



APRIL 2024

Henry, Mercer, Rock Island & Stark

Deadlines:

- 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 1 - Stark Scholarships
- May 17-Henry Fair Entries
- June 1 - Mercer & RI Fair Entries
- July 1 - Stark Fair Entries

Events:

- April 1 - Mercer Dog Practice
- April 6 - Regional Horse Bowl
- April 15 - YQCA Training in Milan
- April 23 - RI Dog Practice
- April 25-RI Pork Chop Dinner
- June 14 - Mercer BBQ
- June 15-Henry General Projects
- June 17-23 - Henry Fair



Stark Club Outing



Friday March 22 we had 28 kids participate in Family Fun night at the YMCA. They enjoyed tumbling, swimming, pizza and snacks, and open gym time. Our next meeting will be on Sunday, April 14th.

Fair Entry Information

- <https://faireentry.com/>
- We are switching from enrollment to fair entries beginning April 1.
- Use the link above to access fair entry.
- **Do NOT create a new account if you used the system last year. Use your old log-in information.**
- Instructions on how to complete fair entries will be given to leaders along with fair books.
- Fair Entries are due by:
 - Henry—May 17** (We are not in the office that day so please complete in advance so we can trouble-shoot problems)
 - Mercer—June 1**
 - Rock Island—June 1**
 - Stark—July 1**

RI 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 are asked to contribute desserts for the meal and pies for the auction. Youth are also asked to help serve at the event.

Please use the links below to register to help or provide desserts:

<https://go.illinois.edu/Volunteer4-HPorkChop>

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



Club News and Notes



Alexis All Stars Submitted by Jayne Johnson

The Alexis All Stars meeting was held on Sunday, March 17th. Meeting was called to order by Ella with pledges by Easton. Roll call was done by Temy. Treasurer's report read by Peyton. Under old business, we discussed the spaghetti luncheon that Lindley attended.

New business: We discussed project manuals. Julie will check with the Extension office to see if they have the ones requested. Fair entries are due June 1—fairbooks will be available at the next meeting. The add/drop date for projects in ZSuite is May 1.

The 4-H BBQ is June 14.

We are going to address and send out Easter Cards to the club's pen pals and tie blankets after the meeting. Servers were Martin and Shikes.

4-H in the City Report Submitted by Carter Tharp

Our club met for our March monthly meeting. We had 6 members present. For roll call, Noah asked what our favorite Easter Candy was. Maya held an Ice Breaker -



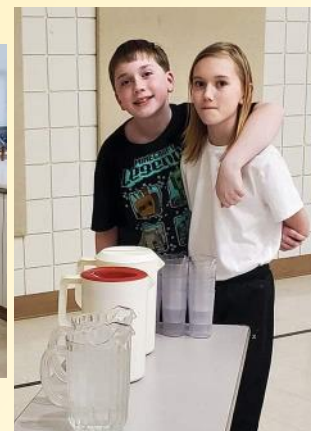
Would You Rather. We had fun playing the game. Next, we discussed New Business. We talked about our upcoming meeting with Senator Halpin and planned our agenda. We also planned our 4-H National Day of Service activity. We will be volunteering at Q.C. Paws. We also voted on new club t-shirt designs.



Old Business discussed included the 4-H Pork Chop Dinner, our meeting at the park with the park director and our birdhouses and project sign-up.

Magical Muggles Report Submitted by Cecilia Holder

On Monday, March 11th, Magical Muggles held a community dinner. We served spaghetti, garlic bread, green beans, and dessert with water and lemonade. Over 50 people were served, and the leftover food was donated to a local shelter. Magical Muggles partnered with Bethel Wesley United Methodist Church to provide this community dinner, and we appreciate them allowing us to use their church for the meal.



Trailblazers Report Submitted by Matt Gorbach

The main focus of our meeting in March was our Passport to the World project on Austria. We painted the poster like the Austrian flag and then everyone else shared something about Austria that they had researched for the last month. Matt described the geography. Emmy presented about the food and shared cookies she had baked from an Austrian recipe. Bailey shared about "The Sound of Music" and taught us a dance from the show. Nick had researched the history, and Grace taught us about Lipizzan horses and the Spanish Riding School in Vienna. We planned on doing roadside clean-up for National Service Day following our April 28th meeting. We also discussed fair entry and the pork chop dinner.

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.

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.

Club News and Notes



Burns Boosters Report Submitted by Chloe Finch

January and February 2024

Burns Boosters hosted their January and February 4-H meetings. In January we played an alphabet game to learn about agriculture and we had talks and demonstrations. In February we discussed camp opportunities and field trip ideas. We are going to Steven's Veterinary Clinic for our March meeting on March 17, 2024.

Burns Boosters held their March meeting 3-17-24. We went to Stevens Veterinary Clinic! The topics discussed as old business, were ethics training and project enrollment and the topic discussed as new business was ideas for a day of service. There were talks and demonstrations by Ryder Johnston, Kal Carlson, Camden Johnston, and Eden Rahm. After finishing talks and demonstrations, Kim discussed skills she learned through 4-H that she still uses today such as, eye contact, public speaking, enunciation, etc. and allowed us to explore everything about her new vet clinic! Thank you Dr. Kim Stevens for allowing us to tour your new clinic! Burns Boosters' next meeting will be 4-21-24.



