

4-H NEWSLETTER

September & October 2022

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



Note from Joli...

Happy New Year! We have officially closed another 4-H year in the books! September 1 begins the new 2022-23 4-H year!

Reflecting on the past year...First and foremost, I can't thank everyone enough for all you do for me and the 4-H program! This year was full of many ups and downs for most of us. The continuing challenges of the pandemic and trying to shape the new normal made all of our lives a little more chaotic at times. However, in the usual Mason County 4-H style, we persevered and made it a great year!

Overall, Mason County 4-H membership enrollment surmounted the year before the pandemic. We have added some new volunteers and members; clubs leaders found innovative ways to meet, provide service learning activities, and keep youth engaged; and county youth participated in local, State, and National competitions and exhibitions. Congratulations on all of these accomplishments!

Be sure to show your 4-H pride and celebrate National 4-H Week, October 2-8. Wear your 4-H shirts, hang some 4-H posters, share your personal 4-H photos and stories on social media, and invite friends to join the 4-H.

I have included many photos in this newsletter for you to take a trip down memory lane! Let them be your inspiration to set goals and work towards achieving great things this new year! I hope they make you smile as much as they have me!

Until next time!

Joli



Mason County 4-H Federation

The next Mason County 4-H Federation meeting will be held on Thursday, October 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the Extension office in Havana. All 4-H members in the eighth grade or above are invited to attend this kick-off meeting of the year! Bring your own lawn chair and a favorite fall snack food to share. Drinks will be provided. We will meet tailgate style in the parking lot, weather permitting!

Each county 4-H club is encouraged to have representative members participate in the 4-H Federation. This club is a group of teens from across the county whose main focus is leadership. Members will work together to provide service learning projects and participate in local and state leadership programs. They will be a part of event planning, and always fun socialization activities.

Teens mark your calendars to attend this meeting and become a part of this fun club!

Awards Applications Due

A big THANK YOU to all clubs for getting the required club treasurer and secretary books to the Extension office before the deadline! You are amazing!

I have extended the due date to September 14 for the following awards forms:

4-H Club Recognition, Illinois 4-H Experience Awards for Individuals, and Illinois Electricity Award.

This will be the final deadline! Please, if you have not completed and turned these in, there is still a little time! You can find these forms with instructions at this link:

<https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/participate/awards-scholarships/4-h-club-recognition>



September

11 Mason County 4-H Shooting Sports –Range Clean-up
12 Mason County 4-H & Jr Show Board meeting
14 Due date for Club & Member Recognition forms
17 State Archery Competition
24 State Shotgun Competition

October

8 State Rifle Competition
9 State Pistol Competition
10 Mason County 4-H & Jr Show Board meeting
13 4-H Federation meeting
19 Mason County 4-H Leader meeting

November

8 Election Day– Extension office closed
24-25 Happy Thanksgiving– Extension office closed



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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

Deb Balagna, Fulton County Office Support

Paula Lane, Mason County Office Support

Angela Sassine, Peoria County Office Support

Julann Schierer, Tazewell County Office Support

Mason County 4-H Leader Meeting

Leaders are invited to join us for a leader meeting on Wednesday, October 19 at 6:30 p.m. at the Extension office.

We will welcome in the new 4-H year and provide more instruction on the new ZSuite 4-H online enrollment system! Leaders should bring their club ideas and successes to share with each other. Please RSVP to Joli by email at jkpierse@illinois.edu or call the Extension office (309) 543-3308 if you plan to attend.

State Fair Results

Congratulations to all youth who exhibited at the Illinois State Fair!

