

Saline County 4-H Connection



Monthly News for Saline County 4-H Members

February/March 2024

TO MAKE THE BEST BETTER!

912 S. Commercial, Suite 4, Harrisburg, IL 62946
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University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

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.



There are so many fun activities coming up!



You MUST Re-enroll to Participate!

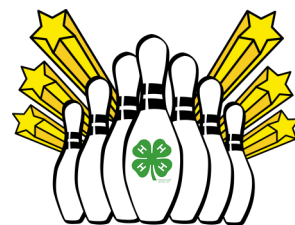


Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
University of Illinois, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Local Extension Councils Cooperating.

UNIT 24 COSMIC BOWLING

Calling All 4-H Members and Volunteers...You are invited to a fun evening of COSMIC BOWLING at Ross Cotton Lanes on **Friday Night, February 9, 2024** from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.



The cost is only **\$4.00** per game, per person. If you bowl 2 games or more, the shoe rental will be waived.

We are joining 4-H members from Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Pope, and White Counties for a fun Unit #24 Bowling night! This will be a great time to meet 4-H members from other counties and renew old friendships.



Don't forget to bring your bowling money and extra money for snacks and drinks.

In order to have enough lanes reserved, you must RSVP by February 2nd!

COSMIC BOWLING COMMUNITY SERVICE

We are collecting school supplies for our area grade schools to help them finish out the year. We ask that families attending Cosmic Bowling bring any of the following items if possible:



Box of crayons (no larger than 24/box), box of markers, package of #2 pencils, package of colored pencils, package of glue sticks, youth-sized scissors.



Thanks so much for your generosity!

It's Time for the Saline County 4-H Rally!!!!

Rally Night is scheduled for **Monday, March 4, 2024** from 6 - 8 pm at the **Eldorado Elementary Gym**



Clubs may begin setting up at 5 pm. We need participation from ALL clubs!

Please call the Ext. office by February 20 to let us know your club's game and/or food choice.

This is a fun way to earn money for your club's activities and increase your membership by inviting a friend to the Rally.

All Saline County K - 8th grade youth will receive a Rally Flyer invitation.



Clean-up time is 8-8:30 pm. Clubs are responsible for cleaning up their area following the Rally.

Remember to bring your own tables, chairs, extension cords, etc.



See You There!



Rally Night Community Service

Bring a can of soup of any kind to support the 4th Annual Together We "Can" Southern Illinois Canned Soup Drive. Donations will be taken to Heaven's Kitchen to be distributed all over Southern Illinois.



Livestock Information



The Saline County 4-H Livestock Committee held a business meeting on Wednesday, January 3, 2024 at 7 pm at the Extension office. Members present elected officers and superintendents.

Livestock Committee officers are:

Chairman - Dan Evans, Vice Chairman - Tim Arnold, and Secretary - Wyatt Arnold.

Livestock Superintendents are:

Beef - Dan Evans ; **Dairy Cattle** - Jane Carlile; **Swine** - Sara Oxford;

Meat Goats and Dairy Goats - Nathan Feazel; **Sheep** - Lonny Reed, Brianna Johnson, & Tim Arnold;

Rabbits - Jodie Vinyard; **Small Pets and Poultry** - Amy Richey

Weigh in dates (all held at the Saline County Fairgrounds at 1 pm):

Beef - February 10, Swine - April 6, and Lambs and Meat Goats - April 27.

The next 4-H Livestock Committee meeting will be held on **Thursday, March 7, 2024 at 7 pm** at the Extension Office. We will be finalizing the livestock pages for the handbook, the July Show schedule and choosing judges for each show.

Future meeting dates: Thursday, June 6, 2024 at 8 pm and Thursday, January 9, 2025 at 7 pm.

Youth needing help with their goat tags should call the Extension office.
Goat Superintendent Nathan Feazel would be happy to assist you.



- * Market Beef projects not weighed for Rate of Gain must be tagged and reported to the Extension office within 10 days after the weigh-in - Tuesday, February 20.
- * Breeding Beef projects must be reported by May 15.
- * All Livestock projects (Breeding and Market) must be listed on the Livestock Registration Sheet due May 15 - including those market animals previously reported .
- * Clearly indicate whether an animal will be shown in a breeding class or a market class.

Yearly YQCA Certification

Attention Beef Cattle, Swine, Dairy Cattle, Goat, and Sheep Exhibitors!

4-H members exhibiting animals entering the food production system will be required to complete the annual **Youth for the Quality Care of Animals** certification (YQCA). **Youth MUST complete this training prior to the Saline County 4-H livestock shows.** This does not apply to youth exhibiting animal or veterinary science poster projects.

Youth have two options to be certified.

Youth may attend an instructor-led class - \$3, or complete the training online - \$12.

An Instructor-Led YQCA training is scheduled for Saturday, April 6th beginning at 2 pm (or immediately following the Swine Weigh-in) at the Saline County Fairgrounds Livestock Building.

Instructor-Led trainings are also planned for April 27th in White County and May 4th in Hamilton County.

