

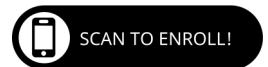


Special points of interest:

- Enrollment
- Required Volunteer Videos
- 4-H Club Finances
- Jr. Leader Schedule
- Mini 4-H Dates
- State Opportunities
- Scholarships
- Approved Rule Changes
- Project Workshops

## Rest Well This Holiday Season!

Happy December and end of the year! In about one month, we will hope to see all of you pop up in our inbox (if you haven't already), indicating you have re-enrolled as a 4-H member for 2022-2023. Although enrollment will remain open, we ask that everyone **enroll on/before January 15th at v2.4honline.com**. It helps tremendously with communication, allows us to pay for your temporary insurance policy, and maximizes the opportunities you have to participate in the events offered at the county, area, state, and even national levels. After January 15th, we will no longer pull inactive member reports for communication (those that enrolled in 2021-2022, but have not enrolled for 2022-2023). To be included in all future communications, please try to enroll over Christmas break or shortly after the holiday! ••• I REALLY wish I could publish the exact fair dates for 2023, but there are few things still in the works. We aren't making any major moves (weeks or multiple days), but we may be moving by a half-day or so. Stay tuned on exact dates and times, but for now, plan on July 21-27. If anything moves, it will move up rather than back. We are shifting a few shows so that we can hopefully move the Rabbit and Poultry shows to Rensch Hall. Look for details soon! ••• I hope you are able to find rest during the break! Merry Christmas, dear friends!



Tami 

**Enrollment is open: [v2.4honline.com](https://v2.4honline.com)**

## A look ahead at important dates:

- December 1**—SCCF “We Call It Home” Short Film Feature, includes Steuben County 4-H Workshop
- December 12**—Volunteer Video Watch Party
- December 23-January 2**—Extension Office Closed for Christmas/New Year’s
- January 17**—PCARET Legislative Luncheon
- January 23**—Small Appliance Workshop
- January 24**—New 4-H Member Workshop
- January 30**—Volunteer Video Watch Party
- February (all month)**—“We Go Together Like Peanut Butter and Jelly” Food Drive by the Steuben County 4-H Jr. Leaders
- February 1**—4-H Camp Counselor Applications Due
- February 8**—Photography Workshop
- February 14**—Canvas Painting Workshop
- February 21**—Poultry Workshop
- March 7**—4-H Camp Counselor Training
- March 16**—Soap Making and Bath Bomb
- March 22**—Spring PCARET Meeting
- March 27-31**—Spring Break for MSD, PH, Fremont, and Hamilton
- April 12**—4-H Camp Counselor Training
- April 18**—Woodworking Workshop
- April 26**—Purdue Day of Giving
- April 30**—TENTATIVE Small Calf ID
- May 4**—4-H Camp Counselor Training
- May 15**—Animal ID Due in 4HOnline
- May 18**—Dissection Workshop
- May 23, 25, 30, 6/1**—Art 101: Embracing Your Creative Mess
- June 7-9**—Northeast Indiana 4-H Camp
- June 7-9**—4-H Academy @ Purdue
- June 13-16**—State Junior Leader Conference
- June 24-26**—4-H Band/Chorus
- June 26-28**—DATE CHANGE: 4-H Round-up

STEBEN COUNTY 4-H

# Clover Connection

## Club, Committee, and Board Happenings



**4-H Bit and Bridle**—The last meeting was really fun! Join us for the next round of fun! The next meeting will be January 9th at 7 pm in the Community Center. Subsequent meetings will be 2/6, 3/6, 4/3, with May/June/July/October at the fairgrounds, and 11/6.

**4-H Explorers**—The club will meet again on January 10th at 1:30 pm in the Community Center. Subsequent meetings will be 2/14, 3/14, 4/11, 5/9, and 6/13.

**Flint Arrows**—The club will not meet again until January 2023 unless otherwise notified.

**Fremont Ready Willing and Able**—The next meeting will be January 15th at 4 pm at the Perry's (315 W Feather Valley Road, Fremont). Subsequent meetings will be 2/19, 3/19, 4/19, 5/20 (Saturday), and 6/11.

**Hamilton Fighting 4-H'ers**—If you know an individual who would make a great 4-H club leader, please contact Tami! The club will not meet again until a leader is secured.

**Lucky Ducks**—The next club meeting will be December 6th at 6:30 in the Board Room. Subsequent meetings will be 1/3, 2/7 3/7, 4/4, 5/2, 6/6, and 7/11.

**Orland Creative Kids**—If you know an individual who would make a great 4-H club leader, please contact Tami! The club will not meet again until a leader is secured.

