



18 U.S.C. 707

Coles County

Newsletter

Keeping You Informed

March 2024



University of Illinois Extension Staff

809 Broadway Ave
Mattoon, IL 61938

Jessie McClusky
County Director

Serving Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Moultrie, and Shelby Counties.

217-543-3755

mcclusk2@illinois.edu

Andrea McNeil
4-H Youth Development Educator
Serving Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Moultrie, and Shelby Counties.

217-345-7034

amcnei1@illinois.edu

Jessica Hays
4-H Youth Development Program Coordinator
Serving Coles County

217-345-7034

jnhays@illinois.edu

Macey Maxey
Office Support
Serving Coles County

217-345-7034

mvmaxey@illinois.edu

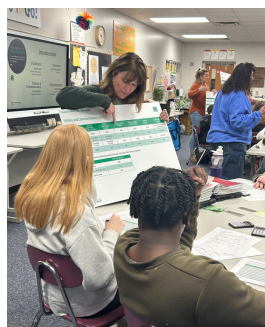
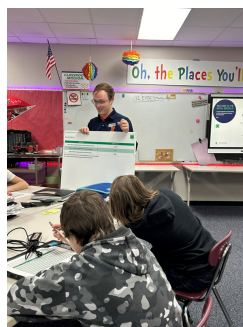
Find other Extension program areas at
<https://extension.illinois.edu/ccdms/staff>

- Family Life
- Horticulture, Natural Resources
- Illinois Nutrition Education Programs

Welcome to the Real World 4-H Program

Youth at Charleston Middle School participated in the Illinois 4-H Welcome to the Real World program from February 27 - March 1. This 4-H program gives youth the experience of exploring careers, making consumer choices related to future independent living, learning skills needed to manage their finances, evaluating their success in managing their monthly income and expenses, & exploring alternatives to balance a budget.

Thank you to Kevin Piggush, Diepholz Auto of Charleston, Kenzi Cheesewright - State Farm Insurance Agent, Carla Bradbury, Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative, Shelby Phipps & Brandi Nugent, Farm Credit Illinois, Yolonda Nation, Shelby County 4-H, Ross Osterday, Illinois Extension, & Rachel Stinger, Moultrie-Douglas 4-H, for volunteering your time and sharing your experience, & knowledge with our youth.



Illinois Extension

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Calendar

March

- 1 - Deadline Enrolled in ZSuite (Project Add/Drop)- (to exhibit at the 4-H Fair)
- 1 - Southern Region 4-H Showcase Registration Opens
- 8 - BBQ Thank you Postcards by Cloverbuds DUE
- 9 - County Public Speaking Contest (Mo-Do, Coles, & Cumberland)
- 25 - BBQ Money & Extra Tickets Due

April

- 1 - FairEntry Open (Tentative Date)
- 6 - 4-H Pork Chop BBQ
- 8 - RSVP Food Forest Tour & Garden Day
- 13 - 4-H Food Forest Tour & Garden Day
- 27 - Goat Check-in, 8 am- 9 am, FG
- 27 - IL State Public Speaking Contest
- 27 - National Day of Service

May

- 1 -Deadline Project Add/Drop (in ZSuite) (see Coles 4-H Website)
- 1 - Deadline Horse Ownership & Lease Papers Due
- 2 - Sheep weigh- in/ Registration
- 6 - RSVP Youth CPR Workshop
- 18 - Youth CPR Workshop, 10:30 am, *RR

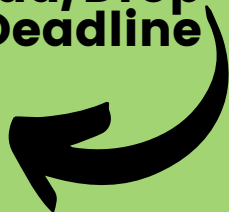
EO -Extension Office *RR= Registration Required
FG - Fairgrounds



ZSUITE

**Project
Add/Drop
Deadline**

April 1, 2024



COLES COUNTY 4-H BBQ



SATURDAY APRIL 6TH

At the Coles County Fairgrounds

11:00 AM - 6:00 PM

MENU

**2 PORK CHOPS, BAKED POTATO,
APPLESAUCE, GREEN BEANS,
DESSERT, AND BOTTLE OF WATER**

\$10.00

HOW TO PURCHASE TICKETS

- Coles County 4-H Member
- Coles County Extension Office, Mattoon
- Coles County Farm Bureau, Charleston

DRIVE-THRU ONLY

Tickets will not be sold at the door

Coles County Federation will be Selling
Custom BBQ Spice during the event.

