

Saline County 4-H Connection



Monthly News for Saline County 4-H Members

February 2021



TO MAKE THE BEST BETTER!

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Livestock Information

The Saline County 4-H Livestock Committee held a business meeting on Thursday, January 14th with 16 in attendance in person or virtually by Zoom. Members present elected officers and superintendents.

Livestock Committee officers are:

**Chairman - Dan Evans, Vice Chairman - Tim Arnold,
and Secretary - Rachel Parish.**

We thank them for being willing to serve the County 4-H program.

Superintendents are:

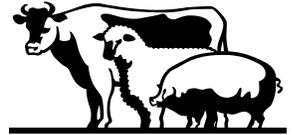
Beef - Dan Evans & Matt Deal	Dairy Cattle - Jane Carlile
Swine - Sam Glenn	Meat Goats and Dairy Goats - Rachel Parish
Sheep - Lonny Reed & Brianna Johnson	Rabbits - Cindy Boulds & Gayla Heath
Small Pets and Poultry - Matt Deal & Amy Richey	

Weigh in dates were set as follows:

Beef - February 6, 1 pm, Fairgrounds

Swine - April 10, 1 pm, Fairgrounds

Lambs and Meat Goats - April 24, 1 pm, Fairgrounds



The next 4-H Livestock Committee will be held on **Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 7 pm** at the Extension Office. We will be finalizing the livestock pages for the handbook and discussing the July Show schedule and judges.

Future meeting dates were set as follows: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 8 pm and Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 7 pm.



Beef Weigh In

The Saline County Beef Weigh-In will be held on **Saturday, February 6th at 1 pm** at the Fairgrounds. Beef exhibitors who want to participate in the Beef Rate of Gain Contest should plan to attend.

4-H members who plan to take a **market steer** to the Illinois State Fair are required to have the animal electronically tagged. Contact the Extension office if you will need an e-tag.

The plan discussed at the Livestock Committee Meeting is to schedule the weigh-in by appointment only to keep the numbers in the livestock building to 10 or less. If you have beef steers, please email Nancy at nlambert@illinois.edu with the number you plan to weigh-in. I will give you a time to arrive and ask that you remain in your vehicle until you are motioned into the building.

Should there be a change, I will let you know.

Management Committee

The Saline County 4-H Management Committee met on Monday, January 25th.

Those present voted to keep the slate of officers the same:

Chairman - James Bond

Vice-Chairman - Tim Arnold

Secretary - Eran Oglesby-Angleton

We thank them for being willing to serve the County 4-H program.

Items discussed at the meeting were last year's virtual 4-H shows and the possibility of going back to face-to-face shows and events (with a possible virtual option) for 2021.

The committee decided to table discussions of the 4-H Rally and International Night until the March meeting instead of cancelling those events now.

The committee heard reports from Federation and the Livestock Committee.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, March 22 at 7 pm.**

Future meetings are planned for Monday June 14 at 8 pm, Monday September 13 at 7 pm, and Monday January 24, 2022 at 7 pm.

**Thanks to all who entered our
"Do You Want to Build a Snowman?" contest.**



First Place - Senior - Sierra Wilson



Second Place - Senior - Drake Wilson



Third Place - Senior - Rachel Lands



First Place - Junior - Alan Pribble



Marie & Keith Lands -
Adult Division



Mary Wilson -
Adult Division

I have prizes for everyone. Please let me know when we can meet.
I appreciate all who entered.

FEDERATION

Saline County 4-H Federation met on Monday, January 25th.

The group discussed the possibility of applying for a Farm Credit Community Improvement Grant. Some ideas that members of the group are going to research are: donating to county cemeteries, making improvements such as cleaning or repairing headstones, or donating a bench; taking photos of county landmarks and scenery, framing them and donating them to area nursing home to bring memories to residents; purchasing books and donating them to area food pantries.

Valentines for Seniors

The group decided to participate in the “Valentines for Seniors” card drive. This program comes to us from Senator Dale Fowler. Clubs and individual members/families are asked to make Valentine cards to donate to area nursing homes and assisted living facilities.



If you want participate, please send an email to Nancy at nlambert@illinois.edu. **Please make arrangements to get your cards to me by Monday, February 8th.** You can put the cards in the white mailbox outside the Extension office. I will deliver them to the senator’s office by their deadline of February 10th.



