



April 2020

# Peoria Clover News

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

## Dear 4-H Families,

Happy Spring! As we all work through these challenging times I hope you take some time to get out and enjoy this beautiful spring weather.

What a difference a month can make, not just with the weather but in our lives too. I hope you all are adapting well to our new way of life with e-learning, working remotely and social distancing, etc. Just remember, we are all in this together and we will get through it. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to show our 4-H spirit and try something new.

I encourage you to stay connected. You may not be able to meet face to face for a monthly meeting but you can still meet virtually using Zoom, Skype or Google Hangouts. This also a great opportunity for club officers or older 4-H members to utilize your leadership and tech skills to assist your leader in setting up a meeting using a social media platform.

Now is the time to go to 4-H Online and make sure you are enrolled in the projects you want to be enrolled in. If you haven't re-enrolled yet please do so as soon as possible. Stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Cathy Ludolph  
Extension Program Coordinator  
4-H Youth Development

**Invite a friend to join 4-H**

## Illinois 4-H Message from 4-H Director

We know there are a lot of questions right now about 4-H activities scheduled for the summer. As we wait for updated guidance and report on the Illinois situation, we are exploring options for multiple scenarios. We are committed to your safety and to use of creative solutions to provide continued 4-H experiences.

### 4-H Spirit

We invite you to show your 4-H spirit using social media. More details soon!

**One thing we can count on during uncertain times is our 4-H values.**

Now, more than ever, Illinois youth need their 4-H family. Together, youth and adults can use this time to demonstrate values like independence, belonging, generosity and mastery. The lessons Illinois youth learn today will shape them as leaders for a lifetime. While using our virtual platforms, we can work together to model perseverance throughout Illinois communities and beyond.

**Inspired To Do At Home:** (Be sure to check out Lisa's blog listed below and click on the Inspired To Do At Home link for a lot of fun activities) There are lots of ways to stay connected and continue working on your 4-H projects at home.

- Connect with your 4-H club via monthly virtual meetings using free tools such as [Zoom](#) or Google Hangouts
- Learn more about STEM on our [Illinois 4-H STEM YouTube](#) channel
- Look for challenges and activities on our [Illinois 4-H Facebook](#) page

See new blog post from IL 4-H Director at <https://extension.illinois.edu/blogs/our-illinois-4-h-story/2020-03-30-message-illinois-4-h>

Posted by Lisa Bouillion Diaz, March 30, 2020

# Local 4-H EVENTS

## APRIL

- 9 Livestock Superintendent & Auction Comm. Meeting, 7 pm via Zoom
- 14 Federation meeting via Zoom - information will be sent to members
- 28 **Cancelled (face to face training)** - YQCA Training for youth showing Beef, Dairy, Sheep, Swine & Goat, 6 pm at Kickapoo Township Hall

## MAY

- 12 Federation meeting via Zoom - information will be sent to members

**The following dates may be subject to change pending updated COVID-19 information**

## JUNE

- 9 Federation Meeting - Kickapoo Township Hall, 6 - 7:30 pm
- 15 Shooting Sports Comm. Meeting, 5:30 pm at Peoria Extension office
- 16 Pottery Workshop - Peoria Extension office from 6 - 8 pm
- 23 Public Presentation Contest - Peoria Extension office, 6:00 pm

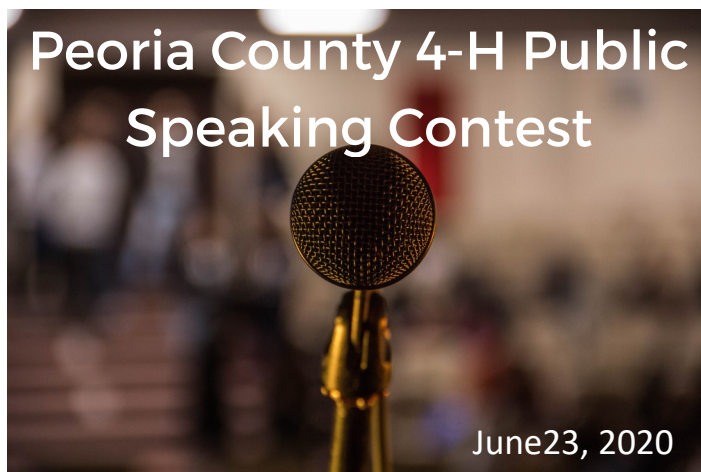
## JULY

- 7 Sewing & Textile Judging @ Lillie M. Evans Library in Princeville
- 8 Pottery Workshop (2nd date) - Peoria Extension office from 6 - 8 pm
- 14 Federation Meeting - Kickapoo Township Hall, 6 - 7:30 pm
- 18 4-H Horse Show @ Heart of IL Horse Arena / Galena Rd.
- 29, 30 & 31 - 4-H Show at Exposition Gardens for general projects & livestock shows

## AUGUST

- 14 Peoria County day at IL State Fair

## Peoria County 4-H Public Speaking Contest



### The Spotlight Is On You!

**Tuesday, June 23, 6:00 pm**

The Peoria County Public Speaking Contest has been rescheduled to **Tuesday, June 23, 6:00 pm** at the Peoria Extension office. Please note this date may be subject to change pending updated COVID19 information.

