



JUNE 2023

# Henry, Mercer, Rock Island & Stark

## Deadlines:

- June 1 - RI & Mercer Fair Entries
- June 1 - State Horse Entries
- June 30 - Stark Fair Entries
- July 1 - State Livestock Entries
- August 1 - State Dog Entries
- August 1 - SF General Entries

## Events:

- June 17-25 - Henry County Fair
- June 20 - State Livestock Judging
- July 10-16 - Mercer County Fair
- July 15-23 - RI County Fair
- July 28-31 - Stark County Fair
- Aug. 13 - State General Projects
- Aug. 26 - State Dog Show



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**Congratulations!**

We had several youth participate, and do very well in, state events recently. Both the Mercer and Rock Island Junior Horse Bowl Teams excelled at the State Contest held in late April in Champaign. Here were some notable results.

**State Grand Champions—Rock Island/Henry**  
The Rock Island/Henry team won the state horse bowl contest for the second year in a row. Team members included Emma Steiger, Nick Gorbach, Maddie Oltman, Molly Wannemacher and coach Danielle Gorbach. The team was also helped by assistant coaches Mary Steiger and Natalie Hessel. Emma Steiger was the high point individual winner for State Horse Bowl.

**State Reserve Champions—Mercer**  
The Mercer County team placed second overall in their first year competing, which is a remarkable achievement. Kudos to their members: Jocelyn Erickson, Jasmine Frerkes, Brooklynne Martin, Paisley Martin, Lily Miller, Bridgette Vipond, Colette Warman and coach Melanie Neuleib-Zimmerman.



## Important Information

It is time for fair entries. All projects will continue to be entered via fairentry.com, but the log-in process is a bit different this year:

- Visit fairentry.com and click on 'Find Your Fair' at the top
- Search county name and Illinois
- Click on the fair when it pops up
- Click on 'Create a FairEntry Account'
- Create a family account and add exhibitors

Once you add exhibitors, the process to enter projects is the same as previous years.

Remember not to hit submit until you've entered for everyone in the family. If you do you, it will lock you out until we approve what was submitted. Contact us if you need us to approve ASAP.

## Congrats!

Members recently had the opportunity to compete in two public speaking competitions: The horse speech contest and the state public speaking contest. We had several youth do very well in both areas. Congratulations to:

### Horse Speech

- Molly Wannemacher - 1st in Formal Speech
- Emma Steiger—2nd in Individual Presentation
- Emma Steiger & Nick Gorbach—2nd in Team
- Emma Steiger—2nd in Interpretive Reading
- Matthew Gorbach—3rd in Formal Speech

### State Public Speaking

- Bethany Priaux—1st in Oral Interpretation
- Hannah Priaux—3rd in Oral Interpretation
- Jocelyn Erickson & Jasmine Frerkes—1st in Team Speech

# Club News and Notes



## Alexis All Stars 4-H Submitted by Jayne Johnson

We met on Sunday May 7th at 6:00 pm at Fieldhouse in Alexis. Ella called meeting to order. Pledges led by Clay Olson, Roll call. 15 members, 2 Leaders, 9 parents. Treasurer report by Davin, Secretary report by Reagen.

Old Business- reminded everyone to get their 4-H entries in by June 1st - State Livestock entries due by July 1st.

New Business- 4-H BBQ Friday June 9th from 5 to 7 we need volunteers to help set-up and need 5 pies - Mark your calendar Mercer County Fair July 10-15 , projects will be judged on Monday July 10th - will not have a booth - all projects will be in New building , Displayed in project categories.

Talked about having a bake sale At Farmers Market here in Alexis this June, would like to donate this money for trophies at the Fair, Jayne will talk to Tracy to see if they need donations - all voted to help out.

We talked about getting New 4-H shirts - we voted to get some Ella, Jayne and Allison will work on getting them.

There was no talks - Pizza delivered by JD's. Meeting was adjourned

**Editors note:** Mercer county is doing a series of club spotlights over the next few months. You can view Alexis All Stars feature on the back page and Hamlet's 100 year celebration on page 4.

