

4-H LINK Newsletter FAIR EDITION



Purdue Extension - Vanderburgh County, 13301 Darmstadt Rd. Suite A Evansville IN 47725
(812) 867-4935 <http://extension.purdue.edu/vanderburgh>

Welcome! This is an exciting time as you prepare your 4-H projects for the Fair. We know you've worked hard on your exhibits, so we've created this Fair Survival Guide to help you understand what to expect and what you need to know as a 4-H member. Good luck at the Fair! Remember, 4-H is about learning new skills, trying new things, and growing through your projects. If you've learned something new this year, you're already a WINNER!



VANDERBURGH COUNTY FAIR: JULY 20-25 DOORS OPEN TO PUBLIC ON JULY 20 AT 3 PM

2026 SUMMER DATES

May 15: Animal ID Deadline

May 28: Quality Livestock Care Training

June 1-3: 4-H Camp

June 7: County Tractor Contest

June 10-12: 4-H Academy & 4-H Round-Up

June 17: Quality Livestock Care Training

June 29: Quality Livestock Care Training

July 1: QLC Deadline & Fair Entry Deadline

July 8: Speech & Demo Contest

July 8: BBQ Contest

July 13: Fashion Revue

July 15-16: Fair Set Up

July 18-19: 4-H Project Entry

July 20-25: Vanderburgh County Fair

July 26: 4-H Project Release



Driver Needed!

We are looking for someone willing to drive a rented box truck to/from the State Fair on Monday, August 3 and Monday, August 24 to drop off and pick up 4-H projects from our county. If interested, please

let Megan know at mkron@purdue.edu.

Thank you!



FAIR ENTRY

The Vanderburgh County Fair is right around the corner! Now that you know the projects you plan to exhibit at the fair, we need you to complete one more step in the registration process. The Fair Entry system is designed so that you can enter the exact exhibit or animal you're planning to bring to the fair. For instance, you may have signed up for Photography in 4-H Online. In the Fair Entry system, you will choose the exhibit that you're bringing to the fair, such as a Color Salon Print. This helps us to create labels, judging scorecards, and show bills for the fair. Also, by letting us know which animals you plan to exhibit, livestock superintendents can have an accurate count for setting up animal pens. Please follow the instructions found [here](#) (scroll down to Fair Entry) to indicate which exhibits you will be bringing to the fair. The website to enter is <http://vanderburghcountyin.fairentry.com>.



HANDBOOK

The 4-H Handbook is now available online! Click to access it. All 4-H families will receive a hard copy of the 4-H Handbook from their primary club leader.

FAIRS CARE

For every donation made to the Vanderburgh County Fair (minimum \$5 in canned goods or monetary support) you will be given 1 Indiana State Fair admission ticket, good for any day of the fair. We will have a box to collect canned goods at project entry times on Saturday OR you may come to the Fair Extension Office at any time during fair week and donate to receive tickets. If you don't need a ticket for the State Fair, you can still donate and show how our Vanderburgh County 4-H members/families care for our community. Please consider a donation.

Project Supplies

- Poster Backing: \$1.00
- Poster and Salon Print Sleeves: \$1.00
- Electric Circuit Board Kit: \$18.75
- Electric Shake Light Kit: \$20.50
- Electric Trouble Light Kit: \$31.50
- Electric Extension Cord Kit: \$21.50
- Fluorescent Trouble Light Head Only: \$22
- Electric Complete Lamp Kit: \$27
- Entomology Pins: \$6
- Insect Boxes \$40
- How to Study, Collect, Preserve and Identify Insects: \$5

Purchase items at the Purdue Extension Office.

Project Resources

Did you know you can find a TON of great resources about state fair eligible 4-H projects here? Find your project and check out the resources, such as scorecards, instructional videos, help sheets, and more! You can find previously recording workshops for Poster Making here and completing your Achievement Record here.

New Location for the
4-H OFFICE
at the Vanderburgh County Fair!



FIND US AT THE FAIR!

We will be here!

Survive Alive House
building just south of the campground



DISCOUNT SEASON PASS

Purchase 2026 Season Pass ONLINE or at the EXTENSION OFFICE and save \$5!
ENDS JULY 1

Fair Prep

Project Check-In

Be sure to check the 4-H handbook to see when your project needs to be checked in, if your project will be community judged, and the location. Community judging means you will talk with the judge about your project. There have been several changes from last year so please double check the handbook!

Entry Tags

Each project exhibited at the fair must have a fair entry tag securely attached. Entry tags will be mailed to all exhibitors in July.

GARDEN EXHIBITS

4-H members exhibiting produce in the Garden project will be asked if they would like to donate their produce to Feed Evansville after judging. Exhibits will be on display through Monday or Tuesday and then those projects that wish to be donated will be donated. It is not a requirement to donate produce.



4-H PROJECT MONITORS

IN THE ACTIVITIES CENTER

Thank you for supporting our 4-H members!

Help keep the fair fun, fair, and safe — just by being present!

YOUR ROLE IS SIMPLE:



OVERSEE

Be present in the Activities Center during your scheduled time.



PROTECT

Make sure no one touches or messes with the projects.



SUPPORT

Help maintain a respectful and safe environment for all exhibits.



SIGN UP TODAY!

Choose a time that works for you. Sign up on the link below!

