



4-H NEWSLETTER

July & August 2023



University of Illinois Extension, Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit

Dear 4-H Families,

As we get closer to the fair, the office is filled with excitement! I am really looking forward to this fair to see what you all have created, or what you have been working on this year! I am excited about all of the events we are going to have! Not that you need this reminder, but make sure all your tags are attached, and that all of those last minute details get completed!

While you are enjoying the 4-H Fair, please remember to take a minute to thank all of our wonderful volunteers! The 4-H fair could not happen without each and every one of them! They put in a lot of time and effort to make sure you have the best experience you can! Don't forget to thank your leaders and your parents too! They care a lot about you and your projects!

As it gets closer, and things get more stressful (as they do), remind yourself that 4-H is supposed to be a fun learning experience!

After the fair is over, PLEASE remember to send a thank you note to our trophy sponsors! It is extremely important that they feel appreciated!

Have a great summer, and let's have fun at the Fair!

-Kristi

Pizza Party!

Join us to celebrate Cathy Ludolph on Thursday night, July 13! The Barnyard Games will start at 6 PM, and a Pizza Party will follow! Cathy is also our Hall of Fame Inductee, and we will be honoring her at this party!

Share the Fun

The Share the Fun Contest will be Thursday night at the 4-H Fair! If your club is planning on doing this competition, please let Kristi know!

Showbooks

If you are still in need of a showbook, please stop by the office! Please refer to the rules for your project. If you have questions about these rules, check out the showbook at: <https://extension.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/2023-05/peoria4hshowbook2023.pdf>

Later Release Time

Please note that the Release time for General Projects at the 4-H Fair is at 7:30 PM on Friday, July 14, or at the conclusion of the Auction, whichever one is sooner. We will NOT be releasing projects early!

Awards Season is Coming

Please be mindful of upcoming deadlines for county awards! I would like to have them all in by September 22! I will also need club Secretary and Treasurer books at that time. There will be more details in the next Newsletter. There will also be information about the Awards Celebration in the next Newsletter!

Copyright/Trademark Laws

Art using any form of protected graphics (including school logos and the 4-H emblem) cannot be used unless the 4-H member has accompanying documentation of permission to use the items. Visual Arts projects using items protected by copyright/trademark laws cannot be advanced to the State Fair. If you have any questions about using an item please call the Extension office at 685-3140.

Early Set-Up

Please come help us get ready for the fair! July 10, we will start setting up for the General project show at 9 AM, and for livestock at 4:30 PM. We would like to see you there! We will even feed you!

Spirit Display

Kristi will be mailing out the list for the Canned food drive for the Spirit display. Please let Kristi know if you will be participating in the Spirit Display so that we can get all displays judged. The points scale for the Canned food drive is: Cleaning Products +8 points; Healthy Options from the approved list +5 points; Everything else +3 points; Expired -1 point. The winning club of the canned food drive will receive an ice cream party sponsored by Federation!

Golden Pitchfork

If you would like to sign up for the Golden Pitchfork, please sign up here: <https://forms.gle/a5BmvBVwD9iso7DA9>



Illinois Extension

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Unit 4-H Staff

In our four-county Extension unit, a team works together to provide 4-H programming. Each county has an individual 4-H program plus we all work together on unit-wide events and program planning.

Krista Gray

4-H Program Coordinator, Fulton County

Rachel Van Cleve

4-H Program Coordinator, Fulton County

Joli Pierson

4-H Program Coordinator, Mason County

Kristi Smith

4-H Program Coordinator, Peoria County

Katharine Girone

4-H Program Coordinator, Tazewell County

Lynda Sharp-Lower

4-H Program Coordinator, Tazewell County

Emily Schoenfelder, 4-H Youth Educator

Judy Schmidt, Metro 4-H Youth Educator

Earl Allen, County Director

Deb Balagna, Fulton County Office Support

Paula Lane, Mason County Office Support

Angela Sassine, Peoria County Office Support

Julann Schierer, Tazewell County Office Support

4-H Events

July

1 – State Fair Livestock Entry Deadline
6 – Federation Meeting
9 – Peoria County Horse Show
10 – Set up day at Expo Gardens
12-14 – Peoria County 4-H Fair
19 – Peoria County Dairy Show
23-29 – State 4-H Horse Show

