

WHAT'S INSIDE

Project Manuals page 2

Show Books..... page 2

Livestock Info page 3

QAEC & YQCA..... page 4

Spring Jokes page 4

Public Speaking/Perf. Arts page 5

Congrats to Caroline page 5

Scholarships page 6

Shooting Sports Schedule page 7

4-H Day with the Cardinals page 8

Calendar of Events page 9

Fair Entry..... page 10

FULTON COUNTY 4-H

Spring 2025 Newsletter

Ah, Spring! The new season brings flowers, sunshine, buzzing insects, and... 4-H deadlines! This newsletter is packed full of information and dates. Be sure to look through every page for upcoming events, dates, locations, and more.

We would also like to announce that Fulton 4-H Program Coordinator Rachel Van Cleve has left Extension for another job. We appreciate her contributions to the Fulton County 4-H program and wish her well in her new endeavors. At this time, please direct all questions to Krista Gray. Thanks!

[Krista Gray](#)
Fulton 4-H Program Coordinator

Your questions and calls are especially important to us. We can be reached any of the following ways during regular business hours (8am-12pm & 1-4:30pm M-F):

Office phone: 309-547-3711
 Email Krista: kristakg@illinois.edu
 Teams phone Krista: 217-300-6714

If you reach out to us using other communication tools, we will respond during our normal work hours. Thanks!

Other ways to connect

Facebook:



Webpage:



Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

University of Illinois Extension
Serving Fulton, Mason, Peoria & Tazewell Counties
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 attend, call the registration office. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the US Department of Agriculture by the Director, Cooperative Extension Service, and University of Illinois.



FOR EVERYONE

ZSUITE ENROLLMENT

Enrollment continues in ZSuite, <https://4h.zsuite.org> for the 2024-2025 4-H year through May 1, 2025. 4-H members must re-enroll each year to stay active in 4-H. The annual program fee is \$20 and may be paid through ZSuite via credit card or at the Extension office if you prefer to pay with cash or check. Program fee waivers are also available as no one is ever denied membership if unable to pay the annual program fee. Remember, you must be completely enrolled in ZSuite, and the program fee paid or waived before you will be eligible to participate in the 4-H shows. Please keep inviting new members to join 4-H!

PROJECT MANUALS

If you need any 4-H project manuals, please complete a request at go.illinois.edu/FMPTPubs. Once your request is filled, you will receive an email to pick up the order at the Extension office. If you prefer to have your club leader give them to you at your 4-H meeting, please let us know. This request system will automatically email you any free, downloadable project resources when you select those items through the site. If you have not heard from our office within a few days of requesting project books, please contact us via email or by calling the office.

SHOW BOOKS

The 2025 Fulton County 4-H Show book will be released in April and distributed to club leaders. Please look at this book once you receive it as it contains important information regarding your 4-H exhibit guidelines and rules. PLEASE DESTROY the 2024 show book and refer to the new one! The Fulton County Fair Books are separate and are usually available mid-June and may be picked up at area banks, the Cuba Livestock Show, and at the Extension office.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The 4-H General Show will be held at Cuba Jr./Sr. High School on Saturday, June 21, 2025. We are always in need of set up and tear down crews, judges, superintendents, and assistants for each project area. Please consider volunteering your time to help at this

large event. It is fun to see the excitement and smiles as members talk with adults about their projects. Please reach out to us if you would like to help; 4-H needs you!

REPORT YOUR SERVICE EFFORTS

4-H National Day of Service is April 26, 2025. We hope you will join 4-H as *we pledge our hands to larger service!* We ask that all 4-H members, families, and clubs register all service outreach efforts they have conducted or plan to conduct that demonstrate their support of their communities during the 2024-2025 4-H program year. This registration form (4h.extension.illinois.edu/participate/community-service-report) provides a spot to identify if planned service experiences were or will be conducted as a 4-H club, a 4-H family, or an individual 4-H member service project. All service projects completed during the March 1 - June 30, 2025, timeline count as National 4-H Day Service events if the 4-H service experiences are both registered and reported on through the online system. We also encourage that **ALL** 4-H service projects completed at other times of the year be both registered and reported on so we can share the total impact made in communities by 4-H Club members and their families!



