



Shelby  
County

4-H

February

News



Community Service Workshop



Basket Weaving Workshop

Greenery Workshop



# Calendar of events

### February

- 4.... Cloverbud String Art Workshop, Shelby County Senior Center, 10 a.m.
- 10-12.... Food Action Summit
- 11.... Steer Weigh-in 8 a.m., Shelbyville Sale Barn
- 11.... Bank Steer pick up, 10 a.m. Shelbyville Sale Barn
- 17.... Fair Book Cover Contest Due Date
- 18.... Snow date for Steer Weigh-in

### March

- 11.... 4-H Fire-UP, 9-11 a.m.
- 11.... County Public Speaking Contest, 4-H Center, 6:30 p.m.
- 12.... Skating party, Silver Stars Skating Rink, Mattoon, 5:30-8:00 p.m.
- 13.... Window display judging
- 14.... International Night, Nazarene Church Gym, Shelbyville, 6 p.m.
- 15.... Wear your 4-H T-shirt to school day
- 16.... Community Service Day
- 17.... Family Fun Night, Nazarene Church Gym, Shelbyville 6: -7:30 p.m.
- 18.... Spring Craft Day, 4-H Center, 9-11 a.m.
- 25.... Spring Clean up day at the Shelby County Fairgrounds, 8 a.m.

### April

- 1.... Deadline to enroll in order to exhibit at the Shelby County 4-H Fair
- 22.... Cloverbud Fire-up, 4-H Center, 9-11 a.m.
- 22.... Goat Workshop, 4-H Center, 9-11 a.m.
- 29.... State 4-H Public Speaking Contest

### May:

- 1.... Final day to add/drop projects to exhibit at the Shelby County 4-H Fair
- 1.... Horse ownership/lease papers due
- 29.... Office closed

### June:

- 5.... QAEC training must be completed in order to exhibit dogs, cats, horse/pony, poultry, rabbits and small pets
- 5.... YQCA training for 4-H'ers exhibiting beef, dairy, goats, sheep, and swine must be completed in order to exhibit at the Shelby County 4-H Fair
- 5.... 4-H & Jr. Fair entries deadline
- 19.... Office closed

## Are you enrolled in ZSuites?

April 1 deadline!

All youth must be enrolled in ZSuites by April 1 in order to exhibit at the Shelby County 4-H Fair. Enrollment can be completed through this link: <https://4h.zsuite.org/> Club leaders have instructions for you. If your club pays your 4-H'ers program fee, then select the payment by check option. If your club doesn't pay the fee, families can pay by credit card or select payment by check and give your payment to your club leader or drop it by the Extension office. If you have more than 3 children, select the payment by check so that the 4th child discount can be applied to your account. Youth must be enrolled in and approved in ZSuites before attending any 4-H workshops, programs, etc. Please let Yolanda know if you have any questions.

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## Illinois State Club Excel Awards

Congratulations to Shelby County 4-H Federation and the Silver Spurs 4-H Club for receiving the Illinois State Excel Club award for the 2021-2022 4-H year.

Clubs were honored with a Community Service Excel Club Award due to a demonstrated focus on their 4-H club's work in service to/for others with an emphasis on youth leadership in the planning and implementing of the service work. Each club will receive a \$75 cash prize.

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## Dates to remember

- April 1 - Deadline to enroll in Shelby County 4-H, in order to exhibit at the fair
- May 1 - Deadline to add/drop projects
- June 24 - 4-H BBQ
- Shelby County 4-H & Junior Fair July 16-20, 2023
- August 13 - Shelby County Day at the IL State Fair (General Project exhibits)

## Shelby County 4-H Fair Book Cover Contest

Due February 17

Shelby County 4-H is looking for fair book cover entries. Shelby County 4-H Federation will award a cash prize of \$50 to the winning artist. Entries must be submitted to the Shelby County Extension Office by 4:30 p.m. on February 17, 2023.

*The following rules need to be followed:*

- Drawings should be in **dark ink or markers**.
- Drawings should be on an **8 1/2" x 11" sheet of white paper**.
- Include the fair dates of **July 16-19, 2023**
- Include the words **Shelby County 4-H & Jr. Fair** in the design.

Entries made by emailed if necessary but hard copies work better when copying designs for the fair book. Contact Yolanda with questions.

## 4-H Steer and Market heifer weigh-in

Saturday, February 11

Mark your calendar for steer (dairy & beef) and market heifer weigh-in to be held on Saturday, February 11, 2023 from 8-10 a.m. at the United Producers Sale Barn in Shelbyville. If needed, the snow date is February 18. ALL market steers going to the 2023 Illinois State Fair will be electronically tagged during weigh-in. **4-H'ers must be enrolled in ZSuites and have paid their program fee in order to weigh steers or market heifers.**

Bank Steer pick up will begin at 10 a.m. Letters were mailed to families in early January.

