

## Upcoming Events

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### February

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### March

5 | Public Speaking Entries Due [6](#) | Federation [7](#) | Dairy SPIN Club Meeting [13](#) | Public Speaking Contest [27](#) | Youth Farm



### Happy Holidays!

I want to wish you a very happy holiday season! I hope you have some time to relax and enjoy some time with your family and friends! I hope you have the best holiday season! I am looking forward to seeing each of you after the holidays at the many fun events we have planned!

*Kristi*

### Clover Clinic BACK to ICC!

4-H Clover Clinic is a large multi-project workshop day for youth ages 8 to 18. It is designed to give participants a chance to select fun, hands-on workshops to experience many different project areas. Classes are hands-on and taught by volunteers with expertise in their areas.

- Date: Saturday, February 15, 2025
- Time: 9am – 3:45pm
- Location: Illinois Central College, 1 College Dr, East Peoria, IL 61611
- Lunch Break: Bring a sack lunch to fuel your energy for the exciting afternoon ahead!
- Cost: \$20, includes a drawstring bag (fee waivers available)
- Ages: Any youth 8-18
- Classes: Select 2 workshops in the morning and 2 after lunch. Most workshops are offered twice to make sure you can attend your favorites!
- First Come, First Served: Classes fill up fast, so secure your spot early! Please be sure to complete a separate registration for each child.
- Register online at: <https://go.illinois.edu/4-HCloverClinic>

### Livestock Day 2025!

Want to learn about Livestock AND get your credit taken care of for YQCA? Join us for Livestock Day 2025 at Raber Packing Co on Monday, February 17, 2025! We will take our YQCA class, and learn actual practical knowledge! You will also have the opportunity to participate in a Skillathon and test your knowledge and skills! The link to sign up will be available here after the new year: <https://registration.extension.illinois.edu/start/livestock-day-2025>

### NEW Projects!

I am so excited for the new Projects that we have in Illinois 4-H!

The new projects for this year are:  
 Babysitting (Replaces Child Development)  
 Costume Design  
 Clothing Embellishment  
 Global Gourmet  
 Kitchen Boss  
 Science Fun with Dairy Foods  
 Science Fun with Kitchen Chemistry  
 Everyday Food and Fitness (Replaces Health 1-3)  
 Service Learning (Formerly Community Service)  
 Theatre Arts 2  
 Chalk/ Carbon/ Pigment on Glass, Wood, Metal or textiles Division C  
 Computer Generated Art - Graphic Design  
 Three Dimensional Design/ Mixed Media:  
 Diorama

**The 4-H Fair will be held July 9-11, 2025 . We are really looking forward to the fair this year and hope you are too!**

## Welcome New Members!

**Dunlap Dynamite Cloverbuds**  
 Samantha Swingler

**Limestone Leaders**  
 Clara Harding  
 Daniel Speichinger  
 Dinah Harding  
 Henry Moore

**Edelstein Eager Beavers**  
 Ashley Joos  
 Carter Stoller  
 Iris Martin  
 Julius Yess

**Limestone Leaders Cloverbuds**  
 Abram Harding  
 Ethan Speichinger

**Kickapoo Kickers**  
 Samuel Wilcox

**Peoria Clovers**  
 Ella Kiesel  
 Donnie Suydam

**Laura Winners**  
 Barrett Simpson  
 Coley Palmer  
 Dollar Perham  
 Reid Thompson

**Peoria Clovers Cloverbuds**  
 Evan Kiesel  
 Fletcher Suydam  
 Mabel Monkemeyer

**Laura Winners Cloverbuds**  
 Brett Thompson  
 Sadie Thompson



## Awards Celebrations

The awards celebration will look a little different this year! I am planning on bringing them to YOU! We will be celebrating at all of your club meetings through the winter!

## Two HUGE Thank yous!

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank a few awesome groups of people!

Raber Packing Co. donated the food at the auction for us to eat in Memory of Carol Wetterauer.