**Otsego Go-Getters**—The club will meet on January 15th at 4 pm at Stoy Farms (6517 S 400 W, Ashley) and will experiment with Makey Makey, a fun STEM activity in which you can make a banana piano! Look at Facebook or the Remind App for more info! Subse-

quent meetings will be 3/19, 4/16, 5/21, 6/18, and a July potluck.

**The Conquerors**—The next club meeting will be January 8th at 3:30 pm at the Heifner's (507 W Fox Lake Rd, Angola). Subsequent meetings will be 2/12, 3/12, 4/19, 5/21, 6/11, and 7/9.

**Tiny Clovers Mini 4-H**—Mark your calendar as dates have been set! Mini 4-H will meet 5:30-7 pm on 1/23, 2/27, 3/20, 4/24, 5/22, and 6/26. Meetings are held in the Steuben Community Center's Multi-Purpose Room.

**Jr. Leaders**—Join us for Christmas Adoption Shopping on Tuesday, December 13th, 5:30-8 pm. You do not need to bring any money, but we would like everyone to contribute to the taco bar that we will enjoy after shopping. Please meet at the south entrance of Walmart (grocery side). We will carpool back to the Extension Office where pick-up will take place at 8 pm. Taco Bar Sign Up List: <https://bit.ly/JLTacoBar22>

**4-H Fair Board**—Our next regular business meeting will be in the Board Room on December 12th at 7pm.

**4-H Camping Committee**—The December 12th meeting has been cancelled.

**4-H Programs/Publicity Committee**—Please plan to meet on December 5th at 6 pm in the Board Room.

**4-H Pork Stand Committee**—Please plan to meet on December 12th at 6 pm in the Board Room.



## Required 4HOnline Volunteer Video Series

So that we can include you in the operation of our 4-H events and activities and the decisions related to the 4-H Program, we are inviting you to complete the 4-H Volunteer re-enrollment process at [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com). After you have updated your profile, you will have the opportunity to complete three trainings. These can be completed on your laptop or similar device, or, if you prefer, you can attend one of our in-person trainings—**December 12th at 6 pm or January 30th at 5 pm**. The topics are:

- Volunteer Orientation
- Youth Safety and Reporting  
Child Abuse
- Increasing Cultural Awareness

You are working with our most valued resource—our youth—and the videos will broaden your skills so that you will be better prepared to work with them.

### This is Us

Steuben County 4-H is committed to creating a diverse, equitable, and accessible environment for all members, past, present, and future.

### Special Accommodations

If you are in need of special accommodations for any and all 4-H or Purdue Extension programs and events, please call the Extension Office to give reasonable notices of the accommodations needed.

# December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 SCCF "We Call It Home" Short Film Feature 5pm, T. Furth Center	2	3
4	5 Programs/ Publicity 6pm, Board Room	6 Lucky Ducks 6:30pm, Board Room	7			
11	12 Volunteer Video Series Watch Party 6pm, Board Room Pork Stand Committee 6pm, Pillar Room 4-H Fair Board 7pm, Board Room	13 Jr. Leaders Christmas Adoption Shopping, meet at Walmart at 5:30 pm, pick up at Extension Office at 8 pm	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
						
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
 <p>Extension Office Closed December 23-January 2 for the Holidays and the University's Winter Recess</p>						

## Pork Stand Acquisition

The Steuben County Swine Boosters were ready to give up the Pork Stand, and per their by-laws, if the group dissolves, the Pork Stand and all of the corresponding assets become property of Steuben County 4-H. The 4-H Fair Board did not rush into this decision and recognize it will take a lot of effort, but the Swine Boosters assured us this will be profitable for 4-H. Stay tuned for details as they become available.

## 4-H Camp Counselors

It's early, but we love 4-H Camp so much that we don't want to keep you in the dark...4-H Camp Counselor applications are ready! They aren't due until February 1st, but why not show your excitement and apply early for the best week of the year! Applications can be found at:

<https://bit.ly/4HCampCounselorApplication>



**Northeast  
Indiana  
4-H Camp**

June 7-9, 2023 - Epworth Forest

### Camp Counselors Needed

Applications are available  
and due on/before  
February 1 to your  
County Extension Office  
<https://bit.ly/4HCampCounselorApplication>

## Before You Meet with Youth...

or make decisions on behalf of 4-H, you really need to be an approved 4-H volunteer! Although you may have been an approved volunteer in 2021-2022, with the opening of 2022-2023 enrollment, we need all volunteers to re-enroll ASAP. This is both for your protection and the protection of the young people in which you work. This re-enrollment, which includes watching the training videos, also enacts your insurance coverage which will be helpful if you get hurt or injured in your volunteer role.