The next Federation meeting is planned for Monday, February 22nd at 5:30 pm.



Public Presentations

The State Public Speaking Contest is scheduled for June 5 at Richland Community College in Decatur IL. Youth may exhibit in the State Public Speaking Contest AND exhibit a project in the General Project Show.

Our Saline County Public Presentations Contest is scheduled for Monday, April 12, at 6 pm at the Extension Office.

The contest will include speeches, food demonstrations, and other demonstrations, including flower arranging. Details about an in-person show vs. a virtual show will be coming soon.

Members who want to participate MUST be enrolled in their project (Public Presentations, a Foods project, a Floriculture project, etc.) by March 15. Call the Extension Office with details about your Speech or Demonstration by **March 29.**

Saline County Illinois 4-H Facebook Page



If you are on Facebook, look for our Saline County Illinois 4-H page and request to join the closed group. In addition to emailing out meeting notices, and general information, I post these on the Facebook page. I will keep the page updated with photos, meetings, events, and information to help you during the 4-H year.



Speaking for Illinois 4-H - 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 **Saturday, March 6.**

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 @: <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/speaking-illinois-4-h-training>.

Registration will close March 4.

Hey Cupcake Lovers...

Join in on the fun and register for this upcoming virtual Cupcake Decorating Workshop!

To register, go to:

[go.illinois.edu/
cupcakedecorating](https://go.illinois.edu/cupcakedecorating).

You can perfect your decorating skills and enroll in a Visual Arts Food/Cake Decorating project. There is a cupcake division in both the beginning and intermediate classes.



Cupcake Decorating Workshop

February 20, 2021 10:30 AM via Zoom

Register at:
go.illinois.edu/cupcakedecorating

For more information contact Kendra at klvaughn@illinois.edu



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A promotional graphic for the Cupcake Decorating Workshop. It features a purple background with a white text box containing the workshop title and details. To the left of the text box are three small images of decorated cupcakes. The text in the white box reads: "Cupcake Decorating Workshop", "Learn the basics of cupcake decorating", "Items you will need: Cupcakes - baked and cooled prior to workshop, Ingredients for icing - recipe will be sent upon registration, Icing bag, Icing tip - medium star", and "Detailed instructions will be emailed after registration."/>

Cupcake Decorating Workshop

Learn the basics of cupcake decorating

Items you will need:
Cupcakes - baked and cooled prior to workshop
Ingredients for icing - recipe will be sent upon registration
Icing bag
Icing tip - medium star

Detailed instructions will be emailed after registration.

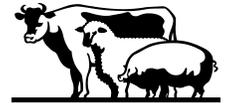
YQCA CERTIFICATION

Attention Beef Cattle, Swine, Dairy Cattle, Goat, and Sheep Exhibitors!

4-H members exhibiting animals entering the food production system will be required to complete the **Youth for the Quality Care of Animals** certification (YQCA). This statewide certification is the industry-standard and must be completed annually. **Youth MUST complete this training prior to the Saline County 4-H livestock shows.** This does not apply to youth exhibiting animal or veterinary science poster projects.

There is a possibility that we can hold face-to-face trainings in May, depending on Covid-19 safety guidelines for our region and county. Stay tuned. However, youth are encouraged to visit: <http://yqca.org> to certify or re-certify. The cost is \$12.

QAEC CERTIFICATION



Exhibitors of horses, poultry, rabbits, dogs, and cats will still be required to take the **Quality Assurance and Ethics** (QAEC) training. QAEC training is only required once in the member's career and is offered free of charge. Please visit: <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/qaec/> to take the training.

Regional Hippology & Horse Bowl Contests



The 2021 **Regional Hippology Contest** will be held virtually on March 13. The contest will consist of 10 stations and a 50 multiple choice question written exam.

Also being held on March 13 is the **Virtual Regional Horse Bowl Contest**. This year there will be a fill-in-the-blank and/or short answer written test. Participants will still compete in teams and a team score will be compiled from the three highest scoring team members.

Go to go.illinois.edu/2021Hippology for contest rules and information.

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR 4-H CLUBS

It is time to roll up your sleeves and make a positive impact in your community! Farm Credit Illinois is inviting 4-H Clubs to apply for a \$500 grant to assist club members in being positive change agents by making their local communities better places to live. Eligible clubs are those located in one of the counties served by Farm Credit Services Illinois in Extension Units in southern & central Illinois.