## Rural Go-Getters Report Submitted by Wyatt Viager

April 19

We started off with a regular business meeting then had talks by Megan and Riley about their beaver and lynx skin from Alaska. Next, we listened to a talk by James and Madison about the new chicks and rabbits they recently welcomed to their farm.

May 17

We started off with our normal monthly business meeting during this time we talked about what we wanted to do for our County Fair Booth. Next, we listened to talks from Mason and Kyson about show pigs they plan to show at the county fair, and a talk was given by Brooklyn about her pet chinchilla. Next Sawyer and Slayden talked about their Florida White rabbits they will also show at the county fair. Then Morgan gave a talk about the horse she will be showing this summer. Finally, Emma gave a talk about her food decorating project.

## Buccaneers Report Submitted by Bethany Prialux

On May7th, 5-6 p.m. in Port Byron, the Buccaneers 4-H Club held their monthly meeting. Old business included handing out flowers to those who ordered them from the club fundraiser. The club raised about \$100 from selling flowers. Also included in old business was deciding on a date and movie for a movie night in June, the theme for the fair booth, and dog obedience practice dates. Members took a vote for which movie to watch, and decided on 'Night at the Museum 1' at the Geneseo Movie Theater. New business included the meeting dates and horse practice dates for June and July. This month there were multiple demonstrations. Payton Cutler talked about her German Shepherd and brought her to the meeting. Elaina Heim showed members her welding protection gear and talked about how important welding safety is. Olivia Heick demonstrated how to layer watercolor paints. Bethany Prialux showed how to make blackout poetry. Sarah Carls had planned minute-to-win-it games for the club, but there was a large thunderstorm which postponed the games to next month. The meeting adjourned and ended with snacks.



## Arsenal Historical Tour

All 4-H members are invited to join 4-H in the City for a historical tour of the Arsenal National Cemeteries on **June 3 at 1:00 p.m.** The tour will consist of information on the Civil War section, the former slaves regiment, General Rodman, Colonel King, code talkers, the Women's Memorial and more. You'll also get a chance to meet WWII and Korean War veterans. If you are interested in attending, please email Lori Tharp at [luvmissy65@aol.com](mailto:luvmissy65@aol.com) or text

(309) 781-2824 by Tuesday, May 30.



# Club News and Notes



## SADDLE TEENS SERVICE

Members of the Saddle Teens 4-H Club packed and delivered brown bag lunches to the employees of Diamond Ag on Saturday, April 29 as a service for those working through the planting season.

READY FOR THE  
ULTIMATE COOL  
SUMMER CAMP?



Make new  
friends &  
lasting  
memories!



Registration is open for  
4-H Leadership Camp  
July 6-8!

Illinois 4-H Leadership Camp is an opportunity for 9th-12th graders to participate in a variety of activities designed to help them understand the fundamentals of leadership, practice effective communication, work as a team, and become self-confident and

motivated individuals. And it's all happening July 6-8!

PLUS youth will experience everything they love about camp like swimming, hiking, campfires and more at 4-H Memorial Camp in Monticello!

Register by 6/1 when you head to [go.illinois.edu/4HTeenCamp](http://go.illinois.edu/4HTeenCamp)

## Wanted

### Mercer County Tech Changemakers

The Mercer County Senior Center is looking for 4-H members to teach classes/ provide 1-on-1 help with technology over the summer. This is a great leadership opportunity. 4-H members will work with seniors, helping them with smart phones and other electronic devices, along with teaching internet terminology and safety. Anyone interested in this opportunity should contact Tracy Pestle at [fowlerpe@illinois.edu](mailto:fowlerpe@illinois.edu) or call the Viola office at (309) 513-3100.

## Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to the following scholarship recipients!