*Pleasant Spacemakers
Photo Credit: Trista Naff*

LIVESTOCK



GENERAL INFO

2025 Livestock Exhibitor Information - PLEASE READ NEW this year (2025) - ALL cattle and swine to be exhibited at COUNTY & STATE Fairs MUST have an 840 Electronic Identification (EID) tag and a Premises ID number for the location of where the animal was raised. Other than state and county fair steers, it is the responsibility of the exhibitor to get their animals EID tagged. Please continue reading for more information.

Exhibitors must have a premises ID number on state fair livestock nominations for animal disease traceability. You must have the premises ID number to request 840 EID tags through the Department of Agriculture.

A premises ID number can be obtained through the Illinois Department of Agriculture. Visit their website at <https://agr.illinois.gov/.../premises-registration.html> for more information.

The 2025 State Fair premium book is now part of the ShoWorks entry system. It can be found by going to the Illinois State Fair website and click on competition tab to find entry information and ShoWorks entry tutorial. (Please be aware the current information on the State Fair website is from 2024.)

Illinois State Jr. Fair (4-H) Livestock entries are due July 15, 2025.

BEEF

All steers (Premiere and non-Premiere) must be weighed, tattooed, and tagged between January 25, 2025, and February 28, 2025, to be eligible for Illinois State Fair. There will be no exceptions. All beef animals must be castrated prior to tattooing.

SWINE

2024 Limited Supply Tags for Exhibition Swine

The Department of Agriculture has a limited quantity of electronic 840 tags to be distributed, for use in exhibition swine only, to facilitate the transition to the use of 840 tags at State and County Fairs. These tags will be available on a first-come, first-served basis for up to 25 tags per person. Owners will be responsible for a shipping rate of \$13 or they may arrange to pick up tags at the Department. Once gone, there will be no other tags available through the Department, and producers will

need to order their own tags or work with their veterinarian. To order tags, complete the form located at the link below and return via email to agr.premises@illinois.gov or fax at 217-558-6033.

Illini Pork Premiere (carcass) pigs must have been born Feb 10, 2025, or after. They must be weighed, tattooed with Box A tattoo and number. This process must be witnessed, recorded, and the form signed by Extension 4-H staff. The 2025 Illini Pork Premiere form will be submitted by Extension 4-H staff (due June 1, 2025.) Please contact Fulton County Extension 4-H staff to set an appointment for weighing and tattooing Illinois State Fair Illini Pork Premiere nominations.

GOATS & LAMBS

Lambs for the 2025 Illinois State Fair Junior and Open Premiere (carcass) Shows must be nominated, weighed, and tattooed with box A and number, between March 15 and May 15, 2025, at the local county level. This process must be witnessed, recorded, and the form signed and submitted by Extension 4-H staff. Please contact Fulton County Extension 4-H staff to set an appointment (on or before May 9, 2025) for weighing and tattooing Illinois State Fair Lamb Premiere nominations.

Ewe lambs (females) will be eligible for the IL State Fair Premiere Show.

Non-Premiere Lamb & Goat for IL State Fair (those showing live show only) - all Non-Premiere Nominations lambs and goats will be self-nominated and must have a signature of county Extension 4-H staff. Nomination must include a photo of the scrapie tag in the animal's ear.

Extension 4-H staff will submit the 2025 State Fair Lamb & Goat Nomination (for live show only) Form (due by May 15, 2025.)

For the Illinois State Fair Junior and Open Premiere classes, an exhibitor may nominate a total of ten (10) wethers or ewes.

Lambs must be castrated prior to tattooing for wether classes at the Illinois State Fair.



