



**Illinois Extension**

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



# Fulton County 4-H Newsletter

November/December 2021

Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit

## Dear 4-H Families:

This is the time of year when 4-H clubs are meeting monthly, members are selecting projects, and events are being planned for the coming months. It is also a time to think of all the things we are thankful for.

*Yes, even this year.*

Is your club planning a community service activity, with the holidays coming up? If not, try to think of one to suggest at your next meeting. It might have to be a different kind of community service this year — use your imagination!

Thanks to all of our 4-H leaders, other volunteers, and members in the Fulton County 4-H Program. We welcome many new 4-H families to our program this time of year. **This newsletter** is one of our ways of communicating with every 4-H family in Fulton County. Please read it, and make note of dates that apply to your family. As always, call us at 547-3711 if we can help you in any way to get more out of 4-H.

Share your time, talents, and resources, and continue to “make the best better” in 4-H. Have an enjoyable holiday season with those you care about most.

*Krista*

Krista Gray  
Fulton 4-H Program Coordinator

*Your questions and calls are very important to me. I can be reached via*

*Office phone 309-547-3711,*

*Email [kristakg@illinois.edu](mailto:kristakg@illinois.edu), and*

*Skype phone 217-300-6714*

*during regular business hours.*

*If you reach out to me using other communication tools, I will respond during my normal work hours.*

## 4-H Achievement Open House

Sunday, November 14, at 2 p.m.

outside at the Extension office

Bring a lawn chair.

Families with 4-H members receiving awards will receive a letter in the mail soon.

Federation members will also be recognized.

Please stop by if you can!



**Thank you to all the clubs who helped to promote Fulton County 4-H Week!**

**THANK YOU** to the Fulton County 4-H Clubs that prepared window displays during Fulton County 4-H Week, October 18-22, and to the other clubs that promoted 4-H.

The winning display was prepared by the Avondale 4-H Club. Honorable mention went to the Busy Bees 4-H Club, Farmington Lucky Clovers 4-H Club, and Jolly Workers 4-H Club.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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*Welcome to all of our new 4-H members and their families!!!!*

## 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

### **Deb Balagna**

Office Support, Fulton County

### **Joli Pierson**

4-H Program Coordinator, Mason County

(open position)

4-H Program Coordinator, Peoria County

### **Katharine Girone**

4-H Program Coordinator, Tazewell County

**Emily Schoenfelder**, 4-H Youth Educator

**Judy Schmidt**, Metro 4-H Youth Educator

**Earl Allen**, County Director

## Extension Office Hours

Monday—Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (closed 12-1)

## Office Phone

309-547-3711

We have voice mail available when the office is closed or staff are not able to answer the phone.

## Office Location

15411 N IL 100 Highway  
Lewistown, IL 61542-9468

Our office is located in the lower level of the Farm Bureau Building, on the north edge of Lewistown.

## Entryway Drop Box

The entryway at the Farm Bureau building is always open. There is a special U of I Extension drop box that can be used to drop off or pick up 4-H items.

## Reasonable Accommodation

If you are a person who needs a reasonable accommodation to participate in any of the listed programs or events, contact Krista Gray or the local Extension office.

## Newsletter Delivery Option

By default 4-H families will receive a hard copy of the 4-H newsletter every other month, PLUS a link to the PDF version that is posted on our website.

If you would prefer to receive your 4-H newsletter by **email only**, and not on paper, please send an email to [kristakg@illinois.edu](mailto:kristakg@illinois.edu) with that request.

## 4-H CALENDAR

### November

21—4-H Federation Meeting, 2 p.m., at Farmington Fire Station

25-26—Extension Office closed for Thanksgiving holiday

### December

1—4-H States' Exchange Travel Abroad app due

24- Jan. 4—Extension Office closed for Christmas and New Year's holidays

Horse committee meeting, date to be announced

### January

4—Extension Office reopens after the holidays

4—Enrollment deadline for most livestock projects - see article!

17—Extension office closed for Martin Luther King Day

### February

Steer Tattooing date to be announced (late Jan or Feb)

### April

30—State Public Speaking Contest

Spring Shooting Sports session begins, date TBA

### May

1—All other projects Enrollment Deadline



Image by [Gerd Altmann](#) from [Pixabay](#)

## Say Thanks!

If you receive an award at the 4-H Achievement Open House, **please remember to write and send your thank you note** to the sponsor, using the addressed thank you note provided with the award. It is important that these people know you appreciate their support of 4-H.

