

LaPorte County 4-H Thursday Tidbit



Educator Notes



We had a great time at our first robotics spark club meet-up!

It's already the middle of February, and the 4-H calendar is filling up with exciting opportunities from the educators and our amazing project leaders! Please make sure to join us for our workshop offerings and camps, you can find flyers at the end of the tidbit and on our Facebook page.

Even if you're a returning participant in a project, take advantage of workshop opportunities to continue to increase your knowledge and skills. Or, take a chance and try out a brand new project, you may just find something new that will spark your interest this year. If you're a project leader and you aren't sure where to start, reach out to the Extension Office, and we are happy to help!

Welcome to all the new families who are joining us this year, we are so excited to have you! If you need any help navigating things, please don't hesitate to reach out. Thank you to all of our project leaders, volunteers, and 4-H families that continue to help encourage new families to join. We hope to continue this great season of growth as we dive headfirst into new and exciting experience.

"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about." - Margaret J Wheatley

Lauren Allison

Kelsey Guadarrama | 4-H Youth Development Educator | ksajdera@purdue.edu

Lauren Allison | 4-H Youth Development Educator | Inalliso@purdue.edu

Kelly Wozniak | 4-H Administrative Assistant | woznia11@purdue.edu

EDUCATOR PROGRAMMING

Wednesday, February 7th | 6-7:30 PM | Volunteer Series- Financials & Fundraising | Extension Office

4-H Zoo Program

- April 13th 3rd to 5th grade - focus on wildlife
- April 20th 6th to 8th grade - focus on wildlife
- May 11th 9th to 12th grade - focus on vet science
- All Grades Invited to science fair June 15th from 11 AM - 2 PM, 11-Noon we will have supplies for you to add finishing touches to your poster with food. Then 1 PM - 2 PM you will be able to showcase what you have learned.

All days are from 1 to 3 pm at the Washington Park Zoo in Michigan City. Parents if you choose to stay you will have to pay the admissions fee. Parking will be free! Sign up now as space is limited to 20 people per session.

COMING SOON! Junk Bucket Challenge! Stay tuned for details.

Spring Break Program

Kelsey, Lauren, and Chrissie (our HHS Educator) will be collaborating to host several spring break opportunities for kids in grades K-8. All spring break camps will provide learning opportunities in the areas of healthy living/cooking and STEM experiences. You must be enrolled in 4-H to attend. High School students interested in helping can email Kelsey or Lauren for more information.

4th-8th Grade Youth can join us for 3 full days (8:30am-3:30pm) at the LaPorte County Fairgrounds

- March 25th-27th or April 1st-3rd, Cost: \$45
- <https://lpcspringbreak24.4honline.com>

K-3rd Grade Youth can join us for 2 half days (8:30am-Noon) at the LaPorte County Fairgrounds

- March 28th-29th or April 4th-5th, Cost: \$15
- <https://lpcitsybitsyspringbreak24.4honline.com>

RECORD SHEETS

What you need to know:

- There will be a general record sheet for projects in LaPorte County. The office has those printed and ready to pick up or you can print one from our [website](#).
- The record sheet will be turned in at the members' first project check-in and returned in their ribbon packets after the fair exhibition.
- Projects that still need to complete an additional project record sheet/manual or skills sheet can be found in the project handbook which is available on our [website](#) or can be picked up at the Extension Office.

If you need help determining what paperwork you need, do not hesitate to reach out to the Extension Office.

MANUALS UPDATE

While Indiana 4-H and Purdue Extension has made the decision that they will no longer require the use of manuals for 4-H projects and will not carry any manuals in the Ed Store, here in LaPorte County there are a few projects that find the manuals helpful and will continue to use them, check with your project superintendent. If your child prefers to use the manuals you can find them either at the office, (inventory on hand only) or online at shop4-h.org.

4-H VOLUNTEER ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you are meeting and you are not enrolled you are not covered under our insurance and you are not in compliance with the our 4-H Policies. We appreciate you wanting to volunteer but until you enroll you cannot host club meetings, vote, or actively participate in activities.

Project Superintendents:

Want to host a workshop... Here is how! Call the office for a roster of the 4-H youth enrolled in your project. You could also take advantage of our upcoming WORKSHOP-A-THON that is set for April 27th! Look for an email next week about this exciting event.

Please remember to ask the kids for their punch cards and that the office needs a copy of your sign-in sheets.

