

# Edwards County 4-H Clover Chatter

To Make the Best  
**BETTER**



University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

**Tara Buerster**  
County Director

**Samantha Gaither**  
Youth Educator

**Debra Collier**  
4-H Program Coordinator

**Dana Hart**  
Office Support Assistant

**Theresa Reid**  
Office Support Associate  
(Fiscal)

Edwards County  
7 North 5th St.  
Albion, IL. 62806

<http://extension.illinois.edu/elrww>

Unit #25—Edwards, Lawrence,  
Richland, Wabash & Wayne

University of Illinois—U.S. Department of Agriculture—Local Extension Councils Cooperating University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. If you need reasonable accommodation to participate in this program please contact the Edwards County Extension office at 618.445.2934. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your access needs.

December 2023/January 2024



## Happening Now

### December

- 2 Unit Holiday Workshop at Farm Bureau 9:30-12:00
- 5 Blue Ribbon Mtg. 5:30 p.m.
- 8 PSEP testing for farmers 10 a.m. Farm Bureau Basement
- 8 4-H Cooking 101 Workshop at Farm Bureau Basement 2-4:00 p.m.
- 9 Christmas Open House at Edwards Extension Office 5:00-6:30 p.m.
- 10 Little Wabash Ramblers Meeting/Party 5:00 p.m.
- 12 Bone Gap Cardinals Mtg. at the Christian Church 6:30 p.m.
- 13 Ellery Panthers Mtg. Little Prairie Christian Church 6:00 p.m.
- 13 Yankees Mtg. 6:00 p.m. at Moravian Church
- 15 Tag-A-Long Coloring Contest Sheets Due at Extension office
- 22-Jan. 1 Extension Office will be closed for Holiday

### January

- 1 Steer Enrollment Deadline - must be in possession
- 5 Deadline for 4-H Project and Activity Handbook cover contest
- 6 Sewing Workshop with Gena Drake 8:30-11:30 at 155 Co. Rd. 1550 N.
- 9 Bone Gap Cardinals Mtg. at the Christian Church 6:30 p.m.
- 10 Steer Registration Deadline
- 12 PSEP testing for farmers 10:00 a.m. Farm Bureau Basement
- 12 4-H Cooking 101 Workshop at Farm Bureau Basement 2-4:00 p.m.
- 15 Extension Office Closed Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 16 Blue Ribbon Mtg. COUNTRY Financial Hall 6:30 p.m.
- 17 Yankees Mtg. 7:00 p.m. at Moravian Church
- 23 Candle Workshop watch the 4-H page for information
- 24 Ellery Panthers Mtg. Little Prairie Christian Church 6:00 p.m.
- 27 New Member Workshop 10:00 a.m. at Extension Office  
Little Wabash Ramblers TBA

**We are looking for someone to volunteer to be the Master of Ceremonies for our annual Speech Contest, February 19 at 6:30 p.m. Call the office if you have interest!**

**I PLEDGE ... MY HEAD TO CLEARER THINKING**



**SEWING WORKSHOP**  
 Saturday, January 6th  
 Saturday, February 3rd  
 8:30-11:30 a.m.  
 Ages: 10-13  
 Instructed by Gena Drake  
 Location 155 Co. Rd.1550 N. Albion, IL

**Learn about:**  
 Getting to Know the Machine  
 Pinning  
 Pressing Techniques  
**Make:**  
 1st week Standard Pillowcase with French Seam  
 2nd week Drawstring Bag

**Register Early  
 Limited Availability  
 You will be signing up  
 for both weeks!**




Gena Drake will be teaching a sewing workshop for youth ages 10-13! When you register you will be registering for the January 6th and February 3rd sessions. The second date is a project that will be a continuation of what you learned the first week. If the workshop fills call the Extension office at 618-445-2934 to get on a waiting list. Gena wants to give everyone the opportunity to learn the art of sewing. Register at:

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

You've got skills...and we want to see them! Looking for artists, creators and performers to be featured at upcoming National 4-H events. Applications accepted November 13th through January 1st. Apply now: <https://bit.ly/3QPO0AN>  
[#Opportunity4All](#)



**CALLING ALL YOUTH LEADERS!** 

**THE ILLINOIS 4-H YOUTH LEADERSHIP TEAM IS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!**

Team members have the opportunity to serve on statewide planning committees and advisory groups, including the Illinois 4-H Alumni Board, Illinois Farm Bureau Youth Education Committee. Members of this team serve as ambassadors of the Illinois 4-H program, giving back to the program while further enhancing their leadership skills. You must be age 16 to 19 to apply to serve a two year term. The deadline to apply is December 31. Learn more about YLT and apply here:

[go.illinois.edu/YLTApply](https://go.illinois.edu/YLTApply)



Illinois Extension

## NEW MEMBER WORKSHOP

Understanding 4-H, Records, Projects, Question and Answer Time, Etc.