Stark County Century Clovers Submitted by Logan Goerks

On March 10th the Stark County 4-H Century Clovers held their monthly meeting. A Thank You was given to everyone who helped with bingo night on March 6 at Bradford Courtyard estates. Reminder information was given about Family Fun night to be held at the YMCA in Kewanee on Friday, March 22. Several demonstrations were presented and a reminder was given that there are only two more meetings to get demonstrations done before fair time. After the meeting was adjourned everybody was invited to go out and participate in an easter egg hunt with 1400 eggs to be found.

Edgington Go-Getters Report Submitted by Lylah Franks

The Edgington Go-Getters 4-H Club held a meeting on March 12, 2024, at the Edgington Fire Station. The meeting was called to order by President Laikyn Parchert and pledges were performed. Then we discussed new and old business. For new business we talked about fair projects and livestock. For old business Luci passed out awards to members who were not present at last month's meeting. Next, we started with talks and demonstrations. We had Laney Keller who taught us how to make cat bandanas in a four-step process. Then Lylah Franks gave her speech from the public speaking contest, 2024 RICO Fair Preview. Following that Savannah Carlson informed the members of the different types of chicken eggs. Then Bodie Carlson explained the different cuts of lamb meat. Piper Carlson and Tommie Carlson talked about different breeds of ducks and how they differ from each other. Lots of interesting topics this month! Following those Laney Keller showed the club how to make homemade chia pets with plastic clear cups, face stickers, seeds, and potting soil. Each club member had their own chia pet to take home with them! We finished the meeting with snacks and drinks. Laikyn Parchert adjourned the meeting.



Club News and Notes



Cambridge Champs Report Submitted by Jon Stevens

The Cambridge Champs 4-H meeting was held at Evaluate trampoline park in Milan. The meeting was called to order by Vice President Jolene Blackert. Pledges were recited. Roll call was taken. There was no secretary or treasurer report. Extension news was read and approved. Under new business, we discussed the newsletter, 4-H books, donations and scholarships.



Hamlet Handy Helpers Submitted by Zach Icenogle

The Hamlet Handy Helpers held their monthly meeting on March 10, 2024 at Skate City in East Moline. President, Mason Gray, called the meeting to order. Pledges were led by Natalie Taylor. The secretary and treasurer's reports were read and approved. Reminder to make sure all projects are uploaded into the system by May 1. We will be taking a tour of Landrace on April 14th. The Teen Federation spaghetti dinner will be held on March 17th from 11-1. It was approved to send a donation to the Mercer County Food Pantry. Our club spotlight and pictures will be posted in June, so make sure to get your write-ups completed. Our club is in charge of kitchen clean-up for the 4-H BBQ on June 14 from 5-7 at the Aledo Fire Station. As always, make sure to check the newsletter. The meeting was adjourned. Our club had a recreational activity of roller skating. Next meeting will be April 14.



Peppy Partners Report Submitted by

Peppy Partners started their meeting out with Roll Call of what's your favorite animal, Pledges, Secretary & Treasure Reports. All was approved.

Old Business: was trying to invite possible new members. Having speakers come in and being sure we followed thru with a check to College Ave. Church for the use of the basement room for meetings. The last old business was Elections of officers.

New Business:

Agreeing to sponsor a fair award. We decided to sponsor 1 for rabbits this year. It was mentioned that there will be 2 people to help with the Archery & Air Rifle. If interested – sign up. Also, for the speaking contest.

The spaghetti dinner is March 17th. We agreed to get the tomato paste again this year for it. Everyone was encouraged to come help make the spaghetti, brownies, etc. the day before, March 16th 3-6pm at the Senior Citizen Building. All were encouraged to come have lunch.

It was mentioned about the 4-H BBQ on June 14th and if anyone had an interest in some workshops. All leaders are asked to complete the U of I Child Protection Training by May 1st.

We finalized our fun day for March 29th to go to bowling in Milan, but to have our monthly meeting that late afternoon at 4pm before we went. Costs will be finalized by that meeting for the bowling.

Seth did a special on going to Peoria to work at a soup kitchen. Refreshments were from the Bennett's.

State Events

State/National Events happening in 2024:

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

See the state newsletter for full details on these opportunities.



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 lambed 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.

Mercer County Goat Exhibitors

As we gear up for the upcoming fair, we would like to inform all goat exhibitors of the essential arrangements for setting up the goat barn. Your participation and assistance are vital to ensure a smooth and successful event.

You will be notified of the specific date and time allocated for setting up the goat barn closer to the fair. Your presence and help during this period are required to facilitate the setup process effectively. In the event that you are unable to assist on the designated day of setup, it is your responsibility to arrange for a substitute to take your place.

Your cooperation and commitment to their endeavor is greatly appreciated. Together we can make this year's fair a memorable and enjoyable experience for all involved.

You can contact the Mercer Extension office with questions or concerns.

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 on ZSuite. Log-in to your account and click on the Clover Academy in your dashboard.
- Please complete by **May 1**.

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>. Registrations must be done by **April 11**.

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 as soon as they arrive.

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.*



HENRY, MERCER, ROCK ISLAND, & STARK UNIT

email: uie-hmrs@illinois.edu
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

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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 Spring!

—Jennifer, Elaine, Tracy, & Kristen

Find us on Facebook:

Rock Island County: www.facebook.com/RockIslandCounty4H

Mercer County: www.facebook.com/4HMercerCounty

Henry County: www.facebook.com/4HHenryCounty

Stark County: www.facebook.com/StarkCounty4H

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