Committees: We need the minutes with those that attended listed within 2 weeks, sign in sheets are good but we need minutes anyway so we will save a step if you just send minutes.

Club Leaders: If you are interested in picking up the new Project Handbook for the members (one per family) of your club, call the office and we can have them ready for you.

STATE OPPORTUNITIES

[Ag Equipment Diagnostics](#)

[4-H Consumer Decision Making](#)

[Kitchen Skillathon](#)

MISC. NEWS

In addition to the poster sleeves, the office will begin to carry the foamboard backing for a nominal fee. The 4-H Staff will NOT be replacing your backing this year, if your backing does not meet the requirements, it will get a white or green ribbon.

4-H Punch Cards - As an incentive program to encourage participation in all of the amazing workshops being offered by our volunteers and extension educators, all 4-H youth in grades 3rd-12th can pick up a 4-H punch card from the educators or from workshop hosts. Any 4-H youth who participate in 9 workshops + 1 club meeting can turn their completed cards in for a prize. If you are not associated with a club, reach out to 4-H Staff and we can help you!

4-H CAMP COUNSELORS

Calling all 4-H Camp Counselors! We are accepting applications. They are open now until March 1st, apply now! Camp is June 3rd to the 6th. We understand and recognize that it overlaps with LaPorte's last days of school but we will be as flexible as possible. <https://24quadcountycamp.4honline.com>

BOAH UPDATES

With our 4-H year underway, the Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) and Indiana 4-H want to remind county staff and volunteers about best practices for livestock and poultry exhibitions. We all want successful fairs with healthy animals, healthy participants, and healthy visitors. Accomplishing that means being mindful of disease prevention throughout the season leading up to fair time. For updates visit their website: <https://www.in.gov/boah/>.

CLOVER CROP

The 4-H Booster and Alumni Association is hosting their 15th Annual Clover Crop on Saturday, March 2, 2024 from 9:00am- 6:00pm at the LaPorte County Fairgrounds. Enjoy scrapbooking or your other favorite craft activity. There will be goodie bags, a silent auction, contests & prizes, vendors, and food. Cost is a \$30 donation (\$25 for students). Details can be found at <https://sites.google.com/view/clover-crop/registration-form>. Deadline to register is February 22nd.

LIVESTOCK UPDATES

Indiana 4-H Livestock Quality Care Dates have been set! Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care OR YQCA needs to be done by June 14th! Sign up in 4-H Online for Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care.

- February 22nd: 6 PM at the LaPorte County Extension Office
- March 28th: 1 PM at the LaPorte County Extension Office
- March 29th: 9 AM at the LaPorte County Extension Office
- April 4th: 1 PM at the LaPorte County Extension Office
- April 5th: 9 AM at the LaPorte County Extension Office
- April 18th: 6 PM at the LaPorte County Extension Office
- April 27th multiple times during the Workshop-a-thon
- May 13th: 6 PM LaPorte County Extension Office

Friday, February 23rd (2024) | Appointment Only | Beef Tagging | Fairgrounds

Saturday, February 24th (2024) | 9 AM - Noon | Beef Tagging | Fairgrounds

Rabbit Ambassador workshop has been rescheduled to February 24th from 10 AM - 2 PM in the Small Projects Building. Sign up on 4-H Online.

MINI 4-H CORNER

MINI 4-H MONDAYS

We had a blast at our first Mini Monday with a full class! we have a waiting list for February. If at any point you need to cancel please let the office staff know, we have 6 kids waiting for a spot. We are excited to see you! Bring your best coloring skills!



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: SEWING

Learn basic skills for sewing. Begin putting together the equipment needed for doing easy home sewing and repair work. Exhibit one of the following:

- A sewing kit using an old shoe box covered in fabric or paper.
- A pin cushion, your finished project should be no bigger than 4"x5".
- A hand puppet and "dress" your puppet however you like.
- An apron.

MINI 4-H ACTIVITIES

This year all mini 4-Hers will be required to enter into Fair Entry. Do not panic it is not time to do this yet, I just want to make sure that everyone has plenty of notice. There is not a max number of kids except for some of the livestock. Once Fair Entry opens, we will make sure everyone gets registered.



