



JANUARY 2024

Henry, Mercer, Rock Island & Stark

Deadlines:

Feb. 1 - Register for Beef Weigh-in

March 1 - Enrollment

March 31 - Livestock Ambassador Applications

Events:

Jan. 22 - 4-H Camp Registration Opens

Feb. 3 - Beef Weigh-in

Feb. 17 - State Horse Judging
Feb. 19 - Speaking for IL 4-H Training

Feb. 24 - Cloverbud Academy

March 3 - Mercer Public Speaking

March 9 - RI Public Speaking

April 6 - Regional Horse Bowl

Hunger Heroes



Thanks to all the clubs who participated in the Hunger Heroes food drive between November 1 and December 15. In total, we collected almost 5,000 goods for local pantries! See page 2 for more pictures. The winner of the contest was the Alexis All Stars. They will receive club t-shirts for collecting 1,453 items, which were donated to the Alexis Food Pantry.

Enrollment Information

- ZSuite is now open for enrollments @ 4h.zsuite.org
- 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

Reminders

1. Horse Bowl—If you are interested in joining the Rock Island/Henry Horse Bowl Team, contact McCala at mmmille@illinois.edu or (309) 756-9978 as soon as possible. Practices begin Friday, January 5.
2. Horse Bowl—If you are interested in joining the Mercer County team, contact Tracy in the Viola office ASAP.
3. Livestock Ambassador Team—Anyone interested in applying for the state livestock ambassador team should do so via this JotForm link by **March 31**: <https://form.jotform.com/233125542352145>
4. Beef Weigh-In—All weigh-ins are Saturday, February 3. See page 4 for all the details. **ALL steers** must be weighed!



Club News and Notes



Big round of applause go out to the following clubs for participating in the Hunger Heroes food drive. See our Facebook pages for all pictures.

Henry County:

- Annawan All Stars
- Atkinson Boosters
- Burns Boosters
- Lynox Loyals

Mercer County:

- Alexis All Stars
- Country Kids
- Hamlet Handy Helpers
- Joy Eliza Ag
- Kimel
- Saddle Teens
- Teen Federation

Rock Island:

- Buccaneers
- Zuma Zippers
- Edgington Go-Getters
- Hayburners
- Magical Muggles
- Trail Blazers

We also know that several clubs did their own community service activities over the holiday season. We applaud everyone's efforts to give back to their communities.



Kimel



Saddle Teens



Joy-Eliza Ag



Lynox Loyals



Country Kids



Zuma Zippers



Buccaneers

Club News and Notes



Cambridge Champs Report Submitted by Jon Stevens

November Report:

Meeting was called to order by president, Miranda Reed. We welcomed new members and read reports and Extension news.

Old Business: Fundraiser reports on Tanner's Apple Cider Donuts & That's My Pan. Discussion on Thanksgiving baskets.

New Business: Fruit baskets were discussed and approved. Discussed the names that will go with the fruit baskets. Explained talks to the new members. Talked about the Christmas community service project at Hillcrest Home.

Talks: Ruby Beam on her bucket calf. Miranda Reed on how to show a heifer. Jolene Blackert on crops. Adelynn Blade on showing dogs.

December Report:

Old Business: Christmas community service project playing BINGO with Hillcrest Nursing Home.

New Business: Fruit baskets; discussion of possible March meeting outing; Tanners Apple Cider Donut final fundraiser report; That's My Pan fundraiser report; Gave out club awards.

Talks: Jason on corn field toy project; Lee on 4020 tractor, Ella on photography.



Lynox Loyals participated in the first responders community service back in October by thanking members of the Tri-County Ambulance for their dedication to the community.

Burns Boosters Report Submitted by Chloe Finch

On Sunday, December 17, 2023 the Burns Boosters hosted their December meeting. At this meeting, we discussed 4-H

Camp and project enrollment deadlines. After the meeting, we had a talk and demonstration by



Grace Conrad. We also played Christmas games.



Stark County Century Clovers Submitted by Logan Goerks

The Stark County 4-H Century Clovers met on Sunday, November 12th, and Christmas cards were handed out to be done and returned at the next meeting for Veterans. Plans were discussed to do a Christmas party for the December meeting, which was moved to the first Sunday of the month, December 3rd. After the meeting everybody was invited to work on the parade float for Wyoming's Moonlight Madness event on November 17th. A Christmas Tree was also decorated at the Wyoming library in memory of Kaden Wall and Steve Loudenburg. A big thank you to Melody Anderson for making the beautiful bow for the tree topper. We will be collecting donations for our local food pantry at the next meeting. A big thank you to everyone who donated at the last meeting as we were able to collect 54 lbs.



4-H in the City Submitted by Carter Tharp

We met on Tuesday, November 14, 2023. We had an ice breaker activity, which was our favorite Thanksgiving dish. We discussed and voted on a Christmas gift exchange and everyone drew names. We talked about the upcoming food drive and reenrollment deadlines. Our activity was making 8 snow themed ornaments for our Arsenal Christmas tree. We made snowmen, sleds and snowflakes. We got to keep 4 and donate 4 for the tree.





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.

Rock Island's contest will be **Saturday, March 9** at the Milan Office.

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. Full requirements available by contacting your local 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 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

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 2024:

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

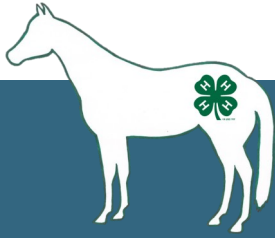
Legislative Connection - Two dates will be selected between March & May 2023. Any youth who is trained in Speaking for IL 4-H will be invited to attend.

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

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

Jenny Garner

County Director

jsgarnr@illinois.edu

Kristin Bogdonas

Extension Educator

Nutrition & Wellness
kmbogdo@illinois.edu

Russell Medley

Extension Educator

Community & Economic Development
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Extension Educator

4-H Youth Development
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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



—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.