THANK YOU FOR HELPING MAKE OUR FAIR A SUCCESS!

Fair Set Up

Come out and help set up the 4-H display in the Activities Center on Wednesday, July 15 at 5:00 pm. Open Class set-up is on Thursday, July 16 at 5:00 pm. Many hands make for light work!



SENIOR SHOWCASE

Attention all seniors! We have a unique opportunity for you to showcase your 4-H career! All 4-H members in their last year of 4-H are invited to create a 24 x 28 poster, horizontally displayed, and covered with a plastic sleeve, showcasing your time in 4-H.

Things to include: Name, years in 4-H, clubs, future plans, photos of your 4-H years, and what you learned.

Turn in this poster during project check-in and it will be displayed during the fair.

CLASS OF
2026



FAIR DAYS



Fair Ride Wristbands

All 4-H members, including Mini 4-Hers, may purchase a ride wristband at a discounted rate of \$100 and it is good for the week.

Ride Wristbands will ONLY be on sale Saturday, July 18 from 10 am - 3 pm & Sunday, July 19 from 12 - 2 pm ONLY

4-H CLUB DISPLAYS

All 4-H clubs are invited to put together a club display to help promote 4-H. The display can be about general 4-H, community projects, and/or a promotional display. It is recommended to be on a poster board or trifold board and may be hung depending on space. Please include your club's name, meeting place, time, and a contact name and phone number/email address. Drop off your display during project check-in on Saturday before the fair in the Expo. Hall.

4-H SPOTLIGHT Celebration

Join us for a big celebration as we recognize Champion winners, 4-H Clubs, and Graduating Seniors! All 4-H members that receive a Champion at the fair will receive a small prize. Seniors will sign that they are beyond ready for life and work. And 4-H clubs will be recognized.

Saturday, July 25
5:00 pm
4-H Center Auditorium

ALL 4-H & MINI 4-H MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE A

FREE HOT DOG

Wednesday at the Vanderburgh County Fair!
Bring your ticket to the Wooden Building to redeem!



4-H members will receive their tickets from their club leaders. Mini 4-H members will receive their tickets at project check in on the Saturday before the fair!



Project Check-Out

All 4-H projects (except livestock/horse & pony) will need to be picked up on Sunday, July 26 between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. No projects will be released before the release time. Projects will be picked up in the area that they were displayed and need to be signed out to be released. A 4-H leader or family member/friend may pick up projects for you. If your project is not picked up on July 26, it may be discarded.

Summer Contests

COUNTY GARDEN CONTEST

Any youth can participate in the County Garden Contest- you do not have to qualify from your club. The contest will be held in early July. Judges will come around to look at your garden and ask questions. There is a small garden division (less than 150 square feet) and large garden division (larger than 150 square feet). Register in **Fair Entry** under Exhibit (County Projects): County Garden Contest by July 1st.

Speech & Demonstration Contest

Wednesday, July 8 6:00 PM
Purdue Extension -
Vanderburgh County
13301 Darmstadt Rd,
Evansville IN 47725

Register in Fair Entry by July 1!

VANDERBURGH COUNTY BARBECUE CONTEST

REGISTER IN
FAIR ENTRY
BY JULY 1



July 8 at 6:00 PM

AMERICAN HONEY PARKING LOT
CALL (812) 435-5287 FOR QUESTIONS

4-H ROBOTICS CONTEST

Tuesday, July 14
5:30 pm
Willard Library

Open to 3rd - 12th graders
Register at:
<https://tinyurl.com/26roboticscontest>



Fashion Revue

Judging: Monday, July 13 at 9:00 am
4-H Exposition Hall

4-H Show: Monday, July 13 at 7:00 pm
(Open Class Show at 6:00 pm)

Model your sewing or consumer clothing outfit.
Mini 4-H can participate! Register in Fair Entry
by July 6.



Animal News

DAIRY GOAT WORKSHOPS

Join us to learn more about your dairy goat project! Whether you're wanting to learn more, just getting started, or looking to build your skills, all are welcome.

Bring your goat and a chair for parents.

FRIDAY, MAY 15
MONDAY, JUNE 15
WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

All workshops: 6:30 - 8:30 pm in the back of the 4-H Center Show Barn

Contact Mary Brenner at (812) 499-7517 with questions



Auction Cards

If you plan to participate in the Livestock Premium Auction, you do not need to enter in advance in Fair Entry. You will have an auction card mailed to you that will be turned in at Livestock check-in that will allow you to participate in the Livestock Premium Auction. You will receive this card in late June or early July.

If you do not plan to participate, please still complete and return to let us know. Cards must be turned in at check-in or by noon on Monday, July 20 to the Extension Office at fair. Changes can be made by Thursday, July 23 by 5:00 pm.

LLAMA WORKSHOPS

Tuesday, May 19
Monday, June 15
Tuesday, July 14
6:00 pm at Spitsville Acres

For questions, please reach out to superintendents, Adam (812-430-6979) or Mallory Bumb (270-860-6749).



Join us to help you prepare for your llama project and the fair! You do not need to bring your llamas to the meetings.

Poultry Blood Testing

Poultry Testing will take place during Poultry Check-In from 5:00— 8:00 pm on Sun, July 19 and Mon, July 20 from 8:00 am—10:00 am



Rabbit Communication

Rabbit exhibitors, be sure to join the Vanderburgh County 4-H Rabbit Group remind system at <https://www.remind.com/join/793396>. This will let you get you important updates and reminders for the rabbit projects.