***Parents*** — *Thanks for your help making sure this gets done.*



Photo credit - Michelle Daly

## Fulton County 4-H Shooting Sports Holds Successful Fall Session

Fulton County 4-H Shooting Sports teaches young people safety and respect around firearms, as well as accuracy in shooting. Camaraderie is also a great part of 4-H Shooting Sports, as the 4-H members meet new friends from around the county. This fall we had 22 youth participate in four disciplines at our three locations.

Fulton County Shooting Sports also participated in the State Shotgun Shoot on September 25. Six Fulton County 4-H Shooting Sports team members competed and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> as a county team with a score of 266 out of 300 possible hits. Two of the team members placed in the top 10 individual scores. Carson Stuckel placed 6<sup>th</sup> with a score of 91, and Jacob Yaste placed 7<sup>th</sup> with a score of 90.

Dates for the spring session will be announced in a future 4-H Newsletter and will start in April. Thank you very much to our certified instructors and our hosts.

## Federation News

The next 4-H Federation meeting will be held at the Farmington Fire Station on **Nov. 21, 2 p.m.** Those who have attended this year will receive a reminder email, but all are invited to attend.

Our service project this month is to collect canned food and bring the non-perishable food items to that will be delivered to the Farmington Food Pantry.

Federation also began making plans for this year's activities, with more discussion at this meeting.

**4-H Federation membership is open to any 4-H member in the eighth grade and over.** Those age 12 and over are welcome to attend meetings. Federation members plan countywide recreational, educational, and community service activities for 4-H members.



## Connection Corner Blog

[extension.illinois.edu/blogs/connection-corner](https://extension.illinois.edu/blogs/connection-corner)

Local 4-H educators Judy Schmidt and Emily Schoenfelder write a weekly blog that provides us with timely information, activities, and resources that help us stay connected to loved ones, the world around us, and ourselves.

Recent posts include:

- [Conversation starters to learn more about your friends and family](#)
- [3 things to teach your kids about digital citizenship](#)
- [It's fall y'all—Time to create a fall family fun list](#)
- [Youth Mental Health First Aid can help you reach out to youth in crisis](#)

## Facebook Pages

If you would like to join the Fulton County 4-H Facebook group, type Fulton County 4-H in the search area at the top, and once you see the group, click on “ask to join.” It’s a great way to get current information about opportunities in 4-H.

Other Facebook pages you may be interested in:

- University of Illinois Extension Fulton Mason Peoria Tazewell
- Peoria 4-H
- Tazewell 4-H
- ILRiverHort
- Illinois 4H

## Promote Your Club Through the Newspapers and Social Media

### Local newspapers

Each club is encouraged to share information about your club in the local newspapers. This task can be part of the reporters responsibilities OR given to an older 4-H club member.

Ideas for possible story leads are:

- Upcoming meeting details with invitation
- News about what club members did at last meeting
- Announcement of club officers
- Club member highlight (new members, graduating members, members who just gave their talk/demonstration, etc.)

Photos with captions. are a great way to draw attention to your story.

Newspaper contacts are available from the Extension office.

### Social Media

If your club has a social media account that is open to the public, this is another great way to promote your club, invite new members to join, and share the impact of your club work.

If you club does not have a social media account, feel free to use photos of yourself and/or siblings, and promote your club happenings on your personal social media accounts.

### Personal Invitations

The best way to get new members is by personal invitation by the current members and leaders.



## Connect with Illinois 4-H On Social Media

We’d love to connect with you on social media! If your club has a picture or story you’d like to feature on the State 4-H social media pages, send it our way! Tags do not work reliably in Facebook, but feel free to connect on Facebook Messenger with a post to share or email the picture and your club name, county, and a line or two on what’s happening in the photo to [carissa7@illinois.edu](mailto:carissa7@illinois.edu).

What makes a great picture that’s easy to share?

- Good lighting (make sure we can see everyone!)
- Mask/safety protocols are being followed
- Everyone in the picture has a signed release form as part of their onboarding paperwork
- Your picture tells a story! Action shots are great, or pictures where you can easily tell what’s going on even if you don’t read the caption. So, a tight group shot of kids together isn’t as inspiring as a picture of kids around a garden they just built or actively working on planting.

Follow along on the state pages for news, announcements, and stories!

Instagram: [@illinois4h](https://www.instagram.com/illinois4h)

Facebook: [facebook.com/illinois4h](https://www.facebook.com/illinois4h)

Twitter: [@illinois4h](https://twitter.com/illinois4h)

## Livestock Judging Club

4-H Leader Robyn Hendel is continuing the 4-H Livestock Judging Club that will meet a few times in a workshop style setting, including some practice session field trips.

