



MAY 2024

Henry, Mercer, Rock Island & Stark

Deadlines:

- 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
- June 15 - State Horse Entries
- July 1 - Stark Fair Entries
- July 1 - State Livestock Entries

Events:

- June 14 - Mercer BBQ
- June 15-Henry General Projects
- June 17-23 - Henry Fair
- July 2 - RI Fair Set Up
- July 8-14 - Mercer Fair
- July 13-21 - Rock Island Fair
- July 26-29 - Stark Fair

State Champions



Congratulations to all who competed at the state horse bowl contest! The Rock Island/Henry senior team were State Champions. Winning the contest allows them to compete at a national contest. Team members include: Maddie Oltman, Bailey Callahan, Anna Hessel, Sophie Oltman and Emma Steiger. See more about the contest on page

Fair Entry Information

- <https://faireentry.com/>
- **Do NOT create a new account if you used the system last year. Use your old log-in information.**
- Do NOT hit submit until all entries are in for all members of the family. Hitting submit will lock you out of the site. 4-H staff have to approve your submitted entries before you can access your profile again. Call the office if it is urgent.
- 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**

Horse Bowl Champs



Congratulations to the Mercer County horse bowl team on being state champions in the junior division. Team members include: Brooklynne Martin, Jocelyn Erickson, Jasmine Frerkes, Paisley Martin and Lily Miller.



Club News and Notes



Magical Muggles Report Submitted by Cecilia Holder

On Monday April 15th, Magical Muggles met for their monthly meeting. We talked about business, including geranium sales pick up and preparing for the fair. We had a special guest come to our meeting, Carter Tharpe. He taught us how to make his state qualifying paper sunburst project. We all were able to start making our own and combined to make one for our club. Our next meeting will be Monday May 20th at 6:30pm. We will be learning about Canada and we will have a guest speaker from Canada.



Magical Muggles Report Submitted by Cecilia Holder

On Monday, March 18th Magical Muggles met for their monthly meeting. We talked about where we are going to donate our fundraiser money from the Community Dinner. We raised over \$250 and we voted on which organizations the money will be going to. We are giving the money to A Place 2B and The Community and Learning Center. Our Healthy Living Officer led us in an activity. Then, we learned about Canada for our Passport to the World project. We made maple syrup smoothies, played some games invented in Canada, and we tried to copy some Canadian art by artists from The Group of 7. Our next meeting will be Monday, April 15th at 6:30pm



Hamlet Handy Helpers Report Submitted by Zach Icenogle

The Hamlet Handy Helpers held their monthly meeting on April 14, 2024 at Central Park in Aledo, IL following an educational tour at Landrace Woodshop. President, Mason Gray, called the meeting to order. Pledges were led by Muireann Zippe. The secretary and treasurer's reports were read and approved. Reminders to submit projects in zsuite by May 1st and fair entries are due by June 1st. Also, members must complete Quality Assurance and Ethics and YQCA prior to showing at the fair. Our club spotlight and pictures will be posted in June, so make sure to get your write-ups completed and to Brenda by May 12. Fair books will be handed out after the Federation meeting on April 15th. Muireann gave a powerpoint presentation on rabbits. The meeting was adjourned. Next meeting will be Sunday, May 5th, at 5pm at the Hamlet Hall



On Saturday, March 30th, members of four local 4H clubs met at Joann Fabrics & Crafts store in Moline. The clubs represented were Magical Muggles, Trail Blazers, 4-H in the City, and the Rural Go-Getters. We filmed videos for the 4-H state influencer team. The videos will be edited and posted to promote donating to 4-H at Joann's through May 4th. Anyone can donate to 4-H at the cash registers at Joann's during this time. Keep an eye on 4-H social media accounts to watch these fun videos when they are released. You might see someone you know! .



Club News and Notes



Cambridge Champs Report Submitted by Jon Stevens

The meeting was called to order by President Miranda Reed. Pledges were cited and roll call taken. Secretary & Treasurer reports were read and approved. Extension news was read. Old Business: That's my pan fundraiser check received. Village of Cambridge Easter egg hunt. Donations for 4-H fair awards. New Business: Went over the 4-H fair book. Discussed getting 4-H helpers for the food stand.

Talks were given by:

Garren B—farm toy display

Colt D—Bowling

Livvy E—Entomology

Jon S—Show heifer

Kylee M—Show heifer & show pigs

Landry M—Pig Showmanship

Kenley M—Daily hair care for pigs

Next meeting will be Sunday, June 9 at College Square Park



Burns Boosters Report Submitted by Chloe Finch

Burns Boosters held their April meeting 4-21-24. Old business consisted of the visit to Steven's Veterinary Clinic and our day of service cemetery clean up. New business consisted of another possible cemetery clean up for a day of service, and ethics training. General projects are June 15th. Our next meeting will be 5-11-24, 4:00 pm at the Bishop Hill fire station weather permitting for a nature hike around town, otherwise 5:00 pm at the fire station. We had talks and demonstrations by Mara Hamilton, Laura Boelens, Addison Bennett, and Emily Boelens.

