



FEBRUARY 2023

Henry, Mercer, Rock Island & Stark

Deadlines:

- Feb. 1 - Beef Weigh-in Registration
- March 1 - Enrollments
- Feb. 10– Mercer & RI Fair Book Covers
- Feb. 17 - Henry Book Covers
- Feb. 23– RI Public Speaking Registration
- Feb. 24 - Stark Book Covers
- March 1—Mercer Scholarships
- March 15– Mercer Public Speaking Registration
- March 20—RI Scholarship
- April 1—Henry Scholarships
- April 1 - Project Selections in ZSuite

Events:

- Feb. 4 - Beef Weigh-in
- Feb. 12 - LEGO Workshop
- Feb. 18 - Sewing Workshop
- Feb. 25– RI Public Speaking Contest
- March 4 - Cloverbud Academy
- March 19 - Mercer Public Speaking Contest
- April 1 - Regional Horse Bowl
- April 29 - State Public Speaking

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BEEF WEIGH-IN

ALL Steers must weigh-in and be tattooed. This includes steers showing at county fairs as well as State Fair. Here are the details for this year’s weigh-ins. As always, the date may be moved if the weather does not cooperate.

Henry, Stark & Peoria - Saturday February 4, 2023

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

Time: 8 a.m. - Noon (Be on the grounds by 11:30)

Register: Contact Jennifer by **Feb.1** at (309) 932-3447 or jpetersn@illinois.edu with how many steers you are bringing.

Note: There is no separate Henry County site this year because the Iliff Vet building is heated and they would prefer not to move locations.

Mercer & Rock Island - Saturday, February 4, 2023

Location: Mercer County Fairgrounds

Time: 8 -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

Important Information

- Enrollment deadline is March 1 (4h.zsuite.org).
- Enrollment fees must be paid either online or via check to the Extension Office before your enrollment can be approved. Exception made for those in clubs who collect the fees.
- Fee waiver requests are available by contacting the office or your leader.
- **Attention Cloverbuds:** There is only 1 project for Cloverbud members called 'Cloverbud Project'. If you selected any other project when enrolling, it was deleted.
- Last year’s fair books are up on Zsuite if you need to see exhibit requirements for project enrollment. New books will be out in the March/April time frame.

Cloverbud Academy

Calling all 5-7 Year Olds!

We are hosting a morning of activities just for Cloverbuds. Join us to learn about beading crafts, gardening, embryology and farm animals.

When: Saturday, March 4

Where: WIU - QC Campus
3300 River Drive Moline, IL

Time:

Check-in: 9:00-9:30 a.m.

Check-out: 11:30 a.m.

Cost: \$5 registration fee

Register: After Feb. 6

[1https://registration.extension.illinois.edu/4-h-cloverbud-academy](https://registration.extension.illinois.edu/4-h-cloverbud-academy)



Registration is limited to 40 youth. Youth must be age 5-7 as of Sept. 1, 2022. Registration closes February 24.

Club News and Notes



Hamlet Handy Helpers Submitted by Mason Gray

The Hamlet Handy Helpers 4-H Club met on January 8, 2023 at 2:00pm. President, Megan Gray, called the meeting to order. Secretary, Caidel Monson, provided the last month's report, and Treasurer, Addison Monson, gave the treasurer's report. All were approved. Under old business, Brookstone in Aledo was sent a fresh bouquet of flowers to brighten up their activity room for the holiday season. A card and gift were sent to Joyce Smith for her 50 years of service to 4-H. Our tree was displayed in Central Park for WRMJ's Trees in Central Park activity. Under new business, our members discussed a Valentine's Day activity for our next meeting, in which members approved sending cards to a local senior resident center. All enrollments are due March 1st. Summer Youth Camp has been set if anyone is interested. Also, members are encouraged to put their creativity to use with designing the fair booth cover. Our members voted to do a winter activity together. Finally, it will be our 100th year celebration and ideas were discussed to help get the word out to our community. The meeting was adjourned.

