

November/December 2025

www.extension.purdue.edu/Cass

CassCES@purdue.edu

CASS COUNTY EXPRESS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR PURDUE

EXTENSION - CASS COUNTY

Happy Fall, Y'all from the Cass County Extension Office! As we look to the end of 2025, we are celebrating a year of continuing to support our community by fostering growth, knowledge, and resilience.

UPDATE FROM THE COUNTY EXTENSION DIRECTOR

It has been a little over a year since I joined the Cass County team, and as of October, it has been three years since I joined Purdue Extension as a Health & Human Sciences Educator. As I reflect upon my time in Extension so far, I feel immense gratitude for so many things: this community, our partners and volunteers, my colleagues, and all the connections and opportunities that have been shared with me.

Thank you to everyone in Cass County and Purdue Extension who has met with me, had me out to teach a program, or introduced me to someone in your network. I am excited to continue building relationships and bringing the most up-to-date, evidence-based programs to our community.

**-Kailey Dockerty, HHS Educator and
Cass Co. Extension Director**



**Purdue University is an Equal Opportunity/ Equal Access
University.**

CASS COUNTY EXPRESS

HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Next, I would like to share some notes and photos from some of our recent programs. This summer, a partnership began between Royal Center Boone-Township Public Library and myself; I joined their Tuesday coffee group in June & July for lessons on living with arthritis and meal planning. Stay tuned for future programs at the Royal Center Library.

In September, Logansport High School became one of the first groups across the state to participate in our Mock Grocery Store Simulation. Students from multiple classes gained budgeting and meal planning experience through this interactive, hands-on program. Call or email me if you would like this high-impact, FREE program at your organization.



CASS COUNTY EXPRESS

In October, we kicked off our Beginner's Guide to Grant Writing Workshop. This two-day Community Development program will conclude in November. We partnered with Stand UP Cass County and the Logansport Parks & Recreation Department to bring this statewide program to Cass County. 18 participants began drafting their own proposals at the first session. I look forward to the November session, when participants will hear from a panel of local funders and finish their draft proposals.

Thanks again to all our program partners! Stay tuned for more programs from our Health & Human Sciences, Community Development, and Agriculture/Natural Resources in our next newsletter. If you would like to partner with us to bring our programs to your clients, club, congregation, or other organization, please call or email me at kdockert@purdue.edu or 574-753-7750.

-Kailey Dockerty



CASS COUNTY EXPRESS

HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Easy Caramel Apples

What are your favorite parts of fall? I love a good sweatshirt, watching a scary movie, and I have yet to meet a hot chocolate I don't like. Apples are another fall favorite of mine. Nothing says fall like a warm apple crumble, or the delicious sweetness of a caramel apple. This recipe for easy caramel apples is the best of both worlds. Granola adds texture, along with fiber. What other ingredients would you mix into your caramel apples?

Ingredients:

- 1 T water
- 4 vanilla caramels (1oz.)
- 2½ cups apples, bite size pieces
- ½ cup ice cream or whipped topping
- 2 T granola



Directions:

1. In a small dish, combine water and unwrapped caramels.
2. Place apple pieces in a bowl. Cover and cook in microwave on high for 4 minutes.
3. Add small dish of caramels to microwave with the apple dish. Microwave for another 2 minutes until fruit is tender and caramels are soft.
4. Stir caramel mixture until nearly smooth.
5. Fold caramel mixture into the cooked apples.
6. Serve with ice cream or topping. Sprinkle with granola.



CASS COUNTY EXPRESS

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Purdue Pesticide Programs

Are you a Private Pesticide Applicator in need of recertification? If so, Purdue Extension has several PARP events taking place this fall and in early 2026. Some of the events taking place are listed below. To see upcoming PARP events, scan the QR code or call us at 574-753-7750.

Upcoming Central District PARP Events:

- **November 14 – Johnson County**
- **November 21 – Marion County**
- **December 5 – Carroll County**
- **December 8 – Howard County**
- **December 9 – Hancock County**
- **December 19 – Clinton County**

Scan to register or see more PARP events:



CASS COUNTY EXPRESS

Nutritional Education Program



3rd Graders Celebrate the Great Apple Crunch!

This October, third-grade students from Fairview Elementary and Lewis Cass Elementary participated in the annual Great Apple Crunch—a fun and educational event celebrating healthy eating and local agriculture.

Students watched a short video and learned how apples are grown and harvested on an orchard. They then got to taste three different varieties of apples, comparing flavor, crunch, and color.

Each child also received an apple from Doud's Orchard, made possible through the generous sponsorship of the Cass County Farm Bureau.

Rachel Taylor

Nutrition Education Program Advisor,
Serving Cass & Miami Counties
Purdue Extension Nutrition
Education Program



Great Apple CRUNCH			
			
Kitchel	6	10	4
Helton	2	9	9
Seubring	2	4	11
Corcoran	1	15	6

-Purdue Extension - Cass Co. Farm Bureau - Doud's Orchard

CASS COUNTY EXPRESS

4-H

2025 Cass County 4-H Fall Awards Program

Tuesday, November 25th, 2025
6:30pm at the Community Center

Join Us to Recognize our:

Junior Leaders

Friends of 4-H Award

Outstanding Volunteer

Brad Scott Leadership Award

Outstanding 4-Her

and more!

