



MONROE COUNTY 4-H FAMILY

November NEWS

YOU'RE INVITED...

2024-2025 Monroe County 4-H Achievement Program

**Sunday Nov. 2, 2025
6:30pm**

Hosted by the
Monroe County 4-H
Federation

**Monroe County
Fairgrounds**
4177 St. Rt. 156, Waterloo



4-H is collecting donations for the
Southwestern Illinois Violence
Prevention Center. Please consider
bringing the following to donate:
combs, brushes, hair care items, cough
drops, pain relievers, feminine hygiene
products, pillows & size 4+ Pull-ups.

Join us to celebrate:
1st, 5th, 10th & 11th year members
Top Secretary/Treasurers
Award Application & Livestock
Record Book Applicants
Local & State Fair
Acknowledgements
1st, 5th, 10th, etc. year Leaders
I Dare You Award Recipients
State Participation
& More!

Desserts Provided

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Office Hours:

Monday- Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Closed Noon to 1:00 p.m. for lunch

Monroe County Office

901 Illinois Ave., PO Box 117
Waterloo, IL 62298
618-939-3434, 618-939-7708 Fax

Extension County Director
William Catalano

4-H Youth Educator
Emily Reece

4-H Program Coordinator
Kelly Brandt

Office Support Associate
Sue Scheibe

Office Support Assistant
D'Angelo Young

Visit our website:
web.extension.illinois.edu/mms

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

Follow us on Instagram:
[monroe_county_il_4h](https://www.instagram.com/monroe_county_il_4h)



2025-2026 4-H ENROLLMENT IS OPEN!

RE-ENROLL:

Please follow the directions in the Step-By-Step Guide:

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

OR, watch the Re-Enrollment Video Tutorial:

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

All members and volunteers must re-enroll for the 2025-2026 4-H year.

If you have any problems with enrollment, please contact Kelly at kmbrandt@illinois.edu for assistance or consult the ZSuite Help Documentation within the program.

REVIEW/REQUEST PROJECT BOOKS:

If you need to request 4-H project books, please do so here:

https://go.illinois.edu/25-26_4-HProjectBookOrder

You can review book options for your project(s) here:

<https://shop4-h.org/pages/illinois-approved-curriculum>

The Monroe County Extension & 4-H Education Foundation will cover the cost of up to 3 books.

MONROE COUNTY 4-H SHIRTS FOR SALE!

Youth Small, Medium, Large & XL
Adult Small, Medium, Large, XL, XXL & XXXL

T-shirts: \$15

Crewneck Sweatshirts: ~~\$25~~ \$15

Hoodies: ~~\$30~~ \$18

All Sweatshirts
40% off!

Checks or cash accepted.
Checks can be made out to Monroe County
4-H Federation.



4-H WEEK HIGHLIGHTS



4-H Week Proclamation
Signing at County
Courthouse



Moonlight 4-H Club window
painting at Rural King



4-H Alum
Stephanie Francis
with Lucky 4-H
Leader, Debbie
Eckart



4-H WEEK HIGHLIGHTS



WHS members "Going Green for 4-H" during 4-H Week.



Valmeyer students received candy from Ms. Debbie in the cafeteria for wearing their 4-H shirts!



There was a great turnout of 4-H members for bowling at West Park Bowl to kick off 4-H Week!



GEOLOGY EXPLORE TOUR



Youth and parents enjoyed exploring Fountain Creek for some exciting geological finds at the Geology Explore Tour at Lakeview Park. Participants learned about the interesting geology in Monroe County from local geology enthusiasts, Melody & Scott Williams.



CLUB OFFICER TRAINING

Lunch Provided!

4-H Officer Training

Tuesday, November 11, 2025

9:00 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.

Monroe County Annex Building

901 Illinois Ave.
Waterloo, IL 62298

Learn YOUR role as a 4-H Officer and help make the best better! The University of Illinois Extension Office invites all club 4-H Officers to attend this training where you will strengthen your leadership skills.



Information we will cover:

- Officer Roles
- Parliamentary Procedure
- Generating Ideas & Agenda Building
- Officer Roles
- Team Building
- Activities & Club Goals



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Register TODAY at:

<https://go.illinois.edu/4-HOfficerTraining-Waterloo>



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2025-2026 GOAT CHANGES

Please note some updates for the coming year regarding market goats for the Monroe County Fair:

The birth date for market goats is moved from "after October 1" to "after April 1, 2025." Exhibitors who wish to participate in the Monroe Co. Fair and State Fair can still exhibit a kid born after October 1.

In addition, the recommendations of an average daily gain of .20 and an ideal weight of 75lbs by the 2nd weigh-in at the fair will remain. Please note that these are still recommendations as we move toward moving the birth date up.