As soon as the classes have been set up in the YQCA program, instructions will be sent to exhibitors. Please be aware, though, that youth must register and pay the fee, take the pre-test, attend the class, take the post-test, and be certified by Extension staff in order to complete the process to exhibit.



Federation News

The Saline County 4-H Federation held a business meeting on Monday, January 22, 2024, at 5:30 pm at the Extension office. Those present enjoyed a potluck soup and sandwich supper and discussed Cosmic Bowling, the 4-H Rally, Public Presentations, National Night, and other county events.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 4, at 5: pm at the Eldorado Elementary gym right before the 4-H Rally.

Management Committee



Saline County 4-H Management Committee held its first meeting of the year on Monday, January 22, 2024 at 7:00 pm at the Extension Office. Members present elected officers, discussed the Livestock Committee Report, looked ahead to the 2024 Saline County 4-H Shows and events, discussed Cosmic Bowling, the 4-H Rally, Public Presentations, and National Night.

Serving as Saline County 4-H Management Committee Officers this year are:

Chairman: James Bond, Vice-Chairman: Tim Arnold, Secretary: Hannah Wenzel

The next Management Committee Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 18, 2024 at 7 pm.

Future meeting dates are: Monday, June 17 at 8 pm, Monday September 9 at 7 pm, and Monday, January 13, 2025 at 7 pm.

Have You Re-Enrolled for the 2023-24 4-H Year?
If not, drop everything and do it now! Can't remember how? Call the Extension office and we will send the instructions again.

Saline County Farm Bureau Scholarship Opportunity



Scholarship Available

Applications can be found online at the link on Facebook or with FFA Advisors/Guidance Counselors

Deadline for Farm Bureau Scholarship:

March 29th 2024 at 4:00 pm

Deadline for Foundation Scholarship:

March 29th 2024 at 4:00 pm

Deadline for AITC Scholarship:

March 29th 2024 at 4:00 pm

Questions ? Contact Marisa at 618-252-6992 or salgalfbmanager@gmail.com

Link for the Farm Bureau Scholarship: <https://form.jotform.com/Salgal.../Saline-County-Farm-Bureau>

Link for the AITC/Foundation Scholarships: <https://form.jotform.com/.../saline-county-aitcfoundation...>

These are not the project grants offered in past years by our Saline County Farm Bureau. These scholarship opportunities are for graduating High School Seniors.

If the project grants are offered again, information will be sent out to 4-H members.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Did you know over 75% of adults have a fear of public speaking to some degree? But, not 4-H members!

We want to challenge you to learn, explore, and grow in your public speaking this year! Make plans to give a demonstration, practice your exhibit skills, and work toward qualifying for the State Public Speaking Contest this year.

The State 4-H Public Speaking Contest is scheduled for Saturday, April 27, 2024 at Parkland Community College in Champaign, IL. Deadline for submissions is April 5.

This year we are holding a Unit 24 Public Presentations Contest on Thursday, March 21, at 6 pm at the White County Extension Office in Carmi. The contest will include speeches, food demonstrations, other demonstrations and flower arranging.

Members who want to participate **MUST** be enrolled in 4-H with their fee paid and enrolled in their project (Public Presentations, a Foods project, a Floriculture project, etc.) no later than **March 15**. Call the Extension office with details about your Speech or Demonstration by **March 15**. Lois will send out Fair Entry Registration information to participants.

Each County will be awarding their own State Fair and County Champion Ribbons.



Grab the reins on the Illinois 4-H Livestock Ambassador Team ~ Team Applications are Open!

Do you have a passion for Animal Sciences? The Livestock Ambassador Team might be for you! Become a role model and advocate for the livestock industry.



The team helps with ...

- Statewide Junior Livestock Conferences
- Regional Livestock Clinics
- Livestock Skillathons
- Assisting with State 4-H Livestock Events
- Advocating for the livestock industry
- Serving on agricultural youth boards (YEA, Junior Association,

I  State Fair)

- Involvement in State Fair activities (Commodity Carnival, Governor's Auction, Ag Day, Tours, etc.)

Applications will close March 31. Apply through this link: go.illinois.edu/LATApply



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.

Speaking for Illinois 4-H - Become a 4-H Ambassador



Ignite your passion for 4-H and become a powerful advocate! Join the 2024 Illinois 4-H Speaking for Illinois 4-H Training. Develop your confidence and leadership skills while learning to communicate your 4-H story to anyone. Learn from expert speakers, participate in interactive workshops, and get ready to make your voice heard!

The next Speaking for Illinois 4-H training is planned for Monday, February 19, 2024 from 7 - 8:30 pm over the Zoom format.

To learn more visit the [Speaking for Illinois 4-H Website](#) or contact Illinois 4-H Leadership Specialist, Katie Duitsman at pilcher3@illinois.edu.

Secure your spot and make your mark on 4-H!

This training will equip you with the skills to:

- Connect and advocate: Learn how to effectively communicate with county and state officials, potential donors, civic groups, and new volunteers.
- Master public speaking: Gain valuable techniques for crafting compelling presentations overcoming stage fright, and confidently delivering your message.
- Make a difference: Be prepared to participate in impactful state events like 4-H Legislative Connection and use your voice to champion 4-H programs.

