



# 4-H

# NEWSLETTER

November & December 2022

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

## Dear 4-H Families,

I am in denial. We cannot be in November already! How did this happen? The holidays are quickly approaching, and I have so many things to do...

Much like you all, I am planning ahead for the next several months of 4-H. As you enroll in your 4-H projects, you too are planning for the next several months of 4-H. If you find yourself getting stuck with the enrollment process, please reach out to me.

I would love to come visit your club, so please let me know if there is a particular event/meeting you would like me to attend. I am always willing to present an activity, too. If I do not happen to see you in the office or out and about, have a wonderful holiday season!

*Katharine*

Katharine Girone  
Tazewell 4-H Program Coordinator



## Clovers Around the Counties Workshop presenters needed

As we plan for the new **Clovers Around the Counties** workshop series coming this winter and spring, we are in need of instructors. We would like the topics to be project-based and hands-on. Topic ideas might be model rockets, geology, public speaking, etc. Contact Katharine if you are interested in presenting a workshop.

## Important Tazewell Deadlines

March 1, 2023: 4-H General Enrollment— Anyone planning to enroll in the Tazewell 4-H program must complete their online Enrollment and pay their program fee by March 1 in order to be eligible to register for the 4-H Show exhibit opportunity. ALL projects must be selected at this time!

April 15, 2023: Horse & Pony ID & Lease Forms— Tazewell County 4-H members planning to exhibit their horse/pony at the 4-H Show and Jr. Fair are required to complete an ID form and Ownership or Lease papers and turn in a copy of their current Coggins test to the Extension office by April 15. Packets will be mailed out to members after March 1.

June 15, 2023: 4-H Show Registration—ALL Tazewell County 4-H members planning on exhibiting at the 2020 Tazewell 4-H Show & Jr. Fair will need to register for their eligible exhibit opportunities by June 15.

## JUST SO YOU KNOW...

The 2023 Tazewell County 4-H Show & Jr. Fair is  
July 31, August 1, and August 2.  
Illinois State Fair will run August 10-20.  
Other dates will be shared as they are released.

## Superintendents Needed!

We are in need of several Superintendents for the 2023 4-H Show! Departments include: Clothing & Textiles, Communication Arts, Crops, Mechanical Sciences, and Public Speaking. Please let Katharine know if you are interested or know of someone who is!



## November

- 8—Extension office closed, Election Day
- 14— ZSuite Enrollment Open House
- 17—Federation meeting, 6:30 PM
- 18— ZSuite Enrollment Open House
- 24-25—Extension office closed, Thanksgiving

## December

- 23-Jan 2—Extension office closed

## January

- 16—Extension office closed, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

## February

- 15—Senior Profile submission deadline

## March

- 1—Enrollment deadline for 2023 4-H Show eligibility

## April

- 15—Horse Lease/ID papers due



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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

## Federation News

### November Meeting

Thursday, November 17 at 6:30 PM  
Illinois Extension, Pekin

### December Activity

*Will hopefully be a service activity. Details to come after the November meeting.*

Federation is a county-wide 4-H Club open to 4-H members who are 13 (4-H age) and up (you are required to be a member in another 4-H Club, too). The group meets throughout the year (typically once a month) and is involved in a variety of leadership and service opportunities, while making new friends from around the county.

## High School Senior Profiles

If you are graduating from high school during the 2022-2023 4-H year, then I want to celebrate YOU! Please send a Senior Picture to be included in the 2023 4-H Show Book. I would prefer an electronic version of your photo, but I can make a hard copy work, too.

Please include the following information:

Name

4-H Club(s) – (include county clubs as well as State committees)

If you have had a project focus or favorite project, what is it?

In a short description describe **ONE** of the following:

- Something you learned during your years in 4-H
- A favorite 4-H memory
- Advice to younger 4-Hers
- What are your plans for next year?
- Are there any 4-H volunteers you would like to thank publicly?

Deadline is Wednesday, February 15, 2023.

## Public Speaking Contest

The Tazewell County 4-H Public Speaking Contest will take place in late March in the Tazewell County Farm Bureau auditorium (the exact date is being finalized). Members enrolled in this project will be contacted directly with specific details. The Illinois State 4-H Public Speaking Contest is scheduled for Saturday, April 29.

