

Fulton County 4-H

Issue No. 3 | 9.15.2024



Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



4-H highlights: 4-H Shows

Congratulations to Our Amazing Fulton County 4-Hers!

We're thrilled to celebrate the incredible achievements of all our Fulton County 4-Hers this year! Krista and Rachel are so proud of the hard work and dedication you've put into your projects throughout the summer.

We hope that participating in the 4-H shows has been a rewarding experience, filled with learning, growth, and unforgettable memories. Whether it

was exploring new skills, connecting with family and friends, or meeting new 4-H enthusiasts, we hope you've made the most of this opportunity.

A big thank you to all the families and friends who have supported our 4-Hers on their journey. Your encouragement and assistance have been invaluable in helping them succeed.

Let's continue to foster a supportive and inspiring environment for our young people as they continue to thrive in their 4-H endeavors.

Your questions and calls are very important to us. We can be reached during regular business hours via:

- Office phone 309-547-3711
- Krista Gray: kristag@illinois.edu or 217-300-6714
- Rachel Van Cleve: rfv@illinois.edu or 217-265-9819

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

General

4-H Leader and Volunteer Meeting

Leader and Volunteer meeting is set for:

Monday, September 30

6:30 PM

U of I Extension office, Lewistown

This meeting will talk about the new guidelines for the upcoming 4-H year and bag of information for each club, so please send at least one leader/assistant leader from each club.

National 4-H WEEK – October 6 – 12, 2024

“There’s no place like 4-H!” – Fulton/Mason/Peoria/Tazewell Unit theme for 2024

Your club is invited to help publicize its activities and Fulton County 4-H during National 4-H Week, October 6-12, 2024, with the theme of “There’s no place like 4-H!” 4-H has a vast array of activities — many ways to build character and leadership, and many ways to care for others through community service. As a 4-H member, you are one of six million other youth who are 4-H members. Show how 4-H enhances the lives of 4-H members, their families, and communities. Fulton County 4-H is excited about what it has to offer and wants to let everyone know!

We want families to get involved in the 4-H Program! The list of ideas for 4-H promotion could be endless. Here are a few:

- Put up a Window Display or Bulletin Board (See contest rules below).
- Design a poster to be put up in store windows, in support of 4-H.
- Invite a new person to join your club — Do this one for sure!!!!!!
- Wear an article of clothing that has 4-H on it. — Wear 4-H T-shirts, green shirts, pins, etc.!!!
- Thank your leaders -- send a thank you note; bake him/her some cookies.
- Talk to your local newspaper or radio station about a 4-H story or put an ad in the paper.
- Give a talk or demonstration to civic organizations about what 4-H has to offer.
- Plan a member recruitment drive for your club; distribute fliers about 4-H to area schools.

ZSuite opens October 1

Welcome to the new 4-H Year! We are excited to start another year with each member and their family. Whether you are involved in one of our 12 multi-project community clubs, one or more of our Special Interest (SPIN) clubs, or a combination of both; welcome! 4-H has something for everyone, no matter your interest area. Enrollment in 4-H is through ZSuite again this year and will open for re-enrollment/new enrollment early October. As soon as the site is ready for you to access it, we will notify your 4-H club leader and post it on the Fulton County 4-H Facebook page. We are excited to announce that we are again offering an **“early bird” discount to all youth who enroll and pay by November 30.** The program fee will be discounted from \$20 to \$10 for each youth; this is a 50% savings! As a reminder, if you are enrolling in any livestock project, you need to do so by January 3, 2025. Please invite a friend to attend one of your club meetings and join the fun!

Did you know....?

Youth can be a 4-H member of a Special Interest Club (SPIN) such as 4-H Shooting Sports, Junior Master Naturalists, or Livestock Judging without being a member of a traditional multi-project club. One annual 4-H program fee covers membership in any of the SPIN clubs, multi-project clubs, or a combination of both. Some SPIN clubs, such as 4-H Shooting Sports, do charge a nominal supply fee in addition to the annual program fee, but NO ONE is ever denied membership for inability to pay.