**DON'T FORGET TO TELL
YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY!**

4-H Records: Baking potatoes, selling tickets, and
working at the BBQ all count as county participation.



County (C)

New Cloverbud Club

Coles County 4-H has been growing in 2024 with a new Cloverbud Club in Mattoon! This club had their first meeting on February 8, 2024. The new eight members participated in a hands-on community service project, decorating cookies and making Valentine's Day cards for the local nursing home.

Cloverbuds is an exploratory program for youth ages 5-7 that helps promote healthy, positive youth development and is an excellent launchpad into a 4-H experience. If you want to learn more about the Cloverbud or 4-H Program in Coles County, call our office at 217-345-7034.



SPIN Club



Check the Shooting Sports Facebook Page for updates.

Shooting Sports: Air Rifle

Meeting at 9:00 a.m.

- No meeting in March.
- April TBD

Shooting Sports: Archery

Meeting at 1:30 p.m.

- March 24
- April 28

Weather Permitting

Watch the Shooting Sports Facebook Page for Updates.

All Things PAW-sitive

Meeting Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.

- March 14
- April 18
- May 16
- June 13
- June 27

If you missed the registration, let us know you are coming by calling the Coles Extension Office.

Contact the Extension Office at 217-345-7034 to get involved in a SPIN Club!



Southern Region 4H Showcase Showbook -

go.illinois.edu/RegionalShowbook

Southern Region 4H Showcase Registration -

go.illinois.edu/RegionalShowcase

Registration closes: August 1, 2024



Southern Region 4-H Showcase at DuQuoin State Fair

General Projects Show

Saturday, Aug 17

(Maximum of 3 entries per participant)

Livestock Shows

(Maximum of 1 livestock animal per class.)

Friday, Aug 23

Goat and Sheep Shows, Swine Weigh-in

Saturday, Aug 24

Beef, Dairy, and Swine Shows

Participants must be 4-H members.

For more information or to register go to go.illinois.edu/RegionalShowcase or scan the QR code.

Registration deadline is August 1.



Check out the Showbook at go.illinois.edu/RegionalShowbook



Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

College of Agricultural, Consumer & Environmental Sciences
University of Illinois Extension*USDA*Local Extension Councils Cooperating
University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.
For reasonable accommodations to participate in this program, contact your local Illinois Extension Office.

At University of Illinois Extension, we believe in giving our youth the opportunity to show off their skills and knowledge. We are partnering with DuQuoin State Fair to give the 4-H youth of Illinois another opportunity to show their skills and knowledge. At the 2024 DuQuoin State Fair, University of Illinois Extension will sponsor a General Projects Show and Livestock Show. There will be no premiums paid. In order to participate, you must be a 4-H member in one the following counties:

- Alexander, Bond, Champaign, Clark, Clay, Clinton, Coles, Crawford, Cumberland, DeWitt, Douglas, Edgar, Edwards, Effingham, Fayette, Ford, Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Iroquois, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Johnson, Lawrence, Macon, Madison, Marion, Massac, Monroe, Moultrie, Perry, Piatt, Pope, Pulaski, Randolph, Richland, Saline, Shelby, St. Clair, Union, Vermillion, Wabash, Washington, Wayne, White, Williamson

- General Projects Show - Saturday, Aug 17
 - (Maximum of 3 entries per participant)
- Friday, Aug 23 - Goat and Sheep Shows, Swine Weigh-in
- Saturday, Aug 24 - Beef, Dairy, and Swine Shows
 - (Maximum of 1 livestock animal per class. \$5 stalling fee)

A \$10 parking fee is due at the gate on Saturday, August 24.

