St. Clair 4-H November 2026 News



Hello 4-H Families,

Happy November, 4-H families! I hope you all are enjoying the changing seasons and hopefully getting excited for the holidays. I want to congratulate all of our 4-H youth and clubs on their hard work and successes during this previous fair season.

Your dedication does not go unnoticed, and I am happy to share your successes throughout the rest of this newsletter.

A reminder to submit your 4-H enrollment as soon as possible. Please send a thank-you card to our two sponsors: St. Clair County Farm Bureau, 1478 IL-15, Belleville, IL 62221, and St. Clair County Livestock Boosters, 7062 Funk School Road, Freeburg, IL 62243.

For more information and instructions on enrollment, please see the details listed below.

Please don't hesitate to contact me at 217-300-7175 with any questions!

Thank you,
Bobby Lee | 4-H Program Coordinator
Serving Madison and St. Clair Counties |
bobbylee@illinois.edu

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Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday: 7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Closed Noon to 1:00 p.m. for lunch

St. Clair Office
1478 E State Rt 15
Belleville, IL 62221
217-244-0273

University of IL Extension at the JJK FAN Innovation Center
2051 Lynch Ave
East St. Louis, IL 62204
618-875-8939

Extension County Director
William Catalano

4-H Youth Educator
Mikayla Peters

Madison & St. Clair 4-H Coordinator
Bobby Lee

Office Support Specialist
D'Angelo Young

Visit our website:
extension.illinois.edu/mms

Like us on Facebook:
University of Illinois Extension: St. Clair County 4-H
University of Illinois Extension–Madison, Monroe and St. Clair Unit

Follow us on Instagram:
Madison, Monroe, St. Clair- IL

CLUB AWARDS

Top Two Club Treasurer Books

- **Logan Dill from Happy Herd 4-H Club**
- **Isaac Boesen from Emerald Clovers 4-H Club**

Top Secretary Book

- **Jilly Stoks from Happy Herd 4-H Club**
- **Ely Sonsoucie from Farmers and Friends 4-H Club**

I Dare You Award Winners

Congratulations to Logan Dill from Happy Herd 4-H Club for winning the St. Clair County I Dare You Award.

AWARD APPLICATION RECOGNITION

**** Indicates Top Award in Age Group**

Top Participation: **Jilly Stoks**
Top Community Service: **Jilly Stoks**
Top Leadership: **Jilly Stoks**
Top Project Learning: **Journey Stoks**

Great job to everyone who submitted an award application and livestock record book!

AWARD APPLICATION RECOGNITION

** Indicates Top Award in Age Group

Animal Science

Age 11-14
- Jilly Stoks **

Age 15-18
- Daniel McComb **

Career & Leadership Development

Age 15-18
- Daniel McComb **

Civic Engagement

Age 8-10
- Journey Stoks**

Age 11-14
- Jilly Stoks **

Creative Arts

Age 11-14
- Jilly Stoks **

Age 15-18
- Daniel McComb **

Environmental Science

Age 8-10
- Journey Stoks**

AWARD APPLICATION RECOGNITION CONTINUED

**Indicates Top Award in Age Group

STEM

Age 15-18

- Daniel McComb
- Logan Dill **

Livestock Record Book Recognition

** Indicates Top Award in Age Group

Beef

Age 15-18

- Quinn Radloff**
- Johanna Kraemer

Dairy Cow

Age 11-14

- John Meng**

Age 15-18

- Johanna Kraemer**

Livestock Record Book Recognition Continue

**Indicates Top Award in Age Group

Dairy Goat

Age 15-18

- Casey Sheppard**

Meat Goat

Age 11-14

- Faith Haas**
- Quinn Dickerson

Age 15-18

- Quinn Radloff**
- Alyssa Benson
- Brady Benson
- Nicole Renner
- Calli Lowrance
- Kathleen Lowrance

Swine

Age 8-10

- Kinsey Otten**
- Brantley Kunkelmann
- John Schilling
- Genevieve Schilling

Age 11-14

- Madelyn Winning
- Reese Sonsoucie
- Caleb Otten
- Ryan Sawyer

Age 15-18

- Quinn Radloff**
- Wyatt Rinderer
- Brady Benson
- Alyssa Benson
- Alex Sawyer
- Sydney Shryock
- Johanna Kraemer

Livestock Record Book Recognition Continue

** Indicates Top Award in Age Group

Sheep

Age 8-10
- John Schilling**
- Genevieve Schilling
- Luella Mayer

Age 11-14
- Tara Beisiegel**
- Jonathan Sheppard

Age 15-18
- Quinn Radloff**
- Casey Sheppard
- Caleb Voss

Poultry

Age 8-10
- Brantley Kunkelmann**
- Lucas Sheppard
- Elena Obernuefemann

Age 11-14
- Aubree Press**

Age 15-18
- Calli Lowrance**
- Kathleen Lowrance**

Rabbit

Age 8-10
- Brantley Kunkelmann**
- Adalyn Ellett

Age 11-14
- Faith Haas**
- Adeline Cox
- Quinn Dickerson
- Abigail Odunfa-Jones
- Jase Mayer

Age 15-18
- Calli Lowrance**
- Kathleen Lowrance**
- Sydney Shryock
- Alex Sawyer

Garden Club Award

Congratulations to **Quinn Dickerson** from the Creative Critters 4-H Club for being awarded the Certificate of Excellence for Round Arrangement. This award was presented by the **District V Garden Clubs of Illinois.**

A big thank you to the District V Garden Clubs of Illinois for generously providing an award to one of our St. Clair County 4-H members! We appreciate your support of our 4-H youth and your continued investment in helping them grow and succeed!