4-H allows youth to participate in a specific area or to experience year-round monthly club meetings, complete with officer elections, business meetings, community service opportunities, field trips, and holiday parties. One thing all of Fulton County 4-H clubs have in common is FUN! Check us out!

Federation Meeting

The next two 4-H Federation meeting is set for:

Saturday, September 14

9 AM

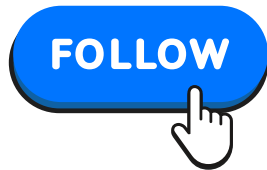
Orchard Hill Farm, Lewistown

Monday, October 14

10 AM

U of I Extension office, Lewistown

All Fulton 4-H members who are 13 and older are invited to join Federation. It is a great group to make new friends, build your servant leadership skills, and have lots of social time with other teens.



Exciting News! We're Going Public!

Fulton 4-H has a new Facebook page

Fulton County 4-H, Illinois

- **Exclusive Content:** We'll be sharing exciting news, updates, and events directly on our public page.
- **Event Sharing:** Have an event you want us to promote to the general public? Submit it to RFV@illinois.edu or kristakg@illinois.edu and Krista or Rachel will get it posted!

Don't Miss Out!

- Like Our New Public Page: Search for "Fulton County 4-H, Illinois" on Facebook and click Follow!
- **Spread the Word:** Share this announcement with your friends and family. Help us share the positive impact Fulton 4-H makes.

Important Note: Our private page will be closing on October 15. To stay connected, be sure to like our new public page!



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4-H Events

September

30-Leaders Meeting at the Extension office, 6:30 PM

October

19-Unit wide Club Leader and Officer Training, Pekin, 9 AM to Noon

20- Achievement Award Ceremony at Donaldson Center in Canton, 2 PM

November

28-29-Office is closed for Thanksgiving

30-Early Bird Special Ends for Zsuite Enrollments

Achievement Program Volunteer Appreciation October 20, 2024

The 4-H Achievement Program and Volunteer Appreciation Event will be held on Sunday, October 20, 2024, starting at 2 p.m. at the Donaldson Center at Wallace Park in Canton. All 4-H members, leaders, show judges and superintendents, please mark this date and new location on your calendar!



Fulton County 4-H Staff

Krista Gray-kristakg@illinois.edu, 4-H Program Coordinator
Rachel Van Cleve-RFV@illinois.edu, 4-H Program Coordinator
Emily Schoenfelder, 4-H Youth Educator
Earl Allen, County Director
Deb Balagna-dbalagna@illinois.edu, Office Support

Wendy Johnson Inducted into the 4-H Hall of Fame

Each year, the Illinois 4-H Foundation honors extraordinary members of our 4-H family by inducting them into the Illinois 4-H Hall of Fame. The Illinois 4-H Hall of Fame recognizes 4-H volunteers that have a track record of exemplary service to 4-H for outstanding career and community achievement and are nominated by either county University of Illinois Extension staff or by the Illinois 4-H Foundation Board. The 2024 Fulton County inductee to the 4-H Hall of Fame is Wendy Johnson.



As a lifelong educator and coach, Wendy has been involved in various volunteer opportunities in the schools where she was class sponsor, concession stand manager, and archery coach. During her career, she was instrumental in encouraging youth to develop healthy and active life habits. Wendy's 'can do' attitude has resulted in positive youth development throughout her career and continues since she has retired from full-time teaching. Wendy has been the key leader of the Busy Bees 4-H Club for 9 years. During Wendy's role as a key leader, the Busy Bees membership has grown from nineteen members in 2016 to 50 members in 2023/24 4-H year! Club growth and continuity are especially important to Wendy. Over the past 5 years as Wendy's own kids were getting older and starting to age out of the program, she began looking for assistants to mentor as leaders. She now has a strong co-leader of the club in addition to three more assistant leaders she has recruited in the past year. Even though the 2023-2024 4-H year is Wendy's last year as a key leader of the Busy Bees, Fulton County 4-H is fortunate to have her continue volunteering as a show superintendent and helper at the 4-H General Show.