Magical Muggles Report Submitted by William B.

Magical Muggles held their meeting on Monday, January 16, 2023. The meeting was called to order. The pledges were said. The December meeting report was read by William B. A vote was taken to choose to do the Philippines as our group project. Each member will research a fact about the Philippines and bring it to the next meeting. Our project for the meeting was making booklets. We are packing meals for the homeless on February 2, 2023 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Our next meeting will be Monday February 20, 2023 at 6:30 pm.



Geneseo Jr Leaders Report Submitted by Lucy Wolf

On Thursday, January 12, the Geneseo Junior Leaders met at the Geneseo Fire Department. We enjoyed hot pizza before the meeting. Then, we watched Charolette's Web while snacking on popcorn. Our next meeting will be held February 9 and will include a Valentine's Day activity.

Alexis All Stars 4-H Submitted by Jayne Johnson

Alexis AllStars 4-h club met on Jan 15th 6:00pm At Community Center with 16 members, 11 parents , 2 leaders. Ella called meeting to order, Pledges led by Hunter. No secretary report. Treasurer report was given by Davin Shike Old Business - talked about the Christmas walk, handed out ornaments to the public that we made - we had \$152 of donations from the public. Ella read some Thank Yous from several people from the area. We voted last meeting to donate \$100 to the Putney family that had some tough times and we gave it to them over Xmas time.



New Business- Beef weigh in will be Feb 4th 8-10am Mercer County Fairgrounds anyone that has steers need to get them weighed. Fair book Cover Contest - anyone interested in drawing feel free to do it - Jayne handed out rules to several people. We talked about doing something with our money. Jayne talked about the Alexis Ladies League is thinking about some activities - might need some help she will report back to club next meeting. Pen Pals we will go over next month. Made sure everyone is getting the 4-H newsletter - Burns , Murdock , Grobosky they are not getting Jayne will check on this. Next Meeting Feb 19th. Talks Peyton Martin - on Swine. Laikyn Martin -talked about raising and showing her Swine this last year. Meeting was adjourned.

Worked on tying Blankets and sending out Valentines to our Pen Pals



Rural Go Getters Reports Submitted by: Wyatt Viager

We started off with our normal monthly business meeting and then discussed selling Geraniums in partnership with HCE as a fundraiser. Then had a talk from Elec about his homegrown popcorn and garden. Finally, we gathered sizes from all the members for the t-shirts we will be ordering.

Club News and Notes



Stark County Century Clovers Submitted by Kaylee Goerks

The Stark County 4H Century Clovers had their meeting on January 8th at the Wyoming Spoon River Bowl. Members enjoyed bowling, pizza, and treats. Cozzi Ranch spoke during the meeting about doing a Fishing Spin Club this year after last year's success. Austin Pinon, with the assistance of Tyler Leezer, has volunteered to lead the Fishing Spin Club this year with details to come later in the year. A thank you card from the Stark County Food Pantry was read during the meeting thanking us for the donation of 113lbs of food in December. It was also reported that the Christmas ornaments we painted during the December meeting along with Christmas cards were delivered to the residents of the Galva Courtyard Estate and the Toulon Healthcare Center. Our next meeting will be on February 12th at the Junior Fair Grounds. 4H Family Night at the YMCA in Kewanee is our next upcoming event on March 17th from 7:00 to 11:00 pm.



The Kewanee King Pins made bird feeders for the upcoming February bird watch at their January meeting.



COUNTY PUBLIC SPEAKING

Youth thinking about participating in the State Public Speaking contest must first qualify at the county level. Even if you aren't interested in going to state, the county contest is a great way to build public speaking skills in a friendly environment.