Illinois 4-H Road Trip: College and Career Day

It's never too early to start thinking about your college career! Join 8th grade - 12th grade youth across the state at the Illinois 4-H Road Trip: College and Career Day on March 9, 2024 at the Illini Union on the campus of University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Cost for the day is \$35, which includes lunch, supplies and fun-filled activities. Enjoy networking with other youth at the conference, participate in engaging workshops on College and Career Readiness, and explore State 4-H opportunities.

There are 2 parent tracks available as well, for the first 50 parents who register. The two tracks are broken down like this:

1. Parents of 8th Graders and Freshmen;
2. Parents of Sophomores thru Seniors.

The price per adult is \$35, which includes lunch and a resource folder.

Registration is now open and closes on February 9. Visit go.illinois.edu/4HRoadTrip. Join us for an exciting day of exploration and inspiration. Secure your spot now. Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to kick-start your college and career journey. Let's make this road trip unforgettable!



Dog Obedience Classes Begin April 30, 2024



Dog Obedience, Showmanship, and Agility classes will begin on Tuesday, April 30. Classes will be held at instructor Cheri White's Shop at 613 W. Elm St. in Harrisburg. Classes will continue each Tuesday for 10 weeks, concluding on Tuesday, July 9. (The Tuesday, June 11 classes will be moved to Wednesday, June 12, and there will be no classes on Tuesday, June 25.)

On April 30, **first year exhibitors** should arrive at **6 pm** for an introduction to the course. **Bring your dog's shot records, but leave your dog at home.** Exhibitors attending classes for their second year or more should arrive at **7 pm** with their dogs and shot records. If you have questions about these classes, please call Cheri White at 618-926-0787.



The **Dog Agility 4-H Show** will be held at **Cheri White's** on **Tuesday, July 16 at 7 pm.** Dog Care, Obedience, and Showmanship - along with Cat Care - will be held on **Thursday, July 18 at 6 pm** at the Fairgrounds.

Don't Forget to complete your Re-Enrollment for the 2023-24 4-H Year!!!!
Call the Extension office if you need the instructions sent again.

Horse Bowl/Hippology Events

Are you interested in Horses and want to learn more about them? Classes are underway to prepare for the Regional and State 4-H Horse Bowl & Hippology contests. Classes began on January 18, but there is still time to join in on the fun! Coach Raegan Smith welcomes youth from all Unit 24 counties, and you do not have to own a horse to participate.

Classes will meet weekly at the Saline County Extension office beginning at 6 pm to prepare for the Regional 4-H Horse Bowl & Hippology Contest on April 6, 2024 at SIU-Carbondale and the State 4-H Horse Bowl & Hippology Contest and the Horse Speech Contest scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, April 13-14, 2024 at the U of I Campus.

There is also a Horse Judging Contest to be held on February 17, 2024 at Black Hawk College.

Youth must be enrolled in 4-H to participate in the classes. Call the Extension office to learn more.

4-H State Horse Judging Contest

February 17, 2024
10:30 AM

Black Hawk College East

Pre-registration required in ZSuites
Contact your local extension office for more info

Illinois Extension go.illinois.edu/4Hhorsejudging 

go.illinois.edu/4Hhorsebowl 

4-H State Horse Contests

Horse Quiz Bowl | Hippology | Horse Speech

April 13 - 14, 2024

On UIUC campus | Contact your local Extension office for more info

  Illinois Extension

4-H CALENDAR

February 2024

- 2 - "Well, it's Groundhog Day...Again!"
- 9 - Cosmic Bowling, 6 - 8 pm, Ross Cotton Lanes. RSVP by February 2.
- 10 - Steer Weigh-in, 1pm, Fairgrounds
- 11 - Super Bowl Sunday
- 14 - Happy Valentine's Day!
- 19 - President's Day
- 19 - Speaking for Illinois 4-H Training, 7-8:30 pm, Zoom



March 2024

- 4 - 4-H Rally, 6-8 pm, Eldorado Elementary Gym (Short Federation Meeting at 5 pm)
- 7 - Livestock Committee Meeting, 7 pm, Extension office
- 10 - Daylight Savings Time Begins - Set your clocks forward one hour
- 10 - Experience Awards Banquet, 2 pm, Big Red Barn, McLeansboro
- 17 - St. Patrick's Day - Wear your 4-H Green!
- 18 - Management Committee Meeting, 7 pm, Extension office
- 21 - Unit 24 Public Speaking Contest, 6 pm, White County Extension office
- 31 - Happy Easter Sunday!



April 2024

- 6 - Southern Region 4-H Horse Bowl/Hippology Contest, SIU-C
- 6 - Swine Weigh-in, 1pm, Fairgrounds - In-person YQCA Training to follow at 2 pm
- 8 - Total Solar Eclipse - 1:59 - 2:03 pm
- 27 - Lamb/Goat Weigh-in, 1 pm, Fairgrounds
- 30 - First Dog Obedience Class, 6 pm & 7 pm



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