March/April 2024 Issue 13, Volume 2



**Extension - Sullivan County** 

## Sullivan County Extension N.E.W.S.

### extension.purdue.edu/sullivan

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### Farm fatalities: more than just data

By Kevin Cross, Sullivan County Ag & Natural Resources Extension Educator

Spring is upon us.

Annual grower meetings are wrapping up, equipment has been cleaned and re-cleaned, grease guns are working overtime, and farmers will soon be out in the fields as the 2024 planting season begins. the bin. This tragedy that shook the Sandborn community shortly before I was born was never totally explained, but bad wiring and the hot, humid conditions created an environment that energized the auger and killed my grandfather.

The farm is an exciting place to be, especially during planting season.

But it's also a very dangerous place to be.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, careers in the agriculture industry are consistently ranked as the most dangerous jobs in America. Specifically, farming annually ranks among the top ten most dangerous individual vocations—above construction, mining, public protection, and other high-risk jobs.

Farm fatalities are a real thing. Several Hoosiers die each year while working on the farm. These accidents have affected our own county, and each time tragedy strikes a farm family, the whole community is affected.

And for me, the dangers associated with farm work really hit home.

On July 10, 1987, my grandfather, Gordon "Pee Wee" Cross, was killed while cleaning out a grain bin on our family farm. The hired farmhands noticed that he'd been in the grain bin longer than

expected, and when they looked inside, he was slumped over the auger. When they tried to enter the bin, they were immediately electrocuted when they touched the auger. After cutting the power, they were able to retrieve his body from the bin. This tragedy that shook the Sandborn community shortly before I was born was never totally explained, but bad wiring and the hot, humid conditions created an environment that energized the auger and killed my grandfather.

This would not be the last time that the hazards of farming would affect my family.

I clearly remember the sunshine and unseasonably warm weather on January 24, 1995. My twin brother and I were only six years old, and my dad's friends showed up at our back door. We went to the other room as my dad talked to his friends, and when he came in to talk to us a few moments later, he told us, through his tears, that my Mamaw had passed away.

My grandmother, Virginia Cross, was wrapped up in a power-take-off (PTO) shaft and died while working on the family farm.

Tragedy again struck our family and community. She was unloading a grain bin very near to where her husband had died. My Uncle Dean quickly found his mom as soon as it occurred... a scrap of her old, torn farm coat (that I can still picture hanging on her coat rack) had gotten caught in the unguarded PTO shaft attached to her Farmall Super C, it took her with it. The funeral required a closed casket.

...Continue on page 5

## Indiana Extension Homemakers Association Sullivan County president's message

### ATTENTION ALL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS:

It is time to apply for the Sullivan County Extension Home-makers annual scholarship. Two \$300 scholarships will be awarded.

The topic will be finalized in early March shortly thereafter information will be available at your school guidance office. Students who are home schooled may pick up information at the Extension Office.

### FOOD STAND RENO:

Renovation work is progressing on the Food Stand. Heating/cooling installed and waiting for the ceiling to go up. It should be much more comfortable and energy efficient at fair time.

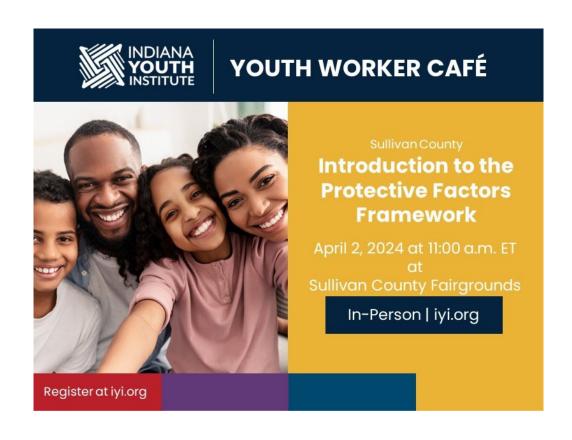
**Becky Cole** 





### The 2024 open class specialty fruit is lemon!

Enter your best lemon baked item in the Fruit Specialty division at the Sullivan County 4-H Fair. The fair will be July 13-20, 2024. The fruit specialty changes each year. Please contact the Extension Office for current Open Class guidelines.



