



4-H NEWSLETTER

January & February 2023



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

Dear 4-H Families,

Happy New Year! This time of year is always exciting! There are so many fun things coming up, and it's fun just to look forward to them! There is so much you can do in the coming months! We are so excited to offer a series of workshops called Clovers Around the Counties! Be looking for more information on that. We also have a ton of fun and exciting SPIN Clubs gearing up, so be sure to check those out too! I am looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Kristi

Birthday Bags

We are once again doing Birthday Bags! During the Month of February, 4-H members in Peoria County are invited to "Pledge your Hands to Larger Service". All Birthday Bags collected will be delivered to local food pantries in Peoria County.

Please drop off all assembled Birthday Bags by February 24 at the Extension office. If you club is assembling the bags as a group project please take and share pictures with us! Items to include in the bags are:

- Box of Cake Mix
- Canned Frosting
- Birthday Candles
- Birthday Card
- Small (inexpensive) Gift (Please indicate on the outside of the bag the gender and age of child the gift is for – don't forget teenagers like birthday gifts too!)



Beef Weigh In

Beef weigh in will be taking place Saturday, February 4th at Iliff Veterinary and Consulting, LLC at 8165 Township Road 1500 E, Wyoming, IL 61491. Please let Kristi know how many steers you plan to bring. As a reminder, if you plan to show a steer at the county or State Fair, the steer must go through an official weigh in and tattooing. You may go to other counties, but Kristi must get those papers back. You do NOT have to take your heifers to a beef weigh in.

Remembering Cathy



Cathy Ludolph was Peoria County 4-H. She poured her heart and soul into it. She was devoted to every single one of us, along with our growth and success. I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for Cathy. She inspired me, and was a wonderful friend. I know that each one of us has a story of how Cathy

was supportive, shared our joys, or just had fun with us. Unfortunately, in December, we lost Cathy. It's always a tragedy when we lose someone, but I can't express how deeply saddened we are by losing her.

To honor her, we are planning on celebrating in some big ways this year, and every year. This year we are inviting past, present, and future Federation Members to join us for a Pizza party at the 4-H Fair on Wednesday, July 12, 2023 at Expo Gardens. We will be sharing stories about Cathy, and celebrating her legacy, while eating pizza, of course!

Enrollment

Thank you to those of you who have completed your enrollment! Great job getting that done! Don't forget to enroll in ZSuite if you haven't already. The project enrollment deadline is May 1! Make sure you sign up by May 1 so that you can participate in the 4-H Fair! Also, make sure that you sign up for all the projects you want!

Public Speaking Contest

The Peoria County 4-H Public Speaking Contest will be held at the Extension office on Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 6 p.m.. It is a fun night to attend! Remember to sign up for the Public Speaking project in ZSuite. Please send your speech titles to Kristi before March 6. If you aren't sure about Public Speaking, but want to see what it is, join us for this fun competition!

Sheep SPIN Club



We are SUPER EXCITED to announce a brand new SPIN Club! Come learn about sheep, and how to show them! You will even get to show a sheep at the 4-H Fair! The Sheep SPIN Club will have their first

meeting at the Kickapoo Township Hall, 10025 West US Hwy 150, Edwards on January 21 at 11 a.m., and the theme will be introduction and sheep skills activities. They will continue meeting on Saturdays at 11 a.m., on the following dates: February 4 – Breeds; February 18 – Care of Newborn Lambs; March 11 – Anatomy and Conformation; March 25 – Care and Feeding; April 15 – Health and Diseases; April 29 – Wool; May 20 – Products and Cuts of Meat; June and July – TBD. If you have any questions about this new and exciting club, contact Sarah at slueschow@dunlapcusd.net

4-H Events

January

- 21—Sheep SPIN Club Meeting
- 21—Neighbor Kids Dairy SPIN Club Meeting
- 28—Great Learning Garden SPIN Club Meeting
- 28—Clovers Around the Counties: Kitchen Adventures

