



»»» 4-H NEWSLETTER «««



CLOVERLEAF



Serving Adams, Brown, Hancock, Pike and Schuyler Counties



FIND YOUR SPARK THROUGH 4-H IN 2025!

»»» 4-H COUNTY COORDINATORS CONTACT INFO

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FIND YQCA AND QAEC INFO ON BACK PAGE!

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ONLINE RESOURCES

- www.facebook.com/UIE.4HUnit14
- <https://extension.illinois.edu/abhps>

»»» EVENT SPOTLIGHT:

Inside this edition:

- Livestock Judging Clinic
- Cultural Carnival
- Super Saturday

**DON'T FORGET THE
APRIL 15 ENROLLMENT DEADLINE!**

4-H CALENDAR - ADAMS - BROWN - HANCOCK - PIKE - SCHUYLER IMPORTANT DATES



This list of dates will continuously be updated in each newsletter. Please pay attention to emails and our Facebook page for the most updated information.

February

- 2/8 - Pike County livestock weigh-in
- 2/8 - Hancock County beef weigh-in
- 2/15 - Livestock judging clinic
- 2/16 - Cultural Carnival
- 2/17 - IL 4-H Junk Journaling workshop

March

- 3/9 - Public Speaking contest
- 3/15 - Shooting Sports volunteer certification training
- 3/20 - Hancock County 4-H leader's meeting
- 3/22 - Super Saturday - project workshops
- 3/26 - Pike County 4-H leader's meeting
- 3/27 - Brown/Schuyler 4-H leader's meeting
- 3/31 - Hancock County 4-H Foundation scholarship deadline
- 3/31 - Pike County 4-H Foundation scholarship deadline

April

- 4/15 - Enrollment in ZSuite and dues deadline
- 4/18 - YQCA Training in Hancock County
- 4/21 - Hancock County Babysitting Bootcamp

May

- 5/1 - Horse ownership/lease papers due
- 5/3 - Fishing for Fun
- 5/10 - Shooting Sports volunteer certification training
- 5/15 - Brown/Schuyler 4-H Fair entries due in fairentry.com
- 5/15 - Pike County 4-H Fair entries due in fairentry.com
- 5/31 - Hancock County 4-H Fair entries due in fairentry.com

June

- 6/2 - 6/6 - Hancock County Cooking 101 School
- 6/11 - 6/13 - Brown/Schuyler 4-H Fair
- 6/17 - 6/20 - Pike County 4-H Fair
- 6/30 - Adams County 4-H Fair entries due in fairentry.com

July

- 7/1 - Hancock County 4-H Fair setup
- 7/7 - 7/10 - Hancock County 4-H Fair
- 7/19 - Shooting Sports volunteer certification training
- 7/22-29 - Adams County Fair

August

- 8/8 - General project judging day at the Illinois State Fair.

STATE OPPORTUNITIES

>>> SCRAP TO STORIES: JUNK JOURNALING WORKSHOP

February 17 | 2-3 PM | 4-H members 11-18 years old | FREE | Zoom link will be provided after registration

This interactive virtual workshop will guide youth through the art of junk journaling, where they'll turn everyday materials into meaningful, one-of-a-kind journals. Participants will explore techniques like collage, layering, doodling, and upcycling, as they craft unique pages that reflect their interests, dreams, and stories. Along the way, they'll learn how to repurpose materials, experiment with different layouts, and use art as a tool for self-reflection. Whether adding photos, ticket stubs, favorite quotes, or mini sketches, this workshop invites youth to turn scraps into treasures while connecting with others in a fun and supportive environment. Participants can request accommodations through the event registration. Register through "Events" on Zsuite!

>>> 4-H CAMP

It's not too early to start thinking about summer camp! 4-H Memorial Camp offers a variety of camps beginning in May! Learn more about becoming a camper or camp counselor at 4h.extension.illinois.edu/event/4-h-memorial-camp

>>> SHOOTING SPORTS LEADER CERTIFICATION

Interested adults don't have to be expert marksmen to become involved in the program and have fun, meet new people, and encourage the next generation of youth!

All sessions are 9am-5pm. 2025 dates include:

- March 15 in Kane County (northern Illinois)
- May 10 in Piatt County (central Illinois)
- July 19 in Franklin County (southern Illinois)

Contact your local Extension Office for more information or to register. Registration for each session will close one week prior so we can plan accordingly. Disciplines offered will be Archery, Shotgun, Rifle, Pistol, and Coordinator. We hope to see you there!

>>> IAA SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES - APPLY BY FEB 15!

The IAA Foundation is now accepting scholarship applications and many 4-H members may be eligible. These scholarships are not 4-H scholarships, but 4-H experience will certainly help the youth do well on these applications. To apply and find more information, visit www.iaafoundation.org.

>>> NEW YQCA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

YQCA is excited to announce the 2025 Scholarship Program! To be considered for this scholarship, you must:

- Be a high school senior or a high school graduate up to 21 years of age
- Have an active YQCA certification at the time of application (2025).
- Have had active YQCA certification the previous two years (2023, 2024).
- Applications open January 1, 2025 and close February 17, 2025

To apply and find more information, visit yqcaprogram.org/local/scholarship-program.php

IMPORTANT LOCAL REMINDER!

>>> REMINDER: APRIL 15 DEADLINE!

Don't forget! Finalize your enrollment in ZSuite by April 15 to exhibit at your local fair! Not sure if you've done this yet? Contact your local 4-H coordinator!

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

➤➤➤ CULTURAL CARNIVAL

February 16 | Adams County Extension Office (330 S 36th St) 2-4 PM

Join us for a CULTURAL CARNIVAL available from 2-4 PM, feel free to come and go as you please. 4-H members and their families can plan to travel the world without leaving town. Our Cultural Carnival invites you to explore an amazing showcase of countries through interactive booths. Don't miss this chance to experience the world, 4-H style. The Cultural Carnival would make a great alternative to your traditional February meeting – bring the whole club! We can't wait to see you there! To register, visit: go.illinois.edu/Cultural_Carnival

➤➤➤ LIVESTOCK JUDGING CLINIC

February 15 | JWCC Ag Center (37803 Street, Hwy 104, Baylis, IL 62314)

Youth ages 8-18 are invited to the JWCC Agricultural Education Center on Saturday, February 15, for a Livestock Evaluation Clinic. Learn the basics and practice your skills with JWCC ag faculty and students. 4-H/FFA membership is not required. Registration begins at 9:00 am, with the clinic running from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm. Register by Friday, February 7, at go.illinois.edu/judgingclinic. The clinic costs \$10 per participant or \$25 per family. An optional YQCA training will follow lunch for \$3 (pre-register at yqcaprogram.org). For more information, contact Kristin Huls at khuls@illinois.edu or 217-357-2150.

➤➤➤ PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

March 9 | Adams County Extension Office (330 S 36th St) | 2 PM

Share your voice by competing in the 4-H public speaking contest! The contest will take place on Sunday, March 9 at the Adams County Extension office basement at 2 PM. For registration instructions and a list of competition areas, visit go.illinois.edu/ABHPSPublicSpeakingContest

➤➤➤ SUPER SATURDAY

March 22 | Adams Co. Extension Office (330 S 36th St) | 9 AM-12 PM | \$15 per 4-H member

4-H members will have the opportunity to explore up to three different project areas and participate in hands-on activities. Sessions for the project workshops include: Cloverbud Fun, Blast off Basics, Knots of Fun, Picture Perfect, From Scratch to Scrumptious, Gears & Gadgets, Green Thumbs, Rocks Rule, Buzzing Bees, and Leather Impressions. Register by March 15: go.illinois.edu/4HSuperSaturday

➤➤➤ 4-H FISHING FOR FUN

May 3 | 9-11:30 AM | JWCC Ag Center (37803 Street, Hwy 104, Baylis, IL) | \$5 for 4-H members or \$25 for non-members | Ages 8-18

Attend a hands-on fishing workshop focusing on five educational topics, including safety information, fishing practice, and other fishing and 4-H related items.

