

# Saline County 4-H Connection



Monthly News for Saline County 4-H Members

**December 2023/January 2024**

TO MAKE THE BEST BETTER!

912 S. Commercial, Suite 4, Harrisburg, IL 62946  
618-252-8391



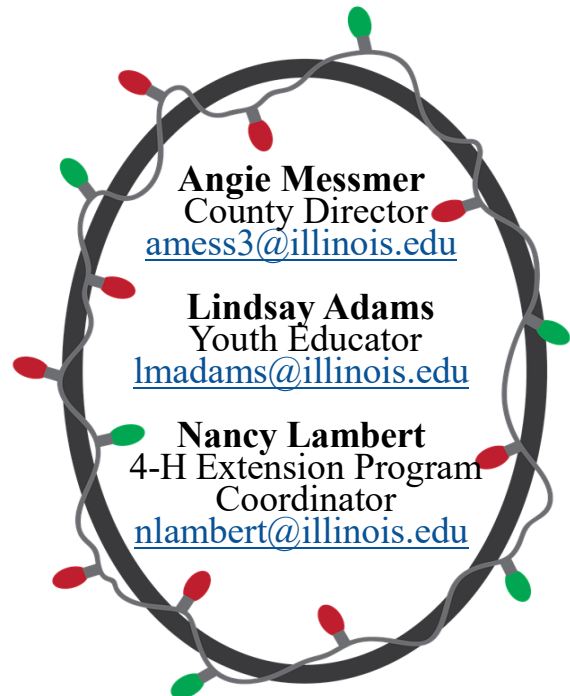
**"Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" - Gene Autry - 1949**

## *What's Inside?*

- 2 - Merry Christmas/Happy New Year, Carol Challenge, Federation Christmas and Parade
- 3 - Virtual Ornament Workshop, Cards
- 4 - Leader News, Meetings
- 5 - Rowdy Rockers!, Congratulations, Handbook Cover Contest
- 6 - Achievement Night Pictures
- 7 - ZSuite, Eclipse Glasses Design Contest
- 8 - Eclipse Glasses Template
- 9 - Cabin Fever Day, Veterans' Blankets
- 10 - Calendar



**"Jingle Bell Rock" - Bobby Helms - 1957**



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If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in any of these programs, please contact University of Illinois Extension at 618-252-8391. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet your needs.



This way for fun and info!



**Illinois Extension**  
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University of Illinois, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Local Extension Councils Cooperating.



Merry Christmas  
from all of us at the  
U of I Extension and  
Saline County 4-H Office.

And a Peaceful, Happy  
and Healthy  
2024 to you all!



"Blue Christmas" - Elvis Presley - 1957



Throughout this newsletter, you will see the titles of popular Christmas Carols with the artist and the year the song was released. Sing along as you read through your newsletter.

I am offering a prize to the first 3 youth who call the Extension office, ask for Nancy and sing a full verse and chorus of a carol. I WILL put you on speaker. Offer valid through Dec. 18.



## Federation Christmas Party and Lights Parade



We are combining our annual Saline County 4-H Federation Christmas Party with the Harrisburg Lights Parade.

Please join us **Thursday, December 14th** to represent 4-H and walk in the parade. Prior to the parade, we are meeting in the old Bunge parking lot near East Side School on Church St. in Harrisburg for pizza and drinks. Then we will walk to our float and get ready for the parade.

We will start the pizza party at 5 pm. The parade begins at 6 pm.

A parent/guardian must accompany any 4-H youth 10 years or younger. Wear comfortable shoes and dress appropriately for the weather - it could be very COLD!

Feel free to "light" yourself with battery lights and wear your favorite Christmas clothes or Santa hat. Come and join your 4-H friends and celebrate Christmas!

You must RSVP to [nlambert@illinois.edu](mailto:nlambert@illinois.edu) by December 11th so we will have enough pizza and drinks for all.

