



MARCH 2024

# Henry, Mercer, Rock Island & Stark

## Deadlines:

- 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
- May 17-Henry Fair Entries

## Events:

- March 3 - Mercer Public Speaking
- March 10 - Henry/Stark Public Speaking
- March 17 - Mercer Spaghetti Luncheon
- April 6 - Regional Horse Bowl
- April 15 - YQCA Training in Milan
- April 25-RI Pork Chop Dinner



# Congratulations

Congratulations to all the state level experience and scholarship winners. Everyone who applied did great things throughout the last 4-H year.

Logan Goerks, from Stark County, was selected to receive a state scholarship in the Natural Resources category. He will be recognized at the state awards banquet in April.

Bailey Callahan, from the Magical Muggles in Rock Island, received the Emerald Clover Award. This is the highest level of the experience awards.

Kate Jungmann, of the Kimel 4-H Club in Mercer County, also received an Emerald Clover award. The Emerald Clover awards will be given out locally.



Congratulations also go out to participants of the state horse judging contest, which was held at Black Hawk East on Saturday, February 17.

In the reasons division, Bailey Callahan placed 1st, Emma Steiger 2nd and Sophia Oltman 3rd. In the non-reasons division, Jasmine Frerkes placed 11th out of 50 contestants. Great job to all!

## Enrollment Information

- [4h.zsuite.org](http://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.
- **If you are nervous about doing a talk or demonstration and need a little help, contact your local office and ask for a "Talk in a Bag."**

## Policy Reminders

Each county has its own attendance policy that must be met in order to participate in the fair. These policies go out in each new year folder, but here is a reminder:

Henry County—Attendance requirement is 4 meetings and you must complete 1 talk or demonstration.

Mercer County—Attendance requirement is 5 meetings plus a talk or demonstration.

Rock Island County— Attendance requirement is 5 meetings plus a talk or demonstration.

Stark County—Attendance requirement is 4 meetings and you must complete 1 talk or demonstration.

\*There are some exceptions but those must be worked out with your club leader and local office.

# Club News and Notes



## Joe-Eliza Ag Report Submitted by Colton Reid

On February 11, 2024 the Joy-Eliza Ag 4-H Club held their meeting. On April 13th we discussed having a community appreciation day from 11-3, there will be games and activities there. We discussed the Fireman bake sale fundraiser and who will be working or bringing items to sell. We had multiple talks/Demo's, Autumn Geertz had a demo on Clay Art, Reese Marlow had a demo on how to tag a goat, Henna Stevenson had a talk on how to groom a horse, C.J. Cox had a demo about electrical circuits, and Colton Reid had a demo on how to stain wood. After the meeting the Joy-Eliza Ag 4-H club presented Bill and Stacy Boruff with a recognition tray for all they have contributed to the club.



## Saddle Teens Report

Submitted by Abby & Mark Atchison

The Saddle Teens met Feb. 8 at 6:30pm at the Fellowship Hall. Ellie called the meeting to order and Jocelyn provided last month's report. Paisley gave the treasurer report. Old business was a reminder that entries for the fair should be in by June 1. Under new business our club voted to sponsor a dog class at the fair and to purchase spaghetti sauce for the spaghetti supper on March 17.

Katie Erickson talked about a Cloverbud workshop. Ellie Hampton gave a presentation about raising cattle and Bridgette Vipond gave a talk about cooking brownies.

## Stark County Century Clovers

Submitted by Logan Goerks

The Stark County 4-H Century Clovers held their monthly meeting on February 11th. A reminder was given that if you are showing dogs, cats, horses, rabbits, or poultry, that you are required to complete the Quality Assurance and Ethics once in your 4-H career. Also if you are showing beef, dairy, goats, sheep, or swine, you are required to complete the YQCA yearly. Information about Family Fun Night at the YMCA in Kewanee was given. It will be held on Friday, March 22 with sign in at 6:30, and activities starting at 7 until 11. A Valentines party was held during the meeting, and activities included crafts and games and lots of food and treats were brought to share. The next meeting will be on Sunday, March 10th. We will be collecting donations for the food pantry and holding an Easter egg hunt for all ages.