Below you will find the 4-H General Projects exhibitors and the awards they received:

Lilly Anderson, Scrapbooking, Participant
Arabella Blakeley, Chalk/Carbon/Pigment, Participant
Lila Dye, 3-D Design/Mixed Media, Inspire Award
Delaney Egan, Scrapbooking, Champion Award
Piper Flatley, Visual Arts, Wood, Participant
Averie Johnson, 4-H Cooking 101 Cookies, Participant
Baile Krause, Photography 3, Participant
Emily Larsen, Visual Arts-Clay, Reserve Champion
Abigail Larsen, Passport to the World, Participant
Caid Liesman, Vegetable Plate, Inspire Award
Kinsey Liesman, STEAM Clothing 1, Participant
Cozette Marte, Floriculture B, Inspire Award
Kallen Pequignot, Shooting Sports Shotgun, Participant
Blake Perkins, Small Engines, Participant
Haleah Perkins, STEAM Clothing 2, Participant
Ryan Phelps, Sportsfishing 1, Participant
Brooklyn Samson, Shooting Sports Rifle, Champion

Seeking Mason County 4-H Alumni

Many former 4-H members, parents, and leaders like to clean out their closets, basements, and attics and bring 4-H memorabilia to the Extension office for safe keeping. We very much enjoy seeing all of the items that have been saved over the years! It is hard to part with history. We get it! As we have been doing some office and storage room cleaning of our own, it has become apparent that we are in great need of a few good folks to band together to help! Maybe it's time for a new Mason County 4-H Alumni Club! We have many 4-H photos, scrapbooks, ribbons, trophies, uniforms, news clippings, music, and so much more! We would like a group to organize, identify, label, arrange, and prepare for display all of these items that have been safely tucked away for so many years! I'm sure it would make for a great showcase and conversation at the county 4-H Show! If you or someone you know would be interested in joining the group, please contact Joli Pierson at the Extension office.

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Shooting Sports Club News



New this Year! Be sure to get enrolled in the 4-H Shooting Sports club in October! Members can look forward to a once monthly, off the shooting range activities during the winter months. These meetings will be for all shooting sports club members to attend. Hands-on activities and possible field trips will be planned by club instructors for each meeting. These meetings are designed to help youth be better prepared for the spring shooting sports sessions held at the shooting range, and for 4-H Show exhibition.

The first meeting will be held on Sunday, November 13, at 2 p.m. at the Extension office lower level. You won't want to miss this first meeting as Instructor Ted Snider will provide the lesson and activities!

Welcome! The Mason County 4-H Shooting Sports Club welcomes our new volunteers! Curtis Samson of Havana, and Andy Phelps of Bath. Both have attended the 4-H Shooting Sports instructor training and received certification in the rifle discipline. Randy Pequignot of Havana also joins the group as a club assistant. If you or someone you know are interested in joining the 4-H Shooting Sports Club as a certified discipline instructor or club assistant, please contact the Extension office for more information. The club offers Archery, Rifle, Shotgun, and Pistol disciplines.

Congratulations to Owen Dye for his accomplishments at the 2022 National 4-H Shooting Sports Championships! Owen and his family made the trip to Grand Island, Nebraska in June. Owen, along with two members from Fulton County and one from Hancock County, represented Illinois in the shotgun discipline where they competed in skeet, trap, and sporting clay competitions. Owen competed in the Illinois State Shooting Sports competition in September of 2021, ranking in the top five, to qualify him for the National Championships.

Owen and the Illinois team shot with 120 other top shooters from all around the nation, battling strong winds and extreme heat during the competition week.



Fair photos!

Find these and many more photos which were taken during the 2022 4-H Show and Jr. Fair. You can download and save your favorites!

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/Rp32rzsCUtxsTYCG9>



FMPT Unit News

Teacher Tuesday STEAM Resource Fair

Are you looking for fresh ideas and activities to share with the young people you work with? Join us for the Teacher Tuesday STEAM Resource Fair at ART Inc. (919 NE Jefferson St, Peoria, IL 61603). It will highlight many community and business organizations offering STEAM resources and provide educators with ways to incorporate these into their classrooms and programs.

Teacher Tuesdays are geared towards all types of educators: in-school, afterschool, homeschool, 4-H leaders, libraries, and more! They are free and open to the public. Teachers may be eligible to earn ISBE professional development hours by attending. More details and registration at go.illinois.edu/teachertuesdays.