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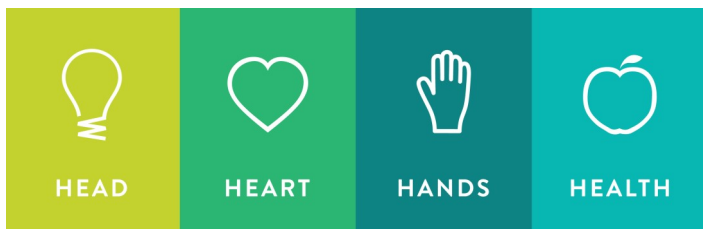
## Why am I receiving a Tazewell 4-H newsletter?

Wondering why you received this newsletter? Well, somewhere along the way, you requested information about Tazewell's 4-H program. If you need help getting started in 4-H; contact [girone1@illinois.edu](mailto:girone1@illinois.edu).

Or maybe, you've had a child in 4-H. Are they returning to 4-H for the 2022-2023 year? Even 4-H volunteers receive a copy, and need to enroll annually.

These newsletters share upcoming events, opportunities (local, state, and national), tips and assistance, and numerous other resources to 4-H families and volunteers. I highly encourage everyone to take some time to read through them.

If you no longer wish to receive 4-H emails and/or mailings, please email [girone1@illinois.edu](mailto:girone1@illinois.edu) to be removed from the contact lists.



## Your Guide to the 4-H Year!

Check out the *Illinois 4-H Project Guide* [online \(issuu.com/illinois4h/docs/6.28\\_project\\_guide\\_21-22\\_latest\\_version-proofed\)](https://issuu.com/illinois4h/docs/6.28_project_guide_21-22_latest_version-proofed) to find all your 4-H projects for this year. If you would like a physical copy of the book, contact Katharine.

## ZSuite: Enrollment Open Houses

Monday, November 14 at 5-7 PM

Friday, November 18 at 12:30-2:30 PM

With the launching of our \*NEW\* 4-H enrollment system, Katharine is hosting several enrollment open houses in November at the Illinois Extension office, Pekin.

Come any time during these set times and dates to utilize the Wi-Fi, receive assistance, use a computer, or just moral support while enrolling on the **NEW** ZSuite platform.

Please bring a laptop, iPad or tablet to access the web. I will have some extras, but not enough for everyone.

## Updating 4-H Volunteer Files & Volunteer Rescreening

To remain as active 4-H volunteers, rescreening is required every five years. Volunteers will be sent a mailing with the details and required forms. Please return everything in a timely manner.

One part of the process is for all Extension volunteers to have a national background check completed by Sterling Volunteers. A response is required within 72 hours after you receive the email request.

If you receive the mailing and no longer wish to remain an active volunteer, please send Katharine an email, so she can update her active volunteer list.

## Requesting 4-H Project Manuals

If you need any 4-H project manuals, please complete a request at [go.illinois.edu/FMPTPubs](https://go.illinois.edu/FMPTPubs). Once I have filled your request, you will be emailed, and can pick it up in the office. This request system will automatically email you any free, downloadable project resources when you select those items through the site.



If you want to view some of the snapshots of the 2022 4-H Show season, be sure to check out <https://photos.app.goo.gl/fYeCdo5R2dcmrmtD8>

# FMPT Unit News



## Clovers Around the Counties Workshop Series

Be on the lookout for the new **Clovers Around the Counties** workshop series coming this winter and spring! We'll be hosting project-based workshops in Fulton, Mason, Peoria, and Tazewell counties to help 4-H members learn more about their current areas of interest, explore new project possibilities, and get to know other 4-Hers from around the counties! If you have topics you would like to see in future workshops, let your local office know. More info coming soon!



## State 4-H Events

### November

November 25-29 National 4-H Congress

### January 2023

January 14-15 Youth Livestock Conference

### April 2023

April 8 State Awards Banquet

April 29 State Public Speaking Competition

### May 2023

May 13 State Robotics Competition

### June 2023

June 25-29 Illini Summer Academies



## Youth Mental Health First Aid

One in five teens lives with a mental health condition. Over 5% of youth report having a substance use or alcohol problem. Adolescence is challenging for many young people and mental health issues can develop during that time of life.

