



FEBRUARY 2021

Henry, Mercer, Rock Island & Stark

Deadlines:

- Feb. 1 - Steer Info
- Feb. 6 - Snowman Entries
- Feb. 15 - Horse Bowl Entries
- Feb. 15 - IAA Scholarships
- March 1 - Enrollments
- March 4 - Speaking for IL 4-H
- March 15 - Local Scholarships

Events:

- Feb. 6 - Beef Weigh-in
- February - 4-H Academy
- March 5-7 - Agri-Science Summit



Big congratulations to members of the Stark County shooting sports club on their success at the state archery contest. Three members placed in the top 10 of the senior division during the virtual state shoot. Great job to:

- Alex Welch - 10th Place
- Jacob Nusz - 2nd Place
- Levi Nusz - 1st Place

Levi, pictured, placed 1st in archery last year, as well. He is eligible to compete on the state archery team at a future national competition.

Great job to everyone who participated in the competition this fall.

Steer Weigh-in

Henry/Stark: Saturday, February 6

Henry - 8-10 a.m. @ fairgrounds in Cambridge.

Stark - 11 a.m.-1 p.m. @ fairgrounds in Wyoming. Be on grounds by Noon. Please contact **Jennifer** by February 1 with how many steers you plan to bring. jpetersn@illinois.edu or (217) 300-7348.

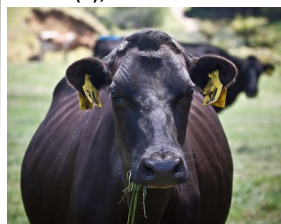
Mercer/Rock Island: Saturday, February 6

Held at Mercer County fairgrounds in Aledo 8 - 10:30 a.m.

Mercer County - Contact Tracy to register by calling (217) 300-9116.

Rock Island - Contact McCala to register at (217) 300-8321

When registering: Please provide member name(s), number of steers weighing, and a cell phone number to be used in case of bad weather cancellation or emergency.



Enrollment Information

- The enrollment deadline to show at the fair is **March 1**.
- The website to enroll is: il.4honline.com
- If you choose to pay by check, you will get an automated email saying your enrollment is not complete without payment. You can disregard this email if you pay your club.
- We will be placing publication orders every couple months. Please get your requests in via email.

Contact Us

We are each in the office one day per week. Continue to use these numbers, and contact us if you need to set up an in-person meeting. Email is still best.

- Tracy - (217) 300-9116
- McCala - (217) 300-8321
- Teresa - (217) 300-9260
- Jennifer - (217) 300-7348



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NEWS & notes

Mercer & Rock Island

Magical Muggles Report Submitted by Miriam Schwartz

On Monday, January 18, 2021, we had our monthly meeting. During the meeting, we talked about the fair book contest, the fair and making food for King's Harvest at our next meeting. For our activity, we learned about how they changed what pennies were made from in 1982. We then learned how to clean pennies made before 1982 with simple household stuff like an eraser; lemon juice or vinegar mixed with salt; and ketchup.



Buccaneers Club Report Submitted by Alice Peterson

In December, the Buccaneers 4-H Club collected items to help two local organizations. One of them was the Quad City Animal Welfare Center. We donated pet food, cleaning supplies, dog beds, and treats and toys for the animals. The other one was the Humility Homes and Services. We donated winter things like a box of blankets, a box of socks, hats, gloves, and bathroom supplies. There were also two purses, clothes and coats. We really enjoy giving back to the community!



4-H in the City Report Submitted by Carter Tharp

Our club met on January 12th. We discussed all the programs being offered like 4-H Academy, the Snowman Contest and Illini Summer Academies. We also voted on new club t-shirts and made a list of possible



community service projects. We made Marble Art Snowflake Pictures. We also met on January 26th. We talked about the Fair Book Cover Contest and projects we signed up for. Carter presented his Passport to the World project on China. We made cupcake liner Dragons.

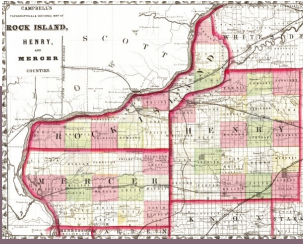
Hamlet Handy Helpers Submitted by Megan Gray

The Hamlet Handy Helpers were busy this past few weeks. We participated in the "Trees in the Park" sponsored by WRMJ. This year the theme was Christmas Memories. We decorated the tree with pictures of our members from past Christmas traditions that were special. We also partnered with the Hamlet Perryton Presbyterian Church for their annual Christmas Clearinghouse event. We helped sponsor three different families with meals and gifts. We delivered the items in December.

