

OCTOBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

Address:

525 W Beech Street
Osgood, IN 47037

Phone:

812-689-6511

Hours:

Monday - Friday
8:00am-4:00pm

Website:

extension.purdue.edu/ripley

Facebook:

Purdue Extension - Ripley County
&
Ripley County 4H Fair

Instagram:

@ripleycountypurdueextension



4-H Enrollment Open Now!

Join us for another fun-filled year of 4-H!

**Enrollment Opens on 4-H Online
October 1st!**

4-H Online Web address: v2.4honline.com

For more information or the enrollment help guide contact

Purdue Extension Ripley County:

812-689-6511

525 W Beech St. Osgood, IN 47037

website: www.extension.purdue.edu/county/ripley/4h-ripley-county.html



Ripley County Staff

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ricken@purdue.edu

Calendar of Events



OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
-	-	-	1	2	3	4
5 2:00 Shooting Sports Meeting 5:00 4-H Pioneers Mtg	6 7:00 Country Bees Meeting GO GREEN DAY!	7 6:30 Ripley Wranglers Meeting	8	9	10	11
----- NATIONAL 4-H WEEK -----						
12 4:00 Pierceville Haypals Mtg 5:00 Napoleon Country Club Mtg	13 OFFICE CLOSED 7:00 Faithful Workers Meeting 7:00 Morris Shamrocks Mtg	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 7:00 Hopewell Cloverbees Mtg	21	22	23	24	25
26 1:00 Dream Seekers Mtg	27 7:30 4-H Board Meeting	28	29	30	31	

Can you find the four H's hidden in the newsletter?



HEAD



HEART



HANDS



HEALTH

Ripley County 4-H Newsletter



Club Meeting Resources:

Song: 3 Short-Neck Buzzards



Three short-neck buzzards, Three short-neck buzzards, Three short-neck buzzards
Sitting on a dead tree, sitting on a dead tree, Oh, no!, One has flown away., What a shame!

Two short-neck buzzards, Two short-neck buzzards, Two short-neck buzzards
Sitting on a dead tree, sitting on a dead tree, Oh, no!, One has flown away., What a shame!

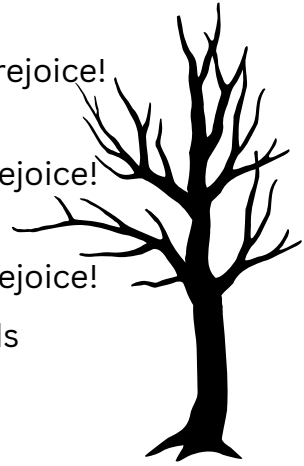
One short-neck buzzard, One short-neck buzzard, One short-neck buzzard
Sitting on a dead tree, sitting on a dead tree, Oh no!, One has flown away, What a shame!

No short-neck buzzards, No short-neck buzzards, No short-neck buzzards
Sitting on a dead tree, sitting on a dead tree, Oh, look!, One has returned, Let us rejoice!

One short-neck buzzard, One short-neck buzzard, One short-neck buzzard
Sitting on a dead tree, sitting on a dead tree, Oh look!, One has returned, Let us rejoice!

Two short-neck buzzards, Two short-neck buzzards, Two short-neck buzzards
Sitting on a dead tree, sitting on a dead tree, Oh look!, One has returned, Let us rejoice!

Three short-neck buzzards, Three short-neck buzzards, Three short-neck buzzards
Sitting on a dead tree, sitting on a dead tree



Health & Safety

Staying safe while playing sports:

Who: All kids and teens who play sports, whether it's organized teams or just for fun.

What: Warm up and stretch before playing, wear the right safety gear (like helmets, mouthguards, and pads), stay hydrated, and listen to your coaches or referees.

When: Before, during, and after practices, games, and even casual play with friends.

Why: Taking a few extra steps can prevent injuries, keep your body healthy, and make sure you're ready to have fun and play your best!

Sports Safety Checklist! (Check these before you hit the field or court!)

- I stretched and warmed up my muscles.
- I'm wearing the right gear (helmet, pads, mouthguard, etc.).
- I drank water before starting and have some ready for breaks.
- I'm playing by the rules to keep myself and others safe.
- I know it's okay to tell an adult if I feel hurt or too tired.
- I cool down and stretch after playing to help my body recover.