Mercer - March 19, 2023 @ Brookstone of Aledo
Register by March 15 @

go.illinois.edu/MercerCo4-HSpeech23

For a full list of entry categories visit:

<https://extension.illinois.edu/events/2023-03-19-mercercounty-4-h-public-speaking-contest>

Rock Island—February 28, 5pm @ Milan Office
Register by February 23 @

<https://registration.extension.illinois.edu/start/rock-island-county-4-h-public-speaking-contest>

Check your email for guidelines and other resources. Contact McCala if you did not receive the email.

Fair Book Cover Contest

Get creative and submit a design for your county's fair book cover. Here are the details for all counties:

- 8.5x11 white paper with a 1-inch border on all sides
- Drawings must be done in black pen or marker. Pencil drawing will not be accepted.
- The 4-H Clover must be on your entry
- All entries must include:
2023 _____ County 4-H Fair
Dates
Location
- Computer designed are allowed in black & white only but preference to original drawings.
- Name, 4-H Club & age must be in lower right hand corner
- 1 entry per person

County Specific Information:

Henry dates are June 20-25;

- Location: Henry County Fairgrounds, Cambridge
- Deadline: February 17

Mercer dates are July 10-15

- Location: Mercer County Fairgrounds, Aledo
- Deadline: February 10

Rock Island dates are July 18-23

- Location: Rock Island County Fairgrounds, East Moline
- Other info: The theme of 2023 is 4EVER4-H
- Deadline: February 10

Stark dates are: July 28-31

- Must say "2023 Stark County 4-H & Jr Fair"
- Deadline: February 24



NEWS & notes

Livestock Info

Livestock Ethics Training

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. Remember that this is a new website as of last spring. In person trainings are being discussed.

State Fair Market Animals

Premiere Barrows: Must be weighed and tattooed between February 10 and April 15, 2023. Pigs must be tattooed within 35 days of birth and not weigh more than 1lb/day of age. Contact the Extension Office to set up a tattoo date.

Market Wethers, Ewe Lambs & Meat Goat Wethers: Must self-nominate between March 15 and May 15, 2023. Nomination forms available through Extension Office and require a picture showing Scrapie ID tag affixed in animals' ear.

State Fair Entry Deadlines

Horses—Ownership/Lease/Registration papers due to county office by **May 1, 2023** with pictures of each side of the horse. 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.

Livestock—Entries due to the state fair office by **July 1**. Office will not accept late entries.

Other Dates to Note:

Regional Horse Bowl—April 1 @ BHE
State Livestock Judging—June 20, 2023 @ U of I Stock Pavilion
State Horse Show—July 23 –29 in Springfield

Livestock Ownership Dates

Market Animals

Steers: Must be weighed & tattooed/tagged

Calved: On/After January 1, 2022

Owned: February 1, 2023

Barrows:

Farrowed: On/After January 1, 2023 (RI, Stark, State Fair)

Owned: June 1, 2023 (RI, Stark, State Fair)

Henry— Farrowed on/after 12/15/22; Owned 4/1/23

Mercer—Farrowed on/after 12/01/22; Owned 5/1/23

Premiere Barrows (carcass): must be weighed/tattooed

Farrowed: On/After February 10, 2023

Owned: June 1, 2023

Market Wethers & Market Ewes:

Self-nomination required for state fair

Lambled: On/After January 1, 2023

Owned: May 15, 2023

Meat Goat Wethers:

Self-nomination required for state fair

Born: On/After October 1, 2022

Owned: May 15, 2023

Breeding Animals

Heifers:

Ages: Sept. 1, 2021-March 31, 2023

Owned: June 1, 2023 (RI, Stark, State Fair)

Henry—April 1, 2023

Mercer—May 1, 2023

Gilts: Same as barrows

Ewes & Rams:

Yearling Ewes Born - Jan. 1—Aug. 31, 2022

Ewe Lambs Born - After Sept. 1, 2022

Ram Lambs Born - After Jan. 1, 2023

All Owned: June 25, 2023 (RI, Stark, State Fair)

Henry— April 1, 2023

Mercer— May 1, 2023

Meat Goats: Owned by May 15, 2023

Dairy Goats: Milking Does 1/1/23; Kids 6/1/23

*Check your county fair book for any other date differences from state fair.