*"Have a Holly Jolly Christmas" - Burl Ives - 1965*



**VIRTUAL ORNAMENT WORKSHOP**

**12/9 @ 10:30 AM**  
REGISTER BY 12/1

[https://go.illinois.edu/GHHPSW\\_ornament\\_23](https://go.illinois.edu/GHHPSW_ornament_23)

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## Virtual Ornament Workshop

You won't want to miss the Virtual Ornament Workshop on Saturday, December 9th beginning at 10:30 am!

We will be in-person at select locations or there is a Zoom option if you want to stay home in your PJ's. Grab bags are \$5 per person and will be available for pick up through your local Extension office for Zoom participants or available at your selected in-person location. Sign up closes on December 1, 2023.

You will receive an email at the address you provide at registration with the Zoom link. This would be great for a 4-H club, a family group, or a friend group to do together.

**Scan the QR Code or use the link to register!**

**"All I Want for Christmas is You" - Mariah Carey - 1994**

## Cards for Carrier Mills Nursing & Rehab Residents



We are participating in a Christmas Community Service for the residents at Carrier Mills Nursing and Rehab. Each of the 85 residents will receive a Christmas gift on Christmas Eve.

4-H is providing the Christmas Cards. Can you help?

Please consider making cards or buying cards and writing a nice note inside. You can mention that you are a member of Saline County 4-H.

I know the residents would be so appreciative. We will need 85 Christmas cards.

Return your cards to Nancy at the Extension office no later than December 11th.

This would be a great county-wide community service activity for your club.



**"Santa Claus is Coming to Town" - Fred Astaire - 1970**

## Saline County Illinois 4-H Facebook Page

Look for our Saline County Illinois 4-H page and request to join the closed group. I will keep the page updated with photos, meetings and events notices, and information to help you during the 4-H year.



## Leader News...

### Club New Year Packets



Club leaders should have received their New 4-H Year packets at Achievement Night. Included in the packet, along with Youth Enrollment Forms and Project Forms, are the Club Officer Forms, Club Program Forms, Club Progress Goals and Club Committee Forms.

Please return your packet to the Extension office by December 15, 2023.

*"Step Into Christmas" - Elton John - 1974*

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### Livestock Committee Meeting

Saline County 4-H Livestock Committee will meet on Wednesday, January 3, 2024 at 7:00 pm at the Extension Office. All Livestock Committee members (newly appointed members from each club) and others are invited to attend.

Agenda items will include electing officers and choosing superintendents, setting dates for the Weigh-Ins for the Rate of Gain Contest and reviewing the livestock rules and the Livestock pages for the 2024 4-H Handbook.



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### Federation Meeting

The Saline County 4-H Federation will hold a business meeting on Monday, January 22, 2024, beginning at 5:30 pm at the Extension Office. We would love to have representatives from each club in attendance as we plan for the 4-H Rally, National/International Night, Public Presentations, workshops and other county events.



We are having a Soup and Sandwich Potluck supper. Call the office to let us know what you plan to bring.

*"Santa Baby" - Eartha Kitt - 1953*



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### Management Committee Meeting

Saline County 4-H Management Committee will hold its first meeting of the year on Monday, January 22, 2024 at 7:00 pm at the Extension Office. All Management Committee members and Federation officers are encouraged to attend. All Saline County 4-H members and adult volunteers are invited to attend as well.

In addition to electing officers, we will be discussing any changes that need to be made to the 4-H Handbook for this year, as well as looking ahead to the 2024 Saline County 4-H Shows and events.

See you there!



*"White Christmas" - Bing Crosby - 1942*





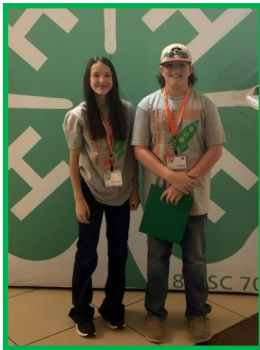
## Welcome to our New Saline County 4-H Club - Rowdy Rockers!