Play hard, play smart, stay safe!



Inspiration:

"By prevailing over all obstacles and distractions, one may unfailingly arrive at his chosen goal or destination."
- Christopher Columbus



Ripley County 4-H Newsletter



4-H Enrollment is Open!

It's that time of the year again! 4-H Enrollment for the 2025-2026 year is now open. Please enroll as soon as possible - you must be enrolled to sign up for events, camps, etc. Once January 15 arrives we will begin only sending information to those of you who have enrolled for the new program year. Below you can find links that lead to the step by step 4-H Online help guides to assist you with enrollment.

Once again we will be utilizing 4-H Online as our enrollment platform. You can access your account by visiting v2.4honline.com If you need further assistance please give us a call or stop by the office, we are happy to help. 812-689-6511 or 525 W Beech St Osgood, IN 47037.

4-H Online Help Guides:



Enrolling in 4-H Online as a NEW 4-H member or mini 4-H member:

https://extension.purdue.edu/county/ripley/_media/enrolling-in-4-h-online-as-a-returning-youth-member.pdf

Enrolling in 4-H Online as a RETURNING 4-H member or mini 4-H member:

https://extension.purdue.edu/county/ripley/_media/enrolling-in-4-h-online-as-a-returning-youth-member.pdf

Donate to 4-H!

Beginning October 1st, Casey's invites guests to support local 4-H programs and pledges to match guest donations up to \$150,000. Casey's guests can contribute in two ways:

- 1) Rounding up* in-store purchases from October 1-10, and
- 2) Adding donations to online orders from October 1-November 4.



Ripley County 4-H Newsletter



4-H OPEN HOUSE

Want to join 4-H? Not sure where to start?
New to 4-H and want to learn more?

Join us for an open house:



Meet the 4-H Educators & Office Staff.

Talk with 4-H members, project leaders, and club leaders.

Learn about the enrollment process.

See what to expect from a year in 4-H.

Saturday, November 8, 2025, 9:00AM-11:00AM

Ripley County Extension Office

525 W Beech St. | Osgood, IN 47037

Stop in, learn about 4-H, ask questions, stay for as long as you would like.



Extension - 4-H Youth
Development



EA/EOU

National 4-H Week: October 5-11

National 4-H week is October 5-11th. Let's paint the nation green! We're kicking off National 4-H Week with a bold splash of Indiana 4-H spirit. Whether it's a green hat, shirt, face paint, or even green socks, show the world you're 4-H Pride! Snap a pic in your best green gear, tag @national4h, @indiana4h, and @purdueextensionripleycounty and help us flood social media with the power of Indiana 4-H. Let's light up every feed with your boldest green!