## Indiana 4-H Volunteer Resources

Join the Thrivers Book Club, a virtual 4-week book club for 4-H volunteers and adults that work with youth. The group will be discussing the book "Thrivers" by Michele Borba on Tuesday evenings in January and February at 7 pm. Adults can register at <https://tinyurl.com/4HThrivers>.

The Indiana 4-H Volunteer Development Committee is pleased to present the first volunteer resources from a new series, "Back to the Basics for 4-H to Grow and Thrive." The first resources include:

- Keeping 4-H Fun
- Parent Involvement
- Effective Club Management

These free resources can be found on the Volunteer Resources and Development Tab on the State 4-H Website: <https://extension.purdue.edu/4-H/volunteer/resources-and-development/index.html>

## 4-H Club Finances

Club Leaders, 4-H Club Financial Report forms will be mailed to the primary club leader this month. All clubs must complete the form with beginning and ending balances for 2022 no later than February 1st. Two clubs are up for audit based on the five year schedule and/or a change in leadership, which requires additional information to be submitted:

**Fremont Ready, Wiling, & Able and the Bit and Bridle 4-H Club.** Thank you for attention to this important matter that protects you as a volunteer!

## 2022 4-H Fair Photos

All of the 2022 4-H Fair photos are published and can be viewed by visiting:

[choicephotography.webmate.me/gallery](http://choicephotography.webmate.me/gallery)

Choose 2022 Steuben County 4-H Fair.

Password: steuben4h2022



## Sixth Graders:

You can join 4-H Jr. Leaders this year! If you are interested in exploring 4-H beyond the traditional 4-H fair and project exhibition, then maybe this leadership opportunity is the route for you! 4-H volunteers and Tami work with a group of teens and pre-teens nearly every month to do community service, to plan events and activities for the 4-H fair, to socialize, and to learn teamwork and leadership. These opportunities are perfect for youth seeking community service hours and volunteer opportunities! We usually meet once a month on a Tuesday, 6:30-8 pm, but it does vary at times.

## Junior Leaders INDIANA 4-H



A slate of activities for the upcoming 4-H program year has been published!

**December 13, 5:30-8 pm**—Plan to meet at Walmart (south entrance) at 5:30 pm to shop for a family in need. You do not need to bring any money as the expenses will be covered by the Jr. Leader treasury, but please bring a taco bar item to share. Sign up at <https://bit.ly/JLTacoBar22>. After shopping, we will carpool to the Extension Office for the taco bar and gift wrapping.

**January 24, 5:30-7:30 pm**—Brief meeting and hosting the New Member Workshop

**February**—"We Go Together Like Peanut Butter and Jelly" Food Drive

**February 28, 6:30-8 pm**—Brownie Bakeoff Night

**March 23 (Thursday), time & location TBD**—Joint meeting with LaGrange Co. 4-H Jr. Leaders

**April 18, 5:30-8pm**—Brief Meeting and Woodworking Workshop

**May 16, 6:30-8 pm**—Meeting and new member efforts

**June 13**—Mock Faceoff events and new member calls

**July**—4-H Fair Help and Pop Stand

Notify Tami if you want to help with **Mini 4-H meetings** this year. Meetings will take place 5:30-7 pm on 1/23, 2/27, 3/20, 4/24, 5/22, and 6/26 in the Multi-Purpose Room.



## 2023 MINI 4-H MEETINGS SAVE THE DATES

January 23 ~ February 27 ~ March 20 ~ April 24 ~ May 22 ~ June 26  
5:30-7 PM, Steuben Community Center  
317 S. Wayne St., Angola, Indiana



## Communicating for Agriculture's Future



Do you like talking about ag issues? Interested in graphic design? Come join us and learn about agricultural communications and graphic design. Hear from a graphic designer and work to make your own ag issue poster! Posters will be displayed during the DeKalb 4-H Fall Fair. Recommended for grades 9-12.

Youth that attend all 3 sessions can claim workshop credit for 3 species of their choice for 2022-2023 4-H year.