Contact Yolanda if you will be attending by Thursday, February 9.

## Shelby County 4-H Goat Workshop

Saturday, April 22

Join us for the Shelby County 4-H Goat Workshop. The workshop is being planned for Saturday, April 22 from 9 –11 a.m. at the 4-H Center in Shelbyville. The workshop will cover dairy and meat goats.

**Topics included:**

- Nutrition and feed
- Trimming and getting ready for show day
- Showmanship techniques

**Speakers:**

- Alex Niemerg - Equity
- Dr. Brix - Health

Register by April 14 at the following link:  
<https://form.jotform.com/230197531559057>

## Public Speaking

Saturday, March 11

Youth planning to participate in the county Public Speaking Contest need to be registered in ZSuites by Friday, February 17. Entry information will be sent to 4-H'ers the following week. The contest will be held on March 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the 4-H Center. Those members enrolled in Public Speaking were sent an email on January 17 with the rules for the contest. Contact Yolanda with any questions.

## Cloverbud Fire-Up

Saturday, April 22

The Cloverbud 4-H Fire-Up Workshop will be held on Saturday, April 22 from 9 - 11 a.m. at the Shelby County Senior 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 14.

## Project Manuals

4-H families must send Yolanda an email or call the Shelby County Extension Office to order project manuals. ZSuites isn't set up to order project books. Some projects do require the book to be completed as part of their 4-H exhibit. Don't wait until June to get your books!



### 4-H Camp Scholarship Opportunities

There are two scholarship opportunities for Shelby County 4-H members who are planning to attend 4-H Camp this summer. Shelby County 4-H Federation offers a \$50 scholarship. 4-H members must complete the Federation scholarship form located on the website <https://extension.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/ccdmsfederationactivityscholarshipform.pdf> or contact Yolanda to receive a copy.

Shelby Extension Foundation offers 4-H'ers a \$30 scholarship. Members can write a short essay about why they would like to attend 4-H Camp or may create a poster about why they are looking forward to going to 4-H Camp. Essays, posters and scholarship forms are due into the Extension office by June 5. Scholarships will be reimbursed after the 4-H member has attended camp. Questions - contact Yolanda.

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### Little Roots Gardening Program

While the weather is still cold and dreary, warmer days are ahead and it's time to start planning for summer. The Little Roots Gardening Program is open to Cloverbud members and the fee is covered by the Shelby County Extension Office. The Little Roots Gardening program provides a gardening calendar for youth to engage in activities from May through September. Youth will explore pollination and insects, weather, a plant life cycle and plant care. Each youth that signs up will receive a calendar, and seeds/plants for 7 plants/flowers and gardening resources sometime in May. Cloverbuds will be able to display up to 2 of their plants/flowers at the fair in July.

If your Cloverbud would like to receive a gardening kit, please **RSVP by February 10** to Yolanda at [nation2@illinois.edu](mailto:nation2@illinois.edu) or 217-774-9546.

### Farm Credit Service Grant Opportunities

February 28

Shelby County 4-H would like to ask clubs to consider applying for a Farm Credit Illinois Community Improvement Grant.

Fifty \$500 grants are available to 4-H clubs implementing valuable community improvements. Grants could focus on building improvements through painting and repairing, provide/update landscaping, purchasing a tree, constructing a welcome sign to your community, planting a garden, trees and flowers, etc. For more information: <https://www.farmcredital.com/Community>

The deadline for applications is February 28, 2023.

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### Shelby County 4-H is looking for general and trophy/banner sponsors

Shelby County 4-H is looking for general and trophy sponsors. Anyone may sponsor a donation; it's a great way to give back if 4-H has touched your life. To sponsor a trophy/plaque/award for a particular project, the cost is \$25. Or one may give a general donation to Extension which means the amount donated will be partially matched by the State of Illinois. If interested in making a donation, complete the information below and return with your check. All money benefits Shelby County 4-H programs.

Please consider supporting the youth in Shelby County 4-H.

General Program Donation \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Trophy/Banner Award** We wish to sponsor a trophy and have enclosed \$25. We would like to sponsor a trophy/banner/award in the area of: (Sponsorships will be given on a first come/first serve basis).

