Coal/Alliance, Dahlgren Building Center, Farm Credit Services, McNeil Consulting, 4R Equipment, David & Susan Johnson, Edward Jones Investments, Town & Country Veterinary Clinic, Twilight HCE Unit, Dahlgren HCE Unit, Happy Neighbors HCE Unit, Hamilton County Home & Community Education, Wuebels Repair, LLC, Rick Basinger Country Financial, Food Park, Wilson's Computers, Corteva, York Pharmacy, Dick and Lucille Auten, Pennie Anselment, Christopher Johnson, Bunge SCF, Heritage Woods, Hamilton County Rotary, Hamilton Memorial Hospital District, McLeansboro Kiwanis, Hamilton County Farm Bureau, Roger Swartz, Banterra Bank and Insurance, Hamilton County Telephone Co-Op, Pitchford Elevator, Miller's Welding, Peoples National Bank, Posey County Co-Op, Southern FS, Legend Ag/Stone Seed Group, KA Rich Inc., Hamilton County Telephone Foundation, City of McLeansboro, Katrina Roberson, EA, Monsanto, Wolf Creek Farm, Hall's Sawmill, Maschhoffs, Ferrell McLeansboro Family Medicine, Synenergy, Gavilon, Posey County Co-op, McLeansboro Elks, Dairy Queen, Brad Cross/STC, Mike Harre/The Big Red Barn, Aydt Farms.