Auction Photos

Swine photos will be taken 1 hour before the auction. All other photos will be taken at the backdrop immediately after leaving the auction ring. Animals representing the Grand Champion of their species will still take a photo with the buyer at the backdrop (not in the ring). The livestock premium auction will take place on Friday, July 24 at 1:00 pm.

SUPREME SHOWMANSHIP

Supreme Showmanship shall include a Level 3 Showmen from the species listed below. A Supreme Showman for large animals and small animals shall be awarded. 4-H Members will be asked to show each species and answer questions related to each species.

Large Animals:
Beef, Dairy, Sheep, Swine, Meat Goat

Small Animals:
Dairy Goat, Llama, Poultry, Pygmy Goat, & Rabbit

4-Her may participate in both large AND small animal divisions contests.

4-H Supreme Showmanship will take place on Friday, July 24th at 8:00am in the Livestock Show Barn.

Animal News



AUCTION ORDER

1. Pygmy Goat
2. Poultry
3. Beef
4. Swine
5. Sheep
6. Dairy
7. Rabbit
8. Llama
9. Dairy Goat
10. Meat Goat

Barn Leadership Award

The Barn Leadership Award will be given in each species to an exhibitor that demonstrates integrity, discipline, positive attitude, humble spirit, sense of humor and is a team player.



Are you Show Ready?

Are you new to showing a livestock species or just need a refresher? Check out our Show Ready help guides for most species found [here](#) (scroll down to Livestock Resources, Shows Judging Opportunities, and Workshops) to find your species!

Barnyard Olympics

Monday, July 20

10:00 Mini 4-H Division

11:00 4-H Division

All Mini 4-H and 4-H'ers welcome!

Vanderburgh
4-H Center
Show Barn



You can win
Prizes!



Showmanship Reminder

Don't forget! If you participate in showmanship, you must show the animal that was exhibited by you in one of the regular 4-H species classes.

Animal Care

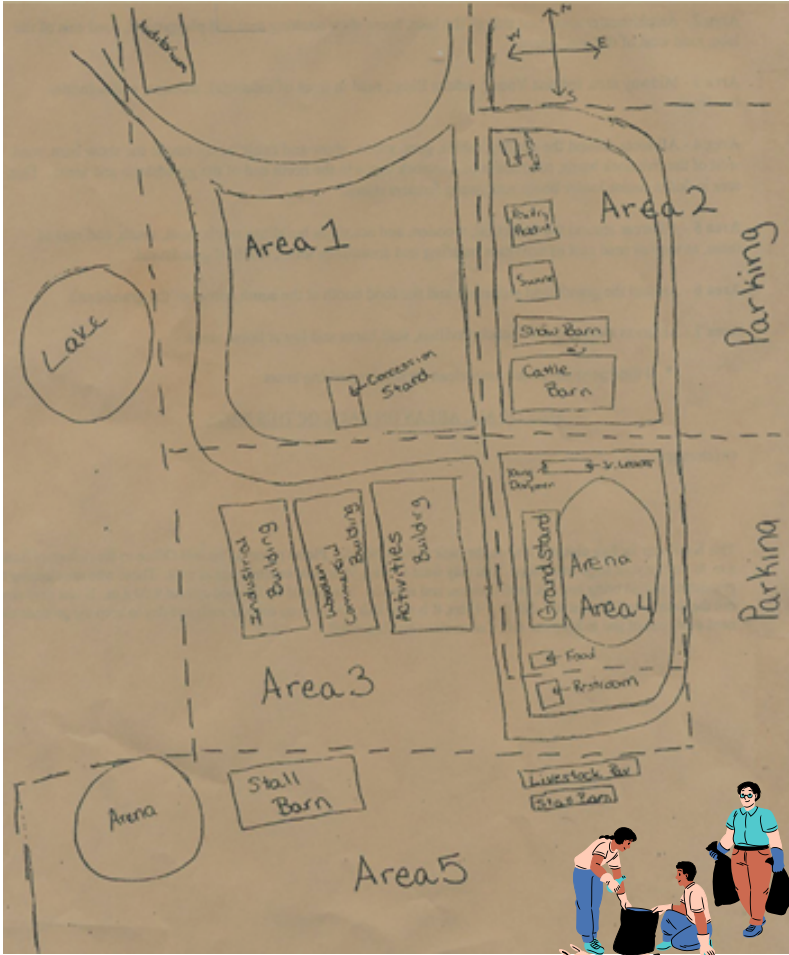
The 4-H member must provide proper care for the animal exhibit during the fair. Proper care includes cleanliness and water/feed. Species specific superintendents will give one warning to a 4-H member/parent. If the animal(s) are found a second time with a lack of proper care, the species specific superintendent in conjunction with the Livestock Animal Superintendent, 4-H Council President, and Youth Educator have the authority to have you remove your animal(s) from the fair. If an animal is removed from the fair, it will not be able to participate in the auction and will forfeit all ribbons and premiums. Please take care of your animals!