Participation in this contest does not affect a member's opportunity to also participate in another project area at the Illinois State Fair.

New in 2020 - The State Public Speaking Contest will be held at the same time as the state fair. Youth can compete in a speech and also bring a project to the General Project Show. Youth must be selected in their county contest to advance and will speak the same day as their county exhibit day. Peoria County's general project exhibit day is Friday, August 14 at the state fair.



### Pottery Workshop

**Tuesday, June 16 &  
Tuesday, July 7**

**6 - 8 pm / Peoria Extension office**

In this fun "Hands On" 2 - day workshop you will have the opportunity to create your own unique work of art. On the first date you will design & form your Masterpiece and on the 2nd date you will under glaze your creation. You can also display your completed project as a Visual Arts clay exhibit at the 4-H Fair.

**Cost:** \$20 per participant - includes all materials

Watch next months newsletter for registration information.

# 4-H Club News



## Club Reporters

We love to hear what your club and its member are doing even during this challenging time. Please let us know how your club is adapting and if you are having virtual meetings. If not, that is ok, let us know if you have any members that are doing something creative, out of the ordinary or extra to help others. Submit your club meeting or other information to Cathy at [ludolph@illinois.edu](mailto:ludolph@illinois.edu) so we can highlight your club or members activities in the monthly newsletter.

### WELCOME NEW 4-H MEMBERS

#### Independent

Conner Heins  
Ryleigh Heins

#### Jubilee Patriots

Gavin Hale

## Dog Obedience SPIN Cub

### You and your best friend

In this fun and exciting *Special Interest* group you will gain knowledge on the fundamentals of dog obedience, showmanship and grooming & caring for your dog with hands-on experience. You will also become skilled at recognizing the important relationship between you the handler and your dog. When attending the first meeting please bring proof of shots for your dog, a flat buckle collar, a water dish, treats for your dog and a good sense of humor. Open to all youth age 8-18.

This group will meet weekly at the Peoria Obedience Training Center, 4115 Main St. in Pottstown. Starting date to be announced pending updated covid-19 information. Watch next months newsletter for more information.

## Invite a friend to join 4-H

## Great Learning Garden 4-H SPIN Club

@ Wildlife Prairie Park  
Update April 2020



These are challenging times for us all, but our plans for the 2020 season continue in spirit, if not in deed. We enjoyed two meetings already in 2020, one in January, and one in February. In January we studied our moon and how the phases of the moon help gardeners. We learned which vegetables should be planted under the waxing or the waning of the moon. Our 4-H youth did some scientific experiments, and learned many fascinating things about our moon, and how important a role the moon has in our daily lives. We also created a large wooden moon in both the full stage, and a crescent phase, both of those will be displayed in our garden this summer. We created some rock meteor buddies to take home, which was fun. Then in February we studied the sun, our own personal star. We painted a giant sun, which turned out wonderful. The sun's rays create the energy in the plants in our garden. That large wooden sun displayed on our garden fence is going to remind us of how important the sun is in the growth of most of our plants, in our garden and everywhere.

We also studied the abilities of that amazing, but pesky creature the wild racoon. Our 4-H members created their own racoon bookmarks out of felt to take home at that meeting. Both meetings, as always, were full of laughs and good times along with our lessons. We have a truly dedicated group of 4-H youth members in our SPIN club, and our adult volunteers offer both their training and experience combined with their enthusiastic support of our youth members. Everyone is just as eager to pick up a hoe or pull some weeds, as they are to pick up a paint brush or enjoy the butterflies visiting our flowers.