### Henry County Foundation Scholarship:

Coy McKibbin, Annawan All Stars  
Kyla DeRycke, Atkinson Boosters  
McKayla Park, Annawan All Stars  
Ella Jeffries, Cambridge Champs  
Caidence Kies, Atkinson Boosters  
Alexis Spivey, Burns Boosters  
Madeline Nightingale, Western Jr Farmers

### Rock Island County Bert Blood Scholarship:

1st - Matthew Callahan, Magical Muggles  
2nd - Anna Taylor, Trail Blazers  
3rd - Ella Goodnight, Edgington Go-Getters

## Phyllis Nelson Memorial Scholarship



The Mercer County Youth Livestock Auction Committee will be awarding the 2023 Phyllis Nelson Memorial Livestock Scholarship. Scholarships in the amount of \$250 will be awarded to a high school senior or freshman in college. The applicant must be a current Mercer County 4-H member and must be a current livestock exhibitor. To request an application email [klaleman13@gmail.com](mailto:klaleman13@gmail.com) Completed applications are due by **June 23**.

# HAMLET HANDY HELPERS CELEBRATE



The Hamlet Handy Helpers 4-H Club was organized in 1923 and is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year! Although a lot has changed over the past 100 years, 4-H continues to be a vital program that provides exciting opportunities for its members to explore new interests, learn new skills, and make new friends. The Mercer County 4-H Program has impacted many lives, oftentimes a family tradition for several generations, and has provided a lot of great childhood memories!

In honor of Hamlet Handy Helpers' milestone anniversary, we would like to sincerely thank each member and leader, past & present, for helping to make this centennial celebration possible! As indicated by our club's name, we value helping others and have participated in many worthwhile service projects over the years, which has been a fun way to meet more people in the community. We wholeheartedly welcome new members and encourage anyone interested in possibly joining 4-H to come and check us out! We generally meet the second Sunday of the month at 5:00 pm at the Hamlet Hall on State Route 94, just north of Aledo.



My name is Addison Monson, and I'm from Reynolds. I'm a Freshman at Mercer County High School, and a member of the Hamlet Handy Helpers 4H Club, where I serve as Treasurer. I plan to show rabbits and ducks at the Mercer County Fair this year.



My name is Caidel Monson, and I'm a senior at Mercer County High School. I'm from Reynolds, and am a member of the Hamlet Handy Helpers 4H Club, where I serve as Secretary. I plan to show rabbits, meat goats and dairy goats at the Mercer County Fair this year.



Muireann Zippe likes the community within 4-H and also helping in the community. She has been raising rabbits to show at the fair and will try her hand at showing sheep this year along with family heritage, which are two new project areas for her.



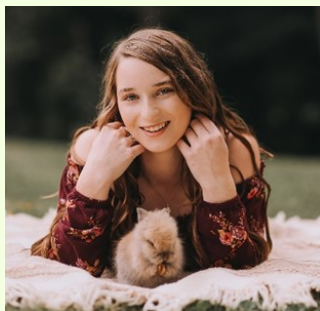
Ryley Zippe is enjoying his senior year at Sherrard High School and continues his involvement in 4-H and FFA. He will be taking many different projects to the fair this year, including Tractor D, Crops, Welding, and Sheep.



Hi, I'm Zach Icenogle and I am the 11 year old son of Steven and Megan Icenogle of Aledo, Illinois. I am in the 5th grade at Apollo Elementary. This is my first year in 4-H with the Hamlet Handy Helpers. I am excited to show my chickens, Luna and Star, at the fair along with a woodworking project and family history. In my spare time I enjoy football, wrestling, track and coding.



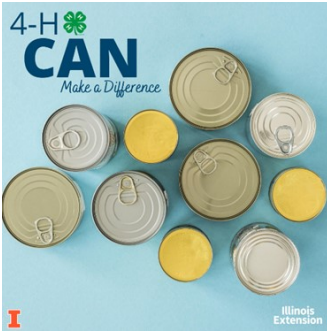
My name is Mason Gray. This is my 7th year in 4-H. I am a freshman at Mercer County High School. I am the reporter for my 4-H club. My favorite part of 4-H is showing at the fairs. My projects include rabbits and sheep. Taking care of the livestock all year long is quite challenging at times. Currently, I am shearing all my breeding and show stock. 4-H has given me an opportunity to help out my community at different times in the year. I have learned organization and management skills while expanding my livestock knowledge.