In her retirement, Wendy enjoys spending time with her kids, family, and friends. She also works seasonally at Orchard Hill Farm in rural Lewistown, co-manages the 4-H Food Stand, and volunteers as a superintendent's assistant at both the Open and Junior Arts & Crafts Show at the Fulton County Fair. Congratulations, Wendy, on your induction to the Illinois 4-H Hall of Fame!



Club Leader & Officer Training

Our four-county unit is hosting a Club Leader and Officer training in Pekin on October 19 from 9am-Noon at the Tazewell County Farm Bureau Building.

Please try to join us for this informative day full of tips and tricks to be a successful club leader and youth officer. Learn from other volunteers and officers.



Master Showmanship

Congratulations to the five Master showmanship participants at the Fulton County Fair. Thank you, First Mid Bank and Trust, for the sponsorship of this event. Ella Eathington represented Fulton County very well at the Illinois State fair at the State Master Showmanship Contest. Congratulations to all the exhibitors in the contest!

4-H Members Exhibited at State

Fulton County was well represented at the State Fair on August 9. This year, 50 Fulton County members exhibited a wide variety of general projects among the best of the best from all over the state. All youth who exhibited their non-livestock projects at the Illinois State Fair received a red, white, or blue recognition ribbon and an exhibitor button. In each class, a Champion and a Reserve Champion were also selected. Inspire Awards were given at the judges' discretion for work they wished to highlight or acknowledge. Congratulations to all these hardworking exhibitors!

Ashlyn Bertsch-Photography 1
Emmitt Buban-Cooking 101 Coffeecake-Champion
Aylah Buescher-3-D Design/Mixed Media
Lauren Butler-Chalk/Carbon/Pigment Div B
Isabelle Carley- Woodworking 2
Victoria Cooper-Poetry
Carter Curry-eSports
Murphy Curry -eSports
Abigail Davis-Leather Reserve
Rhett Foutch- Sportsfishing 1
Lydia Fouts-Foods Innovation- Champion
Joya Fuller- VA Paper 2D
Miles Gates-Vegetable Gardening Display- Reserve
Emma Green-Leadership 3
Morgan Hendel-Computer-Generated Art-Reserve
Anja Heuerman-Pebble Pups 1-Inspire
Johanna Heuerman-Clothing 2-Sewn Clothing
Aliyah Janssen-Animated Video-Reserve
Benton Janssen-Theatre Arts 1
Breezi Kelly-Food Decorating-Intermediate-Inspire

Brittany Kline-Chalk/Carbon/Pigment-Div A
Dexter Leady-Creative Writing
Seth McClure-Woodworking 3
Brayton McCoy-Photography 2
Juniper McFerren-Clay
Rocky Meyer-Beekeeping 1-Reserve
Zack Miller-Electricity 1-Champion
Holden Myers-Animal Science 1
Skylar Naff-Health 1
Aaliyah Naff-Wildlife 1 Champion
Bryley Nelson-Design Decisions-Beginning
Ella Osborn-Fiber
Krew Peirce-VA Plastic Block Art
Charlee Pittman-VA Quilting - You Can Quilt
Taylor Pittman-Food Decorating-Beginning
Brady Robinson-Entomology 2-Reserve
Miles Robinson-Sportsfishing 1
Addison Roddis-Nature
Elijah Rodeffer-VA Paper 3D-Champion
Cooper Stephens-Beg. Visual Prgm.-Champion
Madilyn Stephens-Scrapbooking-Intermediate-
Lillie Stephens-Beekeeping 2
Thomas Stevenson-Cooking 301 Sweet Rolls-
Champion
Cameron Stone-Veterinary Science
Danni Stout Scrapbooking-Beginning- Champion
Ronny Stout-Pebble Pups 1
Layne Stout-Natural Resources 2-Reserve
Sara Stufflebeam-Chalk/Carbon/Pigment-Div A-
Champion
Chloe Sutton-Heritage Arts
Kinslee Wickert-Clothing 3-Sewn Clothing



Art Supply Donations

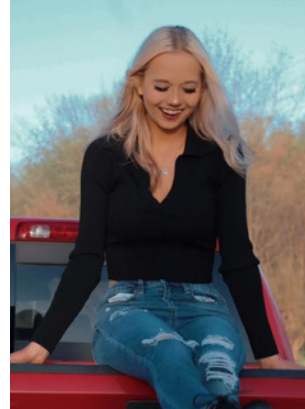
The Fulton County Homemakers' Education Association (HEA) members have donated art supplies to Fulton County 4-H for members to use as they create their Visual Arts projects. These supplies may be checked out and used by 4-H members. If you would like to stop by the University of Illinois Extension office in Lewistown to see what is available for use, please call or email one of us. More supplies have been added this year. Thank you Fulton County HEA members!