Join an upcoming **Youth Mental Health First Aid training** to learn how to identify common signs and symptoms of youth mental illness or substance use. Gain skills to feel confident listening to and supporting a young person in crisis and leave with resources to connect them with appropriate care. The training is free, open to the public, and appropriate for any adults working with rural youth.

Register online at [go.illinois.edu/YMHFA](https://go.illinois.edu/YMHFA). Participants will complete a two-hour self-paced online training before joining the instructor for a live webinar at any of the sessions below. ISBE PD hours available.

- Wednesdays, Nov 30 & Dec 7, 2022 | 6-8:30pm (participants will attend both evenings)
- Monday, Dec 5, 2022 | 9am-3pm
- Wednesday, Jan 11, 2023 | 9am-3pm

For more information, please contact Emily at [eschoe@illinois.edu](mailto:eschoe@illinois.edu).



## 2023 4-H Green Communities Trees Program

Illinois 4-H has again secured funding to send 25, 4' oak trees to be planted by 4-H members on public ground in their communities as part of the 4-H

Green Communities Tree program. If your club is interested in putting your "hands to larger service" by helping to plant trees in April, please contact your county 4-H coordinator by Nov. 15.

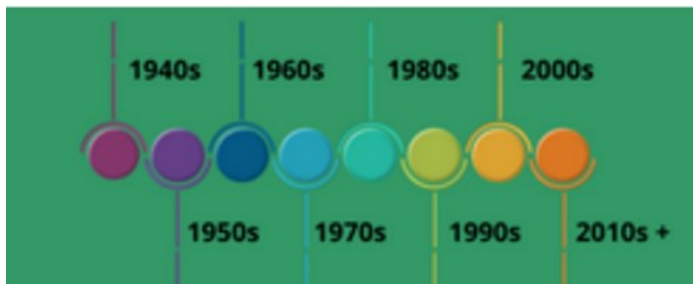
# News from Illinois 4-H



## Illinois 4-H History Project

Illinois 4-H is proud of the rich history of 4-H and our 4-H alums near and far. If you were a member of the Illinois 4-H program, you are one of 25 million Americans who share a unique bond! We're seeking to reconnect with Illinois 4-H Alumni to hear their 4-H stories and share their 4-H memories as part of a new initiative for an Illinois 4-H History project.

We are interested in gathering your memories, photos, or photos of memorabilia of those special moments in which 4-H impacted you. Share your 4-H story online at [go.illinois.edu/4-Hstory](http://go.illinois.edu/4-Hstory).



## Calling all 4-H Alumni!

Participate in reunions to be held by the 4-H Decades. Find dates and register for the events by heading here: [go.illinois.edu/4hbythedecades](http://go.illinois.edu/4hbythedecades).



## 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. Here are some ideas of how you and your club can help

celebrate: [go.illinois.edu/NativeAmericanHeritageMonth](http://go.illinois.edu/NativeAmericanHeritageMonth).

Cecelia Higdon of Winnebago County has also created a special [Northern Illinois Specialized Explore Flier](#) with even more to explore!



## Now accepting nominations for the State 4-H Food Advocate of the Month!

Food insecurity touches every community in Illinois, and our 4-H members have been rising to the occasion to ensure that access to good food is a reality for all. Our Food Advocate of the Month recognition is the perfect opportunity to highlight a young leader in your area who is making a positive impact on food security, food access, and food justice issues where they live. Nominations can be made at the following link:

[go.illinois.edu/4HFoodAdvocateoftheMonth](http://go.illinois.edu/4HFoodAdvocateoftheMonth)



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## New 4-H Enrollment System is here!

Illinois 4-H is switching our enrollment and registration system from 4-H Online to ZSuite. We believe this new system will offer a more user-friendly experience and features to help you stay more connected to the 4-H program! Look for emails from your local 4-H staff with directions on how to get your family set up in the new system.

Registration is open now! Plus, members that are enrolled and approved in ZSuite before December 1st will save \$5 off their enrollment fee.



Enroll by November 30th

# Save 25%