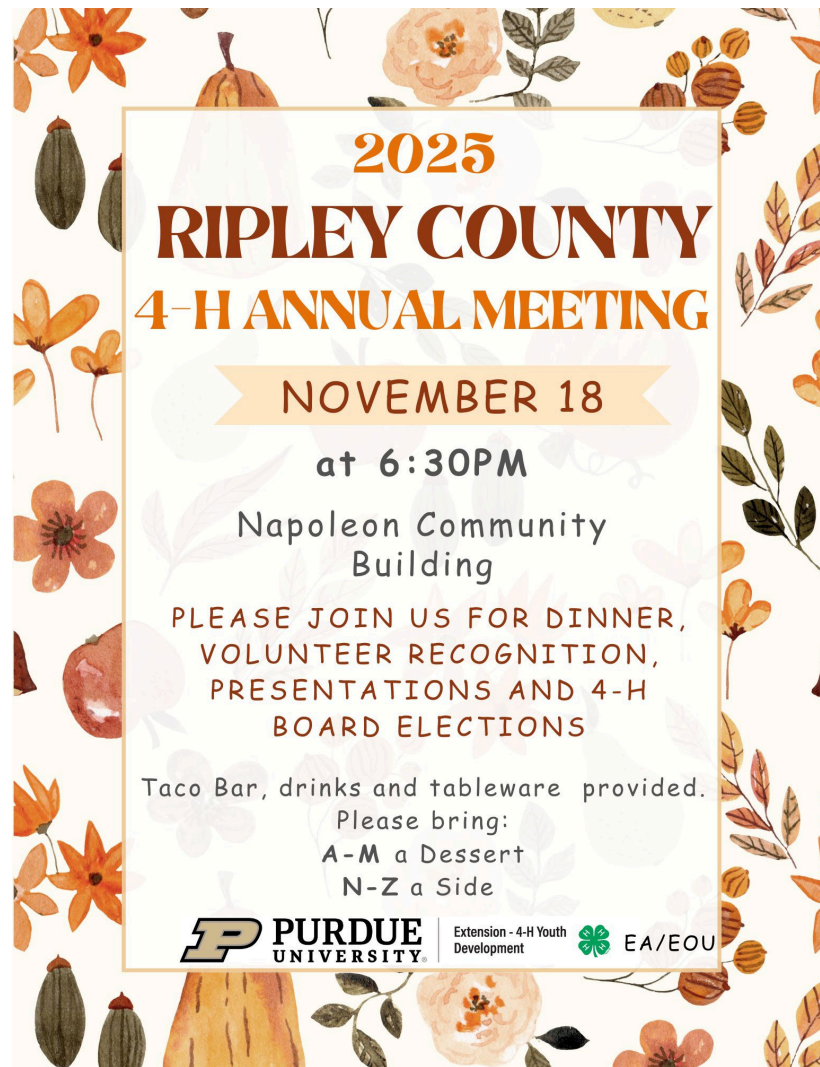


Ripley County 4-H Newsletter



Ripley Co. 4-H Corporation Annual Meeting

You're invited to the 2025 Ripley County 4-H Annual Meeting. During this meeting, there will be volunteer recognition, an informative presentation, and 4-H board elections.



4-H Corporation Board Elections

If you would like to run for a Ripley County 4-H Corporation Board Position, please reach out to get on the ballot. **You MUST be an approved 4-H volunteer for the new 4-H year 2025-2026 to be on the ballot!** If you need assistance enrolling as a volunteer please reach out to the extension office. You may also submit a letter to the extension office for people to read at the annual meeting before voting. Current Open Positions Include: Adams Township, Brown Township, Delaware Township, and 3 At-Large Positions

Completion Shirts

Didn't get your 100% completion shirt? We have plenty more in the office that are \$10 each. Sizes remaining range from size L to 4X! While supplies last.



Ripley County 4-H Newsletter

Leadership Opportunity!



Beyond Ready For Leadership

A One Day Summit for Junior Leaders, Club Officers & any 4-H member ready to take on leadership roles in Southeastern Indiana on October 10, 2025 in Madison, Indiana.

Who: Leaders in Grades 7-12

What: Get Beyond Ready to Lead in your 4-H Community!

When: Friday, October 10 9:30AM-3:00PM

Where: Hanover College, Hanover, IN

Details: Low Ropes Leadership Course
Learn how to plan a club event!
No cost to attend
Lunch provided



Registration: Due by October 3rd in 4-H Online
<https://beyondreadyforleadership.4honline.com>

EA/EOU

Shooting Sports 2025-2026



Ripley County Shooting Sports



Gun & Archery 2025-2026

Date	Location	Time	
October 5, 2025	Sunman Fish & Game	2:00-4:00 PM	Archery & Guns
November	No Meeting	NA	
December	No Meeting	NA	
January 11, 2026	Sunman Fish & Game	2:00-4:00 PM	Archery & Guns
February 15, 2026	Sunman Fish & Game	2:00-4:00 PM	Archery & Guns
March 8, 2026	Sunman Fish & Game	2:00-4:00 PM	Archery & Guns
April 12, 2026	Sunman Fish & Game	2:00-4:00 PM	Archery & Guns
May 17, 2026	Sunman Fish & Game	2:00-4:00 PM	Archery & Guns
June 14, 2026	Sunman Fish & Game	2:00-4:00 PM	Archery & Guns

