



Summer 2020



Mason Clover Notes

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

Dear 4-H Families,

The end of the 2019-20 4-H year is quickly drawing to a close. I know that many of you have been missing your friends and the fun, interactive club meeting time. Great news! The month of August brings us the opportunity to meet in person once again! Beginning August 16, clubs can hold meetings with up to 25 persons or 50% of space capacity in an outdoor location; or gathering size limited to the lesser of 10 people at an indoor location. Social distancing required. Plan your meetings accordingly and be safe!

The summer brought many changes to our local 4-H program. We announced the first ever Virtual 4-H Show! I am so proud of those who took on the challenge and completed their entries. Everyone did an exceptional job! Thank you to club leaders and parents who helped encourage members to participate! We are awaiting the results of those projects that advanced on to the State Virtual 4-H Show. We will post the results as soon as we have them. County and State ribbons and awards will be mailed. Please take some photos of youth with their projects and awards and send them to us! We would love to share them on our social media pages and in upcoming news releases!

Please be sure to mark your calendar with important dates and deadlines mentioned in this newsletter. As always, call the Extension office if you have 4-H questions or need assistance.

Take care,

Joli

Joli Pierson
Extension Program Coordinator
4-H Youth Development



4-H Club Enrollment Fees Due!



We have a large number of unpaid 2019-20 4-H year annual enrollment fees. Please pay as soon as possible if you received a past due notice! Youth will not become active members in the new 4-H year until past due balances are paid in full.

This fee is an annual membership fee to the 4-H program and is required of all members to participate in club activities.

New! For the 2020-21 4-H year, ALL fees must be paid at the time of online enrollment. Clubs wishing to cover the cost of member's fees will need to reimburse individual member's families or make pre-arrangements with the Extension office.

Anyone needing reasonable accommodation to participate, should contact the Extension office at (309) 543-3308 for a fee waiver.

Club Reporters and Photographers

What's happening in your club? We'd love to hear about it so we can highlight your club activities and events! Please remember to submit your monthly club meeting report and photos to the Extension office at: jkpiero@illinois.edu





Extension

University of Illinois Extension
Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit
4-H Team



Fulton County 309-547-3711
Janis Blout, 4-H Program Coordinator
jblout@illinois.edu

Debbie Balagna, Office Support
dbalagna@illinois.edu

Mason County 309-543-3308
Joli Pierson, 4-H Program Coordinator
jkpierse@illinois.edu

Paula Lane, Office Support
pclane@illinois.edu

Peoria County 309-685-3140
Cathy Ludolph, 4-H Program Coordinator
ludolph@illinois.edu

Julann Schierer, Office Support
jschiere@illinois.edu

Tazewell County 309-347-6614
Katharine Girone, 4-H Program Coordinator
girone1@illinois.edu

Sheila Bolliger, Office Support
sbollige@illinois.edu

Diane Roecker, Office Support
droecker@illinois.edu

Unit
Emily Schoenfelder, 4-H Youth Educator
eschoe@illinois.edu

Judy Schmidt, Metro 4-H Youth Educator
schmid7@illinois.edu

Earl Allen, County Director
erallen@illinois.edu

Online

web.extension.illinois.edu/fmpt

Facebook-[Fulton County 4-H](#) (closed Group)
[Mason County IL 4-H](#) (closed Group)
[Peoria County 4-H](#)
[Tazewell County IL 4-H](#)

Local 4-H EVENTS

August

18 Mason County 4-H Federation meeting
6 p.m. at the fairgrounds

30 Mason County Shooting Sports Club, leader
meeting, 5 p.m. at the fairgrounds

31 Club records and Individual Member
Recognition forms due to the Extension
office by 4:30p.m.

September

1 Beginning of the 2020-21 4-H Year

The month of September is Hunger Action Month!

Join Food Pantry Network - HOI in spreading awareness! Watch for a special month long event hosted in part by our University of Illinois Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit through Facebook.

WHAT IS HUNGER ACTION MONTH?

Hunger Action Month was established by Feeding America in 2008. Across the nation, every September organizations & people work to raise awareness in communities of the existence of hunger and food insecurity.

WHAT CAN I DO?