NEWS & notes

Scholarships

RI 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 2023, 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 20, 2023**. 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 11 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 20.

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

Attention Henry County Seniors

The Henry County 4-H Foundation scholarship application is available now and due **April 1**. The link to the application is: <https://form.jotform.com/210386131269049>. Contact Jennifer for questions or additional information.

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, 2022. For more info go to:

<https://extension.illinois.edu/4-h-mercercounty>

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, 2023**. Applications can be found at

<https://extension.illinois.edu/4-h-mercercounty>





NEWS & notes

Around the State

State Events

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 29, 2023
Held at Parkland College in Champaign. Formal Speech and Illustrated Speech categories will now have two age divisions:

Beginner: 8-13 as of Sept. 1, 2022

Advanced: 14+ as of Sept. 1, 2022

Poetry/Spoken word is now a separate category under the Original Works heading.

State Robotics Competition - May 13, 2023

Illini Summer Academies - June 25-29

Held at the University of Illinois. Open to youth who have completed 9-11th grades. Graduating 8th graders and graduating seniors are no longer eligible to attend.

4-H Camp Registration



Summer Youth Camp dates for 2023 at 4-H Memorial Camp are set! Youth age 8-16 (actual age) can attend camp during the following sessions:

June 4-8

June 11-15

June 25-29

June 30- July 4 (check out is at 11am this session)

Online registration via the camp website will open for 4-H Club members on January 23rd. Registration will open for non 4-H Club members on February 6th.

The fee for camp is \$315 for 4-H Club members, \$355 for non members.

Spring Family Camp will be back again May 19-21. Bring the whole family to enjoy a weekend of camp fun. Registration will open in February.

All registrations pages here: <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/event/4-h-memorial-camp/4-h-summer-camp-programs>



Women Changing the Face of Ag

The 2023 WCFA conference is scheduled for Friday, March 3 at Carl Sandburg College in Galesburg. Registration is open now for high school girls interested in agriculture careers. For a list of events and registration information visit: womenchangingthefaceofagriculture.com.

Illini Summer Academies

The Academies are back in person on the UIUC campus! **June 25-29**

Participants attend academy sessions led by university professors and enjoy a variety of engaging activities that provide a taste of just how cool college life can be. Imagine getting to work alongside university professors while you're still in HIGH SCHOOL! Imagine spending four days with kids your age from all across Illinois. That's what happens at Illini Summer Academies, so stop imagining it and just do it! This program offers teens the opportunity to explore various degree programs of University of Illinois and learn of potential careers associated with those degrees. Stay tuned for registration this spring.



Get trained in Speaking for IL 4-H! The Youth Leadership Team is hosting a virtual training for members age 14 and older. The training is scheduled for **Monday, Feb. 20** from 7-8:30 p.m. Register by February 17 at <https://4h.zsuite.org/event-registrations/18228Registration>

Fun with Food Science

Get the scoop on food science!

Explore 4-H in a virtual statewide experience for 4-H members to learn more about different project areas! In this interactive webinar, you'll work with Food Scientist (and 4-H alum!) Linda Perucca to learn more about food science, how it relates to everything we eat, and take part in an optional food science ice cream experiment right from home! Date is **Thursday, Feb. 16 from 6-7 p.m. via Zoom**.

Registration closes February 10 and should be done through your ZSuite profile. If you have questions contact the office.

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
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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

Greetings,

It is the time of year when every thing is subject to weather. Always watch Facebook and your email prior to any workshop or event. We will post information to Facebook and email any registrants as soon as possible if there is a cancellation.

More and more event registrations are moving to ZSuite. All state events will have registrations through that system. Locally, we will only use ZSuite registrations for events that are open solely to current 4-H members. If you run into problems with ZSuite registrations, let us know.

Stay warm!

Jennifer, Teresa, Tracy, & McCala



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.