# Pressure Canning Workshop

When

April 23, 2024 12-4PM ET Register by April 18th Where

Sullivan County 4-H Fairgrounds 4-H Building



\*Class ending time is approximate and can vary. Class size limited to 9.

### In each session:

- · learn canning basics, food safety guidelines for home canning, where to find resources
- course includes lecture, handouts and hands-on practice in the kitchen
- participants will take home their own sample of home-canned product that they make

Cost: \$30 per person, or \$50 if registering two people at the same time

Register bring or send the following to Purdue Extension – Sullivan County, 1361 E. Co Rd 75 N,

Sullivan, IN 47882. Cash or check only. Make check payable to Purdue CES Ed Fund. Or drop

payment and form in the after hours drop box, located across the street from the Extension

Office (red brick building).

Name:	Phone:
Email:	_
Info for second participant, if applicable:	
Amount enclosed: \$	

If you need a reasonable accommodation to attend this program please contact Cheryl at 812-268-4332 at least 10 business days prior to the event.



Extension - Health and Human Sciences **FOOD PRESERVATION** 



### **SULLIVAN COUNTY**

PUBLIC LIBRARIES



<sup>\*</sup> Please call to register for these programs. 100 S. (ROWDER ST. SULLIVAN, IN 812.268.4957. WWW.SULLIVAN, LIB.IN.US



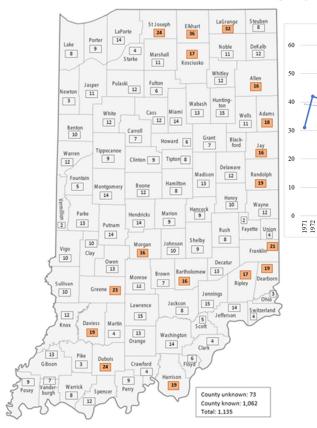


### Extension - Agriculture and Natural Resources

······ Trend (Fatalities)

- Fatalities

### Farm fatalities continued from page 1 ...



I don't share this story to incite pity but rather to raise awareness—farm safety is serious business. When I look at Purdue University's Indiana Farm Fatality map (shown above), I don't just see numbers. I know that two of the 12 farm fatalities listed in Knox County from 1980-2021 were my grandparents. I also see the number "10" here in Sullivan County, knowing that that number is not just a data point but that it represents 10 families. I also see that our neighbors in Greene and Daviess County are ranked among the top ten counties with the most farm fatalities.

It's a sobering reality, but it's also a call to action. When my grandfather died, his friend Bill Huey, another local farmer, funded CPR training for area farm workers—an example of a rural community turning a tragedy into an opportunity.

A PTO guard would have likely saved my grandmother's life. Still to this day, I always check for guards and never come close to a running PTO shaft. When I taught at the school, the tractor was always shut off before we hooked up an implement. Expediency is simply not worth the risk.

Technology and awareness have helped us make great strides in farm safety. As you can see in the chart, there has been a downward trend in farm fatalities over the past 40 years.

But there are still too many farmers dying on the job. These are not just numbers. These are people. These are mothers and fathers, grandmothers and grandfathers, and yes, even children. Each death affects families and rural communities in ways that only those who have experienced it can understand.

So be careful out there, farmers. It's an exciting season, and there is A LOT of work to be done. But remember: coming back to the house at the end of the day is far more important than your efficiency. Take your time. Take the proper precautions. Don't cut corners. Get some rest. Focus on safety... there are people who need you to hang around for a while longer.

# BROADBAND F

**Broadband** is defined by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), a government entity that regulates telecommunications, as an internet connection that is always on and faster than dial-up.