2026-2027 4-H HANDBOOK

Here is this year's 4-H handbook for all 4-H members and families:
https://go.illinois.edu/StClairCounty4-HHandbook

The handbook goes over what 4-H is, the policies, what clubs do, the event calendar, and so much more. If you have any questions, please contact Bobby Lee via email at bobbylee@illinois.edu

2026-2027 4-H MEMBERSHIP POLICIES

Youth **fve through seven years of age, on or before September 1** of the current 4-H year, may enroll in 4-H Cloverbud groups.

Youth who are **eight years of age and have not reached their nineteenth birthday on or before September 1** may enroll in 4-H clubs.

A youth who enrolls in a St. Clair County 4-H club must:

- **Attend at least four meetings** to be called a 4-H member. Youth who do not comply are not eligible to participate in 4-H exhibitions, receive 4-H premiums, or receive other 4-H awards and recognitions available to 4-H members. **(College students can be enrolled when they live away from home and must attend at least one meeting when they are home on breaks or virtually.)**

- **Present a talk or demonstration at a club meeting during the project year.**

- **Youth enrolled in a livestock market class must turn in a livestock record book by September 15. If not completed by September 15, the youth will not be able to participate in a livestock market class the following year.**

- Complete enrollment by **January 15 to exhibit projects at 4-H shows.** Youth may enroll after this date, but are not eligible to exhibit projects at shows. Projects can be added up to this deadline, but the addition of projects is not accepted online after this date (except for SPIN Clubs).

4-H Enrollment Information

Enrollment for the 2026-2027 4-H year is open!

We will again be using the Z-Suite platform to collect enrollment information. New members, please use the instructions below to create a household account for your family and enroll youth members. Returning members, please use the same login information as last year. Adults who are screened volunteers must enroll in Z-Suites, too. If you have any questions, please email Bobby at bobbylee@illinois.edu or call 217-300-7175.

There is a $20 fee for all youth enrolled in the Illinois 4-H program. Enrollment fees will be sponsored by the St. Clair County Farm Bureau, 1478 IL-15, Belleville, IL 62221, and the St. Clair County Livestock Boosters, 7062 Funk School Road, Freeburg, IL 62243. 4-H Clubs and Families are encouraged to send a **THANK YOU** note to both sponsors for their generosity.

Z-Suites
https://4h.zsuite.org/

Instructions to enroll:

New Members: https://go.illinois.edu/StClairCountyZSuiteQuickStartGuide
Returning Members: https://go.illinois.edu/StClairZSuiteReenrollmentInstructions
Leaders: https://go.illinois.edu/StClairCountyZSuiteClubLeaderManagementGuide

Please mark all the projects they are interested in on the youth's account. When Fair Entry is released in April/May, that is when they will commit to which project from Z-Suites they plan to showcase at the 2027 fair.

The deadline to enroll to be able to show during the 2027 fair season is **January 15, 2027. If they are not enrolled by January 15, youth will not be able to show any projects for the 2027 fair season. 4-H members can still sign up to participate in 4-H after the deadline, but are not allowed to show at the 2027 fair season.**

Congratulations to Jackie Joyner-Kersee on her induction into the Illinois 4-H Hall of Fame at the Illinois State Fair!

Jackie Joyner-Kersee is a world-renowned Olympic champion and one of the greatest track-and-field athletes in history, earning six Olympic medals and setting world records in the heptathlon and long jump. Equally inspiring is her lifelong commitment to youth. Through the Jackie Joyner-Kersee Foundation, she expands opportunities in education, health, leadership, and life-skills development. A passionate advocate for service—her favorite of her 14 Winning in Life principles—Jackie actively supports 4-H, serves on the 4-H Board, and has helped grow programs in East St. Louis. Her leadership, service, and community impact make her a truly deserving 4-H Volunteer Award honoree.



Thank You

ST. CLAIR COUNTY 4-H PROCLAMATION

On October 26, the St. Clair County Board officially recognized October 4–10 as National 4-H Week by signing the 4-H Proclamation!

4-H member Sydney S. shared her 4-H story with the board. 4-H Educator Meghan C. also provided an overview of the 4-H program in St. Clair County and presented a report from the most recent 4-H year.

We were also happy to have 4-H Educators Mikayla P., Elizabeth L., and Grace M., along with 4-H youth member Madison, join us for this special occasion!

Thank you once again to the St. Clair County Board for signing the proclamation and for your continued support of 4-H! We would not have the opportunity to continue growing St. Clair County 4-H without your support.







