



Shelby
County

4-H

October News



Cloverbud Achievement Night



Tripp Higgins - 1st Archery
State 4-H Contest



Cloverbud Achievement Night
Federation Members

Calendar of events

October

- 1.... Federation meeting, 7:15 p.m. 4-H Center
- 1.... 4-H Club Award submitted to State 4-H Office
- 4.... 4-H Fall Bash, 5 p.m. Scavenger Hunt, 6 p.m. wiener roast, 4-H Center
- 9.... Scarecrows in place for Scarecrow Decorating Contest
- 11.... Scarecrow Daze Parade, 10 a.m. Forest Park
- 18.... Fall Round-Up, 9-11 a.m., 4-H Center
- 20.... Archery begins, 6:30-8 p.m., 4-H Center
- 25-26.... Hunter Safety Certification, 4-H Camp
- 30.... Air Rifle & BB begins, 6-7:30 p.m., 4-H Center

November

- 5.... Federation meeting, 7 p.m. 4-H Center
- 14.... Deadline to sign up for the Bank Steer Program
- 21.... Community Service Workshop, 6 p.m., 4-H Center
- 22.... Achievement Night, 6:30 p.m., Nazarene Church Gym, Shelbyville
- 26-28.... Office closed for the holidays

December

- 3.... Federation meeting, 6:30 p.m., 4-H Center
- 6.... Winter Craft Day, 9-12:30, 4-H Center
- 6.... Cloverbud Winter Craft Day, 1:15-2:45, 4-H Center
- 12.... Early Enrollment Incentive - enrollments must be entered and the program fee paid by this date
- 23-31.... Office closed for the holidays

January

- 1-2.... Office closed for the holidays
- 17.... Officer Training 9 a.m. –12 p.m., Sarah Bush Lincoln Education Center Mattoon
- 19.... Office closed for the holiday

February

- 14.... Steer Weigh-in, 8 a.m. Shelbyville Sale Barn
- 14.... Bank Steer Pick-up, 10 a.m. Shelbyville Sale Barn

4-H Enrollment System - ZSuites

Illinois 4-H has set October 1 as the target date to open ZSuites for enrollment for the 2025-2026 4-H year. Please do not enroll until you have received an email stating ZSuites is open!

Families will be responsible for paying \$10 of the \$20 program fee for 2025-2026 with Shelby Extension Foundation paying the other \$10. Families will be able to pay program fees online via a credit card or with cash or check to their club leader. Please note - there are a few clubs that are paying their member's program fees so please check with your club leader regarding payment status.

If your family is enrolling more than 3 children, you may submit your enrollment but do not pay online. The 4th child discount will need to be applied before payment can be made. Once the discount has been applied, Yolanda will notify you for payment. Refunds can not be issued if you pay for more than three children.

Members must be enrolled and approved in ZSuites before participating in any county event including Shooting Sports, parades, workshops, etc.

Contact Yolanda with any questions at nation2@illinois.edu or by calling 217-774-9546.

Enrolling in projects in ZSuites

Multiple project areas are NOT Allowed!

Per IL State 4-H Office Guidelines, 4-H members may only enroll in one level of a project area. If multiple project area's are selected during the enrollment process, either your enrollment may be returned to the family to fix or an email will be sent to the family from Yolanda, asking which level of project you wish to be enrolled in. Duplicate project area's will not be allowed. Enrollments WILL NOT be approved if multiple project area's are selected. Examples: Woodworking 1 and Woodworking 2, Cooking 101 and Cooking 201, Floriculture A and Floriculture D. Families may change the project areas until May 1.

Shelby County 4-H Fall Bash

Saturday, October 4

Shelby County 4-H is welcoming the new 4-H year with the first ever 4-H Fall Bash, scheduled for Saturday, October 4 at the 4-H Center. Everyone is invited to attend!

Sponsored by Shelby County 4-H Federation, the event will begin at 5:00 p.m. with a scavenger hunt on the fairgrounds, along with face painting during the event. Attendees are encouraged to bring a pumpkin to participate in a pumpkin decorating station, where supplies like paint and yarn will be available to spark creativity.

At 6:00 p.m., the Bash continues with a wiener roast, including hot dogs, chips, s'more kits, and refreshments provided by Federation members. The event is a great opportunity for families to connect, enjoy the fall weather, and learn more about upcoming 4-H opportunities.

Please RSVP by October 2 with the number of people planning to attend the wiener roast. RSVPs can be sent via email to nation2@illinois.edu or by calling 217-774-9546.

The Fall Bash marks the beginning of a new year of learning, leadership, and community for Shelby County 4-H members. All are welcome to join in the party!