### DO I HAVE BROADBAND?

While the definition is a bit vague, it really means that if internet service available at your address (home business, organization, etc.) is slower than 25 megabits per second or Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload (Mbps refers to the amount of data that can be handled by your internet connection), 25/3 for short, then you are considered unserved. If you do have 25/3 Mbps service but not 100/20 Mbps available, then you are considered underserved. If either of these is the case, your address could be eligible for funds to provide service of at least 100/20 Mbps. In case you were wondering, "gig" service refers to speeds of 1,000 Mbps.

The FCC unveiled a new map and needs your help to make sure your address and internet service offered are accurate. Read more on how to review your address by reading this blog post: <u>3 Steps to Bring Better Broadband to Indiana – Purdue Center for Regional Development</u>





### WHAT TYPES OF BROADBAND TECHNOLOGIES ARE THERE?

Broadband technologies vary resulting in different internet speeds and reliability measured in Mbps per technology, but the most common ones include:

#### **DIGITAL SUBSCRIBER LINE (DSL)**

This one uses your copper phone line to provide an internet connection.

### **CABLE**

This one is usually offered by cable companies and rely on a combination of fiber-optic and coaxial cable.

#### SATELLITE

This technology also requires an antenna at your address and line of sight with the satellite providing the internet connection. However, please note that this technology is not considered broadband by the upcoming federal funds. In other words, if your address has access to satellite service, you can still be considered unserved or underserved.

Cellular data provides internet service in a different way. These technologies include 3G, 4G, and/or 5G (do not confuse with 1 G(ig) service, see above). However, these are not considered fixed broadband and if available at your address, you are still eligible for broadband funds.

#### **FIXED WIRELESS**

This technology requires an antenna and line of sight between your address and the tower providing the service.

### FIBER-OPTIC

This technology relies on very thin glass fibers, usually as thick as a human hair, to provide internet service.

#### **FIXED VS. MOBILE BROADBAND**

Upcoming broadband funds can only be used for what is called fixed broadband. This refers to the fact that the end-user (a home, business, etc.) is fixed or does not move. Mobile broadband refers to cellular data plans. All technologies described here are considered fixed broadband.

One last thing, your Wi-Fi relies on these broadband technologies. Consider your broadband connection to be your main water line while Wi-Fi is the shower.



### WHY IS BROADBAND ACCESS DATA IMPORTANT?

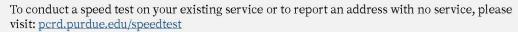
The federal government, in partnership with states, is deploying broadband funds through the Broadband Equity, Adoption, and Deployment program also known as BEAD. Indiana is receiving close to \$870 million. A map compiled by the FCC will dictate where these funds go. So, we need to make sure Indiana's map is as accurate as possible. Continue reading below for more information.

### CONFLICTING BROADBAND INFORMATION

Part of the reason this map is being updated is because broadband data is very muddy. In the past, the FCC compiled data from providers that report where they offer service, with what technology, and their maximum advertised download and upload speeds. However, because this data is provider self-reported and not validated by consumers it can overestimate broadband availability. This time around, they are asking for your help to make sure the data reported by providers is accurate at the address level.

### **SPEED TESTS**

Another wrinkle to consider is that beyond internet service being available, is the issue of reliability and quality of service. One way to measure this is through speed tests. A speed test calculates your download and upload speeds (again, measured in Mbps). If your internet connection consistently delivers speed tests below what the provider says it is providing, there may be some quality issues. This in turn may make your address eligible for funds to build more high-quality internet service. You can see what service you subscribed to by checking out your internet bill.



And remember, speed tests are free so please complete as many as possible, as frequently as possible! The more data there is on your internet service, the better!