Name of sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: U of I Extension **Money is due by February 17 for recognition in the fair book.**  
Payment should be sent to: Shelby County Extension, 1125 W N 2nd Street, Shelbyville, IL 62565

## **Shelby County 4-H Week**

March 11-17, 2023

The theme for the Shelby County 4-H Week is  
**Shelby County 4-H: Dream it, Do it, Show it, Love it**

*March 11 (Saturday) 4-H Fire-up, 4-H Center, 9-11 a.m.*

⇒ This event is free and open to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year 4-H members. There will be limited space so sign-up soon! Members will learn about 3-4 project areas. This is a great meeting for families to ask questions about 4-H, fair entries, etc. Cloverbud members will have their 4-H Fire-Up on April 22.

*March 11 (Saturday) County Public Speaking Contest 6:30 p.m., 4-H Center*

*March 12 (Sunday) Thank a 4-H Volunteer (text, mail, Facebook)*

*March 12 (Sunday) 4-H Skating Party, Silver Stars Skating Party 5:30– 8 p.m.*

⇒ 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.

*March 13 (Monday) Window Displays in place by 9 a.m.*

⇒ Leaders need to notify Yolanda with the location of the display.

*March 14 (Tuesday) International Night, Nazarene Church Gym - 6 p.m.*

⇒ Clubs need to prepare 2-3 food dishes to give as samples to approximately 200. Clubs may decorate their table, create poster displays, wear clothes from their country, etc. Clubs should be ready to serve at 6 p.m. At this time, there are 12 countries signed up. If your club hasn't selected a country, contact Yolanda to verify which countries have been taken.

⇒ Recipes need to be sent electronically by March 6 so a recipe book can be assembled.

*March 15 (Wednesday) Wear your 4-H shirt to school (send photo to Yolanda)*

⇒ Send a photo of your 4-H'er wearing their 4-H shirt to school to Yolanda on this day and receive a free candy bar. Email [nation2@illinois.edu](mailto:nation2@illinois.edu)

*March 16 (Thursday) – Community Service Day*

⇒ Clubs that participate in a community service project from March 1-16 and submit pictures and a short report to Yolanda will receive a cash prize from Federation.

*March 17 (Friday)– Family Fun Night, Nazarene Church Gym, 6-7:30 p.m.*

⇒ Shelby County 4-H is holding Family Fun Night. 4-H Clubs are being asked to set up a carnival style booth and provide 1-2 games. This is a great way to get older 4-H members involved and meet their county activity requirement. 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 Bingo, a bounce house, and Paddi's Air Filled Fun.

⇒ Federation will be selling hot dogs, chips, cookies and drinks.

*March 18 (Saturday) Spring Craft Day, Shelby County 4-H Center, 9 a.m.*

⇒ Spring Craft Day will offer two sessions: the first session is 9-10:30 a.m., the second session is 10:45-12:15 p.m.. The cost is \$5 and RSVP's and **payment** must be made by March 10. Cloverbuds are welcome to attend with an adult. Space will be limited per session so sign-up soon.

### New Illinois 4-H Alumni Awards Launching in 2023

The Illinois 4-H Alumni Association will launch a new Illinois 4-H Alumni Awards program on **January 9, 2023**. The Illinois 4-H Alumni Awards program will recognize alumni for their individual achievements, contributions to their industry or profession, service to the community, and loyalty to the Illinois 4-H program.

#### Illinois 4-H Alumni Award

*Established in 1981*

The highest honor bestowed upon a 4-H alumnus by the Illinois 4-H Association and Illinois 4-H program on behalf of the University of Illinois. This award recognizes an elite group of Illinois 4-H alumni for their outstanding career accomplishments and leadership in civic, community, and professional activities.

#### 4-H Young Alumni Award

*Established in 2023*

The Young Alumni award is bestowed upon alumni by the Illinois 4-H Alumni Association and Illinois 4-H program on behalf of the University of Illinois. This award recognizes a young alumnus that has demonstrated significant accomplishments and is an emerging leader in their professional or civic contributions to their community. They have proven to be ambassadors for the Illinois 4-H program and the 4-H young alumni community.

#### IL 4-H Family Spirit Award

*Established in 2002*

The Illinois 4-H Family Spirit award recognizes an Illinois 4-H family who has substantially benefited from and continues to advocate for the Illinois 4-H program over at least three generations. This award is presented to the family on behalf of the Illinois 4-H Alumni Association and Illinois 4-H program on behalf of the University of Illinois.

Previously, the Illinois 4-H Alumni award and the Illinois 4-H Family Spirit awards were established and presented by the Illinois 4-H Foundation. The Illinois 4-H Alumni award was discontinued in 2015. The Illinois 4-H Alumni Association will work with the Illinois State 4-H Office to continue these awards.