More livestock news on page 4

LIVESTOCK (CONTINUED FROM PG 3)

POULTRY

The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) issued a 30-day suspension, effective Tuesday, February 11, 2025, on the exhibition or sale of poultry at swap meets, exhibitions, flea markets, and auction markets in response to the ongoing threat of H5N1 avian flu. The move is intended to reduce and prevent the spread of the disease, which has been detected in commercial and backyard flocks in Illinois. The IDOA will review this situation every 30 days and will issue press releases regarding the suspension. Once our office receives updates, we will email the member households who are enrolled in the poultry project.



Will Sego

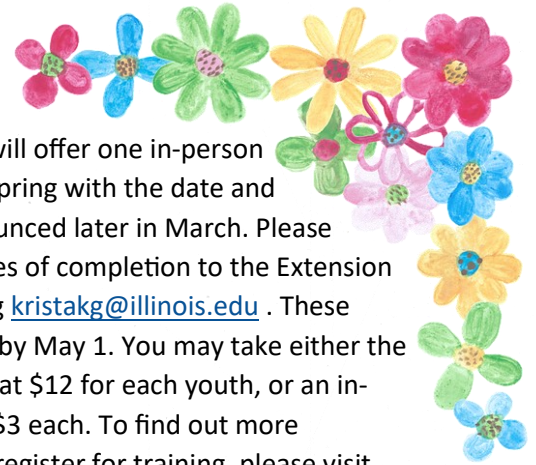
Photo Credit: Heidi Putman

QAEC

4-H members enrolled in cat, dog, horse, poultry, and rabbit projects must take the **Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification (QAEC)** training in order to participate in the projects and exhibit these project areas at a 4-H fair or show. The training only needs to be completed once in a youth's lifetime. It can be completed in the ZSuite system, which can be accessed at <https://4h.zsuite.org>. Youth must have a ZSuite account and be enrolled in 4-H to take the training. The training is found in the tab called "Clover Academy". Please contact your leader or our office if you have any questions or need help accessing this information.

YQCA

Fulton County 4-H will offer one in-person YQCA training this spring with the date and location to be announced later in March. Please send your certificates of completion to the Extension office or by emailing kristakg@illinois.edu. These certificates are due by May 1. You may take either the web-based training at \$12 for each youth, or an in-person training for \$3 each. To find out more information and to register for training, please visit <https://yqcaprogram.org>. Surrounding counties also offer YQCA training, so if you attend one of those trainings, please send me your certificate so I may enter it in your ZSuite account.



JOKES FOR



Q: What falls but never needs a bandage?

A: The rain

Q: How does the sun listen to music?

A: On the ray-dio.

Q: What do you call it when it rains ducks and geese?

A: Fowl weather.

Q: What goes up when the rain comes down?

A: Umbrellas.

Q: What do clouds wear during spring showers?

A: Thunderwear.

Q: What kind of bow looks best when it's wet?

A: A rainbow.

Q: What's a tornado's favorite game?

A: Twister.



VISUAL ARTS SUPPLIES

Fulton County 4-H is fortunate to have volunteers and organizations support our program. One of our partner organizations is Fulton County HEA. Not only does this organization generously supply funds to purchase awards, plaques, and gifts that the 4-H members receive during the Achievement Awards program, they have purchased art supplies for 4-H members to use as they create their Visual Arts projects. If you would like to stop by the University of Illinois Extension office in Lewistown to see what is available for use, please call or email one of us. More supplies will be added throughout the year. Thank you, Fulton County HEA members!

PUBLIC SPEAKING/PERFORMING ARTS

The Public Speaking Contest will be held on Saturday, March 29, 2025, starting promptly at 10 a.m. at the Checkrow Community Church, located at 3564 E Checkrow Rd., Avon, IL. Doors will open at 9:30 a.m. **The project enrollment deadline in ZSuite for Public Speaking is March 3.** The Performing Arts Show will be held immediately after the Public Speaking Contest. Those members enrolled in Theater Arts 1, 2, and 3 are invited to perform at this show.

