

Knox County

4-H Hilite

December 2021

To Make the Best BETTER



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COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your access needs.

Dear 4-H Families and Friends,

Happy Holidays from your 4-H Extension Team! Thank you for re-enrolling in 4-H by December 1st. In the newsletter there are many opportunities that you can take part in. Think about taking advantage of all that 4-H has to offer. There are several local, state, and national 4-H workshops or conferences that you can attend for a reduced fee due to the local 4-H Scholarships. Make sure you talk to the office before you register online. In addition, please read all the deadlines and if you have any questions, please contact us. You must be enrolled in all livestock and companion animal projects by January 1st!. Again, Happy Holidays and enjoy your time with your families!

Please remember that the Extension Office will be closed December 24th through January 4th and will resume normal business hours January 5th. This means if you have questions about registering for your livestock project, we won't be available. Please don't delay. Registration is open now!

Yours in 4-H,

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Shelby R. Carlson



Enrollment is officially open in 4HOnline! Go to <u>il.4honline.com</u> to enroll for the 2021-2022 4-H year! December 1 is re-enrollment deadline to be eligible to exhibit at our summer shows.

Check out all of the cool projects you can learn more about by checking out our **Project Selection Guide** here go.illinois.edu/4Hprojectguide Once enrolled, make

sure to **order any project manuals** you might need by filling out the form here go.illinois.edu/OrderProjectManuals Enrollment Instructions here! New Members go.illinois.edu/4HOnlineEnrollNewMember Returning Members go.illinois.edu/4HOnlineReEnroll

4-H Steer Weigh-In Scheduled If you are planning on bringing a steer to the County 4-H Show or to the State Fair, please plan to weigh-in at the

Knox County Fairgrounds—Saturday, February 5 from 10-11:30 am.

If you have issues with the Knox Fairgrounds date, please contact the office. Please call the Extension office to specify how many you plan to weigh-in and with a number to call in case of bad weather. We would like to remind members that weigh-in should be done in the county of your enrollment.



Mark Your Calendars for 4-H Workshops



Sewing Workshop

Join us to learn the basics of sewing, "One Stitch at a Time." Beginning sewing skills will be taught in this workshop so you can create your own masterpiece for the 4-H fair! Participants under 10 years old will need to be accompanied by an adult. The workshop will be held on **Saturday, December 11 from 9-10:30 a.m.** at the Warren-Henderson Farm Bureau Auditorium.

Register online at go.illinois.edu/sewing

Gift Wrapping Workshop

Join us for a fun afternoon of learning how to wrap like a pro and even make a bow! The workshop will be held **Monday, December 20 from 4–5 p.m**. at the 4-H Center. Topics covered include; how to wrap a boxed gift, how to problem solve when it's an odd-shaped gift, when to use a gift bag, how to make a bow, and how to add a special twist to your gift wrap. Your friends and family will be amazed at your wrapping skills this season. Youth will need to bring 1 item to wrap. Wrapping Supplies will be included at the workshop. Register online at go.illinois.edu/GiftWrap





DIY Code & Build

Have you ever wanted to know just what makes your video game controller work? Wished you could design a way to make your drawings speak to you? Explore the technology behind these ideas at the DIY Code and Build Workshop. Using Scratch and Makey Makey technology, members will be able to experience the magic of computer science at the tips of their fingers. Workshop will be held on **December 21 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.** at the Warren– Henderson Farm Bureau Auditorium. Lunch will be provided. Register online at go.illinois.edu/DIYCodeAndBuild

Inclusive Leadership SPIN Club

New this Winter - Inclusive Leadership SPIN Club! Open to High Schoolers who want to become better, more aware, & Inclusive leaders. You do not need to be a 4-H member to join this club. During this SPIN Club we will have conversations on how each of us can be better more inclusive leaders by acknowledging our own bias, hearing from different perspectives, and understanding how diversity, equity, and inclusion play a role in our communities and the world. We hope that you will join us for this new club! This is a great way to add to the leadership section of your awards applications. Interested? Let us know by filling out this Interest survey! Official Club Meeting Dates & topics will be based on the



FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS WHO WANT TO BECOME BETTER, MORE AWARE, & INCLUSIVE LEADERS

NEW SPIN CLUB COMING THIS WINTER Interested? Fill out the interest survey by December 6 go.illinois.edu/InclusiveLeadershipClub



responses to the survey. Survey closes December 6 https://go.illinois.edu/InclusiveLeadershipClub



Poultry Workshop

Join us as we learn about poultry showmanship and evaluation along with the basics of embryology at our 4-H Poultry Workshop. Western Illinois University student, Luke Jesgarz, will be sharing his knowledge of all things poultry on **February 19 from 10:30 a.m.** to Noon at the 4-H Center Auditorium in Macomb. This workshop is open for young people ages 8-18 and is free of charge. You don't even have to be a 4-H member to attend so grab your friends and poultry questions and we will see you there! Register online at go.illinois.edu/Poultry.

Federation Meeting

The purpose of the 4-H Federation is to cooperate with the University of Illinois Extension 4-H program in unifying and strengthening the 4-H Youth Development program in Knox County. Federation bands together the local 4-H clubs into a central representative body for the improvement of the 4-H club program. Federation makes recommendations regarding the 4-H program, carries out unit-based 4-H activities and events such as camps, contests, fund-raising activities, recreational events and achievement night. Anyone interested in becoming a part of Federation is welcome! Please contact Nicole for more information; 309-342-5108 or email nenelso2@illinois.edu. *Our next meeting with be on Sunday, December 19 in the Knox Agri Center Meeting Room.*

Community Food Drive

Galesburg Broadcasting (WKAY-FM/WAAG-FM/WGIL-AM/WLSR-FM) wants you to help with the Community Food Drive! They will be collecting non-perishable food and cash to benefit local food pantries. The first Food Drive is **Saturday, December 11th** from 8am-4pm. Locations include both Hy-Vees in Galesburg and Walmart. Students to be accompanied by an adult. They are looking for groups to do 2-hour shifts at one of the locations. If interested, contact Chris at kfm@1053kfm.com

Loving Bottoms Diaper Bank Diaper Drive

The Knox County 4-H Federation will be collecting diapers to donate to the Loving Bottoms Diaper Bank. Once again we will be making it a competition between clubs. The first place club will be awarded a special surprise treat party courteous of your Federation Board! The winner will be chosen based on the number of items brought in by a club. Items can be diapers, pull ups, baby wipe, or sanitary products. 1 item equals 1 point for all items except for the highly needed items which will receive 2 points. Highly needed items include pull ups size 5 & 6, baby wipes, and tampons. Clubs can also get points for attending the Federation service event at the diaper bank, 30 points for every member (excluding Federation members). All sizes and brands are welcome. Items can be brought to the office now until January 31. A firm deadline will be announced soon for our service event. More information, dates, and deadlines will be coming to our Facebook page and website soon!

4-H Can Make a Difference

Our clubs do an amazing job helping others in the community! This is a very busy time for community service and every extra helping hand counts. COVID has presented some unique challenges to our 4-H clubs but everyone is rising to the occasion. Please keep us in the loop of any projects you have planned this season so we can help get the word out. You can do so by emailing Nicole Nelson at nenelso2@illinois.edu or calling the office at 309-342-5108

YQCA & QAEC

4-H members enrolled in dairy cattle, beef cattle, swine, sheep, and goats must completed their annual YQCA training either on-line at yqca.org (\$12) or at an in-person training (\$3) by **May 1.** An email from Nicole will follow with details for registering. In-person trainings are scheduled as follows and subject to change pending weather. Details will be confirmed a week before the training. In-person trainings will be held at:

Wednesday, February 16, Knox Agri Center

QAEC training is required for members enrolled in cat, dog, horse, poultry, and rabbit. This training must be completed once in a members career. Training must be completed by **May 1.**



Project Highlight: Clothing & Fashion

Calling all future fashion designers! Have you ever thought about designing and making your own clothing? Learn the basics of sewing construction and how to make simple clothing and accessories. In this project you will develop skills in design and fashion illustration, business and marketing, technology in sewing, and learn about careers in the textile industry. Ready to explore? Head to https://go.illinois.edu/clothing4-H

I PLEDGE...MY HANDS TO LARGER SERVICE

Unit-Wide Policies

It is important for you to review the **Unit-Wide policies** and to become familiar with them. If a **deadline** lands on a weekend the paperwork needs to be turned into the drop box by Monday before 7:59 a.m.