Scarecrow Decorating Contest

Thursday, October 9

It's time to start decorating for Fall. Each club may decorate and submit one scarecrow. Clubs can designate a committee or complete as a club project. Scarecrows must be in place at the Shelby County Extension Office by Thursday, October 9.

Shelby County 4-H Federation is sponsoring a Facebook Voting Contest. Watch the Shelby County IL 4-H Facebook Page for pictures and details of the contest. The winning club will receive a cash prize.

This activity will count as a county activity for those who participate.

Shelby County 4-H Federation

Wednesday, October 1

If you missed the first Federation meeting but are interested in joining for the year, join us at the October 1 meeting. We will be meeting at Shelby County Farm Bureau at 6:00 p.m. to start packing Harvest Bags for Farmers, then will have a meeting at 7:15. By being a member of Federation, youth have a voice in planning county workshops, coordinating 4-H week events, and being involved with community service projects.

Federation is open to youth in 8th grade and up. Junior federation members are those youth who are in 6th and 7th grades.

If planning to attend on October 1, please let Yolanda via email so she can have information for you.

Meeting dates for the fall - 4-H Center

- November 5, 7 p.m.
- December 3, 6:30 p.m.

Any questions can be directed to Yolanda at nation2@illinois.edu or by calling 217-774-9546.

Mark your calendars!

Shelby County 4-H & Junior Fair

July 11—Fair Clean-up

July 17—Tractor & Lawn Mower Driving Contest

July 18 - 4-H Foods, Photography, Visual Arts

July 18 - Horse Show

July 19 thru July 22 . . . Fair

Air Rifle Season with Shelby Shooters

October 30

Shelby County 4-H is excited to announce the start of its Air Rifle season, hosted by the Shelby Shooters SPIN Club. The program kicks off on Thursday, October 30 and will be held at the Shelby County 4-H Center. Participants must be on the line and ready to shoot by 6:00 p.m. Sessions will run on the following dates on Thursday evenings: October 30 – November 20, December 11 & 18

To participate, youth must be enrolled in ZSuites and have paid their \$10 4-H program fee by October 20. In addition, there is a \$10 administrative fee and a \$30 air rifle fee for the season. Youth who are not properly enrolled or have unpaid fees will not be permitted to shoot.

BB sessions will run the same schedule as Air Rifle but isn't affiliated with the 4-H program.

For families facing financial hardship, fee waivers are available through the Shelby County Junior Rifle Club Association. Questions about the program or fee assistance can be directed to Kelly Barringer, Shelby Shooters SPIN Club leader, at 217-369-6860.

Shelby County 4-H Archery Program

October 20

Shelby County 4-H is gearing up for another exciting season of archery, with sessions beginning October 20 and running through December 15 (excluding November 17). Practices will be held on Monday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Shelby County 4-H Center.

At the first session, instructors will assign shooting times for future practices. To take part, youth must be current 4-H members enrolled in ZSuites and have paid their \$10 program fee by October 20. Additionally, there is a \$10 administrative fee and a \$20 archery fee for the season. Youth who are not enrolled or have unpaid fees will not be allowed to participate.

A limited number of bows are available for use, and members may bring their own equipment. All personal bows will be subject to a safety check by instructors before use.

For families experiencing financial hardship, fee waivers are available through the Shelby County Junior Rifle Club Association. For questions or more information, contact Kelly Barringer, Shelby Shooters SPIN Club leader, at 217-369-6860.

This program offers a great opportunity for youth to build skills, confidence, and friendships in a safe and supportive environment.

Scarecrow Daze Parade

Saturday, October 11

Federation members are planning on participating in the Scarecrow Daze Parade on October 11 in Shelbyville. Shelby County 4-H members and Cloverbuds are invited to ride along.

Members will be passing out candy along with 4-H informational pamphlets. Families are asked to please bring candy for the parade, if you can.

If you would like to participate, email Yolanda by **October 9**. If you forget to RSVP but can make it, please come join us!

Parents need to drop off their 4-H members at the Lions Club parking lot at Forest Park. Kids will need to walk to the float. If you participate, please wear a 4-H t-shirt to show your 4-H pride.

Workshop ideas

Shelby County 4-H is always looking for new project workshop ideas. If you have suggestions on workshop speakers, ideas, etc. please reach out to Yolanda. We plan to offer workshops throughout the 4-H year. It's always nice to walk through the 4-H Center and Produce Building during the fair and see projects made at workshops.

If you have attended a specific workshop and would like to see it return again this year, let Yolanda know.

