

# 4-H FAMILY

## ST. CLAIR COUNTY

### DECEMBER 2024 AND JANUARY 2025

# NEWS



### Hello 4-H Families,

It's already December! I'm not sure where November went, but I hope you had the chance to spend time with family and friends. The 4-H staff is very grateful to have you as part of our St. Clair County 4-H family. Happy holidays and best wishes as we head into the new year!

A reminder to submit your 4-H enrollment as soon as possible. Please send a thank-you card to our two sponsors: St. Clair County Farm Bureau 1478 IL-15, Belleville, IL 62221, and St. Clair County Livestock Boosters 7062 Funk School Road Freeburg, IL 62243.

More information and instructions on how to enroll are listed below.

Please don't hesitate to contact me at 618-344-4230 with any questions!

Thank you,

**Meghan Cope** | 4-H Program Coordinator  
Serving Madison and St. Clair Counties |  
mawolff@illinois.edu

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#### Office Hours:

Monday- Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Closed Noon to 1:00 p.m. for lunch

#### Monroe County Office

901 Illinois Ave., PO Box 117  
Waterloo, IL 62298  
618-939-3434, 618-939-7708 Fax

#### Madison-St. Clair County Branch Office

900 Hillsboro Ave  
Edwardsville, IL 62025  
618-344-4230  
uie-mms@illinois.edu

#### University of IL Extension at the JJK

#### FAN Innovation Center

2051 Lynch Ave  
East St. Louis, IL 62204  
618-875-8939, 618-875-8786 Fax

#### **Extension County Director**

*William Catalano*

#### **4-H Youth Educator**

*Emily Reece*

#### **Madison & St. Clair 4-H**

#### **Coordinator**

*Meghan Cope*

#### **Office Support Specialist**

*Nicole Hellon*

#### Visit our website:

*extension.illinois.edu/mms*

#### Like us on Facebook:

*University of Illinois Extension:  
St. Clair County 4-H*

*University of Illinois Extension-  
Madison, Monroe and St. Clair Unit*

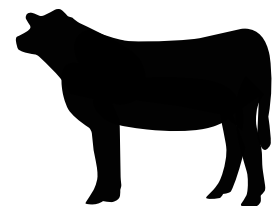
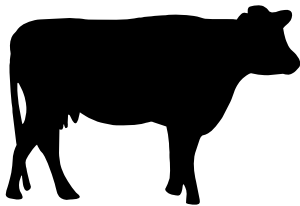
#### Follow us on Instagram:

*Madison, Monroe, St. Clair- IL*

## 4-H Livestock Class Update for Beef and Dairy Cattle

- There is no longer a Beef or Dairy Rate of Gain Steer Class which means there will not be a February weigh-in.
- For Dairy, there will not be a Market Dairy Steer Class. They will now go in the Beef Show under Individual Market Steer.

\*More information will be in the 2025 St. Clair Showbook in April.



## Volunteers Wanted!

### General Projects 4-H Exhibit Planning Committee

We are seeking parents and volunteers from the St. Clair 4-H community who are interested in making the 4-H General Projects Show a positive and impactful experience for the youth in St. Clair County. Our meetings will begin in January 2025 to prepare for the upcoming 4-H exhibit experiences. For more information, please contact Emily Reece at [ereece@illinois.edu](mailto:ereece@illinois.edu).



## 2024-2025 4-H HANDBOOK

Need to know more about...

- Project selection
- 4-H Shows
- Member expectations
- Livestock requirements
- Where to go for questions



Check out the St. Clair County 4-H Handbook:  
<https://go.illinois.edu/StClairCounty4-HHandbook>.

## 2024-2025 4-H MEMBERSHIP POLICIES

Youth **five through seven years of age, on or before September 1** of the current 4-H year, may enroll in 4-H Cloverbud groups.

Youth who are **eight and have yet to reach their nineteenth birthday on or before September 1** may enroll in 4-H clubs.

