



FEBRUARY 2024

Henry, Mercer, Rock Island & Stark

Deadlines:

- Feb. 1 - Register for Beef Weigh-in
- Feb. 19 - Cloverbud Academy Registration
- March 1 - Enrollment
- March 1 - Mercer Scholarship Applications
- March 18 - RI Scholarship Application
- March 31 - State Livestock Ambassador Applications
- April 1 - Henry Project Add/Drop
- April 1—Henry Scholarship Application
- May 1 - Project Add/Drop for RI, Mercer, Stark
- May 1 - Horse Papers

Events:

- Feb. 3 - Beef Weigh-in
- Feb. 17 - State Horse Judging
- Feb. 19 - Speaking for IL 4-H Training
- Feb. 24 - Cloverbud Academy
- Feb. 27 - RI Public Speaking
- March 3 - Mercer Public Speaking
- March 10 - Henry/Stark Public Speaking
- March 17 - Mercer Spaghetti Luncheon
- April 6 - Regional Horse Bowl

BEEF WEIGH-IN

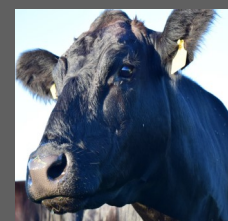
ALL Steers being shown at the county fairs must be weighed and tattooed. All steers showing at State Fair must be weighed, tattooed & tagged. The information for the upcoming weigh-in dates is:

Henry/Stark—Saturday, February 3

Location—Iliff Vet, 8165 Twp Rd 1500 E. Wyoming, IL

Time—8 a.m. to Noon (be on the grounds by 11:30)

Register—By Feb. 1—Call (309) 932-3447 or email kristenv@illinois.edu with how many steers you plan to bring.



Mercer/Rock Island—Saturday, February 3

Location—Mercer County Fairgrounds, Aledo

Time—8 to 10 a.m. (be on the grounds by 9:30)

Register: By February 1 with number of steers and phone number of person bringing the steers to:

Mercer County - Tracy Pestle (309) 513-3100 or fowlerpe@illinois.edu

Rock Island - McCala Crawford (309) 756-9978 or mmmille@illinois.edu

Enrollment Information

- ZSuite is now open for enrollments @ 4h.zsuite.org
- **New enrollments are due by March 1—to exhibit at fair.**
- Projects can be updated, added or changed until April 1 for Henry and May 1 for all other counties.
- Be sure to check on availability of project manuals you may need before summer. Popular ones can run out in the online store occasionally and we don't have multiple copies of all manuals in the offices.
- **Reminder to all screened volunteers:** You are required to take the new ANCRA training. It is online here: learn.extension.illinois.edu/course/view.php?id=372

Public Speaking

The upcoming county public speaking contests will be held on the following dates:

Rock Island—Tuesday, February 27 at 5:30 in the Milan Office.

Register here by Feb. 22:

<https://form.jotform.com/213186164531048>

Mercer—Sunday, March 3 at Brookstone of Aledo, 1 p.m.

Register via ZSuite

Henry/Stark—Sunday, March 10 at 2 p.m. in the Galva Office

Register via ZSuite

Cloverbuds are encouraged to participate by reciting the pledge. All rules are either attached in the ZSuite event or were emailed. Contact your local office with questions.

Club News and Notes



Magical Muggles Report Submitted by Cecilia Holder



On December 18th, 2023, Magical Muggles met for their monthly meeting. The meeting started with the pledges and reading of reports. The Healthy Living

Officer led Simon Says and brought oranges and water. We voted for our group Passport to the World and this year it is Canada! We talked about doing a hot meal at the church for a community service project in February. Lastly, we had a guest, "Grandma June," that taught us how to make gnome ornaments.

On Monday, January 15, Magical Muggles met for their monthly meeting. The Healthy Living Officer led us in scooter races. She also brought popcorn and apples and healthy peanut butter.



We worked on our Passport To The World project. We also made plans for our community dinner. It will be on March 11th from 5:00 to 7:00pm at Bethel Wesley United Methodist Church in Moline. Come enjoy a free dinner hosted by Magical Muggles 4-H Club. We ended our meeting with a special guest, Abigail Holder, who taught us some American Sign Language. Our next meeting will be on Monday, February 19 at 6:30pm.