The goal is to increase the quality of meat sold to consumers. The U of I Meat Sciences Instructor has emphasized the importance of backfat in producing high-quality meat. Goats without sufficient backfat tend to dry out excessively when hanging at the packers, which reduces meat quality. Allowing for slightly older animals will increase the likelihood of adequate backfat development, ultimately leading to a better product for buyers.

LIVESTOCK & HORSE RECORD BOOKS

All members are highly encouraged to fill out a 4-H Record Book for livestock and/or horse projects they are exhibiting at a 4-H Show.

It is REQUIRED to fill out 4-H Record Books for any livestock that members are selling at the Youth Livestock Auction.

Members must complete a livestock record book in the current year to be eligible to sell in the preceding year, except for new members or members not previously enrolled in that project.

In-progress Record Books should be shown by your leader at your May, June, or July club meeting before 4-H Shows.

The PDF versions of the books are found here:

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

They may be filled in on your computer, or you may print them off and fill them in by hand (neatly).

The Instruction Guide is found here:

https://go.illinois.edu/LivestockRecord_Guide

It will help you through the process of filling out the book. Books are due at the Extension office by **September 15** for evaluation.



JOIN THE LIVESTOCK JUDGING TEAM!



Monroe County 4-H Livestock Judging Team

First Meeting:

Monday, November 17 | 6:30 p.m.

Monroe County Annex | 901 Illinois Ave., Waterloo






Illinois Extension

I Members of the team will meet approximately once/month to increase their livestock judging skills and participate in local livestock judging events. Register to participate by adding the Team to your club list in your ZSuite profile.

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MONROE COUNTY HOOFSBEATS COMMUNITY SERVICE

Members of the Monroe Co. Hoofbeats Club recently joined forces with the Prairie Du Rocher Saddle Club to help clean horse saddles at the Monroe County History Museum! This experience was a fun way to give back and preserve the value of our history in this community. Everyone should check the museum out to see all of the cool things housed there!



JOIN THE HOOFBEATS COMPETITION TEAM!



Monroe County Hoofbeats

Competition Team



Informational Meeting

December 30, 2025

6:30p.m.

Monroe County Annex
901 Illinois Ave., Waterloo

Are you interested in horse anatomy, breeds, nutrition, health, tack and all of the ins and outs of horses?

Join our Team!

Open to youth ages 8-18 by Sept. 1, 2025.
You do NOT need to have a horse to participate.
No riding involved

As a member of the MCHB Competition Team, you will meet regularly to have fun learning with friends who have the same interests as you.

Meetings will consist of learning about equine science, hearing from guest speakers and practicing for regional and state 4-H Horse Bowl and Hippology Contests, where you will have a chance to earn awards & recognition.

Club meetings will be led by 4-H alum and horse enthusiast Allison Fithian along with other volunteers familiar with horses and managing the team.

There is no fee to join, however, since this is a 4-H Special Interest Club, you will be required to work a 2-hour shift in the 4-H Concession Stand at the Monroe County Fair to cover your enrollment cost.

Register: <https://4h.zsuite.org>
Choose: Monroe County Hoofbeats Competition Team
Questions? Call the Extension office: 618-939-3434.



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If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please call 618-939-3434.
Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your access needs.





FEDERATION NEW MEMBER MEETING



The 4-H Teen Federation hosted a new year kickoff meeting and cookout at Baebler Educational Farm. They invited new members to attend and join, and also collected 110 rolls of toilet paper that were donated to House of Neighborly Services. The group has a lot of plans for the upcoming year, including fun and service to the community and the 4-H program.



GARBENBUDS GROW WITH THEIR LEADER, ANN!



The 4-H Gardenbuds club held its last meeting of the year, learning all about pumpkins. The group had a very exciting growing season, growing tomatoes, eggplant, carrots, peppers, herbs, and more under the direction of University of Illinois Extension Master Gardener **Ann Glosecki**.

Ann recently received the **State Master Gardener Award** for her work with the Monroe County Extension Garden.

Ann has spent many volunteer hours revamping the newly renovated garden and has ensured community members benefit from learning there. She has led the new Gardenbuds 4-H Club (ages 5-7) as a leader for the past two years, and works with clients from Human Support Services to integrate garden education with these two groups. She has also led learning sessions about the garden in some of our horticulture educational programs for the public.

Thank you, Ann!



LUCKY 4-H CLUB EXPLORES MONROE COUNTY-UNDERGROUND!



Members and parents of the Lucky 4-H Club recently had the opportunity to see Monroe County from underground! Participants enjoyed a cave tour at Illinois Caverns, which was led by Bob Polansky with Camp Wartburg.



HARVEST NIGHT CAKES & DONATIONS NEEDED!

Bakers are needed to make a delicious cake for Harvest Night, Saturday, November 15. Any type of cake is great for you to make.....A nice change would be for assorted bundt cakes to be served.