Join the event online, invite your friends & family, and share posts from the event with Feeding America's hashtag #HungerActionMonth to raise more awareness.

END OF YEAR AWARD TIME IS APPROACHING



Whether you are a first-year 4-H member or a longtime member, it's time to focus on pulling together information for your 4-H award applications. Even younger members can submit the 4-H Experience Application and be eligible for 4-H recognition. Older members can submit both the 4-H Experience Application and the Illinois 4-H Scholarship Application to be eligible for state recognition, scholarships, and/or trips.

The **Illinois 4-H Experience Award Application** focuses on all of those events and activities that you have experienced during the 4-H year in four areas: *Participation, Community Service, Leadership, and Project Learning*. Depending upon the type and number of experiences you can report on, members can receive recognition on the Bronze, Silver, Gold, Diamond or Emerald Clover Award level. Your family calendar, 4-H notes or county summary, checkmarks, and a few written details are all that's needed for even the youngest members to submit this application. This application can be found @ <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/awards>.

The **Illinois 4-H Scholarship** is a merit-based scholarship to award outstanding work in project areas. Five \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded in each of the following categories: Animal Science, Civic Engagement/Global Living, Creative Performing Arts & Communication, Food Systems, Healthy Living/Nutrition, Leadership, Natural Resources & Environmental Science, Personal Growth and STEM/Robotics. The deadline to apply is November 1. Apply online @ go.illinois.edu/4Hscholarships .

Each 4-H member has a story to tell and are eligible for our 4-H awards program – tell YOUR stories and see where they take you!

CLUB RECOGNITION AWARD



Is your 4-H Club doing outstanding work in the areas of Community Service, Leadership or Project Mastery? If so, you should apply for the Illinois 4-H Club Award! Clubs receiving this award will receive a \$75 cash incentive and an award certificate. This is also a great tool to set goals and plan for the upcoming 4-H year. This application can be found @ <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/awards>.



4-H Club Leaders & Officers— End of the Year Records Due!

The 2019–20 year end club records are due to the Mason Extension office no later than 4:30 p.m. on August 31, 2020.

Required documents are:

- Club Secretary Book, complete with minutes and attendance to each club meeting, notations of motions for expenditures, and approval of motions.
- Club Treasurer's Book, including club bank statements from September 1, 2019—August 31, 2020, club expenditure receipts, and deposit slips.
- Club Annual Financial Statement (page 2 of Treasurer's Book), signed by fiscal review committee, club leader, and club treasurer.

The Treasurer's Book with the Annual Financial Statement, and Secretary book can be found online at: <https://extension.illinois.edu/global/club-resources>

Clubs failing to return this documentation will not be allowed to be active for the 2020–21 new 4-H year.

4-H SHOOTING SPORTS FALL UPDATE

After a survey of shooting sports discipline instructors; key volunteers; and state shooting sports venues – the decision has been made to move all in-person state shoots to a virtual tournament format for health and safety reasons. This will allow for smaller, local competitions to be conducted and supervised by certified Level I 4-H discipline instructors who will then report the youth scores centrally through an on-line system. Only Level I certified instructors may enter scores from 4-H members.



Also, we are happy to announce that our 2020 Illinois 4-H Shooting Sports team members who were scheduled to attend the National 4-H Shoot last June (cancelled due to COVID-19) will be invited to shoot at the same national event in 2021 if they are still age eligible. Our 2020 virtual shoot results and the data from 2019 State Shoots will then be used to fill any gaps in the 2021 Illinois team.

The virtual shoot will run for the months of September – December, 2020. Registration will be free and have both a Junior (11-13 years) and Senior (14-18 years) division! Disciplines offered will be compound archery; recurve archery; shotgun (trap); and air rifle. The rules, registration link, and score submittal link are attached to this email and also posted on the Illinois 4-H website at: <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/illinois-4-h-virtual-shoot-fall-2020>

To be eligible locally: Members must be enrolled in the Mason County 4-H Shooting Sports Club via 4-H Online (<https://il.4honline.com/>) in the CURRENT 2019/20 4-H year, no later than August 28, 2020 if interested! Please select projects/shooting disciplines members wish to compete in. All enrollment fees must be paid.