Geneseo Jr Leaders Report Submitted by Amelia Anderson

The Geneseo Junior leaders had a boot camp held at the March meeting with four stations. They were Cloverbuds, how to participate in a meeting, how to make and pick general projects for the fair and officer positions. There were 7 officers in charge of running the stations. They were Hailey Olson (president), Max Gehling (vice president), Faith Kuster (secretary), Jack Gehling (treasurer), Amelia Anderson (reporter), Molly Wannamaker (scrapbook) and Jason Anderson (flags). It was super fun! The groups were split into 2nd- 4th grades, 5th-7th grades, 8th grade and above and Cloverbuds.

Rural Go Getters Report by Morgan Little & Riley Mackin

March 20 Meeting

We started off with a regular meeting. We have decided to donate \$25 for the Rock Island 4-H fair. We had a craft and no refreshments. Henry got the first to adjourn and Greyson seconded.

April 17 Meeting

We had our normal meeting. We had two new members visiting. Greyson gave a talk about basic dog grooming. Emma gave a talk about horses. We adjourned the meeting with Greyson first and Henry second. Emma brought refreshments. Brandi brought things to make keychains.

Alexis All Stars Report Submitted by Tempy & Jayne

The Alexis All-Stars met on Sunday April 21 at the Community Center. The meeting was called to order by vice president Reagan Shike. Pledges were led by Sawyer, secretary report by Tempy.

New Business—Went over projects and reminded everyone that the add/drop date is May 1. Fairbooks were handed out with entries due June 1.

The 4-H BBQ is Friday, June 14 and the club is on to help set up. Volunteers include Jayla, Jake, Jaminets, Lily & Clay. Pies will be made by Johnson (2), Lily, Peyton & Jayne.

Next meeting is May 5—Jayne checking on center availability. Meeting was adjourned and a club photo was taken. Refreshments by Murdock and Olson families

Club News and Notes



State Horse Congrats

In addition to the state champion senior and junior teams, congratulations go out to the following youth on a great showing at the state horse bowl, hippology and horse speech contests:

The Rock Island/Henry junior team placed 3rd in the horse bowl contest.

Members of that team include: Dalton Carls, Molly Wannemacher, Nick Gorbach, Matt Gorbach & Gracelyn Viall.



In the horse speech contest, Jocelyn Erickson and Jasmine Frerkes places 1st in the junior division team presentation category.



Molly Wannemacher placed 1st in the junior formal division of the speech contest.

Congratulations also go out to the coaches. Mercer County is coached by Melanie Neuleib-Zimmerman. Rock Island/Henry teams are coached by Danielle Gorbach, Mary Steiger & Natalie Hessel.

State Events

State/National Events happening in 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.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Congratulations to Megan Gray and Ryley Zippe for receiving the Patti Jeanne Higgins Scholarship in Mercer County.

Megan graduated from Mercer County High School in May of 2023 and currently attends Northern Illinois University. She was a member of the Hamlet Handy Helpers for 11 years and the Mercer County Teen Federation for three years.



Ryley graduated from Sherrard High School in 2023 and currently attends Black Hawk East studying agronomy. He was an 11 year member of the Hamlet Handy Helpers as well as a member of the Mercer County Teen Federation.

Mercer County 4-H member Levi Schurr hosted a livestock fitting clinic for youth on Saturday, April 13. There were specific sessions for cattle, sheep & goats as well as a nutrition lesson.





NEWS & notes

Club Information

State Fair Livestock Entries

Nominations - All sheep and goat nominations for state fair are due by **May 15**. These nomination forms must include pictures of Scrapie tags in the ears of nominated animals. They must also be signed by an Extension 4-H staff member. Nomination forms were emailed to all those registered for sheep or goats in ZSuite. If you need a form, contact your local office.

Horses - Entries for the state horse show are due to Stephanie Hardy at the Illinois State Fair by June 15. Entry forms must be accompanied by ownership/lease/registration papers and color photos of each horse being entered. Entry forms must also be signed by a member of your local 4-H Extension staff. Entry forms can be found at the Illinois State Fair website. <https://statefair.illinois.gov/competitions/competitive-events/equine-events.html>

Livestock - Livestock entries are due to the Illinois State Fair by July 1. Entry forms must be signed by a member of the Extension 4-H staff. Entry forms can be found at the Illinois State Fair Website. *(Forms were not yet available at the time of this publication, but the schedule is listed.)*

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/>



Mercer County Horse Showing Clinic

Exhibitors planning to show their horse at the county or state fair can attend the horse showing clinic practices. They will be held every Thursday beginning May 23 and running through July 18 at 6 p.m. All practices will be at Leland and Nan Martin's arena. 391 N 1225 Ave. Orion, IL 61273.

Contact Tracy at the Viola office with questions. (309) 513-3100 or fowlerpe@illinois.edu

Attentions:

Poultry Exhibitors



Stay tuned for more information regarding the new 2024 Pullorum testing requirement. If your birds come from a certified Pullorum free hatchery, you do not need to test. We are working on options for getting other birds tested and waiting on some clarification from the state.

Warren County Judging Contest

When: Saturday, June; Registration @ 8am; Contest @ 9am

Where: Warren County Fairgrounds in Roseville, IL

Cost: \$3/person

Contact: Angel Wright at angiew@illinois.edu or Lynn Shimmin at (309) 224-1469.

Advanced registration requests should be emailed to Angel. Junior division is ages 8-13 and senior ages 14-18 as of Jan. 1

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

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Henry & Stark 4-H

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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

The 4-H staff would like to congratulate all the graduating seniors. We wish you well in the next phase of your life and we hope you'll continue to be part of the 4-H family in the future.



—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

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.