Members enrolled in the Theater Arts project may exhibit at the Performing Arts Show by presenting a vocal or instrumental number, dance, dramatic skit, or other type of entertainment. Each performance should be no more than seven minutes long. A piano will be provided. If other equipment is needed, the member must provide it. If the performance requires an accompanist, the member must provide the person, who can be any age. No State Fair Delegates will be selected from those who choose this exhibit option. State Fair Delegates and Alternates will be selected from Theater Arts exhibits at the 4-H General Show on June 21, 2025. Please invite your family and friends to attend both contests!



Congratulations to Caroline Spangler of the Checkrow Volunteers 4-H Club! Caroline has been selected to receive the 2025 Illinois 4-H Natural Resources and Environmental Science Scholarship! This award consists of a **\$1,000 scholarship** that will be presented at the **Illinois 4-H Celebration of Excellence Awards Banquet** on April 5, 2025.

Caroline's projects over the past 4-H year all had a strong focus on rural environment, including her work with her beef project, nature photography and visual arts that celebrated the outdoor world. Caroline has held multiple offices in her club and has been very active in the club's activities. She enjoys playing piano, leading worship, and is active in volleyball and student leadership at school. When asked what 4-H means to her, Caroline responds "4-H means learning valuable skills like responsibility and leadership while working with animals and projects. It's a community where I can grow, share experiences, and support other kids with similar interests in agriculture." Congratulations Caroline!



Caroline Spangler
Photo Credit: Holly Spangler



Scholarships

Fulton County 4-H announces college scholarships being offered to Fulton County 4-H members. Several scholarships, in various amounts, will be awarded to county 4-H members at his or her high school graduation or awards program.

One group of scholarships is given in memory of Hilda Rock by her family. Mrs. Hilda Rock was the leader of the Brick Fiatt Sparklers 4-H Club for over 30 years. Her influence on the lives of her former members, and the memories of her many contributions to the Fulton County 4-H Program, live on.

In memory of Roberta Mahr, a devoted former 4-H leader who passed away in 1997, a scholarship will be awarded to a deserving 4-H member. The Roberta Mahr Memorial Scholarship is sponsored by the Farmington Lucky Clovers 4-H Club.

In memory of Merle L. Jenkins, a dedicated 4-H supporter, the Merle L. Jenkins Agricultural Scholarship is also available, to be presented to a young person with an interest in agriculture. Mr. Jenkins, a 1939 graduate of the University of Illinois (B.S. Agriculture), was a long-time supporter of agriculture, youth, and education in Fulton County, including service on the Fulton County Fair Board and Lewistown School Board, agriculture teacher, and a life-long farmer in Fulton County. As an on-going tribute to Mr. Jenkins, family and friends established The Merle L. Jenkins Memorial Agricultural Scholarship to honor him for his great love of agriculture and education throughout his life.

The family of Gary Eathington will sponsor a scholarship to a member who has been enrolled in Beef and/or Crops 4-H projects, pursuing an

Animal Science or Agriculture degree, preferably a student attending the University of Illinois. Gary was a 40-year 4-H leader from Avon, who passed away in 2012.

The Virginia Barnard Memorial Scholarship will be given to one student, preferably a Canton High School student majoring in agriculture or home economics and beginning studies at Spoon River College. This scholarship will be given as two payments over a two-semester period. The Phillips Scholarship is sponsored by Roger and Cathy Phillips of St. David. They believe in the good that 4-H does and want to give back by helping a 4-H member with his/her education.

For each scholarship, the recipient must be a current Fulton County 4-H member and must **actively** participate in 4-H events. Preference given to 4-Hers who were achievement members of the previous 4-H year. The application will include a place for the 4-H member to list accomplishments and career goals. Family financial information is not required. The scholarships will be given to seniors in high school; therefore, individuals can only receive these scholarships once. To receive a 4-H Scholarship Application, contact the Fulton County Extension Office at 547-3711, or email kristakg@illinois.edu.

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE is April 1, 2025.