4-Hers who are receiving an award will
be notified with an email and letter.



Cass County 4-H Junior Leaders Poinsettia Fundraiser



The Cass County 4-H Junior Leaders are selling poinsettias for \$10.00 per plant as a fundraiser for Junior Leader activities and supplies throughout the year.

- Your choice of red, white, or shimmer surprise (red with white details) blooms.
- Plants are 14-16 inches tall in 6-inch pots.
- Guaranteed five bloom stems.

All orders are due to the Extension office by Friday, November 28th.
Pick-up will be at the Cass County 4-H Fairgrounds on Monday December 8th from 4:30-6:30pm

CASS COUNTY EXPRESS

4-H



Attention High School Seniors!

In partnership with the Indiana 4-H Foundation, the Indiana 4-H Youth Development Program annually awards more than \$150,000.00 in scholarships to 4-H members to pursue post-secondary education. Follow the link to see available scholarships for 2025. All Applications are due to the Extension office before January 25th, please contact Claire (crumc@purdue.edu) if you would like to review your scholarships before submission!

Please refer to the next page for the list of available scholarships through State 4-H



2025

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Senior Year Scholarship

Available to 4-H members in their senior year of high school

Club Scholarship

Available to 4-H members entering Purdue University majoring in the College of Agriculture or select majors in the College of Health and Human Sciences

Purdue Horticulture & Landscape Architecture Scholarship

Available to a 4-H member majoring in horticulture or landscape architecture at Purdue University and studied plant science in 4-H.

Accomplishment Scholarship

Available to 4-H members in grades 10-12 of high school and the year immediately following high school graduation. The purpose of the 4-H Accomplishment Scholarship is to recognize youth who have excelled in life skills development through their 4-H activities and involvement.

Categories: Animal Science—Meat and Milk Production; Animal Science—Companion and Small Animal Production; Citizenship; Communications; Engineering and Technological Science; Healthy Living, Food and Nutrition Science; Leadership Development; and Plant and Environmental Science. Three additional categories are reserved for applicants demonstrating life skills development in more than one of the previously listed categories. Those are Premier Achievement, Premier Citizenship, and Premier Leadership.

Eligibility: Applicants must be in grade 10, 11, 12, or their first year immediately following 4-H enrollment eligibility at the time applications are due. While an applicant does not have to be a current 4-H member, they must demonstrate multiple years of involvement in Indiana's 4-H Youth Development Program.

Youth who have previously been awarded a \$1,000 accomplishment scholarship are only eligible to compete in the Premier Achievement, Premier Citizenship, and Premier Leadership categories. Youth who have previously been awarded a \$2,000 scholarship are no longer eligible to compete in any category.

Awards: A minimum of thirty \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to youth based on their demonstration of life skills development in these eight categories: Animal Science—Meat and Milk Production; Animal Science—Companion and Small Animal Production; Citizenship; Communications; Engineering and Technological Science; Healthy Living, Food, and Nutrition Science; Leadership Development; and Plant and Environmental Science.

A minimum of one \$2,000 scholarship will be awarded in each of these categories: Premier Achievement; Premier Citizenship; and Premier Leadership.

Visit bit.ly/4hscholarship to download applications.

Applications due to County 4-H Educator January 25.
Contact your county's Purdue Extension Office to learn more.

\$176,880 AWARDED IN 2024



CASS COUNTY EXPRESS

4-H

Livestock Updates: Add 'em to your calendar! Livestock tagging dates are already set for 2026! Reminders will be sent out this Spring!

Questions or concerns? Please contact your livestock committees!



Cass County 4-H 2026 Livestock Tagging Dates

BEEF AND DAIRY CATTLE:

April 18th, 9:00am -11:00am or April 22nd, 5:30pm - 6:30pm

SHEEP & GOATS:

May 1st, 5:00-7:00pm

Questions? Contact your Livestock Committee Chairmen or the Extension Office

CASS COUNTY EXPRESS

4-H

**2026
Cass County
4-H Fair**
🍀 July 6th-10th 🍀

GET YOUR CALENDARS OUT, CASS COUNTY!

Your 2026 Cass County 4-H Fair will be July 6th-10th! Cass County Indiana 4-H Association

We will kick off the festivities with the Miss Cass County Queen pageant on Sunday, July 5th in the evening and the 4-H Fair officially starting on Monday the 6th and ending with the 4-H Livestock Auction on Friday the 10th.

4-Hers, if you haven't enrolled in 4-H for 2025/2026 yet, you could be missing important information about judging dates, livestock shows, and club meetings! Please enroll sooner rather than later to ensure communication and the best 4-H experience! <https://v2.4honline.com/...>