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

LAPORTE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY & THE EXCHANGE

The LPCPL Exchange is full of opportunities that can help 4-H youth develop skills they can use on their fair projects this year. The library branches also have some great programming fun that you might be interested in. Check out upcoming events at their website:

<https://laporte.librarycalendar.com/events/upcoming>

Make It! Turn a Mechanical Pencil on the Lathe-TEEN Edition

EX-Classroom, LPCPL Exchange

Saturday, March 23 2:00-4:00pm (Register here: <https://www.laportelibrary.org/event/make-it-turn-mechanical-pencil-lathe-teen-edition-8354>)

Make your own mechanical pencil and leave your mark while learning to use the lathe! Come learn the basics of operating a woodworking lathe and what you can do with it! Lathes can create a variety of unique objects of out wood. The pencil you'll make is only the beginning of the possibilities.

Curious Kids Innovation Camp

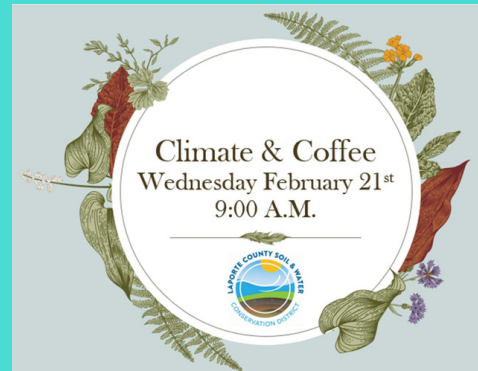
Library Exchange Classroom

March 28th 1:00pm-4:00pm (Register here: <https://www.laportelibrary.org/event/curious-kids-innovation-camp-7613>)

*** OR ***

April 4th 1:00pm-4:00pm (Register here: <https://www.laportelibrary.org/event/curious-kids-innovation-camp-7614>)

Some of the most important inventions were made by people who were curious, challenged rules, had wild ideas, and worked together. Get ready for silly challenges that will stretch your imagination. Purdue University Youth Development Extension Educator, Lauren Allison, will help lead us through activities from the Henry Ford Foundation Invention Convention program.



LAPORTE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

Breakfast with a Forester | Arrow Head Country RC&D Forestry Committee would like to invite you to an informal breakfast with friends to discuss issues you may be having in your woodland areas. Foresters, including IDNR, Purdue, Consulting, and Industry Foresters, depending on the month, will be available for conversation and questions. Everyone is welcome - no reservations needed, just walk in sometime during that 1.5 hours and join us. No charge other than paying for whatever breakfast you order. Find more information on their [Facebook Page](#).

LAPORTE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

March 9th

To celebrate the Kingsford Heights Exhibit, all Kingsford Heights residents have free admission to the Museum!

LAPORTE COUNTY FAIR

Fair Dates: July 6th - 13th

The first weekend will not have a carnival but will focus on 4-H and the exhibits we have.

Follow [Laporte County Fair on Facebook](#) for more events and updates!

★ **AMERICAN HERITAGE PROJECT** ★
WORKSHOP



**LOCATION: LAPORTE COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM**

TIME: 9:30AM-10:30AM

**2405 INDIANA AVE, SUITE 1
LAPORTE, IN 46350**

**FEBRUARY
17
SATURDAY**

**Take a tour of the museum with
Museum Director and American
Heritage project superintendent
Danielle Adams. See some of the
items that have been restored for
museum exhibition and talk with
Danielle about possible ideas for
your 4-H Project.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT:
LAUREN ALLISON
LNALLISO@PURDUE.EDU**