- **December 1**st- Re-enrollment deadline & College Contract deadline. The step-by-step guide will be emailed to you once 4-H Online opens for re-enrollment.
- If you were a member last year, and you miss the December 1, 2021 re-enrollment deadline, you will not be eligible to participate in the 2022 4-H shows at the fair.
- The \$20 program fee is required. We will invoice your 4-H club; pay your 4-H Club or work with them on your 4-H Club's payment arrangement.
- Members will need to attend at least four meetings a year to be eligible to participate in your county's 4-H fair. You
 must be physically present at the 4-H meeting or logged in and attending via a Zoom option. Excused absences do
 not count as attending.
- At minimum members must complete a talk or demonstration. However, clubs may require both.
- **January 1** All Livestock Project enrollment deadline (Cat, Cattle, Chicken, Dog, Goat, Horse, Poultry, Rabbit, and Sheep). This is the last date you may add **ANY livestock** project and still be eligible to show that project at the county 4-H fair. Again, you may add this online.
- March 1 General Project enrollment deadline. This is the last date you may add a general project and still be eligible to show that project at the county 4-H fair. Remember that you already turned in your project enrollment when you re-enrolled in 4-H Online. However, if you need to add a general show project you may do so before this deadline. This is where you tell us what projects you want to learn more about!
- May 1—Horse project member's ownership/lease paperwork and pictures due to the office.
- May 1 Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) yearly certification is required of all livestock project members (aside from cats, dogs, and horses). If you plan to show livestock at the county and/or state fair, this is now a state requirement. Ask your local extension office about ways to complete this training online or in person. For non-food-producing animals (cats, dogs, and horses), QAEC will still be required by May 1 for those that have not completed it.
- June 1- Dog project member's ownership/lease paperwork and pictures due to the office.
- 4 Weeks Before Fair -Entries are due online by 11:59 p.m in FairEntry. Please keep in mind that staff cannot help you after hours that day. It is suggested that you have the entries completed online before office closing at 4:00 p.m. that day. Just because you enroll in a project doesn't mean you are automatically entered in the fair. Late entries will not be accepted. Please make sure you complete your online entries. This is where you tell us what projects you plan to bring. Watch the newsletter and the 4-H Facebook page for dates where you can stop in and get help with entries. https://fairentry.com/

If at any time you have questions, please contact your local extension office and the 4-H staff will be happy to visit with you. Deadline reminders will be made via the Hilite and Social Media pages. The 4-H staff is excited for the new 4-H year and supports your adventures in the 4-H program.



Citizenship Washington Focus – coming summer 2022!

We are pleased to announce that we will once again be taking a delegation of Illinois 4-H teens to experience first-hand the wonders of Washington D.C.

We are waiting for a confirmation regarding our travel dates, however we encourage interested teens to begin thinking about being a part of this opportunity where they will connect with teens from across the country to gain skills which will prepare them to be effective changemakers in their communities.

Additional details including confirmed dates; cost; and pre-trip planning will be shared soon!

Illinois 4-H clubs & members making valuable contributions!

4-H members and clubs have continued to demonstrate they are *True Leaders in Service*, as they roll up their sleeves and put the 4-H Pledge into action working toward positive change that empowers their peers and their communities. *The True Leaders in Service Day is set for Saturday, April 23, 2022!*

Start planning now to focus your energies on the 4th "H" and pledge your HANDS to larger service! Service projects can be the work of individuals, 4-H clubs, or planned as a county-wide service project. No matter what project you feel is needed most in your community – this will be a day to make a difference!