Show Your Appreciation

We are very lucky to have awesome sponsorship of our 4-H program here in Vanderburgh County. Please make sure you are writing "Thank You Notes" to your buyers in the livestock auction and Barn Leadership Award. Thank you notes will be available during the auction. Don't forget to send a note to thank the sponsors of the trophies and awards for livestock shows. We rely on sponsorship for these events and hope to continue receiving it. The easiest way to show how much we appreciate it is with a note of gratitude! **THANK YOU FOR SAYING THANK YOU!**



Fair Clean-Up



Area 1 – Auditorium parking lot, including the grassy area. Roads east and south of the Auditorium. Parking lot south of Auditorium. Midway area (around the rides) including the area around the Young Adults Building.

Area 2 – All areas around the poultry, rabbit, goat, swine, and cattle barns, and inside the show barn. The road west of the livestock barns, and south of the livestock barns. This includes the parking area behind the barns.

Area 3 – All areas around the Industrial, Wooden, and Activities Buildings. The road east of the Activities Building. Around the bathhouse, south of the grandstand. This includes the road in front of the Industrial, Wooden, and Activities Buildings.

Area 4 – Around and throughout the grandstand and arena. This includes the food booth and the south corner of the grandstand and the area around the Jr. Leader/Young Dairyman Booth.

Area 5 – All areas around the livestock pavilion, stall barns and lower horse arena. This includes the parking area behind the grandstand.

*If time permits, please help clean-up nearby parking areas.

Tuesday, July 21

Area	Club
1	Happy Hoosiers
2	Happy Hoosiers
3	Mini 4-H
4	Mini 4-H
5	German Gems

Wednesday, July 22

Area	Club
1	Dog
2	Centerrific
3	Centerrific
4	St. Wendel All-Star Clovers
5	St. Wendel All-Star Clovers

Thursday, July 23

Area	Club
1	Dog
2	Armstrong Hi-Lighters
3	Tech Club
4	Armstrong Hi-Lighters
5	Clover Crew

Friday, July 24

Area	Club
1	Perry M & M's
2	Perry M & M's
3	Star
4	Star
5	Horse & Pony

Saturday, July 25

Area	Club
1	Livestock
2	Livestock
3	Scott Achievers
4	Scott Achievers
5	Horse & Pony

Sunday, July 26

Area	Club
1	Tractor
2	Jr. Leaders
3	Shooting Sports
4	Shooting Sports
5	German Gems

Entire fairgrounds! All 4-H'ers, parents, volunteers please help!

The Vanderburgh County Fair Association is asking 4-H Clubs to help with recycling items at fair. You will be provided with black and clear trash bags to easily keep trash and recycling separate. We'll have a list of items that can be recycled at clean-up. Thank you for helping keep thousands of pounds of trash out of the landfill!

STATE FAIR

STATE FAIR EXHIBITS

All 4-H members that have projects selected for the State Fair will receive an email on Monday or Tuesday of our fair with instructions about your state fair project. All state fair projects except for Garden and Foods are to be dropped off at the Purdue Extension Office immediately following project release on **Sunday, July 26 from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm**. Floriculture projects can be remade with fresh flowers and turned in on **Sunday, August 2 from 2-4 pm**. All 4-H members are responsible for picking up their state fair entry tags, packing their projects, and delivering them to the Purdue Extension Office in Darmstadt.

All Garden and Foods projects are to be dropped off at the Purdue Extension Office in Darmstadt on **Sunday, August 9 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm**. Entry tags will be provided and we ask that you pack your item for travel after putting on the entry tag.

Projects will be brought back on August 24 and available for 4-H members to pick up starting **August 25** at the Purdue Extension Office in Darmstadt during office hours of 8:00 am - 4:30 pm. Please promptly pick up projects.

STATE FAIR FLORICULTURE



If your Floriculture project is selected for State Fair, it must be turned in EITHER during project check out on **Sunday, July 27 from 11 am - 1 pm** at the Purdue Extension Office in Darmstadt OR you can remake your exhibit with fresh flowers and turn in on **Sunday, August 2 from 2-4 pm** at the Purdue Extension Office in Darmstadt.

State Fair Transport

4-H members whose State Fair projects are large and/or heavy may be asked to transport their projects to and from the State Fair.



4-H Exhibit Hall Workers live and work at the Indiana State Fair. Duties include checking in non-animal 4-H exhibits, preparing exhibits for display to the public, record keeping, interacting with fair attendees, assisting with a variety of state fair events, and releasing exhibits. Exhibit Hall Workers must be a minimum of 14 years of age, and may continue working as college-age young adults. Apply at purdue.ag/IN4Heww.

Learn from a 4-Her

4-H members are invited to speak about their projects during State Fair weekends. Advance registration is not required; members may simply attend on the day they wish to participate. Reach out to the Extension Office if you are interested.



4-H clubs: want to be a part of the Indiana State Fair? Education Stations at the fair allow you to share 4-H with the public, have fun at the fair, and earn \$400 for your 4-H club. Learn how to host an Education Station and apply before June 15 at purdue.ag/educationstation.

Exhibiting Livestock

Thinking about exhibiting livestock at the State Fair? Information about state fair entries and the electronic entry forms can be found online at www.indianastatefair.com.