**Nomination Deadline:** March 1, 2023.



### 4-H BY THE DECADES 1980S

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

We are seeking Illinois 4-H History from our 4-H alumni by the decades! Join us to visit about how 4-H impacted your life during the 1980's growing up in the Illinois 4-H program. We will also be seeking photos of special memories, mementos, and awards of each decade to share on a new Illinois 4-H History website to be developed. Share with us your 4-H story!

Register by Friday, February 20:

[https://  
form.jotform.com/223474513372  
151](https://form.jotform.com/223474513372151)

The link will be sent to registered attendees on Monday, February 27. Sponsored by the Illinois 4-H Alumni Association

### IAA Scholarship

The 2023 IAA Foundation Scholarship Application Period is **NOW OPEN!** The lineup includes 100 scholarships totaling \$201,501 in tuition support. Students can apply between now and February 15, 2023. Many of our scholarships prefer or require the student to be a former or active 4-H member.

#### Apply Online

Application link and all supporting materials including eligibility details can be found at [www.iaafoundation.org](http://www.iaafoundation.org).

Please read all instructions carefully and refer to the FAQ document on the website to help answer any questions.

## Join Us at the 2023 4-H Food Action Summit!

(Virtual on Feb. 11, 10 am - Noon)

The Illinois 4-H Food Action Summit is where leaders meet to be inspired and share a vision for food security, food access, and food justice in Illinois. University of Illinois researchers, non-profit professionals, food advocates, and civic leaders will be present to lead workshops designed to empower young people with the knowledge, confidence, and resources they need to strengthen their leadership as they work to create food security in their communities. Our theme for 2023 is 'Resilient Food Futures'. This year's summit activities will be taking place virtually on Saturday, February 11.

Open to youth in 7-12 grades

Learn more and register at the event website:

<https://go.illinois.edu/4HFoodActionSummit>.

Contact: Mark Becker, 4-H Food Systems Specialist - [mbbecker@illinois.edu](mailto:mbbecker@illinois.edu)

## Food Action Summit



## Save the date! Illinois Summer Academies will be back June 25 -29 on the UIUC campus!

Participants attend academy sessions led by university professors and enjoy a variety of engaging activities that provide a taste of just how cool college life can be. Imagine getting to work alongside university professors while you're still in HIGH SCHOOL! Imagine spending four days with kids your age from all across Illinois. That's what happens at Illini Summer Academies, so stop imagining it and just do it! This program offers teens the opportunity to explore various degree programs of University of Illinois and learn of potential careers associated with those degrees. Stay tuned for registration in the spring of 2023.

## Tell Your 4-H Story – Join the *Speaking for Illinois 4-H* Team

We're looking for 4-H members interested in spreading the great news about 4-H. 4-H members 14 years of age or older can join the *Speaking for Illinois 4-H* team. There will be a virtual training offered on **Monday, February 20**.

This virtual training, provided by the Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team, gives you the chance to explore your own 4-H history and why you are involved, put that story into words, and learn the best ways to approach donors, civic groups, elected officials, and others to talk about 4-H. Learn why 4-H believes in Positive Youth Development and how we emphasize the essential elements of Belonging, Independence, Generosity and Mastery. All of this – and more – is a part of *Speaking for Illinois 4-H*! Once you're trained, you'll receive an invitation to be a part of our Legislative Connection events.

Registration is open NOW at <https://4h.zsuite.org/event-registrations/18228>. Registration will close February 17.



## TIME TO PREPARE FOR THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT!

Get your bird feeders ready; download free awesome bird I.D. and species reporting apps; and decide if you want to report as an individual or a group! When? The official count is **February 17-20, 2023**. Learn more at: [www.birdcount.org](http://www.birdcount.org)

# Shelby County 4-H — February 2023

**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

Shelby Extension Foundation is having a Family Photo Quick Take Fundraiser to support Shelby County 4-H. Sign up today!

**I ILLINOIS**  
Extension



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

**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

University of Illinois ~ U.S. Department of Agriculture ~  
Local Extension Councils Cooperating

University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

**Family Photo Quick Take Fundraiser**  
To Benefit Shelby County 4-H Thru Shelby Extension Foundation

**March 4**  
10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.

**March 5**  
2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

**Sessions Options:**

- 1 pose \$25
- 3 poses \$50

Includes Digital Image

**Scan to reserve a time**



bit.ly/3CFjoeT



**Location: Shelby Co. Senior Center**  
**Theme: Spring**  
\*The digital images may be used for personal printing.