



# HENDRICKS COUNTY HOMEMAKER HAPPENINGS

July  
2025

Mission Statement: To strengthen families through continuing education, leadership development and volunteer community support.

## 2025-2026 Officers

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| ✦ President: Ellen Looney             | ✦ Teacher Grants: Lynn Lillard                 |
| ✦ Vice President: Open                | ✦ 1st Member at Large: Melissa Mikesell        |
| ✦ Secretary: Rachel McKenney          | ✦ 2nd Member at Large: Deb Culler              |
| ✦ Treasurer: Joanna Sell              | ✦ 3rd Member at Large: Karla Janning           |
| ✦ Asst. Treasurer: Kim Webber         | ✦ 4th Member at Large: Sandra Kelley           |
| ✦ HHS Educator: Amanda Marciano-Feutz | ✦ Volunteer Community Support: Charlotte Lloyd |
| ✦ Education: Theresa Hatfield         | ✦ News Chair: Melissa Phillips                 |
| ✦ Home & Family Arts Show: Kim Weber  |  |

## 2025-2026 Calendar

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Aug 1-17:</b> Indiana State Fair                                    | <b>Oct 13-17:</b> IEHA Celebration Week |
| <b>Sept 1:</b> Office Closed   | <b>Nov 11:</b> Office Closed            |
| <b>Sept 6-7:</b> Fair on the Square                                    | <b>Nov 13:</b> Helping Hands            |
| <b>Sept 11:</b> Helping Hands  | <b>Nov 27-28:</b> Office Closed         |
| <b>Sept 15-16:</b> Indianapolis District Retreat at<br>Waycross Center | <b>Dec 2:</b> Christmas Brunch          |
| <b>Oct 2:</b> Fall District Meeting:<br>(Shelby County)                | <b>Dec 5:</b> Holiday Fest              |
| <b>Oct 7:</b> Leader Lessons   | <b>Dec 24-26:</b> Office Closed         |
| <b>Oct 9:</b> Make a Difference Day                                    | <b>Feb 3:</b> Leader Lessons            |
| <b>Oct 13:</b> Office Closed   | <b>Feb 12:</b> Make a Difference Day    |
|  | <b>Mar 12:</b> Helping Hands            |

### IEHA Families Home Page — [www.ieha-families.org](http://www.ieha-families.org)

(Check out the new website for information about our State Officers, safety lessons that you can share with your club, State-wide events and more!)



### Purdue Extension Hendricks County

(<https://extension.purdue.edu/county/hendricks/hhs/ehmhendrickscounty.html>)

### Facebook Page

(<https://www.facebook.com/Hendricks-County-Extension-Homemakers-600129567100835>)



### Donated Bench

Did you make it to the Fair this past week? If so, did you notice the new bench near the front entrance? The Council voted to donate the bench in memory and honor of all the wonderful Hendricks County Extension Homemakers.



## from the President's Pen



Well, the 2025 County Fair is in the books-done! After good night's sleep I am ready to write this note.

Have I said to each **YOU ARE AMAZING!** If I haven't told you personally, I'm sorry, but know your support, volunteer service and participation is **SINCERELY APPRECIATED!** We as the Homemakers were able to accomplish **SO MUCH** this year at the Hendricks County Fair. Below describes how we contributed to the Fair.

### **Open-Class with Kim Weber and Joanna's Sell's stewardship:**

- Set up Open Class on Friday afternoon before the Fair
- Checked-in items on Saturday morning for judging
- Helped in all categories with judging Saturday afternoon including placing ribbons on entries.
- Beginning Sunday-Saturday, we were "watchers" for the Open Class exhibits, making sure the items were returned to the entrants in the same shape they were brought for judging.
- Rallied again on Saturday evening (at the end of the Fair) to check out items entered in Open Class and take down the tables, etc. set up for display.

### **Chopped Contest-Modern Homemakers (one day event):**

- Enthusiastic volunteers entered the contest.
- Won the first round and returned for the grand championship but did not come in first place.
- Team members had a lot of fun, and we supported the Hendricks County Food Coalition/Family Promise with our entry fee and contributed additional financial contributions for "sabotage or extra ingredients" for the team.
- Participation in the event raised awareness of our organization.

