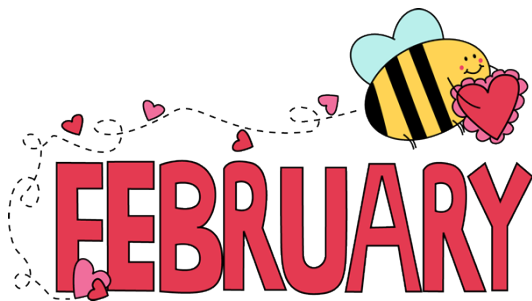




www.facebook.com/groups/GallatinCountyIL4H/



Don't forget to enroll- Zsuites is open!

Remember we need to have your enrollments complete ASAP! There are several that are incomplete. If you have forgotten the email/password information, please reach out and I can send you that info.

Re-enrolling? Click here Re-Enrollment Video Tutorial: <https://go.illinois.edu/4HReEnroll>

- o Re-Enrollment Step-By-Step Guide: <https://go.illinois.edu/4HHowToReEnroll>
- o New Member? Check out the Illinois 4-H page for detailed information <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/participate/zsuite-enrollment-info>

See ya soon,

Kassy

CALENDAR

February

- 2** - "Well, it's Groundhog Day...Again!" RSVP for Cosmic Bowling!
- 7** Clover Busters meeting, 6 PM Gallatin Co Farm Bureau. Community Service- valentines for the nursing home
- 9** - Cosmic Bowling, 6 - 8 pm, Ross Cotton Lanes. RSVP by February 2.
- 14** - Happy Valentine's Day!
- 17** State Horse Judging
- 19** - Speaking for Illinois 4-H Training, 7-8:30 pm, Zoom
- 26** Showbook Cover Deadline

March

- 9** 4-H Road Trip
- 10** - Daylight Savings Time Begins - Set your clocks forward one hour
- 12** Electricity Workshop- White County
- 17** - St. Patrick's Day - Wear your 4-H Green!
- 21** - Unit 24 Public Speaking Contest, 6 pm, White County Extension office

April

- 1** Virtual Graphic Design Club registration due
- 6** - Southern Region 4-H Horse Bowl/Hippology Contest, SIU-C
- 6** In-person YQCA Training @ Saline Co. 2 pm
- 8** Total Solar Eclipse - 1:59 - 2:03 pm
- 13** Horse Public Speaking

August

- 11**-State Fair Exhibition Day

Awards Banquet TBD

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please contact Kassy at kscates@illinois.edu Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet your needs.



Congrats to our officers! President Molly Kitchens, Vice President Murphie Horton, Secretary Jaci Heath, Reporter Ella Lydick, Historian Autumn Cook



Congrats to our Recreation Committee: Maddie Kitchens, Rozlyn May, Jackson Patton, Lauren Dyhrkopp, and Anthony Dyhrkopp

Unit 24 Cosmic Bowling

Calling All 4-H Members and Volunteers...You are invited to a fun evening of COSMIC BOWLING at Ross Cottom 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 Saline, 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!

Showbook Cover Contest

2024 Gallatin County 4-H Showbooks will be available in March! We need a great cover!

Use your creative ideas and put them to work! You may hand draw or use a computer to generate an image that represents 4-H to you! It needs to say Gallatin County Showbook 2023-2024 and have the 4-H Clover. Please don't use any trademarked images or characters- we can't use those (example cartoon characters). If you have any questions please reach out!

Deadline is February 26. Please submit via email to kscates@illinois.edu

Get cash to help improve your Community

Looking for funding support to conduct community service outreach in your community? Farm Credit Illinois is ready to help Illinois 4-H clubs and FFA chapters bring positive and visible change to Illinois communities! Fifty \$500 Community Improvement Grants are available. Clubs must be located in one of the 60 central and southern Illinois counties served by Farm Credit Illinois. Check if your club is eligible and apply today at farmcreditIL.com. **Be sure to contact your LOCAL EXTENSION OFFICE BEFORE applying for this grant to ensure you follow all fiscal requirements!**

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



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

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, from county officials to potential donors. Past participants have secured funding for projects, influenced legislation, and inspired countless others. Learn from expert speakers, participate in interactive workshops, and get ready to make your voice heard!

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.

Event Details: February 19, 7-8:30 PM via Zoom

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

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

Illinois 4-H Road Trip: College and Career Day



Event Date(s)

March 9, 2024

Location

Illini Union

[Register Here](#)

Registration is open!

Join us for an exciting day of exploration and inspiration! Road Trip: College and Career Day is a fun filled day conference for youth across the State of Illinois who are planning to be college bound. Youth will explore workshop topics related to College and Career Readiness and State 4-H opportunities.

This event is open to 8th-12th grade youth from across Illinois & parents!

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate, please contact

[Carla Blue](#)

The Regional Showcase Coming to Du Quoin State Fair

I am excited to share an additional showing opportunity for 4-H'ers in the lower 49 counties this year - "The Regional Showcase" in partnership with the Du Quoin State Fair. While this additional showing opportunity will not pay out Premiums, there will be awards (Rosettes for General Projects and Banners for Livestock) sponsored by a local donor.

The donor has also agreed to cover the expense of the livestock judges. Registration for the event will open on March 1 (show book will be available this date as well) and close on August 1.

