

4-H NEWSLETTER

May & June 2022

Note from Joli

My appreciation for Extension volunteers grows daily! As the spring and summer months are upon us, our 4-H leaders and other Extension volunteers are becoming busier with their program work. Volunteers are truly the lifeline of the 4-H program. Many 4-H volunteers are humble regarding the work they do. I like to remind them of the huge impact they are making on our community. They are making a difference in the lives of people, animals, and organizations in need...definitely all things to be proud of! I am thankful for all of the hard work, communication, and dedication volunteers give to support our youth and Extension 4-H staff.

Studies have shown helping others kindles happiness. This is very true for the 4-H program. Club members and volunteers share with me how the activities they do in 4-H brings them joy and something to look forward to.

Volunteers, give yourselves a big pat on the back! What you are doing is not only good for our youth, it is good for you! Reports also show as well as increasing self confidence and combating depression, volunteering can help you to stay physically healthy. Making new friends and connecting with others is also a benefit of volunteering, as it can increase your social and relationship skills.

Today's volunteers are inspiring the volunteers of the future. The community service work our 4-H clubs are doing sends a great message to our youth. It shows youth firsthand giving back to the community makes a difference and allows them to experience how good it feels to help other people. We can never have too many volunteers with the 4-H program. I encourage our readers to take time to consider becoming a 4-H volunteer or share the idea with someone you know.

Until next time,

Joli

4-H Cloverbud News...

Bring a project to the 4-H show!

Mason County 4-H Cloverbud Club members will have the opportunity to exhibit a project at the Mason County 4-H Show on Monday, July 25, 2022. Cloverbud members/groups should check in their exhibits at the South Exhibit building from 8-9 a.m. "Judging" will begin at 9 a.m. 4-H Cloverbud members do not need to enroll in a 4-H project or complete an entry in order to participate in this fun 4-H Cloverbud class.

Think of this opportunity as a stepping stone, or practice, to becoming an older 4-H Club member. Members will bring a "project" to exhibit. Projects should be completed by the Cloverbud member. Examples would be an art project, a plant or vegetable grown and cared for by the exhibitor, a picture, or a poster display detailing a favorite hobby or interest. Live animals will not be allowed for this class. Project size should be suitable for tabletop display.

Youth will conference judge as older 4-H members do. They will meet with a "celebrity" judge who will make the experience fun and inviting. They should be prepared to answer a few questions and tell about their project.

Cloverbud Clubs are also welcome to exhibit a group project. Club members, along with their leader, will meet together with the judge and explain their project or experiment. Leaders are encouraged to work on group projects during club meeting times and prepare youth for sharing about the exhibit. All members who exhibit in this class will receive a participation award. Entry is not required, however, club leaders should advise the Extension office if they plan to have a group exhibition so we can allow for exhibit space.

4-H Club Garden Contest at Mason County Fairgrounds

Get your gloves on and your garden tools sharpened! 4-H club gardens at the fairgrounds need some sprucing up!

Clubs will be competing for bragging rights and the coveted Traveling Trowel Award! An ice cream party will also be awarded to the winning club! Each club will plant and maintain their own club garden space at the Mason County Fairgrounds. Have fun and get creative! We encourage all types of gardens or themes! The gardens will be judged on Monday, July 25 during the 4-H general projects show time. Clubs should plan to have a few members be the spokespersons for the club garden. They will conference with the judge(s). The winning club will be presented with the Traveling Trowel Award on Wednesday night, July 27, 2022 at the evening awards ceremony.

Leaders should call Joli at the Extension office (309) 543-3308 if their club is planning to participate in the contest. Entry Deadline will be July 21, 2022. Gardens should be ready for judging by 9 a.m. on Monday, July 25, 2022.



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

Joli Pierson

4-H Program Coordinator, Mason County

Kristi Smith

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



May

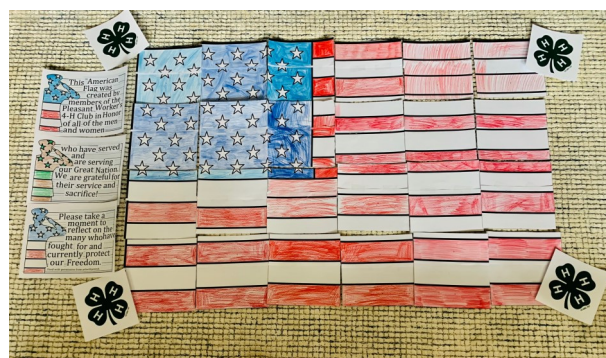
- 12 Mason County 4-H Federation meeting
- 14 4-H Day with the Cardinals
- 15 Mason County 4-H Shooting Sports Club meeting
- 15 Kountry Kritters 4-H Club meeting
- 21 Happy Handful 4-H Club meeting
- 22 Mason County 4-H Shooting Sports Club meeting
- 29 Mason County 4-H Shooting Sports Club meeting
- 30 Memorial Day