### ADOPTION AND AFFORDABILITY

In addition to having access to adequate internet, another issue is adoption. Many times, internet is available, but folks do not subscribe because they may not be able to afford it. Fortunately, there is a program in place called the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) that provides \$30 per month to eligible homes (\$75 in qualifying tribal lands and high-cost areas). Please visit <a href="www.fcc.gov/acp">www.fcc.gov/acp</a> for more information and for instructions on how to enroll.





Office of Engagement

The Office of Engagement fosters reciprocal relationships with external partners to address societal challenges by leveraging University resources in teaching, research, and engagement. These resources include colleges and academic units, service learning, <a href="Purdue Extension">Purdue Extension</a>, and the <a href="Purdue Center for Regional Development">Purdue Extension</a>, and the <a href="Purdue Center for Regional Development">Purdue Center for Regional Development</a>, to name a few.

## SAFESITTER Essentials with CPR

Designed to prepare students to be safe when they're home alone, watching younger siblings, or babysitting.

The Instructor-led class is filled with fun games and role-playing exercises. Students even get to use manikins to practice rescue skills like choking rescue!



Thursday, May 30, 2024 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Sullivan County Community Hospital 2200 N Section St, Sullivan, IN 47882

### **REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

Class fee is \$50, which includes Safe Sitter Kit to take home and lunch.

Register early as the classes fill quickly.

Register by calling 812-268-4311, ext. 2334, or emailing janis.hughbanks@schosp.com







### SULLIVAN COUNTY AG DAY 2024

Saturday, March 9th, 2024 Sullivan County 4-H Fairgrounds 6:30 am-11 am

PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST

In-Person - \$3/plate

To-Go - \$5/plate

(Limit 5 to-go per person)

**SILENT AUCTION** 

Ends at 10:30, must be present to place bids

**PEDAL TRACTOR PULL** 

Registration begins at 9 am and event starts at 9:30 am

**60+ VENDORS AND BOOTHS!** 

AG DAY SCHOLARSHIPS
WILL BE AWARDED TO
ESSAY CONTEST
WINNERS!

1ST PLACE - \$1,000 2ND PLACE - \$850 3RD PLACE - \$650 Sullivan County 4-H monthly communication for 4-H members, families, leaders, fair board, and council.

### Important dates

4-H Hippology meetings: Thursdays 6-7 pm at the 4-H building

8th Annual Wabash Valley STEM Fest: March 2, 2024

Ag Day: March 9, 6:30-11am in the 4-H building

4-H project manual pick up day: March 9, 8-11am in the Extension office

Clover Extravaganza, April 13, 6-8 pm at 4-H Building (formerly called Fun Night)

4-H Council flower sale pick up: April 25, 4-7pm at 4-H exhibit building

Add/drop a 4-H project deadline: May 15

Animal ID deadline: May 15

4-H Camp: June 9-13, 2024 at Shakamak State Park

Academy: June 12-14, 2024 at Purdue Sullivan County Fair: July 13-20, 2024

State Fair: Aug. 2-18, 2024

### You can still register for 4-H!

You can still sign up for 4-H! Go to **v2.4honline.com** to register for 4-H and update volunteer status. Call the Extension office if you have questions: 812-268-4332.

To apply for financial assistance with the \$15 enrollment fee, contact Cheryl Casselman at ccassel@purdue.edu or 812-268-4332 and she'll be happy to guide you.

### 4-H Project Manual Pick up

Extension office will be open for you to pick up 4-H project manuals and/or pay 4-H fees on Saturday, March, 9 from 8 am to 11 am. Please call ahead and your information will be ready to pick up that morning.

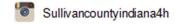
### 4-H Fees

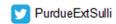
Regular 4-H state fee is \$15 per 4-Her. The maximum fees for families is \$45. I.e. families with more than three 4-Hers pay no more than \$45. There is no additional county 4-H fee for Sullivan County. There are no fees for Mini 4-Hers. Make checks payable to Purdue CES Ed Fund.