Shining a light on 4-H Members!



**Washita
Bradford**

Washita Bradford, of Cuba, is a member of the Smithfield Up and Coming 4-H Club and graduated from Cuba High School. During her ten years in 4-H, Washita held the offices of secretary and reporter/historian and was an Achievement member. Washita received funds from the Hilda Rock Memorial Scholarship. Washita will be attending the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, studying psychology. Washita shared in her application how important 4-H is and how thankful she is for all the opportunities she has received during her 10 years as a member. "I have been able to meet so many people, and I hope everyone who joins 4-H has as good of an experience as I have."



**Victoria
Cooper**

Victoria Cooper, of Lewistown, is a member of the Jolly Workers 4-H Club, and a 2024 graduate of Lewistown High School. Victoria received funds from the Hilda Rock Memorial Scholarship, SEFF (Support Extension and 4-H Fund) and 4-H Federation. During her time in 4-H, Victoria has held the position of reporter, secretary, and vice-president in addition to being an active member of 4-H Federation. Victoria's plans include attending Western Illinois University where her course of study is physical education to become a PE Teacher and coach. Victoria summarized in her application "Every year I am excited about participating in 4-H events. It is like opening a present with endless surprises!"

Zaya Pierce



Zaya Peirce, of Lewistown, is a member of the Busy Bees 4-H Club, and a 2024 graduate of Lewistown High School. Zaya is the recipient of the Phillips Scholarship, funds from SEFF, and 4-H Federation. Zaya has been accepted as a student to Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa, where she will pursue a degree in Environmental Science. In her scholarship application, Zaya shared that her time in 4-H has impacted her life exponentially through the friends she has made, connections with people she would not otherwise have meet, and has afforded her the opportunity to become a more confident public speaker. "4-H has had positive impact on my life, helped me develop leadership skills, and shaped me into becoming a positive role model."

Shining a light on 4-H Members!



Abigail Stevenson

Abigail Stevenson, of Ipava, is a recent graduate of VIT Jr/Sr High School, and a member of the Pleasant Spacemakers 4-H Club. Throughout her 10-year 4-H membership, Abigail has held the offices of treasurer, reporter, vice-president, and president, in addition to being an Achievement member throughout her career. Post high school, Abigail will be attending Southern Illinois University Edwardsville to study Nursing. Abigail was awarded the Virginia Barnard Memorial and funding from SEFF. Abigail shared the following, "4-H has impacted my life in countless ways. It has helped me become a better leader, make lifelong friends, and has showed me the importance of community service and involvement."



**Morgan
Hendel**

Morgan Hendel, a ten-year member of the Avondale 4-H Club, and a recent graduate of Abingdon-Avon High School is headed to Illinois State University to pursue a degree in acting. While in 4-H, Morgan was a 10-year Achievement member, and has held the position of secretary, treasurer, and vice-president. Morgan shared that 4-H has taught her to be compassionate, a good helper, and shaped how she has grown. "My club leaders and 4-H has shown me how to be the best person I can be." Helping her community through her club's "Giving Thanks" meals each year is a special event for Morgan. Scholarships for Morgan include the Roberta Mahr Memorial Scholarship and funds from SEFF.

Scholarships funded by local donors

Fulton County 4-H is honored to recognize seven high school graduates for their outstanding 4-H accomplishments and leadership. Thanks to scholarship funds established by local donors, \$6,700 was awarded this year. The Fulton County 4-H scholarships have been established to support 4-Hers and honor alumni.

- Hilda Rock was a long-time 4-H leader from the Cuba area and her family sponsors in her memory.
- The Phillips 4-H Scholarship is sponsored by Roger and Cathy Phillips, who wanted to help a deserving 4-H member further his or her education.

