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Extension

Fulton-Mason-
Peoria-Tazewell
Unit



Fulton County 4-H Newsletter November/December 2020



Dear 4-H Families:

This is the time of year when 4-H clubs are meeting monthly (virtually or in person), 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.

Visit our website!

<https://extension.illinois.edu/fmpt/4-h-fulton-county>

**Join our facebook group —
Fulton County 4-H**

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4-H Youth Development
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COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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4-H Achievement Open House

Instead of the usual 4-H Achievement Program, a 4-H Achievement Open House was held on Sunday, November 8, outside at the Extension Office. Families with 4-H members receiving awards were sent a letter. Federation members were also recognized. We hope next year to be back at the high school with our full-fledged 4-H Achievement Program.

Say Thanks!

If you received 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. It is important that these people know you appreciate their support of 4-H. **Parents** — ***Please help make sure this gets done!***

4-H Federation News

The next 4-H Federation meeting will be by Zoom on **November 22, at 2 p.m.** Those who have attended this year will receive an email. Anyone else interested in attending can email jbout@illinois.edu to receive the Zoom sign-in link.

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.

Fulton County 4-H Federation had election of officers at its October meeting. Elizabeth Reed was elected President, and Max Johnson was elected Vice President. Lydia Curless (not pictured) was elected Secretary, and Mason Tessier was elected Treasurer.



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

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 are the links —

The 4-H Secretary's book can be found at this link — <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/sites/4h.extension.illinois.edu/files/Secretary%20Book.pdf>

The 4-H Treasurer's book can be found at this link -- <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/sites/4h.extension.illinois.edu/files/Treasurer%20Book.pdf>

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.

4-H Enrollments

We are encouraging 4-H enrollments be done this year on paper. 4-H leaders have an ample supply of these. The forms are also on our website at — https://extension.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/fulton_county_4-h_member_enrollment_set_2020_2021_0.pdf

Mail these to the address at the top of page one, email as a pdf to jblout@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 Party at the YMCA

At the present time we cannot schedule our yearly 4-H Party at the YMCA. This type of event is just too big to hold right now. We hope we can schedule it another time of year, when these COVID numbers get under control and we can resume a more normal lifestyle. Until then, no date to put on your calendars for this.

4-H Federation members have ideas for some fun virtual activities until we can have more fun in person. Stay tuned for details!

4-H Window Displays

THANK YOU to the Fulton County 4-H Clubs that prepared window displays during Fulton County 4-H Week, October 19-23, and to the other clubs that promoted 4-H by passing out flyers, visiting classrooms, posting on social media, making a youtube video, and doing other special promotions.

The winning display was prepared by the Busy Bees 4-H Club. Honorable mention went to the Fairview Huskies 4-H Club.

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

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.

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



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

Facebook

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.

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 9/1/20. For more information, call the Extension Office at 547-3711, or email jblout@illinois.edu .

4-H Horse Committee

The 4-H Horse Committee will meet in December, possibly by Zoom. 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, 547-3711, or email jblout@illinois.edu .

Unit 4-H Staff

In our four-county Extension Unit, a team works together to provide 4-H programming. Each county 4-H Program is separate, but all work together on unitwide events and program planning.

Janis Blout
4-H Program Coordinator, Fulton County

Deb Balagna
Office Support, Fulton County

Joli Pierson
4-H Program Coordinator, Mason County

Cathy Ludolph
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

4-H Enrollment Deadlines

The following projects have a January 4, 2021 deadline. All other project enrollments and changes are due May 1, 2021. They will not be accepted after this date.

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.

Tattoo Date For Steers

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

Livestock Breeds Website

Here's a great website for learning more about livestock breeds —

<http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/breeds/>

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, 2021 (calved on or after 1/1/20)
Cows - January 1, 2021 (born before 9/1/19)
Heifers - June 1, 2021 (State Fair — birthdates from 9/1/19 to 3/31/21; County Fair — birthdates from 9/1/19 to 3/1/21)

DAIRY

Calves and Heifers - June 1, 2021
Cows - January 1, 2021

DAIRY GOATS

Kids and Yearlings not in milk - June 1, 2021
Milking Does - January 1, 2021

MEAT GOATS

All meat goats — May 15, 2021
Wethers—Must be registered and tattooed in the name of the exhibitor only by May 15, 2021 (must be born on or after October 1, 2020)

SHEEP

Breeding Sheep - June 1, 2021
(Yearling Ewes = birthdates 1/1/20-8/31/20)
(Ewe lambs = birthdates 9/1/20 and after)
(Ram lambs = birthdates after 1/1/21)
State Fair Wethers - May 15, 2021 (lambled on or after 1/1/21) (County Fair — ownership by June 1, 2021).

SWINE

May 1, 2021 (for County Fair)
June 1, 2021 (for State Fair)
State Fair and County Fair gilts must be farrowed on or after 1/1/21.
For State Fair, all barrows must have been farrowed on or after January 1, 2021 and must be the property of the exhibitor since June 1, 2021. Premier barrows must have been farrowed on or after February 10, 2021.
For County Fair Rate of Gain, barrows must have been farrowed on or after February 10, 2021 (or on or after January 15, 2021 if not Rate of Gain).

POULTRY AND RABBITS

June 1, 2021 (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.

