



November 2021

The Clover News

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

Dear 4-H Families,

It's the season of gratitude. Did you know that practicing gratitude has lots of benefits, like better mental and physical health, improved sleep, and reduced aggression? We hope you're able to take time this month to savor all the things you're grateful for.

Here at Extension, we're grateful for our wonderful volunteers, families, and members. Thank you for being a part of the 4-H Family!

Sincerely,

Judy & Emily

Judy Schmidt

4-H Youth Development Educator, Metro

Emily Schoenfelder

4-H Youth Development Educator, Multi-County

Connect with Us!

Contact us with any questions and follow along on state and local pages for news, updates, and announcements! If your club has a picture or story you'd like to feature on the social media pages, send it our way!

[Illinois 4-H Facebook Page](#)

Instagram: @illinois4h

Twitter: @illinois4h

[Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit Extension Facebook Page](#)

[Peoria County 4-H Facebook Page](#)

Connection Corner Blog: <https://extension.illinois.edu/blogs/connection-corner>

Website: <https://extension.illinois.edu/fmpt>

Peoria County Office Phone: 309-685-3140

4-H Staff:

Angie Sassine, Office Support—asassine@illinois.edu

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



Veterans Day is November 11. On this day, and every day, we honor those who have served in the Armed Forces. We encourage all 4-Hers to recognize the Veterans in your lives.

Let's Make it Official

Remember, no one is "officially" part of 4-H until they're approved on [4-H Online](#) – and that goes for leaders, too! Be sure that your family gets enrolled so you don't miss out on any 4-H fun! The [Family Enrollment Guide](#) walks you through the whole process.

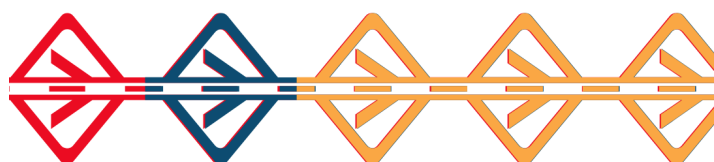
Note: Some families have been struggling with credit card payments on 4-H online. We recommend that you delete any stored CC info and re-enter prior to payment. You can find instructions to do so [HERE](#).

The 4-H program fee will remain at \$20 per youth participant, with a family cap of \$60. However, no one will be denied membership due to inability to pay. If you need a fee waiver, complete [THIS FORM](#) and return it to your local Extension Office. As always, if you have any questions, give us a call!

Around the State...



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH



4-H celebrates Native American Heritage Month! Every November we celebrate the history, heritage, traditions, and culture of Native Americans, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians. Learn how you and your club can help celebrate this month at <https://go.illinois.edu/NativeAmericanHeritageMonth>.

Make Friends from Brazil!

The Fertile Soil Club, or “Clube Solo Fértil” will be an opportunity for young people in Brazil and the US to build cross cultural friendships while working together on issues related to Food Insecurity. Meetings will take place virtually on Dec. 2nd and 16th, 2021—with 2022 dates TBA. Get more details and apply at <https://form.jotform.com/212786589776176>. Applications are due by Nov 22nd.



4-H Volunteer Café Conversations

Register for the upcoming **4-H Volunteer Café Conversation**. This is a great way for adult and teen volunteers from across Illinois to connect virtually and discuss topics of interest, share ideas, and solve challenges. We will address two topics during each Café Conversation so bring your ideas, questions, and (since this is a Café Conversation) snacks!

The next Café Conversation will be on **Thursday, Nov 11, 2021 @7pm**. Discussion topics will include:
4-H Parents...Identifying their Role in 4-H and Navigating the Fiscal Side of 4-H.

Learn more and register at <https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=24536>

Save the Date! Upcoming Café Conversations—Feb 17 & May 19, 2022

Peoria County Highlights

Club Activity Opportunity!

Bring an engaging, hands-on activity to your next club meeting...and introduce your kids to the brand new Cover Crop Science 4-H project. Matthew Hagaman, one of the Cover Crop Science project book authors, would love to visit your club! Activities are free for clubs (thanks to a USDA grant) and last about 20 minutes—though times are flexible. Some of the activities he offers include...

- **Engineering a Cover Crop Harvester:** Conduct experiments & compare/contrast results to engineer a model plant harvester.
- **Cover Crop Life Cycles:** Work with plant materials to sequence the life cycle of a pennycress plant.
- **Making Cover Crop Ink:** Experiment with materials to discover how to make an ink, including oil, water, and an emulsifier.
- **Gene Editing with LEGOs:** Examine parts of 2 different pennycress plants, then use LEGOs to understand the process of working with DNA to improve crops.

If you'd like to learn more, contact Emily at eschoe@illinois.edu or Matthew at mthagam@ilstu.edu.

Club Reports

Edelstein Eager Beavers: We held this meeting at Ben and Hannah Martin's shed. This Month was our 4h family wiener roast, everyone brought a dish to share. After we ate, the 4hers played a fun game learning about each other. Once the game was finished, we held our meeting. At this meeting we installed our new officers. Michael, our new President, told us our planned events we are doing this year. At the end of the meeting Hannah, our leader, told us how to enroll for 4h. She also handed out paperwork for parents. After the meeting the kids enjoyed playing in the shed with roller blades and bikes. Our next meeting is November 15th @ Wieland's trucking shed at 6:30.

~ Submitted by Aleah Martin

Cloverbud Creation Days

Ready to make and create some really cool things, while meeting other Cloverbuds from the comfort of your own home? Then sign up for our Cloverbud Creations Days! We will meet virtually from 4-5 p.m. to make some pretty cool creations, learn a few exciting things, and have lots of fun with other kids.

These sessions will be taught by 4-H Teen Teachers and kits will be available to pick up at the University of Illinois Extension offices in Fulton, Mason, Peoria and Tazewell Counties prior to the first session of camp. Open to youth ages 5-7. Session dates are:

- November 22nd - Fun with Fall and Fingerprints
- December 14- Science of Snow
- January 18 - Experimenting with Sound

Register at: <https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=24568>

Meet the Federation!

Monthly Federation Member Spotlight:
Ashlyn Slayton

Club(s): **Jubilee Patriots, Federation**

Favorite Projects: **Sheep & Photography**

Years in 4-H: **7**

Grade: **10**

Best Thing About 4-H:
Meeting new people

Desired Superpower:
Invisibility

Favorite Color: **Purple**

Why did you decide to be in Federation: **I wanted to do more volunteer acts and be more involved in 4-H.**

Advice for Younger Members:

Try new things even if you don't think you'll like them.



Local 4-H EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 1 Summer 2022 Travel Abroad applications Due
- 4 Federation Meeting, 6pm @ Extension Office
- 6 Peoria County Awards Round-Up @ 6pm
- 11 Veterans Day—Thank a Veteran for their service
- 11 Volunteer Café Conversations @ 7pm
- 22 Cloverbud Creations @ 4pm
- 22 Applications Due for Fertile Soil Club
- 25-26 Happy Thanksgiving! Office will be closed

DECEMBER

- 2 Federation Meeting, 6pm @ Kickapoo Town Hall

12/24-1/3

Office Closed—Happy Holidays



Club Reporters!

Let us know what your club is up to! Submit your club meeting information to Emily Schoenfelder at eschoe@illinois.edu so we can highlight your club or members activities in the monthly newsletter.



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If you need a reasonable accommodation to attend, call the registration office. 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.