January 27 Extension Office 10:00 a.m.

PLEASE RSVP TO THE EXTENSION OFFICE BY JANUARY 24, 618-445-2934



Illinois Extension

We will be having a workshop at the Extension Office on Saturday, January 27th. Any family that is needing guidance on 4-H records or have questions is welcome to attend. Please call the office to get your name on the list. We will give a courtesy call the week of the workshop, as a reminder.

Learn about nutrition and healthy eating while developing basic food preparation of healthy snacks and simple meals.

Register @ [https://go.illinois.edu/Edwardscooking\\_101](https://go.illinois.edu/Edwardscooking_101)



# 4-H COOKING 101




2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. | Dec. 8, Jan. 12, Feb. 16, March 15, April 19  
Edwards County Farm Bureau Basement

Youth 3rd - 5th Grade Welcome



### Edwards County 4-H Project and Activity Handbook Design Contest




You can submit your favorite 4-H Fair photo or use your creativity and artistic ability.

Attach entry to email and send to [djc@illinois.edu](mailto:djc@illinois.edu) or drop by office

Deadline to submit entry: January 5, 2024

The first place entry will be on the cover and second place will be on the back.



It is time to be thinking about the 2024 Fair! Members, help us design the 2024 Project and Activity Handbook Front and Back Covers! Deadline to submit is Friday January 5th!

## Christmas Parade

The Christmas Parade is scheduled for Saturday, December 9. We hope to see Edwards County 4-H taking part!

## Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification (QAEC)

All 4-H members enrolled in horses, poultry, rabbits, dogs & cats **MUST** complete online QAEC to show at Fair. This is a **one time certification** and is valid your entire 4-H career. You only need to take QAEC in one livestock area regardless of the number of livestock projects you are enrolled in. All new members enrolled in these projects and or any members who have not taken it before.

**The deadline to complete QAEC is JUNE 1.**

You can find the online training at:

<http://web.extension.illinois.edu/qaec>

Please remember to print a copy of your certificate for your records.

If you have trouble or questions, please call the Extension Office.

## YQCA Training

We will be having YQCA trainings starting soon. Watch Edwards County 4-H Facebook page and your emails for dates and times. Members that have projects in Beef, Swine, Sheep and Goats are required to take this training yearly.



## Farm Credit Scholarships & Community Improvement Grants

Farm Credit Illinois have announced their 2024 Agriculture Scholarship and Community Improvement Grant programs. Thirty \$2,500 Agriculture Scholarships are available to high school seniors planning to enroll in agriculture. Fifty \$500 Community Improvement Grants are available to 4-H clubs to assist youth members in bringing positive change to their community. Links to apply:

Scholarship:  
[form.jotform.com/232905363204955](http://form.jotform.com/232905363204955)

Community Improvement Grant:  
[form.jotform.com/232904990167968](http://form.jotform.com/232904990167968)

Deadline to submit is Tuesday, February 29, 2024



*To Make the Best*  
**BETTER**



## Invites

Have you invited a friend to join you at a club meeting this new 4-H year?? Did they attend? If so, please contact [djc@illinois.edu](mailto:djc@illinois.edu) or the Extension office at 618-445-2934 and get your name in the hat for a chance to win a prize! Winner will be announced in January!!

## 4-H Enrollments

Thanks to the members who have completed their enrollment/re-enrollments! If you have not yet done this, don't delay. We will be getting project books to members after your enrollment has been completed. If you need help contact [djc@illinois.edu](mailto:djc@illinois.edu).