June

- 3 Farm Safety Day event
- 5 Mason County 4-H Shooting Sports Club (back-up mtg. date)
- 9 Mason County 4-H Federation meeting
- 12 Mason County 4-H Shooting Sports Club (back-up mtg. date)
- 13-15 Fulton-Mason Teens as Teachers Training
- 17 Extension office closed in observance of Juneteenth
- 19 Juneteenth & Father's Day
- 27-30 4-H Nat'l Shooting Sports Championships

July

- 1 Deadline for 4-H Show online entries
- 4 Independence Day
- 25-28 Mason County 4-H Show & Jr. Fair



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

University of Illinois | U.S. Department of Agriculture | Local Extension Councils Cooperating University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. If you need reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please call 309-543-3308. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the US Department of Agriculture by the Director, Cooperative Extension Service, and University of Illinois.



Illinois
Extension



Congratulations to all of the Mason County 4-H youth who will be graduating from high school this year! Best wishes with your future adventures. It is our hope you will continue to remain connected to the 4-H program in some capacity, whether it be a member, volunteer, or 4-H alumni!

Midwest Central High School

Kevin Chaney
Delaney Egan
Abigail Larsen
Alexandria Riviere

Illini Central High School

Isabella McKinney

Havana High School

Arabella Blakeley

Illinois 4-H Recognition ...This is a good place to remind younger 4-H members about the importance of completing 4-H Recognition forms. All of your 4-H goal setting, awards, and record keeping can be helpful for completing college applications, scholarship requests, and job applications. A little 4-H homework today can really pay off in the future!

Community Service Reporting...Some local high schools request completion of community service hours for membership in clubs and honor societies, or for graduation requirements. Youth may bring completed forms for signature of 4-H staff to the Extension office for any 4-H related service work. Work should be supervised by club leaders or 4-H staff, and recorded by the youth completing the service work.

Mason County Junior Master Gardener 4-H Club

Work is underway at the gardens! Thanks to the hard work of club leaders Dinah VanDelinder, and Justin & Trista Morris, the garden area is looking great! Volunteer Amy Yoakum and her family members, Drake, Henry, and Matt Kaler brought equipment to till the garden soil and prepare it for planting.



Club leaders will be available to meet with youth on Saturdays at 8 a.m. and Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. at the Mason County Fairgrounds for working in garden spaces. Youth and their families are welcome to work in their assigned garden space on their own time. Call the Extension office to make arrangements to do so. Monthly club meetings, special activities, along with end of the year garden clean-up dates will be announced once they are determined.

A few plots are still available! Youth ages 8-18 years are invited to join this fun club! Members will experience fun, hands-on gardening and learn from U of I Extension Master Gardeners. Members can have their own garden plot at the Mason County Fairgrounds where they can garden together, grow their own food, flowers, and herbs. Anyone interested in joining the Mason County Jr. Master Gardener 4-H Club should contact the Extension office for further information. (309)543-3308



Free Baby Chicks

Each year, Embryology in the Classroom program is offered to Peoria & Tazewell classrooms. Homes are needed for the chicks returned to the offices. The chicks will be straight run and a variety of purebreds and barnyard mixes; all great laying breeds.

If you are interested and have proper housing for chickens, please contact Katharine at gironel@illinois.edu to reserve your free chicks. Pick up will be Friday, May 20 at 4 PM in the Peoria AND Tazewell Extension offices.

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)

YQCA is a livestock quality assurance program. Youth enrolled in the following species; **dairy cattle, beef cattle, swine, sheep, and goats** should complete the training. All 4-H exhibitors of these animals will be required to certify in the YQCA program **annually**. Failure to complete YQCA will result in the member's animal science project enrollment being cancelled and they will be ineligible to exhibit at county fairs. Youth must certify online via the website at this **new link** for the YQCA training. <https://yqcaprogram.org/>

The YQCA program is for youth ages 8-21. The online version is taken based on the age of youth as of January 1, of the current year (2022). This certification is annual with test out options of 1-3 years. The cost is \$12 and paid online.