Stark County Century Clovers Submitted by Logan Goerks

On December 1st the Stark County Century Clovers started the month by hosting a bingo night at the Galva Courtyard Estates for the residents. Then, on Sunday, December 3rd we had our meeting where we celebrated Christmas by having a party with treats, crafts, and prizes. Our January meeting was on the 21st at the Spoon River Bowl in Wyoming. Everybody enjoyed bowling, pizza, and treats. Our next meeting will be held on February 11th at the Jr Fairgrounds. We will have a Valentine's party with snacks and activities. Donations for the food pantry will be collected.

Trail Blazers Report Submitted by Matt Gorbach



Grace gave a demonstration on how to make a potholder. We also played the game "Draw Your Own Conclusions". We worked on our healthy living activities by drinking water, eating apples, and playing an active game. The leader passed out awards, and we started our veterinary science projects.

Alexis All Stars Report Submitted by Jayne Johnson

Meeting was called to order by Ella. Reagan did roll call. Peyton did Treasurer report. Secretary minutes by Reagan. Old Business:

Julie reported on Hunger Hero's food drive, our 4-H club won the contest with collecting 1453 items with the help of United JR and SR high School and Farmers State Bank. Thank yous will be sent out and a Thank you from Amy and Chad McKenna (Alexis Food Pantry) was read.

New Business:

Went over the Beef Weigh in - Sat Feb 3 - pre register with Extension office

Went over Livestock Ethics Trainings - all that show Dogs,Cats, Horses, Rabbits Poultry do online training once in 4-H career. Beef, Swine, Sheep & Goats need to make sure they do YQCA every year - In person training Feb 21st in Monmouth Talked about Pen Pals, Motion by Ella 2nd by Reagan that we continue doing as a group. Each month we will do something for our Pen Pals. Total of 44

Community Serve - we will continue to make blankets for Norwood Church , 1st by Ella 2nd by Reagan. Jayne will look into some grants for purchasing of fleece, we do have enough fleece for this year , will make tags to put on blankets next meeting. Next month we will hand out awards - having cupcakes and maybe Hot chocolate bar

Next meeting Feb 18th

Servers Johnson & Jaminet



NEWS & notes

Club Information

Cloverbud Academy

The Cloverbud Academy is open to youth ages 5-7 as of September 1, 2023.

When: Saturday, February 24

Where: Western Illinois—QC Campus

Schedule: Check-in - 9- 9:30 a.m.

Sessions - 9:30-11:50

Check-out - Noon

Cost: \$5

Register: At this link by **February 21**

<https://registration.extension.illinois.edu/start/4-h-cloverbud-academy-2024>

Sessions will include an activity with PBS, gardening, food & nutrition, STEM, and arts & crafts.

Livestock Ethics Trainings

If you are showing **Dogs, Cats, Horses, Rabbits, Poultry:**

- You are required to complete **Quality Assurance & Ethics**
- Complete once in your 4-H career
- Training is free and found here:

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

If you are showing **Beef, Dairy, Goats, Sheep, Swine:**

- You are required to complete **YQCA**
- This training is required yearly
- Available online for \$12 here: <https://yqcaprogram.org/>
- We will offer local in-person trainings for \$3 this spring

State Events

State/National Events happening in 2024:

Speaking for Illinois 4-H Training—February 19, 2024

Legislative Connection - Two dates will be selected between March & May 2023. Any youth who is trained in Speaking for IL 4-H will be invited to attend.

State Public Speaking Contest - April 27, 2024

State Robotics—April 20 (Tentative)

4-H Camp Registration—Opens to 4-H Youth on January 22

National Day of Service—April 26, 2024

Market Livestock Ownership Deadlines

Steers - Calved on/after Jan. 1, 2023; Owned Feb. 1, 2024

Barrows - Farrowed on/after Jan. 1, 2024; Owned June 1, 2024

Premiere Barrows - Farrowed on/after Feb. 10, 2024

- Owned June 1

- Weighed/Tattooed between Feb. 10 & April 15

Sheep - Lambled on/after Jan. 1, 2024; Owned May 15, 2024

- Self Nominate between March 15 and May 15

Premiere Sheep - Same dates as above but must be weighed and tattooed between March 15 & May 15.