So, for 2020 we still are planning, still are going forward with the amazing work that has been accomplished, and also being as confident as possible about the future. A new garden scale waits to be put into service, donated straw bales are standing ready to become garden bed material, and more art projects are on the way to compliment every corner of our garden. Meanwhile we plan to use online meetings for gardening lessons, and socializing in a safe manner. Our garden plans are all drawn out, our seeds are waiting for the right time to be placed in the soil, and our 4-H youth and adult volunteers are ready for the proper time to once again grow together in our abilities, our creativity, and in our friendships. When we are able to start meeting again we invite you to join us. Submitted by May Bach, U of I Extension Master Gardener and 4-H Garden club leader

# IMPORTANT! READ THIS for Animal projects

## For youth enrolled in Beef, Sheep, Swine, Goat and Dairy Cattle (Showing live animals):

New statewide requirement is that members in these projects must complete YQCA – Youth for the Quality Care of Animals.

Must be done **EVERY YEAR (starting in 2020)** they are in the project. There are two options:

1. Youth may attend one in-person training offered by the Extension Office. The training is one hour long. **Pre-registration online is required.** \$3 per youth paid online ahead of time is required. If you are unable to pay online, ask the Extension Office for assistance. Adults may attend with their kids, but do not register. Adults may not be certified in this by attending, just youth. **At this time a date for a June Peoria County face to face training has not been set. Watch future newsletters for more information.**

2. Youth may take training online individually at <http://yqca.org>. Cost for this is \$12 per youth.

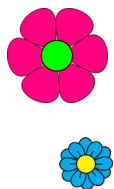
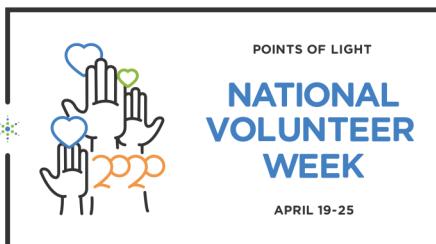
**Why?** This program is being adopted as it is the nationally recognized, sanctioned, and accepted certification program for all national shows, and is a great education piece that supports 4-H market animal projects. It is the only quality assurance program accepted by packers that can replace PQA and BQA. It is felt that this is an important educational component to the 4-H projects involved.

## An important update about State 4-H overnight programs

Camping is a valued part of the Illinois 4-H experience for thousands of kids every summer. Each year, we invest a great deal of effort in creating a camp experience that provides a fun, safe space for kids to learn and grow. With public health and safety as a pressing concern around the world right now, we have had to make some tough decisions in order to prioritize community health.

University of Illinois Extension has made the decision to cancel all summer camps sponsored or hosted by the university through July 31. This decision applies to all overnight camps organized by Illinois 4-H such as: Memorial 4-H Camp in Monticello, the Illini Summer Academies and Citizenship Washington Focus

We're working to provide suggestions for alternate activities for campers and their families to safely participate in this summer. We look forward to planning a celebratory return to camping in summer 2021!



Thank you to all our wonderful 4-H Volunteers!  
We couldn't do it without you.



## For youth enrolled in Horses, Rabbits, Poultry, Dogs and Cats (Showing live animals)

The Quality Assurance and Ethics (QAE) training is still required for youth in horses, rabbits, poultry, dogs and cats. You only need to take it once in your lifetime. If you have already taken this for one of the above animals, then you are covered. Those who don't complete the training will be removed from the project, and will not be eligible to exhibit at county shows. The website is open year round @ <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/qaec/>.

NOTE: Youth must use a computer for this program; not a tablet or smartphone. **Youth in multiple species will be required to take both trainings when appropriate.** Examples: Dairy Cattle and Poultry means you would take YQCA for Dairy and QAE (if you've never taken it) for Poultry. Horses and Poultry means you only take QAE for both species.

NOTE: For any animal science display or poster projects - If a 4-H member is showing a poster or other display (not a live animal) at the 4-H General Show, they now do NOT have to do any type of ethics training. They can do it if they want to but are not required to. It is still a good learning experience.



## NEW: Illinois 4-H Virtual Fishing Fun-Fest

4-H members currently enrolled in Fishing 1, 2, or 3 are eligible to win big this spring! Between April 17 – May 15 these 4-H members can enter a statewide fishing contest (Fun-Fest) via smartphone. New spinning rod and reel combos will be given away weekly to the longest largemouth bass and channel catfish entered. The simple contest details can be found on the Illinois 4-H Events Page and Illinois 4-H Facebook page. Contact Curt Sinclair at [sinclair@illinois.edu](mailto:sinclair@illinois.edu) with questions. Stay safe and enjoy the sunshine on the lake!

## New Statewide Leadership Opportunity: Illinois 4-H Food Advocacy Team

The Illinois 4-H State Office is pleased to announce the launch of a new statewide leadership opportunity for Illinois youth seeking to improve food security and food access in their community. The Illinois 4-H Food Advocacy team is a group of teens and young adults from across the state of Illinois who are recognized for their dynamic leadership and who want to increase their impact on the future of food in Illinois. Team members will influence the annual Illinois 4-H Food Action Summit event and provide support for Food Systems programming in Illinois. You will also be eligible for state and nationwide opportunities.