## Magical Muggles Report Submitted by Cecilia Holder

### Magical Muggles 4-H and Bethel Wesley UMC



Invite You to Join Us

FREE  
COMMUNITY  
MEAL

March 11, 2024

5-7PM

Join us for a free spaghetti meal!  
(Donations accepted)



BETHEL WESLEY UMC  
1201 13TH STREET  
MOLINE, IL 61265

On Monday, February 19th Magical Muggles met for our monthly meeting. Our Healthy Living Officer led us in a physical activity. Awards for last year were given out. Then, we all brainstormed our own ideas for the fair book cover. We talked about our free community meal and some of our members worked together to create a flyer (see above) for it. Finally, we learned about some of the provinces of Canada and we tried a delicious Canadian recipe, Pouding Chomeur. It was tasty!

## Rural Go Getters Report Submitted by Morgan Little

We started off the meeting like a regular business meeting. Megan had a talk about her knee, Henry talked about his sheep, and Will had a talk about his goats. We handed out awards from the 2022-2023 4-H year and adjourned the meeting. Greyson brought refreshments for everyone to enjoy after the meeting.

# Club News and Notes



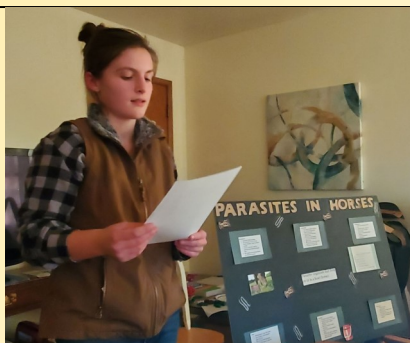
## Annawan All Stars Report Submitted by Ella Anderson

We hope everyone had a great holiday season! This month we started our meeting by recapping past activities and then discussed our future plans. Then we had great talks given by Jeremiah Grimes, Gwen Grimes, Ava Hakes, and Lydia Carton! After, we recognized the members who won the pen of five in the swine barn at the Henry County 4-H fair. Congratulations to Kaleb Klockenga, Makayla Park, Ella Anderson, Gwen Grimes, and Kylie Klockenga!



## Trail Blazers Report Submitted by Matt Gorbach

We went outside and played tag for Healthy Living. Then, we came inside and did the pledges. After the pledges, we drew some fair book cover ideas. We talked about the county speech contest. We choose to learn about Austria for Passport to the World next month, because the Vienna Riding School is there. We talked about our vet science and animal science projects that we have been working on, and Emmy presented on preparing to be a horse trainer.



## Dog Obedience

The dog obedience training season is fast approaching. If you plan to exhibit a dog, you must attend at least **6 sessions** of 4-H AKC training.

**Rock Island**—starts on April 23 at the fairgrounds and runs Tuesday/Thursday until the fair. 6 p.m.

**Mercer**—Begins April 1 at fairgrounds, 6:30pm. **NO DOGS**

**Henry**—At this time plan to attend either Rock Island or Mercer practices. If we find a new instructor, we will let everyone know.

## Upcoming Shooting Sports

### Henry County Archery:

**When:** Mondays beginning March 18 through April 22

**Where:** Henry County Community Center (Old bowling alley) 407 N West St.

**Times:** Sessions will be held at 5:30 & 6:30 p.m.

Pick the session that works best for your schedule, but we recommend beginners try for the 5:30 session.