February

- 1—Theme Due
- 2—Federation Meeting
- 4—Beef Weigh-In
- 4—Sheep SPIN Club Meeting
- 18—Sheep SPIN Club Meeting
- 18—Clovers Around the Counties: Visual Arts & Interior Design
- 20—Clovers Around the Counties: Livestock Day
- 23—Birthday Bags due
- 25—Great Learning Garden SPIN Club Meeting
- 25—Neighbor Kids Dairy SPIN Club Meeting

March

- 2—Federation Meeting
- 3—Showbook Covers Due
- 9—County Public Speaking Contest
- 11—Sheep SPIN Club Meeting
- 11—Clovers Around the Counties: Rocks and Minerals
- 11—Clovers around the Counties: Gardening with Pollinators
- 14—Livestock and Auction Committee Meeting
- 18—Clovers Around the Counties: Rabbit Day
- 18—Clovers Around the Counties: Poultry Day
- 25—Great Learning Garden SPIN Club Meeting
- 25—Sheep SPIN Club Meeting
- 25—Clovers Around the Counties: Cake Decorating

April

- 6—Federation Meeting
- 15—Sheep SPIN Club Meeting
- 19—Foundation Meeting
- 27—Leader Meeting
- 29—Great Learning Garden SPIN Club Meeting
- 29—Sheep SPIN Club Meeting
- 29—State Public Speaking Contest

Save the Dates!

The 4-H Fair will be held July 12-14, 2023 at Expo Gardens in Peoria!



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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

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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Great Learning Garden SPIN Club

The Great Learning Garden SPIN Club is looking forward to spring! Join them at their next creative group meeting on January 28 at Wildlife Prairie Park! The theme is Nature in love, come learn about how some animals and insects attract their Valentines by scent, color, flight, sound, and other strange and wonderful ways of communicating with each other! Other upcoming creative group meetings are February 25, March 25, and April 29.



Neighbor Kids Dairy SPIN Club

Have you ever wanted to learn more about Dairy cattle while having a dairy good time? Join the Neighbor Kids SPIN Club! Their next meeting in January 21 at 2 p.m. at Linden Hill Farms (8412 W Middle Rd, Peoria, IL 61607). Dress for the weather, and remember, you could get dirty! The January meeting will be focused on tagging and tattooing! The February meeting will be February 25th at 2 p.m.. Take this chance to work with dairy cattle!

Share the Fun Contest

Get your skits ready! We are once again doing the Share the Fun Contest at the 4-H Fair! Federation is extremely excited to be hosting this competition again! We will be announcing the Theme in the next Newsletter!

Thank you!

Thank you to Ben and Ann Herrmann for hosting the Awards Ceremony at their shed! It worked out great, and definitely kept us from blowing away! Thank you to Hannah Martin for connecting us!

Be a Teen Teacher

Interested in a career in teaching? Or maybe you're just interested in working with kids! If this is true, you should check out the 4-H Teen Teachers! There are so many fun things you get to do! If you are interested in joining Teen Teachers, the next meeting is January 30 at 6 p.m. at the Peoria County Extension Office! We hope to see you there!

Federation News

We are having a TON of fun in Federation! Join us for our next meeting at Wheel Art Pottery on February 2, 2023 at 6 p.m.. Please RSVP to Kristi at kristis2@illinois.edu by Friday, January 27, as they will need to know what to set up for us! Other upcoming meetings will involve fun activities like this one, and will be: March 2, April 6, May 11, and June 1 (Messy Games). If you have any questions about Federation, feel free to reach out to Kristi. Most meetings are at the Kickapoo Township Hall from 6 to 8 p.m..

Dog Obedience SPIN Club

This is a reminder that the Dog Obedience SPIN Club will be starting again soon. Please watch upcoming newsletters for more details. In order to compete in the Dog Show, you must go to at least a few of these meetings, and it is encouraged to participate in the club because it's fun!

4-H Fair Opportunities

Don't forget, there are a lot of fun things that happen at the 4-H Fair, and we can use your help! Think about being a Junior Superintendent or singing the National Anthem for Barnyard Olympics! Don't forget to fill out the Scholarship Applications. We are again recognizing our members who are celebrating their last year in 4-H, and who are graduating Seniors. Don't forget to fill out the forms when they come out!

