



Purdue Extension Huntington

EXTENSION CONNECTION



November & December 2025

Project supplies available in the Extension Office:

- 22 x 28 white foam boards = \$5.00
- 22 x 28 poster cover sleeve = \$2.00
- 16 x 20 white or black foam board = \$2.00
- 16 x 20 clear cover = \$1.00

- ♦ We no longer sell electric kits.
They can be purchased through eeinabox.com

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The Extension Office will be closed the following days for the Holidays:



November 11, Veterans Day

November 27 & 28, Thanksgiving



December 24 - 31, Christmas

January 1, 2026, New Years



Extension - Huntington County



Ed Zamp

J. P. Pickett

*Last date for submission of information for the
January & February 2026 newsletter is December 12, 2025*

Courthouse Annex 1340 S. Jefferson Street, Huntington, IN 46750: (260) 358-4826
Purdue University is an Equal Access/Equal Opportunity Organization



2025 4-H Enrollment is open from October 1, 2025 - January 15, 2026



Any new 4-H member needs to enroll and current members need to reenroll for 2025! Members need to reenroll every year. The website is located at: v2.4honline.com. For 4-H members in regular 4-H, there is a \$15 State Program Fee. The program fees cover annual accident/medical insurance for 4-H members and volunteers and provide quality programming materials. Families with more than three kids participating in the 4-H program will only have to pay a maximum of \$45. When paying online with the 4HOnline system, each youth enrolled in the 4-H Program will require separate transactions. **PLEASE check your years in 4-H when enrolling.** The office is not able to edit your years in 4-H.

If you were in 2nd grade and in Mini 4-H last year, WELCOME to the traditional club program! We are so glad to have you as a member. You will already have a 4-H record in 4honline. Be sure to check before creating a new one!!! Please also note that your participation years in 4-H will go back to ONE (1). We start over counting your years in the traditional club program beginning with 3rd grade. Your Mini 4-H records will remain in the system but your years in 4-H will NOT include Mini 4-H. When enrolling, the number of years in 4-H may not be accurate. Please remember that youth are not considered "enrolled" in the 4-H Program until their program fees have been paid.

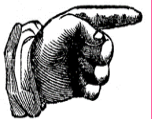
Enrollment and fees are due by **JANUARY 15th!**

As you begin working on your 4-H projects for 2026 - please consider the following...

Youth that qualify Static (non-livestock) projects to move on to the Indiana State Fair (ISF) please be aware of the following:

- ◇ It is optional to exhibit at the ISF. If you do not want your project to exhibit there – let the office know. You are NOT required to send your project.
- ◇ Transportation to the ISF is provided by volunteers and office staff. Purdue Extension nor the Huntington County Fair Association are NOT required to transport the projects. We do this to assist our 4-H members and their families.
- ◇ There are size limitations, weight limitations and if a project requires set up – we have the option to not transport. Those limitations vary based on the equipment available to transport and the number of helpers we have available. We will notify you prior to check-out of the projects we cannot transport.
- ◇ If we transport we make every effort to make sure the project is handled carefully. If you have concerns – we suggest you provide transportation for the project.
- ◇ The ISF does NOT take any responsibility for your project while it is being set up, on display, or being taken down. If your project is damaged or stolen from the ISF, the ISF is not responsible. If there are items of monetary or historical/personal value, it is suggested you do not exhibit those items at the ISF. If you have concerns about the safety of your project, it is suggested you do not exhibit.

Please Notice This



Enroll Early.....By enrolling by the January 15th deadline you won't miss

important information such as club meetings. Other information for special clubs is distributed early February. Shooting Sports, Tractor, Dog, and Horse and Pony.



Important changes and updates

4-H Youth Development

The following projects have changed exhibit requirements.

Construction & Architectural Replica, Dairy Beef, Goats, Homemade Ice Cream, Horse & Pony, Swine



Watch for changes in the 2026 Project Book and with your project materials. **The 2026 Project Book will be available online in December and in hard copy early January.**

There are deadlines with 4-H...There are consequences when we don't follow them.

____ Drop and Add projects—May 15. This is a firm deadline. Make sure you have enrolled in 4honline for all the projects you plan to complete and exhibit by May 15. Printouts for club leaders will be available May 16. Any changes made in 4honline after May 15 will not be recorded.

