

## Learn Grow Share 4-H SPIN Club Begins Third Season With Help From A Master Gardener



With the weather warming and spring unfolding before our eyes, the Learn Grow Share 4-H SPIN Club has begun its third season. Youth and SPIN Club Leader, Master Gardener Bethany Salisbury, kicked off the gardening journey on March 12 at the Marshall-Putnam University of Illinois Extension Office. Participants learned how to select, plan, and prepare a garden space to produce a bountiful harvest.

The goal of the Learn Grow Share SPIN Club is for participants to learn, grow, and share. While fostering a lifelong passion for gardening, youth gain essential gardening skills and develop a sense of community by sharing the produce they grow with those in need.

The Learn Grow Share garden is hosted at the Henry United Methodist Church on Lincoln Street. Once the growing season is underway, harvested produce is placed in two Blessing Boxes: one in Marshall County at the Methodist Church and one in Putnam County at the McNabb Library.

This program is a partnership between 4-H and the Master Gardener program. The club is open to youth ages 5-18 in Bureau, LaSalle, Marshall, and Putnam counties.

Schedule:

**April 9, 6:00 PM:** U of I Ex-

tension Office (509 Front St., Henry)

**April 23, 6:00 PM:** U of I Extension Office

**May 5, 9:00 AM:** Planting Day at Henry United Methodist Church (225 Lincoln St., Henry)

**May 7, 6:00 PM:** U of I Extension Office

**May 21, 6:00 PM:** Henry United Methodist Church

**June 6, 6:00 PM:** Henry United Methodist Church

**June 18, 6:00 PM:** Henry United Methodist Church

**July 2, 6:00 PM:** Weekly harvests begin at Henry United Methodist Church

**October 10, 9:00 AM:** Garden clean-up at Henry United Methodist Church

For more information on how to get involved and help provide healthy produce to those in need in your community, please contact Anne Scheel at (309) 346-2356 or [amscheel@illinois.edu](mailto:amscheel@illinois.edu). Current 4-H members can register in ZSuite.

If you need an accommodation to participate, please contact Anne Scheel at [amscheel@illinois.edu](mailto:amscheel@illinois.edu) or (309) 346-2356. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet your access needs. Extension offices are located in Princeton, Ottawa, and Henry.

## Illinois Is 2026's State With The 6th Highest Tax Burden

Each April, Uncle Sam claims a portion of the previous year's earnings. Because the tax code is so complex, it can be difficult for the average person to understand exactly how they're affected. One helpful measure that simplifies things is the "tax burden." Unlike tax rates, which can differ significantly depending on an individual's situation, tax burden looks at the share of total personal income that residents pay in state and local taxes. This burden isn't the same across the United States.

To identify where residents face the highest tax burdens, WalletHub compared all 50 states by examining three major types of state tax burdens—property taxes, individual income taxes, and sales and excise taxes—and calculating their cost as a percentage of total personal income in each state.

### Key Findings

♦ Hawaii has the highest overall tax burden, while Alaska has the lowest.

♦ Vermont has the highest property tax burden, while Alabama has the lowest.

♦ Oregon has the highest individual income tax burden, while seven states (including Texas, Florida and Nevada) have none.

♦ Hawaii has the highest sales and excise tax burden, while New Hampshire has the lowest.

♦ Red states have a lower tax burden than blue states, on average.

*"It's easy to be dismayed at tax*

*time when you see just how much of your income you lose. Living in a state with a low tax burden can alleviate some of that stress. Some states charge no income tax or no sales tax, although all states have some form of property taxes and excise taxes."*

*Chip Lupo, WalletHub Analyst*

### States With The Highest Tax Burden

State	Total Tax Burden
1. Hawaii.....	13.30%
2. New York.....	12.39%
3. Vermont.....	11.10%
4. New Mexico.....	10.75%
5. Maine.....	10.01%
6. Illinois.....	9.92%
7. Maryland.....	9.70%
8. New Jersey.....	9.52%
9. Oregon.....	9.46%
10. Rhode Island.....	9.29%
11. California.....	9.24%
12. Iowa.....	9.21%
13. Kansas.....	9.20%
14. Indiana.....	9.12%
15. Minnesota.....	9.08%

### State With The Lowest Tax Burden

36. Texas.....	7.69%
37. Colorado.....	7.56%
38. South Carolina.....	7.49%
39. Montana.....	7.29%
40. Arizona.....	7.24%
41. Oklahoma.....	7.05%
42. Idaho.....	7.04%
43. North Dakota.....	7.02%
44. Wyoming.....	6.70%
45. South Dakota.....	6.38%
46. Delaware.....	6.28%
47. Florida.....	6.27%

48. Tennessee.....	6.21%
49. New Hampshire.....	5.38%
50. Alaska.....	4.92%

### Tax Burden in Illinois

(1=Highest, 25=Avg.):

- ♦ **6th:** Overall Tax Burden (9.92%)
- ♦ **6th:** Property Tax Burden (3.75%)
- ♦ **24th:** Individual Income Tax Burden (2.40%)
- ♦ **18th:** Total Sales & Excise Tax Burden (3.77%)

## Election

(From Toluca Front Page)  
**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP  
REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE  
PERSON**

Kent Flanigan.....6

**LACON 1 REPUBLICAN  
COMMITTEE PERSON**

James Soon.....14

**WHITEFIELD TOWNSHIP  
COMMITTEE PERSON**

David Lueders.....57

**King Crossword**

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

N	O	A	H	S	S	C	A	M	S		
B	A	L	Z	A	C	T	O	M	A	T	O
E	U	D	O	R	A	O	U	T	R	A	N
S	S	I	P	L	U	M	P	M	C	S	
T	E	C	S	A	M	A	P	E	C	K	
S	A	S	H	A	A	C	H	I	E	S	
S	P	I	N	A	C	H	M	U	F	T	I
H	U	B	S	H	A	S	S	A	I	D	
E	R	E	S	S	I	M	O	N	C	L	E
B	E	R	A	T	E	F	A	J	I	T	A
A	S	I	M	O	V	A	N	K	L	E	S
T	A	U	P	F	S	O	L	I	D		

# GUNS & HOSES

# DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT

BENEFITING

## ST. JUDE MARSHALL CO. TO PEORIA RUN

MARSHALL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
PUTNAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
ILLINOIS CONSERVATION POLICE  
TOLUCA-RUTLAND FIRE DEPT  
VARNA FIRE DEPT  
WENONA FIRE DEPT  
LACON-SPARLAND FIRE DEPT  
HENRY FIRE DEPT

Saturday, April 18th  
2:00 p.m.

Midland High School

Adults \$5      Children/Students \$3

Raffles, 50/50, Chuck-a-Puck, Food Sales, Bake Sale,  
Kids vs. First Responders

In Loving Memory of Mark Nave

## Kennell's Meat

LOCAL BEEF

Whole ♦ Halves ♦ Quarters  
Ribeye ♦ T-Bone ♦ Hamburger

We Have Most Cuts Available

Home Phone (309) 248-7355  
Don's Cell (309) 696-8634      Bill's Cell (309) 696-0492

## Eleanor Bussell Memorial Scholarship

A Scholarship established by the late Eleanor Bussell is available to a High School Senior who is a resident of Marshall County and will be pursuing a degree in History or Education. This Scholarship will be in the amount of \$2,200.00. Applications will be available at local high schools and at the First National Bank of Lacon. Applications must be received by Monday April 20, 2026.