Calling all Seniors: Scholarship Opportunities

- Elgin and Genevieve Daily Scholarship - \$400
- Thomas M. Frazier Memorial Scholarship - \$250

CLASS
OF
2023

Go to <https://extension.illinois.edu/ccdms/4-h-coles-county> for applications.



DUE:

March 31, 2024.

Submitted Applications to Coles County Extension Foundation by mail at 809 Broadway Ave, Mattoon, by March 31, 2024.

IMPORTANT

YQCA

In-Person Training

Saturday, March 23, 2024

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

or

Tuesday, March 26, 2024

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Coles Extension Office

Both located at Coles Extension Office.

Register at: <https://yqcaprogram.org/>

Youth exhibiting in beef, dairy, goats, sheep, & swine.

4-H Members

age 8-18

County (C)

**In-person \$3
Online \$12**

QAEC

Training required for youth ages 8-18 exhibiting in cats, dogs, horses, poultry, and rabbits.

The QAEC training can now be accessed in the Clover Academy section of the ZSuite Enrollment System. ZSuite can be accessed at <https://4h.zsuite.org/>.

Find the QAEC directions at <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/media/3634/download?inline=true>.

Contact Jess at JNHays@illinois.edu or call the office at 217-345-7034 with any questions.

National Day Of Service

Club Community Service (L)

Saturday, April 27, 2024

4-H members and clubs continue to demonstrate they are True Leaders in Service, as they work to support both their personal and club goals of making a difference in their community while focusing on the 4th "H" and pledging their HANDS to larger service!

Register your clubs activity at:

<https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/participate/4-h-community-service>



Ownership & Lease Papers



Visit the Coles County 4-H Website at

<https://extension.illinois.edu/ccdms/4-h-coles-county>

- Horse

See calendar for due dates!!



LITTLE ROOTS GARDENING PROGRAM FOR CLOVERBUDS

5 -7 years old

\$10



Join us for a fun summer project to get your kids excited about gardening! The Little Roots Gardening Calendar will guide you and your Cloverbud in growing 7 different plants, seed to harvest, by engaging in weekly activities like:

- Observing the world around you
- Researching basic horticulture terms
- Caring for your plants.

YOU WILL NEED

- Access to a 6 x 6 planting area or containers with a nearby water source
- Little Roots Gardening Calendar (Provided)
- Little Roots Seed Packets (Provided)
- Other garden tools might include: gloves, trowel, watering can

REGISTER NOW

https://go.illinois.edu/Cloverbuds_LittleRoots

Deadline to register: March 15, 2024

CONTACT

Jessica Hays
4-H Program Coordinator
JNHays@illinois.edu
217-345-7034

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
University of Illinois | U.S. Department of Agriculture |
Local Extension Councils Cooperating
University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.
If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please contact us. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your access needs.



Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

Record Corner

February 2024 Events

- FarmBot Planting & Technology Team Meeting
- County (C) 2/19/24
- Parsley Planting Day with Planting & Technology Team - County (C)
2/28/24

Don't forget to update your records!



Reminder - 4-H Fair Eligibility

1.) To be eligible to exhibit at county 4-H shows and to receive premiums, a 4-H'er must have been enrolled on ZSuite by March 1 of the current year.

2.) The member must meet attendance requirements to exhibit in any project area, receive 4-H premiums or other 4-H awards, and recognition. To meet attendance requirements, members must attend a majority (more than half) of their Coles County 4-H club's meetings.

3.) All projects, including livestock animals, must have been owned, personally cared for, and completed by the 4-H member within the current 4-H year.

4.) The member must have completed a talk or demonstration within their club, school, or other organization.

5.) Participate in at least one county activity.