2023 Show Theme

We want you to make your mark on the 2023 Peoria County 4-H Fair! Send in your ideas for a theme for this year's fair! Please email your ideas to Kristi at kristis2@illinois.edu by February 1!

SAVE THE DATE

4G STEM Camp
GIRLS + GADGETS + GAMES + GENIUS
DATE: JUNE 26-30, 2023
LOCATION: BRADLEY UNIVERSITY
Registration will open March 1
For more information: <https://extension.illinois.edu/fmpt>

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BRADLEY University

Peoria Clovers

At our November meeting we enjoyed a talk about horses given by Riley and Mazzy. The Peoria Clovers had a food drive and collected over 70 food items. We also learned how to fold napkins and make pies for Thanksgiving. In December, Courtney Curtis, from Sofia's Kitchen, shared with us all the good they do for the community. The Clovers decorated 500 bags to pack their lunches in. We also decorated cards and ornaments for the residents of the Grand Regency Assisted Living Facility.



Edelstein Eager Beavers

The most recent meeting of the Edelstein Eager Beavers was held at Wieland's shed on November 21. We started the meeting and then after the pledges were said and we discussed everything we needed to we had the officer installation ceremony. The officers were President-Gabe Herrmann, Vice President-Serenity Martin, Secretary-Aleah Martin, Treasurer-Joanna Young, Historian-Kinley Martin, Reporter-Ivory Herrmann, Recreation leader-Derek Martin. After we did that, we put together Christmas crafts for kids and their families in the hospital. One of the crafts was candy items. We glued the wrapped candy together to make it look like Christmas trees and other things. The other craft we did was decorating paper stockings and putting together bags of gifts for different ages of children. We ate a snack after that and then we left. For December, we will not have a formal meeting, but just this morning we met to ring bells for the Salvation Army at Sam's Club. We found that if we sang Christmas carols we got more donations. It was cold but fun! Written by Ivory Herrmann

Elmwood All-Stars

Meeting October 16, 2022

This is our first meeting of the 4-H year. Traditionally, our first meeting is a weiner roast, and this year it was hosted by our leader, Missy Stevens. At our meeting for old business, we discussed registration for the new 4-H year if we hadn't done so already, 4h.zsuite.org/. For new business, we discussed how we would get new members to join our club as our numbers have been dropping. This is when Anna Salverson, our club secretary, had the idea that she would be using her passion project to inform the younger classes in the elmwood elementary school of 4-H and the opportunities in 4-H. She will be giving monthly updates on her project. After we adjourned the meeting we made apple cider with a press that the Stevens's owned and their apples and pears from their trees. We all took turns turning the hand crank which was rather difficult.

Meeting November 20, 2022

For our second meeting of the year, we had to move our meeting up to 3:30 due to unforeseen circumstances. We were again reminded to register for 4-H on the new website, 4h.zsuite.org/. Because of the time change not as many people were able to attend the meeting. After the meeting we played a game of would you rather with our club. We learned about each other and the choices we would make.

Meeting December 18, 2022

For the December meeting the Elmwood All-Stars celebrated the last meeting of the year with a pizza party before the meeting with club members bringing desserts to share. Old business consisted of reminding the club to register for the new year on 4h.zsuite.org/. For new business we were notified that the Peoria County fair would be earlier in the year than usual, in July 12-14, 2023. The State fair will be August 10-20, 2023. The club discussed their January community service project of tie blankets for the local nursing home. They decided for a \$100 cap on spending for the blankets. For the October meeting weiner roast the club reimbursed Mrs. Stevens \$38.90 and for the pizza party this month Mrs. Stevens was reimbursed \$117.97. After the meeting was adjourned the club played a game of left right in which Mrs. Stevens read a story and all the club members stand in a circle each with an envelope. Whenever Mrs. Stevens read the story out loud and said "right" or "left" the envelopes held by the club members would be passed in that direction. When the story was finished the club members were allowed to open the envelopes which held candy canes for each of the club members. The next meeting will be January 15 at 6pm located at the Elmwood United Methodist Church. The following meeting will be February 19, at 6pm located at the Elmwood United Methodist Church. All are welcome. Submitted by Alyssa Piper