Princeville FFA donated the backdrop! Please feel free to send each of these amazing donors a Thank you note!

### Raber Packing Co

3000 W Farmington Rd  
West Peoria, IL 61604

### Princeville FFA

302 Cordis St  
Princeville, IL 61559

## Parent's Night Out!

Parent's Night Out was held at the Peoria office on Friday, December 6! I would like to give a HUGE Thank you to the Federation members! I couldn't have done it without them!



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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

### Rachel VanCleve

4-H Program Coordinator, Fulton County

### Joli Pierson

4-H Program Coordinator, Mason County

### Kristi Smith

4-H Program Coordinator, Peoria County

### Lynda Sharp-Lower

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

## Need a New project book for your new Project?

Order your project books here:

[https://illinois.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_1GNQ\\_RJhubr0akES](https://illinois.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1GNQ_RJhubr0akES)

Project books are a great guide to learning more about your project. They guide you in what you will need to learn. Some projects require you to have the project book. A list of those projects are:

Costume Design  
Clothing Embellishment  
Sewing 1, 2 & 3  
Shopping In Style  
Build your Future  
Communications 1, 2 & 3  
Journalism, News & Social Media  
Entrepreneurship: Be the E!  
My Financial Future 1, 2 & 3  
Crops Record Books  
UAV All options  
Entomology 1, 2 & 3  
eSports  
Exploratory  
Collectibles  
Cooking 101, 201, 301 & 401  
Global Gourmet  
Kitchen Boss  
Science Fun with Dairy Foods  
Science Fun with Kitchen Chemistry  
What's on Your Plate, Exploring Food Science  
Forests of Fun 1, 2 & 3  
Sports Nutrition: Ready, Set, Go  
Your Feelings Matter - Navigating Mental Health  
Your Thoughts Matter - Navigating Mental Health  
Passport to the World  
Diversity & Cultural Awareness  
Leadership 1, 2 & 3  
Maker  
Exploring your Environment 1 & 2  
Outdoor Adventures 1-3  
Sportfishing 1, 2 & 3  
Wildlife 1, 2 & 3  
Photography 1, 2 & 3  
Plants & Soils 1, 2 & 3  
Robotics 1, 2 & 3  
Junk Drawer Robotics 1, 2 & 3  
Tractor A, B, C & D  
Weather and Climate Science 1, 2 & 3  
Welding

## Office Closed Dates

The Office will be closed from the end of the day on December 20, 2024 until Wednesday, January 1, 2025. We will not be checking our emails or phone calls. Please plan accordingly.

## Fashion Week SPIN Club

The Peoria Fashion Week SPIN Club will continue meeting again on January 5th! Other dates that the Club will meet are:

January 19th

February 9th

March 2nd

March 16th

March 30th

April 1st (Graduation Walk Through)

April 2nd (Fashion Gala and Graduation)

April 4th (Fashion Show)

Most of these dates, the SPIN Club will meet at Dream Center Peoria! It's not too late to join! Email Kristi if you would like to join!



## Sheep SPIN Club

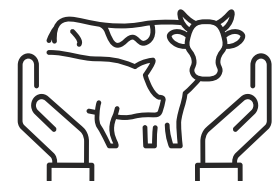
Are you ready to dive into the fascinating world of sheep? The Peoria County Sheep SPIN Club is gearing up for an exciting season, running from winter through summer 2025!

The journey begins Saturday, January 18th, at 10:00 AM at Dunlap High School. Through the winter and spring, we'll gather for engaging hands-on sessions and activities. Once summer arrives, the fun moves to Sarah's farm, where you'll have the chance to work directly with sheep and gain real-world experience! Fill out this form to let us know that you're coming! <https://go.illinois.edu/SheepSPIN>, or contact Sarah Lueschow at 309-256-3115 or [slueschow@dunlapcusd.net](mailto:slueschow@dunlapcusd.net).



