

CLOVER CHRONICLE



Purdue Extension - Allen County
4001 Crescent Avenue
Fort Wayne IN 46815
260.481.6826

Allen County Staff



Rebecca Doehrman
Extension Educator
4-H Youth Development
rcclay@purdue.edu



Erin McBain

As we finish up the 2025 fair season I want to say thank you to all of the parents and volunteers. You have truly made this year great for the kids through your support! To all my youth, you should be very proud of what you accomplished this year!

Mark your calendars! Open enrollment for the 2025-2026 year begins October 1st. You will have to re-enroll your child through 4-H online and pay the \$15 annual state enrollment fee. Please make sure you do this before participating in any club meetings or events. If you are a volunteer, please make sure you are re-enrolling beginning October 1st.

We will be hosting an enrollment kickoff party on Sunday, October 12th from 1-3 pm at the Allen County Extension Office. All youth who enroll on or before the 12th will receive a free t-shirt. We will have computers for youth and adults to enroll day of. Join us for this open house style day of fun, food, and community. We ask that you rsvp so we can ensure we purchase enough food. bit.ly/3HGxBhg

We have some exciting programs scheduled for the rest of the year. Also, we would like to focus on one project a month and hold a workshop. If you are a parent or volunteer and would like to teach a program, please reach out! Also, we would like to start a club for just our mini 4-Hers. If you are interested in becoming a leader or would like more information please let us know. Junior leaders will meet the last Tuesday of every month at the Extension Office and is open to grades 6-12. We will begin again in September and will tentatively be working a shift at Kuehnert's fall festival. Hope everyone has a great month!

All the best, Rebecca, Stephenie, and Erin

UPCOMING EVENTS

NATURE NAVIGATORS

Join us on an exciting new adventure series exploring four Indiana State Parks. Learn about local flora and fauna while participating in fun hands-on activities and earning a unique park pin! Get ready to navigate your way through Indiana's wild side. Open to all youth grades 3-12 (4-H membership not required). Younger youth can tag along with family members, but we ask that parents pay for activities for younger members as we will not be charging them the program fee.

We will meet at 10am at each park. Transportation is not provided but carpooling information will be shared. Cost is \$30 per participant (includes t-shirt, park fee, activities, pins and snack)

Sessions:

9/20 Chain O' Lakes-Kayaking

10/11 Ouabache-Bison Feeding

11/15 Salamonie-Hiking

1/17 Pokagon-Toboggan



Volunteers and parents are encouraged to attend! Please use the same link to register. There will be a \$5 fee for adults to cover entrance fees.

Sign up today at: <https://NatureNavigators.4honline.com>

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Do you have ideas to improve the 4-H program? Whether its increasing youth involvement, boosting visibility, strengthening club experiences, or improving retention, **we want to hear from you!**

Join us to share feedback, explore new ideas, and help identify the needs of our local program. We welcome input from both high school youth, parents, and volunteers. This is a free event and a meal will be provided.

Sept 22nd 6:30PM at the Extension Office

Please register in advance by **9/17** to help us plan accordingly.

Register here: <https://forms.gle/sGaT9ZBHMUJnW1q7>



SALSA CYCLE



Make fresh salsa and mix it up with pedal power! Join Purdue Extension and the Allen County Libraries to use the Blender Bike to whip up a delicious, healthy salsa. Youth will learn kitchen skills, safe food preparation and handling, and nutrition. No electricity required, just your energy and enthusiasm!

Sign up on their website [here](#)! Space is limited!

Sept 27th 11-12 pm at Dupont Branch

Sept 27th 2-3pm at Aboite Branch

Oct 2nd 7pm-8pm at Main Branch Downtown

4-H INFORMATION

NEW HAVEN FALL MARKET

Calling all club leaders!! Sept 24th 5pm-7pm We have a great opportunity to set up a table (or 2) at the New Haven Fall Market and promote your clubs/4-H. If you are interested please email Rebecca at rcclay@purdue.edu to reserve your spot.