Plus, The Greater Peoria Economic Development Council is proposing a Digital Literacy Workshop offered to local K-5 educators in partnership with the Illinois Digital Educators Alliance and the Discovery Partners Institute. This capacity building project will be offered on September 21 at Bradley University. In-person participation, lunch, and \$100 stipends are reserved for K-5 educators in the Greater Peoria area. Limited to 25 attendees; first-come, first-served. Priority Registration Deadline: Sep 2, 2022 at dpi.illinois.edu/Peoria-PD.



Illinois State Fair Master Showmanship Participants

Members from our Unit participated in the Master Showmanship Competition at the Illinois State Fair. Pictured above are Fulton – Liz Hayden; Peoria – Kyle Bird; and Tazewell – Lydia Rogers. Liz placed 2nd in Sheep, and 6th overall, and Kyle placed 2nd in Beef and 4th Overall.

SEPTEMBER IS

HUNGER ACTION MONTH!



September is Hunger Action Month!

Hunger Action month was started in 2008 by Feeding America as a way to raise awareness in communities about the existence of hunger and food insecurity. Learn how to get involved at <https://extension.illinois.edu/events/2022-09-01-hunger-action-month>.



National 4-H Week is October 2-8!

Mark your calendars for the 2022 National 4-H Week!

What has your club done in the past to celebrate that you think other clubs should know about? Share your ideas for a chance to be

featured on a statewide idea sheet (with credit to your club!). Share your idea here: <https://form.jotform.com/221983990346063>

State 4-H Events

September

- 9-11 Fall 4-H Family Camp,
- 17 4-H State Archery Shoot, Pekin Archers Pekin
- 24 4-H State Shotgun Shoot, Brittany Shooting Park, Bunker Hill

October

- 8 4-H State Rifle Shoot, Central IL Precision Shooters, Bloomington
- 9 4-H State Pistol Shoot CIPS, Bloomington,
- 14-16 Junior Leadership Conference

November

- 25-29 National 4-H Congress

January 2023

- 13-15 Youth Livestock Conference

April 2023

- 1 State Awards Banquet
- 8 State Robotics Competition
- 22 State Public Speaking Competition

News from Illinois 4-H

New 4-H Enrollment & Registration System Coming this Fall!

Illinois 4-H is switching our enrollment and registration system from 4-H Online to ZSuite this fall. We believe this new system will offer a more user-friendly experience and features that will help you stay connected to the 4-H program and find new exciting experiences and opportunities for your kids! Registration will open in this new system in early October. Watch for more details coming soon from your local 4-H staff.



4-H Family Camp September 9-11

Get details and register at go.illinois.edu/2022FamilyCamp.



Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month

¡Feliz Mes de la Herencia Hispana! Illinois 4-H is excited to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month!

Hispanic Heritage Month is observed each year on September 15-October 15. This month celebrates not only the histories and cultures, but also the contributions of American citizens whose ancestors come from the Caribbean, Spain, Mexico, and Central/South America.

Head here: go.illinois.edu/4HHispanicHeritageMonth for ideas of how you can celebrate this month.



New for 2022! – 4-H State Shoots will be lowering the eligibility age of participants to age 12 by Sept. 1, 2022. All state shoot registrations will be open from July 6, 2022 until 2 weeks prior to shoot (or until capacity is reached). Registration links are below and more info can be found at: 4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/state-events/state-shoots

Archery – 9/17/2022 at Pekin Archers, Pekin, IL – \$20 – go.illinois.edu/20224HArcheryShoot

Shotgun – 9/24/2022 at Brittany Shooting Park, Bunker Hill, IL – \$40 – go.illinois.edu/20224HShotgunShoot

Rifle – 10/08/2022 at Central Illinois Precision Shooters (CIPS), Bloomington, IL – \$20 – go.illinois.edu/20224HRifleShoot

Pistol – 10/09/2022 at CIPS, Bloomington, IL – \$20 – go.illinois.edu/20224HPistolShoot