Please use this link to register your Community Service event: https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=24356

Registering for Events:

4-H has so many opportunities for its members to take part in. Did you know the local extension office will help cover the cost of state conferences and events? It's true! Make sure you follow the correct procedure so you don't miss out on any opportunities. The Extension office will cover half of the fee up to a total of \$300 per year per member. The local 4-H Foundation may choose to cover more of the cost.

- Contact your local program coordinator and let them know about the event
- Register for event and select the "pay by check" or "my county will pay" option
- Let your program coordinator reach out to the 4-H Foundation
- Once the Extension Office has paid their portion and the Foundation has covered the amount they choose, you will be invoiced for the remaining balance
- Please do not pay until you have been invoiced for the total remaining cost



SAVE THE DATE

Save the date! The State Public Speaking Contest will be held on **April 30, 2022**. The State contest will be held at Parkland Community College in Champaign. **Our local contest will be held on Thursday, March 24 at the Knox Agri Center.** You must be enrolled in a Public Speaking project in 4HOnline by March 1 to be able to participate.

There are 4 division in this year's contest. Each division offers options that the presenter may choose to make their presentation unique. Beginner: 8-13 years of age. Advanced: 14 years of age and older. Please note that 4-H members are able to attend the State

Contest in one category.

- Formal Speech | Self-written | Notes Allowed | No props | Individual | Beginner 2-4 minutes | Advanced 4-6 minutes
- Illustrated Speech | Self-written | Notes allowed | Illustrations Required | Individual | Beginner 2-4 minutes | Advanced 4-6 minutes
- Original Works | Self-written | Notecards allowed | Props and Costumes Allowed | 4-6 minutes | Individual or 2-Person
 Team
- Oral Interpretation | Published work | Props and Costumes Allowed | Individual or 2-Person Team | Manuscripts sent in Advance | 4-6 minutes | Individual or 2-Person Team

We offer a "4-H Pledge" class to 4-H youth ages 8-10 years old as of 9/1/21.

Food Demonstrations are also held at this time. You must be enrolled in a Foods Project to participate.

FOR MY CLUB, MY COMMUNITY, MY COUNTRY, AND MY WORLD.

COVID Guidance for the 4-H New Year

The 4-H New Year is here and we are so excited to introduce new tools, new projects, and launch into the next great 4-H year!

Project Spark Sheets https://go.illinois.edu/4hsparksheets Project Selection Guide https://go.illinois.edu/4hsparksheets Project Selection Sel

This year, we'll have a continued focus on keeping our youth, families, and volunteers safe during 4-H experiences. As such, anyone attending a 4-H indoor meeting or event **must wear face coverings** (that cover the nose and mouth) regardless of vaccination status, except for when eating and drinking. At outdoor meetings and events, face coverings will be encouraged, and attendees must wear face coverings when social distancing is not possible. In addition, **social distancing of at least 6 feet between attendees from different households** must be followed. Additional cleaning and sanitizing procedures will also be in place. If anyone attending has a medical exception to face coverings, we encourage you to reach out to your local Extension staff for help in providing an accommodation. As always, we will continue to monitor and follow IDPH, CDC, and University guidelines and will keep you updated of any changes.

We continue to be humbled by the care you have taken to keep each other safe. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do and we are looking forward to a great year! Sincerely, Lisa Diaz Illinois 4-H Director



Travel abroad update

Travel to Japan, South Korea, Costa Rica, Romania, Norway, Argentina, and Taiwan! The application deadline Dec 1. <u>Apply here!</u> Program information can be found <u>here</u>. For those 25 and older, you can be a chaperone! <u>Learn more here</u>. For more information, visit http://www.states4hexchange.org.

Follow us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/

<u>illinoisstates4hexchange/</u> Instagram: @states4hinternatonalSee your online newsletter to access links.

Travel Abroad Update!

Let's Get Social!

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 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.

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 Facebook: @Illinois4H

4-H VOLUNTEER CAFÉ CONVERSATIONS! - SAVE THE DATES!

Mark your calendars now so you can participate in the Spring 2022 4-H Volunteer Café Conversations.