Participants will learn more about how to judge livestock and prepare for the contests that are held. This is open to all youth ages 8-18 as of 9/1/21. For more information, call the Extension office or email [kristakg@illinois.edu](mailto:kristakg@illinois.edu).

## 4-H Horse Committee

The 4-H Horse Committee will meet in December. Each 4-H club may have two voting members on the committee.

For information about participating on the 4-H Horse Committee, and to be notified of the meeting date, call the Extension office, or email [kristakg@illinois.edu](mailto:kristakg@illinois.edu).

## Livestock Ownership Dates

Listed below are the tentative dates by which animals must be owned **and personally cared for by the exhibitor** in order to be shown at the County 4-H Shows and State Fair.

### BEEF

Steers - February 1, 2022 (calved on or after 1/1/21)  
Cows - January 1, 2022 (born before 9/1/20)  
Heifers - June 1, 2022 (State Fair — birthdates from 9/1/20 to 3/31/22; County Fair — birthdates from 9/1/20 to 3/1/22)

### DAIRY

Calves and Heifers - June 1, 2022  
Cows - January 1, 2022

### DAIRY GOATS

Kids and Yearlings not in milk - June 1, 2022  
Milking Does - January 1, 2022

### MEAT GOATS

All meat goats — May 15, 2022  
Wethers—Must be registered and tattooed in the name of the exhibitor only by May 15, 2022 (must be born on or after October 1, 2021)

### POULTRY AND RABBITS

June 1, 2022 (or out of stock owned prior to June 1)

HORSES — Ownership and/or lease forms must be on file with the Extension Office by May 1st each year.

### SHEEP

Breeding Sheep - June 1, 2022  
(Yearling Ewes = birthdates 1/1/21-8/31/21)  
(Ewe lambs = birthdates 9/1/21 and after)  
(Ram lambs = birthdates after 1/1/22)  
State Fair Wethers - May 15, 2022 (lambled on or after 1/1/22) (County Fair — ownership by June 1, 2022).

### SWINE

May 1, 2022 (for County Fair)  
June 1, 2022 (for State Fair)  
State Fair and County Fair gilts must be farrowed on or after 1/1/22.

For State Fair, all barrows must have been farrowed on or after January 1, 2022 and must be the property of the exhibitor since June 1, 2022. Premier barrows must have been farrowed on or after February 10, 2022.

For County Fair Rate of Gain, barrows must have been farrowed on or after February 10, 2022 (or on or after January 15, 2022 if not Rate of Gain).

**Note that these are ownership, not enrollment deadlines.** Livestock enrollment deadlines, in most cases, are prior to the ownership deadlines.

## Livestock Breeds Website

Here's a great website for learning more about livestock breeds — [ansi.okstate.edu/breeds/](http://ansi.okstate.edu/breeds/)

## Tattoo Date For Steers

The date for steer tattooing in Fairview will be listed in the January/February Newsletter.

# 4-H Leader News

## 4-H Volunteer Courses

[web.extension.illinois.edu/4hc/](http://web.extension.illinois.edu/4hc/)

New and seasoned volunteers will find a lot of great training videos online.

- 4-H Overnight Chaperone Orientation
- 4-H Child Protection Course
- Parliamentary Procedure
- Working with Committees
- 4-H Club Program Planning
- 4-H Volunteer Orientation
- Public Presentations

## 4-H Club Goals

What you as members and leaders can do to make your 4-H club even stronger!

- The club will hold at least six meetings (The ideal club meets regularly throughout the year.)
- Club will have an average attendance of 75% of the members at regular meetings (Consider this when planning monthly meeting day and time.)
- Club will have 75% of the members complete their projects and records/award applications.
- Each member will have a job and feel needed.
- Recreation will be included at each meeting.
- Club activities will be planned in areas of interest to members, such as health, safety, camping, careers, citizenship, judging, intercultural opportunities, conservation, and community service.
- A recognition program or club tour will be held at the end of the club year. Invite parents and guests. Exhibit projects and recognize members and volunteers for their hard work.
- **Invite new people to join the club.**
- Develop greater family participation.
- Participate in community functions.
- **Make every member feel important to the club.**
- Enable every member to receive parent and leader assistance.
- Provide a service to the community.
- Learn more about a specific project or subject.
- Develop a positive self-concept and social skills.
- Get to know more about each person in your club.
- Become better listeners to one another.

## Volunteer Application and Screening Process

To help maintain the safety of our 4-H members and find the best fit for new volunteers, University of Illinois Extension has a formal application and screening process.

The forms are available on the Fulton 4-H website or at the Extension office. Additional online forms and online trainings will be provided to volunteers as they turn in the necessary paperwork and meet with Extension staff.