### **Baked Goods Auction (Culinary A and B)—Young Moderns (one day event):**

- Baked Goods Auction was organized and staffed by Young Moderns.
- Auctioned Approximately 84 items/combinations.
- Raised approximately \$1800

### **Vendor booth and Homemaker Booth (volunteers 7 days/week; 9hrs/day) :**

- Staffed by HCEH Sunday—Saturday of the Fair.
- Promoted HCEH.
- Sold yarn, patterns and notions. We raised more than \$600.00.

Thanks to all of the Homemakers and Friends-of-Homemakers who made our Fair events successful. Looking forward to any ideas you might have for Homemakers at the 2026 Fair.

Ellen Looney, President

### **INVITATION!**

Would you be interested in sorting yarn, patterns and notions? You're invited to come to Ellen's garage on Friday, July 25 (12-6pm) and Sunday, July 27 (2-5pm) to help

sort items and maybe shop??? The objective is to get things organized for our next opportunity! Please RSVP to Ellen at 317-797-8368 (text or call).



P.S.: The HCEH will be making and selling Cheeseballs in early September this year. Last year we made over \$600 for our Education Scholarships. Please help us again sell cheeseballs on the square at the Tri Kappa FAIR-on the SQUARE. Please go to the following link to sign-up to help: <https://bit.ly/FairOnSquare>.



### **Hydration Is Key**

This year's summer heat and long days can sneak up fast! Did you know just **1–2% dehydration can impact your energy, mood, and focus?** Staying hydrated helps your body regulate temperature, keep your heart healthy, and prevent heat-related illness. Here's smart tips to stay ahead of dehydration:

- ☐ **Drink before you're thirsty.** Keep sipping water all day.
- ☐ **Carry a refillable water bottle.** Many places have refill stations!
- ☐ **Watch for dehydration signs** like dry mouth, dizziness, or headache.
- ☐ **Skip sugary sodas or energy drinks.** They make dehydration worse.
- ☐ **Eat your water!** Fruits like watermelon, grapes, and oranges help keep you hydrated.

### **Move When You Can**

Walking adds up! 20 minutes of walking a day can improve digestion, better mood and sleep, prevent chronic disease, and so much more! Aim for 150 minutes of aerobic exercise (think walking, jogging, swimming, Thai Chi, pickleball). Take your exercise indoors to prevent injury or over-exhaustion during the summer months. Try the free indoor walking path at The Center at Northveiw Church in Danville!

### **A Snack to Keep you Fueled:**

#### **Yogurt Berry Parfait Jars**

Easy to prep, perfect cold, and packed with protein and antioxidants!

#### **Ingredients (makes 4 small jars):**

- 2 cups plain Greek yogurt (look for yogurt with low or no added sugar)
- 1 cup granola (low sugar if possible- avoid/limit chocolate chips, dried fruit)
- 1 cup mixed fresh berries (strawberries, blueberries, raspberries are full of antioxidants, vitamins and minerals)
- 2 tsp honey or maple syrup (optional – great source of natural sugars to keep energy up)

#### **Instructions:**

- In a mason jar or small container, layer ¼ cup yogurt, a handful of berries, and 2–3 tbsp granola.
- Repeat layers once more.
- Drizzle with honey or syrup if desired.
- Keep chilled in a cooler until ready to eat. Best consumed within 24 hours for granola crunch.

Amanda Marciano-Feutz  
Extension Educator Health and Human Sciences  
Purdue Extension- Hendricks County

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## **Family Promise**

*We want to thank those who donated to the Extension Office snack drive for Family Promise. They were so excited to get the donations. At the time the snacks were taken, they were down to just a few items they were basically rationing. They have about 11 kids, and you know how kids are always snacking and hungry. So, they were thrilled to get so many things, and such a variety, for the kids to enjoy.*

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## **Newsletter Deadline**

Submissions for either the "Happenings" or the "Happenings Minute" are due the 15th of each month. We'd LOVE to include your club news or news from your committee. Submissions should be emailed to both Melissa Phillips, News Chair, (PCS.ServingHim@gmail.com) **and** Lisa Pitts (pitts15@purdue.edu). Handwritten copies may be given or mailed to Melissa Phillips (9388 S. County Road 100 W., Clayton, 46118).



