

## EXTENSION SNAPSHOT

Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit

# I ILLINOIS Extension

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER &  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

### What I Do and Why It Matters

This new Snapshot series serves as a way to re-introduce you to our unit staff. Each month a different staff member will be featured.

*Janis Blout's work as Fulton County 4-H program coordinator helps 4-H members, volunteers, and families stay informed about opportunities, requirements, and ways to develop skills through the 4-H program.*

## What I Do and Why It Matters



“I work with a large group of wonderful 4-H volunteers and members to plan, coordinate, and carry out the many 4-H events that happen throughout the year. I network with other groups that have similar goals, to provide educational and meaningful activities for the youth of Fulton County. I strive to help 4-H members achieve all they can through 4-H.”

### Janis Blout

4-H Youth Development Program Coordinator, Fulton County  
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Janis joined University of Illinois Extension in 1981 as office support in Fulton County, then was promoted to 4-H program work in 1992.

#### EXTENSION JOB HISTORY

Office Support, Fulton County  
4-H Community Worker, Fulton County  
4-H Program Coordinator, Fulton County

#### HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

University of Illinois Chancellor's Distinguished Staff Award  
U of I Extension Innovative Program Award, Volunteers  
U of I Extension Outstanding Program Award, New Groups  
Fulton County Farm Bureau's Leo Sharp Agricultural Service Award

#### EXAMPLES OF JANIS' EXTENSION EFFORTS

- ◆ Coordinate events such as 4-H shows, 4-H Achievement Program, Volunteer Banquet, Federation and committee meetings, 4-H food stand, Farm Safety Day Camp
- ◆ Public relations work to inform members, volunteers, and the general public about the many opportunities in 4-H
- ◆ Provide support to 4-H members and volunteers
- ◆ Work with 4-H unit team to coordinate events like 4-H Clover Clinic and Teen Leadership Retreat



#### FAVORITE MEMORIES IN EXTENSION

- ◆ Any time a 4-H member is excited about his or her first ribbon or award
- ◆ The time a family brought their sheep to be tattooed — in a station wagon
- ◆ A little boy told Janis, “You’re at everything!” “Yes, yes, I am at everything.” :)