Carrier Mills has a new 4-H Club - Rowdy Rockers with leader Kristy Murphy!  
Please join me in welcoming them to Saline County 4-H and encourage any of  
your Carrier Mills friends to think about joining this fun club!

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**"It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas" - Perry Como - 1951**



**Congratulations to  
Jocelyn Oxford and  
Cayden Baird. They  
attended the Junior  
Leadership  
Conference in  
November and had a  
great experience.**

**Congratulations to  
Hannah Wenzel and  
team. They  
represented Illinois  
at the Eastern  
National Horse  
Bowl competition  
and placed 4th!**



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## ATTENTION 4-H ARTISTS - 4-H HANDBOOK COVER CONTEST

**4-H members of all ages...It's time for the 2024 4-H Handbook Cover Contest.**

Entries are due to the Extension office by **Wednesday, January 31, 2024.**

The entry rules for the contest are:

1. Submit original design on white paper (8 1/2 X 11 in).
2. Leave 1-inch margins on all sides.
3. Please use black ink. (Pencil will not copy well)
4. Use the words "Saline County 4-H" and the year "2024" somewhere on your design.
5. Put your name on the front of your entry.
6. Entry should reflect 4-H in Saline County.
7. If you want to use a clover in your design, we request that you use the official 4-H emblem. Contact the Extension office and we will print out a 4-H Clover for your use.
8. One entry per 4-H member may be submitted.
9. Entries must be received by Wednesday, January 31, 2024.



Please submit entries with your name, club, and age.

**Remember, there is a monetary prize at Achievement Night for the winner.**

**GOOD LUCK!**

**"It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year" - Andy Williams - 1963**

# Achievement Night Pictures



**Federation Officers**



**Friends of 4-H  
Keith and Marie Lands**



**Achievement Trophy  
Rachel Lands**



**Retiring Members**

**"Run Rudolph Run" - Chuck Berry - 1958**



**Cloverbuds**



**First Year Members**



**Junior Leaders**



**National 4-H Week  
Display and Scrapbook**

**10 Yr Member, Handbook  
Cover, SYDPA**



**5, 10, 15, 20 & 35 Year  
Volunteers**





## 4-H Enrollment/Re-Enrollment in ZSuite

ZSuite is now open. Emails with instructions went out in October to all current members and adult volunteers. If you would prefer a paper enrollment form, please let our office know. The enrollment fee in 4-H is \$20 per child.

Illinois 4-H has a maximum per family enrollment fee of \$60 or 3 youth. To receive the multi child discount for the fourth member, choose pay by check as the method of payment. Our office will then be able to apply the multi child discount.

If you have problems with re-enrolling, please contact our office. We are looking forward to a great 2023-2024 4-H year.

**"Wonderful Christmastime" - Paul McCartney - 1979**



## Eclipse Glasses Design Contest

Attention: Unit 24 4-H Youth in Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Pope, Saline and White Counties.

We are in the path of another Total Eclipse of the Sun on April 8, 2024.

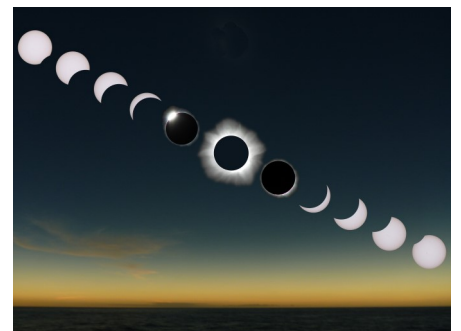
Your 4-H Program Coordinators, along with Youth Educator, Lindsay Adams, will be visiting all the Unit 24 schools to talk about the eclipse.