# Club News

## Chorus: OPEN HOUSE!

We would like to invite YOU to the Hendricks County Choral Club aka The Treblemakers' open house on Monday, September 8, at 6:30 pm at the Hendricks County Sr. Service Center, 1201 Sycamore Lane, Danville.

The Treblemakers are more than singers. We offer an opportunity to serve our community by sharing music with senior living facilities, service and professional associations, public events and families.

We always welcome new members! No audition is required, just a love of music and a desire to have fun. No attendance requirements are set. We meet every Monday evening at the Senior Center of Hendricks County at 6:30pm. (Non-members of the Extension Homemakers will need to pay a small dues payment.)

## Pollyanna Homemakers:

On May 14, our Homemaker club was met with a wonderful, homemade breakfast at Rachel McKinney's home. We enjoyed egg bites, and peach coffee cake made from peaches from Martha Rodger's peach tree last year, fruit, orange juice and coffee.

Afterward we were also instructed how to fold a cloth napkin in a decorative way. We all folded and made one on which we laid a pretty flower to decorate a table.

Some of us stayed to play a game of Mexican Train. We won't mention who won or lost.



## Happy Homemakers:

The last three months of the Happy Homemaker's Club had an average of seventeen women in attendance. We sprung into Spring on a delightful sunny May afternoon by sharing a pitch-in salad luncheon on the porch at Naomi Cook's home in the woods. After our basic meeting we had an interesting lesson on the benefits of mushroom consumption. It's a good source of Vitamin D, which helps depression, reduces stress, and helps memory retention.

We honored Patty Ramsey for her unwavering friendship and dedication to our club for over 50 years. We all admire and love her dearly. Eleven months of the year she travels the farthest to attend meetings. However, in June it is our tradition to end our year with a trip to Patty's home near Thorntown for our annual wiener roast & picnic. We meet at their 'vacation' cabin by the pond which is on their property. We conduct our meeting outside under the shade and breezes of a big tree. Patty's husband, D, stands over the smoky, hot fire and cooks hotdogs for us to enjoy. (Yes! We are pampered ladies.)

In July fourteen members gathered as we gear up to help with the fair. Our hostess, Janie, brought a large delicious chocolate cake for all to enjoy. She also gave a lesson on the importance of leaving a legacy through storytelling. It helps us to remember, appreciate, understand, listen, communicate and learn. This helps with positive interaction between generations. So, keep talking the talk and walking the walk fellow homemakers.

We are looking forward to the start up of "Helping Hands". It is a fun and rewarding time; and getting to know and appreciate other clubs is an extra blessing.

As we head into the Fall season (wait, what! Already?!), we wish all a heart of thanksgiving and peace. Your friends, The Happy Homemakers.

## Modern Homemakers:

In May our club celebrated the 500 race theme. We had refreshment with the 500 theme given by Pam Pizzato and Jane Pfaffenberger and also played a race relay game. It was lots of fun. We had 10 members and another guest future member. This month we voted to donate \$500 towards delinquent school lunch accounts at various school districts in Hendricks County. We were told that some Seniors may not be able to walk for their ceremony if they had delinquent balances, we could not let that happen.

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In June we celebrated the beginning of summer with a strawberry shortcake and ice cream dessert. We welcomed one new member, Betty Coombs of Brownsburg. Joanna Sell gave a great lesson on the history of the American Flag. Did you know that there has been 27 versions of the American flag to date? Our current flag was made official by President Woodrow Wilson in 1960 and it contained the 13 red and white stripes and 50 stars. We voted to make donations in memory of our 2 members that have passed away, Regina Hawkins and Midge Trent. We also decided to sponsor another young woman, Bella Ryan, in the Distinguished Young Women contest of Hendricks County. This is a wonderful scholarship program for young women who compete locally as well as nationally. We ended the meeting filling our membership books for next year and planning our annual indoor picnic in August.