August

5 – Western Illinois Throwdown
9 – Superior Young Producer Award Contest
13 – Peoria County Day at the Illinois State Fair
19 – State Dairy Judging Contest
26 – State Fair Dog Show

September

TBA – New Family Kick Off
7 – Federation Kick-off Meeting
16 – Archery Start Date

October

TBA – Awards Celebration
2-8 – National 4-H Week
12 – Federation Meeting
16 – First Livestock Judging Practice of the Season

November

TBA – Leader and Officer's Training
2 – Federation Meeting

December

7 – Federation Meeting

January

4 - Federation Meeting

February 2024

1 - Federation Meeting
19 – Livestock Workshop Day and YQCA at Raber Packing Co.

Fair Tags

Your leaders should have your fair tags. Please pick them up! If you have any questions, please let me know!

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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Livestock Judging Team

The Peoria County 4-H Livestock Judging Team has had a fun year! They recently competed in the Illinois State 4-H Contest. The junior team brought home 9th place! Other contests that the team has competed in are: Illinois Beef Expo, Springfield; Dan Hoge Invitational, Kewanee; Lakeland Invitational, Mattoon; Geneseo Invitational, Kewanee; Western Illinois University Invitational, Macomb; Lincoln Land Invitational, Taylorville; Illinois Central College Invitational, Henry; Lakeland Reasons Camp, Mattoon. Senior Team Members include: Annemarie Litwiller, Brady Martin, Marie Theobald, and Reagan Walsh. Junior Team Members include: Lane Kocher, Ashlynn McFarland, Brinnley McFarland, Ty McFarland, and Rylie Walsh. The team would also like to congratulate Peoria County 4-H member and Henry-Stark Judging Team member Slone Windish on a successful State Contest! We would like to thank Reagan and Rylie for donating their sheep last year to fund our team, and would like to thank Jubilee Hills Vet and Derek McFarland for purchasing the sheep! If you would like to support the team for the 2024 judging season, we will be hosting a Bossy Bingo Fundraiser at the Heart of Illinois Fair. Squares cost \$30, please contact Kristi for more information. Please make checks out to the Peoria County Auction Committee.

Messy Games

I wanted to say a quick thank you to the Federation kids for being good sports about Messy Games! We had a lot of fun, and certainly did not leave clean! We also want to thank the Brimfield Fire Department for coming to rinse us off! It was a fun time, and I am looking forward to next year! If you want to see the fun we had, check out our pictures here: <https://uofi.box.com/s/7zdgmeok19wvqo9eco3zyl8oi3035caa>

Thank you!!!!

Thank you to those who stepped up to sponsor a trophy this year! We are covered for our trophies! Thank you for helping the kids have a great year!

Neighbor Kids Dairy SPIN Club

The Dairy SPIN Club is meeting on Saturdays at Linden Hill Farm! If you would like information about this club and how to get involved, please contact Fred Rosenbohm at 309-256-6819 or the office. You will be able to show Dairy cows without having to keep one at home!

Sheep SPIN Club

The Sheep SPIN Club is also having ongoing meetings! If you would like more information about this club, please contact Sarah Lueschow at 309-256-3115, or contact the office. You will want to be in this club next year if you want to show sheep, but don't want to keep them at your house!

Great Learning Garden SPIN Club

The Great Learning Garden SPIN Club is continuing to meet for work days at Wildlife Prairie Park on Tuesdays and Thursdays! Please join them and learn to have fun in the garden! Creative meetings are on the last Saturday of the month!

Archery SPIN Club

We have had a lot of fun this spring with Archery! So much fun that we are planning on adding a Fall Session that will start September 16! More details will be released as it gets closer.