My name is Megan Gray, and I am a senior at Mercer County High School. I have been in 4-H for 10 years. I am also a member of the Mercer County Federation and was a member of the 2022-2023 Extension Advisory Council for Unit 7. My projects include rabbits and sheep. Next year, I will be attending Northern Illinois University. I have enjoyed my time as a 4H member and have served as our club's President for the last two years. I have learned to have a voice and present my projects in front of others. Because of my 4H projects, I have been able to transition my knowledge to my FFA Proficiency Awards. I am looking forward to the fair this summer.



# MORE NEWS & notes



The 4-H Can Make a Difference Food Drive is back at the Illinois State Fair. This year we will be collecting food by weight to see which county brings in the most items. The top three counties in the state will receive a prize, which can be distributed at the local office discretion. The Illinois 4-H Youth Leadership Booth, located on the South side

of the Orr Building will be collecting the donations. They are collecting on the General Project show days (August 11-13). Canned goods and other non-perishable food items are acceptable.



Ready to challenge yourself and then prove it to your 4-H Leader or another trusted adult? You could teach them a thing or two! Learn these skill levels and compete for some great prizes that will help you enjoy the outdoors!

For full information visit:  
<https://go.illinois.edu/4-HOutdoorSkillsChallenge>



Get your rods and reels ready! The 2023 **4-H Hooks-Us-Together Statewide Fishing Tournament** will run from April 1 – June, 30 2023. Each month will feature a different species of fish:

- April – Crappie State 4-H Tournament
- May – Largemouth Bass 4-H State Tournament
- June – Channel Catfish 4-H State Tournament

Participants will take pictures of their catch clearly showing the length in inches and submit to be entered to win prizes. You must be enrolled in the Sportfishing project in ZSuite to be eligible to win.

Stark County members enrolled in the Fishing SPIN club are automatically enrolled in Sportfishing.

All pictures should be submitted to this website:  
<https://go.illinois.edu/fish4H>

## Crop Scouting Competition

Crop scouting is an important skill for anyone dealing with commercial crops that can lead to higher yields and increased profit per acre. This year's competition will be held on **August 1** at the U of I South Farm Fields in Champaign. Teams should consist of 2-5 high school aged youth with an adult coach. There will be 10 outdoor stations with topics such as identifying weeds, insects, diseases, plant growth stages and integrated pest management. For details, and to register, visit: [go.illinois.edu/CropScouting](http://go.illinois.edu/CropScouting).

## 4-H Camp Registration



Spring Family Camp will be back again May 19-21. Bring the whole family to enjoy a weekend of camp fun. Planned activities include: Swimming, Boating, Fishing, Arts & Crafts, Zip Lining, Rock Climbing, STEM Activities, and more!

**Fees:** Cabin Rental—\$215; each cabin has 10 beds  
 Participant Fee—\$84/person for 8+; \$56 for 4-7 year olds

Registration and Information here:  
<https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/event/4-h-memorial-camp/4-h-family-camp>

## Intermediate 4-H Rifle Clinic

On Saturday, June 17 the River Valley Sharpshooters 4-H Rifle Club will offer a intermediate rifle coaching clinic. This will be held at the River Valley Club in Kankakee, IL from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contact Tina Odle at (815) 450-7162 or [200target@gmail.com](mailto:200target@gmail.com) for details.



Sing the National Anthem at State Fair! We'd love to hear your voice on the stage representing Illinois 4-H this August. To be considered, please submit your information and a 30 - 60 second singing audition clip using this link: <https://go.illinois.edu/StateFairAnthem> Please submit by June 15, 2023 and a panel of judges

will make a final decision on the winner the following week. Event Details: Need to be available the morning of August 11th, 2023 with transportation to the State Fair Grounds in Springfield. Specific timing details to follow. Must be a 4-H member to audition.



# NEWS & notes

## Livestock & State Fair

### State Fair Entry Deadlines

**Horses**—State Fair entry forms due to state fair office by **June 1**.

State Fair entry forms must include a copy of the ownership/lease/registration papers and pictures. You can find entry forms at:

<https://statefair.illinois.gov/competitions/premium-books.html>

**Livestock**—Entries due to the state fair office by **July 1**. Office will not accept late entries. You can find class listing and entry forms at the link above.