Join us:

January 18th 6 - 8 pm DeKalb 4-H Exhibit Hall  
January 25th 6 - 8 pm DeKalb 4-H Exhibit Hall  
February 1st 6 - 8 pm DeKalb 4-H Exhibit Hall

Address: 708 S. Union St., Auburn, IN 46706



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Want to complete your livestock workshops early or replace your Communications record sheet? Then "Communicating for Agriculture's Future" is the workshop for you! This workshop series will count towards the Communications project or any 3 animal species of your choice (must attend all sessions to get credit toward 3 species). With the help of a grant from the DeKalb Community Foundation, we created a workshop for youth in grades 9-12 focused on using graphic design concepts to promote new advances in the world of Agriculture. The need for effective Agriculture Communicators in the workforce has been growing fast in the last few years. Explore a career option and gain skills necessary for college or the workforce. Register at <https://bit.ly/agissues>.




**JANUARY 14 SATURDAY**

# 4-H TECH CHANGEMAKERS Training

TEAMS ARE MADE UP OF YOUTH IN GRADES 8-11, WITH 3-5 YOUTH ON A TEAM. THE COST IS \$15 PER YOUTH MEMBER, YOUTH DO NOT HAVE TO BE A 4-H MEMBER TO PARTICIPATE.

The 4-H Tech Changemakers program allows youth the unique opportunity to explore the impact of the digital divide in their communities, learn high value digital skills, and provide adults with tools to expand their digital literacy skills.

To register, visit [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com) by Friday, January 6th.

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 14TH**  
CHECK-IN @ 10AM  
PROGRAM STARTS @ 10:30AM  
THE MACHYNE:  
1220 WATERWAY BLVD,  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY**  
Extension - 4-H Youth Development

Microsoft | Verizon

If your youth requires special accommodations, please contact the Montgomery County Extension office at (765) 364-6363.

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# COOKING AROUND THE WORLD

Cook your way through the world with this 4-H virtual experience! Learn about new cultures as instructors lead participants through hands-on recipes that can be made from the comfort of your own home.

**When: Each Saturday from Jan 21 - Feb 25**  
**Time: 10-11 am CT (11am-Noon ET)**  
**Who: Youth in grades 3-12**  
**Where: Zoom**  
**Cost: \$30**  
**Register in 4-H Online by Jan 6**  
**Questions? Email Megan Hoffherr at [mkron@purdue.edu](mailto:mkron@purdue.edu)**

## PACK YOUR BAGS!

Purdue University is an equal access/equal opportunity institution. If you have special needs, please call us prior to the event at (812) 867-4935.



# 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY SPARK CLUB

**Jan 18** 7-8:30 PM  
**Feb 15** Virtual Workshops  
**March 15** Learn all about photography tips and tricks from experts! On the third Wednesday from January to April join us for virtual photography lessons ranging in topics. Learn skills in editing, social media, photography careers, how to prepare your exhibit for the fair and more!  
**April 19** 10 AM - 2 PM  
**April 15** In Person Workshop  
Join us for a day of interactive learning from photography professionals! Participate in activities that are guaranteed to sharpen your photography skills and SPARK your interest. Location TBD, lunch will be provided.

Register on 4honline!  
For more information reach out to your county educator.

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PARTICIPATE IN MONTHLY PHOTO CHALLENGES!  
OPEN TO GRADES 3-12  
REGISTRATION CLOSING JAN 11TH!  
COST IS \$25 INCLUDES 5 LESSONS, GIFT, AND LUNCH



Open to all students in Grades 9-12!

Hosted by Purdue Extension and Indiana 4-H

<b>1</b> <b>Jan 17</b> <b>Online Safety/Social Media</b> This session will focus on the Social Media Dos and Don'ts. Participate in an activity as if interacting with a real live hacker!	<b>2</b> <b>Jan 24</b> <b>Budgeting</b> Money, Money, Money! Learn how to manage taxes and credit, make smart investments and start thinking about financial decisions for your future.
<b>3</b> <b>Jan 31</b> <b>Self Care &amp; Mental Health</b> Learn how to manage stress, stay motivated, and the importance of goal setting in our everyday busy lives!	<b>4</b> <b>Feb 7</b> <b>Food Preparation &amp; Safety</b> This topic will focus on food preparation basics (measuring, abbreviations, substitutions, etc.), meal planning and grocery shopping, food and kitchen safety, and recipe preparation. Learn how to prepare a simple recipe and receive items that will be helpful in recipe preparation!
<b>5</b> <b>Feb 14</b> <b>Home Care</b> Learn how to organize and manage a household! Discover tips and tricks on how to maintain everyday activities such as laundry and cleaning, while also learning how to handle emergency situations.	<b>6</b> <b>Feb 21</b> <b>Etiquette &amp; People Skills</b> Join this session to learn how to navigate people skills! Discover how to handle awkward situations, how to properly eat at the dinner table, and the importance of communication.
<b>7</b> <b>Feb 28</b> <b>Auto Care</b> As a driver, there is lots to know besides just the rules of the road! Learn all about car maintenance, what to do in an accident, and different insurance options.	<b>8</b> <b>March 7</b> <b>Celebration!</b>