Contest and Family Fun Day: July 11th, 2026
Time: Noon-4pm @ Coon Hunters Lodge

Shooting Sports Leaders

Michael Luers
Pistol
812-756-2999
Luers48@gmail.com

Mike Weiler
Archery
812-569-0533
mikeweiler@etczone.com

Bill Jordan
Marksmanship
317-525-1102
whjordan333@gmail.com

Jim Luers
Rifle
812-852-2178
Luers48@gmail.com

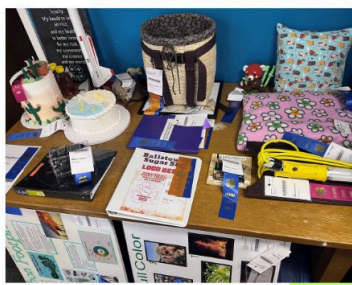
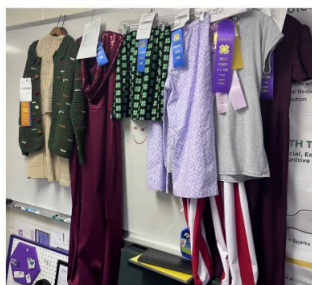
Daren Sarringhaus
Shotgun
812-212-1060
dsarringhaus1975@gmail.com

 facebook.com/RipCoShootingSports



STATE FAIR PROJECT PICK UP

OUR OFFICE IS OPEN FROM
8AM-4PM, MONDAY - FRIDAY
TO PICK UP ALL PROJECTS!



PLEASE PICKUP ASAP

Projects Pick Up!

We have several State and County fair projects left that are ready to be picked up. The Extension Office is open 8AM-4PM weekdays. Please contact the extension office with questions.



4-H Auction Checks

4-H Auction checks are now available for pick-up at the extension office! **YOU MUST BRING THANK YOU CARDS FOR ALL YOUR BUYERS!** Thank you cards should be stamped and ready to send.

Checks are only valid for 120 days from when they are written, so will be void on December 20th. Be sure to pick them up soon!

**AUCTION CHECKS ARE
READY FOR PICK-UP!**

**MAKE SURE TO BRING
THANK YOU CARDS
WITH YOU FOR YOUR
BUYER!**

(we have addresses if needed)



Ripley County 4-H Newsletter

Thank You Letter 101



Our 4-H fair could not happen without the help and support of our sponsors.

We ask that you please take the time to write a thank you note to the people who sponsored your Awards and Banners. In addition you must bring in a thank you note with you to the extension office to pick-up your Auction Check. An email will be sent out when Auction Checks are available for pick-up.

If you're not sure who sponsored one of your awards or who purchased your animal, please contact the extension office, and we can provide you with the name and address.



ANATOMY OF A GOOD THANK YOU LETTER

Why write thank you letters?

- To give buyers recognition for their support of the program.
- To thank them for their support of your project.
- To show you care and are willing to go the extra mile.
- To make a connection even after the show ring.

Make your greeting respectful and personalized.

Dear Mr. Smith,

I would like to thank you for helping to support the Anywhere County 4-H and FFA Livestock Auction and for buying my lamb. Your support means a great deal to me personally and to the 4-H and FFA programs.

Thank them for their support of the program and specifically for their support of your project.

Share a little about yourself and what their support will help with.

I am a junior in high school this year, and the money that I receive from your purchase will go towards purchasing a livestock project for next year, and helping to pay for college.

Thank them again, close with a respectful salutation and sign your first and last name.

Once again, thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

Bob Johnson

Hand sign the letter!



Other things to remember:

- Use nice stationery or a notecard and handwrite your message.
- Use your best handwriting and proofread for spelling errors.
- Mail the thank you or hand deliver it, but be sure that it is received in a timely manner.

Ripley County 4-H Newsletter



RIPLEY WRANGLERS 2025-2026 CLUB CALENDAR

Updates will be added throughout the year to our calendar.
Watch Facebook, Remind and come to meetings to get the latest info!

*Did you know.. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO SHOW A HORSE TO BE IN
THE RIPLEY WRANGLERS 4-H HORSE AND PONY CLUB?
Come see what we have to offer, ALL 4-Hers ARE WELCOME!*

October 7, 2025- CLUB MEETING- Horse Barn- Officer Nominations Open Up, 4-H Enrollment Online, Brainstorm ideas for Philanthropy in the Winter. **Demonstrations:**

November 4, 2025- CLUB MEETING- Horse Barn- **FINAL** date for Officer Nominations, Poinsettia Sale and Christmas Party Info, Fair Show Bill Recommendations, Ribbon or Medallions.