Dunlap Dynamite

The meeting was the first Dunlap Dynamite meeting for a few years while the club was on hiatus. The club welcomes several new families to 4H! There were many questions about projects and what 4H can offer for 4H'ers, Cloverbuds and families. Elections were held for officers and those are as follows:

President: Ahnika Collins

Vice President:

Secretary: Grace Seymour

Reporter: Justus Collins

Treasurer: Max Stewart

Recreation: William Sipp

We had snacks provided by the leader and calendar has been set for the next meeting on Oct. 23, 2022. This meeting will be an installation of officers and potluck. Respectfully submitted, Karen Carter

At the October meeting for 4-H, when everyone arrived, we all greeted each other and started by introducing the newly appointed officers.

It was a very casual meeting since it was just before Halloween, and we had a potluck. Everyone got to know each other. We discussed the plans for the future meetings and played games.

We voted and appointed a service project committee and came up with different ideas for our service project in December. We also discussed that registration emails would be sent out soon. Written by Justus Collins

On the November 27th 4-H meeting we began by the President calling the meeting to order. Celeste Collins lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance and Max Stewart lead us in our 4-H Pledge.

We set the date for our next 4-H meeting early because of the Christmas holiday. We also set the date of December 17th to visit a nursing home for our service project. We will make Christmas cards to take to the nursing home at our December meeting. We will have pizza and snacks. The President closed the meeting. We played telephone, ate snacks, and left. Written by Justus Collins

Design the Show Book Cover

It's that time of year again! We are looking for someone super creative to design our show book cover! You can either hand draw, or design on the computer. You are welcome to incorporate original photographs or clipart into your design. Copyrighted work is not allowed. If you would like to use the 4-H logo, please contact the Extension office to receive an official copy. Information that must be on the cover:

Peoria County 4-H Show Book
July 12, 13 & 14, 2023
Exposition Gardens, Peoria, IL

Designs are due to the Extension office by Friday, March 3, 2023.

Welcome New Members!

Dunlap Dynamite

Ahnika Collins
Justus Collins
Lucas Diaz
Joshua Medora
Grace Seymour
Natalie Smith
Max Stewart

Laura Winners

Sadie Fielder
Adelyn Kennelly
Sophia Kennelly
Vivian Kennelly
Cane Weaver
Corbin Weaver
Ella Younglove
Warren Younglove

Edelstein Eager Beavers

Titus Herrmann
Charlotte Morris
Simon Stoller
Kayna Yess

Peoria Clovers

Brennyn Adams
Landon Schallhorn
Charles Worland
Emma Ziegler
Felicity Ziegler
Grace Ziegler
Maria Ziegler
Ruth Ziegler
Gabriella Zimmerman

Elmwood All-Stars

Paxton Windish

Midnight Riders

Anna Sayles

Welcome New Cloverbuds!