**Registration Information**  
All sessions will be held via Zoom and start at 6pm central/7pm eastern and will last for an hour. To register go to [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com) and after creating (or signing in) to your profile you will find the Life Lessons program in the events tab. Select the program and continue through the registration process.  
The registration deadline is January 6th so sign up today!  
This program has a \$30 registration fee that covers the cost of all provided material, content, and supplies that will be sent to registrants. Scholarships/Financial Assistance is available. Contact Purdue Extension - Hendricks County at 317-745-9260 or email [hendrees@purdue.edu](mailto:hendrees@purdue.edu) for details on how to register with Financial Assistance.

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY** Extension - Indiana 4-H  
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## Indiana 4-H Scholarships

Youth in grades 10-12 can apply for Indiana 4-H scholarships which are due January 25th. Consider working on them now, before we get too close to the holidays! Visit <https://extension.purdue.edu/4-H/get-involved/scholarships.html> for the applications. In recent years, the accomplishment scholarship categories with the least entries included: Engineering and Technological Science, Communications, and Plant and Environmental Science. See next page!



## Scholarship Applicants/ Job Seekers

Youth who wish to apply for Indiana 4-H scholarships (grades 10-12) or hope to develop a resume to apply for a job are invited to meet with Tami to edit and refine documents. You are always welcome to schedule a virtual or in-person meeting for help or for interview practice. Just call 260-668-1000 Ext. 1400 or email [mosier@purdue.edu](mailto:mosier@purdue.edu) to find a mutually agreeable date and time!

## Camp Miniwanca in Shelby, MI

Strange name. Great purpose. And registration is open! The National Leadership Conference (NLC) is an 8-day experience held in Shelby, Michigan at a site called Camp Miniwanca that serves high school students from all across the country. They are looking for future participants entering 10th, 11th, or 12th grade from diverse backgrounds providing participants the opportunity to develop, practice, and implement leadership skills to help participants discover their capacity to make a difference in their own communities and the wider world. NLC will take place this summer June 10-17, 2023. They are looking to invite students who either have natural leadership skills and capabilities, or students whose teachers and mentors see the leadership potential in them that just need the guidance and setting to flourish. <https://ayf.com/camps/miniwanca/national-leadership-conference/>

**4-H Motto:** To make the best better.

**4-H Slogan:** Learning by doing.

**Indiana 4-H Mission:** To provide real-life educational opportunities that develop young people who will have a positive impact in their communities and the world.

**Indiana 4-H Vision:** Indiana 4-H Youth Development strives to be the premier, community-based program empowering young people to reach their full potential.

## Save the Date: Indiana 4-H Day at the Statehouse

Indiana 4-H members will flood the Indiana Statehouse on Tuesday, February 7, roughly 8am-4 pm. This amazing state-level civic engagement activity is for youth in grades 7-12, costs \$15 per member, and registration will be open December 8-January 15 (or until all slots are filled) via 4HOnline. If a Steuben County member or delegation wishes to attend, Tami can provide transportation. Overnight stay on Monday for those driving a long distance is an option on the Indiana State Fairgrounds for a nominal fee of \$25. Email Tami if you register so we can make arrangements!



## Cash those checks!

Everyone has picked up their 4-H livestock auction checks, but not everyone has cashed or deposited them! Please make your way to the bank soon so that we can wrap up all-things-auction soon.

## 2023 Indiana State Fair

The Indiana State Fair has released their preliminary schedule for animal shows. Arrival times are to be determined. Check it out at: <https://bit.ly/3N8GZsw>



# 2023 SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

## Senior Year Scholarship

Available to 4-H members in their senior year of high school

## Club Scholarship

Available to 4-H members entering Purdue University majoring in the College of Agriculture or select majors in the College of Health and Human Sciences

## Purdue Horticulture & Landscape Architecture Scholarship

Available to a 4-H member majoring in horticulture or landscape architecture at Purdue University and studied plant science in 4-H.

*Open to 10th graders!*

## Accomplishment Scholarship

Available to 4-H members in grades 10-12 of high school and the year immediately following high school graduation. The purpose of the 4-H Accomplishment Scholarship is to recognize youth who have excelled in life skills development through their 4-H activities and involvement.