Meat Goat Wethers - Born on/after Oct. 1, 2023; Owned May 15, 2024

- Self Nominate between March 15 & May 15

Breeding Ownership Deadlines

Heifers - Sept. 1, 2022 - March 31, 2024. Owned by June 1, 2024

Cows - Born before Sep. 1, 2022. Owned by Jan. 1, 2024

Gilts—Farrowed on/after January 1, 2024. Owned by June 1

Yearling Ewes - Age between Jan. 1, 2023 to Aug. 31, 2023.

Owned by June 25, 2024

Ewe Lambs - Age after Sept. 1, 2023. Owned by June 25, 2024.

Ram Lambs—Age after Jan. 1, 2024. Owned by June 25, 2024.

Dairy Calves/Heifers - Owned by June 1, 2024

Dairy Cows - Owned by January 1, 2024

Dairy Kids & Yearlings - Owned by June 1, 2024

Dairy Milking Does - Owned by January 1, 2024

Meat Goats - Owned by May 15, 2024



Horses

Horse ownership, lease and/or registration papers along with color photos of each side of the horse are due to your local office by **May 1**. Those forms will be sent out to everyone enrolled in the horse project with fair books in the March/April time frame.

State Horse Show entries are due to Stephanie Hardy at the Illinois State Fair office by **June 1**. This is a hard deadline! They will not accept late entries. Copies of the ownership, lease and/or registration papers and photos must be included with the entries. Entry forms are found on the Illinois State Fair website. *Note that the website has not been updated with 2024 entry forms, yet.*

Rock Island County Bert Blood Scholarship

The Rock Island County Extension & 4-H Education Foundation and the Rock Island Rotary Club are co-sponsoring college/trade school scholarships for 4-H members and alumni. Eligibility: Rock Island County 4-H members who are seniors in high school and plan to attend college or trade school in the fall of 2023 are eligible to apply for one of three scholarships that will be awarded in the amounts of \$1,500, \$1,250 and \$1,000. Rock Island County 4-H alumni who will be enrolled as sophomores, juniors and seniors in college or trade school in the fall of 2024, and that have at least a 3.0 grade point average, can apply for one of two \$500 scholarships (Note: past winners of the high school senior scholarships can apply for the alumni scholarship. Past winners of the alumni scholarship are not eligible to win again).

The application process:

Scholarship application, high school or college transcript, and two reference forms are due by **Monday, March 18, 2024 by 11:45 p.m.** They can either be submitted through the online application process or dropped off or mailed to the Rock Island County Extension office.

All scholarship checks will be made out to the college or trade school to which the winners are enrolled.

The three high school winners will be invited to attend a scholarship luncheon sponsored by the Rock Island Rotary Club to be held on Tues. April 16 from 11:30 am – 1 pm at the Quad City Botanical Center where they will receive notification of their award amount and have the opportunity to share a brief speech about their 4-H experiences.

The high school application is at:

<https://form.jotform.com/230194933960157>

The alumni application is at:

<https://form.jotform.com/230195578533159>

Bert Blood Reference form :

<https://form.jotform.com/230226414850145>

The reference form should be completed by two references (ie a 4-H leader, boss, teacher, coach.) and is also due **March 18.**

Your transcripts can either be mailed by your school, or emailed using McCala's email mmmille@illinois.edu

Mercer County Scholarships

4-H Memorial Scholarship

4-H Memorial Scholarship was established by memorial funds from Dylis McCutchan and Daniel McLaughlin and memorials made to honor Dylis and Daniel. Dylis was a leader of Hamlet Handy Helpers for over 40 years. Daniel was a Mercer County 4-H alumni and a long-time member of the Young Riders 4-H club. Both of these individuals knew first-hand the value and impact that 4-H can have. The scholarship funds continue to grow as more people donated in memory of loved ones. As a result, the scholarship committee continues to increase the scholarship payouts and/or scholarships available. The Memorial Scholarship is open to current Mercer County 4-H members graduating from high school. It is intended for educational purposes at a college, university or trade school.

