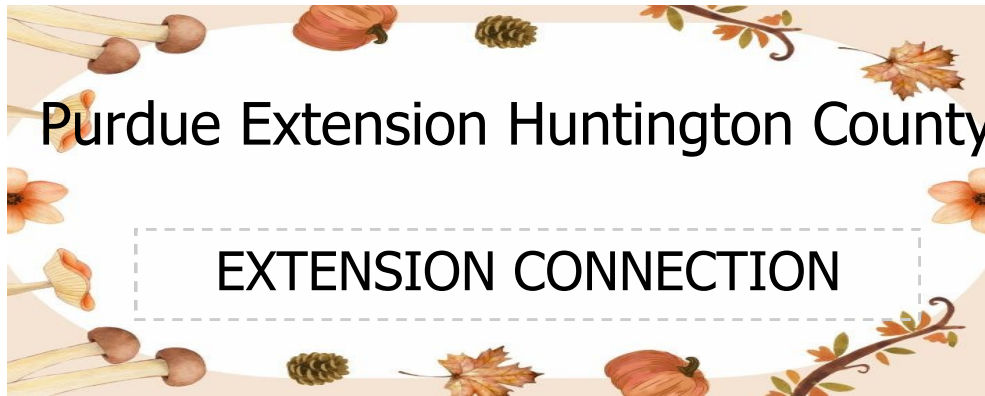




September & October 2025

4-H YOUTH - pgs. 2-5

- * 2025-2026 Enrollment
- * Left Over project list
- * Thank you info
- * Theme & Design Contest
- * Livestock Auction
- * Upcoming events & dates

AGRICULTURE NEWS - pg. 6

HOMEMAKERS NEWS - pgs. 7-8



We are so incredibly thankful for our wonderful volunteers. Merriam—Webster dictionary defines a volunteer as *a person who voluntarily undertakes or expresses a willingness to undertake a service.* Your dedication and willingness to donate your time “To Make the Best Better” does not go unnoticed!!



**The Extension Office will be closed Monday,
September 1st for Labor Day.**



Extension - Huntington County



Ed Zarr

JL Pickett

Last date for submission of information for the
November & December 2025 newsletter is October 24, 2025

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



2026 4-H Enrollment Time Frame

It is almost 4-H Enrollment Time! Mark your calendars for
October 1, 2025 - January 15, 2026.

Enrollment will be available through your 4honline account.
PLEASE use the same profile you signed up with in 2024/2025.

Even for Mini! **DO NOT** create a new one. Please pay attention to your years in 4-H.

***Payment (for grades 3 - 12) is due by January 25, 2026. You are NOT a 4-H member until you have paid the State Program Fee. Paying on line with a valid credit/debit card is the quickest and easiest way to become active. Otherwise, cash or check payments are due in the office by January 25, 2026. We are unable to take card payments over the phone.**



State 4-H Project Info

If you are looking ahead to possible projects to enroll in next year, check out the 4-H website for project info: <https://extension.purdue.edu/county/huntington/index.html>

Updates/changes for the 2026 4-H project requirements will not be listed until mid November, but you could review information prior to the release of the 2026 Huntington County 4-H Fair book.



4-H Projects, awards and other items still in the Extension Office . .

The Extension Office still has projects, awards and other items of 4-H members not picked up from the County & State Fairs. We would appreciate your efforts to get these items picked up as soon as possible. Items still in the office after **October 31st** will be disposed of in an appropriate manner.

Shooting Sports Awards

MaKayla Fulton
Zander Goss
Porter Kaufman
Reid Kitt
Elijah Nunley
Paxton Sands
Noah Wust

Mini 4-H

Wyatt Caley
Josie Goss
Ryker Goss
Lucy Thompson

10 year Member award

Katelyn Bryant

County Fair Items

Isabella Arellano
Ryder Hacker
Kyler Hacker
Alexis Haeft

State Fair Items/Envelopes

Rheas Beard
Caeden Crider
Laurel & Samson Dinius
Reece Goeglein
Oliver Hasser
Kinlee Kennedy
Kendall Lauer
Marleigh LaVine
Nora McDaniel
Izabella Miller
Jackson Mowan
Clara Reckelhoff
Charleigh Ruppert
Clayton Stout
Callie & Leighton Walker



- Hopefully every 4-H member has taken the time to thank those individuals who have provided their time, dedication, financial support, and energy to making the Huntington County 4-H program a success!
- **4-Hers – It's not too late to say "Thank You"** to those who believe in your life skill development that comes through 4-H. **It's so important to send your thank you notes** to award sponsors, auction buyers, 4-H leaders, and others who believe in 4-H and **you** as a 4-H member! If you need a mailing address contact the office.
- Without your efforts as a member to share your "Thanks" to our donors and supporters, we lose financial support. Please don't let that happen!