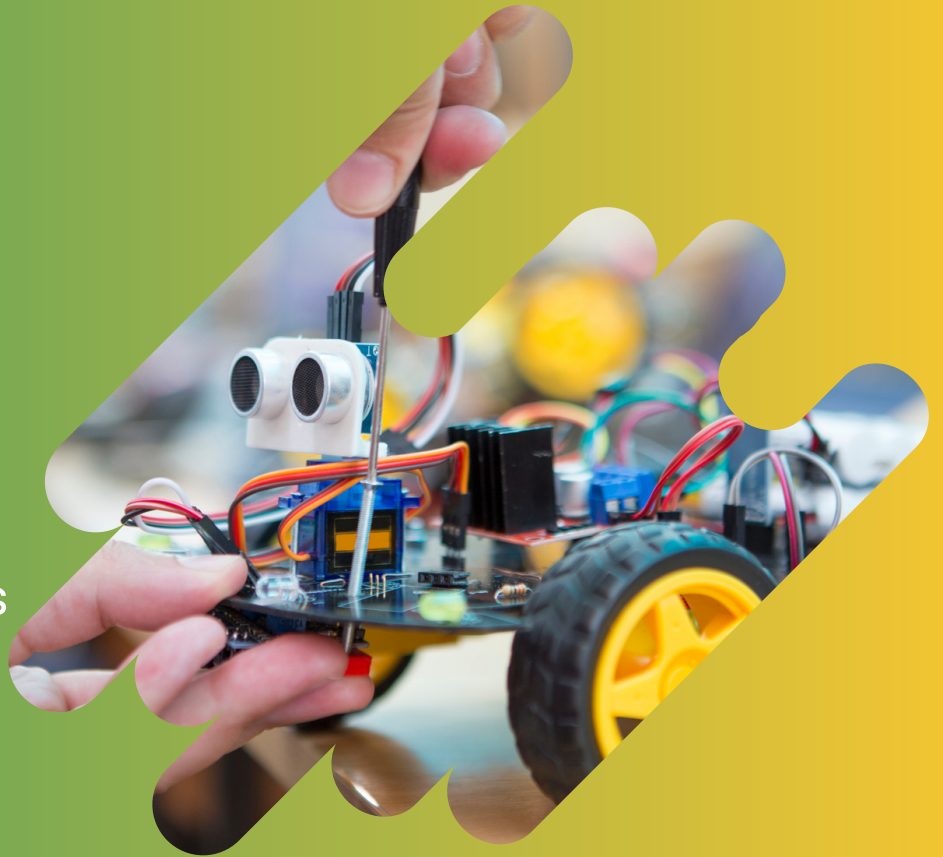
ROBOTICS SPARK CLUB

Upcoming Meetings

Tues Feb. 20

Mon Mar. 25

Tues Apr. 2



Available to all 3rd-12th graders
Meet @ the Exchange classroom
from 6:30PM - 7:30PM

For any questions, please contact the Extension Office at 219.324.9407

Bike Workshop

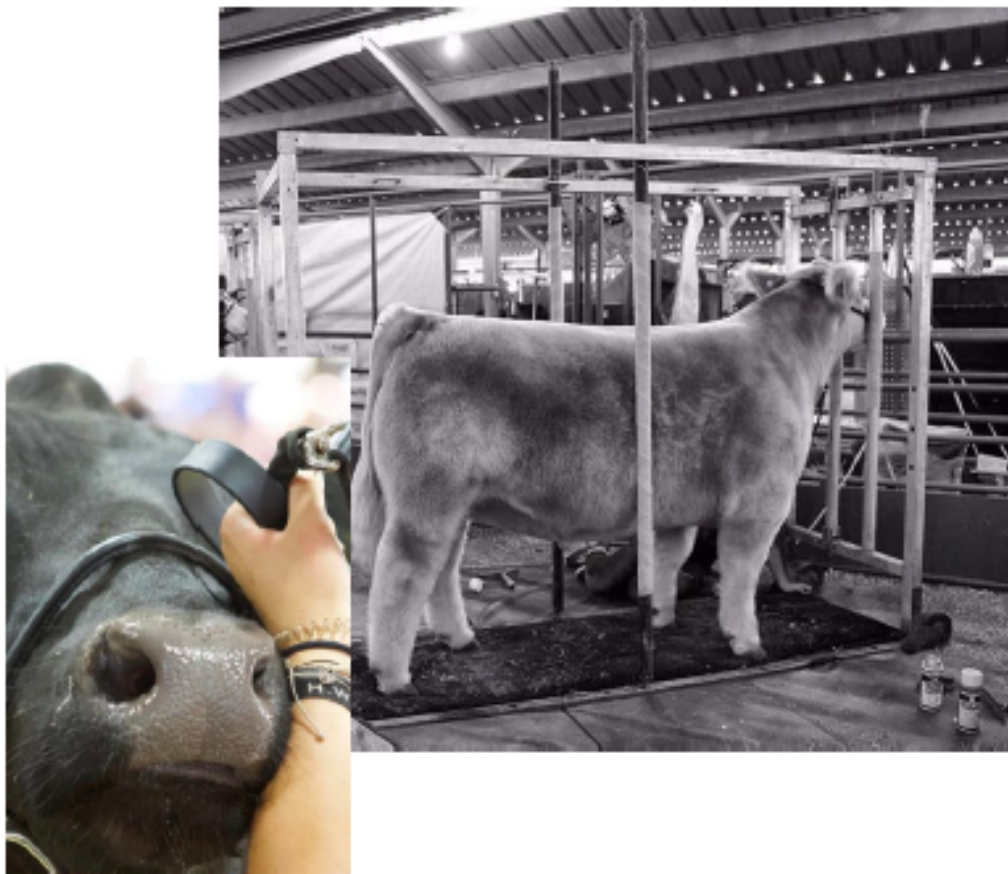
COMMUNITY BUILDING @ 6PM

FEBRUARY 20, 2024

FIRST BIKE WORKSHOP 2024!