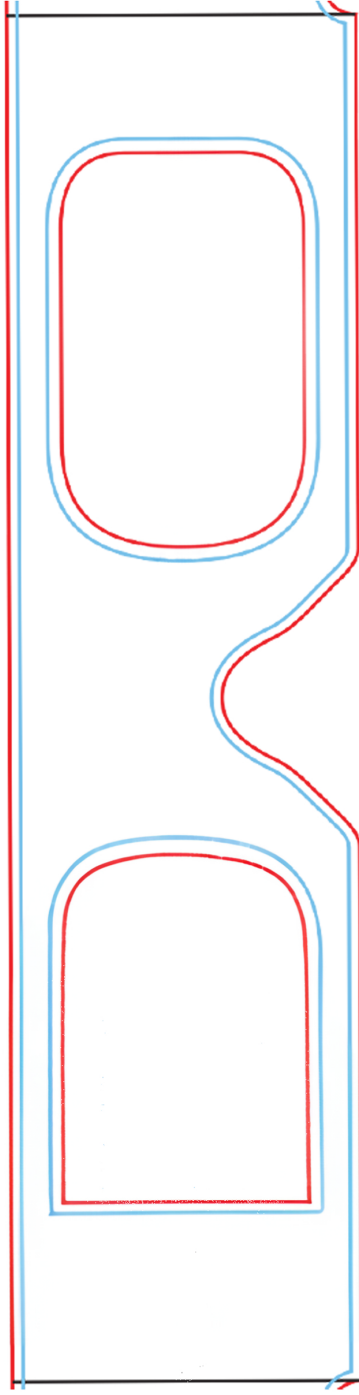
And...we will be providing Eclipse Glasses to all youth. We would like for you to help design the glasses. On the next page, you will find a template. Come up with your best design and submit it no later than December 15, 2023 to Lindsay Adams: [lmadams@illinois.edu](mailto:lmadams@illinois.edu).

Or you can print, design and bring in your template to the Extension office. I will have extra copies of the template at the office. Remember...entries are due by Dec. 15th.



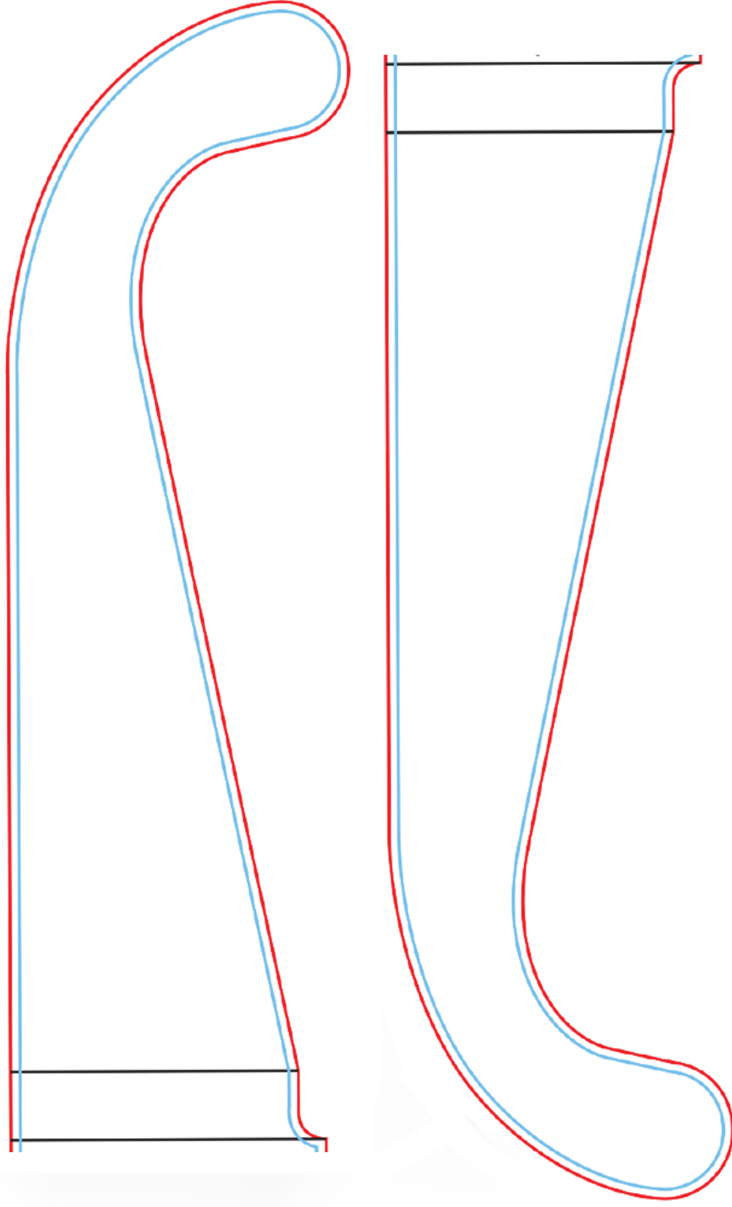
**"Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" - Brenda Lee - 1958**