A youth who enrolls in a St. Clair County 4-H club must:

- **Attend at least four meetings** to be called a 4-H member. Youth who do not comply are not eligible to participate in 4-H exhibitions, receive 4-H premiums, or other 4-H awards and recognitions available to 4-H members. **(College students can be enrolled when they live away from home and must attend at least one meeting when they are home on breaks or virtually.)**
- **Present a talk or demonstration at a club meeting during the project year.**
- **Youth enrolled in a livestock market class must turn in a livestock record book by September 15. If not completed by September 15, the youth cannot participate in a livestock market class the following year.**
- Complete enrollment by **January 15 to exhibit projects at 4-H shows.** Youth may enroll after this date but are not eligible to exhibit projects at shows. Projects can be added up to this deadline, but the addition of projects is not accepted online after this date (except for SPIN Clubs).



# 4-H Enrollment Information

## **Enrollment for the 2024-2025 4-H year will open on October 8th!**

We will again be using the Z-Suite platform to collect enrollment information.

New members, please use the instructions below to create a household account for your family and enroll youth members. Returning members, please use the same login information as last year. Adults who are screened volunteers must enroll in Z-Suites, too. If you have any questions, please email or call Meghan at 618-344-4230 or [mawolff@illinois.edu](mailto:mawolff@illinois.edu).

There is a \$20 fee for all youth enrolled in the Illinois 4-H program. Enrollment fees will be sponsored by St. Clair County Farm Bureau 1478 IL-15, Belleville, IL 62221, and St. Clair County Livestock Boosters 7062 Funk School Road Freeburg, IL 62243. 4-H Clubs and Families are encouraged to send a **THANK YOU** note to both sponsors for their generosity. There is a \$10 out-of-county fee for members who do not live in St. Clair County.

### **Z-Suites**

<https://4h.zsuite.org/>

### **Instructions to enroll:**

**New Members:** <https://go.illinois.edu/StClairCountyZSuiteQuickStartGuide>

**Returning Members:** <https://go.illinois.edu/StClairZSuiteReenrollmentInstructions>

**Leaders:** <https://go.illinois.edu/StClairCountyZSuiteClubLeaderManagementGuide>

Please mark all the projects they are interested in on the youth's account. When Fair Entry comes out in April/May, that is when they will commit to what project from Z-Suites they plan to show at the 2025 fair.

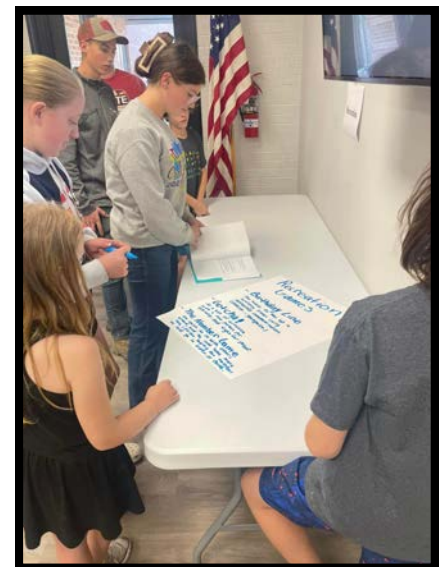
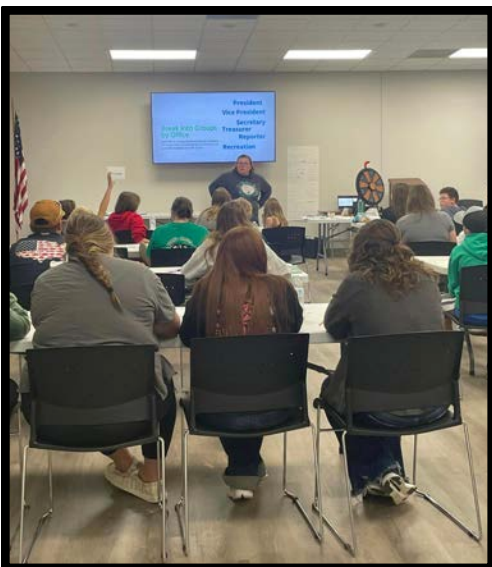
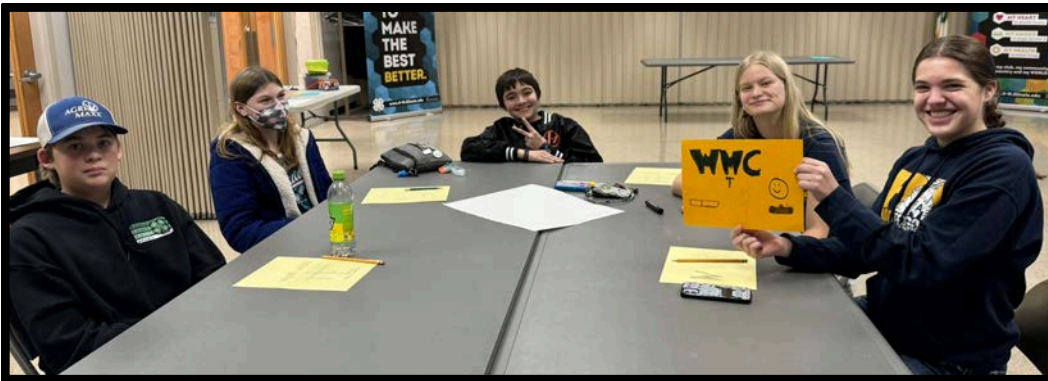
- The deadline to enroll to be able to show during the 2025 fair season is **January 15, 2025. If they are not enrolled by January 15, youth cannot show any projects for the 2025 fair season. 4-H members can still sign up to participate in 4-H after the deadline but are not allowed to show up in the 2025 fair season.**