COME TO LEARN
ABOUT PROJECT
REQUIREMENTS AND
HELPFUL INSTRUCTIONS
ON HOW TO PREPARE
YOUR BIKE FOR THE
NEW SEASON!





SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH AT 1PM
4-H BEEF
WORKSHOP

**Hosted by the Porter County 4-H Beef Project
& Richey Show Steers**

Join us for a hands-on workshop focused on helping 4-Hers learn about feeding and nutrition options as well as daily hair care to prepare for the upcoming show season.

- SULLIVAN SUPPLY trailer will be onsite with grooming supplies and equipment available for all species
- Prizes and giveaways

**4-H'ers from any county are welcome to
attend this free workshop!**

****the SULLIVAN SUPPLY Trailer will be on site from 10AM-3PM this day. Anyone with any species is welcome to shop at the trailer during this time. Equipment can be ordered ahead of time for pickup this day as well****

Key Speakers:
Wess Richey
Shane Richey

Topics include
Feeding, Nutrition,
& Daily Hair Care

Sullivan Supply
trailer will be
onsite

Complementary
food and
beverages will be
provided!

LOCATION:
MORGAN TOWNSHIP
SCHOOL - AG BUILDING
299 East St Rd 49
Valparaiso, IN 46383

DATE:
Sunday, February 25th
Starting at 1PM

Wearable Art Workshop

Tuesday February 27 from

6PM - 7PM



@ the Extension Office

Purdue University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action institution.

**Bring fabric/clothing item
or purchase an item with
us for \$2**

Indiana 4-H STEM Showcase

March 9
Indiana State Museum

Indiana 4-H Robotics Competition



Robotics teams and clubs can compete in the spring Indiana 4-H Robotics Competition using any brand of robot. Review the new challenges on the [Indiana 4-H Robotics page](#). Contact your county 4-H Extension Educator about volunteering to lead a team or joining a team.

Register teams via [4-H Online](#).

Do You Want To Learn More About 4-H STEM Programs?

Even if they are not competing, 4-H members can bring their families and friends to the Indiana State Museum for the STEM Showcase to celebrate and explore 4-H STEM programs. Check out the Invention Convention and Indiana 4-H Robotics competitions in the Great Hall and learn how to get involved with these programs. Engage in hands-on STEM activities. Explore the Indiana State Museum galleries and exhibits, including the Towers of Tomorrow LEGO® Bricks exhibit.

Register 4-H members via [4-H Online](#).

4-H Members will have free entry.

Friends/Family \$7

Indiana 4-H Invention Convention Competition

Invention Convention is a global K-12 invention education program that activates STEM + Invention + Entrepreneurship (STEMIE) learning to instill problem identification, problem-solving, and creativity skills for life. Student inventors can present their inventions to a panel of expert judges and engage with other student inventors at the first Indiana 4-H Invention Convention State Competition. Exceptional projects may be eligible for awards and advancement to the RTX Invention Convention U.S. Nationals at The Henry Ford in Dearborn, Michigan. Learn more about this program on the [Indiana 4-H Invention Convention page](#).

Register inventors via [4-H Online](#).



INDIANA 4-H
iNVENTION
CONVENTION



AG WOMEN 2024

ENGAGE CONFERENCE

YOUNG LADIES IN AG FORUM

February 21, 2024

Open to Young Ladies Grades 8-12 & College

Grand Wayne Convention Center
Fort Wayne, IN



PURDUE UNIVERSITY Extension
Women in Agriculture

Purdue University is an equal opportunity/equal access institution.

Register Now!

February 21, 2024

12:30– 8:00 PM EST

2024 Young Ladies in Ag Forum
Grand Wayne Convention Center

Fort Wayne, Indiana

Open to all Young Ladies

Grades 8-12 & College!