Deadline March 1, 2024. Applications is here:

go.illinois.edu/MercerMemorialScholarship

Patti Jeanne Higgins 4-H Scholarship

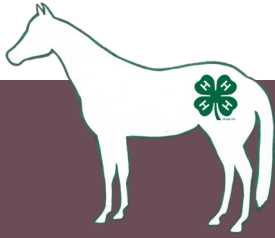
This scholarship is for one year, available to high school seniors or persons enrolled in the first year of college, university, technical, or vocational school. Two \$500 scholarships will be awarded each year. Applicant must be a resident of Mercer or Warren County. Applicant must have been actively involved in 4-H for a minimum of three years. Preference will be given to applicants who are or were a member of the Alexis All-Star 4-H Club. Applicant is required to verify acceptance to or present enrollment at a college or university prior to receiving the grant. Applicant shall be required to submit a written application. In addition to eligibility guidelines, the following will be considered in selecting recipients: Academic performance and honors Rank in class ACT score Financial need Character and personality: Consideration shall be given to maturity; industriousness and motivation; intellectual interest; moral character; and demonstrated leadership. Completed Application due on or before, **March 1, 2024.** Applications can be found at

Henry County Foundation Scholarship

The Henry County 4-H Foundation scholarship application is due **April 1.** The link to the application is:

<https://go.illinois.edu/HenryScholarship2024>

Contact Jennifer if you have problems with the application or have questions.



NEWS & notes

Equestrian Opportunity

SPRING TRI-FECTA CLINIC

Sponsored by Quad City All Breed Horse Association
on Saturday April, 13th, 2024
at Black Spur Equestrian Center
15711 13th Street, Milan Illinois

Session I

9:00 – 10:30

SHOWMANSHIP

Jennifer Drinkall

Jennifer has guided riders and horses to both World and Congress titles.

Session II

11:00 – 12:30

RANCH RIDING

Doug Bogart

Doug is an AQHA and NRHA professional instructor in both Western Riding and Reining.

Session III

1:00 – 3:00

HORSEMANSHIP

Janet Harms

Janet has helped both English and Western riders improve their riding technique.

\$75.00 Participants/Session (Participants may register for multiple sessions)

\$20.00 all-day Auditors (14 and under must be accompanied by an adult)

\$10.00 all day 4-H & FFA Auditors with card

Negative Coggins required for all horses.

Registration and payment are required due by March 30th, 2023.

Contact Diane Carius at 309-781-2596 to register

Stalls available upon request.

Helmets are required for all riders

Lunch will be provided for riders and clinicians only

**For more information, contact Sue Larkin at johnsue704@hotmail.com*

HENRY, MERCER, ROCK ISLAND, & STARK UNIT

email: uie-hmrs@illinois.edu
web: extension.illinois.edu/hmrs/

Rock Island County Office

321 W 2nd 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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County Director

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Kristen VanDeVelde

Program Coordinator
Henry & Stark 4-H
kristenv@illinois.edu

McCala Crawford

Program Coordinator
Rock Island 4-H
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.



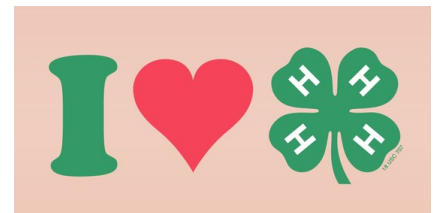
Scribbles and Scrawl

Welcome to 2024! January was a little rocky, but now that the weather is improving we are ready to focus on the next portion of the 4-H year. Believe it or not, this is the beginning of fair season for us. Over the next few months we will be getting fair books prepared and doing all the behind the scenes preparations to make one week go smoothly.

This includes finding ways to help you all prepare. Be looking for project workshop offerings coming in the next few months and sign up for the public speaking contests scheduled for your county. We'll also be hosting a couple YQCA in-person trainings in the spring.

All upcoming events and offerings will be promoted on our Facebook pages, as well as in emails and the newsletter. State opportunities will continue to come via emails from the State 4-H Office. If you have any questions about state-level events please reach out to your local office.

We hope you all had a great holiday, survived the great blizzard, and are starting 2024 with positivity.



—Jennifer, Elaine, Tracy, McCala & Kristen

Find us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/4HHenryCounty?ref=hl>

<https://www.facebook.com/StarkCounty4H?ref=hl>

Find us on Twitter:

https://twitter.com/HMRS_Counties4H

HMRS Counties 4-H

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.