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

Virtually Explore All That 4-H Offers At 4-H Spark Camp



Now is the perfect time for youth to get involved with all that 4-H has to offer. The project areas are vast, and the learning opportunities are endless. To help inspire youth to explore new topics or dive deeper into an area they already love, University of Illinois Extension serving Fulton, Mason, Peoria, and Tazewell Counties will offer 4-H Spark Camp. This program, made up of engaging sessions, will be led by 4-H staff, volunteers, and teen teachers.

These sessions will cover a wide array of topics and will help bring young people together, learn new skills, and discover new passions. (Eight out of 10 workshops are already full.) More workshops are planned for early 2021.

Session options that still have room are:

- Slithery Snakes – Saturday, November 21, at 10 a.m. (Register by November 19.)
- 4-H Shooting Sports: Arrow Trajectory & Aiming – Thursday, December 3, at 6:30 p.m. (Register by December 1.)

Complete registration details are online at go.illinois.edu/4-HSparkCamp or by calling 547-3711. 4-H Spark Camp is open to all young people, but is most appropriate for ages elementary and middle school youth. Session descriptions and registration details can be found at go.illinois.edu/4-HSparkCamp. Space is limited.

YQCA and Quality Assurance — Animal Project Information

Cat, Dog, Horse, Poultry, and Rabbits

If a 4-H member is taking Cat, Dog, Horse, Poultry, or Rabbits – They are required to complete Quality Assurance and Ethics training, one time during their 4-H years. The website for that is – <https://web.extension.illinois.edu/qaec/>

Animal Science Posters or Displays at 4-H General Show

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

Beef, Sheep, Swine, Goat, and Dairy Cattle (with live animals as a project)

Statewide requirement is that members in these projects must complete YQCA – Youth for the Quality Care of Animals, in order to show and be premium eligible.

Must be done every year they are in the project. There are two options –

Youth may attend one in-person training at the Extension Office, which WE HOPE can be offered several times in the spring, one hour long.

- Pre-registration online is required.
- \$3 per person online payment ahead of time is required.
- Adults may attend with their kids, but do not register. Adults may not be certified in this by attending, just youth.

or

Youth may take training online individually. <http://yqca.org>

- Cost for this is \$12 per person.

4-H Leader News

Enrollments

Leaders, please make sure your 4-H members and leaders are getting enrolled on a paper form submitted to the Extension Office. This is VERY IMPORTANT! Legal parent permission and insurance coverage are two of several reasons this is so important.

Promote Your Club Through the Newspapers and Social Media

To attract new members, 4-H clubs may want to put a notice of their upcoming meetings in the newspaper, so potential new members would know. Social media is another really good way to promote your club.

For instance:

"The Happy Helpers 4-H Club will meet on Sunday, December 15, at 2 p.m., at the Farm Bureau Building in Lewistown. New members are always welcome. For more information, call the leader at 547-3712."

You would need to send this in to your local newspaper about two weeks before your next meeting, and doing it every month would be a good idea. This task could be assigned to your club reporter, or to an older member in your club. We have email addresses for all the local newspapers, so if you would like them so you can email your articles, call the Extension Office.

Social media posts are also a great way to attract new members to your 4-H club. However, the best way to get new members is by personal invitation by the current members and leaders.

Support For New 4-H Leaders

There is a website, <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/4hc/> created to help orient new 4-H leaders, but has lots of information for all 4-H leaders to use.

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.

Volunteer Screening

Any new 4-H leaders must complete a set of forms related to Volunteer Screening, entering some on a website, and submit them to the Extension Office. Please notify Janis Blout at the Extension Office of any new potential volunteers, and she will provide them with the needed papers and website. No one can be enrolled as a 4-H leader until these forms have been submitted and approved. The new volunteers also need to take ANCRA training online (see below).

4-H leaders who plan to drive as part of their volunteer work must provide the Extension Office with a current copy of their driver's license and proof of insurance card.

Required Training For New 4-H Leaders/Volunteers

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. Here is the website for online training -- <https://web.extension.illinois.edu/extensionprotection/index.cfm>

4-H CALENDAR

November

22 4-H Federation Meeting, 2 p.m. via Zoom (email jblout@illinois.edu for link)
26-27 Extension Office closed for Thanksgiving holiday

December

24- Jan. 1 Extension Office closed for Christmas and New Year's holidays

January

4 Extension Office reopens after the holidays
4 Enrollment deadline for most livestock projects -- see article!
18 Extension Office closed for Martin Luther King Day

Extension Office Hours

The Fulton County Extension Office is staffed Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (closed 12-1), but currently not open to the public because of COVID concerns. The voice mail system is left on when we are out of the office, or when we are away from the phone. Our office is located in the lower level of the Farm Bureau Building, on the north edge of Lewistown. We are glad to put things in our unlocked front entryway for pickup, or for you to drop off items you need to turn in.

If you are a person who needs a reasonable accommodation to participate in any of the listed programs or events, contact Janis Blout at University of Illinois Extension, Fulton County Office, phone 309-547-3711.

Extension Office Will Close For the Holidays

The Extension Office will be closed for the following holidays:
Thanksgiving - November 26 and 27
Christmas/New Year's -- December 24 through January 1
The office will be open again on Monday, January 4, 2021.
The office is always closed on the weekends.

Email

If you would prefer to receive your 4-H newsletter by email only, and not on paper, please send an email to jblout@illinois.edu telling us that.



University of Illinois Extension
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