## Chat N' Do:

On June 11, thirteen members met at Stack's Pancake House in Plainfield. The 2025-2026 Membership Directory and Program Books were distributed, and President Deb Culler reviewed next year's County assignments. Deloris Elza delivered our macaroni and cheese donations to the Blessing Box at the Fairgrounds. There will be no July meeting due to Fair duties. In August, we will donate canned pasta to community support.

***Thank you Chat 'N Do members for your volunteer hours at the 2025 Fair!***

## Fairfield Homemakers:

FAIRFIELD HOMEMAKERS has been a Hendricks County Extension homemaker club for over 75 years. We used to meet monthly, but now have reduced the number of meetings to six in the fall and spring. We participate in county programs and projects. Participation in Make a Difference Day projects keeps us humble. Club lessons from the county, club members and guests strive to improve or maintain our physical and brain health. Pitch-in luncheons are a mainstay for good food, fellowship and socialization. By far, the funniest meeting over the years was a regular meeting that turned into a "Comedy of Coincidences." Later, we turned it into a skit with a message. Enjoy!

### FF HEC Skit -- Comedy of Coincidences

To a club meeting we go – or Is Donna at home?

Over the river and through the stoplight to Donna's house we go with CLEAR directions, salads and cherry delight. We'll soon find Donna at the door waving hello!

Turn right at the first street, then left at the next; there's only 6 houses on the street. Donna's house is the 2<sup>nd</sup> one from the end of the street and it is cream colored with blue shutters. These simple directions cannot be beat.

Turning left on the street, there's Donna's house in sight. Yes, 2<sup>nd</sup> house from the end of the street, All cream colored and trimmed with blue shutters.

Giving caution about her house not totally being in shape Because she had just acquired her parents' furniture from a downsizing venture – extra chairs, pictures and keepsakes.

Donna's teen-aged son was still at home when the meeting was to start. So who surprisedly answered the door but a groggy sleepy-eyed boy. "Is Donna at home?" "We are coming to a meeting at her house today." "Yes, she just went to the store and will be back soon. Come on in and make yourself at home."

So, in went Doris, Pauline and Rosemary with the pitch-in salads they did carry. Straight to the refrigerator for cold foods must be kept cold. Oh-oh. Where can these salads be put in a place where there was no available space. The Jello salad would be a disaster if it didn't get refrigerated faster.

We will help set up the chairs – poor Donna just didn't have time. Now we will make ourselves at home until the rest of the

group arrives. "Look at the friendly dogs. This one must be a lap dog." "I wonder where everybody else is. They ought to be coming anytime."

In the meantime, at the other end of the street, Dear Donna had nobody at her door to greet. Where were the salads? Where was the lesson presenter?

Knock, knock. "Is this Donna Thurman's house? "No! The Thurman's live down the street. It's 2 houses from the OTHER end of the street."

Get Doris, Pauline, refrigerated salads and go! They are at the wrong cream-colored abode With blue shutters to behold. Make haste – no time to waste! Our law-abiding homemakers may have made an innocent trespassing mistake.

Too many coincidences –  
Who would or could believe!  
Two cream-colored houses with blue shutters  
Two houses- from the end of the street  
Two houses filled with extra furniture  
Two teen-age boys at home  
Two home owners named Donna.

NONE of the names have been changed to protect the innocent!

Always having a health and safety lesson and an educational lesson. Complying to get a blue or purple ribbon for the club at Achievement Day.

The lesson for the day should have been: BE CAREFUL OF LETTING STRANGERS IN!



# Committee Reports

## Volunteer Community Support

Hello everyone!! I have missed so many of you as we had a break from Helping Hands and Make a Difference Day. As I type this article I am getting ready to leave to help release projects and tear down displays at the fairgrounds. The fair was great! Very hot but it was a really great fair. I hope you participated in some way. Even if you only came. It is the only way to keep the fair going. I enjoyed working at the Homemakers Booth and in Open Class. You get to meet so many people from different places. Everyone I talked to was so impressed by our fair.

Now that it is over it is time to start thinking of fall and when I think of fall I think of Make a Difference and Helping Hands Days. It is coming up soon so we need to start preparations for it. I am going to be honest with you, this has been a busy summer! I need help!!!