Fulton County 4-H Shooting Sports Spring 2025 Session



Disciplines:	Age	Cost	Location	Instructors	Dates	Times
Air Rifle Limit of 5 participants	8-18 as of 9/1/24	\$20 4-H program fee* plus \$10 supply fee	613 West Avenue H, Lewistown	Craig Hand, Ellie Nolan, & Terry Cremer	April 6, 13, & 27; May 4, 18, & 25 (six sessions)	1 p.m. Lasts about one hour
.22 Caliber Pistol Limit of 5 participants	12-18 as of 9/1/24	\$20 4-H program fee* plus \$10 supply fee	Lee Roy Knuppel farm, 25676 E County Hwy 27, Canton	Lee Roy Knuppel	April 6, 13, & 27; May 4, 18, & 25 (six sessions)	1 p.m. Lasts about one hour
Smallbore (.22) Rifle Limit of 5 participants	10-18 as of 9/1/24	\$20 4-H program fee* plus \$30 supply fee	Lee Roy Knuppel farm, 25676 E County Hwy 27, Canton	Lee Roy Knuppel	April 6, 13, & 27; May 4, 18, & 25 (six sessions)	2 p.m. Lasts about one hour
Shotgun Limit of 20 participants	10-18 as of 9/1/24	\$20 4-H program fee *Supply fee – paid by Lascelles Memorial*	Jacob's Field, 20516 E County Hwy 22, Canton	Lonnie Van Pelt and Lee Roy Knuppel	April 6, 13, & 27; May 4, 18, & 25 (six sessions)	4 p.m. Lasts a little over an hour
Archery Limit of 10 participants	8-18 as of 9/1/24	\$20 4-H program fee* plus \$15 supply fee	16128 N Peanut Ridge Road, Lewistown	Brad Robinson, Ellie Nolan, and Jaysen Delpierre	April 6, 13, & 27; May 4, 18, & 25 (six sessions)	3 p.m. Lasts about one hour

*4-H program fees are paid annually and cover involvement in all 4-H clubs. Shooting Sports supply fees are paid for each discipline and each spring/fall session. 4-H Program Fees paid to University of Illinois. Supply Fees paid to Fulton 4-H Shooting Sports club.

Mandatory Safety Meeting – April 2, 6:30 p.m. at U of I Extension office in Lewistown.

How to register – Enrollment is through ZSuite, and medical form will be available on our website, or you may call to have one emailed to you (547-3711) or pick one up in person at the U of I Extension office in Lewistown. **Signed forms and payment are required prior to participating in any 4-H shooting sports disciplines.**

Deadline to register – Space is limited and filled on first come, first served basis. Final deadline is April 1. You may sign up for multiple disciplines, as long as they are not at the same time. **Payment and signed medical form must be submitted to reserve a spot.** For assistance with the fee, contact the Extension office at 547-3711.

All firearms are provided. The only participants who are allowed to bring their own are the advanced members who have permission from the instructors. Participants will be given eye and ear protection, which they will be responsible for bringing each time to use. If weather causes cancellations, additional dates will be set. Call the Extension office at 547-3711 for contact information.



★ 22nd Annual ★
4-H DAY

with the
Cardinals

TICKET ONLY
\$26
*All sales final
T-SHIRT INCLUDED!



SATURDAY
24
MAY

*payment is by credit card only

CARDINALS



DIAMONDBACKS

4-H members, alumni, family, and friends are invited to join University of Illinois Extension in partnership with University of Missouri Extension for a (hopeful) Cardinal win against the Diamondbacks!

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APRIL 21

- Participate in the parade on field prior to the game.
- Shirt included in ticket price.
- Each ticket order enters your name into a drawing to win autographed baseballs and other 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.

*Please note - groups that wish to sit together **MUST** submit **ONE** order.