____ Sign up for what you plan to EXHIBIT and BRING to the 4-H Fair is done in FairEntry from June 1 - June 30. Entry will close on June 30. This is a firm deadline. **FairEntry will CLOSE June 30.** Changes can be made after June 30. Families can change animals between children, or change animals (if in 4honline by May 15). ALL animals MUST be entered by May 15 (excludes cat, dog and poultry). This is a state deadline and it is to be enforced.

If you have not entered your project(s) in FairEntry by the June 30 deadline you will receive no higher than a "Blue (A) Award" for non-entered projects and animals.

4-H Communication

Most of our communication is through email and our 4-H Facebook page. We try and keep everyone Up-to-date on what is happening with 4-H.

Watch your email.

Follow us on Facebook.

Let's work together as we "Learn by Doing"!

Let's move forward as we "Make the Best Better"!



State 4-H Scholarships

4-H members awarded a 4-H Foundation scholarship as a senior in 2025 will be notified in December the procedure for requesting their check.

The 2026 4-H Scholarship applications are available on the 4-H web site. Applications must be submitted through 4HOnline by **January 25, 2026.**

Scholarship application forms and information are available at: extension.purdue.edu/4-H/get-involved/scholarships.html

****There are scholarships available to Huntington County 4-H members! Be sure to apply!!!**

If you need assistance getting them into 4honline -

PLEASE CONTACT US!!!





Leader News

- **2026 4-H Leader Committee Sign-ups**— A committee sign-up sheet is available at the Extension Office for all 4-H leaders. Committees are a vital part of our organization to help with various activities throughout the year.
- **Club Meeting Dates** - Please provide the Extension Office with meeting locations, dates, and times. This helps our office provide information to new members and advertise your 4-H Club meetings through a variety of media.
- **Volunteers Needed** - If you know of individuals interested in volunteering with the county 4-H program, they need to **complete** a 4-H Volunteer Application Form, and go through a screening process. Applications are available at the Extension Office.



- ♦ November 13, Jr. Leader Meeting, 7 - 8 pm, Beacon Credit Union Heritage Hall
- ♦ Christmas Shopping with Jr. Leaders: 10 am December 13th at Walmart

Jr. Leader News

Congratulations to the newly elected 4-H Fair Board Officers and board members . . .

Fair Board News

President - Todd Landrum
Vice-President - Mark Brown
Secretary- Amy DeLong
Treasurer - Tyler Park



Additional Board Members include:

Trevor Brewer, Mason Brown, Ashley Buckland, Lane Burnau, Tim Burnau, Michael Chenoweth, Nathan Endsley, Kevin Eppard, Kara Frame, Aaron Goodnight, Alisa Hannon, Tricia Hassler, Keith Holtz, Andrew Laymon, Scott Pursifull, Craig Smith, Amanda Stroup, Lane Whitted

Many thanks to outgoing board members Brett Stephan, Kathy Stephan, and Rosie Wall

The Huntington County 4-H Tractor Club is needing leaders for Ag Tractor and Lawn & Garden Tractor



Time commitment includes:

- * February - a planning meeting
- * March - Three (3) meetings on Monday's at Beacon Credit Union Heritage Hall
- * July - Tractor Driving Contest with a practice session the day prior



If you or someone you know may be interested in helping youth learn safety and skills of lawn mower and tractor please contact the Extension Office or Steve Hull, Tractor Leader, at 260.519.3707 (leave message)



**Request for 4-H materials prior to your first club meeting**

Members may request their 4-H materials after they have enrolled in 4Honline and paid their State Program Fee of \$15. Simply contact the Extension Office and request your 4-H materials. We know there are families that like to get started on projects over the holidays. We will make every effort to make sure that you have the information needed to do so. You can call the office at 260-358-4826 to make your request.

**Participation in Club meetings is encouraged**

Again, you will get out of the program what you put in and one of the things we encourage you to “put in” is participation in your 4-H Club. You will stay better informed of opportunities, deadlines, and program changes if you attend your club meetings.

You will also have the opportunity to learn more skills by participating. Leadership, team work, socialization, community service, are just a few of the skills that can be practiced and developed by attending and being a part of your club. You also have the opportunity to develop your presentation and communication skills in club meetings. We also hope the older members will mentor to the younger members—sharing the skills and knowledge they have gained during their years in 4-H.

A Note to Mini 4-H

Mini 4-H manuals - you must come to the Extension Office to pick up your manual. Or, you can request to have them emailed by contacting Liz at ebrundig@purdue.edu. There is no fee to join Mini 4-H. There will be a \$1.00 fee if you misplace your manual and need a new one.