Don't these bundt cakes sound good, even using cake mixes: Snickerdoodle, Cranberry Orange, Peach Cobbler, Pecan Upside Down, Red Velvet Black Bottom Salted Caramel, Apple Cinnamon, and more. I found some wonderful recipes on the internet, and I am sure you have some too!

Assorted cake mixes will be available from the Extension in early October. Please contact Pam Jacobs at 618-604-3549 with questions, and let me know if you are willing to provide a cake.

Cakes can be brought to the event, held at the Hecker Community Center, or brought to the Extension Office on **Friday, November 14, by 1 p.m.**



Donations are also needed for the live and silent auctions.

The Harvest Night Committee is looking for 4-H members who may have a talent, such as a craft or service, that they could donate.

Please call the Extension office at 618-939-3434 to donate.



HARVEST NIGHT

SUPPORTING MONROE COUNTY EXTENSION PROGRAMS

NOVEMBER

15

Over 17 years, your generous support for Harvest Night has made it possible to offer and fund:

- SCHOLARSHIPS
- BAEBLER EDUCATIONAL FARM
- MANY 4-H & YOUTH PROGRAMS
- MASTER GARDENER & MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAMS

\$30/PERSON

HECKER COMMUNITY CENTER
DOORS OPEN: 5PM DINNER:
6PM

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 1ST

HARVESTNIGHT.NET



HARVEST NIGHT [18] NOVEMBER 15 / DOORS OPEN @ 5PM / DINNER @ 6PM

Questions contact: 618.928.2424 or info@harvestnight.net

PLEASE RETURN ENTIRE FORM BY NOVEMBER 1 WITH ALL NECESSARY INFORMATION INDICATED. PLEASE RETURN ENTIRE FORM BY NOVEMBER 1 WITH ALL NECESSARY INFORMATION INDICATED. PLEASE RETURN ENTIRE FORM BY NOVEMBER 1 WITH ALL NECESSARY INFORMATION INDICATED.

RESERVATIONS:

Name _____
If Advertising, please indicate name as it should appear on digital advertising

Address _____ Ticket(s)

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ @ \$30/each

Phone _____ Email _____ \$ _____

WHO WOULD YOU LIKE TO SIT WITH? Every effort will be made to accommodate your request.

Include ALL names:

Questions about RESERVATIONS
contact: info@harvestnight.net
or Tricia Lutman @ 618.830.2183

AUCTION ITEM:

Brief description of Auction item:

Questions about
AUCTION ITEM
DONATIONS, contact:
Raeleen Neary @
618.920.0002
OR
Kevin Schreder after 6pm @
618.406.7037

Item value: _____ Date item is available: _____

Do you require a charitable contribution tax receipt for your records? Yes _____

No _____ (Please fill in the value. Tax receipt letters will be mailed after the Dinner

Auction.)

DIGITAL AD:

Digital advertisements run on a loop the entire evening. Multiple advertising spaces can be purchased to display during each loop. **Example:** 2 Ad(s) @ \$50 each would cost \$100 for 2 spaces in each loop.

Please email new ads as a PDF, Hi-Res JPG, TIF or PNG to twoboysandsomegoats@gmail.com. Please include **Harvest Night 18/2025 Ad** in the subject line.

_____ Please use previous ad

_____ I am sending a new ad

_____ Ad(s)

@ \$50/each

\$ _____

SPONSORSHIP:

_____ \$500 + - Titanium Level

_____ \$250-499 - Platinum Level

_____ \$100-249 - Gold Level

_____ Up to \$99 - Silver Level

Questions about DIGITAL ADS or
SPONSORSHIPS, contact: Tina Woodcock @
618.972.7509 or
twoboysandsomegoats@gmail.com

Sponsorship amount:

\$ _____

TOTAL DUE: Make checks payable to: MC Extension & 4-H Education Foundation

Please mail this entire form and payment to: Harvest Night, P.O. Box 246, Waterloo, IL 62298

\$ _____

Paid on-line: Conf. # _____





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 2	4-H Achievement Program, 6:30 pm, Mo. Co. Fairgrounds
November 6	Teen Federation Meeting, 7:00 pm, Mo. Co. Annex (new member still welcome!)
November 11	Club Officer Training, 9-11:30 am, Mo. Co. Annex
November 15	Harvest Night Dinner Auction, Hecker Community Center
November 17	Livestock Judging Team Meeting, 6:30 pm, Mo. Co. Annex
November 27-28	Extension Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
December 30	Hoofbeats Competition Team Info Meeting, 6:30 pm, Annex
Dec. 21-Jan. 1	Extension Office Closed for Christmas Holiday
Jan. 1, 2026	Complete your re-enrollment in ZSuite for the new 4-H year



What's going on with Illinois 4-H? Find out here:

- <https://emails.illinois.edu/newsletter/92/473304792.html>



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