REGISTER HERE:

<https://extension.missouri.edu/events/4-h-day-with-the-cardinals>

TICKET/T-SHIRT QUESTIONS? Contact Rhonda Shafer at shaferr@missouri.edu

PARADE/RAFFLE QUESTIONS? Contact Tanner Adkins at tadkins@missouri.edu

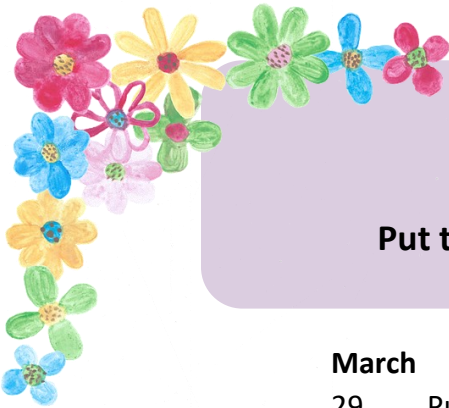


Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

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 attend, call the registration office.



Extension
University of Missouri



IMPORTANT 4-H DATES

Put this page on your fridge so you don't miss a thing!

March

- 29 Public Speaking Contest and Performing Arts Show 10am @ Checkrow Community Church

April

- 1 Fulton County 4-H Scholarship applications due to Extension office
- 2 4-H Shooting Sports Safety meeting 6:30pm @ Extension office

May

- 1 4-H enrollment deadline to be eligible to register exhibits for 2025 4-H shows
Project add/drop deadline in ZSuite
Horse and Pony ownership/lease papers and Coggins papers due to Extension office
YQCA certificates due to Extension office
Fair Entry opens for 4-H show registration (Pet, General Show, Horse, Livestock)

June

- 2 Fair Entry closes for ALL PROJECTS (Pet, General Show, Horse, Livestock)
- 11 Small Pet Show 6pm @ Extension office
- 21 Sewing/Clothing Show 10am @ Cuba High School (20325 N State Route 97, Cuba)
- 21 General Show @ Cuba High School

July

- 1 Fulton County Fair entries due to Extension office
- 4 Independence Day—Extension office closed
- 12 4-H Official Horse & Pony Show @ Fulton County Fairgrounds Horse Arena
- 21-26 Fulton County Fair—4-H Dog & Livestock Shows
- 21-26 4-H Food Stand @ Fulton County Fair—we need your help!

August

- 9 Fulton County General Project Exhibit Day @ Illinois State Fair
- 25 Achievement Award applications due to Extension office

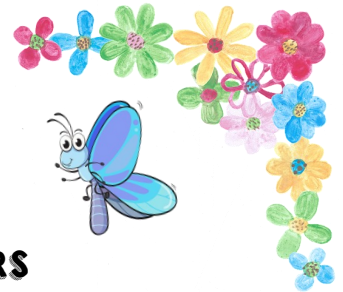




Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



University of Illinois Extension
Serving Fulton, Mason, Peoria & Tazewell Counties
Fulton County Office
15411 N IL 100 Hwy
Lewistown, IL 61542
Return service requested



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL 4-H MEMBERS

Starting May 1, each 4-H family will register all their projects to be shown at 4-H shows through FairEntry which may be found at fairentry.com/. Each exhibitor is responsible for his/her own entry. If you need help, we are more than happy to assist you; please contact the office at 309-547-3711.

4-H members must be enrolled in the 4-H projects of their choice, by the appropriate project deadlines (Jan. 3/May 1) to be eligible to register for the corresponding exhibit classes in the 4-H Show. All registrations must be made online through FairEntry from May 1 through June 2, 2025.

Please visit the following Family Log In help document at <https://go.illinois.edu/fairentryfulton> for instructions on accessing/creating a FairEntry account.

All exhibits must be registered by the June 2, 2025, deadline in FairEntry. All project exhibit tags will be printed after June 3 and may either be picked up at the Extension office or mailed to member households.

Members who are also participating in the Fulton County Fair are required to complete the County Fair Entry Form in addition to the online 4-H Show FairEntry registration. Please see the 2025 Fulton County Fair book for those details and entry form.

Again, we are here to help you if you have any questions or need assistance with the FairEntry process. Please call the office at 309-547-3711 and either Krista or Deb will be happy to help you.