The following are addresses of additional 4-H Fair sponsors:

Clean-Up Day T-Shirts

First Farmers Bank & Trust
Mark Wolf
PO Box 188
Huntington IN 46750



IF YOU HAVE NOT
PICKED UP YOUR
SHIRT PLEASE
DO SO AT YOUR
EARLIEST
CONVENIENCE!



4-H CHAMPION T-Shirts

Bippus State Bank
Ryan Warner, President
PO Box 1148
Huntington IN 46750

Bowers Brewer Garrett & Wiley
Joe Wiley
310 Warren Street
Huntington IN 46750

Parkview Huntington Hospital
Sonya Foraker
2001 Stults Road
Huntington IN 46750

Trophy Center Plus
Joe Santa
44 Washington Street
Huntington IN 46750

Stock-the-Trailer



The Junior Leaders were able to raise over 1640 pounds of food during the fair that was donated to United With Love of Huntington.

Thank you to everyone who donated and supported the Junior Leaders!

**Attention 4-H Members....****Enter the Huntington County 4-H THEME -DESIGN Contest**

Entries must be submitted in person, US Mail or email to the County Extension Office by
Friday, October 3, 2025 by 4 pm

Contest Rules:

- ◇ Open to any Huntington County 4-H Member. Previous winners are eligible to enter again.
- ◇ Members are eligible to submit more than one entry.
- ◇ **Entries must be submitted digitally or with ink. Must contain 4-H and/or the official clover (the office can email to you). Clip art or free hand is recommended. Logo's from the internet are not suggested. Remember the logo will often be printed in a small area. Please make your design simple as to fit.**
- ◇ The winning entry in the 4-H Theme/Design contest will be used on 4-H promotional materials during the 2026 4-H Year. (*4-H Fairbook, Mini 4-H recruitment materials, etc.*)

Office Address: 1340 S Jefferson, Huntington IN 46750.

Email: ebrundig@purdue.edu

- ◇ Prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place entries.
- ◇ The 4-H club of the 1st place winner will also receive a \$40 gift certificate for a pizza party.

The following information must be submitted with each entry form for the 4-H Theme/Design contests:

Name ☒ Grade ☒ Address ☒ Club ☒ Email ☒ Phone ☒

4-H Auction Appraisal Checks . . . If you have not yet cashed your appraisal check (market value) of your animal sold in the 4-H Fair Auction, do so immediately. Our banks must finalize these accounts as soon as possible: Beef, Goat, Rabbit, Sheep & Swine (*Huntington Co 4-H Fair Auction Account*)

As for premium value checks, it is the 4-H members' responsibility to contact the buyer of your auction animal to secure that money. **DO NOT** assume the business, organization or individual will automatically mail the premium money to you. Your personal "thank you" *in addition to a written note* is very important to the continuing support of many buyers and donors to our 4-H program.



The Huntington County 4-H Shooting Sports project continues to grow in numbers. If you are interested and have some extra time to commit to teaching our youth safe shooting sports practices, please consider becoming a volunteer leader for our archery, rifle, pistol or shotgun classes. For more information on the requirements and time commitment contact Shooting Sports Coordinator Steve Hull @ 260.519.3707 (leave message) or the Extension Office @ 260.358.4826



2025-26 Career Development Events for more information call the Extension Office!

- ◇ **Milk Quality and Products**
- ◇ **Meat Evaluation**
- ◇ **Livestock Skill-a-thon**
- ◇ **Horticulture**
- ◇ **Soil Evaluation**
- ◇ **Crops, Entomology, Forestry**
- ◇ **Livestock**
- ◇ **Dairy**

The 2026 Huntington County 4-H Fair dates will be decided at the 4-H Fair Board meeting on September 16th. A post will be made on the Huntington County 4-H Facebook page announcing the dates.