Date Information:

General Projects show will be Saturday, August 17 (the Saturday before the Du Quoin State Fair starts). 4-H Exhibitors will be able to keep their project up through the duration of the Fair.

The **Livestock Shows** will take place the following weekend on Friday, August 23 and Saturday, August 24. The Department of Ag has waived the 72-hour rule for this event. There will be a \$5 stalling fee per animal.

Friday will be the Goat and Sheep show as well as the swine weigh-in.

Parking is free the first night.

Saturday will be the Beef, Dairy and Swine shows.

\$10 parking



Unit 24

Electrical Workshop

Create a basic circuit/simple switch
(Electrical 1 Project).

There will be a limit of 15-20 kids, so
please call the Carmi Extension office
@ 618-382-2662 to reserve your spot!

**Sponsored By: Carmi Lumber
Company**

When: March 12 6:00 - 8:00 pm

**Where: White County Extension Office
1715 College Ave
Carmi, IL 62821**

Fee: \$5.00



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need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please contact University of
Illinois Extension. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet your
access needs.



VIRTUAL SPIN CLUB

PIXEL PIONEERS

IGNITE YOUR CREATIVITY IN GRAPHIC DESIGN

Delve into the digital realm in this exciting introductory SPIN club, immersing yourself in the world of graphic design! Explore color theory, typography, brand recognition, logos, layout basics, and more!

Sessions will take place on Zoom, with supplemental materials being mailed to participants in advance of the first session. Pixel Pioneers is open to youth ages 8-18 years old.



\$ \$25 for new 4-Hers; \$5 current members

? Danielle Gapinski, 4-H Youth Development Educator
des85@illinois.edu | 815-632-3611

APRIL 23, 30
MAY 7, 14, 21, 28
6:30 - 7:30 PM

ENROLLMENT DUE BY MONDAY, APRIL 1
Already enrolled in 4-H?
Register for this event using ZSuite:
go.illinois.edu/pixelpioneers
Not involved in 4-H?
go.illinois.edu/pixelpioneersnewmember



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State 4-H Horse Judging Contest

Event Date(s)

February 17, 2024

Location

Blackhawk East Campus

<https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/state-events/illinois-4-h-horse-judging-contest>

Get ready for fun and friendly competition at the Horse Judging Contest! The primary objective of these contests is to provide an opportunity for youth to demonstrate their knowledge of equine-related subject matter in a competitive setting where attitudes of friendliness and fairness prevail.

In the State 4-H Horse Judging Contest youth will judge six classes of horses, at least two being halter classes. Youth 14 years of age and older may also choose to participate in oral reasons following the classes. For those not participating in the oral reasons class, one questions class will be required. Top-placing senior division youth will be invited to participate in an invitational judging contest after which the national team will be determined.

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 Speaking Contest

Event Date(s)

April 13, 2024

Location

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign campus

4-H Horse Speaking contests help youth gain self-confidence, courage and persuasiveness; share ideas with others; and develop the ability to speak in public to inform others about horse-related subjects and the 4-H Horse project. This contest will be held in conjunction with the State Hippology Contest. The deadline to register is March 29.

Livestock Projects

For those interested in showing livestock here are some important ownership deadlines. Please reach out to me ASAP so we can arrange for our livestock to be weighed in with another county. You will also be required to take the YQCA certification. There will be limited in person opportunities within our 6 county unit as well as the ability to take it at will online. If you are interested in a livestock project but not sure what to do as far as choosing a project or showing I'm sure we can arrange a clinic.

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.

2024 Livestock Ownership Deadlines

Birth, Ownership and Tattoo Dates for Illinois State Fair Junior Show and county show opportunities.

If you are interested in State Fair, please ask for more specific guidelines.

STEERS & MARKET HEIFERS:

- Calved on or after January 1, 2023
- Owned & personally cared for by exhibitor since – February 1, 2024
- Tattooed & Tagged –
- o In addition to tattooing, steers that will be going to state fair are to be tagged with the electronic ID tags.

BARROWS:

- *Regular Barrows*
- o **Farrowed on or after December 15, 2023** and must be the property of the exhibitor by June 1, 2024.
- **Premiere Barrows (State Fair)**
- o **Farrowed on or after February 10, 2024** and must have been the property of the exhibitor by June 1, 2024
- o Weighed and Tattooed February 10 to April 15, 2024
- o Tattooed within 35 days of birth and not weigh more than 1.0lbs/day of age
- o Junior exhibitors can purchase nominated barrows

SHEEP WETHERS:

- o Lambled on or after January 1, 2024
- o Ownership Date – May 15, 2024
- o Weighed, Tattooed & Tagged – between March 15 and May 16, 2024.

- Weigh/Tattoo procedures for Open & Jr. Premiere & Live Show Wethers:

All lambs and meat goats to be exhibited at the State Fair **MUST** be taken to one of the statewide locations for weighing and tattooing. Each lamb will be tagged with an electronic ID tag, tattooed, weighed, and recorded on Lamb Nomination Forms from Dan Jennings. **Specific information regarding each of the weigh-in locations & procedures will be forthcoming.**

MEAT GOATS

- Wethers – **Born on or after October 1, 2023**
- Tattooed in name of exhibitor only by May 15, 2024
- Ownership dates for Kids & Yearlings not in milk – May 15, 2024

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, 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

Find us on Facebook by scanning the QR code



Illinois Extension
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Gallatin County 4-H
Newsletter

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