Workshops & Events

Check
it
Out

Charleston Food Forest Tour & Garden Day

April 13, 2024

10:00 a.m. - 11:30a.m.

825 18th Street, Charleston, IL

Register for this at

https://go.illinois.edu/Coles_FoodForestDay

Registration Closes 4/8/14

Check out their Website:

<https://www.cultivatedwithcare.org/welcome>

County Community Service (C)

Free

For Youth
age 5-18

Youth 5 to 7 must have an
adult accompany them.

Health: Youth CPR

Saturday, May 18, 2024

10:30 a.m. - Noon

4-H Center

County (C)

Register for this at

https://go.illinois.edu/Coles_HealthYouthCPR

Registration Closes 5/6/14

For Youth
age 8-18

Free

For
4-H Members

&
Non Members

Swine Workshop

Coming Soon Spring 2024

County (C)

Coming
Soon

For Youth
age 8-18

Reminder

Did you see
the 4-H Fair
Eligibility Section
on Page 5?



Have a 4-H
Workshop or
Event Idea ?

Reach out to your 4-H
Program Coordinator at
JNHays@illinois.edu.

All workshops are for 4-H
members and non members.



If you have questions, call
217-345-7034.

**All workshops must have a
minimum of 5 participants registered.

Record Keeping

Club (L)

County (C)

Multi-County (M)

Regional (R)

State (S)

National (N)

University of Illinois * US Department of Agriculture * Local Extension Councils Cooperating College of Agricultural,
Consumers, and Environmental Sciences

University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. If you need reasonable
accommodation to participate in this program, please contact your local Extension Office. Early requests are strongly
encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your access needs.

Illinois 4-H Camp

Website:

<https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/event/4-h-memorial-camp>

Employment Opportunities

<https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/4-h-memorial-camp/employment-opportunities>

Registration begins:

- 4-H Members - Monday, January 22, 2024.
- Non-Members- Monday, February 5, 2024.

Fees:

- \$340 4-H Member
- \$375 Non 4-H Member

Dates:

- June 2-6
- June 9 – 13
- June 16-20
- June 30 – July 4

Go to <https://extension.illinois.edu/ccdms/4-h-coles-county> for scholarship applications.

Check
this
out



What has your 4-H Program Coordinator been up to?

Key highlights

Program Coordination & Development

- ZSuite: members & volunteers
- Multi-County 4-H Public Speaking Contest
- 4-H Fair Planning with Livestock Superintendents
- Planning of Multi-County Horse Show
- Workshop planning with volunteers
- 4-H School Programming
 - Real World
 - Etiquette
 - Walk in My Shoes
- 4-H Fair /Fair Book Updates

Volunteer Recruitment/Training/ Development

- New Volunteer ANCRA Training & ZSuiet System.
- Workshop planning with volunteers
- 4-H BBQ Leader Meeting
- Volunteer recruitment for School programming

Marketing & Networking

- YQCA & QAEC Training
- Manage County Facebook Page & Check in on club page/ groups.
- Southern Region 4-H Showcase
- 4-H BBQ
- 4-H Day with the Cardinals
- Ignite by 4-H
- 4-H Public Speaking Contest

Professional Development

- Monthly Staff Meeting
- Weekly Unit 4-H Program Coordinator Meeting
- Staff DiSC Training
- Meet with Extension Workgroup: 4-H Program Resources
- Meet with Extension Workgroup: 4-H Fair Resources

Local Extension Newsletter

Serving Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Moultrie and Shelby Counties

https://go.illinois.edu/LocalExtensionNewsletter_March



Illinois 4-H Newsletter

Check out Illinois 4-H State Events at

https://go.illinois.edu/ILState4HNewsletter_March

Find Information About:

- All Things Camp
- College Road Trip
- Graphic Design Virtual SPIN Club
- Speaking for Illinois 4-H Training
- Save the date for Illini Summer Academies!
- Eclipse 4-H Camping Opportunity!
- & More

Check
it
Out

Find State Events (S)



Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN