



# Shelby County

# 4-H

# March News



Chautauqua Clovers

Coldspring Copperheads



Ful-O-Pep

Shelby Showstoppers



Oconee Eager Beavers

Silver Spurs



Shelby County  
4-H

# Calendar of events

### March

- 3 ....Enrollment deadline to exhibit at the fair!
- 8 ....Lawn Mower/Tractor Driving Workshop, Sloan Implement, 9-10:30 a.m.
- 15 ....4-H Fire-Up, 9 a.m., 4-H Center
- 15 ....Skating Party, 6 p.m. Silver Stars Skating Rink
- 16 ....Public Speaking Contest, 6:30 p.m., 4-H Center
- 17 ....Window Displays must be in place by 9 a.m.
- 17 ....International Night, 6 p.m., Nazarene Church Gym
- 18 ....4-H Member Showcase on Facebook
- 19 ....Designated Community Service Day
- 20 ....Wear your 4-H T-shirt to School Day
- 20 ....Shelbyville Food Distribution, 3:15 p.m.
- 21 ....Family Fun Night 6:30 p.m. Nazarene Church Gym
- 22 ....Spring Craft Day, 4-H member 9-10:30 a.m. 4-H Center, Cloverbuds 10:45-12:15
- 24 ....YQCA training, 6:30, 4-H Center
- 26 ....Lawn Mower/Tractor Driving Workshop, Barker Implement, 6:30-8 p.m.
- 29 ....Multi-Species Workshop 1-4 p.m., Shelby Vet Service
- 31 ....Spring Clean-up, 6 p.m. Fairgrounds

### April

- 1 ....Tailwaggers Dog Obedience, 6 p.m. Show Arena, fairgrounds (continues for 8 weeks), weekly sessions 6:30-7:00 p.m.
- 7 ....Archery begins 6:30-8 p.m., 4-H Center (continues for 7 weeks)
- 5 ....Spring Clean-up at fairgrounds, 9 a.m. (rain date)
- 12 ....Cloverbud Fire-Up, 9-11 a.m., 4-H Center
- 24 ....YQCA training, 6:30 p.m., 4-H Center

### May

- 1 ....Deadline to add/drop projects in ZSuites
- 1 ....Horse Ownership, Lease forms due
- 10 ....YQCA training, 9-10 a.m., 4-H Center
- 29 ....Lawn Mower/Tractor Driving Workshop, Birkey's Farm Store, 6-7:30 p.m.

### June

- 2 ....Deadline for 4-H Entries submitted in Fair Entry (online program), Junior Fair Exhibitor card and entries due to the Extension office

## 4-H ZSuites Enrollment open until March 3

Have you enrolled in ZSuites? If you said no, the clock is ticking! March 3 is the deadline to enroll in order to exhibit at the Shelby County 4-H & Junior Fair.

Families will be responsible for paying \$10 of the \$20 program fee for 2024-2025. Shelby Extension Foundation will be paying the other \$10. Families will be able to pay the program fee online via a credit card or with cash or check to their club leader or the Shelby County Extension Office. Please note - there are a few clubs that are paying their member's program fees so please check with your club leader regarding payment status.

If your family is enrolling more than 3 children, you may submit your enrollment but do not pay online. The 4th child discount will need to be applied before payment can be made. Once the discount has been applied, Yolanda will notify you for payment. Refunds cannot be issued if you pay for more than three children.

Members must be enrolled and approved in ZSuites before participating in any county event including Shooting Sports, parades, workshops, etc. Contact Yolanda with any questions at [nation2@illinois.edu](mailto:nation2@illinois.edu) or by calling 217-774-9546.

## 2025 Illinois 4-H Scholarship Winners announced . . .

Congratulations to Lilah Bonny and Saebra Curl, who were each awarded a \$1,000 4-H Scholarship. Lilah received the award in the area of Leadership. Saebra received the award in the Creative & Performing Arts & Communication.

## Illinois Youth Leadership Team

Congratulations to Lilah Bonny for being selected to the 2025 Illinois 4-H Youth Leadership Team. Lilah will represent Shelby County and Illinois 4-H at a variety of events.

## Lawn Mower & Tractor Driving Workshops

The Lawn Mower and Tractor Driving Contest are back for year 2! Youth who would like to participate in the driving contest must attend one of the three workshops being offered this spring.

### Sloan Implement - March 8

9-10:30 a.m., Sloan Implement, Shelbyville location  
RSVP to Yolanda by March 6 to nation2@illinois.edu

### Barker Implement - March 26

6:30-8 p.m., Barker Implement in rural Shelbyville  
RSVP to Yolanda by March 25 to nation2@illinois.edu

### Birkey's Farm Store - May 29

6-7:30 p.m., Birkey's Farm Store, Shelbyville  
RSVP by May 27 to nation2@illinois.edu

Each workshop will focus on safety, basic components, basic maintenance and operation of the equipment.

The Driving Contest will be held on Friday, July 18. Check-in for the Lawn Mower Contest will be from 5-5:15 p.m. A walk through of the course will be from 5:15-5:30, with the Lawn Mower contest starting at 5:30.

The Tractor Driving check-in will be at 5:45-6 p.m.. A walk through of the course will be from 6-6:15 and the contest will start at 6:15 at the Horse Arena.

4-H'ers must be enrolled in a Tractor project to be eligible to exhibit in the driving contest. Questions - contact Yolanda at 217-774-9546 or via email at nation2@illinois.edu.

## Multi-Species Workshop

Saturday, March 29

A Multi-Species Workshop is being planned for Saturday, March 29 at Shelby Veterinary Clinic. There will be three sessions: beef, swine and goats/sheep. Each session will include the following topics: feed and nutrition, basic care, and preparing your animals for the fair. There will be a guest speaker for each session as well as a feed representative.

When signing up, please designate which session your 4-H'er plans to attend as space is limited. RSVP by March 26 to Yolanda at nation2@illinois.edu or by calling 217-774-9546.

1-2:00 p.m. - Beef

2-3:00 p.m.. - Swine

3-4:00 p.m.. - Goats & sheep

## Shelbyville Food Distribution

Thursday, March 20

Shelby County 4-H is looking for members to help with the Shelbyville Food Distribution. Members will load food into cars as they drive through the Exhibit Hall at the fairgrounds.

**When:** Thursday, March 20

**Time:** 3:15 (arrive by or 3:30 at the latest), Distribution starts at 3:30 p.m.

**Where:** Shelby County Junior Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall.

RSVP to Yolanda by Wednesday, March 19 so we have a headcount on helpers.

This would qualify as a community service activity and also meet the county requirement.

## Spring Clean-up

Monday, March 31

Spring Clean-up day at the Shelby County Junior Fairgrounds is being planned for 6 p.m. on Monday, March 31. The Back-up date is Saturday, April 5.

We will be picking up sticks, raking leaves, doing repairs, painting, etc. Bring rakes, shovels, leaf blowers, etc.

This will count as a county activity for 4-H members and will also count on year-end records.



## Shelby County 4-H — March 2025

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### Dog Obedience

Tuesday, April 1

Dog Obedience Classes will start on Tuesday, April 1 and run for 8 weeks with graduation at the end of the series. Practice will continue until the fair. Classes will run from 6:30-7:00 each Tuesday night.

Registration on April 1:

- Registration is open from 6-6:30 p.m. in the Fair Office.
- Parent/Adult needs to attend registration.
- Dogs should be at least 6 months old.
- Bring proof of rabies and distemper-parvo vaccinations.
- Training collar and lead \$15

Who is eligible to attend:

- Youth must be 8 and have not reached their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday on or before 9/1/24.
- Shelby 4-H Club members enrolled in other clubs do not pay the program fee twice.
- Tailwaggers only members must pay the \$10 program fee.

Questions – Sandy Brix 217-774-4229

Classes are sponsored by Shelby County Tailwaggers 4-H Club

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### 840 Tags Required for Illinois County Fairs

All cattle and swine exhibited at Illinois county fairs will be required to have an electronic 840 tag. The 840 tag is an approved official animal identification number that allows for visual and electronic identification of each animal.

The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA), in partnership with the USDA, is offering a limited supply of free 840 tags to help producers and veterinarians transition to the new county and state fair requirements in addition to the new federation requirements for interstate movement. IDOA also offers a free premises identification number (PIN) that assign unique numbers to animal agriculture locations. The PIN is used in conjunction with the 840 tag for faster action in the event of an animal health emergency.

***Exhibitors are responsible for ensuring their animals have the necessary 840 tags and veterinary inspections before arriving at the fair. Animals without an 840 tag may be removed from the fairgrounds.***

Order tags at the following:

[https://agr.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/agr/fairs/countyfairs/documents/IDOA\\_840%20Tag%20One%20Sheet\\_2025\\_8.5x11.pdf](https://agr.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/agr/fairs/countyfairs/documents/IDOA_840%20Tag%20One%20Sheet_2025_8.5x11.pdf)

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### Horse, Pony, Donkey, Mule Ownership and Lease Papers

Due Thursday, May 1

Horse, pony, donkey, and mule lease and ownership papers are DUE in the Extension office by Thursday, May 1. Two pictures (each side) of horse to be shown or as a back-up horse must accompany lease/ownership papers.

If you are planning to show at the State Fair as well as the Shelby County 4-H & Jr. Fair, TWO sets of pictures must be turned in. The correct lease and ownership papers are available at the Extension office or via email

## Shelby County 4-H Archery

Monday, April 7

The Spring Archery session will kick off on Monday, April 7 and run for seven weeks, ending on Monday, May 19. Classes will be held from 6:30-8 p.m. at the 4-H Center. At the beginning session, instructors will create times for future sessions.

There will be a \$20 archery fee for members who participated in the Archery program in the fall. There will be a \$10 admin fee and \$20 archery fee for new members participating for the first time. Youth not currently enrolled in Shelby County 4-H will need to enroll in ZSuites and pay the \$10 program fee before participating.

Youth will not be allowed to shoot if they are not enrolled and have not paid their fees. There are a select number of bows available and members may bring their own bow but will be subject to a safety check by instructors.

Fee waivers are available through the Shelby County Junior Rifle Club Association if there is a hardship paying fees. Kelly Barringer, Shelby Shooters SPIN Club leader, should be contacted with any questions by calling 217-369-6860.

## Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)

All 4-H members enrolled in beef, dairy cattle, goats, swine and sheep are required to take the YQCA training. This training is required to be taken each year. In-person training is \$3 and the On-line training is \$12. Shelby County 4-H is offering 4 in-person training sessions. The training is set up to be completed in approximately one hour. All training sessions will be held at the 4-H Center in Shelbyville. Don't wait to get signed up, class size is limited! Families will need to register at the YQCA website, sign up for which training they would like to attend and pay the registration fee. **Youth will need to complete the Pre-Test before attending the training.** Youth will need to complete the Post-Test before printing the certificate.

### **DO NOT SEND YOLANDA AN EMAIL TO SIGN YOUR 4-H MEMBER UP FOR THE TRAINING!**

- Monday, March 24 6:30-7:30 p.m.
- Thursday, April 24 6:30-7:30 p.m..
- Saturday, May 10 9-10:00 a.m.

**The deadline to complete the training to be able to exhibit at the Shelby County 4-H & Junior Fair is Monday, June 2! No exceptions to this rule. If completing the training online, email Yolanda a copy of the certificate. Yolanda has 2 free online coupons courtesy of IL Pork Producers. Reach out if you would like to claim them.**

Link: [yqcaprogram.org](http://yqcaprogram.org)

## Online ethics certification required for cats, dogs, horses, rabbits and poultry

Deadline - Monday, June 2

**First time animal exhibitors enrolled in cats, dogs, horses, rabbits and poultry need to complete QAEC.** This rule applies to 4-H members who exhibit live animals AND poster exhibits.

**Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification** is a one time training for youth exhibiting projects in the following: cats, dogs, horses, poultry, and rabbits. Anyone who has already taken the certification does not need to retake the test. Members who don't complete the certification by June 2 will be removed from the project and not be allowed to show.

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

Families can access directions for completing the course at <https://go.illinois.edu/TakeQAEC>.

## Shelby County 4-H BBQ

Save the date! The 4-H BBQ will be held on Saturday, June 14 from 4:30-7.

## Shelby County 4-H — March 2025

### 4-H Fire-Up

Saturday, March 15, 4-H Center, 9-11 a.m.

This workshop is open to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year 4-H members. 4-H members will receive hands-on learning opportunities. This is a great meeting for families to ask questions about 4-H, fair entries, project requirements, etc.

There is no cost to attend this workshop. This workshop is for 4-H members ages 8 and up. Cloverbud members will have their 4-H Fire-Up on April 12.

RSVP to Yolanda (nation2@illinois.edu or 217-774-9546) by Friday, March 7.

### 4-H Skating Party

Saturday, March 15

The 4-H Skating party is being planned for Saturday, March 15 from 6 - 9:00 p.m. The rink rental is being paid by Shelby County 4-H Federation. There will be a \$1 charge for those needing skates. Families may bring in their own food and drink as there is no longer a concession stand. Bring your friends and family and lets pack the rink!

### Window Display Judging

Monday, March 17

Shelby County 4-H Clubs are encouraged to create and put up a Window Display as part of Shelby County 4-H Week. Displays should focus on the 4-H Week theme “Shelby County 4-H . . . A World of Opportunity”. Items that should be included in the display are club name, leader and members names. Additional information such as club meeting dates and times and how to join 4-H would be beneficial. Federation is sponsoring prize money. Please contact Yolanda with your display location so it can be included in the judging.

### International Night

Monday, March 17 6 p.m.

International Night will be held at the Nazarene Church Gym in Shelbyville. Shelby County 4-H Clubs need to prepare 2-3 food dishes to give as samples to approximately 250 people. Clubs may decorate their table, create poster displays, wear clothes from their country, etc.

Clubs should be ready to serve at 6 p.m. Shelby County 4-H will provide plates, silverware and drinks. Clubs will need to bring their own table covers, extension cords, etc.

Bring your dollars and coins and vote for your favorite country! The winning club will split the collection with Shelby County 4-H Federation.

### Public Speaking

Sunday, March 16

Youth planning to participate in the county Public Speaking Contest need to be enrolled in the Public Speaking Project in ZSuites by March 3.

Rules and guidelines will be sent to 4-H'ers enrolled in Public Speaking by February 1.

The contest will be held on Sunday, March 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the 4-H Center.

### Thank your 4-H Leader

Sunday, March 17

4-H Leaders and supporters are the heart of the 4-H program. Send a thank you card, text or give your leader a call and let them know you appreciate all they do for you in the 4-H program. (Not a county activity but counted on year-end records.)

### 4-H Member Showcase

Tuesday, March 18

Let's showcase our 4-H members! 4-H'ers need to send Yolanda a photo of the 4-H member with their favorite 4-H project along with a few sentences about their project, a favorite 4-H event, etc.

**Information needs to be sent to Yolanda by March 10.** It will be shared on the Shelby County IL 4-H Facebook page on March 18.

## **Community Service Day**

Wednesday, March 19

Clubs that participate in a Community Service Project and submit pictures and a short write-up to Yolanda in March, will receive a cash prize from Shelby County 4-H Federation.

If the project is completed before March 18, send pictures ASAP so they can be displayed on Facebook.

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## **Wear your 4-H t-shirt to School**

Thursday, March 20

Thursday, March 20 is Wear your 4-H T-shirt to School and promote 4-H. In March, a link will be sent to families so they can upload their photo.

**Upload (do not email, text or send through Facebook)** a photo of your 4-H'er wearing their 4-H shirt to school on Thursday, March 20 day and 4-H'ers will receive a free candy bar from 4-H Federation.

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## **Changes to the 2025 4-H & Junior Fair**

An email was sent to families on the February 17 that listed the changes for the 2025 fair. A tentative fair schedule was also included as an attachment. Families need to read through the changes and schedule so they can plan accordingly.

The goal is to have fair books to families by mid to the end of March. Contact Yolanda with questions.

## **Family Fun Night**

Friday, March 21

Shelby County 4-H is holding Family Fun Night from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Nazarene Church Gym in Shelbyville. Fun, games and prizes will be awaiting our Cloverbuds and 4-H members, so we hope you can attend.

4-H Clubs are asked to provide 1-2 carnival style games. This is a great way to get older 4-H members involved and meet their county activity requirement. Be creative! At each game, kids will earn tokens and Federation will offer prizes.

Clubs need to notify Yolanda with the type of game(s) they are planning so that we have a variety of games. We will also have a bounce house, sand art and Paddi's Air Filled Fun. Federation will provide refreshments.

RSVP's by March 17 would be greatly appreciated if your family plans to attend with the number of kids playing games so that we have plenty of prizes for everyone.

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## **Spring Craft Day**

Saturday, March 22

Spring Craft Day will be held on Saturday, March 22 at the 4-H Center.

There will be 2 craft sessions.

- Session 1 - 9 -10:30 a.m. 4-H members ages 8 and up.
- Session 2 - 10:45-12:15 p.m. Cloverbud members ages 5-7.

Cost is \$8 for 4-H members and \$10 for non 4-H members. Space is limited! RSVP and payment is due to the Extension office by Friday, March 10. RSVP to Yolanda via email at nation2@illinois.edu or by calling 217-774-9546. Help is needed! Older 4-H members who help can count this as their county activity requirement.

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## **Cloverbud Fire-Up**

Saturday, April 12

The Cloverbud 4-H Fire-Up Workshop will be held on Saturday, April 12 from 9-11 a.m. at the 4-H Center.

Members will need to be accompanied by an adult. Members will have the opportunity to learn about a variety of hands on 4-H projects. There is no cost to attend the workshop. Cloverbuds must RSVP by April 5.

**I ILLINOIS**  
Extension



**Shelby County**  
1125 W. N. Second Street  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
Permit No. 210  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Bulk Third Class

## 4-H Day with the Cardinals

Registration for the **22nd Annual 4-H Day With the Cardinals** is now open and will run through midnight on April 21!

Registration will be through Cvent at: <https://extension.missouri.edu/events/4-h-day-with-the-cardinals>

Game day is Saturday, May 24 at 1:15 p.m. against the Arizona Diamondbacks. Tickets are \$26 per person. Each ticket order will have their name entered into a drawing for autographed baseballs and other great prizes. One 4-H member from Missouri and one 4-H member from Illinois will be drawn to throw out the first pitch! Winners will be notified after May 7 and prizes will be mailed after the game. Each person who orders a ticket will also receive a specially designed t-shirt featuring the Cardinals and 4-H logos. Groups or families that wish to sit together, must submit on one order. All sales are final and no refunds will be given.

Everyone will have the chance to participate in a parade around the field. Tickets and t-shirts will be mailed on May 7 with more instructions for the day.

An email was sent to families on February 13 with a flyer that had the full details.

**I ILLINOIS**  
Extension



**Shelby County**  
1125 W North 2nd Street  
Shelbyville, IL 62565  
Phone: 217-774-9546 FAX: 217-774-9549

**Office Hours:**  
**Monday - Friday**  
8 -12, 1-4:30

Jessie McClusky, County Director  
Yolanda Nation, 4-H Program Coordinator  
MaryBeth Massey, Program Coordinator,  
SNAP-Ed  
Penny Hood, Community Worker, SNAP-ED  
Diana Litteral, Office Support Assistant

**If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate, please contact the Shelby County Extension Office.**

The 4-H Name and Emblem are protected under federal statute Title 18, U.S. Code 707

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