**Cost:** \$3 range fee per session

### Stark County Archery:

**When:** Sundays beginning April 7 through May 19

**Where:** Stark County Fairgrounds in Wyoming

**Times:** Sessions will be held at 2, 3 & 4 p.m.

**Register:** [go.illinois.edu/StarkArcheryClub](http://go.illinois.edu/StarkArcheryClub)

### Stark County Shotgun:

**When:** Mondays beginning April 1 through May 20

**Where:** Izzack Walton League at Baker's Park in Kewanee

**Times:** Sessions will be held at 6:00 & 7:00 p.m.

**Cost:** \$4 per round for clays, plus ammo fee

**Must be at least 10 years old to participate**

**Register:** [go.illinois.edu/StarkShotgunClub](http://go.illinois.edu/StarkShotgunClub)

## Mercer County Spaghetti Dinner

The Mercer County Federation is hosting a spaghetti dinner drive-thru to benefit the Mercer County Churches Food Pantry.

**When:** Sunday, March 17 from 11-1 (Drive-thru only)

**Where:** Mercer County Senior Center in Aledo

**What:** Spaghetti, garlic bread & brownie

**Cost:** \$8 a plate. Checks can be made to **Mercer County Churches Food Pantry**

Pre-orders can be made by calling (309) 371-6158

## Rock Island Pork Chop Dinner

The Rock Island 4-H Foundation will host their annual pork chop dinner and pie auction on Thursday, April 25 at the Milan office. It will be primarily drive-thru, but there will be an option to eat inside.

Clubs will be asked to contribute a dessert or help serve at the event. Stay tuned for details.



# Club News and Notes



## Cambridge Champs Report Submitted by Jon Stevens

The meeting was called to order by president Miranda Reed. Pledges were cited, roll call was taken. Secretary and treasurer reports were read and approved. Extension news was read. We read a thank you card from the fruit basket.

Old Business:

That's My Pan fundraiser report. Gave out awards from last year. Christmas community service with Hillcrest Nursing Home. We played BINGO with the residents and handed out prizes.

New Business:

Valentines cards were made for residents of Hillcrest Nursing Home. The club will hide eggs for participants of the Village of Cambridge Easter Egg Hunt on March 30. Hiding starts at 9 am and the hunt starts at 11. March meeting at the trampoline park from 4-6 p.m.



## Alexis All Stars Report Submitted by Jayne Johnson

The Alexis All Stars met on Sunday, February 18. The meeting was called to order by Ella. Pledges by Jake Johnson. Secretary report by Reagan and treasurer report by Peyton.

Old Business: t-shirts handed out to members for "Hunger Hero" food drive. Thanks to the Extension office for them.

Beef weigh-in was talked about to make sure everyone attended that needed to.

New Business: Jayne went over things coming up including the spaghetti dinner to be held on March 17 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Our club will donate 8lbs of hamburger.

The add/drop date for projects is May. Fair Entry will open April 1 and close on June 1.

4-H BBQ is June 14. Our club will be setting up and will have to make some desserts.

Reminder to do your required ethics training.

Discussed pen pals—will send out Easter cards next month.

Handed out 4-H awards.

Next meeting is March 17 with servers Shike and Martin

Meeting was adjourned and we worked on Valentines for our pen pals. Servers Grobosky and Burns brought a hot chocolate bar and 4-H cookies.

## Hamlet Handy Helpers Report Submitted by Zach Icenogle

The Hamlet Handy Helpers 4-H club has had a very busy year. We welcomed 7 new members to our Club and held officer elections at the October meeting.

New officers: President: Mason Gray, Vice-President: Addison Monson, Secretary: Zach Icenogle, Treasurer: Muireann Zippe, Reporter: Mitchell Taylor.

Also during the month of October, Zach recorded a PSA at WRMJ for National 4-H week and our club decorated outside the Hamlet Hall. Zach and Muireann helped the American Legion place 100 honorary grave markers at the New Boston Cemetery. In November, the HHH decorated a tree in Central Park for WRMJ's "Trees in the Park" during Holly Days.

The theme was "Country Christmas". Our annual Award Recognition program for our club and members was held at the January meeting. Several of our members received multiple awards and we are so very proud of them. During our February 11th meeting, roll call was taken and pledges were performed. The treasurer's report was given and approved. We voted to send a floral arrangement and Valentine's cards to the residents at Brookstone and are planning upcoming activities and educational tours. A donation was made to sponsor awards at the 2024 Mercer County Fair. Josiah Korn gave a talk on his work at the farm in preparation for the Mercer County Public Speaking Contest. Our next meeting will be Sunday, March 10 at 5pm at the Hamlet Hall.