Re-enrollment and payment of annual 4-H membership fee for the NEW 2020-21 4-H year will also be required. All enrollment fees must be paid.

Please contact the Mason County Extension office before registering for the virtual state competitions!

Mason County Shooting Sports members will be informed of further local details once determined by the county coordinators, certified instructors, and assistants.



4-H Shooting Sports Adult Certification Update

There are no current plans to conduct an in-person 4-H Shooting Sports adult certification training in the fall of 2020 at this time. This situation is still pending and is dependent on pandemic management guidelines.

TRUE LEADERS IN SERVICE – SHARE YOUR STORY!



4-H members and clubs have continued to demonstrate they are *True Leaders in Service*, as they have worked independently to support both their personal and club goals of making a difference in their community by focusing their energies on the 4th “H” and pledge their HANDS to larger service! Illinois 4-H members and clubs have demonstrated how to **Make the Best Better**, during the COVID-19 crisis by developing plans and taking action collecting and donating food to stock shelves at local food pantries; reaching out vulnerable populations who may not have family members close to pick up needed supplies; and by making hundreds of face masks to distribute to medical facilities; local businesses; and in communities.

If you did not register your plan for serve outreach, please use this link to share what your plan <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/clubs>. Be sure to also follow-up and report what you accomplished on through your service project. The accomplishments of both individual members and clubs will be highlighted on the Illinois 4-H Website so make sure you go use the reporting link located in the middle of the page where it says, **CLICK HERE** to report your 4-H Community Service Activity to provide your club update!

ARE YOU READY TO GET YOUR #FARMON?

The #FarmON Benefit Concert is the grand finale of the Farm Journal Field Days, serving as a ‘thank you’ to farmers and ranchers for their hard work and determination to keep our food system going. Tune-in to the livestream on **August 27th at 7 PM CDT / 8 PM EDT. Register at this link** to receive an event reminder. <https://www.farmjournalfielddays.com/register/>

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE JUNIOR LIVESTOCK EXPO

Sept 11-13, 2020 (beef / sheep / dairy goats / pygmy goats / rabbits / poultry)

Sept 18-20, 2020 (swine / dairy cattle / meat goats)

Open to ages 8-21. Held at Illinois State Fair-grounds, Springfield, IL.

This is not a 4-H sponsored activity but may be of interest to you enrolled in related 4-H project areas. For more information: [https://](https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Documents/20%20JrLivestock.pdf)

www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Documents/20%20JrLivestock.pdf

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE JUNIOR HORSE SHOW

August 29-30, 2020 (English Show Portion)

September 5-6, 2020 (Western Show Portion)

Open to ages 8-21. Held at Du Quion State Fair-grounds, Du Quion, IL

This is not a 4-H sponsored activity but may be of interest to you enrolled in related 4-H project areas. For more information: [https://](https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Documents/20%20JrHorse.pdf)

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PROGRESS IN A NEW SUSTAINABLE AG PROJECT

In collaboration with the Illinois 4-H Foundation, Illinois Farm Bureau, and the FarmBot company we are beginning to roll out several pilot sites for the implementation of STEM programming in Ag Education. This educational program is aimed at developing the critical thinking and STEM-related skills of Illinois youth by bringing them into contact with precision agriculture technology and promoting design-thinking approaches to agriculture’s greatest challenges. See this link for a short interview with Illinois Farm Bureau to learn more about the progress we've made.

<https://vimeo.com/438292870>



Let's
CHAT

We LOVE to TALK to our Volunteer's!

4-H VOLUNTEER CAFÉ CONVERSATIONS!

Register to participate in the first *4-H Volunteer Café Conversation* on **Thursday, August 20; at 7 PM**. We are so excited to be launching this new Illinois 4-H opportunity creating a platform for 4-H Volunteers from across Illinois to meet virtually and discuss topics of interest, share both ideas and challenges. Volunteers will gain access to tools & techniques to support their volunteer efforts, strengthening 4-H club and member learning experiences. We will address two topics during each Café Conversation so come with your ideas, questions, and since this is a Café Conversation, feel free to bring a snack as well! This is what we have planned for our first Illinois 4-H Volunteer Café Conversation.