# 4-H Officer Training



4-H Club Officers were invited to an Officer Training on November 11 and 25. Participants learned about leadership skills, parliamentary procedures, and more to help them become successful club officers. 4-H Youth Development Educator Emily Reece led the training.



## Club Spotlight



At their December meeting, the Creative Critters 4-H Club donated over 55 hand-made hats, 11 blankets, and 22 scarves to the St. John UCC mitten tree through their Hats for the Homeless Project. A special thank you to Bird's Eye Embroidery and Paper Moon, whose support in collecting yarn donations for this project. Creative Critters 4-H Club members: (front row L-R) Quinn Dickerson, Noah Sclarici, Christine Goebel, Owen Sclarici, and Thomas Sclarici, (back row L-R) Faith Haas, Julie Erickson, Katy Lowrance, and Abigail Odunfa-Jones. Members not pictured: Calli Lowrance and Daniel McComb.

AMAZING



# I Dare You Award Winner

Congratulations to Katy Lowrance, recipient of the “I Dare You Award” through the University of Illinois Extension. Awards are given to 4-H members who are nominated for displaying outstanding qualities in leadership and character. Photo (L-R) Katy Lowrance with Jessica Erickson, Creative Critters 4-H Club leader.



*Congratulations!*



## Save the Date for the 2025 4-H Public Speaking Show!

If you would like to participate in the show, make sure to add it to your ZSuites account under Projects.

If you have any questions, please contact Meghan Cope at [mawolff@illinois.edu](mailto:mawolff@illinois.edu).



March 10, 2025 at 6 pm at the Madison County Farm Bureau Auditorium

## Madison & St. Clair 4-H Public Speaking Show

Illinois  
Extension





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# PUMPKIN PAINTING CONTEST

## Winner Announcement

Age category: Cloverbuds 5-7



*1st Place*

**Brooke M.**

Prairie Youth Cloverbuds  
Madison County



*2nd Place*

**Jack S.**

Pin Oak Progressors  
Cloverbud  
Madison County



*3rd Place*

**Waylon M.**

Prairie Youth Cloverbuds  
Madison County

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Extension**

*Thank you for participating in the 4-H Pumpkin Painting Contest for  
Madison and St. Clair Counties*



**I**



# PUMPKIN PAINTING CONTEST

## Honorable Mention

Age category: Cloverbuds 5-7



**St. Jacob Cloverbuds**  
Madison County

**Grant M.**  
Pin Oak Progressors  
Cloverbuds  
Madison County

**Lizzie S.**  
Turkey Hill Cloverbuds  
St. Clair County

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Extension**

*Thank you for participating in the 4-H Pumpkin Painting Contest for  
Madison and St. Clair Counties*



**I**



# PUMPKIN PAINTING CONTEST

## Winner Announcement

Age category: 4-H Member 8-18



*1st Place*

**Makenna D.**

Marine Stars Jr. Ag  
Madison County



*2nd Place*

**Abigail O.**

Creative Critters  
St. Clair County



*3rd Place*

**Emma W.**

Cloverleaf Ag  
Madison County

**Illinois  
Extension**

*Thank you for participating in the 4-H Pumpkin Painting Contest for  
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# PUMPKIN PAINTING CONTEST

