



December 2023

## Henry, Mercer, Rock Island & Stark

### Deadlines:

- Dec. 1 - Reenrollments
- Dec. 15 - Hunger Hero Totals
- March 1 - Enrollment

### Events:

- Jan. 22 - 4-H Camp Registration Opens
- Feb. 3 - Beef Weigh-in
- Feb. 19 - Speaking for IL 4-H Training
- Feb. 24 - Cloverbud Academy
- March 3 - Mercer Public Speaking
- April 6 - Regional Horse Bowl

## Community Project



On November 18, three Rock Island clubs came together to sponsor trees at the Rock Island National Cemetery. 4-H in the City along with Magical Muggles and Buccaneers made ornaments and joined the Friends of the Rock Island National Cemetery to decorate the trees with their ornaments. The tree themes were Snowmen, Patriotic, and Nature. All trees will remain decorated through the holiday season.



### Enrollment Information

- ZSuite is now open for enrollments @ [4h.zsuite.org](http://4h.zsuite.org)
- Reenrollments should be in by **December 1**. New enrollments are due by **March 1**.
- Reminder that the new 4-H year still technically begins Sept 1., so that is still the date for 4-H age.
- Families enrolling more than 3 members will not be allowed to pay via credit card until a 4th child waiver is applied. Your program coordinator will let you know when it is applied and you can go back in and pay by CC.
- **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](http://learn.extension.illinois.edu/course/view.php?id=372)

### Holiday Schedule

Our offices will be closed for the holiday break beginning **Friday, December 22**.

We will reopen on **Tuesday, January 2**.

Staff will be out at varying times prior to and after the official break dates.

Jennifer Out Monday, December 18 to Tuesday, January 2.

Elaine

Tracy December 21 to Tuesday, January 2

Kristen Out Monday, December 18 to Tuesday, January 2.

We hope you have some time to rest and recharge over the break. If something comes up please send an email and we'll address it as soon as we return.

# Club News and Notes



## Magical Muggles Report Submitted by Cecilia Holder

Magical Muggles met on Sunday, October 15th. We painted pumpkins and we made a scarecrow. We put the scarecrow in front of Bethel Wesley United Methodist Church at 1201 13th St. in Moline. Drive by and see it! We also held elections for club officers. Our 2023-24 Magical Muggles officers are:



President- Macy M.  
Vice President- Anna H.  
Secretary- Rachel S.  
Treasurer- Will B.  
Reporter- Cecilia H.  
Healthy Living- Bailey C.

On Friday November 3, the Magical Muggles met to do a service project for Rescued. Rescued is a non-profit in Moline that helps pets in need. We made cat houses for outdoor cats. They will help outdoor cats to stay warm and safe through the winter. We made the cat houses out of storage bins, Styrofoam and straw.



On Friday November 17 Magical Muggles met to make ornaments for the tree at the Rock Island National Cemetery. We painted wood circles and put ribbon on them to hang them. Some members made decorations at home, too. Then on Saturday November 18 we decorated the tree at the cemetery along with The Friends of The Rock Island National Cemetery. The tree will stay decorated through the holiday season.

On Monday November 20 Magical Muggles met for their monthly meeting. Our Healthy Living Officer directed us in 15 minutes of activities. We said the pledges and had our business meeting. We planned the community food drive and our group Passport To The World project. Then we did the 4H STEM challenge, Power Protectors part 1. Our next meeting is Monday December 18 at 6:30pm.

## Alexis All Stars Report Submitted by Jayne Johnson

Alexis All stars met on Sunday Oct 29th at 6:00 pm at the Community Center. Ella called meeting to order- pledges led by Jake Roll Call with 14 members, Parents and 2 Leaders Secretary minutes read by Tempy and Julie Gave Treasurer report

Old Business:

- Thank you will be signed by all 4-H members to thank FSB for letting us put up the 4-H window display
- Reminded members to get re-enrolled for this year
- Thanked everyone for participating in the fall parade

New Business:

- Show and Tell is going to be Nov 19th - members will setup with their projects and explain all about them - we are hoping that we can bring some new members in - open to the public. A light supper will be served Hot dogs, chips, desserts and drinks
- Talked about our Christmas project voted to give to the Food pantry , will have a free will donation at our 4-H Show and Tell. Jayne will get into Dons Market and Carissa Jaminet will get flyers to all United students at North Elementary

Ella make a motion to elect Reagen Shike V-Pres , will take over for her Brother Davin. Second by Tempy

Talks given by Ella - on the history of Photography. Lindley-making Puppy Chow. Meeting was adjourned Refreshments by Bernhardt and Skutt

Alexis All Stars had a " Show and Tell" on Dec 19th At Community Center, public was invited to see what our 4-H members projects consist of

Following the event we had a short meeting , Pledges led by Hunter Brundage a treasurer report was given.