St. Clair County
TEENS AS TEACHERS

Summer Recap

THANK YOU to our Teen Teachers:
Jilly, Logan, Raygen & Sydney





WEEK 1 seasons



- **Book** - *Seasons on the Farm by Chelsea Tornetto*
- **Activity** -Farm Boots
- **Literacy** - Seasons Ag Mag

WEEK 2 dairy



- **Book** - *Tales of the Dairy Godmother by Viola Butler*
- **Activity** - Cattle Crowns
- **Literacy** -Dairy Ag Mags

WEEK 3 pollinators



- **Book** - *Winged Wonders by Meeg Pincus*
- **Activity** - Bag Butterfly
- **Literacy** - Pollinator Ag Mag

WEEK 4 livestock



- **Book** - *The Barn at Night by Michelle Houts*
- **Activity** - Walking Paper Animals
- **Literacy** - Pork Ag Mags

WEEK 5 soil



- **Book** - *Seed Soil Sun by Cris Peterson*
- **Activity** - Soil Cereal Stack
- **Literacy** - Soil Ag Mag

WEEK 6 poultry



- **Book** - *My Family's Egg Farm by Katie Olthoff*
- **Activity** - Create Your Own Chicken Coop Diorama
- **Literacy** - Poultry Ag Mag



4-H Career Day with Korte Meat Processing

Wednesday, November 11
4:00 PM

Learn about how a meat processing plant operates and the different jobs and careers inside!

Scan QR code to register!

Limited spots available!

Register at go.illinois.edu/4-HCareerDay

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KORTE Meat Processing, Inc. 618-654-3813

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2026 Madison and St. Clair Fall Photo Contest

Submit your digital fall photograph by **Nov. 20** to Bobby Lee at bobbylee@illinois.edu.

Rules

- Take a picture with a Fall theme
- Photograph must be taken by a 4-H member
- Two Age Groups: Cloverbuds (ages 5-7) and 4-H Member (ages 8-18)
- One entry per member
- Open to both Madison and St. Clair County 4-H
- Prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd for both age groups!

Questions? Contact Bobby Lee at bobbylee@illinois.edu

Winners will be announced and published on county 4-H Facebook pages

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2026 Madison and St. Clair Gingerbread House Contest

Submit a digital photograph of your gingerbread house by Dec. 15 to Bobby Lee at bobbylee@illinois.edu.

Rules

- **Take a picture with your Gingerbread House**
- **The Gingerbread House must be made by a 4-H member**
- **Three Competition Groups: Cloverbuds (ages 5-7), 4-H members (ages 8-18), and Whole Club Entries**
- **One entry per member/club**
- **Open to both Madison and St. Clair County 4-H**
- **Prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd for all three groups!**

Questions? Contact Bobby Lee at bobbylee@illinois.edu

Winners will be announced and published on county 4-H Facebook pages

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Beekeeping 101

Beginner Beekeeping Workshop

Interested in beekeeping?

- Learn how to manage your hive and harvest honey
- Use tools and equipment
- Promote bee health
- Seasonal Care
- Mentoring



Saturday January 30, 2027
8:30 am-5 pm

Presented by CIBA
Central Illinois Beekeepers Association

Registration:

$100 for members or $120 for non-members
(Additional family members $25)
(Previous participants with current CIBA membership $25)

Included with Registration:

Hive tool, Smoker, Book First Lessons in Beekeeping, Drawings, CIBA and ISBA membership

Event Location:

Bloomington High School
Bloomington IL 61704

Lunch is provided Fun doo
prizes! Gift Certificates fro
Hillco Bees Chance to win a **complete hive!**



Questions? 309-826-0089

More Information at **www.cibabees.org** or visit us on Facebook: Central Illinois Beekeepers Assoc.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Venmo or Check payable to CIBA then Mail with Registration to: Patti (PK) Koranda, 6424 Alexander Road, Heyworth, IL 61745 309-826-0089 pjkorand@gmail.com

St. Clair County Shooting Sports 4-H Clubs

Are you interested in joining a St. Clair County 4-H Shooting Sports Club? Below are our clubs that you can join. If you have any questions, contact Meghan Cope via email at mawolff@illinois.edu.

4-H Blasters Rifle Shooting Sports Club

Meeting: 1st Saturday of the month
Discipline- Rifle
Location: Lebanon
Leader: Ryan Stoks (rstoksdadd@gmail.com)

St. Clair Hot Shots Archery Shooting Sports Club

Meeting: 1st Saturday of the month
Description: Archery
Meeting Date: Lebanon
Leader: Ryan Stoks (rstoksdadd@gmail.com)

ILLINOIS SHOOTING SPORTS
LEARN BY DOING

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 2025
- Nov 11: 4-H Career Day with Korte Meat Processing
- Nov 20: Deadline for 4-H Fall Photography Contest

December 2025
- Dec 15: Deadline for 4-H Gingerbread Contest

January 2025
- Jan 15: ZSuite enrollment deadline for 2027 Fair participation
- Jan 30: Beginner Beekeeping Workshop



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