Access the application using the following link: www.farmcreditIL.com/community

FARM CREDIT ILLINOIS AGRICULTURE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 4-H MEMBERS

4-H members who are Illinois High School Seniors with agricultural career aspiration planning to enroll in an agriculture-based college curriculum next fall can apply for one of 30 \$2,000 scholarships. Two under-represented minority student applicants will be recognized as Diversity in Agriculture Scholars.

Access the application using the following link: www.farmcreditIL.com/scholarship

Applications for both the grant and the scholarship are due by March 12, 2021.

4-H VOLUNTEER TRAINING OPPORTUNITY!

During this period when 4-H members find themselves experiencing restrictions associated with gathering with friends and club members face-to-face, having the opportunity to be part of an engaging and fun, yes we said FUN virtual meeting might be the highlight of their week! Register now for this upcoming **Volunteer Training – Leading in a Virtual World!**

If you question whether you have the skills or tools you need to put together a virtual club experience, this webinar will help you become comfortable interacting in a virtual meeting format; and more importantly support you as you include every part of the club meeting virtually. You can conduct club business; engage members in group decision-making; create positive learning experiences; and give members an opportunity to laugh and have fun together! Be sure to encourage your 4-H members in leadership roles to participate as well.

Link to register for the **February 25, 2021** volunteer training opportunity

<https://illinois.zoom.us/j/83565174329?pwd=dDAvR2lxN3J3bmJqQVdmTy9raUZsZz09>

4-H VOLUNTEER CAFÉ CONVERSATIONS!

Register to participate in the **4-H Volunteer Café Conversations**. We are so excited to continue this new Illinois 4-H opportunity creating a platform for 4-H Volunteers from across Illinois to meet virtually and discuss topics of interest, share both ideas and challenges. Volunteers will gain access to tools & techniques to support their volunteer efforts, strengthening 4-H club and member learning experiences. We have two upcoming Café Conversation opportunities coming up in the next few months. We will address two topics during each Café Conversation so bring your ideas, questions, and since this is a Café Conversation, feel free to bring a snack!

4-H Volunteer Café Conversation - Thursday, February 18, 2021; 7 PM

TOPICS will include:

It's Cold Outside: Are Your 4-H Clubs Still Hot?

Let's Play!

Link to register for the **February 18, 2021** Volunteer Café Conversation:

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=22728>

4-H Volunteer Café Conversation - Thursday, May 20, 2021; 7 PM

TOPICS will include:

One for the Project, Two for the Show, Three to Get Ready...Go Clover Go!

Summer Fun!

Link to register for the **May 20, 2021** Volunteer Café Conversation:

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=22738>

Don't forget - all 4-H volunteers and members in leadership roles who participate in 75% (3 of the 4) Volunteer Café Conversations will receive their very own limited edition 4-H Volunteer Café Conversations Ceramic mug! We have had great participation so far and if you have already attended at least one session, you are on your way to receiving your Café Conversations mug!

4-H Calendar

February 2021

- 2 - Groundhog Day!
- 6 - Beef Weigh-in, 1 pm, Fairgrounds. Email Nancy to schedule your appointment time.
- 8 - Turn in your Valentines for Seniors by today!
- 14 - Happy Valentines Day!
- 15 - President's Day
- 18 - 4-H Volunteer Café Conversations, 7 pm
- 20 - Cupcake Decorating Contest, 10:30 am, Zoom
- 22 - Federation Meeting, 5:30 pm
- 25 - 4-H Volunteer Training - Leading in a Virtual World



March 2021

- 3 - Livestock Committee Meeting, 7 pm, Extension Office/Zoom
- 6 - Speaking for Illinois 4-H Virtual Training. Register by March 4.
- 13 - Regional Horse Bowl/Hippology Contest
- 14 - Daylight Savings Time Begins. Set clocks forward 1 hour.
- 17 - Happy St. Patrick's Day - Wear your 4-H Green!
- 22 - Management Committee Meeting, 7 pm, Extension Office/Zoom



April 2021

- 4 - Happy Easter!
- 10 - Swine Weigh-in, 1 pm, Fairgrounds
- 12 - Public Presentations Contest, 6 pm, Extension Office
- 24 - Lamb/Goat Weigh-in, 1 pm, Fairgrounds



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