We talked about the. " 4-H Hunger Hero's Food Drive " we are going to reach out to United Schools to see if they could help us - it needs to be done by Dec 15th. Julie put boxes in Dollar General and Farmers State Bank. Will get signs up around the area. We also voted to buy some can goods - all approved to buy some and donate to the Alexis Food Pantry.

On Sat Dec 2nd the area is having the Alexis Christmas walk - and we are going to help with the breakfast- while Santa is there - Jayne asked for helpers and volunteers to bring coffee cakes.

No meeting in Dec., will see you in January.

# Club News and Notes



## 4-H in the City Submitted by Carter Tharp

The full story of the November community service project is on the first page. These are additional pictures.



## Edgington Go-Getters Report Submitted by Lylah Franks

The Edgington Go-Getters 4-H Club held a meeting on November 12, 2023. Klay Goodnight called the meeting to order. Then we discussed new and old business. A new business idea for a fundraiser for next year would be having a cookout at our local elevator during harvest time. Also discussed having our Christmas party next month and members could still bring can goods for the food drive at our December meeting. After we made a tree and each member cut out a leaf and designed it then wrote down what they were thankful for. We also created a thankful booklet the purpose of it is to take with you to Thanksgiving and ask others what they are thankful for. After we ended our meeting with snacks and drinks!



## Burns Boosters Report Submitted by Chloe Finch

Burns Boosters hosted their November 4-H meeting. We handed out county awards from the fair, gathered donations for a local food bank, and practiced parliamentary procedure in a fun, creative way by building trail mix. The next meeting will be Dec. 17, 2023; 5:00pm at the Bishop Hill Fire Station.



## Annawan All Stars Report Submitted by Iyla Anderson

The Annawan All-Stars had a great summer at the county and state levels, and we are excited about starting up our club meetings again. In September we had our first meeting where we discussed past and future business and successes our chapter had this summer, such as champion pen of



five at our county fair. During our October meeting, we had four talks done by Ella Anderson, Dominic Carton, Iyla Anderson, and Katie Carton. We also elected our 2023-2024 officer team! President- Ella Anderson, Vice President- Katie Attig, Secretary- Makayla Park, Treasurer- Dominic Carton, Reporter- Iyla Anderson, and Sentinels- Gwen Grimes and Gabby Specht. During our November meeting, we had a great talk given by Katie Attig. We also participated in the "Henry County 4-H Heroes Food Drive," which was a huge success! We have had a great start to the year, and we are excited about what the future holds for our club!



# NEWS & notes

## Club Information

### MERCER PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Mercer County Public Speaking Contest is scheduled for **Sunday, March 3** at the Brookstone of Aledo, 405 SE 13th Ave.

Youth participating to advance to the state contest must be in one of two age groups:

Beginner—Ages 8-13 as of Sept. 1, 2023

Advanced—Ages 14-18 as of Sept. 1, 2023

Beginner speeches in any category will be 4-5 minutes.

Advanced speeches should be 5-6 minutes.

Categories include: Formal Speech, Illustrated Speech, Original Works and Oral Interpretation. Feel free to request full requirements from the Mercer Office.

### 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



### 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](mailto: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](mailto:fowlerpe@illinois.edu)  
Rock Island - McCala Crawford (309) 756-9978 or [mmmille@illinois.edu](mailto:mmmille@illinois.edu)

### 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** - Lambd 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 animal deadlines will be published in the next newsletter.

### State Events

State/National Events happening in 2023-2024:

**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



# NEWS & notes

## Mercer County



The Mercer County 4-H members were honored to contribute their service at the Veterans Ball held on November 4th at the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) facility in Aledo. This event aimed to commemorate and recognize the sacrifices of soldiers from all branches of the military who have given their lives in service to the United States. The presence of 4-H members added a meaningful dimension to the occasion, fostering a sense of community and appreciation for the veterans' dedication. The primary purpose of the Mercer County 4-H participation was to extend support and gratitude to the veterans through active involvement in the Veterans Ball. This involvement not only showcased the commitment of the 4-H community to civic engagement but also provided a valuable learning experience for the participants.