## Steer Deadline Fast Approaching

All steers need to be in the 4-H members possession by Jan. 1, 2024. If you have steers contact [djc@illinois.edu](mailto:djc@illinois.edu) or 618-445-2934 by Jan. 10 to register them. We need to know how many you have, what color they are, and if they are registered or crossbreeds.

## Tag-A-Long Coloring Contest

Coloring contest sheets need to be returned by Thursday, December 15. They can be returned to Extension office before 4:30 or placed in the tote by the west door or emailed to [djc@illinois.edu](mailto:djc@illinois.edu)



## Speech Contest-Challenge

Speech Contest date is Monday, February 19, at the Farm Bureau basement, starting at 6:30 p.m.

We would like to challenge each club to have at least TWO members do a speech this year! We know it's hard to get up in front of people and make a speech.....just think of it as telling a story. You do not need to be an expert, we would just like to see more kids take on this challenge! Are you up for it?

Your speech can be about whatever you like. It does not have to be project related. Tell us about a hobby, (deer hunting, knitting, reading, sports, riding a horse) Just give it a try! See what creative ideas you can show us!!

## Animal Livestock Dates

Ownership dates for animals is as follows:

All market barrows, goats, wethers and ewe lambs must be in member's possession at least 60 days prior to show. Market goats will need to be between 4-8 months old at the time of the show. Gilts and all swine breeding stock and beef or dairy yearling heifers must be in the member's possession by April 1. Bucket Calves must be born between February 1 and April 1. They must be in member's possession within 2 weeks of birth and must be at least 90 days old when shown. Steers must be in members possession by January 1.

**The above dates are when all 4-H'ers with these projects must have the animals in their possession.**

# COMMUNICATIONS: PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Enrollment in the Public Presentations project is required to participate in this section. No live animals are allowed in speeches. Counties may advance a total of 3 entries from any category to the state contest. A 4-H member may advance in one individual category and one team category. **Participating** Youth **must** be 8 years of **age** on or before **September 1, 2023**. **Participating** youth turning 14 years of age on or before **September 1, 2023 must** enroll as advanced.

## Contest Division and Class

### Formal Speech | Self-written | Notes Allowed | No props | Individual | 4-5 minutes (Beginner) | 5-6 minutes (Advanced)

Formal Speeches share the presenter's own unique view and are intended to motivate, persuade, or inform an audience and may include a call to action. Youth deliver a speech on any topic they wish.

\*This category will be broken down into the following classes by age.

- Beginner: 8-13 years of age
- Advanced: 14 years of and up

### Illustrated Speech | Self-written | Notes Allowed | Illustrations Required | Individual 4-5 minutes (Beginner) | 5-6 minutes (Advanced)

Illustrated Speeches may be used to inform, persuade, or motivate the audience while using a visual aid. Visual aids may be two dimensional, three-dimensional, or digital. Youth may include audience participation. Digital visual aids must be stored on a USB flash drive. Illustrated speeches may be:

- How-to demonstrations which show the audience how to do something.
- Object lessons which use objects as metaphors to share a message.
- Educational models where drawings or diagrams help explain a topic.
- Beginner: 8-13 years of age
- Advanced: 14 years of and up

### Original Works | Self-written | Notes Allowed | Props and Costumes Allowed | Individual or 2-Person Team | Youth must provide printed manuscripts to judge | 4-6 minutes

Original works must be written entirely by the presenter. It may be presented as an individual or a two-person team entry. Manuscripts must be sent in advance to the contest. Presentations may be designed for TV, radio, or online media and must be presented live. The types of entries could include:

- Prose and Short Stories
- Poetry/ Spoken Word
- Broadcast Media Program
- Theatrical
- Combined Program: Combine any number of the above elements along with other creative presentation forms

### Oral Interpretation | Published Work | Props and Costumes Allowed | Individual or 2-Person Team | Youth must provide printed manuscripts to judge | 4-6 minutes

Presentations in Oral Interpretation must be published works, and manuscripts or transcripts must be submitted prior to the event. They may be presented as an individual or a two-person team entry. The types of entries could include:

- Prose and Short Stories
- Poetry
- Theatrical Interpretation
- Published Speech Recitation: Excerpt from a spoken presentation delivered by a public figure, such as Winston Churchill, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., or Maya Angelou
- Combined Program: Combine any number of the above elements along with other creative presentation forms