## ZSuite Enrollment

Remember: you are not a full 4-H member until you register (and pay) on ZSuite! Please make sure that you have completed your enrollment at: <https://4h.zsuite.org/>



## Livestock Judging Practices

Livestock Judging will resume January 14 and will go through June. We have a lot of fun, and even learn some! Contact Kristi if you would like to join! We meet on Tuesday Nights at 5 PM!

## Officer & Leader Training

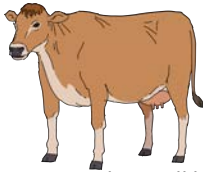
Are you an officer in your club? Are you interested in being one in the future? This fun and interactive training can help you learn more about your role. Play games! Get tips on how to make your meetings fun! Learn to be the leader your club needs!

- Date: January 25, 2025
- Time: 9 am - 12 noon
- Location: University of Illinois Extension Office, Tazewell Branch (1505 Valle Vista Blvd. Pekin, IL) Register here: <https://4h.zsuite.org/event-registrations/33461>



## Save the Date for Prepare for the Fair!

Our Prepare for the Fair Night will be Tuesday, May 27th at 6 PM at the Peoria County Office! Come learn all about the ins and outs of the 4-H Fair!

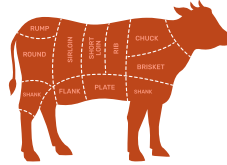


## Dairy Show

The 2025 Peoria County 4-H Dairy Show will be held on Saturday, June 14th at Linden Hill Dairy Farm!

## Beef Weigh In

The Beef Weigh in for 2025 will be held on Saturday, February 1st from 8 am to noon! Please let us know if you are planning to make it! The weigh in will take place at: Iliff Veterinary and Consulting: 8165 Township Rd 1500 E, Wyoming, IL 61491



## Showbook Cover Design Contest

Start preparing now! The Showbook covers will be due on Monday, March 21, 2025. Please make sure to include the dates on your showbook cover!



## Save the Date for Floral Design!

Julie Blunier from J.Blu Designs is once again graciously hosting a Floral Design Workshop on Monday, April 7th at her shop! Details will come out later. Space will be limited, so please be watching for the registration link!

## Join Federation!

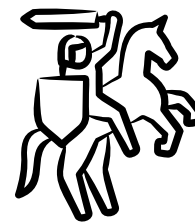
The January Federation Meeting will be held at the Peoria Office on Thursday, January 9th, 2025 at 6 PM. We will be learning about making a Charcuterie board!

The February Federation meeting will be held at the Peoria Office on Thursday, February 6, 2025. This will be our Leader's Tea! If you are a Leader, please consider attending!



## 4-H Night with the Peoria Rivermen

The Rivermen Hockey team is offering all 4-H members and their families \$15 tickets for February 21st! The Rivermen games are an exhilarating local highlight, featuring our area's beloved hockey team. Whether you're a die-hard fan or a first-timer, attending a Rivermen game with 4-H guarantees a night filled with fast-paced action, teamwork, and community spirit. Be sure to grab your tickets and cheer them on to victory. <https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/4h87>



## Historical Reenactment SPIN Club

The January Meeting of the Historical Reenactment SPIN Club will be held on Wednesday, January 15 at the Princeville Heritage Museum starting at 5 PM. We will be learning about putting together our costumes!

# Market Outlook

Join us January 21, 2025, at 2 p.m. for a Market Outlook meeting at the Farm Bureau Building

RSVP to



309.686.7070

1716 N University St. Peoria, IL

[www.peoriacountyfarmbureau.org](http://www.peoriacountyfarmbureau.org)

[office@peoriacountyfarmbureau.org](mailto:office@peoriacountyfarmbureau.org)

*Must be a Farm Bureau member to attend*





## Save the Date for Tree Day!

Be watching upcoming emails and newsletters for Tree Day Announcement! We are hoping to plant more trees this year in partnership with the Illinois Soil and Water Conservation District as well as the Peoria Park District! We will also have some fun tree themed activities for that day too!