Awesome Autumn Photography Contest

September 29 – November 14

Shelby County 4-H Federation is sponsoring a photography contest for 4 -H'ers in Coles, Cumberland, Moultrie, Douglas and Shelby Counties. The contest will run from September 29 - November 14.

Submit your best "Awesome Autumn" Photo via email to Yolanda at nation2@illinois.edu. **Include your name, county and age.**

Cash prizes will be awarded by Shelby County 4-H Federation.

Rules:

Photos should be centered around the theme "Awesome Autumn Photos".

- Only 1 photo may be submitted by a 4-H member.
- There are 3 age divisions 5-7, 8-13 and 14-18. 4-H age is based off of 9/1/25.
- If submitting a picture with someone other than family/relative, a photo release must be completed and submitted with the entry.
- Pictures must be taken by the 4-H member submitting the picture.

This will count as a multi county activity on the Illinois Experience Award.

Shelby County 4-H Fall Round-Up

Saturday, October 18

Shelby County 4-H is offering the 4-H Fall Round-Up workshop on Saturday, October 18 from 9-11 a.m. at the 4-H Center. This workshop is open to members who are at least eight years of age and are new or a second year member. Parents may attend.

We will be doing hands on activities teaching 4-H members about a variety of projects. We will answer questions about enrollments, 4-H projects and fair requirements.

There is no charge to attend this workshop. RSVP by October 10 via email to nation2@illinois.edu or by calling 217-774-9546. Youth must be enrolled in ZSuites and paid their program fee in order to participate.

Join us for a fun morning of "learning by doing!"

Recruiting a new 4-H member

Recruiting new members is always a goal for the 4-H Program. We want to recognize members promoting and recruiting for Shelby County 4-H. Prizes will be given to those members who recruit a new 4-H member to the Shelby County 4-H program. Leaders have recruitment forms or let Yolanda know and she can send the form via email.

Winter Craft Day

Saturday, December 6

Shelby County 4-H Winter Craft day will be held on Saturday, December 6 at the 4-H Center. 4-H'ers will make winter craft projects and the famous gingerbread houses.

There will be two sessions:

Session 1 - 9-10:30 a.m.

Session 2 - 10:45 a.m. -12:15 p.m. The cost is \$10 and \$12 for non-4-H members.

4-H'ers need to RSVP and pay the workshop fee by November 21.

RSVP via email at nation2@illinois.edu or by calling 217-774-9546 with the preferred session. Space is limited!

Cloverbud Winter Craft Day

Saturday, December 6

Cloverbud Winter Craft Day will be held on Saturday, December 6 from 1:15-2:45 p.m. at the 4-H Center. The cost is \$10 and \$12 for non 4-H members.

Families need to RSVP and pay the workshop fee by November 21. Space is limited to 25 Cloverbuds. After this, kits can be purchased to make at home.

Families can RSVP by sending an email to Yolanda at nation2@illinois.edu or by calling 217-774-9546.

Shelby County 4-H Community Service Workshop

Friday, November 21

Shelby County 4-H is hosting a Community Service Workshop on Friday, November 21 at the 4-H Center. Federation will provide pizza and snacks from 6-6:30 p.m. From 6:30-8:30, 4-H members will make a variety of crafts that will be delivered to area nursing homes in early December.

This has become a favorite workshop for 4-H'ers because they know they are spreading Christmas joy with their handmade projects. RSVP by Wednesday, November 19 with your pizza choice (cheese, sausage, pepperoni) so we can plan for pizza and snacks.

The workshop is limited to the first 30 4-H'ers who RSVP so don't delay if you want to join in on the fun!

Bank Steer Program

Deadline Friday, November 14

Are you interested in raising, showing and selling a steer as a 4-H project? The Shelby County State Bank is offering interest-free loans to Shelby County 4-H members to assist them in purchasing a steer to exhibit at the fair.

In order to be eligible to participate in this program, the 4-H member must have been enrolled in 4-H at least one previous year. Members must complete enrollment in ZSuites and pay the \$10 program fee by November 14.

Note - new families will have an on-farm visit from the Bank Steer Committee prior to steer weigh-in, all participants will have an on-farm visit in the Spring by the Bank Steer Committee. Shelby County State Bank reserves the right to deny any individual participation in the Bank Steer Program.

The deadline to sign up for a bank steer is November 14. Pick-up for steers will be on February 14 at the county steer weigh-in.

Junior Fair Crop Projects

As harvest is quickly approaching don't forget to save the following to exhibit at the 2026 Shelby County Junior Fair:

- 6 ears of Field Corn (Each should be equal size, free from insects or disease damage.)
- Gallon of soybeans (Displayed in a clear jar and free of trash, cracked beans, or splits.)