The keynote speaker played a pivotal role in delivering a poignant message, sharing stories that highlighted the courage and sacrifice of soldiers. The narratives encompassed experiences from all branches of the military, emphasizing the profound impact on both those who served and their families. This powerful storytelling added a deeply reflective and respectful atmosphere to the event.

Participation in the Veterans Ball proved to be a profoundly impactful experience for the Mercer County 4-H members. The opportunity to engage with veterans and witness firsthand the stories of sacrifice left an indelible impression on the participants. It served as an educational experience, fostering a deeper understanding of the significance of service to the nation.

Feedback from the veterans indicated that the presence and support of the 4-H members were highly appreciated. The collaboration between the younger generation and the veterans created a meaningful connection, bridging the gap between different age groups and fostering a sense of unity and respect.

The event not only provided an opportunity for the community to express gratitude to the veterans but also served as a platform for intergenerational connection and understanding. The stories shared by the keynote speaker added a poignant touch, reminding everyone present of the sacrifices made by servicemen and women.

Special thanks to the organizers of the Veterans Ball, the VFW in Aledo, and all the participants, including Mercer County 4-H members, for making this event a memorable and meaningful occasion.

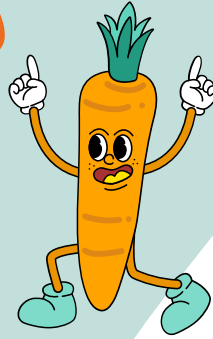


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**MERCER COUNTY 4-H**  
910 13TH ST  
VIOLA, IL 61486  
309-513-3100

**MERCER COUNTY**

# 4-H HUNGER HEROES FOOD DRIVE



**Illinois Extension**  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

**November 1 - December 15, 2023**

## HELP 4-H FIGHT HUNGER IN MERCER COUNTY

### Donate to the 4-H Hunger Hero Food Drive

Over 1,300 of our neighbors face food insecurity. Help the 4-H Food Squad battle hunger close to home. Join forces with 4-H Clubs in Mercer County to tackle the rising hunger crisis. The need for food assistance has risen by 35%, but food banks are facing a decrease in donations by up to 29%!



## HELP US FILL OUR LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

**4-H Clubs are collecting donations in all areas:**

1. **Fruits** : Cans of fruit for strength and health.
2. **Veggies**: Canned vegetables for a balanced diet.
3. **Grains**: Grains, like rice, pasta, oats, or cereal, for energy.
4. **Protein**: Protein-packed items like peanut butter, or a can of tuna, chicken, beans, soup, etc. provide essential nutrients.
5. **Basics**: Plus basic necessities like toilet paper, toothpaste, shampoo, etc.



## THANK YOU FOR HELPING! DONATION BASKETS ARE LOCATED AT:

- **Dollar General, 2786 1st Ave, Alexis**
- **Buffalo Prairie Bank, 20228 183 Ave W, Buffalo Prairie**
- **CBI Bank, 20228 183 Ave W, Buffalo Prairie**
- **County Line Agri Service, 18401 206th St W, Buffalo Prairie**
- **Little Store/Gas Station, 502 2nd St, Matherville**
- **Fareway, 3705 25th St, Moline**
- **Polished, 314 3rd St, Sherrard**
- **Mercer County 4-H office, 910 13th St., Viola**
- **The Bean Field, 1708 13th St, Viola**
- **The REC Center, 1701 13th St. Viola**



Together we can make a real difference so nobody has to go hungry. If you have questions contact Mercer Count 4-H at (309) 513-3100.



# BUILD YOUR FUTURE CAREER



## CAREER CLUB STARTING JANUARY 9 STUDENTS 8TH GRADE AND UP

*Explore and connect with educators to learn more about careers, goal setting, applications, interviewing, social media footprints, and a road trip to the U of I campus.*



**2ND & 4TH TUESDAYS, JANUARY 9 – APRIL 9**



**6:30–7:30 PM**



**VIRTUAL ON ZOOM**

**REGISTER ONLINE BY DEC 11**



**[go.illinois.edu/careerclub](https://go.illinois.edu/careerclub)**



**815-632-3611**



**\$20 for new 4-Hers; no fee for current members**

**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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**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 HOLIDAYS 

—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](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.