## Join the Youth Leadership Team!

Calling All Teen Leaders: Join the Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team! The Youth Leadership team is for teens between 16 and 19 that want to make a real impact on 4-H! The Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team is searching for passionate and dedicated teens to join our team! This program offers an incredible opportunity to develop your leadership skills while giving back to the 4-H community.

Here's what you'll do:

- Plan and implement the state Jr. Leadership Conference, practice your planning, facilitations and leadership skills.
- Develop and deliver the Speaking for Illinois 4-H program, helping your peers become confident public speakers.
- Provide essential support for many exciting statewide 4-H events, shaping the experience for thousands of 4-H members.
- Gain valuable experience by serving on planning committees and advisory groups, including the Illinois 4-H Alumni Board and the Illinois Farm Bureau Youth Education Committee.
- Become an ambassador for the Illinois 4-H program, inspiring others and leaving a lasting legacy.

Ready to take your leadership skills to the next level? Apply today!

Application deadline: December 31, 2024

Apply online: [go.illinois.edu/4hylv](https://go.illinois.edu/4hylv)

## Junk Journaling Online Workshop

This interactive virtual workshop will guide youth through the art of junk journaling, where they'll turn everyday materials into meaningful, one-of-a-kind journals. Participants will explore techniques like collage, layering, doodling, and upcycling, as they craft unique pages that reflect their interests, dreams, and stories. Along the way, they'll learn how to repurpose materials, experiment with different layouts, and use art as a tool for self-reflection. Whether adding photos, ticket stubs, favorite quotes, or mini sketches, this workshop invites youth to turn scraps into treasures while connecting with others in a fun and supportive environment. Participants can request accommodations through the event registration

The workshop will be held Monday, February 17th; 2:00 - 3:00 pm on Zoom - link will be provided before the session. It is open to 4-H members 11-18 years of age. A basic supply list will be provided after registration. Registration is on ZSuite!



## Junior Livestock Conference

Registration is officially open! Join the State 4-H Livestock Ambassador Team at the 2025 Junior Livestock Conference, where this year's theme of the Wild, Wild West meets hands-on learning! Whether you own livestock or not, there's plenty of fun and discovery waiting for you.

Dates: January 25-26, 2025

Location: Crowne Plaza, Springfield

Who can attend: 7th-9th grade 4-H members

Cost: \$170 (includes lodging, t-shirt, meals, and activities!)

Register by: January 2, 2025

Space is limited to 100 participants, and this event fills fast—don't wait to lasso your spot!

Ready to explore the science and skills of livestock production and exhibition? Learn more, request accommodations, and register here:

<https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/state-events/junior-livestock-conference>

## Public Speaking Contest

The Public Speaking Contest for 2025 will be held at the Peoria office on Thursday, March 13, 2025. We will have light refreshments. Entries will be open after the new year, and will close on Wednesday, March 5th, 2025! Looking forward to see what you all come up with!



## Interested in Meat Judging?

The Illinois Association of Meat Processors and the University of Illinois Meats Judging Team are collaborating to continue the Illinois Meats Judging Series in 2025! This is open to all FFA and 4-H Youth with locations stretched throughout the state. Each contest will include a clinic. Illinois Farm Bureau is sponsoring awards for the top individuals and teams in Junior and Senior Divisions at each of the events and sponsoring event banners. We hope to see you at one of the 2025 dates:

- January 25 - Raber Packing Company, West Peoria
  - February 8 - Eickman's Processing, Seward
  - February 15 - Wenneman Meat Company, St. Libory
  - February 28 - State 4-H Meat Judging Contest
- If you would like to be added to an email list about the events or for accommodation information, please email: [jfaber@pontiac90.org](mailto:jfaber@pontiac90.org) For more information, please visit: <https://pontiacffa.com/meats-judging-series/>



## Trophy Thank you Reminder

Remember to send a thank you note to the generous donors who provided trophies and awards for this year's fair. It's important to show our appreciation for their support of the 4-H community. If you need help with contact information, please reach out to the office.