Register Now:

purdue.link/YLAF2024REG

Cost : \$25 per person

Dinner Included

Sessions Include

Interviewing Skills

Jobs in Agriculture

Business Professional Dress/
Meeting Etiquette and Attire

Exploring Your Next Steps:
University Panel

Exploring Your Non-Traditional
Next Steps : Trade Schools/
Apprenticeships Panel

Indiana State FFA Officer

Entrepreneurship Keynote:

Dirt Darlin' Emily Stewart



4-H Advisory Council Booster 15th Clover Crop



Saturday, March 2, 2024

9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Join the fun and help raise money for the Booster and Alumni to support La Porte County 4-H. We look forward to seeing everyone so get registered now to secure your spot. Come and help us celebrate our 15th year!

- 9 hours of scrapbooking or your favorite craft
- Treasure table (Donate unwanted items and find treasures you need!)
- Goodie Bags
- Silent Auction
- Contests and Prizes
- Vendors
- Food!!

Last year's vendors: Norwex, Sheryl Elliott; Thirty-One gifts, Kim Johnson; Creative Memories, Angie Rose; Scenty, Amanda Wallace; Heart in Hands Creations, Kathy Allen; Stampin's a Hoot, Peggy Good; MClose to my Heart, Kathy Anderson; Color Street Nails, Theresa Lile; and Mary Kay, Jenn Oberly.

Cost: \$30 donation

Please mail to Ruth Lile 10501 S. 825 E. Walkerton, IN 46574

Follow the event on Facebook at "15th Annual 4-H Clover Crop" or on Google <https://sites.google.com/view/clover-crop/home> for updates.

Contact: Ruth Lile (574) 910-0107 (leave a message if no answer) or e-mail angrlile@gmail.com or lile.fam@gmail.com

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State 4-H Poultry Workshop

Saturday, February 17th, 2024

10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Community Building

Bartholomew County 4-H Fairgrounds, Columbus, Indiana

Location: 750 S 200 West Columbus, IN

On Hwy 11 South, about 3 miles from Exit #68, I-65

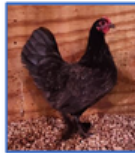
Go to www.bartholomewcountyfair.com for directions.



Food and Drinks available for purchase throughout the workshop
Exhibition type birds and standard-bred chicks will be available for purchase.



Check-in begins at 9:30, please use the link below to register. For questions or more information contact: Matt John – 812.603.7722 or mjohn2@ivytech.edu



Workshop Topics

Exhibiting Poultry from a Judges Perspective

*Hands on experience for 4-H members – **Do not bring your own poultry**

Nutrition and Feeding for Exhibition Poultry

Protecting Your Poultry

Parent/Leader/Superintendent Round table discussion

Use the link below to register by Feb. 16th. Registration is required and will help our club plan for food.

https://2024state4-hpoultryworkshop.4honline.com/#/public/ins_o/evt_1gw

INDIANA 4-H NEEDS YOU TO BE A



What is an Indiana 4-H Broadband Influencer?

- 1 Checks your internet speed
pcrd.purdue.edu/speedtest
- 2 Validates it on the FCC website
broadbandmap.fcc.gov
- 3 Share what they've done with others
- 4 Reports work in the Broadband Influencers event in 4-H Online



Once you have completed all 4, you will receive your Broadband Influencer Pin and be eligible to win an iPad!



Why should I be an Indiana 4-H Broadband Influencer?

There are a lot of different ways to connect to the internet. Some of them are *very* fast, and some of them are *very* slow. We would like everyone in the state of Indiana to be able to use the internet at fast speeds. While it might help you play games and watch videos more easily, it also can help people who are looking for jobs or trying to communicate, do business, or do schoolwork.

The FCC, or Federal Communication Commission, can't help everyone get fast internet unless they know all the places the internet is installed and how fast it is in each location.

I have more questions!



For more information contact your county extension 4-H educator OR email: state4hleader@purdue.edu



Indiana 4-H Broadband Influencers will be asked to write a short essay about their experience. The Broadband Influencer Program is a Purdue Broadband Team initiative.



Getting Chicks for the First Time? Don't Know How to Start?