Be a Tourist In Your Hometown

Visit the Master Gardener Display Gardens at the Extension Office on **September 7th 12-5pm**

There will be gardeners on-site to answer questions. Enjoy kid friendly, hands on activities and accessible wandering landscaped paths.



OPEN ENROLLMENT

FOR 4-H MEMBERS
AND VOLUNTEERS

BEGINS OCTOBER 1ST!!

SIGN UP FOR ARCHERY!

Join us for our Fall Archery Workshop! Orientation will be Wednesday, September 10th at the Administration Building at the Allen County Fairgrounds from 6-7 pm.

Classes will run every Sunday starting September 14th. The dates are September 14, 21, October 5, 12, 19, 26 and November 2, and 9. No class on September 28th. We will run a beginner workshop from 12:00-1:30 pm and an advanced workshop from 2:00-3:30pm. You must be enrolled in 4-H to participate. This program is recommended for grades 3-12 but if you have a mini 4-Her that would really like to participate please reach out. There is no fee to participate.

Register Here: <https://forms.gle/h9caNundSLGgQL48U9>

4-H Board Members Needed

If you are interested in running for a position on the 4-H board during the Annual Meeting in December, please contact the Extension Office to indicate your interest, or get more information.

The 4-H Board consists of 18 Members, with 3 of those being appointed Youth, who meet 12 times a year to oversee the 4-H program in Allen County. We are looking for adults and youth to join the board as there will be numerous openings. Please note that you need to be an approved 4-H volunteer to serve on the board.

For current members: To be a voting member for 2025-2026 you need to complete your training on 4-H online before October 7th. Thank you.



State Fair Results 2025

Eighty Allen County 4-Her's participated at the State-Fair (static projects). **Twenty-one** received an Orange Merit Award ribbon and **Two** received Sweepstakes rosettes. For all results go to: <https://extension.purdue.edu/4-H/fair/fair-results.html> **Congratulations to all ALLEN COUNTY 4-Her's!!**

| Name | Award | Project |
|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Celine Baumle | Orange | Garden Education |
| | Orange | Arts and Crafts |
| Dawson Birkey | Orange | Floriculture |
| Abram Brown | Orange | Beef Poster |
| | Orange | Dairy Poster |
| | Orange | Horse Poster |
| | Orange | Sheep Poster |
| Cullen Brown | Orange | Forestry |
| | Orange | Model Craft |
| | Orange | Weather and Climate Science |
| Olivia Brown | Orange | Aerospace |
| | Orange | Veterinary Science |
| Evan Brubaker | Sweepstakes | Garden 5 Plate Collection |
| Vivian Emenhiser | Orange | Needle Craft |
| Ashleigh Hadley | Orange | Foods - Preserved |
| Amelia Harber | Orange | Foods-Baked |
| Charlotte McCullough | Orange | Rabbit Poster |
| Karsten Miller | Orange | Forestry |
| Keshan Miller | Orange | Wildlife |
| Stephanie Onion | Orange | Foods-Preserved |
| | Sweepstakes | Llama-Alpaca Poster |
| Daphne Reynolds | Orange | Needle Craft |
| Cash Robinson-Stewart | Orange | Poultry Poster |
| Leighah Shank | Orange | Poultry Poster |
| Owen Sorg | Orange | Small Engines |
| Hannah Steinman | Orange | Floriculture |
| Lucia Warner | Orange | Creative Writing |
| Hunter Workman | Orange | Photography |
| Logan Young | Orange | Llama-Alpaca Poster |

Want to Become a Volunteer?

Happy September 4-H Volunteers! The 4-H year end is quickly approaching and soon it will be time to sign up to be an Adult Volunteer for the 2025-2026 year. As you should know, Purdue has made the Volunteer trainings mandatory to work with 4-H youth.

These trainings will be available in 4-H Online beginning October 1st after you have submitted your re-enrollment. We are asking that everyone who wishes to be a 4-H Volunteer complete this training by January 1, 2026. We are offering an in-person training on October 7, at the Extension office starting at 6pm. The training will take approximately 1 hour to complete.

We understand that everyone's time is valuable, but our main goal is keeping our 4-H Youth safe.