**Categories:** Animal Science—Meat and Milk Production; Animal Science—Companion and Small Animal Production; Citizenship; Communications; Engineering and Technological Science; Healthy Living, Food and Nutrition Science; Leadership Development; and Plant and Environmental Science. Three additional categories are reserved for applicants demonstrating life skills development in more than one of the previously listed categories. Those are Premier Achievement, Premier Citizenship, and Premier Leadership.

**Eligibility:** Applicants must be in grade 10, 11, 12, or their first year immediately following 4-H enrollment eligibility at the time applications are due. While an applicant does not have to be a current 4-H member, they must demonstrate multiple years of involvement in Indiana's 4-H Youth Development Program.

Youth who have previously been awarded a \$1,000 accomplishment scholarship are only eligible to compete in the Premier Achievement, Premier Citizenship, and Premier Leadership categories. Youth who have previously been awarded a \$2,000 scholarship are no longer eligible to compete in any category.

**Awards:** A minimum of thirty \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to youth based on their demonstration of life skills development in these eight categories: Animal Science—Meat and Milk Production; Animal Science—Companion and Small Animal Production; Citizenship; Communications; Engineering and Technological Science; Healthy Living, Food, and Nutrition Science; Leadership Development; and Plant and Environmental Science.

A minimum of one \$2,000 scholarship, and a silver tray, will be awarded in each of these categories: Premier Achievement; Premier Citizenship; and Premier Leadership.

Additional scholarships may be awarded depending on sponsorship availability. The number of scholarships awarded in each category may be adjusted to meet special criteria of a particular sponsor.

Visit [bit.ly/4hscholarship](https://bit.ly/4hscholarship) to download applications.

Applications due to County 4-H Educator January 25.

Contact your county's Purdue Extension Office to learn more.

**\$173,965 AWARDED IN 2022**





# **APPROVED 4-H Fair Book Rule Improvements/Changes for Steuben County 4-H, 2022-2023**

Please note: Some rules and requirements may change in the Fair Book at the request of greater entities, such as the Indiana Board of Animal Health and the Indiana 4-H Staff. Simply reviewing rule changes posted in the newsletter is not sufficient. Each 4-H member is responsible for reading rules that pertain to them when the 2023 Fair Books are posted.

## **GENERAL**

- If a project has five or less exhibits entered at the time in which FairEntry closes, the judge hired for that project will be dismissed from judging duties, and a volunteer or Extension Staff member will serve as the judge.

## **GENERAL, AWARDS**

- Eliminate all Reserve Grand Champion trophies for static exhibits. Only Grand Champion static exhibits will be awarded trophies. Ribbons will remain the same.
- Eliminate Fashion Revue Champion and Reserve Champion ribbons by grades and categories. All participants receive yellow, blue, red, white depending on scoring and then a Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion awarded to Junior Exhibit Class and Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion awarded to Senior Exhibit Class.
- Eliminate all silver tray awards.
- Add Supreme winner (ribbon only) to four Indiana 4-H project areas: Communication and Expressive Arts (4-H Resume, Arts and Crafts, Cake Decorating, Collections, Communications, Construction and Architectural Replica, Consumer Clothing, Creative Arts, Fine Arts, Home Environment, Model Craft, Photography, Scrapbooking, Sewing and Fashion Revue), Engineering and Technological Science (Aerospace, Electric, Small Engine, Tractor Safety and Operator Skills, Video Gaming and Computer Coding, Woodworking, Zero-Turn Mower Safety and Operator Skills), Healthy Living (Animal Education, Child Development, Foods, Genealogy, Health, Shooting Sports, Sportfishing, Vet Science), and Plant and Environmental Science (Beekeeping, Crops, Entomology, Floriculture, Forestry, Garden, Geology, Soil and Water Science, Weather and Climate Science, Wildlife). These four Supreme awards will encompass all static projects.

## **BEEF: BEEF FEEDERS, DAIRY BEEF: DAIRY FEEDER STEERS, DAIRY BEEF: STARTED CALF**

- Delete p. 122, Exhibit Requirement #4 which refers to the limited number of calves a member may exhibit.
- Delete p. 129, Exhibit Requirement #2 which refers to the limited number of calves a member may exhibit.
- Update p. 131, Exhibit Requirement #2 to read: ~~A member may enroll twenty and exhibit two calves in any combination of started calf, dairy feeder and/or beef feeder. For example, a member may show one started calf and one beef feeder, or two beef feeder, or two started calves, etc.~~ The only breeds accepted for started calves are purebred calves of the five recognized dairy breeds—no crossbreeds (Holstein, Brown Swiss, Guemsey, Jersey & Ayrshire).