Dunlap Dynamite

Arabella Collins
Aurora Collins
Celeste Collins
Henry Seymour
Warren Smith

Laura Winners

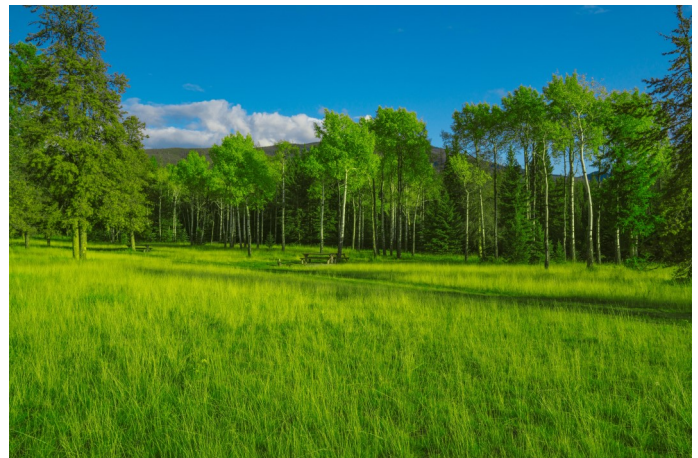
Eugene Younglove

Peoria Clovers

Max Torres Ravelo
Luke Schallhorn
Ripley Stromberg
Raj Triplet
Cordelia Worland

Edelstein Eager Beavers

Malachi Herrmann
Elise Joos
Cailyn Martin
Ember Martin



Green Communities Project

We have once again been selected to participate in the Green Communities Project again! We will get to plant trees at Charter Oak Park this year. Be watching upcoming newsletters for more information!

News from Illinois 4-H

4-H Camp Registration



2023 Summer Youth Camp at 4-H Memorial Camp is coming soon! Online registration for 4-H Club members will begin on Jan 23. Registration will open for non 4-H Club members on Feb 6. Visit 4h.extension.illinois.edu/event/4-h-memorial-camp/4-h-summer-camp-programs for details.

While you're there, be sure to check out information on Spring Family Camp & Camp Corral. Plus older teens and young adults can check out the amazing summer job opportunities camp has to offer at 4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/4-h-memorial-camp/employment-opportunities.

4-H FOOD ACTION SUMMIT



JOIN US FOR THE 2023 FOOD ACTION SUMMIT -

The Illinois 4-H Food Action Summit is where leaders meet to be inspired and share a vision for food security, food access, and food justice in Illinois. University of Illinois researchers, non-profit professionals, food advocates, and civic leaders will facilitate workshops designed to empower young people with the knowledge, confidence, and resources they need as they work to create food security in their communities.

Learn more or register at: <https://go.illinois.edu/4HFoodActionSummit>. Contact: Mark Becker, 4-H Food Systems Specialist - mbbecker@illinois.edu

Spark your imagination and passion! **Ignite by 4-H** is an inclusive teen event held in Washington, D.C., Mar 9-12, for four days of inspiring and engaging panels, respected speakers, workshop sessions,



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entertainment, and creating amazing connections. Illinois 4-H is looking for fifteen youth delegates to represent Illinois at this one-of-a-kind national event! Discover exciting career paths and create an actionable plan to help create real change in your community. It's an experience you won't want to miss! Age range for delegates is 14-19 years old. Ready to apply? Head to go.illinois.edu/national4hyouthsummit before Jan 25!

Digital Ag Workshop Series

In collaboration with the University of Illinois Center for Digital Agriculture, the Department of Animal Sciences, and the Department of Crop Sciences, Illinois 4-H will be hosting virtual learning sessions focused on Digital Ag for High School students. **Sessions will meet Mondays on Zoom from 7-8:30 pm CST on the following dates:** Jan 30, Feb 27, Mar 27, Apr 24, June 5 & 26, July 3 & 10

Applications are due Wed, Jan 25, 2023. For more info or registration, visit:

go.illinois.edu/4HDigAgWorkshops

2023 Illinois 4-H Robotics Challenge: HydroBot!

This year's competition will revolve around the work of conservationists and oceanographers. Teams will be tasked with building a HydroBot to accomplish the tasks laid out before you in the Challenge Document and video. The HydroBot Challenge will take place at the McLean County Fairgrounds in Bloomington, IL on Saturday, May 13, 2023. There will be a \$20 Entry fee per team assessed at the time of registration.