JUNIOR LEADERS

STOCK THE TRAILER

BRING CANNED FOOD TO PROJECT DROP OFF ON SATURDAY, JULY 18TH

THE CLUB THAT DONATES THE MOST CANS WILL WIN FREE DRINK FROM THE JUNIOR LEADERS BOOTH



Celebrate America's 250th PARADE

Vanderburgh County Fair
July 23, 2026
5:30 PM
 Meet at the Auditorium

Join the Hadi Shriners-Funsters, Civil Air Patrol's Honor Guard, Bag pipes, Indiana Association of Fairs and Festivals Truck, Boom Squad and Uncle Sam. The road of the inner loop of the 4-H Center will be used.

Please write up a short description of your 4-H Club and email to Susan at englishs@purdue.edu. An emcee will read your info over a sound system as your club marches by the Exposition Hall.

FAIR BREAKFAST

As we start scheduling all our Fair activities we are asking for volunteers to help the Adult Leader organization serve breakfast at the fair Tuesday thru Saturday from 6 to 10am. Volunteers can use the sign-up genius link below at Vanderburgh Adult Leaders Org Fair Breakfast or contact Melissa Bippus at mbip1101@aol.com or 812-480-3498 to sign-up. 4-H Adult Leaders: Vanderburgh Adult Leaders Org Fair Breakfast



Coloring Contest

Be a part of the livestock coloring contest! Color the coloring sheet on the next page and include name, parent's name, address, and age.

- Entries are due July 1.
- 3 categories: 5 & under, 6-10, and 11-15 years old
- Use any coloring medium
- 3 winners per age category. A People's Choice will be selected by voting with your donation for your favorite pic at the fair. Highest amount received wins in each category. Pictures will be displayed in the Expo Hall fair week.
- The top nine winners will receive: Young Dairymen ice cream and Jr. Leaders Kids Meal
- Return your entry to Purdue Extension Vanderburgh County, 13301 Darmstadt Rd, Evansville IN 47725
- By entering you are releasing the sharing of your entry. Names and addresses will be kept private.



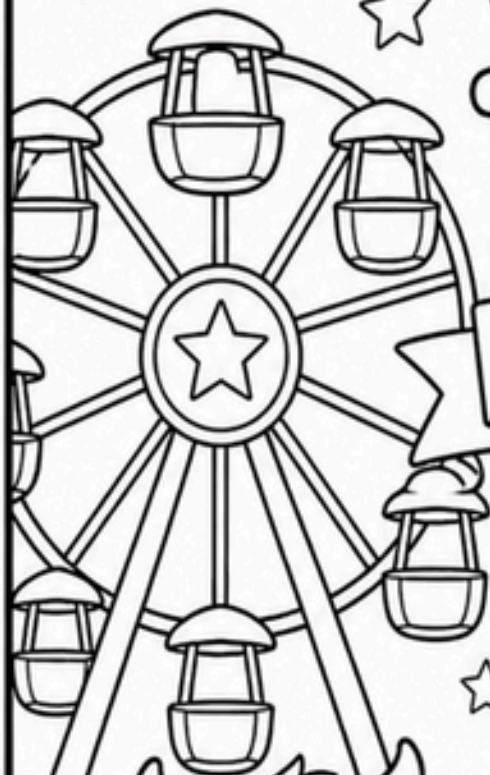
VANDERBURGH COUNTY FAIR

July 20-25, 2026

CELEBRATING

250th

★ USA ★



4-H & Club News

The Scott Achievers 4-H Club met on June 14th at the 4-H center. Members gave demonstrations and we discussed upcoming fair activities. We also played games and tie dyed our club shirts. - Hadley Jackson




Congratulations!


Congratulations to Elise Lousignont! She has been named an Indiana 4-H Ambassador! She will serve as an advocate for Indiana 4-H and will get the chance to meet with 4-H members, community leaders, and elected officials across the state. Way to go!

slip-and-slide & water balloons

BRING YOUR FRIENDS, WEAR CLOTHES THAT CAN GET WET, AND JOIN US FOR SOME SUMMER FUN!

 Wednesday, July 22

 1:00 PM

 Behind the Industrial Building at the Vanderburgh 4-H Center



DONUT EATING CONTEST

4-H VANDERBURGH COUNTY FAIR
OUTSIDE THE BANQUET HALL



**TUESDAY
JULY 21**

START AT 1:00 PM



VANDERBURGH
COUNTY

FAIR

4-H

**SCAVENGER
HUNT!**

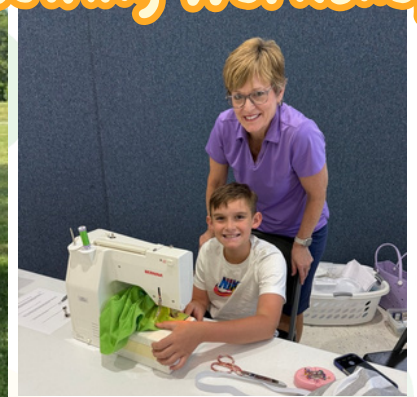
EXPLORE. SEARCH. SOLVE. HAVE FUN!

WORK AS A TEAM OR GO SOLO TO FIND ALL THE ITEMS, COMPLETE FUN CHALLENGES, AND MAKE FAIR MEMORIES TOGETHER!

MEET IN FRONT OF
EXHIBIT HALL
THURSDAY, JULY 23

4-H Summer Fun

Sewing Workshop



Great job to our County Tractor participants! Special thanks to Hutson John Deere - Chandler for their sponsorship and use of tractors!