## **GOATS**

- Page 134, Exhibit Requirements, add "For the purposes of showmanship classes only, pygmy goats will be considered a meat breed."
- Page 135, Showmanship classes to be replaced with:
  - Dairy Breed Showmanship: Senior Showmanship-Grades 9-12, Intermediate Showmanship-Grades 6-8, Junior Showmanship-Grades 3-5, Champion Of Champions Showman- winner of senior showmanship in past and present years.
  - Meat Breed Showmanship: Senior Showmanship-Grades 9-12, Intermediate Showmanship-Grades 6-8, Junior Showmanship-Grades 3-5, Champion Of Champions Showman- winner of senior showmanship in past and present years.
- If the two suggestions above are approved, then update page 152, General Showmanship #5 whereas "goats" will be replaced with "dairy goats, meat goats" and update page 152, Large Animal Supreme Showmanship Contest #1 and #7 whereas "goats" will be replaced with "dairy goats, meat goats".

## **HORSE & PONY**

- Update p. 138, Project Requirement #20 to read: Spurs, coats, vests, jackets, and chaps are optional in all performance classes. ~~No split reins are allowed in contesting classes.~~

## **POULTRY**

- Page 143, under Project Requirements, add: With the exception of showmanship, each bird can only be shown in one specific class.
- Page 144, under Egg Production, add Egg Class: 6 eggs of the same color from your poultry, displayed in an egg carton. One entry per exhibitor. Eggs can be brown, white or all other colors.
- Page 144, under Exhibition, update to read:
  - Standard Exhibition: Exhibit up to 2 birds, ~~Hen and/or Rooster,~~ *must be different gender, variety, or breed,* per subclass (maximum of 12 birds). Subclasses are as follows: American, Asiatic, Continental, English, Mediterranean, and All Other. ~~All birds must be 1 year or older.~~
  - Exhibition Bantams: Exhibit up to 2 birds, ~~Hen and/or Rooster,~~ *must be different gender, variety, or breed,* per subclass (maximum of 12 birds). Subclasses are as follows: Modern Game, Old English Game, Single Comb Clean Legged, Rose Comb Clean Legged, Other Comb Clean Legged, and Feather Legged. ~~All birds must be 1 year or older.~~
  - Exhibition Ducks Drake/Hen: Exhibit up to 2 ducks, ~~Hen and/or Drake,~~ *must be different gender, variety, or breed,* per subclass (maximum of 8 birds). Subclasses are as follows: Heavy Weight, Medium Weight, Light Weight, and Bantam. ~~All birds must~~

be 1 year or older.

## AUCTION

- Update page 155, #8 to read, “Members must indicate their initial auction intent to the project superintendent or designated volunteer in FairEntry by July 4<sup>th</sup>, and they will verify their intent at livestock check-in, with a final verification posted after livestock check-in.
- Pens left unclean by members who are not sending an item through the auction will be invoiced \$25, and the funds will be distributed to the corresponding project as a means of financial support.

The suggested rule change about transitioning to a premium-only auction in which all animals go home following the auction **did not pass** as there are more details that need worked out, but this is something the 4-H Fair Board is seriously considering for 2024. Talk to your friends in neighboring counties, consider the ideas listed below, and share your thoughts with us.

### Ideas for 2024:

- Auction open to all exhibitors regardless of involvement in livestock projects
- Premium only, no market price included in the final check from the 4-H Auction Committee
- Sell only 1 lot, representing the project of the exhibitor’s choice (Note: Any animal receiving premium money would make it ineligible for the Indiana State Fair per Indiana 4-H policies)
- In theory, all animals would go home after the fair.
- If barn supers wish to set up a market truck, they could, but all payments would be paid directly from the consigner to the exhibitor (ie. United Producers writes a check directly to Laken Mosier, and it is not included in the 4-H auction check)
- May need to change the name from “Auction” to something else



## Help Needed!

While many volunteers stay with us for years, when a volunteer signs on, they are only making a one year commitment that can be renewed or declined each year. Some volunteers don’t even volunteer for a year...they volunteer in an “episodic” role where they help with a one-time project or a few weeks max. The volunteer year aligns with the youth program year, so each fall/winter, we ask volunteers to re-enroll in 4-H. If you haven't given 4-H volunteer work a try, consider these opportunities below. If after a year (or your episodic experience), you decide the role isn’t for you, that’s okay!