Returning volunteers complete an annual 4-H enrollment process.

Any 4-H leaders who plan to drive 4-H members in their vehicle as part of their official volunteer work must have a current copy of their valid driver's license and proof of insurance on file.

## Insurance Coverage Statement

### Liability Insurance:

The University of Illinois has liability coverage for screened and enrolled adult 4-H volunteers at 4-H activities and programs.

### Accident Insurance:

Through the 4-H program fee paid by members, accident insurance coverage is provided for **enrolled** 4-H members, for accidents at 4-H club meetings or county events which are Extension-sponsored and supervised.

## Required Training For New 4-H Leaders/Volunteers

[web.extension.illinois.edu/extensionprotection/](http://web.extension.illinois.edu/extensionprotection/)

ANCRA (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act) training is required of all new 4-H volunteers.

Any NEW 4-H volunteers will need to complete it online, print out and complete the form found at the end, and bring it to the Extension office.

If you are a new volunteer and you do not have internet access, please call 547-3711 to make an appointment to come to the Extension office to complete it.

## 4-H Enrollments

4-H enrollments can be done this year either on 4-H Online, or by paper. 4-H leaders have an ample supply of the paper forms. The link to 4-H Online is: [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com)

Contact your club leader or the Extension office for more details about the 4-H Online process.

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If enrolling by paper, please send the enrollments to: University of Illinois Extension, 15411 N IL 100 Hwy, Lewistown, IL 61542, email as a pdf to [kristakg@illinois.edu](mailto:kristakg@illinois.edu), drop off at the Extension Office, or give to your 4-H leader. If questions, call 547-3711.

4-H members and leaders must enroll every 4-H year; membership does not automatically carry over from one year to the next.

## 4-H Enrollment Deadlines

The following projects have a January 4, 2022 deadline. All other project enrollments and changes are due May 1, 2022. To be eligible to exhibit at the 2022 4-H Shows enrollment deadlines must be met.

- Beef (for production animals)
- Dairy (for production animals)
- Goat (for production animals)
- Horse (for production animals)
- Poultry (egg production)
- Sheep (for production animals)
- Swine (for production animals)

**Basically, any livestock project where production is the main focus needs to be enrolled in by early January each year.**

However, be aware that a young person may join 4-H at any time of the year, but in order to show at the 4-H Shows, the above deadlines are in place.



## Secretary and Treasurer Books

If you are the Secretary or Treasurer in your 4-H club, your leader has probably given you a paper that tells you where to access the Secretary or Treasurer book online. If you don't have this yet, here is the link—  
[extension.illinois.edu/global/club-resources](http://extension.illinois.edu/global/club-resources)

The 4-H Secretary's book and Treasurer's book can be found on the Illinois 4-H Club Resources page in the Meetings tab.

You will open the document, enter the current month's information for your club, **then save it to your computer.** From that time on, you will open the document on your computer and enter info each month.

At the end of the 4-H year, you will print out the book and have it signed by those required (for the Treasurer book, that will be five people).

These are due at the Extension Office **no later than September 30th each year.** They are due by the last Monday in August if you want to be considered for an award.



Travel Abroad Update!

Travel to Japan, South Korea, Costa Rica, Romania, Norway, Argentina, and Taiwan! The application deadline Dec 1. [Apply here!](#) Program information can be found [here](#).

For those 25 and older, you can be a chaperone! [Learn more here.](#)

For more information, visit [states4hexchange.org](http://states4hexchange.org).

Follow us on Facebook: [facebook.com/illinoisstates4hexchange/](https://facebook.com/illinoisstates4hexchange/)

Instagram: [@states4hinternational](https://instagram.com/@states4hinternational)

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2021-2022 Fulton 4-H Federation Officers

## 4-H Federation News

**Next Meeting—Sunday, Nov. 21, 2 p.m.  
Farmington Fire Station  
Food Pantry Collection**

Fulton County 4-H Federation had election of officers at its September meeting. Mason Tessier was elected President, and Weston Tessier was elected Vice President. Victoria Cooper was elected Secretary, and Maddy Lettow was elected Treasurer.



## October Federation Activities

*4-H Federation met October 23 at City Kids Camp to paint benches and picnic tables at the Lodge. After work was completed, everyone enjoyed eating lunch together and playing pool, air hockey, and foosball. Then the group traveled to Orchard Hill Farm where the owner, Wes Carithers gave us a guided tour of his orchard. The outing ended with fun at the corn canon range and apple cider slushies.*

*More photos in the Fulton 4-H Facebook Group.*