Junior Zero Turn:

- 1st Place- Daniel Marx
- 2nd Place- Jude Moye
- 3rd Place- Jarrett Keil

Senior Zero Turn:

- 1st Place- Isaiah Schmitt
- 2nd Place- Luke Jackson
- 3rd Place- Logan Brandt

Junior Lawn & Garden:

- 1st Place- Jude Moye
- 2nd Place- Daniel Marx
- 3rd Place- Breydon Curtis

Senior Lawn & Garden:

- 1st Place- Beau Wheeler
- 2nd Place- Adam Marx
- 3rd Place- Owen Potter

Junior Ag:

- 1st Place- Isabella Schmitt
- 2nd Place- Clay Welte
- 3rd Place- Jarrett Keil

Senior Ag:

- 1st Place- Isaiah Schmitt
- 2nd Place- Kade Welte
- 3rd Place- Logan Brandt

Other participants: Jack Michel, Adam Marx. Anderson Potter, Stephen Brenner, Bryce Rexing, Bryan Keil, Levi Deutsch, Olivia Swartz, and Jackson Cherry

Color Me Green Dash



Clover Creative Studio

The Clover Creative Studio was a blast! 4-H members learned about Poster Basics, Gift Wrapping, Cake Decorating, Microwave, Floriculture, and scrapbook. Special thanks to workshop presenters: Rhonda Klueg - Slater, Winnie McConnell, Jenelle Eckardt, Macia Lynn, Kimbra Parker, Josh Brenner, and Susan English!



We had a great day baking together! Youth learned about gluten, tried different types and observed differences between 5 different breads, and made muffins and rolls from scratch! They made over 120 rolls and donated many to the Ozanam Family Shelter.

Baking Bonanza



4-H Trips



4-H Round-Up & Academy at Purdue

Special thanks to 4-H trip sponsors: Evansville Kiwanis, Evansville Young Dairymen, Vanderburgh Co. Extension Homemakers, Vanderburgh Co. Farm Bureau, and the Vanderburgh County Fair Association! And thank you to Dan Miller and Cleveland Huber for chaperoning the trip!

4-H Camp



Special thanks to our 4-H camp counselors: Kylie Weiss, Maddie Bedel, Elise Lousignont, Aubrey Petersen, Alyssa Coomes, Heidi Jackson, Abigail Bullington, Austin Groening, Mason Petersen, Brandt Coomes, Kyle Jackson, and Stephen Brenner, Jr. Camp Counselors, Raegan Brenner and Vivian Kroft, and 4-H Camp chaperones, Amanda Keil, Lori Keil, and Jason Jett!



2026 LIVESTOCK ENTRY AND RELEASE TIMES

4-H LIVESTOCK SET-UP

Dairy Goats, Meat Goats, Pygmy Goats, Rabbits: Wednesday, July 15 at 6:00 pm

Sheep, Swine: Thursday, July 16 at 6:00 pm

Poultry, Llamas: Friday, July 17 at 6:00 pm

Show Barn: Friday, July 17 at 5:00 pm

4-H LIVESTOCK ENTRY TIMES

Rabbits: Sat, July 18 from 4:30 - 5:00 pm or Sunday, July 19 from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
or Monday, July 20 from 8:00 am - 10:00 am

Horse & Pony: Sunday, July 19 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Sheep: Sunday, July 19 from 1-3 pm or Monday, July 20 from 8:00 am - 10:00 am

Pygmy Goats: Sunday, July 19 from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Beef, Dairy, Dairy Goats, Llamas, Meat Goats, Poultry, Swine: Sunday, July 19 from
5:00 - 8:00 pm or Monday, July 20 from 8:00 am - 10:00 am

4-H LIVESTOCK RELEASE TIMES

Dairy: Heavy Milkers Only: Thursday, July 23 at 10:00 pm

Dairy Goats, Meat Goats: Friday, July 24 from 8:00 pm-12:00 am

Sheep: Friday July 24 from 8:00 pm-12:00 am or Saturday, July 25 from 8:00-10:00 am

Remaining Dairy, Beef, Swine: Friday July 24 from 10:00 pm-12:00 am or Saturday,
July 25 from 6:00-9:00 am

Poultry: Saturday, July 25 from 7:00 - 8:00 am

Pygmy Goats, Rabbits: Saturday, July 25 from 8:00 - 9:00 am

Horse & Pony: Friday, July 24 at 12:00 pm or Saturday, July 25 at 9:00 am

Llamas: Saturday, July 25 11:00 pm-12:00 am or Sunday, July 26 7:00 - 8:00 am

4-H LIVESTOCK CLEAN-UP

Dairy Goats, Meat Goats, Pygmy Goats, Poultry: Saturday, July 25 at 8:00 am

Rabbits: Sunday, July 26: 10:00 am

Sheep: Saturday, July 25 at 10:00 am

Other 4-H Livestock: Sunday, July 26 at 8:00 am



2026 4-H & LIVESTOCK EVENTS AT THE VANDERBURGH CO. FAIR

Wednesday, July 15

5:00 pm: 4-H Expo Hall Set-Up

Thursday, July 16

9:00 am: 4-H Expo Hall Set-Up cont.