2026 Indiana State Fair
August 7 - 23, 2026



2025 4-H TEEN LEADERSHIP WEEKEND



COME JOIN THE FUN & GET
NEW IDEAS

4-H Members in grades 6-12 and adult volunteers are encouraged to attend this program. There will be speakers, lots of great ideas on how to improve your 4-H Clubs and your leadership skills. 4-H Achievement Scholarship winners will be recognized. 4-H Volunteers will also be recognized for their years of service. This is a great opportunity for both youth and adults! If you are interested in this event, please contact the Extension Office at 260-358-4826 for more information.

PURDUE EXTENSION

Upcoming 4-H & Extension Meetings

September

- 2 Rule Changes are due to the Extension Office
- 8 4-H Leaders, 7 pm, Beacon Credit Union Heritage Hall
- 11 4-H Jr. Leaders, 7 pm, First Federal Community Building
- 16 4-H Fair Board Annual Meeting, 7 pm, Beacon Credit Union Heritage Hall
- 22 Extension Board, 7pm, Annex

October

- 1 4honline opens for 2025-2026 Enrollment
- 4 **Theme contest entries are due!**
- 9 4-H Jr. Leaders, 7 pm, First Federal Community Building
- 13 4-H Leaders Meeting, 7 p.m. Annex



2025 4-H Project Rule Changes

All 4-H project proposals &/or rule changes must be submitted to the Huntington County Extension office by
September 2, 2025

Rule changes must be submitted through the 4-H Leader Organization, 4-H Fair Board or animal specie groups. These groups will be meeting in September and October to discuss possible rule changes. Final decision of proposals will be determined by the 4-H Rules Committee. This process is detailed in the 4-H Fair book, page 9. rule # 17.



Purdue Extension Offers Virtual Workshop on Flexible Leases for Farmland

Landowners and farmers can learn more about flexible leases for farmland by participating in a Purdue University Extension virtual workshop. The workshop will include a presentation and discussion to help you decide if a flexible land lease arrangement is right for your farm. This program will help you get answers to questions such as:

- How does a flex lease compare with a share and cash lease?
- What are the risks and rewards?
- What do you need to include in a flex lease?
- What tools and resources are available to help make the decision?

This workshop will be offered two times to allow participants to pick the best time. The first offering will be Tuesday, 9/16 at 7 pm. The workshop will be repeated on Tuesday, 9/23 at 9 am. The registration fee for this workshop is \$25. Individuals wanting to participate in this virtual workshop can sign up at <https://cvent.me/xeaWL3>. The Purdue Land Lease Team will send an e-mail with the Zoom link to connect from your home computer, tablet or smartphone.

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. If you are in need of accommodations or an interpreter/translator to attend this program, please contact Bill Horan prior to the meeting at 260-824-6412 and horan@purdue.edu by September 12, 2025.

2025 Farmland Values and Cash Rents Survey Report Available

Indiana farmland prices have continued the trend of record highs in 2025, according to the latest Purdue Farmland Value and Cash Rents Survey results. The survey is conducted out of the Purdue University Department of Agricultural Economics and produced through the cooperation of numerous professionals knowledgeable about Indiana's farmland market. These professionals provide an estimate of the market value for bare poor-, average- and top-quality farmland in December 2024, June 2025 and a forecast for December 2025.

Statewide, the average price of average quality farmland reached \$12,254 per acre, a 5.4% increase from June 2024. Average quality farmland cash rent also increased slightly from June 2024 from \$260 to \$264 per acre. Respondents generally expect prices to hold relatively stable for the remainder of the year. Traditional farmland price drivers suggest a mix of downward and upward pressure. Respondents remain concerned about interest expenses and crop prices but expect continued upward pressure from commercial and industrial development.

A full report of this survey report is available on the Center for Commercial Ag website:

<https://ag.purdue.edu/commercialag/home/farmland-values/>





Rita's Ramblings

Welcome to the new 2025-2026 Extension Homemakers year. We need to look forward to doing some great things together. Let's look at what talents and skills each of our members can bring to this organization. We know some of you have hidden talents and we would like to see what they are. I'm sure we can find somewhere to use those talents.