The Hamlet Handy Helpers 4-H Club held their January meeting on Sunday, January 10, 2021 at the Hamlet Church. President Matthew Gray called the meeting to order. Caidel led the pledges. Secretary Caidel Monson took roll-call and all members were present. The secretary and treasurer reports



were given and approved. Our club participated in a community service project with the Hamlet-Perryton Presbyterian Church - Christmas ClearHouse, and Mason Gray gave a talk about the experience. Megan read a thank you correspondence for the Christmas Clearinghouse committee. Thank you to the Gray family for decorating the tree in Central Park for the WRMJ "Trees in the Park". Make sure to have your enrollment forms completed as the deadline is March 1st. Under new business, the beef weigh-in is February 6. 4-H manuals are available to be ordered on February 1, April 19, and June 1. 2019 fair premium checks will be printed soon. A 4-H day camp is being held this year at the fairgrounds, more details to come. The 2021 fair is scheduled for July 12-19. General projects will be held the 12th with livestock following. State fair is scheduled for August 13. The meeting was adjourned. No activity due to Covid. The next meeting is February 14, 2021.



NEWS & notes

Local News

Stark County 4-H Report Submitted by Logan Goerks

On February 14th the Stark County 4-H Century Clovers will be meeting for the first time since October. The meeting will be held at 3:30 in the WY-HI gym, with the Federation meeting at 3:00. Please bring donations for the food pantry and/or the animal shelter. All donations are greatly appreciated! A reminder to everyone to register online for the new 4-H year by February 28th. Membership fees are \$20 per child and \$10 for Federation. Federation is open to any child age 12 and up. Please give membership fees to your 4-H leader at your earliest convenience.

Upcoming Events

The 4-H Academy is going virtual. This February, the 4-H Academy will happen via a series of workshops held throughout the month. The schedule of workshops is open to youth ages 8-18 and includes:

- February 10 - Animal Nutrition
- February 13 - Sewing
- February 17 - Electricity
- February 20 - Food Decorating
- February 24 - Doodle Art
- February 25 - Flower Arranging
- February 27 - Jewelry Making



go.illinois.edu/4-HAcademy to register. Cost is \$5 per child with scholarships available.



Youth for the Quality Care of Animals is still the **required** yearly ethics training for members enrolled in beef, goats, sheep & swine.



Due to Covid restrictions, we are not able to hold in-person trainings. We will reevaluate the situation in the spring to see if we can offer live certifications. The training is always available online at yqca.org. It is \$12 to take it online and there are Junior (8-11), Intermediate (12-14) & Senior (15-18) levels. To test out of an age division, you must be in the beginning year of the level - either 8, 12 or 15.

Quality Assurance and Ethics (QAEC) is required **ONCE** in a 4-H career for members enrolled in dogs, cats, small pets, horses, rabbits and poultry. It is free and can be found at:

Web.extension.illinois.edu/qaec

Find your spark with 4-H

Tuesdays at 4pm

6 week session Starting February 23

For kids 8-12!

In March, we ask you to Find Your Spark in 4-H. This series of workshops is designed to help youth explore different 4-H projects. Workshops will all be held via Zoom and materials provided. There is a \$5 registration fee to help offset the cost of mailing materials.

For more information and to register, visit:

go.illinois.edu/4Hfindyourspark

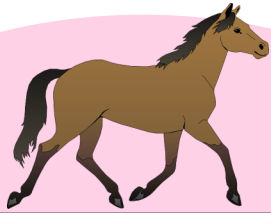
- Topics include:
- February 23 - Health/Yoga
 - March 2 - Cultural Awareness
 - March 9 - Visual Arts: Clay
 - March 16 - Child Development
 - March 23 - Vet Science
 - March 30 - Herb Gardening





NEWS & notes

Livestock Edition



Horse Bowl & Hippology

Regional contests will be virtual this year and held on March 13, 2021. **Registration deadline is February 18.**

County staff will register youth via 4-H Online. All required participant information for registration should be sent to the county office by **February 15.**

Horse bowl teams consist of 4 members plus one alternate. Junior division is for 8 -13 year olds as of January 1, 2021. Senior is 14-18 as of January 1, 2021. Entrants must be enrolled in 4-H.

Hippology has three age divisions:

- Junior - 8-11
- Intermediate - 12-14
- Senior 15-18

Online contests will be run through Compass Blackboard and a camera will be required for proctoring.

State Fair Junior Horse Show

This year's junior horse show will be held **July 25-August 1** at the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield. If you want a breakdown of shows by day, please contact the Extension Office for the calendar.

Other Important Dates

Youth Livestock Conference - April 24 & 25 @ Orr Building on the IL State Fairgrounds. Limited to 50 youth/day. Registration info is coming.

State Livestock Judging Contest - June 4 @ the Stock Pavilion in Urbana

State Dog Show - August 28 @ Granny Rose in Dixon

Ownership Dates

Market Animals:

- Steers - February 1, 2021
- Barrows - June 1, 2021
- Wethers - May 15, 2021
- Ewe Lambs - May 15, 2021
- Meat Goat Wethers - May 15, 2021



Breeding Animals:

- Heifers - June 1, 2021
- Gilts - June 1, 2021
- Ewes & Rams - June 25, 2021
- Dairy Cows - January 1, 2021
- Horses - June 1, 2021
- Milking Does - January 1, 2021
- Dairy Kids & Yearlings - June 1, 2021
- Meat Goats - May 15, 2021



Premiere Animals:

Barrows

- *Farrowed on or after February 10, 2021
- *Weighed & Tattooed by April 15, 2021
- *Tattooed within 35 days of birth
- *Must not weigh more than 1 lb/day of age

Wethers & Ewe Lambs:

- *Weighed & Tattooed between March 15 & May 15, 2021
- * Lambled on or after January 1, 2021

--Contact Jennifer if you wish to tattoo pigs or sheep for the Premiere shows.