Discussion Topics

- How to get started with chickens successfully
- How to pick out chicks for the store and online
- Best suited chickens for your family's needs
- Proper housing & space

**IT'S CHICK
DAYS!**



Time: 7-8pm EST

Date: March 13th

Virtual: <https://bit.ly/49tjHqX>

If you have questions please contact JP Pietrowski
at jpietrow@purdue.edu or call 260-358-4826

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P PURDUE
UNIVERSITY Extension



Poultry Event

with Dr. Nancy Jefferson

Raising Backyard Poultry

You don't want to miss this opportunity to learn from Dr. Nancy Jefferson! An expert on health and nutrition, she is happy to share her vast knowledge and answer your questions on layers, meat birds, turkeys, geese, ducks, gamebirds & more.

Special Gift to first 40 to register!
Discount coupons for attendees
Giveaways & Refreshments

Each household to register by March 9th will receive one FREE 10 lb bag of Poultry Feed. Limit 1 per family. RSVP to: Patti Nichols 219-306-7845 or Crown Feed: 219-663-0139

Hosted by: 
Lake County 4-H Poultry Program
Crown Feed & Supply



Saturday March 16th, 2024

1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

4-H Building
Lake County Fairgrounds
889 S. Court Street
Crown Point, IN 46307

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

**AREA 9
LIVESTOCK
JUDGING
INVITATIONAL
APRIL 11TH
TIPPECANOE COUNTY
FAIRGROUNDS**

**REGISTRATION
9:00AM-10:00AM EST
CONTEST START TIME
10:00 AM EST**

**Register by
March 28th using
the QR Code below!
Registration fee of
\$15/ participant.**



***P*
PURDUE
UNIVERSITY®**

Extension - Indiana 4-H

**Want more
information?
Contact Ashlee Davis
davi1730@purdue.edu**

AREA X 4-H/FFA LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST

General Information

Date:

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Where:

St. Joseph County Fairgrounds

5117 S Ironwood Dr

South Bend, IN 46614

Registration begins at 9 am EST with contest beginning at 9:30 am EST.

Registration Information:

Cost: \$15 per contestant

Entry Deadline: April 2, 2024

Register by scanning the QR code with your phone's camera below:



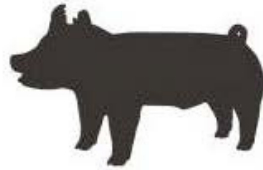
Registration Fee DOUBLES after April 2nd.

Reminders and Questions

- Registration will begin at 9 am EST/ 8 am CST.
- Checks made payable to Area X 4-H Fund.
 - Dress accordingly for weather.
 - Lunch is NOT provided.
- 3 Sets of Reasonings and Questions
- 7 Classes of Livestock to Evaluate

Junior Pork Day

Saturday, March 2, 2024



Program Agenda

- 8:30 – 9:00 Registration – Fee \$5.00 – Land O’ Lakes, Inc. Center Lobby (New Animal Sciences Meats Lab), Purdue University, 720 Clinic Drive (off Harrison St.), West Lafayette, IN 47907
- 9:00 Welcome – Dr. Paul Ebner, Animal Sciences Interim Dept. Head – Purina Pavilion
- 9:15
- | <u>Group 1</u> | <u>Group 2</u> | <u>Group 3</u> |
|---|---|---|
| Live Animal Evaluation
How to judge prospect pigs,
market hogs and breeding gilts | Carcass Evaluation
Evaluating pork cuts &
carcasses | Hands On Activities
Where’s Waldo? -- Tracking
your pig and Biosecurity risks |
| Evaluate 3 classes of swine | Evaluate 3 meats classes | Enrichment – It’s more than
just toys |
- 10:15 Groups Rotate
- 11:15 Groups Rotate
- 12:15 Lunch –Brats, chips, fruit, ice cream – Purina Pavilion
- 1:00 Afternoon Rotations (*35 minute sessions – 5 min to walk*) –
- Group 1 – BBQ across America
- Group 2 – Pork Family Feud
- Group 3 – Preparing for Show Day and Swine Showmanship
- 1:40 Groups Rotate
- 2:20 Groups Rotate
- 3:00 Announcements and Door Prizes – followed by awards – Purina Pavilion

NO PRE- REGISTERING REQUIRIED!!!!

This program is being supported by the Crossbred Classic, Indiana Swine Breed Associations, Indiana Pork Producers Assoc. and the Purdue University Animal Sciences and 4-H Departments. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Dr. Brian Richert – Extension Swine Specialist at 765-494-4837, brichert@purdue.edu.