Now, I need to say "thank you" to members who have used their talents. I would like to say thank you to Carla Rice and the Open Class Exhibits Committee for all their HOT work at the fair. Our display looked wonderful and we received many compliments. Also, I would like to thank the Public Relations Committee for making the recipe cards that we handed out at the fair. People seemed to enjoy getting them.

Hope to see all of you at the Fall Lessons on September 8th. I also would like to visit each of your clubs this year. So, just let me know when. Let's make this a great Extension Homemakers year!!

Leadership/Public Relations Committee

This year the committee decided to give out recipe cards to ladies at the fair. We picked a few recipes from past year's champions, then gave them to the office secretary, Anita Pape, and she did a beautiful job of printing them for us. The ladies seemed to enjoy getting them. If we do this again next year, I'll make sure it is a little more organized. We also handed out recipe cards at the "By the Book" Bible Trailer two nights. This committee made a display at the Huntington City Township Public Library of some of our Open Class Best of Show projects. We only have a small glass bookcase, so we can't take all the winners. We added some information about Extension Homemakers to the display. The Best of Show display runs until August 29th.

Council Meeting

The first Council Meeting of the new year will be held on Monday, September 15, 2025 in the Extension Office Conference Room, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Please have someone from your club in attendance.

I would like for you to bring the information booklet that I gave you last year, so we can update it. I would also like for each club and officer to bring a package of underwear; men's or women's, any size; school age through adult. Back in June, we handed out general information on the state project but at this meeting we will be giving detailed information. See you on Monday, September 15th!

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





Open Class

I was so excited to see all of the great entries as they came into the fair for the Open Class Exhibit area. We have so many talented people in the Home Extension Clubs and also in Huntington County!

Thanks to all the committee members for their help with set-up, arranging the displays, judging and tear down. Thanks to all who took turns monitoring the building during fair. Thanks to the Static Project Committee, JP Pietrowski and Fair Board for the expanded area to display all the exhibits.

I can't wait to see all the talent and exhibits that you enter next year!

Carla Rice

Open Class Exhibits Chairman



Homemakers Fall District Meeting

The IEHA Fort Wayne Fall District Meeting will be held on Monday, October 6, 2025 at the Whitley County 4-H Center, 680 W. Squawbuck Road, Columbia City. Whitley County Homemakers will serve as the host county with all members of the district invited to attend. The theme for the day is "Fall Colors are Popping." Registration begins at 9:15 a.m. with the district meeting beginning at 10:00 a.m. The program, entitled "Matriarch" will be presented by Derek Laliberte. Lunch of roasted pork loin, broasted potatoes, green beans, apple salad and dessert will be offered. The cost for the day is \$15.00 and reservations should be sent to Stephanie Jerabek, 4944 N. Rangeline Road, Huntington, IN 46750, by September 15.

IEHA State President, Cathy Wilkymacky, along with President Elect, Michelle Roberts, will speak to offer updates from the state board and our national organizations. Members are encouraged to bring items for the Silent Auction. IEHA logo items will be available for sale.

Make sure to note these dates on your calendar as we prepare to hear the latest updates from our state organization and come together for this annual meeting.

Stephanie Jerabek

Huntington County Treasurer & Fort Wayne District Representative

County Lesson

The Extension Homemakers County Lesson will be Monday, September 8, 2025, 6:00 p.m., at the Extension Office Conference Room. The first lesson is by Cheryl Kellam, Kellam Travel Business, talking about future trips for the coming year. The second lesson is by Barb Rupley, Director of the County Historical Museum, talking about preserving your heritage.

Reservations are due to Stephanie Jerabek by September 1st, or as soon as possible. There will be a \$5.00 fee. Hope to see you there.

Joan Scher

Chairman, Education Committee



Fall Crop

The Paper Artisans Crop will be on October 4, 2025. We invite you to come join us for a fun day of crafts, food and fun. You may do any craft you want to work on for the day. The cost is \$25 which includes lunch and demos on paper crafting. It will be held at Huntington Church of the Nazarene on Flaxmill Road. You are welcome to join us. Reservation forms will be available at the Extension Office or email Jennifer Minick at jenminick@aol.com.

Jennifer Minick

President, Paper Artisans