Poultry Show

The Poultry Show will be live birds this year! The poultry show will start at 10 AM on July 13.

Master Showmanship

If you would like to participate in Master Showmanship, please let Kristi know.



Heart of Illinois Fair

If your project does not get selected for the State Fair, you are more than welcome to enter in the Heart of Illinois Fair! It is fun, and you can earn premiums for this fair as well! Please remember that not all of the 4-H projects are Fair projects, but a lot of them can be entered in both. The entry deadline for the Heart of Illinois Fair is July 1. Information can be found here: <https://heartofillinoisfair.com/pageserver/fair-book>

Pheasants Forever Events

We are super thankful for the Pheasants Forever! They have a lot of fun things happening! They have a Hunter's Safety Class coming up that will take place at St. Mary's Church in Princeville July 27-28. Parents are welcome as well. If you or your children are interested in participating in this class, you will want to call Mike Aldridge at 309-229-4090! They are also hosting a Family shoot September 23 and 24. Again, call Mike to reserve your spot!

Good luck at the State Fair!

Good luck to everyone who has the opportunity to compete at the State Fair! I am really proud of every one of you!

Questions for Judges?

If parents have questions they would like to discuss with a 4-H Judge, the question MUST go through an Extension staff member. Please do **not** approach a judge. They are volunteers too!

Tear Down Help Needed

We will need help tearing down after the Auction is over! Please stick around and help us load up what needs to go back to the office!



Fall Family Camp

Dates for Fall Family Camp are Sept. 8-10, 2023 and registration is open now! Find more info and registration materials at <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/4-h-memorial-camp/4-h-family-camp>



The State 4-H Office is looking for volunteer judges and project assistants who are eager to provide a great State Fair experience for our youth. Help in the air-conditioned Orr Building at the Illinois State Fairgrounds on any or all of the days: Aug 11-13. Apply online at <https://go.illinois.edu/>

[StateFairHelp](https://go.illinois.edu/). We hope to see you at the fair!

First Time at State Fair?

First time exhibiting your 4-H project at the State Fair? Get the scoop on what to bring, planning your stay in Springfield and more! Download a copy of our **First-Time Fairgoer Brochure** at <https://uofi.box.com/s/woy39jswx57okl2uc2a2iz1rmedix6jh> or en Español at <https://uofi.box.com/s/2vm0mik46c2um61gj02q3cgctk54rjwc>.

The State Fair Twilight Parade

4-H members 12 & up are invited to help represent Illinois 4-H at the Illinois State Fair Twilight Parade! Please sign up by August 8: <https://4h.zsuite.org/event-registrations/22067>
Time: August 10, 5:00pm meetup time
Meeting Spot: North Circle at Lincoln Park- 1601 North 5th Street
Attire: 4-H shirt and comfortable walking shoes
Age: 4-H members 12 and up
Parade Route: Staging for the Twilight Parade is in the north circle at Lincoln Park. It proceeds through the park, down Sangamon Avenue and enters Fairgrounds at the Main Gate. It follows Main Street and then turns right on Illinois Ave. and disperses after the SFPLD fire station. Kick-off is at 5:30pm and the last unit of the parade is normally completed around 7:15pm.



The "4-H Can Make a Difference" Can/Non-Perishable Food Drive is back at the Illinois State Fair this year! We will be collecting food to see which county brings in the most (by weight). The top three counties in the state will receive a prize! We will be located inside the Orr building on the south side by the Illinois 4-H Youth Leadership Booth. We cannot wait to see the huge amount of items that counties bring in!



Represent Illinois at the National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, Georgia! This five-day national conference is an opportunity for youth from across

the country to develop their leadership skills. Members have the opportunity to go to trainings, listen to nationally recognized speakers, participate in community service projects and network with 4-H members from across the United States. The next 4-H Congress will be held November 24-28, 2023 and costs \$2000 with partial scholarships available. Complete the National Congress Application at <https://4h.zsuite.org/event-registrations/21512> in Zsuite by August 1, 2023.