Mason County 4-H members enrolled in beef, swine, sheep, and goats should complete the online training, or attend an in-person training, then email, mail, or bring a copy of your completion certificate to Joli Pierson at the Extension office by the July 1, 2022 deadline. Email: jkpierso@illinois.edu

An in-person training is being offered at:
Fulton County Extension Office
May 21, 2022 at 11 a.m.
15411 N IL 100 Hwy, Lewistown, IL 61542
Phone (309) 547-3711
Please call for more information.

Mason County 4-H Club News and Activities

Kountry Kritters 4-H Club made their own tie dye t-shirts during a recent club meeting. Those shirts will be adorned with the club name and 4-H clover emblem. It will be exciting to see all of these colorful shirts during the 4-H Show!



Club t-shirt reminder... If your club is planning to have shirts made, please be sure to have Joli review and approve the design prior to having them made. All 4-H name and emblem requirements must be followed!

Pleasant Workers 4-H Club members have been enjoying monthly "listen & learn" activities. Members have hosted local Veterans for a presentation about the American flag; they have learned about cover crops such as pennycress; and they have learned about baking and cookie decorating. Club members have taught lessons, such as a recent one about raising poultry. Youth ended this meeting with building a "chicken coop" out of edible goodies.



4-H Poultry Exhibitors

IDOA has filed for emergency rule prohibiting the sale or exhibition of poultry and poultry products at Illinois events, including fair exhibitions, to prevent the spread of avian influenza. These rules will be assessed in 45-day increments and will stay in effect for up to 150 days. This would apply to 4-H shows, live animal workshops and exhibit opportunities. If live exhibitions cannot happen, your local Extension office will provide more details regarding optional exhibition opportunities.

FMPT Unit News



Make a difference. Make new friends. Teach others. Have fun.

Being part of the 4-H Teen Teacher program is a great way to make an impact on kids in your community! Come learn about the program, meet current teen teachers, and eat pizza!

Teen Teacher Information Nights:

- Monday, May 9, 6 -7 p.m.
- Peoria County Extension office
- OR
- Wednesday, May 18, 6-7 p.m.
- Fulton County Extension office

Contact 4-H Youth Development Educators to register:

Judy Schmidt – 309.685.3140 or

schmid7@illinois.edu

Emily Schoenfelder – 217.300.5557 or

eschoe@illinois.edu



Learn about cybersecurity through a Capture the Flag cyber competition.

Youth entering 6th to 8th grades

go.illinois.edu/STEMacademy

Registration fee \$25. Fee waivers available.

Held at Goodwill Commons, Peoria



4G STEM Camp | Girls + Games + Gadgets = Genius

Have you wondered what it would be like to work in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) fields in the Greater Peoria area? 4G STEM Camp is a weeklong day camp for girls interested in learning more about STEM careers. Join us to tour local businesses, do fun STEM activities, and make new friends! Plus, educators can register for our Teacher Track by May 5!

- June 20-24, 2022 | 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Bradley University, Peoria
- \$175 (Fee waivers available)
- For girls entering 6th, 7th, and 8th grades

Learn more: go.illinois.edu/4GSTEMcamp

Teacher Track: go.illinois.edu/4GSTEMteachers



Are you ready to have 4-H Adventures in Nature? Every month, we'll send you nature-based activity challenges you and your family can complete together. For each month in which you complete a challenge, your family will receive a special prize to be given out at our Outdoor Adventure Fun Day on Saturday, August 27, 2022. Each month will be a different prize. Plus, you'll get a digital badge to reward your progress! Register at go.illinois.edu/AdventuresInNature.

News from Illinois 4-H



The U of I College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences will host ACES Family Academies on July 14-15, 2022. ACES Family Academies is a two-day learning experience for alumni to bring youth ages

8-13 to stay on campus, eat in the residence halls, and participate in interactive classes, all while learning about ACES majors, programs, and research. Cost is \$125. Registration deadline is June 3, 2022. Full Schedule found here:

acesalumni.illinois.edu/events/aces-family-academies



Crop Scouting Competition

Aug 4, 2022 - Crop Sciences Research & Education Center, 4202 South 1st St., Savoy, IL 61874

Check-in and registration start at 8 a.m. The competition starts at 8:30 a.m. and will end by 1:30 p.m.