## Zuma Zippers Update by Shiloh & Lincoln Ford-Skadberg



The Zuma Zippers decorated and signed 106 handmade Valentine cards at their February meeting for their service project. The cards were delivered to all the

residents at Resthve Home in Morrison, just in time for Valentine's Day!



# NEWS & notes

## Club Information

### State Fair Livestock Nominations

#### Market Wethers, Market Ewe Lambs, Meat Goat Wethers

- Self Nominate using through a nomination form with accompanying photos of lamb's ear with Scrapie tag number visible.
- **Complete form between March 25 and May 15**
- Forms will be emailed to all youth enrolled in the sheep project in ZSuite after March 1. They can also be picked up at any of the office.
- **Forms must be signed by a 4-H staff member.**

#### Premiere Wether & Ewe Lambs

- Animals showing in Premiere classes must be weighed and tattooed.
- All wethers and ewes must be lambled on or after January 1, 2024

#### Premiere Barrows

- Barrows eligible if farrowed on or after February 10, 2024
- Must be weighed & tattooed between February 10 and April 15.
- Pigs must be within 35 days of birth and not weigh more than 1lb/day of age.

Contact Extension to schedule a tattoo date if planning to nominate for Premiere shows.

### 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

*Note: These are STATE deadlines. Your local county may have different dates.*



## 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.\*

## 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/>

### Upcoming in-person training:

We will be holding an in-person YQCA training on **Monday, April 15** in the Milan office at 6 p.m. This training is \$3. The payment **MUST** be made online when you register. We cannot accept any payment in person. You must register in advance through the YQCA website—<https://yqcaprogram.org>.

### 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 to McCala at [mmmille@illinois.edu](mailto:mmmille@illinois.edu).

### Henry County Foundation Scholarship

The Henry County 4-H Foundation scholarship is open to all current high school seniors who are members of 4-H in Henry County.

The application is due **April 1 and** can be found here:  
<https://go.illinois.edu/HenryScholarship2024>

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

### Stark County Foundation Scholarship

The Stark County 4-H Foundation scholarship is open to all current high school seniors who are members of 4-H in Stark County OR current college freshmen who did not previously receive a scholarship.

The application is due **May 1 and** can be found here:  
<https://go.illinois.edu/StarkScholarship2024>

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



## State Events

State/National Events happening in 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 Robotics**—April 20 (Tentative)

**State Public Speaking Contest** - April 27, 2024

**National Day of Service**—April 26, 2024

**Legislative Connection**— May 16 & 17

**State Livestock Judging**— June 17, 2024

**State Fair General Projects**—Friday, August 9

**State Dog Show**—Saturday, August 24

**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

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**McCala Crawford**

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

Happy March -

We've already had all four seasons in one day, so it feels like we should be closer to Spring. It will be here soon, though. Spring means it is basically fair. Be looking for all the deadlines approaching in the April/May time frame. The Henry fair entry website will open on April 1 and close May 17. Mercer & Rock Island's will close on June 1 and Stark's on July 1. In between are a bunch of deadlines for anyone planning to show livestock at the state fair.

If you have questions about anything related to fair, using fair entry or meeting all the paperwork deadlines, ethics requirements, etc. please call your local office.

Most of you have heard that McCala is leaving Extension to be able to spend more time with her boys. We will miss her tremendously. She has done great things in Rock Island County and was a very valuable member of our unit 4-H team. We wish her the best, and we know her kids will be glad to have more time with Mom—but we also (selfishly) hope she stays connected to 4-H.

Rock Island families should contact Jennifer at (309) 932-3447 or [jpetersn@illinois.edu](mailto:jpetersn@illinois.edu) with any questions or needs beginning March 12. If you would like to send McCala any well-wishes, please do so by March 12, also.

—Jennifer, Elaine, Tracy, & 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](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.