Reminder: All admission tickets and parking passes for livestock exhibitors must be purchased through the section on the state fair entry form.

ALL state fair entry forms must be signed by a 4-H Extension representative from your county. If you will be at the Henry County Fair, Jennifer will have signed papers available. Staff are in and out of the offices in the summer, so don't wait until the last minute to get a signature.



### WARREN COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST

Registration  
8 AM

Contest  
9 AM



**When:** Saturday, June 10

**Where:** Warren County Fairgrounds - Roseville, IL

**Cost:** \$3/person

Junior Division = Ages 8-13 as of January 1

Senior Division = Ages 14-18 as of January 1

**Register:** via email to Bobby Allaman @ ballaman@illinois.edu

**Questions?:** Contact Lynn Shimmin at (309) 224-1469



### State Livestock Judging Contest

The 2023 4-H Livestock Judging Contest will take place at the Stock Pavilion, 1402 West Pennsylvania Avenue Urbana IL on Tuesday, June 20, 2023. Check in starts at 8:30 am. There will be a \$10 entry fee for all senior participants this year to cover lunch for them. Coaches must register their teams on ZSuite: [go.illinois.edu/4-Hlivestockjudgingcontest](http://go.illinois.edu/4-Hlivestockjudgingcontest)

### State Fair Date

Henry, Mercer, Rock Island and Stark members who are selected to show general projects at State Fair will show on

## Sunday, August 13

All state fair projects will be selected during your county general project judging. Youth may only take ONE project to state. If you have more than one project selected during county judging, you must choose one to take to Springfield. Projects can be updated between county judging and state fair but can only be completely remade if the project area requires (such as foods).

Reminder: We cannot sell parking passes. You can indicate your request for admission passes at general project check-out.

### Livestock Ethics Trainings

The animal ethics trainings are **required**. There are two different trainings. Please follow the rules for the one that fits the type of animal you show. If you plan to show animals in both categories, you are required to complete both trainings.

**QAEC** - for cats, dogs, horses, poultry & rabbits.

This training is only required ONCE per 4-H career. It is free and can be accessed here:

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/qaec/>

**YQCA** - for cattle, goats, sheep & swine

This training is required once per YEAR. It is \$12 to complete online at [yqcaprogram.org](http://yqcaprogram.org). Remember that this is a new website as of last spring.

### State Fair Market Animals

Here is a checklist of forms to have with you when you check-in your market animals at the State Fair. The things superintendents require to be checked can vary from species to species, but it is a good idea to have:

1. Copy of your nomination form from beef weigh-in, premiere swine tattooing or sheep/goat self-nomination form. If you do not have a copy, please contact the Extension Office.
2. Copy of YQCA certificate
3. Copy of Health Paper/CVI if required

# Henry County Fair Reminders

Every club is asked to work at least one shift in the food stand run by the Henry County 4-H Foundation. The schedule is below. Each shift requires 10-12 people, more if the kids are young.

The set-up and clean-up clubs are assigned by Extension and rotated on a yearly basis. Both set-up and clean-up require moving/lifting the large white tables/benches in the Art Hall. It goes quick if there are enough people to help move the heavy things. Note that clean-up is at 3 p.m., not Noon as it states in the fair book. The fair board is planning to charge admission until 3 p.m. on Sunday and do not want people driving through for project pick-up during the open horse show.

**Henry County General Project Exhibitors:** Projects must be picked up between 3-4 p.m. on Sunday, June 25. If you cannot pick your project up, please find someone from your club to get it for you. If you know you were selected for state fair, please try to let us know if you plan to attend and which project you'll take, if applicable. We will NOT take ANY projects back to the Extension office. If you do not pick up your project, it will either be thrown away or left at the fair grounds.