We will be announcing the Theme and Design winner in mid-November! The winner will receive a \$40.00 gift card to Shop 4-H and their 4-H Club. Please be on the lookout for the winner announcement!

Important Dates for the Huntington County Extension & 4-H Programs**November**

- 11 County Offices closed in observance of Veteran's Day
- 13 4-H Jr. Leaders, 7 pm, Beacon Credit Union Heritage Hall
- 18 4-H Fair Board, 7 pm, Beacon Credit Union Heritage Hall
- 27-28 County Offices closed—Thanksgiving Holiday

December

- 24-31 Extension Office Closed – Christmas Holiday

January

- 1 Extension Office Closed - New Years Day

July 25 - 30, 2026 – Huntington County 4-H Fair Events at the Fairgrounds
August 8 - August 23, 2026 – Indiana State Fair





Upcoming Events

Master Gardener Public Forum – Thursday November 6

The Huntington County Master Gardeners will hold a public forum on Thursday November 6 at 6:30 p.m. in Beacon Credit Union Heritage Hall at the Huntington County Fairgrounds (631 E Taylor St.). Volunteers will present “Make It - Take It.” There will be no charge. Participants will have the opportunity to make fall/winter garden crafts. Any youth attending under 18 years old must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Information on the Spring 2026 Master Gardener Basic Training class will be available. Sessions will be held on Friday mornings from February 27 through June 5. Please RSVP by calling the Purdue Extension – Huntington County Office – 1340 South Jefferson St. at 260-358-4826.

Purdue Extension Offers the “Know Your Numbers, Know Your Options” Program to Assist Ag Producers with Farm Finances

Know Your Numbers, Know Your Options is a four-week course offered virtually November 18 & 25 and Dec. 2 & 9 from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. EST.

This is a discussion-based workshop to connect participants and subject-matter experts in the areas of financial records and interpreting results. This program is open to all individuals, however, those participating should plan on attending each of the four workshop dates. The course requires participants to have an internet connection. Individuals will find many opportunities for questions, sharing, and connecting with the presenters and other participants. Upon completion of this program, participants will have a better understanding of how financial records can be used to make decisions.

Session highlights are as follows:

Week 1 – Goals and Recordkeeping

Week 2 – Cash Flow and Income Statement Fundamentals

Week 3 – Ratios, Land Leases and Negotiations

Week 4 – Tying It All Together & Looking to the Future

Registration is \$20 per participant and class size is limited to 20. Register by November 16 at the following website: <https://cvent.me/BOWa5L>.

Class material is based upon work supported by USDA/NIFA under Award Number 2020-70028-32728 (cooperating with University of Nebraska Extension).

If you are in need of accommodations to attend this program, please contact Jenna at 765-653-8411 or smith535@purdue.edu by November 11th.

If you need an interpreter or translator, please contact Jenna at 765-653-8411 by November 11th. Purdue University prohibits discrimination against any member of the University community on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, genetic information, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity, and expression, disability, or status as a veteran.



2026 Extension Master Gardener Basic Training

This is an opportunity to learn about many gardening topics including; vegetables, lawncare, invasive species, tree pruning, growing fruit, plant diseases and much more!!



LOCATION

We will meet at various locations in Huntington, Wabash and Miami County



DATES

Classes will begin on Friday February 27th and continue weekly until June 5th.



TIME

9:00am-12:00pm



For More Info:

Email: gschortg@purdue.edu

Call: 260-563-0661 Ext 1408

ADD YOUR
NAME TO THE
CLASS LIST!

EA/EO



Extension

PURDUE EXTENSION
MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

Rita's Ramblings

Welcome to Fall! The hot weather is finally gone! I hope you have been able to enjoy the beautiful fall colors. I would like to thank Joan Scher and the Education Lessons committee for our September lessons. When the Kellam's finished their presentation, I think we were all ready to board one of their buses and travel wherever. Also, we now know how to preserve our heritage after Barb Rupley, from the County Historical Museum, finished her presentation. I learned many things from this presentation.

I want to thank Carla Rice for stepping up to become our county vice-president. I hope your clubs are back in the swing of things. I'm willing to come visit your club. We had a very enjoyable evening with the Amicitia Club in Roanoke. Wishing you a very Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas. The holidays aren't that far off and there will not be another newsletter until 2026!