If you are new to the Illinois 4-H program, the Café Conversations is a platform for 4-H Volunteers and 4-H members serving in leadership roles from across Illinois to meet virtually and discuss topics of interest, share both ideas and challenges. We will identify the topics for the next two Conversations in January! **Thursday, February 17, 2022; 7 PM Thursday, May 19, 2022; 7 PM** Watch for future registration details!



Club Report Submissions are due by the 26th of each month by 11:59 PM to Nicole, nenelso2@illinois.edu Please keep your submissions to a maximum of 200 words to ensure space for all club reports.

Delong Livestock Report by Dylan Nimrick The November meeting of the Delong Livestock 4-H Club was held on November 14 at the Orange Township building. Ten members were present. Under old business Dylan Nimrick told us about the Awards Night. Our club received 3rd place in the window display, 3rd place in the cookie jar, and the People's Choice for the cookie jar. Paige Nimrick gave a Federation report and encouraged members to attend the next meeting. We also held elections. The new officers as follows: Paige Nimrick, President; Allie Hopkins, Vice President; Jack Link, secretary; Zack Hopkins, Treasurer; Dylan Nimrick, Reporter; Shelby Taylor, Historian; Drake Nimrick, Flag Keeper, McKenzie Shepard, Sign Keeper; Cora and Kellyn Buchanan, Recreation Chairs. We decided to have a pizza party for our December meeting with a gift exchange. We will also be purchasing gifts for two angel tree children. We our taking donation of cookie making materials for the Forgotten Initative. We also discussed the possibility of carroling at a local nursing home. Talks were given by Allie Hopkins and Dylan Nimrick. Paige Nimrick gave a Demostraton. The next meeting will be held on December 12th at 5pm at the Orange Township building.

Rio Livestock Report by Tate Higgerson September The Rio Livestock 4-H Club met in person at the Rio Town Hall on September 12, 2021. The club approved the club calendar and decided to continue to meet the second Sunday of the month at 3:00. The club decided goals would include completing service projects and participating in county activities. It was decided that all by-laws would remain the same with the exception of offering hybrid meetings upon request. The club decided to pay for all member enrollment fees with the treasury this year. For National 4-H Week, Ali volunteered to chair the cookie jar with Hannah and Abigail helping. Abbie offered to do the window display, and would ask Andrew, Lucas, and Addy to help. Rio Livestock 4-H club decided to participate in the ROWVA Williamsfield Homecoming Parade in Oneida. Our new officer team was elected. Ali will serve as President, Hannah as Vice President, Grant as Treasurer, Abbie as Secretary, Matthew as Recreation Chair, and Addie as Historian. Reporter was not filled, and will be filled at the October meeting. Christinel was working with Nicole on a flyer for area ROWVA clubs. This was distributed during National 4-H Week. Everyone was reminded to invite a friend to join 4-H and participate in promotional events for next week on social media. We are looking forward to a great year. October The Rio Livestock 4-H Club met at the Cain Farm for our business meeting and annual weinie roast. At our meeting, we had reports and finished our officer elections where Tate Higgerson was elected reporter. We decided on a design for our new club tee shirts, and decided the club would pay for a tee-shirt for each member this year. Parents and people wanting other options, like crew necks or hoodies, would need to pay for their own Rio Livestock merchandise. Ali Cain was going to take care of placing orders and she will post on the Facebook page. Tate Higgerson and Addie Cain volunteered to be on the committee for the Pumpkin Decorating Contest in October. We brainstormed ideas for the November service project. Ali was going to contact the Rescue Mission, and Christinel was going to contact Madison Flack from Forgotten Initiative. Leader Christinel encouraged everyone to enroll this month and order any project books. The Cloverbuds met with leader Kimberly Litchfield. The Cloverbuds learned about apples, picked and washed apples, and pressed apple cider for all to enjoy. We enjoyed hot dogs, rice krispie treats, sand pudding, corn casserole, and smores at our weenie roast. We all had a great time! November The Rio Livestock 4-H Club met at the Rio town hall for a business meeting. We discussed ideas for our fun meeting in January. Some ideas were Trampoline Park, Ice Skating, Fun City, and Snow Star. We also discussed some ideas for a field trip as baseball game, Fair Oaks, and St. Louis Zoo. Thanksgiving items were collected for The Forgotten Initiative. We collected 48 food items and 3 board games to donate for foster families. Abbie Cain did a talk about string art and Addie Cain did a talk about manatees.