### 4-H Adult Volunteers

It's time for all 4-H adult volunteers to enroll or re-enroll in 4Honline. The online training has been updated this year and will take about 45 minutes to complete. Go to v2.4honline.com to complete the annual training. If you have questions or need computer access, please contact the Extension office at 812-268-4332.







### Sheep and goat tag/weigh-in date

Sheep and goat tagging and weigh in will be Sunday, April 28, 2-4 pm.

County Tags—\$1.50

RFID Tag (required for state fair)—\$2.50

DNA Envelopes (required for state fair) due May 30 to state 4-H office.

### INDIANA 4-H QUALITY LIVESTOCK CARE

To exhibit BEEF CATTLE, DAIRY CATTLE, SWINE, SHEEP, MEAT GOATS, DAIRY GOATS, POULTRY, and RABBITS, 4-H members must be certified through the Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care training OR the online Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program (YQCA). This certification must be done an annual basis Members must be registered BEFORE attending a training Members may attend any training dates listed OR a training in another county OR complete the online YQCA training.

Monday, 3/18/24 4:30 PM Sullivan County 4-H Fairgrounds

Tuesday, 3/26/24 11:00 AM (Spring Break) Sullivan County 4-H Fairgrounds

Tuesday, 3/26/24 1:30 PM (Spring Break) Sullivan County 4-H Fairgrounds

Monday, 4/15/24 5:30 PM Sullivan County 4-H Fairgrounds

Monday, 5/20/24 4:30 PM Sullivan County 4-H Fairgrounds

Wednesday, 6/5/24 1:00 PM Sullivan County 4-H Fairgrounds

Register for classes on events at www.v2.4honline.com. Cost is \$3 at the door.

Those planning to be certified through the YQCA program will register at www.yqcaprogram.org and will present their completion certificate to their 4-H Educator.



The 2024 4-H Handbook will be coming out soon. Please be sure to review your project guidelines to insure you are

meeting all the requirements of your project. Projects that have changes for 2024 are the following;

Aerospace: Rockets/Drones

Bowling

Communications

Electric

Garden

Genealogy

Swine

Photography

Woodworking

Foods Baked and Foods Preserved have a newly revised recipe card.



### Flower sale

It's time for the 2024 4-H Geranium and Wave Petunia Sale! This fundraiser helps pay for Sullivan County 4-H trips, scholarships, activities and events throughout the year. 4-Hers in 3rd-12th grade should look for order forms in your mailbox the first week of March. Mini 4-Hers do not participate. Orders due to club leaders by April 10. Flower orders pick-up will be April 25 at the fairgrounds from 4 to 7 pm.

### Virtual 4-H Volunteer Connections in 2024

Join this open forum opportunity to connect with fellow volunteers and 4-H professionals from across the state.

Sessions are via Zoom and each will provide timely, focused information/knowledge with the opportunity for you to share ideas and ask questions.

- Tuesday, April 9, 2024 from 7:00-7:45 pm-Topic: Appreciating Others and Celebrating National Volunteer Week
- Monday, July 8, 2024 from 7:00-7:45 pm-Topic: Being a Positive Role Model, Mentor and Leader
- Wednesday, October 9, 2024 from 7:00-7:45 pm- Topic: Building Youth and Adult Partnerships to Support **Your Community**

Zoom Session Connection: https://tinyurl.com/in4hvvc

Meeting ID: 927 5120 9250

Passcode: volunteer

One tap mobile: +13017158592,,92751209250#,,,,\*530381776# US (Washington DC)

+13052241968,,92751209250#,,,,\*530381776# US







Animal

Science



Cyber Security

At 4-H Academy, high school students visit Purdue University to interact with faculty and industry professionals and meet new friends from across Indiana.

Contact your county's Purdue Extension 4-H Educator before May 15 to register.