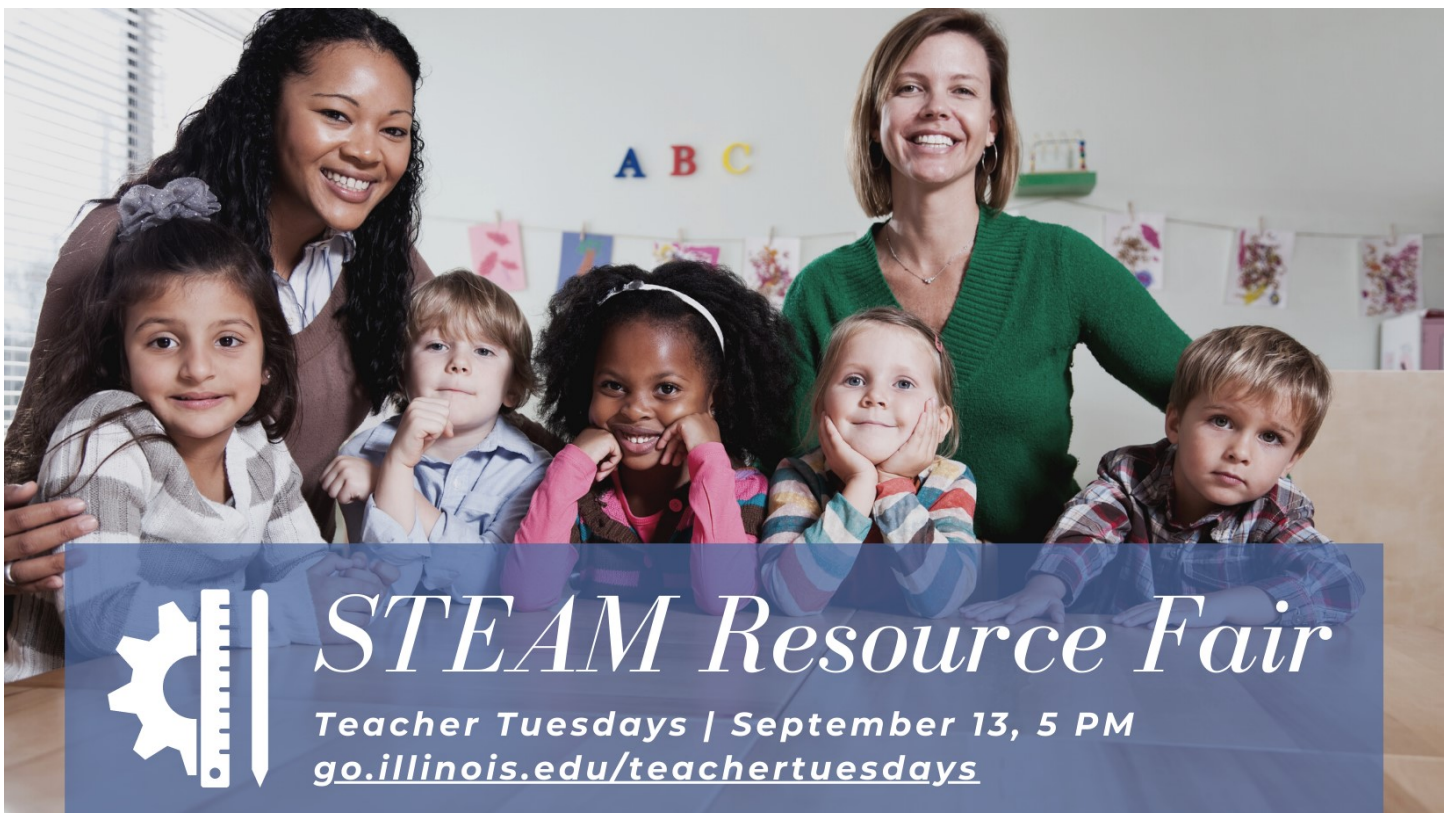
The Illinois 4-H Junior Leadership Conference (JLC) is a fun-filled event which provides junior high 4-H members (7th & 8th grades) a look into opportunities in Illinois 4-H and helps start their leadership journey. Learn more or register at <https://extension.illinois.edu/events/2022-10-15-2022-illinois-4-h-junior-leadership-conference>.




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 *STEAM Resource Fair*
Teacher Tuesdays | September 13, 5 PM
go.illinois.edu/teachertuesdays