December 7, 2025- CLUB MEETING AND CHRISTMAS PARTY!

AT THE YOUNGS: 1312 E. Cty. Rd. 1300 N., Batesville, IN 47006.

Meeting Starts at 2pm with the party after! Approve Fair Show Bill, approve ribbons/medallions and Officer Elections. Bring a \$15 wrapped gift for a gift exchange and an appetizer to share. **Demonstrations:** Macy Young and Addison Young

January 1, 2026- 4-H ONLINE ENROLLMENT ENDS: Please make sure you ENROLL on <http://v2.4honline.com> for this year before the new year! You can add projects through the end of May.

January 6, 2026- CLUB MEETING- Extension Office- Explanation of Folders and Club Paperwork **Demonstrations:**

January 2026- Ripley Wranglers Philanthropy Fundraiser: Details to Come!

February 3, 2026- CLUB MEETING- Extension Office- **Demonstrations:**

March 3, 2026- CLUB MEETING- Extension Office- **Demonstrations:**

April 7, 2026- CLUB MEETING- Horse Barn- Vaccine Clinic TBD **Demonstrations:**

May 5, 2026- CLUB MEETING- Horse Barn- **Work Detail**, Barn/Stall Clean Up, 1st of 3 Safety Meetings **Demonstrations:**

June 3, 2026- CLUB MEETING- Horse Barn 2nd of 3 Safety Meetings, Area 1 4-H Prep, STALL RESERVATION, STALL FEES AND FAIR SHOWBILL DUE! **Demonstrations:**

July 2, 2026 CLUB MEETING- Horse Barn- Pre-Fair Meeting: ENCOURAGED to ATTEND!! Last of 3 Safety Meetings, Fair Week Prep and Job Duty Sign Up. **Demonstrations:**

July 2026- FAIR ENTRY ENROLLMENT: (Watch for dates to be posted) Please make sure you ENROLL ALL OF THE PROJECTS AND CLASSES YOU WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN AT FAIR on www.fairentry.com.

July 17-24, 2026- RIPLEY COUNTY 4-H FAIR Horses are at the Fairgrounds starting Friday July 18th evening through Friday July 25th.

Feel free to reach out with any questions to the Club Superintendents/Leaders:

Greg Bonfer (812)621.1015, Jason Young 812.212.7662,
Sarah Young 812.212.1405 and Monica Hansen (812)756.0200.

Ripley County 4-H Newsletter



Looking for Empty Bottles!

Educator Dave Osborne is looking for empty 2 liters bottles to be used for his science of flight programs. Empty Pepsi or Mountain Dew bottles are the best, so please consider donating any if you may have. Call the office or Email Dave at osbornda@purdue.edu if you can help!



Randolph County Fall Classic

Open Beef Show

Saturday, October 11, 2025
12 Noon

Randolph Co. Fairgrounds
Winchester, IN



Judge: Scott Burks



- Entry Fee: \$40 per head
- Prospect Heifers (2025) Shown by breed
- Breeding Heifers (2024) Shown by breed
- Prospect Steers (800 lb. limit) Shown by breed
- Must be 4 of a breed to make a breed class. Less than 4 will be in AOB class.
- Exhibitors tying outside the barn must clean up bedding; no bedding will be provided
- Cattle may arrive anytime beginning Friday, Oct. 10
- Entries close at 9:00 AM Saturday, Oct. 11

EVERY
Class Winner
\$100

Class Winner \$100

Grand/Reserve Prospect Heifer \$300/\$200
Grand/Reserve Breeding Heifer \$200/\$100
Grand/Reserve Prospect Steer \$300/\$200

Check out the
***State Line
Smackdown***
October 12th
Van Vert, OH
Just a short drive for a
Sunday show!



Show Information:

Roger Gough – 765-748-5032
Dan Dawson – 765-749-9810
Mark DeHaven – 765-914-4300

Concessions available on grounds.
Randolph Inn and Suites – 765-584-8281



A Matter of Balance:

do you have **CONCERNS** **ABOUT FALLING?**



A MATTER OF
BALANCE

MANAGING CONCERNS ABOUT FALLS

Many older adults experience concerns about falling and restrict their activities. A MATTER OF BALANCE is an award-winning program designed to manage falls and increase activity levels.