## Club Reports

Thank you so much for getting your Club reports in! Please continue to email your Reports to: kristis2@illinois.edu



## Laura Winners

The Laura Winners 4-H Club met on October 20 at the Laura Methodist Church. The meeting began at 5 p.m. and ended at 5:50 p.m. We took a roll, and then talked about group projects. After taking care of our regular business, then our group leaders decided on our new officer team, during which the club played a game, President Rylie Walsh, Vice President Alivia Cowser, Secretary Reagon Walsh, Treasurer Kenzie Murphy, Recreation Ty Mcfarland and Colson Cowser, Scrap Book Club, and Reporter Wyatt Blasa. After our new officers were elected we all had caramel-covered apple slices and apple cider. The Laura Winners 4-H club will have their next meeting on November 17.

-Respectfully Submitted: Wyatt Blasa

The Laura Winners 4-H Club met on November 17 at the Laura Methodist Church. The meeting began at 5 p.m. We took the Pledge and took roll.

After taking care of our regular business we ended the meeting at 5:16 p.m. Then we played a game and then made Christmas ornaments for the club tree in the Princeville town square. The Laura Winners will be serving food at the craft show in the Millbrook Township Center on December 7th. The Laura Winners 4-H Club will have its next meeting on January 12.

-Respectfully Submitted: Wyatt Blasa



## Want a hardcopy of the newsletter?

Email Kristi at [kristis2@illinois.edu](mailto:kristis2@illinois.edu)

## Jubilee Patriots and Elmwood All-Stars

This year the Jubilee Patriots and Elmwood All-Stars will continue to have their meetings together. For the October meeting, we held elections. We decided that we would have only one officer position for our combined clubs presidents, vice presidents and secretary, but we still kept two treasurers. The new officers are President-Jacob Gilles, Vice President-Bernadette Mattern, Secretary- Callie Plumer, Treasurers- Henry Manzke and , Reporter-Sebastian Mattern, and scrapbook

Respectfully Submitted: Sebastian Mattern

We decided to again this year give hats and gloves to the Brimfield food pantry to add to their Christmas baskets. Club members will buy what they can and what we lack, the club will pay for. Our next meeting will be in November. We are encouraging our members to participate in helping with the Food Pantry as our outreach in December. There will be no formal meeting in December.

- Reporter of the Jubilee patriots/Elmwood All Stars 4-H club Sebastian Mattern.

## 12 Days of Giving

Join Food Pantry Network -Heart of Illinois (HOI) in giving back this holiday season through the 12 Days of Giving!

The Holidays are a season of giving, a time when many are thinking of how they can give back. The season can also be one of great need for pantry guests as they try to provide for their family. Food Pantry Network - Heart of Illinois (HOI) developed the 12 Days of Giving campaign to help bridge that gap by highlighting needed nutritious foods, hygiene items and warming items for our pantry guests.

Over the course of 12 days, add the items to your donation container and deliver it to your local food pantry. Visit the Find Food IL Community Food Map at [go.illinois.edu/FindFoodIL](http://go.illinois.edu/FindFoodIL) to find details about food pantries near you.



## Illini Summer Academies Design Team Looking for Teammates!

The Illini Summer Academies (ISA) Design Team is an opportunity for young leaders to build their communication, teamwork, and event-planning skills in a supportive and collaborative environment. Team members will play a direct role in planning and implementing the 2025 ISA which will be held on campus at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign from June 22-26. Applicants are eligible for consideration if they are a high-school student in Illinois and have provided the name and contact information of a reference that can speak to their leadership and communication skills. Follow-up interviews will take place in early January 2025. Only five leadership positions are available. Selected applicants will be able to register for ISA '25 free of charge where they will have some additional responsibilities alongside their role as a student attendee.