If you're looking for a way to serve your community while strengthening your leadership, communication and advocacy skills, this is the next step for you. Applications, along with one professional reference, are due to the Illinois State 4-H Office by Saturday, May 2nd, 2020. For more information please contact Mark Becker ([mbbecker@illinois.edu](mailto:mbbecker@illinois.edu)), Illinois 4H Food Systems Specialist.

**Application Link:** <https://go.illinois.edu/Illinois4-HFoodAdvocacyTeamApplication>

**Professional Reference Link:** <https://go.illinois.edu/Illinois4-HFoodAdvocacyTeamReference>

## NEW: 4-H State Scholarship Opportunities

The Illinois 4-H Awards program will be expanding for the 2019-2020 program year! We will be offering five \$1,000 scholarships in each of our program areas. More information, applications and training video will be released prior to May 1<sup>st</sup>. The applications will be due November 1<sup>st</sup>. We thank our generous donors and the Illinois 4-H Foundation for providing this opportunity for our members!

## State Robotics Challenge

**Date: TBD**  
**Virtual Competition**

The state's robotics clubs are encouraged to continue working on their robots until we determine the new date and logistics of a potential online virtual competition. Details including date, format, and registration are expected to be finalized and announced the week of April 6.

For up to date information, please visit our Facebook Group at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/il4hrobotics>  
Download the challenge at [go.illinois.edu/2020CHALLENGE](https://go.illinois.edu/2020CHALLENGE).  
Watch the video at [youtu.be/IEAvIUSEGS8](https://youtu.be/IEAvIUSEGS8).

## Foundation Hall of Fame ceremony set

The Illinois 4-H Foundation will honor one volunteer leader from each county at a ceremony during the Illinois State Fair. The celebration begins at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 18 as part of Ag Day at the fair right before the Sale of Champions activities begin. Supporters and families of the recipients are welcome to attend.





## Be a true leader in service

April 25 | Nationwide

Join 4-H members and clubs across Illinois and the nation on **Saturday, April 25** as part of *True Leaders in Service!* 4-H clubs serve their communities all year long however the month of April has been selected as a time for ALL 4-H clubs to join together to roll up their sleeves in service to local communities. In the current COVID-19 situation, it is important that we all follow CDC and safety guidelines, but there are still ways to serve safely and practice social distancing – write and mail cards to those who are socially isolated, organize a group online to teach and share something from your 4-H project, sew PPE masks to donate locally. If you have ideas for a statewide, COVID-safe service project, this is a great opportunity to plan and promote something for others to participate in. Send your ideas to [Illinois4H@illinois.edu](mailto:Illinois4H@illinois.edu).

Make your plans now on how you'll help others. Find resources @ [go.illinois.edu/4Hdayofservice](http://go.illinois.edu/4Hdayofservice). Later in 2020, you can register your projects there! The goal of the 4-H True Leaders in Service day is to encourage 4-H members in every county to make a positive difference. Service projects can be done by individuals, by 4-H clubs, or as a countywide service project. No matter what the project is, this will be a day to make a difference.

### \$50 Prize for the top 4-H Food Science Project

One award of \$50 will be given to the top Food Science Project exhibited at the 4-H Fair in each county. This award is sponsored by the Chicagoland Food Science Foundation to encourage and support future Food Industry Professionals! Learn more about the food you eat by trying some really cool experiments.

It's not too late! Peoria County 4-H members can still sign up for the 4-H Food Science Project.

For Food Science inspiration and to learn more visit the 4-H website:

<https://4-h.org/parents/curriculum/food-science/>

For more information about the Chicagoland Food Science Foundation visit the CFSF website:

<https://chicagofoodscience.org/>

## Help Support our Emergency / Medical Personnel Service Learning Project

“Pledging Your Hands to Larger Service”

Awesome job to all of you that have been busy making mask for our medical and emergency personnel. I have been hearing stories of you making mask and donating to your local fire departments and nursing homes. Keep up the good work! If you haven't had the opportunity to help yet but would like to, following is a request I received from OSF Hospital:

*Calling all DIYers:* We are now accepting homemade masks to help protect our Mission Partners who provide support services – that includes housekeeping, concierge, and others who do not provide direct patient care. If you or someone you know is interested in putting their sewing abilities to good use, we would greatly appreciate your donation.

They don't have to be stylish – just functional. Non-matching fabrics, thread, elastics are fine. It just needs to be a well sewn mask – with no frayed edges or missed seams. Please use 100% cotton fabric.