***In your County Club Book, please change my e-mail address
(Rita McCabe) to armccabe62@gmail.com.***

Public Relations Projects

Share some Bloom(er)s: Bloomers (underwear) and socks have already been taken to several locations (Roanoke Elementary and United with Love). Huntington County turned in their first report at the District Meeting and we had donated 79 pairs of underwear and 122 pairs of socks. Please report to me at the November Council meeting what you have donated. I do not want your numbers until they have been delivered. Then we can keep our records straight. Encourage your members to bring a few pairs to each of your meetings.

Care Boxes: I would like to thank Carla Rice, Carol Holmes, Jennifer Minick, Earlynn Worster, and Sharon McCoart for coming to the Extension Office on October 21, 2025 to assemble Care Boxes for the homeless and those in need. Thanks also to all the clubs who donated boxes, wash cloths, socks, Band-Aids, toothbrushes and toothpaste, soap, safety pins and needles and thread. We made 32 Care Boxes and took them to Roanoke, Markle and Andrews. October 20-25 is IEHA Week. We donated these boxes to help make a difference in our community.

Council Meeting

The next Council Meeting will be held on Monday, November 17, 2025 in the Extension Office Meeting Room beginning at 3:00 p.m. Please bring the number of underwear and socks that you have donated.

Please have a member from your club in attendance.

Also, we will be giving the details of the Cookie/Candy Sale to be held on December 6th!

***Rita McCabe, County President
Huntington County Extension Homemakers***





Homemaker's Fall District Meeting

The IEHA Fall District meeting was held at the Whitley County Fairgrounds on Monday, October 6 with ten ladies from Huntington County attending. The theme for the meeting was "Fall Colors are Popping!" The autumn colors decorated the hall with 117 homemakers in attendance from the Fort Wayne District.

The meeting was led by District Representative, Stephanie Jerabek and a leadership lesson was directed by IEHA State President, Cathy Wilkymacky. A presentation was given called "Matriarch", with both the IEHA State President and Vice President giving presentations.

Lunch included apricot glazed pork loin, potatoes, green beans, orange salad, rolls and cobbler made by the Whitley County Homemakers. A silent auction helped to raise money for the district and a display of items being donated to Riley Children's Hospital was present. Huntington County homemakers distributed door prizes consisting of colorful chrysanthemums.

The Spring District Meeting will be held in Wells County on April 1, 2026, so mark your calendars now.

Homemakers Holiday Cookie, Candy and Craft Sale

The Huntington County Homemakers are sponsoring their 22nd annual Holiday Cookie & Candy sale on Saturday, December 6, 2025 at the Huntington County Fairgrounds (Hiers Park) during the Holiday Bazaar.

We are asking all club members to participate in this fundraising project. Each club member is asked to bring 4 to 5 dozen cookies and/or candy for this sale. We ask that cookies be homemade and of the festive/holiday varieties. For those who are unable to bake, we are asking for a donation of \$18 (the equivalent to what you would have baked). Drop off for cookies and candies will be Friday, December 5 at Evangelical United Methodist Church at 1000 Flaxmill Road beginning at 3:00 p.m.

Additional information about the sale will be available through the club presidents following the November 17th Council Meeting.

Huntington County Extension Homemakers is a not-for-profit group whose purpose is to promote education, leadership development and community service in an effort to nurture families and homes in our community and across the state.

Riley Children's Hospital Christmas Gift Collection

Huntington County Extension Homemakers are once again supporting Riley Children's Hospital for Christmas. Please see page 10 for details of gift items that are needed and appreciated. We will be accepting donations now through December 6th. Thank you in advance for helping with this worthwhile cause.





Supporting Riley Children's Hospital for Christmas

Huntington County Extension Homemakers are collecting a variety of small items for the children at Riley Hospital from October 1 until Saturday December 6, 2025. Items can be brought into the Extension Office to the collection box there or bring them to the set up for our annual cookie sale.

We are collecting the following items:

Crayons and Coloring Books



Playdoh



Matchbox/diecast cars



Baby Dolls
(less than 10 inches tall)



Baby Rattles



Children's Playing Cards—
Old Maid, Go Fish, Crazy Eights, Uno



Action Figures and Pocket Pals
(less than 9 inches tall)



Small Dolls
(Polly Pocket, LOL Dolls, etc.)



Character Band-aids



Thank you for supporting Huntington County Extension Homemakers and Riley Children's Hospital.