Saturday, July 18

10:00 am - 3:30 pm: 4-H Project Check-In (check handbook for specific times for each project)

4:30 - 5:30 pm: Rabbit Check-In

5:30 pm: Open Beef Show

6:00 pm: Open Rabbit Show

Sunday, July 19

9:30: Open Swine Show

10:00 am - 2:00 pm: Horse & Pony Check-in

12:00 - 2:00 pm: 4-H Project Check-In for Garden, Aquatic Science, Floriculture, and Pets

1:00 pm: Open Meat Goat Show

1:00 - 3:00 pm: Sheep Check-In

4:00 pm: Open Sheep Show

5:00 - 8:00 pm: Beef, Dairy, Dairy Goats, Llamas, Meat Goats, Poultry, Pygmy Goats, Rabbits & Swine Check-In

Monday, July 20

8:00 am: 4-H Dog Obedience Show

8:00 am - Horse & Pony Trail, Versatility

8:00 am - 10:00 am: Beef, Dairy, Dairy Goats, Llamas, Meat Goats, Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep & Swine Check-In

10:00 am - Mini 4-H Barnyard Olympics

11:00 am - 4-H Barnyard Olympics

1:00 pm - 4-H Pygmy Goat Show

3:00 pm: Open Pygmy Goat Show

3:00 - 9:00 pm: 4-H Exhibits Open

6:30 pm: Fair Opening & 10 Year Member Recognition

Tuesday, July 21

8:00am: 4-H English Horse and Pony Show

9:00am: 4-H Rabbit Showmanship

9:00 am: 4-H Meat Goat Show

10:00 am - 9:00 pm: 4-H Exhibits Open

10:00 am: 4-H Rabbit Show

12:00 pm: 4-H Sheep Show

1:00 pm: Fun Fair Activity

6:00 pm: 4-H Dog Agility Show

7:00 pm: Dairy Showmanship

Wednesday, July 22

8:00 am: 4-H & Open Poultry Show

8:00 am: 4-H Halter/Western Horse & Pony Show

9:00 am: 4-H & Open Dairy Show

Wednesday, July 22 cont.

10:00 am - 9:00 pm: 4-H Exhibits Open

1:00 pm: Fun Fair Activity

4:00 pm: 4-H Llama/Alpaca Show

6:00 pm: 4-H Swine Show

Thursday, July 23

8:00 4-H Horse & Pony Speed Events

9:00 am: 4-H Beef Show

10:00 am - 9:00 pm: 4-H Exhibits Open

1:00 pm: 4-H & Open Dairy Goat Show

1:00 pm: Scavenger Hunt

4:00 pm: Pygmy/Dairy Goat Agility & Costume Contest

10:00 pm: Heavy Milking Dairy Released

Friday, July 24

8:00 am: 4-H Livestock Supreme Showmanship

9:00 am: 4-H Model Airplane & Rocket Performance-Field South of Horse Pavilion

9:30 am: 4-H Horse & Pony Costume Contest

10:00 am - 9:00 pm: 4-H Exhibits Open

12:00 pm: Horse & Pony Release

1:00 pm: 4-H Livestock Premium Auction

6:00 pm: Frog Jumping Contest

8:00 pm - 12:00 am: Dairy Goats, Meat Goats, Sheep Released

10:00 pm- 12:00am: Dairy, Swine, Beef Released

Saturday, July 25

6:00 - 9:00 am: Dairy, Beef & Swine Released

7:00 - 8:00 am: Poultry Released

8:00 - 9:00 am: Pygmy Goats, Rabbit Released

8:00 - 10:00 am: Sheep Released

8:00 am: Poultry, Dairy Goat, Pygmy Goat Cage Clean-Up

8:30 am: 4-H Cat Show

9:00 am: Horse & Pony Released

10:00 am: Sheep Clean-up

10:00 am - 9:00 pm: 4-H Exhibits Open

2:00 pm: 4-H Llama/Alpaca Costume & Fun Hour

5:00 pm: 4-H Parade of Champions, Senior Signing, & Club Recognition

11:00 pm-12:00 am: Llama Released

Sunday, July 26

7:00 - 8:00 am: Llama Released

8:00 am: Livestock Clean-Up

10:00 am: Rabbit Clean Up

11:00 am-1:00 pm: 4-H Projects Released

Vanderburgh County Fair Pageants

The following Pageants will be held during the Vanderburgh County Fair 2026.

1. Miss Vanderburgh County Queen Pageant

The deadline for entering the Vanderburgh County Pageant is June 26, 2026.

For rules and to enter, go to vanderburghcountyfair.com

Contestants chosen as Queen and First Runner Up must be at least 18 years of age and cannot have reached their 22nd birthday on or before June 1, 2027. Younger contestants and other members of the Queens Court must be 16 years of age by July 20, 2026.

The 2026 Queen will compete in January 2027 at the Indiana State Fair Queen Program competition.

The 2026 1st Runner Up will have the opportunity to compete at the Indiana State Festivals Association Scholarship Queen Pageant on November 7, 2026.

For information, contact: Beth Schmitt (812) 550-3487, baschmitt53@gmail.com; Rhonda Klueg-Slater at (812) 459-4662, rjkslater@gmail.com; or Alyssa Welte (812) 483-1389, alyssa.l.welte@gmail.com

2. NEW for 2026: Miss Vanderburgh County Teen Pageant

The deadline for entering the Miss Vanderburgh County Teen Pageant is June 26, 2026.