This program emphasizes practical strategies to manage falls.

Participants in the classes will learn to:

- view falls as controllable
- set goals for increasing activity
- make changes to reduce fall risks at home
- exercise to increase strength and balance
- concerns

Who should attend?

- anyone concerned about falls
- anyone interested in improving balance, flexibility and strength
- anyone who has fallen in the past
- anyone who has restricted activities because of falling concerns



Extension

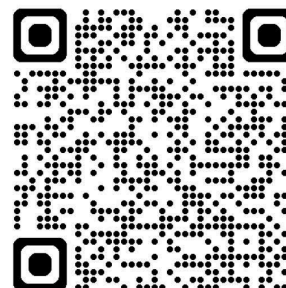
Classes are held once a week for 8 weeks.
Oct. 23, 30, Nov. 6, 13, 20, Dec. 4, 11, 18
10:00 AM - Noon

Southeastern Indiana YMCA
30 State Road 129 South
Batesville, IN 47006

Cost: \$25 per participant

Space is limited so Register today!
Register Online: <https://cvent.me/rmeobP>

Or scan QR
code for link to
register:



For more information, contact:

Baylee Dwenger, Ripley Co. Extension
bdwenger@purdue.edu
812-689-6511

Christopher Fogle, Decatur Co. Extension
foglec@purdue.edu

A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls Volunteer Lay Leader Model ©2006

This program is based on Fear of Falling: A Matter of Balance. Copyright ©1995 Trustees of Boston University. All rights reserved. Used and adapted by permission of Boston University.

A Matter of Balance Lay Leader Model

Recognized for Innovation and Quality in Healthcare and Aging, 2006, American Society on Aging.
The A Matter of Balance Lay Leader Model was developed by a grant from the Administration on Aging (#90AM2780).



Breast Cancer Awareness:



Simply put, early detection saves lives. When caught in its earliest, localized stages, the 5-year relative survival rate for breast cancer is 99%. But what is early detection? Early detection means finding breast cancer at an early stage, before it has a chance to spread and is easier to treat. The Susan G Komen Foundation suggests that you talk with a doctor about which screening tests are right for you if you're at higher risk. Have a mammogram every year starting at age 40 if you're at average risk. Have a clinical breast exam at least every 3 years starting at age 25, and every year starting at age 40.



1 in 8
women

in the United States will develop breast cancer in her lifetime.



An estimated
2,800 men will be
diagnosed with
breast cancer

in the United States and approximately **510 will die.**



Breast cancer is the
second leading
cause of
cancer death
in women in the US.



There are over
4 million

breast cancer survivors
in the United States.



Ripley County ANR Newsletter



Secure Your Hay Load Before You Hit the Road

It is the time of year where everyone is hauling hay home from the fields before the months get too cold. It is so common practice that we may not stop to think about the safety and proper handling. From round to square bales, to straps and trailers, Purdue Extension educators and specialist have put together great reminders and help in making sure your hay makes it home safely.



Check out the entire article here: [Secure Your Hay Load Before You Hit the Road](#)

What to Avoid When Putting your Garden to Bed

Karen Mitchell, consumer horticulture Extension specialist, offers a few tips to help close out your gardens this fall to help prepare for next year.

1. Don't start cleaning up too early.

It can be tempting to start wrapping up your garden at the first sign of cool weather, but it may still have another month or two of potential growth.

2. Don't clear out all the dead plants and leaves.

Many people think they must remove every leaf and dead stem to prime their garden for next spring. In Mitchell's experience, clearing out all plant debris often causes more harm than good.

3. Don't avoid fertilizing.

Healthier grass outcompetes weeds more easily, so giving your lawn a little boost now will create stronger, better grass come spring.

4. Don't stop weeding.

Weeds keep growing late into fall, and cool weather doesn't deter them. Giving up on weeding too early can be a recipe for disaster next growing season.

5. Don't forget to plan ahead for next year.

Late fall, around October, is the perfect time to plant spring flowering bulbs.

Find more Details from Karen Mitchell Here: [5 things to avoid this fall when putting your garden to bed](#)