4-H State Shoots in rifle, pistol, archery, and shotgun are intended to provide an opportunity for 4-H members to compete with those with like interests from throughout Illinois and registration opens July 15th!

Illinois 4-H State Archery Shoot – Sat, Sept. 16, 2023 at Pekin Archers, Pekin, IL. Fee: \$20

Illinois Ducks Unlimited 4-H State Shotgun Shoot – Sat, Sept. 23, 2023 at Brittany Shooting Park, Bunker Hill, IL. Fee: \$20 *Sponsored by Illinois Ducks Unlimited*

Illinois 4-H State Rifle Shoot – Sat, Oct. 7, 2023 at Central Illinois Precision Shooters, Bloomington, IL. Fee: \$20

Learn more at <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/state-events/state-shoots>.

4-H Outdoor Skills Challenge



Ready to challenge yourself and then prove it to your 4-H Leader or another trusted adult? You could teach them a thing or two! Learn these skill levels and compete for some great prizes that will help you enjoy the outdoors! Five winners will be drawn on July 15, 2023 for a very high quality 4-H

Everyday Sportsman's Multi-Tool (\$50 value) that will last a lifetime!

<https://go.illinois.edu/4-HOutdoorSkillsChallenge>



Do you want to learn more about livestock, but don't want to own your own cow? Join the Dairy Special Interest (SPIN) Club! The Dairy SPIN Club will start meeting on June 17 at Linden Hills Dairy Farm (8412 W Middle Rd, Peoria, IL 61607). They will meet twice a day on Saturdays: June 17, June 24, and July 1. They will have morning and afternoon sessions. Members are encouraged to bring their lunches. All 4-H members are welcome! For more details, contact Fred Rosenbohm at 309-256-6819.

State Fair Mobile App

Headed to the Orr Building in August? The State Fair Illinois 4-H General Project Show has gone mobile! View the schedule, maps, exhibitor info, and more. Find us in the iOS and Google Play App Stores or visit https://grandstandsites.com/gc=Illinois_4-H.



STEM Academy is an exciting opportunity that will allow young people to build their own voice assistant, explore Chat GPT, and learn about AI. Youth will get hands-on experience with machine learning, natural language processing, and robotics, all while creating their project. This year's STEM Academy will also educate students about ethics in using artificial intelligence. Youth will hear from leaders in the field of machine learning, as well as others who navigate the use of ChatGPT and other voice assistants. Cost is \$25. Location: Goodwill Commons, 2319 E War Memorial Dr, Peoria, IL 61614. Register by July 3 at go.illinois.edu/STEMacademy.

Raising Funds for Federation

Did you know that all of the funding for the Fulton, Mason, Peoria, and Tazewell Federations is raised by the 4-H Food Stand at the Fulton County Fair? This year we'd love all our Federation members to join in the fun, help raise funds for our groups, and take time to give back!

Join us on Saturday, July 29 in the 4-H Food Stand at the Fulton County Fairgrounds (1377 S Main St, Lewistown, IL 61542). We'll work together to serve meals during one of the busiest days of the fair. You'll get a free meal during your shift, and you can choose what shift you want to work: 11am-3pm or 3-7pm. Plus, you can earn community service hours! Bring your family to help in the food stand – or let them enjoy the rides, exhibits, shows, and food!

If you can join us, contact Rachel (Fulton County 4-H Coordinator) at 309-547-3711 or rfv@illinois.edu by July 10. Be sure to let her know your address so we can mail you a fair pass. Learn more about the Fulton County Fair at <https://fultonfair.com/>. We're excited to see you there!



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See you at the...

4-H

SHOW!

4-H Show & Fair Dates

FULTON
County Fair - 7/24-29

MASON
July 26-30

PEORIA
July 12-14

TAZEWELL
July 31-Aug 2