## Honorable Mention

Age category: 4-H Member 8-18



**Emma, Ava and Bryce M.**

Grant Prairie  
Madison County



**Elsie L.**

Fosterburg Ag  
Madison County



**Levi M.**

Prairie Youth  
Madison County

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Extension**

*Thank you for participating in the 4-H Pumpkin Painting Contest for  
Madison and St. Clair Counties*



# EDWARDSVILLE OFFICE UPDATE:

THE MADISON COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE IN EDWARDSVILLE WILL BE UNDER IRREGULAR AND LIMITED OFFICE HOURS WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

OUR UPDATED HOURS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

 **MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY:**  
(8:00 AM - 4:30 PM) (CLOSED FOR LUNCH 12-1 PM)

 **TUESDAY & FRIDAY:**  
(BY APPOINTMENT ONLY)

FOR ANY QUESTIONS OR TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT, YOU CAN REACH US AT 618-344-4230 OR EMAIL US AT [UIE-MMS@ILLINOIS.EDU](mailto:UIE-MMS@ILLINOIS.EDU).

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE AND APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE.



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# 4-H Holiday Photography Contest

Submit your digital holiday photograph by Dec. 16 to Meghan Cope via email [mawolff@illinois.edu](mailto:mawolff@illinois.edu)

## Rules:

- Take a picture with a holiday theme.
- Photograph must be taken by 4-H member.
- 2 age groups- Cloverbuds age 5-7 & 4-H members age 8-18
- One entry per member
- Open to Madison and St. Clair County 4-H
- Prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for both age groups!

Questions should be directed to Meghan at [mawolff@illinois.edu](mailto:mawolff@illinois.edu)

Winners announced and pictures displayed on county 4-H Facebook page.



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# St. Clair County 4-H Showbook Cover Design Contest



Entries are due **Feb. 3, 2025** to Meghan Cope via email [mawolff@illinois.edu](mailto:mawolff@illinois.edu).

## Entry Requirements:

- "St. Clair County 4-H Showbook" and the year "2025" must be shown somewhere in your design.
- Use any 4-H fair or project theme.
- Must be a 4-H member. This includes Cloverbuds.
- Your artwork must be drawn or printed in black ink only.
- Your entry must be on white unlined paper.
- No entries with trademark characters/symbols other than the 4-H clover are accepted.
- Put your name and club on the back of your design in pencil.
- Design must be vertical.
- One entry per person



## Illinois Extension



# St. Clair County Shooting Sports 4-H Clubs

Are you interested in joining a St. Clair County 4-H Shooting Sports Club? Below are our clubs that you can join. If you have any questions, contact Meghan Cope via email at [mawolff@illinois.edu](mailto:mawolff@illinois.edu).

## 4-H Blasters Rifle Shooting Sports Club

Meeting: 1st Saturday of the month  
Discipline- Rifle  
Location: Lebanon  
Leader: Ryan Stoks  
(rstoksdadd@gmail.com)

## St. Clair Hot Shots Archery Shooting Sports Club

Meeting: 1st Saturday of the month  
Description: Archery  
Meeting Date: Lebanon  
Leader: Ryan Stoks  
(rstoksdadd@gmail.com)





## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### December

- December 16 - Holiday Photography Contest Due
- December 24-Jan. 1 OFFICE CLOSED for the Holidays

### January 2025

- January 15: ZSuites enrollment closes

### February

- February 3 - Showbook Cover Contest Due

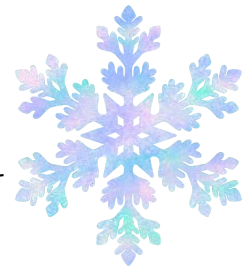
### March

March 10 - Public Speaking Contest

HAPPY  
*Holidays!*

### 4-H PROGRAM WEATHER POLICY:

When St. Clair County schools are closed due to inclement weather, county 4-H activities will also be closed unless otherwise notified. If the weather gets bad in the evening before the event, please watch your email and Facebook for cancellations.



## What's going on with Illinois 4-H?

Find out here:

<https://emails.illinois.edu/newsletter/42/1495356942.html>



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