For rules and to enter, go to vanderburghcountyfair.com

Contestants must be at least 13 years old by July 20, 2026 and not had her 16th birthday as of November 7, 2026.

The Miss Vanderburgh County Teen 2026, will have the opportunity to compete at the Indiana State Festivals Association Scholarship Princess Pageant on November 7, 2026.

For information, contact: Chairperson - Laura Duncan (812) 449-3709, mlchdunc@gmail.com or Assistant Chairperson - Rachel Pohl (812) 664-9572, rachelelizabethpohl@icloud.com

3. Vanderburgh County Young Miss Pageant

The deadline for entering the Miss Vanderburgh County Young Miss Pageant is June 26, 2026.

To enter, go to vanderburghcountyfair.com

Each contestant must be at least 10 years old and not had her 13th birthday as of July 20, 2026.

For information, contact: Abbey Riggs, Chairperson (812) 306-1744, abbey.j.duval@gmail.com or Audrey Creel, Assistant Chairperson (812) 205-5454, audlcreel@gmail.com

4. Miss Golden Pageant (Pageant for Females with Special Needs)

All contestants must be at least 10 years old and cannot have reached their 35th birthday on or before June 1, 2026. The deadline for the Miss Golden Pageant is July 3, 2026.

To enter or for questions, contact Lauren Durchholz at (812) 664-8152 laurenziliak@gmail.com or Robin Lax at (812) 459-8971 rclax67@gmail.com

5. Little Miss and Mister Contest

Contestants must be at least 5 years old and cannot have reached his/her 8th birthday as of July 21, 2026

The deadline for entering the Little Miss and Mister Contest is June 26, 2026.

For information to enter, go to vanderburghcountyfair.com

For more information, contact Sara Coomes, (812)455-8363 saracoomes@gmail.com or Katie Barnes, Assistant (812)480-0936 katierhs63@hotmail.com

6. Tiny Tots Contest

Tiny Tots must have been born on or after July 1, 2022. There will be eight categories in 6-month increments.

The deadline for entering the Tiny Tots Contest is July 16, 2026. For rules, go to vanderburghcountyfair.com

For information, contact Dru Moreland, Chairperson (812) 632-0153 dkschmitt@eagles.usi.edu



17

Check out our new 4-H shared calendar that has ALL 4-H events and club meetings on it! Click [here](#) to access!

18

VANDERBURGH COUNTY FAIR
Celebrate AMERICA'S 250th

Create an entry that exemplifies the VCF theme: Celebrating 250th AMERICA. Indoor and outdoor entries accepted. Handmade items including but not limited to apparel, quilts, artwork, craft projects, florals, photos and baked items.

INDOOR EXHIBIT **OUTDOOR DISPLAY**



- Attach any info about your entry you would like to share.
- No entry fee. Multiple entries accepted.
- Exhibits entered inside or outside Auditorium.
- Monetary awards will be given for five Judges Choices in each category-Indoor and Outdoor.
- Fair projects previously entered will be accepted.
- Outdoor items are limited to 4' x 6' and should be suitable for yard or porch display, resistant to weather conditions. **MUST** contain red/white/blue and a flag(s).

Indoor Entry Time: Sat, 7/18 1-3pm
Outdoor Entry Time: Sat, 7/18 3-5pm
Release Time: Sun, 7/26 11am-1pm

CENTURY EVENTS COMMITTEE

TOGETHER WE CELEBRATE THE 250th ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICA

July 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 FAIR ENTRY DEADLINE Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care Deadline	2 6:30 Jr Leader Mtg. 4-H Center Banquet Hall	3 HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSED	4
5 5pm Horse & Pony Color Guard Prac Arena	6 5pm Star 4-H 4-H Center Banq Hall 6pm Centerrific 4-H Pool Party Salmon Residence	7 6pm Armstrong Hi-Lighters 4-H Center Banquet Hall 6:30 4-H Council Mtg. Extension Office	8 4-H Mini Day Camp - 4-H Center 6pm 4-H Speech & Demo & BBQ Contest	9 6pm Archery Training (SAB) FAIR SHOOT 6pm German Gems 4-H Center Banquet Hall	10	11
12 3pm Horse & Pony Advisory Mtg. 3pm Firearm Training & Archery (Sheriff Range) NO Muzzleloaders FAIR SHOOT 5pm Horse & Pony Color Guard Prac Arena Scott Achievers 4-H mtg Place TBD	13 9am 4-H Fashion Revue Judging - 4-H Center Expo Hall 7pm 4-H Fashion Revue Public Show - 4-H Center Auditorium 6:30pm Horse & Pony Club Mtg.	14 5:30pm Tech Club Willard Library 6pm Livestock Club Salem Church of Darmstadt 7pm Shooting Sports PMA	15 5:30 4-H FAIR Set-Up 6pm St Wendel All-Star Clovers Rose of Lima Rm	16	17 6pm Horse & Pony WorkDay 10:30am Happy Hoosiers - Zoar	18 10am 4-H Project Entry 4-H Center Expo. Hall 1pm 4-H Project Conference Judging Banquet Hall
19 12 Noon 4-H Center Project Entry & Conference Judging	20 	VANDERBURGH COUNTY FAIR WEEK			24 	25
26 11am 4-H Project Release	27	28	29	30	31	