Joann's website has patterns and tutorials for mask at: <https://www.joann.com/make-to-give-response/>

or OSF has also provided a mask pattern at: [https://www.osfhealthcare.org/media/filer\\_public/b3/73/b3735f21-d063-4a0c-81fb-13f670f1e233/how\\_to\\_make\\_masks.pdf](https://www.osfhealthcare.org/media/filer_public/b3/73/b3735f21-d063-4a0c-81fb-13f670f1e233/how_to_make_masks.pdf)

Mask may be dropped off at:

- The Fire House next door to the Kickapoo Township Hall on **Saturday, April 11 between 9 am and 2 pm.** These mask will be donated to OSF.
- Mask can also be dropped at the OSF site: 5901 West War Memorial Drive, Peoria, IL 61615

To help us track the impact of our service learning project please let us know how many mask you made, where you donated them and if possible send a picture of your mask. Send information to [ludolph@illinois.edu](mailto:ludolph@illinois.edu).

## You be the judge at Illinois 4-H State Livestock Judging Contest

June 15 | 9 AM – 4 PM

Stock Pavilion | University of Illinois, Urbana

**\*\*Registration for this event is postponed and will be rescheduled pending updated COVID-19 information\*\***

The Illinois 4-H Livestock Judging Contest will be held Monday, June 15 at the Stock Pavilion in Urbana (1402 West Pennsylvania Ave.) beginning with registration at 8:30 a.m. All participants must be checked in by 9:30. The contest will begin at 10. Each county may enter a total of three teams, with no more than two junior teams or two senior teams. Get all the rules and details online @ [go.illinois.edu/4Hlivestock](http://go.illinois.edu/4Hlivestock). There will be three classes of beef, three classes of swine and two classes of sheep. There may also be a class of meat goats substituted for one class of the other species. There will also be a class of 15 questions (5 from a beef class, 5 from a swine class and 5 from a sheep class). Cost for each senior competitor is \$10 to cover the cost of lunch. Juniors will be dismissed by lunch to get their own meals.

## 4-H Poultry judging returns to state fair

August 17 | 4-6 PM

Jr. Livestock Barns | Illinois State Fair

The Illinois 4-H State Poultry Judging Contest will be held from 4 to 6 PM Aug. 17 in the junior livestock barns on the State Fairgrounds in Springfield. There is no limit to the number of exhibitors each county may send. Teams of three or four contestants may be submitted. The four top seniors (age 14-18 on Jan. 1, 2020) will compete as the Illinois team at the National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference in November. Registration begins at 3:30. Check out the state 4-H website on the Events page for all the details.

## State Fair Premium Books

The 2020 Illinois State Fair Premium/Rule Book is now posted. It is posted as Draft and will stay that way as minor changes may be added by Dept. of AG. You can view it by going to the Illinois State Fair website <https://www2.illinois.gov/statefair/Pages/default.aspx> Then click on the competitions tab, scroll down to Entry info/Premium Book, then scroll down to 2020 Livestock Premium Book.

## Shooting Sports volunteers needed



Many young people don't have someone to show them how to safely handle a firearm or bow. Think back to the person who taught you to shoot. The Illinois 4-H program needs adults willing to serve as mentors and share their passion of shooting sports. You can choose your discipline of interest: Shotgun, Rifle, Archery, Pistol, and Hunting & Wildlife. To volunteer here's what you need to do:

1. Contact the Peoria Extension office at 685-3140 and complete the required forms and background checks. The Extension office will complete your registration.
2. Complete a 3-hour online training module at home.
3. Attend a 9-hour hands-on field day which runs from 9 AM to 7 PM. Check with the Extension office for assistance with the \$85 training fee. Training dates for 2020 are:
  - \* **Western Illinois: Saturday, June 13** at Gardner Camp, Hull. Register by June 3.
  - \* **Northern Illinois: Saturday, Sept. 12** at Torstenson Youth Education Center, Pecatonica. Register by September 2.

To find out more about the Peoria County 4-H Shooting Sports Program please join us at our next Shooting Sports Planning meeting on **Monday, June 15, 5:30 pm** at the Peoria Extension office.

## Attention Horse Project Members

Exhibitors must have on file in the Extension office by May 1 copies of ownership and/or lease papers for all animals the member plans to exhibit at the county 4-H horse show and state fair junior horse show. In addition, two sets of photos (one set to consist of one photo of each side of the animal) must be on file too.



University of Illinois Extension  
Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit  
Peoria Branch Office

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Lewistown, IL 61542  
Permit No. 35

# Peoria County 4-H Newsletter



**COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**

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