Here are the Specials of the Day:

- Welcome to our Volunteer Cafe - A Few Appetizers to Get Us Started (10 minutes)
 - Special of the Day #1 - Successful Member Recruitment Strategies (15 minutes)
 - Special of the Day #2 - Club Programming to Energize Meetings (15 minutes)
- Wrap Up - Tips & Tools for your Pantry; AND What's on the Menu for Next Time! (10-15 minutes)

Use this registration link to indicate your intent to participate in this new opportunity. Everyone who signs up will receive an email prior to the event with the Zoom Call registration link and additional instructions We look forward to chatting with you soon!

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=22481>

JUST THE HELP YOU NEED FOR YOUR 4-H CLUB

The Illinois 4-H Website has all of the resources and forms needed to guide 4-H club officers, committees, and members as they plan for the new 4-H program year.

Go to go.illinois.edu/IL4H

Click on the **Clubs** tab.

Scroll to Meeting Resources near the bottom of the page

Find these helpful documents:

Club Meeting Agenda – this fillable form is a useful fill-in-the-blank form your club officers can use as they plan each section of the meeting. This useful form provides them with the meeting structure they can use to identify who from the club should be in charge of each potential item that may be included in a meeting.

Club Committee Planning Worksheet – the Committee Planning Worksheet is an excellent tool to give to committee members as they plan club events and activities.

Club Yearly Program Plan – this helpful tool guides the club officers and club members as they identify club goals to work toward during the year and brainstorm what programs, events and/or activities to plan for the club to engage members in fun, hands-on learning experiences throughout the program year.

More – Don't forget to download your new secretary book, treasurer book, tips for good club meetings, tips for using the 4-H name, and more other important resources.

Member Award Recognition Due

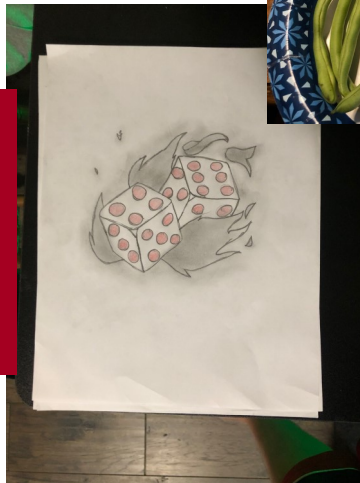
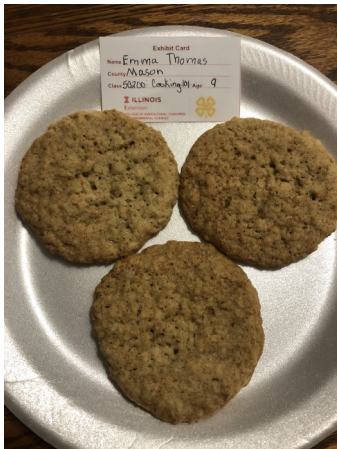
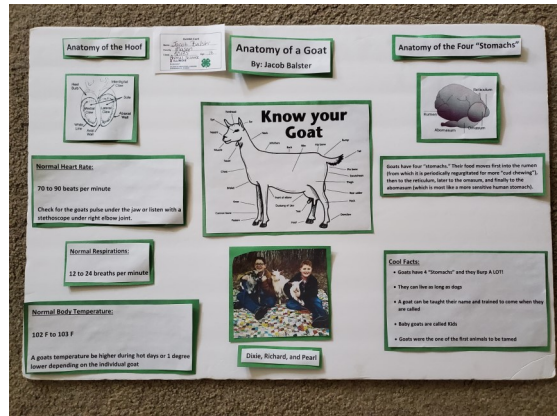
Illinois 4-H Experience Award for Individuals will be due to the Extension office no later than 4:30 p.m. on August 31, 2020.

Use this link for the application and further information:

<https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/members/awards>



Just a few of the photos that were submitted as fair entries for the 2020 Mason County Virtual 4-H Show. More photos and livestock entry videos and results can be viewed at <https://extension.illinois.edu/fmpt/4-h-shows-county-fairs>.





University of Illinois Extension
Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit
Mason Branch Office
127 S. High St., Ste. 1
Havana, IL 62644



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