I am going to schedule a work day at my house in August. It will be the 14th at 10 am and I will provide lunch, probably from my garden. LOL

If you can help cut, wash, dry, stack, fold, bag fleece or even cheer us on come and help. I promise lots of laughter, talking, snipping, and fun. We bought a lot of fleece when JoAnn's was going out. We hope enough to go through spring. So, Melissa Phillips and my house have stacks of fleece, some in bolts. You will need to let me know who is coming so I will be prepared. My address and phone number are below.

We also have a list of donations that we will need. Please read and see if you can pick any of them up especially the things needed for Cypress Manor for their Christmas care bags.

Thank you again for all that you do to make this a success!! You are important to all that benefit from the things that we make!!

Charlotte Lloyd (812-236-6083)  
4759 S. Co. Rd. 675 W., Coatesville, IN 46121

### Donations Needed:

- Travel size toothpaste, toothbrushes, small soap, combs, shampoo for hygiene kits
- Full size shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, tooth brushes, brushes, lotion, body wash, Word searches, coloring books for adults, crosswords, pens, coloring pencils, etc. for Cypress Manor at Christmas time

**Work Day:** August 14 at 10 am Charlotte Lloyd's house

**Helping Hands Day:** September 11 from 10 am -12 pm, Bartlett Chapel on Old Highway 36

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## Teacher Grants

This year we were able to make a difference with our \$150 Teacher Grants to 10 well deserving teachers in Hendricks County. We received many applications from several new schools that had not previously applied or it had been a while. We had so many great requests from language translators and supplies for calming rooms and special programs for reading and teaching socializing skills and very expensive scientific calculators. I am looking forward to working with even more new teachers in the next year and getting the information available to all Hendricks County teachers. Don't forget to check out the display in the showcase at the fairgrounds. Remember, if you know of a teacher in need or if you have a child or grandchild in school, make sure these teachers get an application.

Lynn Lillard

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**Home & Family Conference 2026 "special project":** hand/home-made book or toy for children of any age. Guidelines: Maximum of 18" x 18" x 18", but it can be smaller. Use any medium: wood, paper, canvas, crochet, knit, quilting, etc. For books—no commercial printing/publishing, but parts can be printed from a printer and printed transfers can be used. The earliest toys were made of materials found in nature like rocks, sticks, and clay. Let's see what we can do!



# 2025 Fair Wrap-Up



This year's fair was awesome with over 708 exhibits, a total of 219 Exhibitors, and at least a 100 new participants. I would like to thank all my chairman, their assistants, and our volunteers, who helped with the set up/tear down, check-in/check-out, and the judging, this couldn't have happened without you. A big thank you to all our watchers and exhibitors. The Open Class Results will be posted at <https://extension.purdue.edu/county/hendricks/hhs/ehmopenclass.html>. Below is the list of Homemakers who received Champions this year.

**Culinary A:** Charlotte Lloyd and Melissa Phillips

**Culinary B:** Jessica DePoy, Joanna Sell, and Shannon Wagner,

**Fine Arts:** Naomi Cook

**Flower & Garden:** Danita Coffenberry

**Photography:** Lynn Lillard, Melissa Phillips, and Shannon Wagner

Great job Homemakers!!! Again, thank you to everyone who helped make this year's fair a success!

Kim Weber

## Quilt Block Contest

There were eight outstanding quilt block entries. Let's double that number next year! Pam Alford from Plainfield won the \$25.00 award for People's Choice. A quilt will be made with the blocks to be given away at the 2026 fair. Did you see the quilt made from the 2024 blocks? It was displayed during the fair in the Homemaker's booth. Our own Bob Lytle from Avon was the lucky winner!



## Pecan Baking Contests

Two Junior Bakers participated in the Breakfast and Snack categories and received Blue Ribbons for their entries. Archer Campbell won with his Raspberry Pecan Coffee Cake; and Andrew Depoy won with his Praline Pecans.

Adult Bakers submitted a total of 46 entries. Judge Linda Lowe evaluated each entry and provided feedback on cakes, candies, cookies, quick breads, yeast breads, pies, and other categories. The Grand Champion Baker was Cindy Pierson for her Butter Pecan Bundt Cake.

Thank you and congratulations to all bakers this year.