Challenge Download/Documents Folder:

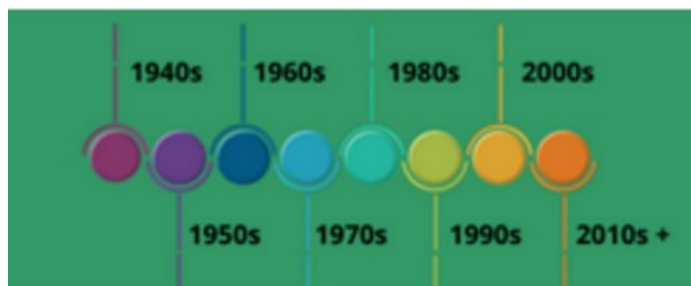
go.illinois.edu/2023CHALLENGE

Register Here before April 14: go.illinois.edu/4HR2023

Challenge Announcement Video Here:

go.illinois.edu/234HRVID

4-H By the Decades



We are seeking Illinois 4-H History from our 4-H alumni by the decades! Join us to visit about how 4-H impacted your life growing up in the Illinois 4-H program. We will also be seeking photos of special memories, mementos, and awards of each decade to share on a new Illinois 4-H History website to be developed. Share with us your 4-H story! *Sponsored by the Illinois 4-H Alumni Association*

4-H BY THE DECADES 1970's

Tues, January 24, 2023

Register by Fri, Jan 20:

form.jotform.com/223465115999164

The link will be sent to registered attendees on Mon, Jan 23

4-H BY THE DECADES 1980's

Tues, February 28, 2023

Register by Fri, Feb 20:

form.jotform.com/223474513372151

The link will be sent to registered attendees on Mon, Feb 27.



The Illinois 4-H Alumni Association will launch a new Illinois 4-H Alumni awards program on **January 9, 2023**. This program will recognize alumni for their individual achievements, contributions to their industry or profession, service to the community, and loyalty to the Illinois 4-H program. To learn more, visit 4h.extension.illinois.edu/alumni/alumni-awards-and-recognition.

Nomination Deadline: March 1, 2023.



4-H SHOOTING SPORTS VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

2023 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Trainings:

Saturday, February 25, 2023

Kane County Fairgrounds, St. Charles, IL

Disciplines offered: Rifle; Pistol; Archery; Coordinator

Saturday, May 6, 2023

4-H Memorial Camp, Monticello, IL

Disciplines offered: Shotgun, Rifle; Pistol; Archery; Coordinator; Hunting/Outdoor Skills

If interested, contact your local University of Illinois Extension office for registration information. These dates are 9-hour "field days" which teach range management. An additional 3-hour on-line 4-H training will complete the certification process. Registration will be open Dec 15, 2022 – Feb 15, 2023. Questions? Contact Curt Sinclair, Illinois 4-H State Office at sinclair@illinois.edu



The Illinois Association of Meat Processors and the University of Illinois Meats Judging are collaborating to continue a youth meat judging series in spring 2023 that is open to all 4-H and FFA youth.

Each invitational is a clinic with more information to come. Mark your calendars for:

Jan 21 at Raber Packing Company in West Peoria
Feb 11 at Eickman's Processing in Seward
Feb 18 at Wenneman meat Company in St. Libory
March 3 is the State 4-H Contest at the University of Illinois

For questions, please contact Jesse Faber at jfaber@pontiac90.org.



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Clovers the Around Counties



Join us for the exciting new **Clovers Around the Counties Workshop Series** happening this winter! We'll be hosting hands-on workshops in Fulton, Mason, Peoria, and Tazewell counties to help 4-H members, ages 8-18, learn more about the wide array of 4-H projects they can exhibit at the 4-H show. Plus, participants will get a special passport book and collect "stamps" from each workshop they attend. Collect stamps from at least 3 different workshops in 2 different counties to win a special prize! Come learn more about your current passions, explore new possibilities, and make new 4-H friends from around the counties!



Costs vary.
Fee waivers
available.



SCHEDULE

Kitchen Adventures

Sat, Jan 28 | 10am-3:30pm | Tazewell

Visual Arts & Interior Design

Sat, Feb 18 | 8:45am-1:30pm | Peoria

Livestock

Mon, Feb 20 | 8:30am-3:30pm | Peoria

Geology & Gardening with Pollinators

Sat, Mar 11 | 10am & 1pm | Fulton

Rabbits & Poultry

Sat, Mar 18 | 10am & 1pm | Mason

Food Decorating

Sat, Mar 25 | 9am-12pm | Mason



Learn more or register at:
go.illinois.edu/CATC