Register by April 25: go.illinois.edu/fishingforfun

➤➤➤ YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY RECAP

For the December session of Youth Leadership Academy, participants welcomed several elected officials to learn more about their career, education, and leadership styles. Officials who joined included newly elected Representative Kyle Moore, Senator Neil Anderson, Representative Norine Hammond, and Representative C.D. Davidsmeyer.

Youth Leadership Academy is open to high school juniors in Adams, Brown, Hancock, Pike, or Schuyler counties. For more information, contact Kristin Huls at khuls@illinois.edu or 217-357-2150.

SHARING CONGRATS!

>>> LANCE WOOLAM SELECTED FOR STATE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Congratulations to Lance Woolam on being selected for the 2025 Illinois 4-H Youth Leadership Team! Lance is also a member of the Central Adams Firecracker 4-H Club and a member of the 4-H Federation group where he is currently serving as President. He is always willing to help out with community service events and is a great role model for the youth.



>>> THREE CLUBS RECOGNIZED FOR STATE AWARDS!

We would like to recognize the following 4-H clubs for receiving the 2024 Illinois 4-H Club Award:

- Burton Flyers (Community Service)
- Ursa Willing Workers (Community Service)
- Ellington Hilltoppers (Leadership)

The Illinois 4-H Club Award is sponsored by the Illinois 4-H Foundation. Winners will receive \$75 cash. For more information about the Illinois 4-H Club Award, contact your 4-H program coordinator.

LEADER NEWS

>>> SPRING LEADERS MEETING

The 2025 Spring leaders meeting will take place at the Adams County Extension Office on Thursday April 17 at 5:30 PM. Please send your RSVP to Siera at snthomps@illinois.edu.

>>> ATTENTION HORSE EXHIBITORS

Horse Ownership/Lease forms and one set of photos are due to Siera by May 1. Email Siera with questions: snthomps@illinois.edu.

LEADER NEWS

>>> SPRING LEADERS MEETING

The 2025 Spring leaders meeting will take place at the JWCC, Mt. Sterling location on Thursday, March 27 at 6 PM. Please send your RSVP to Jennifer at jshelts@illinois.edu.

UPCOMING EVENTS

>>> BEEF WEIGH-IN

Attend the Pike County beef weigh-in on Saturday, February 8 from 9 - 11 AM at the Pittsfield Vet Clinic. If this date does not work, contact Jennifer at jshelts@illinois.edu for information on the Adams or Hancock weigh-ins.

>>> SPRING LEADERS MEETING

The 2025 Spring leaders meeting will take place at the Pike County Extension Office on Wednesday, March 26 at 6 PM. Please send your RSVP to Jennifer at jshelts@illinois.edu.

>>> PIKE COUNTY 4-H FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Attention high school seniors! The Pike County 4-H Scholarship applications are due March 31! Learn more at our website: extension.illinois.edu/abhps/pike-county-4-h-foundation

UPCOMING EVENTS

>>> BEEF WEIGH-IN

Saturday, February 8 | 9 AM | Carthage Vet Clinic (34 Main St, Carthage)

- This is only required for members taking steers to the state fair and/or participating in the rate of gain competition at the county fair.
- Please let Madeline know as soon as possible if you will be attending so paperwork can be completed beforehand.

>>> HORSE EXHIBITORS PAPERWORK DEADLINE

Please submit ownership/lease papers and one color photo of your horse(s) by May 1st! Email to mdavis13@illinois.edu or drop off/mail to the office (550 N Madison). A copy of the paperwork can be found at: go.illinois.edu/hancockhorsepapers



>>> HANCOCK COUNTY 4-H FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Attention high school seniors! The Hancock County 4-H Scholarship applications are due March 31!

Learn more at our website: extension.illinois.edu/abhps/hancock-county-4-h-foundation

>>> YQCA IN-PERSON TRAINING

Date: April 18, 2025 at 9 AM or 1 PM | Location: Hancock County Extension Center

All members who plan to exhibit beef, dairy, swine, sheep, or goats at the fair, must complete the YQCA training before May 31, 2025. Training can be completed online or at this in-person event. Register online at yqcaprogram.org.