Along with your training, you must sign a Role Description Agreement. Please make sure you are selecting the correct role! You can have more than one role. We will share a "cheat sheet" in next month's newsletter to help you choose the correct role. We appreciate your commitment to the program and your patience as things are always changing.



Perry Boosters Club represented 4-H at Huntertown Heritage Days. They put together an awesome 4-H float!

Thank you Perry Boosters for your hard work and dedication!!



County Fair Entry Numbers for 2025

Total Exhibit Hall Projects—1,140 and Total Livestock Projects including fun classes and showmanship-1,873
We also had 141 Mini Projects!

The Top 5 Projects for 2025 were: Photography, General Arts and Crafts, Fine Arts, Construction, and Herbs
The top livestock projects based on exhibitors for 2025 were: Swine, Horse and Pony, Rabbits, Llama, and Poultry

We are working on boosting some of the projects with lower numbers. All your ideas and positive feedback are welcome! Join us for the Roundtable Discussion on 9/22. (see page 2)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



September 2025

2 Extension Office Closed—Labor Day
3 4-H Board Meeting 7pm @CEO
7 Be a Tourist in Your Hometown 12-5pm@CEO
10 Archery Orientation 6-7pm@ FG's
10 Livestock Committee meeting 6:30 pm @CEO
17 Horse & Pony Leaders Meeting 7-9 pm @CEO
20 Nature Navigators 10am@Chain-O'-Lakes
22 Round Table Discussion 6:30@CEO
24 New Haven Fall Market 5-7pm
27 Salsa Cycle 11-12@Dupont and 2-3pm@Aboite
Junior Leader Meeting **TDB (aiming to help at Kuehnert Fall Festival but back up is 30th from 6:30-8pm@CEO)**

We invite you to visit with us as we highlight our work from the last year. Purdue Extension provides practical solutions to today's toughest challenges. Our staff works to provide transformative education, foster growth, and build collaboration. Let's discuss ways to collaborate in providing lasting impact in the community to build a better Allen County together.

Wednesday, Sept 10th 4-6 pm

Omni Room, Citizens Square

200 E Berry Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Refreshments will be provided.

This event is free but RSVP is preferred at <https://bit.ly/2025acebmtg>

Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by a parent/legal guardian. If you require accommodations to attend this event or have any questions about this event, please email James Wolff at jmwolff@purdue.edu or call 260-481-6826.

October 2015

1 4-H ONLINE ENROLLMENT OPENS FOR MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS

2 Salsa Cycle 7-8pm AC Library Downtown Branch
5 Archery Classes, Beginners12-1:30
Advanced 2-3:30@FG's
7 4-H Rule change board meeting 7pm@CEO
11 Nature Navigators 10pm@ Ouabache State Park
12 Archery Classes, Beginners12-1:30
Advanced 2-3:30@FG's
15 Horse & Pony Leaders Meeting 7pm@CEO
19 Archery Classes, Beginners12-1:30
Advanced 2-3:30@FG's
26 Archery Classes, Beginners12-1:30
Advanced 2-3:30@FG's
28 Jr Leaders Halloween Open House 6:30pm@CEO

November 2025

4 4-H Board Meeting 7pm@CEO
15 Nature Navigators 10pm@ Salamonie
26-28 CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAY

December 2025

2 4-H Board Annual Meeting 7pm@FG (tentative)
24-26 CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAY

January 2025

1 CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAY
6 4-H Board meeting 7pm @CEO
17 Nature Navigators 10pm@ Pokagon

Follow us on Facebook We share pictures, important information, and workshop flyers on our page! Allen County Indiana 4-H: <https://www.facebook.com/AllenCounty4H>

Have photos to share ? We would love to see them!
Please feel free to email Stephenie, Erin, or Rebecca with a few of your favorites!



It is the policy of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service that all persons have equal opportunity and access to its educational programs, services, activities, and facilities without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, natural origin or ancestry, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, disability or status as a veteran. Purdue University is an Affirmative Action Institution. This material may be available in alternative formats.

CEO = County Extension Office
FG's = Fairgrounds
All dates subject to change