This outdoor competition event is open to high school students completing grades 9-12 this year. They will work in teams of 2 to 5 students led by an adult coach. Coaches can be FFA advisers, agriculture teachers, seed dealers, co-op employees, and others. No more than three teams per sponsoring organization (e.g. company, school, club). Meals will be provided.

Prizes: \$500 for 1st, \$300 for 2nd, and \$150 for 3rd.

Questions? Contact program coordinator Chelsea Harbach at harbach2@illinois.edu.



State 4-H Fishing Tournaments Ready to Go!

Easy to enter, easy to win! Learn rules and how to enter here:

4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/4-h-hooks-us-together-fishing-tournament

Open to all current year 4-H members, but new rod & reel prizes **only** for 4-H members registered in the 4-H Sport fishing project for the 2021-2022 year.

Entries just require a phone, tape measure and then upload information to: go.illinois.edu/fish4H

May – Largemouth Bass 4-H State Tournament

June – Channel Catfish 4-H State Tournament

State 4-H Events

May

7

Adult Shooting sports leader certification 4-H Memorial Camp, Monticello, IL

June

4

Summer Sizzle Shoot Chillicothe Sportsman's Club

5-9

Memorial Camp

12-16

Memorial Camp

20

State 4-H Livestock Judging

Contest: U of I Stock Pavilion

July

5-9

Memorial Camp

16

Shooting Sports Adult Certification Bi-State Sportsman's Club, Colona

17-21

Memorial Camp

24 – 30

Illinois State Fair Junior Horse Show

August

10

SYPA General Livestock

12-14

State Fair Junior Livestock

Shows

13 – 15

Illinois State Fair

27

State 4-H Dog Show: Granny Rose

K-9 Enrichment Center, Dixon

2022 4-H State Shoots –

SAVE THESE DATES (but keep practicing now!)

- Archery: Sat, Sep 17, 2022 at Pekin Archers, Pekin, Illinois
- Shotgun: Sat, Sep 24, 2022 at Brittany Shooting Park, Bunker Hill, Illinois
- Rifle: Sat, Oct 8, 2022 at Central Illinois Precision Shooters (CIPS), Bloomington, Illinois
- Pistol: Sun, Oct 9, 2022 at CIPS, Bloomington, Illinois



Summer Sizzle Shoot

Join the Summer Sizzle Shoot at Chillicothe Sportsman's Club on June 4, 2022. This even is hosted by Marshall-Putnam 4-H Shooting Sports, and registration will be open until May 24, 2022. Learn more at extension.illinois.edu/blmp/4-h-marshall-putnam-counties. Our target is fun and we aim for a bullseye!

4-H Equity Challenge

Join the 4-H Equity Challenge! Individuals or teams of 2-3 youth ages 13 – 19 will identify problems, define answers, and develop digital media projects that outline possible solutions, empowering teens to become effective change agents and equity leaders in their communities. Participants will present their project in a local or state 4-H Challenge event for an opportunity to win \$500+. Apply by June 6. 4-h.org/parents/true-leaders-in-equity/true-leaders-in-equity-institute/application



True Leaders in Equity Institute

Empowering youth/adult teams to be change agents within the Cooperative Extension System, this training and leadership opportunity on July 11-14 in Bethesda, Maryland challenges participants to work together to ideate and champion equity-related projects that will grow 4 H in their communities. National 4-H Council will provide up to 20 scholarships to exemplary application submissions. Apply by June 6. 4-h.org/parents/true-leaders-in-equity/true-leaders-in-equity-institute/application

Volunteer Café Conversations

We hope to see you at our 4-H Volunteer Café Conversations on May 19! Don't miss this opportunity to share your great ideas with other Volunteers and Teens in Leadership roles! Link to register for the May 19, 7pm Volunteer Café Conversation: <https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=25159>



Join us for 4-H Volunteer

Café Conversations

Thursday, May 19 7 PM



Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



University of Illinois Extension
Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit
Mason County Branch Office
127 S High ST, Ste. 1
Havana, IL 62644
Return Service Requested

FARM SAFETY DAY



Friday, June 3, 2022

8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Fulton County Fairgrounds, Lewistown

Ages 6 and up

For more information or to register:

[GO.ILLINOIS.EDU/FARMSAFETYDAY](https://go.illinois.edu/farmsafetyday)