>>> BABYSITTING CLINIC

April 21 | 8:45 AM-12 PM | Memorial Hospital (1454 N Co Rd 2050, Carthage) | Ages 10-15 | \$20 registration

Illinois Extension and Memorial Hospital Health & Wellness Center are hosting a babysitting workshop where participants will learn about basic first aid, balanced nutrition, business basics, and engaging activities. Register by April 4: go.illinois.edu/babysittingbootcamp



>>> SPRING LEADERS MEETING

The 2025 Spring leaders meeting will take place at the Hancock County Extension office on Thursday, March 20 at 6 PM. Please send your RSVP to Madeline at mdavis13@illinois.edu.

UPCOMING EVENTS CONT.

>>> DISCOVER 4-H: DALLAS CITY

We are excited to bring an after school program to Dallas City Elementary! All students in grades 3-6 are welcome to join us on Thursdays in February and March to learn more about 4-H and various project areas!

- Dates: 2/13, 2/20, 2/27 3/6, 3/13, 3/20
- Time: 3-4:30 PM
- Location: Dallas City Elementary Library
- Cost: \$20 per child (fee waivers available upon request)

Register through ZSuite with this step-by-step guide: go.illinois.edu/DallasCity4-H

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

>>> LUCIE SELECTED FOR YOUTH LEADERSHIP TEAM!

Congratulations Alexis Lucie on being selected for the 2025 IL 4-H Youth Leadership Team! Alexis is a Basco Firecrackers 4-H alum where she held many officer positions and was a mentor to younger 4-H members. She was also an active member of Hancock County 4-H Federation, participating in many community service activities and promoting 4-H. Thank you for representing Hancock County 4-H at the state level!



IMPORTANT LOCAL REMINDER!



>>> REMINDER: APRIL 15 DEADLINE!

Don't forget! Finalize your enrollment in ZSuite by April 15 to exhibit at your local fair! Not sure if you've done this yet? Contact your local 4-H coordinator!

So, what's next?

- watch for more information regarding your counties fair entry instructions where you will register for projects you plan to bring to the fair this summer (faireentry.com)
- attend Super Saturday and other project workshops
- start working on projects for the fair

4-H Family Here

 www.facebook.com/UIE.4HUnit14
 <https://extension.illinois.edu/abhps>

We hope you enjoyed this copy of the printed newsletter! Please remember to check your emails, our website, and Facebook page, for all your latest 4-H news!



ATTENTION ALL COUNTIES!

>>> EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT YQCA AND QAEC

- **QUALITY ASSURANCE AND ETHICS TRAINING (QAEC):**
 - Required for all youth that enroll in horses, dogs, cats, rabbits, and poultry. 4-H members must complete this training once in their 4-H career. The online training can be accessed on ZSuite.
- **YOUTH FOR THE QUALITY CARE OF ANIMALS (YQCA):**
 - Must be taken annually by all 4-H members enrolled in Dairy Cattle, Beef Cattle, Swine, Sheep, and Goats.
 - Members may choose to complete the YQCA training online at <https://yqcaprogram.org> or attend an in-person training. There is a \$12 fee for the online certification and a \$3 fee for the in-person certification. The following local and in-person YQCA trainings are coming up:
 - Saturday, February 15, following the livestock judging clinic (approximately 12 PM) at JWCC Ag Center
 - Friday, April 18, 9 AM and 1 PM, Hancock County Extension Office
 - 4-H members can attend any training, they do not have to attend the training in their home county. To register for one of the in-person trainings, go to yqcaprogram.org. Once the member completes the training, they will need to print off their certificate and present it to the Extension Office in order to exhibit at the fair. Entries will NOT be approved in Fair Entry until we have your certificate in hand.
 - We know this can be a confusing process! If you have trouble registering for an in-person training, no worries, just call the local Extension office or contact your 4-H Program Coordinator to register. Staff will be available to assist members with signing in and printing certificates before and after each training.