Shelby County 4-H Achievement Night

Saturday, November 22

We are planning our annual 4-H Achievement Night on Saturday, November 22 at the Nazarene Church Gym Shelbyville at 7 p.m. We will have dessert at 6:30 p.m., with the program starting at 7 p.m.

RSVP's are needed by November 20 for those who will be enjoying dessert. Invites to award winners will be sent to families via email in late October.

Shelby County 4-H Hospital Collection for Kids

Saturday, November 22

Brady & Alicia Rivas, Shelby Sparklers members, are asking for your help!

They would like to brighten the hospital rooms of kids in the pediatric unit in Sarah Bush Lincoln Hospital and they need your help!

They are looking for donations such as coloring books, crayons, Play-Doh, word search books, new small plastic toys (no stuffed animals), drawing pads, colored pencils, or bubbles.

Please bring your donations to 4-H Achievement Night or drop off at the Extension office. For every 5 items, donated, you will receive a ticket for a chance to win prizes.

If you don't have time to shop, you can bring a monetary donation and we will purchase items. Thanks in advance!
Brady & Alicia

4-H Camp to host Camp Whitetail and Obtain Hunter Safety Certification

Does your child, aged 10-18 years, want to get Hunter Safety Certified through IDNR? If "YES!" then this is perfect timing, as we are offering Camp White Tail at 4-H Camp in Monticello / Allerton Park on October 25-26!

All youth attending have to be accompanied by an adult. An adult can bring up to 9 kids! The adult does not have to be the child's parent.

The cost is \$70 and all meals and fun camp activities are included!

There are two steps to registration - you can find all the details at this link: <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/4-h-memorial-camp/camp-white-tail>

Please reach out if you have any questions about camp! You can contact IDNR Instructor/4-H Program Coordinator Eric Eickmeier at erice@illinois.edu or 217-333-9264 Monday-Thursday for camp registration details and all other inquiries.

Community Service Project Ideas

Here is a list of ideas to give back in your communities. Feel free to use your own ideas.

- Working at local food pantries
- Donating food to local food pantries
- Blessings in a Backpack programs
- Cleaning up parks, elderly neighbor's yards who need assistance
- Collecting donations for an organization in need
- Making crafts and delivering to area assisted living/nursing homes
- Recognizing Veterans in the area with Veteran Day cards
- Making cards or coloring sheets for Honor Flights
- Christmas caroling
- Visiting retirement centers and playing games with residents
- Painting at the fairgrounds (spring/summer)

Shelby County 4-H Week Theme

Shelby County 4-H Week is being planned for March 14-21 and we need your help! We have so many creative 4-H families and are looking for unique, one of a kind, and fun 4-H Week Theme ideas.

Still looking for 4-H Week Themes to be submitted! Please submit your ideas via email to Yolanda by October 5. Don't forget that window displays need to be able to be created from your suggestions!

Tractor Supply Paper Clover Campaign

November 28-December 14

Dates for the Fall Paper Clover Campaign, have been set. During the Paper Clover Campaign, patrons may make contributions to their local 4-H programs at any Illinois TSC store. The campaign runs twice a year.

Our local TSC in Shelbyville would love to have 4-H members in their store promoting Shelby County 4-H during this time. Yolanda is looking for any 4-H members and/or clubs who would like to set up 4-H project displays, hold a bake sale, bring small animals for a mini petting zoo or just set up a table to talk with patrons about 4-H during the Paper Clover Campaign.

It's recommended that clubs set up Friday evenings and anytime on Saturday and Sunday's for the most store traffic. If your club is interested in setting up a booth/table, contact Yolanda with the date and time you would like to set up at TSC and she will let the store know the club schedule. For members who work at least an hour, they can count this as a county activity.

Please support TSC and the 4-H program by participating in the Paper Clover Campaign.



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Shelby County
1125 W. N. Second Street
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
Permit No. 210
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Bulk Third Class



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Shelby County
1125 W North 2nd Street
Shelbyville, IL 62565
Phone: 217-774-9546 FAX: 217-774-9549

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
8 -12, 1-4:30

Jessie McClusky, County Director
Yolanda Nation, 4-H Program Coordinator

MaryBeth Massey, Program Coordinator,
SNAP-Ed
Penny Hood, Community Worker, SNAP-ED
Diana Litteral, Office Support Assistant

**If you need a reasonable accommodation to
participate, please contact the Shelby County
Extension Office.**

The 4-H Name and Emblem are protected under
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