If you cannot make the general project show, but want to submit your project anyway, you must include a written report answering the questions below. You must be present for judging to be eligible for State Fair. Projects sent with a report are only eligible for a blue/red ribbon. You may send projects with another exhibitor or drop them off at the Galva Extension office no later than Thursday, June 15.

1. Why did you choose to take this project?
2. Briefly describe steps taken to complete this exhibit.
3. What would you change about the exhibit or do differently?
4. What did you learn through this project?

<b>Pre-Fair Set Up</b> <b>Wednesday, June 14</b> <b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>General Projects Clean Up</b> <b>Sunday, June 25</b> <b>3:00 p.m.</b>
<u>Annawan All Stars</u> <u>Geneseo Jr Leaders</u>	Burns Boosters Cambridge Champs

## 2023 4-H Food Stand Schedule Tuesday – Sunday

Shift	Tuesday June 20	Wednesday June 21	Thursday June 22	Friday June 23	Saturday June 24
7:45 AM to 11:30 AM	X	WJF	Extension Staff	Atkinson	Burns Boosters
11:30 AM to 3:15 PM	X	WJF	Cambridge	Atkinson	Geneseo Jr Leaders
3:15 PM to 7:00 PM	Kewanee King Pins	<u>Lynox</u> <u>Loyals/</u> <u>Rough</u> <u>Riders</u>	<u>Annawan</u>		

**HENRY, MERCER, ROCK ISLAND, & STARK UNIT**

email: [uie-hmrs@illinois.edu](mailto:uie-hmrs@illinois.edu)  
web: [extension.illinois.edu/hmrs/](http://extension.illinois.edu/hmrs/)

**Rock Island County Office**

321 W 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave  
Milan, IL 61264

Phone: 309-756-9978; FAX: 309-756-9987

**Henry/Stark Office**

358 Front Street  
Galva, IL 61434

Phone: 309-932-3447; FAX 309-932-3454

**Mercer County Office**

910 13th Street  
Viola, IL 61486

Phone: 309-513-3100; FAX: 309-513-3101

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Program Coordinator  
Rock Island 4-H  
[mmmille@illinois.edu](mailto:mmmille@illinois.edu)

**Galva Office Hours**

**Tuesday – Wednesday – Thursday**

**8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

closed for lunch 12–12:30 p.m.

**Viola Office Hours**

**Tuesday – Wednesday – Thursday**

**8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

closed for lunch 12–12:30 p.m.

**Milan Office Hours**

**Monday - Friday**

**8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

closed for lunch 12–12:30 p.m.



# Scribbles and Scrawl

## Alexis All-Stars Spotlight



Back Row: Clayton Olson, Hunter Brundage, Jake Johnson, Laikyn Martin, Blair Burns, Rachel Shike, Kanin Terwilliger, Jayla Johnson, Peyton Jaminet, Lindsey Burns, Porter Burns, Sawyer Jaminet, Bella Jaminet, Lily Grobosky  
Front Row: Reagen Shike, Abbi Terwilliger, Temperance Skutt, Peyton Martin, Davin Shike, Ella Bernhardt. Missing from picture - Easton Murdock

The club consist of 21 members with 2 leaders -Jayne Johnson and Julie Olson.  
We meet the 3rd Sunday of the month Sept thru May.

Every member has projects and will show them at the Mercer County Fair in Aledo on July 10-15th. If they are lucky to be chosen, they will go down to the Illinois State Fair in August. It's very rewarding to see these kids and their projects. It takes a lot of time and help from their parents.

This year, we have written to Pen Pals from the Alexis area, made blankets for the Norwood church (to give to children that have been taken from homes) and held several bake sales. The 4-H club would like to THANK the community for helping with the Fair and the 4-H auction at the Mercer County Fair and all sponsors!!! Thank you to our Mercer County Extension Office staff that makes everything run smooth. IT TAKES MANY HANDS TO MAKE THINGS WORK!

State · County · Local Groups · United States Department of Agriculture Cooperating  
University of Illinois provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

Programs and activities sponsored by University of Illinois Extension are open to anyone. If a special accommodation must be addressed in order for any individual to participate, please contact Jenny Garner at 309-932-3447 in advance of the event.