Williamsfield Town & Country Report by Jaden Doubet The Williamsfield Town & Country 4-H Club held a meeting on Sunday, November 7th at the Williamsfield United Methodist Church. We discussed our goals for the upcoming 4-H year, purchasing club t-shirts, our activity for the next meeting and important dates. Prior to the club meeting, officers talked about goals and set meeting dates. Members also played games and ate pizza. Our next meeting will be held December 12th at the Williamsfield United Methodist Church.

Federation Report by Emma Seiboldt Community Food Drive - The Community Food drive was held on Saturday, November 13rd from 12-4pm at the Main Street HyVee in Galesburg. There were many donations throughout the day, including non-perishable food items and money donations. Federation officers were present to collect the contributions. There will be another upcoming food drive in December for clubs to participate in. This is a great opportunity to volunteer and serve the community within Knox County. Upcoming Diaper Drive - Clubs are now able to participate in the diaper drive for this 4-H year! This will be a competition between all Knox County 4-H clubs, and it will end on January 31st. There will be an event offered in February to the winning club, so you all better start collecting diapers. These donations will be sent to Loving Bottoms Diaper Bank, and all of the donations will reduce the amount of diapers needed within the community. Any donations will be appreciated!

RoboStorm *Report by Seth King* RoboStorm is excited to compete in another FIRST Lego League challenge. This year's challenge, CARGO CONNECT, explores the future of transportation. For their Innovation Project, RoboStorm decided to focus on keeping livestock safe during transport. They also have been busy learning new computer coding and engineering skills as they try to master this year's robot game. They will share their project and compete in the LEGO robotics game competition on December 11 in Peoria.

INTRO TO 4-H AIR RIFLE COMPETITION SHOOTING

Take your existing 4-H air rifle club to a new level! Competition training for 4-H Rifle Club leaders and up to three 4-H Club members will take place on February 19, 2022 from 9am-5pm at Central Illinois Precision Shooters in Bloomington, IL.

Contact Curt Sinclair at sinclair@illinois.edu for flyer and/or register at: go.illinois.edu/4HAirRifleTraining

Dates to Remember

December 1 **DEADLINE:** Re-Enrollment & College Contracts

December 1 DEADLINE: Summer 2022 Outbound Applications Due

December 11 Sewing Workshop
December 19 Federation Meeting
December 20 Gift Wrapping Workshop
December 21 DIY Code & Build Workshop
Dec 24– Jan 4 Office closed for Holidays

January 1

DEADLINE: Livestock Project Enrollment

DEADLINE Sustaining the Future Award Due

DEADLINE: Loving Bottoms Diaper & Items Drive

February 5 Knox Steer Weigh-In

February 16 YQCA Training , Knox Agri Center February 17 4-H Volunteer Café Conversations

February 19 Poultry Workshop

March 1 **DEADLINE:** General Project Enrollment March 24 Knox 4-H Public Speaking Contest April 23 True Leaders in Service Day

April 30 State 4-H Public Speaking Contest

May 1 **DEADLINE:** YQCA yearly certification and QAEC May 1 **DEADLINE:** Horse Ownership & Lease Paperwork

May 19 4-H Volunteer Café Conversations

June 1 **DEADLINE:** Dog Ownership & Lease Paperwork



Please submit all Farmer's Forecast articles and JPG photos to nenelso2@illinois.edu. Articles are due no later than the **26th of the month at 11:59 PM.** Need Ideas about what to write? Just ask!

December: Backcountry Braves **January:** Bracken Busy Bees **February:** Cameron Kids

March: Delong LivestockApril: Happy HustlersMay: Henderson AggiesJune: Knox County Power CloversJuly: Rio LivestockAugust: Rising CloversSeptember: Rusty SpursOctober: UnionNovember: Victoria Cloverleaf

December: Walnut Grove Progressors









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