To learn more, visit bit.ly/in4hacademy



Finance













Natural

Resourc

### 2024 4-H Club Meeting Schedules

### **Curry Nomads**

All meetings are held at the Shelburn American Legion (824 N Washington St, Shelburn) 6- 7:30pm

February 6 & 29 May 7 & 23

March 12 & 28 June 2 & 20

April 9 & 25 July 2 & 20

Club Leaders:

Corrina Houser 812-607-0880 Kailee Cloutier 812-240-5759

### **Old Oak/Old Hickory**

All meetings 6-7pm at the Hymera Ruritan

Feb. 8 March 7 Apr. 4 May 2 June 6 July 1

Leaders:

Ashley Hauser 812-495-5132 Christy Scott 812-244-9709

### **Turman Lads and Lassies**

Sunday 2/11 3:00 @ Turman Township Fire Department Sunday 3/17 3:00 @ Turman Township Fire Department Sunday 4/14 3:00 @ the church in Graysville Wednesday 5/15 6:00 pm @ the church in Graysville Sunday 6/9 3:00 @ the church in Graysville Sunday 6/30 3:00 @ the church in Graysville

Club Leaders:

Robin Rice 765-366-6842 rsdrice@frontier.com Ann Hitt 812-890-6169 aehitt@hotmail.com

### **Gill Go-Getters**

March 5 April 1 May 13 June 3

July 1

Meetings are at the 4-H Building in New Lebanon at 6 pm.

Club Leaders:

Melissa Stearley: 812-454-3518 Donna Brooks: 812-564-0174



# Clover Extravaganza! Saturday, April 13 6-8 p.m. at 4-H Building

DJ music and games galore inside the 4-H building for 4-Hers in grades 3-12. Don't miss this fun night with your friends and 4-H leaders! You might even walk away with a prize. Must be in 4-H to participate.



Great date night for mom and dad! Drop off your 4-Hers at 6:00 and pick them up at 8:00!

Pre-registration is appreciated. Contact the Extension office at 812-268-4332 or sullivances@purdue.edu prior to the event to RSVP so we have enough supplies and food.















### 4-H Camp will be June 9-12 at Shakamak State Park

Camp counselor applications will be sent to 4-H members in grades 8-12 during the first week of March. If you are interested in applying to be a camp counselor, you must drop off your application at the extension office by 4 PM on Monday, April 1.

General camp registration will open in April. More details to come!

### 10 Year 4-H Member Fun Facts

### **Carol Witt**

Parents: Steve and Joy Witt

Siblings: Bonnie Witt

Pets: Cat- Pewter, Bird- Cecil

4-H Club: Turman Lads and Lassies

College you want/will go to: Purdue University

Future job: Broadcast journalist

What are your hobbies? Reading, sewing, hanging out with my friends

and family.

What would you buy if you were given a million dollars? I would buy a

new closet full of clothes.

Favorite candy: Hersey Kisses

Favorite 4-H project: Goats

Best advice for first year members: Start you projects early, and do not

sign up for too many projects.

Why do you love 4-H? I love 4-H because it allows me to grow as a leader, develop my passion for agriculture and it has given me life-long friendships.



### **Adelyne Stefancik**

Nickname: Addy

Parents: Jerika & Seth Stinebaugh

Siblings: Izzy, Gage, and Asa

4-H Club: Cass Champ

College you want/will go to? Hanover University

Future job: Healthcare Administrator

Hidden talent: Roller Skating

Favorite candy: M&M's

Favorite 4-H project: Cake Decorating

Your disaster (worst experience) project: Horticulture

Best advice for first year members: I would recommend first year 4-H members to try any projects that interest them! I found projects that I

didn't like, but through trying new things, I found projects that I absolutely

loved.

Why do you love 4-H? I love that 4-H teaches skills that are applicable to so much more than just a cool hobby or a fun activity. So many of the things I have learned from 4-H, like independence and perseverance, have helped me inexplicably in every other area of my life.

Bonus random fun fact about yourself: My favorite color is green because it's the color of nature and life.