## Instructions:

Design your custom eclipse glasses using colored markers, crayons, or design on the computer. Be creative, and include bonus details like the University logo and date for extra points. Include a blank square for a custom QR code. Submit your masterpiece by the deadline, and remember, it's all about creativity, not artistic skill!



## Helpful Items for your Design

Partial Eclipse begins @ 12:43  
Total begins ~ 2:00  
Partial Ends @ 3:20



April 8th, 2024

# Cabin Fever Day in Hamilton County



By mid-January or so...you might be tired of the cold and ready for some fun.



Consider attending Cabin Fever Day at the Hamilton County Extension office on the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday - January 15, 2024.

This free event will be held from 9 am - Noon and is open to all 4-H youth in Unit 24.

Junior High and older youth will make tie blankets that will serve as a community service for veterans.

Grade school youth will work on crafts and make Valentines for Veterans as their community service.



Lunch will be provided.



Call the Extension office if you want to attend this fun day!

*"The Christmas Song" - Nat King Cole - 1960*

HELP 4-H MAKE  
**BLANKETS FOR  
VETERANS HONOR FLIGHT**

**We are looking for the following items:**

- Red, White, Blue or Patriotic Fabric.
- Quilt Batting or Backing
- Donation of time / sewing and tying skills

Illinois  
Extension

**I**

Unit 24 plans to make 100 Lap Blankets for the May 2024 Southern Illinois Veterans Honor Flight. We need your help!

We would like donations of Red, White, Blue, or Patriotic Fabric, Quilt Batting or Backing and/or donation of your time, sewing and tying skills.

If you can donate your time or talents, please reach out to:  
Amy McCarty (White Co.)  
[amccarty@illinois.edu](mailto:amccarty@illinois.edu)  
618-382-2662 or  
Paula Hatfield (Hamilton Co.)  
[pjhatfie@illinois.edu](mailto:pjhatfie@illinois.edu)  
618-643-3416

*"Last Christmas" - Wham - 1986*

# 4-H CALENDAR

## December 2023

- 9 - Virtual Ornament Workshop, 10:30 am
- 11 - Turn in Christmas Cards for Carrier Mills Nursing/Rehab Residents
- 11 - RSVP for Federation Christmas Pizza Party/Float
- 14 - Federation Christmas Pizza Party and 4-H Float in Harrisburg Lights Parade
- 15 - 4-H Club Forms due in to the Extension office.
- 15 - Eclipse Glasses Designs due.
- 25 - Merry Christmas! Extension office closed Dec. 22 - Jan 1.



## January 2024

- 1 - Happy New Year!
- 2 - Extension Office re-opens after Christmas Break
- 3 - Livestock Committee Meeting, 7 pm, Extension office
- 15 - Extension office closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
- 15 - Cabin Fever Day, 9am-Noon, Hamilton County Extension office
- 22 - 4-H Federation Meeting, 5:30 pm, Extension office
- 22 - Management Committee Meeting, 7 pm, Extension office
- 31 - Handbook Cover Entries Due by 4:00 pm



## February 2024

- 3 - Steer Weigh-in, 1pm, Fairgrounds



**"Frosty the Snowman" - Jimmy Durante - 1969**



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