### Club Leader Vacancies

- ⇒ Flint Arrows (Co-Leader or Assistant)
- ⇒ Hamilton Fighting 4-H’ers
- ⇒ Orland Creative Kids

### Project Vacancies

- ⇒ Air Rifle, training held in April
- ⇒ Arts and Crafts Co-Superintendent
- ⇒ Floriculture
- ⇒ Geology
- ⇒ Video Gaming and Computer Coding
- ⇒ Woodworking

## Workshops as Record Sheet Replacement

All projects are eligible for record sheet replacement as long as the workshop is approved by the Extension Office. Workshops should be at least 60-90 minutes, have a hands-on component, and cover practical educational concepts related to the project. Please be sure to sign in or alert Tami that you are attending. Workshops on the schedule include:

- **Any Animal Species and Communications:** Communicating for Agriculture’s Future, January 18, 25, and February 1, 6-8 pm, DeKalb County Fairgrounds
- **Photography:** 4-H Virtual Photography Spark Club, January 18, February 15, March 15, April 15, and April 19, 7-8:30 pm
- **Foods:** Cooking Around the World, virtual on Saturdays, January 21-February 25, 11am-Noon
- **Alternative Cooking:** Monday, January 23, 6-8 pm, Extension Kitchen
- **Photography:** Wednesday, February 8, 6-7 pm, Board Room
- **Fine Arts:** Tuesday, February 14, 6-8 pm, Board Room (small fee for supplies)
- **Poultry:** Tuesday, February 21, 6:30-7:30 pm, Extension Kitchen

## No Changes to Animal ID

Indiana 4-H announced in mid-October that there would be no changes to animal ID in 2023. So, plan on the same tags, tattoos, registrations papers, etc., in the coming year. As ID days become available, we will share those dates, but as a rule of thumb, plan on the following:

- Fat Cattle in March
- Small Calves in April
- Sheep & Goats in early May
- Self-tagging for Swine and Dairy
- Supers/Volunteers to help tattoo Rabbits, as needed
- No ID Day for Poultry, Horse & Pony, Dog, or Cat

## What's Happening with YQCA?

Indiana 4-H is transitioning away from the national YQCA program and creating our own Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care program. Early messages state in-person sessions may begin in January and will cost \$3 per person. National YQCA certificates will still be accepted in Indiana and can be completed online like in the past. More details and local dates to come soon!

## In Other Extension News...

- State Tree Orders from the Indiana DNR Nursery are available. Visit [www.INForestry.com](http://www.INForestry.com) to order. You can select Steuben County SWCD as your spring delivery site.
- Steuben and DeKalb Counties are hosting "The Power of Negotiation and Communication: Land Leasing Strategies for Midwestern Ag Women" at the DeKalb County Office Building, January 18 & 25, and February 1 & 8, 5:30-8:30 pm. Registration costs \$50 and will take place on/before January 13th at [puext.in/PowerOfNegotiation](http://puext.in/PowerOfNegotiation).
- The Fort Wayne Farm Show will take place January 17-19 at the FW War Memorial Coliseum.



## Donate to a State University: Make Your Giving Work For You

The end of year is a time that many begin to finalize tax considerations and reflect on the past calendar year. You may receive a return of a 50 percent direct credit to your tax bill when donating up to \$200 per individual and \$400 for couples filing jointly, given to an Indiana funded university. Because Purdue Extension is part of a state funded university, one can make a donation to the local Extension Office that would qualify. Therefore a \$100 contribution to Purdue Extension-Steuben County would cost one only \$50. You can also specify how you would like the money to be used (i.e. 4-H, afterschool programming, volunteer development, agriculture or natural resources programming, parenting classes, mental health programming, community development activities, etc.). Some limitations do exist. For example funds donated for awards or scholarships would not be eligible for the additional direct state tax deduction. Give the Extension office a call and ask about this excellent way you can support community programs for minimal cost to your pocket due to the additional state tax break.

One can also make a donation to the Steuben County Master Gardeners and/or the Steuben County 4-H Fair Board. While this option is not eligible for the 50% state tax credit that a state funded university or college provides, it is a great option in that the these not-for-profit entities fall under the general state and federal income tax deduction via a reduction in taxable income. A donation to these entities not only helps the group, but allows for more education and events in our community.

## Purdue Fast Start

Many promising students will now have the opportunity to take their first steps toward a Purdue degree with the new Purdue Fast Start program. Through Purdue's partnership with ModernStates.org, a website featuring more than 30 free, high-quality courses, you can gain assured admission to Purdue by earning free college credit. This partnership will create new opportunities for Indiana students to take giant leaps in their education with a new pathway to Purdue University. [purdue.university/faststart](http://purdue.university/faststart)



*Tami M. Mosier*

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