Requirements:

- Applicants must be available for a 1.5-hour planning meeting monthly from Jan. - June 2025 as well as complete assigned tasks independently or in small groups.
- Applicants must be able to be present at the entire 2025 ISA event.

Deadline for Applications: Sunday, December 22  
For more information about Illini Summer Academies, please visit our event webpage at: <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/state-events/illini-summer-academies>



## New Volunteer Training Series

Thriving Youth Thriving Clubs: 4-H Thriving Model Volunteer Training Series  
January 14, 7 to 8:15 pm

At this training series for adult volunteers, learn about the fundamentals of the 4-H Thriving Model of Positive Youth Development and how creating an environment for youth to thrive also helps your club thrive! Volunteers can attend just one session or all three! The training is virtual. Register online and request accommodations for sessions via ZSuite events! <https://4h.zsuite.org/event-registrations/32881>



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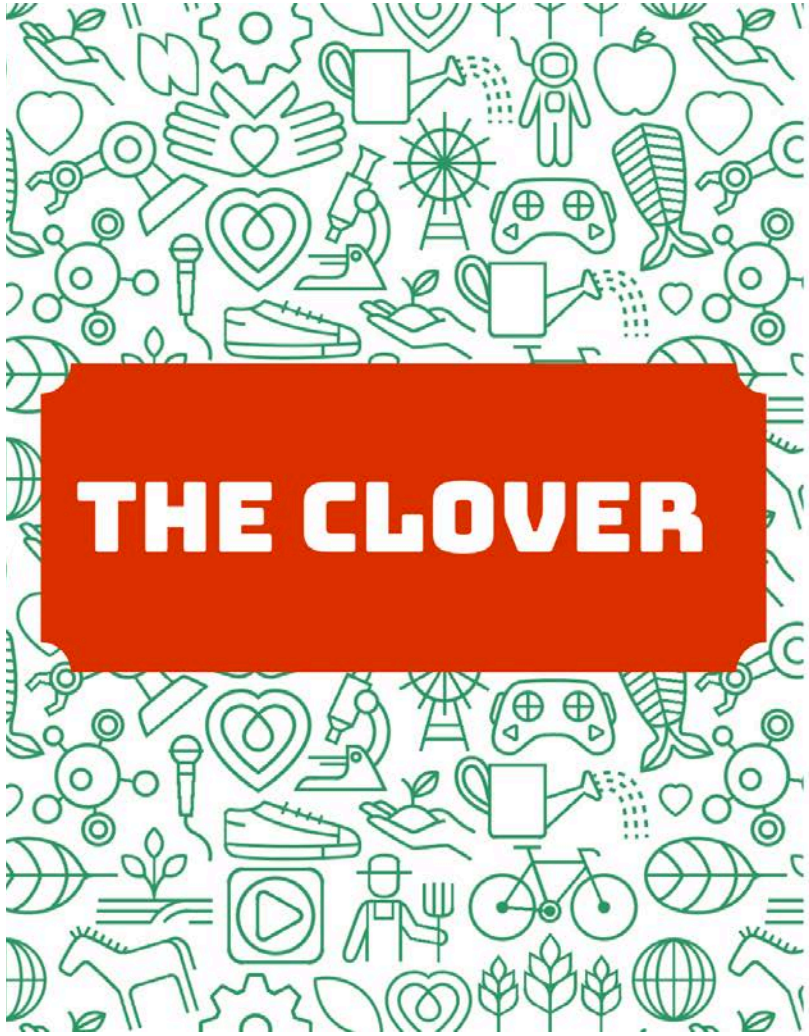
**University of Illinois Extension**

Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit

Peoria County Branch Office

4810 N Sheridan RD

Peoria, IL 61614



**Upcoming Peoria County 4-H Events**

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- 5 | Federation
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- 6 | Parent's Night Out
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- 12 | Youth Farm Meeting
- 24-1/2 | Office Closed

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