- Gary Eathington was a 40-year 4-H leader who passed away in the fall of 2012. Gary raised cattle and was a big supporter of 4-H and U of I.
- Merle L. 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.

Shining a light on 4-H Members!



Ashley Tarochione

Ashley Tarochione, of London Mills, is a member of the Fairview Huskies 4-H Club and graduated from Spoon River High School. Ashley's plans include attending Iowa State University where she will pursue a degree in Animal Science. After completing her degree, Ashley would like to work with cattle and start her own herd. Throughout Ashley's time in 4-H, opportunities to help others through community service projects such as making Christmas stockings for military members, and fleece tie blankets for children were rewarding to her. "Seeing the smiles on people's faces after doing something nice, makes me feel good inside." Ashley is the recipient of the Gary Eathington Memorial Scholarship.



Makenna Johnson

Makenna Johnson, of Lewistown, is a 10-year member of the Busy Bees 4-H Club and graduated from Lewistown High School. While in 4-H, Makenna held the office of treasurer, was an Achievement member for 10 years, and held the office of president in 4-H Federation for two years. Makenna will be attending Black Hawk University East this fall where she will study to become a Veterinary Assistant. Community service activities such as collecting food and supplies for both the Food Pantry and Humane Society of Fulton County have been especially important to Makenna. Scholarship awards presented to Makenna include funds from the Hilda Rock Memorial Scholarship, Merle L. Jenkins Agricultural Scholarship, SEFF, and 4-H Federation.

Scholarships funded by local donors continued

- Virginia Barnard was a Fulton County 4-H leader for 69 years, who passed away in 2017. This scholarship goes to a 4-H member pursuing a college education in Agriculture or Home Economics, and who is beginning studies at Spoon River College.
- Fulton County 4-H Federation is a group of 4-H members ages thirteen and up who assist in planning, conducting, and helping with county wide 4-H events.
- Roberta Mahr was a former leader of the Farmington Lucky Clovers 4-H club, and the club continues to fund the scholarship in her memory.
- SEFF (Support Extension and 4-H Fund) The purpose of the Fulton County Extension and 4-H Education Foundation is to promote, sponsor, and support various Extension activities as determined by the board of directors.

Congratulations to all seven scholarship recipients! These 4-H members are to be commended for their hard work and dedication to 4-H over the years.

Key Dates for 2024-2025

October

1 - Zsuite Opens up

November

30- Deadline to receive Early Bird discount for 4-H Program fee on Zsuite

January

3- Deadline for Livestock enrollment on Zsuite

February

8-Steer Weigh in at Fairview Sale Barn,10am-noon

March

3-Public Speaking/Performing Arts entries close on Fair Entry/ Zsuite

TBA- Public Speaking/ Performing Arts Show-TBA

May

1-General project enrollment deadline on Zsuite and Fair entry opens

1- Horse Ownership/Lease Papers due

1-YQCA Certificates due

June

2- Fair entry closes for ALL PROJECTS(Livestock, Pet, General Show)

11- Pet Show at the Extension office

21-General Show at the Cuba High School, Noon

27- State Fair Livestock registrations due in the office

July

12-4-H Official Horse & Pony Show (No Back-Up Date)

21-Fulton & 4-H Dog Show at the Fulton County Fairgrounds, 9:30am

21-26 Fulton County Fair





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IT'S TIME TO ENROLL



It's time to enroll for another fabulous year in 4-H! ZSuite, the 4-H enrollment site, is now open and available for youth, families, and volunteers to enroll in for the 2024-2025 4-H year.

Plus, anyone who completes enrollment by November 30 will receive \$10 off their annual enrollment fees. That's a 50% discount! Go to ZSuite starting October 1 to complete your enrollment, or learn more about the enrollment process at the link below.

4h.extension.illinois.edu/participate/zsuite-enrollment-info

ZSuite is opens October 1!

Login now to complete your enrollment for the new 4-H year!

4h.zsuite.org



EARLY ENROLLMENT
DISCOUNT

**\$10
OFF**

IF FULLY ENROLLED
BY NOV 30!