Note to ALL State Fair sheep & goat exhibitors:

The nomination process will be the same as last year. You will self-nominate and include a picture of the Scrapie tag in the animal's ear. Forms are available from the Extension office and due May 15, 2021.



NEWS & notes

Around the State



Barred Owl Nest Box Monitoring

To those involved in the Barred Owl Nest Box Challenge: Prepare to monitor your nest boxes weekly or bi-weekly in March and April! Send the [NestWatch data sheet](#) to Curt Sinclair at sinclair@illinois.edu by June 1, 2021 so we can tally the results! Momma owl is looking for nesting sites right now and she'll decide in February what suits her best! Stay the course – good science takes effort.



The next shooting sports leader certification training is scheduled for **Saturday, June 5, 2021** at the 4-H Memorial Camp in

Monticello. Registration details will be coming soon. If you are interested in becoming a certified instructor in any discipline (Archery, Rifle, Shotgun, Pistol and/or Hunting & Outdoor Skills), please contact Jennifer at jpetersn@illinois.edu.



Help us tell the 4-H Story

We're looking for 4-H members interested in spreading the great news about 4-H. 4-H members 14 years of age or older can join the *Speaking for Illinois 4-H* team. There will be a virtual training offered on **Saturday, March 6**.

This virtual training, provided by the Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team, gives you the chance to explore your own 4-H history and why you are involved, put that story into words, and learn the best ways to approach donors, civic groups, elected officials, and others to talk about 4-H. Once you're trained, you'll receive an invitation to be a part of our Legislative Connection events.

Registration is open NOW @:

<https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/speaking-illinois-4-h-training>. **Registration will close March 4.**

Upcoming Volunteer Trainings/Conversations

Thursday, February 18; 7 p.m. Topics include

1. It's Cold Outside: Are your 4-H Clubs still Hot?
2. Let's Play!

<https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=22728>

Wednesday, February 25 - Volunteer Training on leading in a virtual world.

<https://illinois.zoom.us/j/83565174329?pwd=dDAvR2IxN3J3bmJqQVdmTy9raUZsZz09>



The IAA Foundation has 78 scholarships totaling \$124,000 in tuition support. Now is the time to apply. Scholarships are open to youth in 4-H or FFA who are pursuing degrees related to agriculture, and those with family farming backgrounds. For a full list of scholarships and applications, visit: www.iaafoundation.org. All applications are due **February 15**.

ISA will be held virtually. Details are coming soon!



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 or in their final year of 4-H. It is intended for educational purposes at a college, university or trade school. **Deadline March 15, 2021.** 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 4:30 p.m. on Friday, **March 23, 2021.** Applications can be found at <https://extension.illinois.edu/4-h-mercercounty>



Rock Island County 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 Rock Island County 4-H members and recent graduates.

Eligibility: Rock Island County 4-H members who are seniors in high school 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 2021-2022 can apply for two \$500 scholarships. All checks will be made out to the college or trade school to which the winners are enrolled. The awards funded 50/50 by Rotary and the Foundation.

Deadline: Applications and reference forms are due to the Rock Island County Extension office, 321 W 2nd Ave. Milan, IL 61264 by Monday March 15, 2021 (or postmarked by Friday, March 12, 2021.)

Application materials can be found on the Rock Island County 4-H webpage <https://extension.illinois.edu/4-h-rock-island-county> You can also request one from McCala Crawford, 4-H Program Coordinator by calling her at 217-300-8321 or emailing her at mmmille@illinois.edu

The scholarship applications ask about 4-H experience, community service and career plans. The committee is interested to hear about the lessons and impact that being a part of 4-H has made on the applicant's life and future goals. There is also a 4-H reference form that goes with the application and that should be completed by two references (ie: 4-H leader, Extension/4-H staff, coach, teacher, clergy, boss or other mentor/supervisor).

Announcements: The top high school finalists will be asked to prepare a 3-minute presentation about their project to the Rock Island Rotary Club members via ZOOM on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at their noon meeting. The winners will then learn about which scholarship amount they will receive - first, second or third.

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

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Mercer County Office

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McCala Crawford

Program Coordinator

Rock Island 4-H
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Office Hours

Monday – Wednesday – Friday

8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

closed for lunch 12–12:30 p.m.



Scribbles and Scrawl

Greetings,

Thanks to everyone who has participated in our various challenges and workshops. We look forward to having more fun with all of you in the next couple of months. We also look forward to warmer, less snowy weather. Until then, we are glad to see so many making the best of the situation.



Snow Dog - Stark County
Riggins & Isley Shafer



Snow Family - Henry County - Kolby & Knox Causemaker



Snow Dragon - Rock Island - Carter Tharp

Snowmen - Mercer County
Lance & Preston Moore



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<https://www.facebook.com/StarkCounty4H?ref=hl>

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https://twitter.com/HMRS_Counties4H

HMRS Counties 4-H



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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.