[Blueberries](#) have been selected as the featured ingredient for next year by popular vote.



## Culinary B Open Class Update

We had a great year with entries. We had several new exhibitors that were very excited to enter as well as our regular exhibitors. Our cookie category brought in more exhibits than in previous years.



We had lots of new and interesting entries also. Have you ever heard of Redbud Jelly? It had a very unusual taste and was very clear and pretty. There were new exhibitors in almost every category. With the help of our Educator, Amanda, we will hopefully be seeing lots more new and interesting exhibitors and recipes in the canning division next year. Start working on those recipes now for next year. Lynn Lillard, Chairperson





# Activities & Lessons



## COMMUNITY CARE FUNDRAISER

To support  
**Hendricks County Extension Homemakers**

**DATE: Tuesday, August 12, 2025**

**TIME: ALL DAY!**

Show this flyer on your phone or  
verbally indicate your support to our

**Community Care Event  
(Dine to Donate)**

**when placing an order!**

(20% of your purchase will go towards our  
organization!)

Fundraiser available through:

DINE-IN / DRIVE THRU /

or MOBILE APP

For mobile app:

use code **HOME812** at checkout

(Catering orders and DoorDash orders do not apply)

**Visit either of our Chick-fil-A Avon locations:**

10791 E US Highway 36, Avon, IN 46123

OR 7606 E US Highway 36, Avon, IN 46123



## MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

HCCF Community Needs Survey

SCAN HERE



The results of our 2025 survey will be used:

- to help identify and prioritize needs in Hendricks County;
- to unite institutions and resources from throughout your community; and,
- to create solutions that produce significant, widely shared and lasting results.

The survey will take about **6 minutes** to complete.

Your answers will remain **anonymous** and only reported as totals or as **anonymous** quotes.

Where Local Good Grows  
**Hendricks County  
Community Foundation**

317.268.6240 | [www.hendrickscountycf.org](http://www.hendrickscountycf.org)



**Tuesday, October 7, 2025**  
**Hendricks County 4-H**  
**Fairgrounds**



### Afternoon Lessons

#### 1:00 pm Mandy Gray Declutter & De-Stress

Helps participants explore the connection between physical clutter and emotional well-being. This lesson offers practical strategies to simplify the home environment and reduce stress through small, manageable steps. Participants will leave with tools to create a more peaceful, organized space that supports mental clarity and calm.

#### 2:00 pm Rachel Peine Creating a Beautiful & Healthy Edible Centerpiece

Participants will learn how to create an edible centerpiece using fruits and vegetables. This lesson will offer nutritional and safe food handling information. The participants will leave with skills on how to create a fruit arrangement that is artistic, safe, and nutritious.

### Evening Lesson 6:00 pm

#### Pandora Taylor Cooking for One or Two

Preparing healthy meals at home can be challenging when cooking for just one or two people. Meal planning, food storage, and using leftovers efficiently are key to reducing food waste, saving money, and maintaining a balanced diet. This program provides practical strategies and confidence-building techniques to make cooking at home enjoyable and manageable.

What You'll Learn:

- Easy and practical meal preparation for one or two
- How to modify recipes for smaller portions
- Smart ways to repurpose leftovers
- Strategies to reduce food waste and grocery costs
- Essential food safety tips

This interactive session includes discussions and hands-on activities to help participants develop skills they can use immediately. Whether you're a college student, single parent, or retiree, this program will empower you to create healthy, delicious meals with ease.

**Lessons are  
FREE  
Registration is  
required to  
provide sufficient  
materials to  
participants.  
Scan to register**



Questions?  
317-745-9260  
[hendrcres@purdue.edu](mailto:hendrcres@purdue.edu)

## Fleece Cutting Work Day

On August 14 at 10 am, we will be meeting at the home of Charlotte Lloyd to cut fleece. Come and join the fun! RSVP to Char (812-236-6083).

If you can not make it on August 14, but would still be willing to help cut the fleece for our next Helping Hands Day in September, please contact either Charlotte Lloyd (llmc09@gmail.com or 812-236-6083) or Melissa Phillips (317-410-6892). Either one can give you a bag of fleece to cut at home.

