

## Agriculture and Natural Resources

### Reindeer Video

Purdue Extension Harrison County's ANR Educator, Miranda Edge, and Purdue Extension Bartholomew County's ANR Educator Cora Carter teamed up to develop a fun video to teach youth about cervids and the difference between white tail deer and reindeer. They used scientific research to discuss why Santa chose reindeer to be his choice to pull his sleigh. Whitetail Acres Tree Farm in Brookville Indiana was able to assist in providing live reindeer for us to meet for this program. This video was posted on the 4-H Saturday with Santa google site, as well as on our YouTube channel, and shared with other counties throughout extension in Indiana.



### Master Gardener Video Series

Miranda Edge and the Harrison County Master Gardeners are creating educational gardening video series. 4-H Volunteer and Harrison County Master Gardener, Ron Byerley, and Harrison County Master Gardener Kim Tate, demonstrate how to start plants from seed, cuttings, and plugs in this instructional video available on Purdue Extension Harrison County's Youtube page. You can watch this here: <https://youtu.be/0DZaAI4vHwM>

### Farmers Market Forum

The Farmers Market Forum going digital this year increased the reach from 115 the previous year to 350+. Topics that were covered during this forum was food safety, home based vendor rules and updates, working with local health departments, marketing techniques, working through COVID and surviving. There was a panel of small rural markets to discuss how they function. Our town's Corydon Farmers Market was featured in the COVID and marketing topics. Angel Frizzel did a wonderful job. The videos were recorded and will be available to registered vendors and managers for review.

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## 4-H Youth Development

### Take Home Educational Kits

Thanks to the Harrison County 4-H Council, 4-H members were able to take home kits with educational and creative components. Many of these kits included projects that the youth can exhibit for the fair. Here's a list of take home kits that were provided for the Harrison County 4-H Youths:

- Saturday with Santa- included multiple STEAM related activities for the Holiday season
- Ceramic painting
- Star Gazing
- Embroidery



*A clip from one of the 4-H Spark Club youth members, Ava, in her Stop Animation Movie, "Road Trip!"*



*4-H member Hailie proudly displays her reindeer artwork, the two ingredient snow she made from her Saturday with Santa Kit, and her Little Red Truck ceramic she painted.*

### Storytelling Brick by Brick

Rebecca Wilkins partnered with Floyd County Youth Educator, Sam McCollum, to facilitate a Stop Animation Spark Club called "Storytelling Brick by Brick". Over the course of six classes, nine youth were taught storytelling concepts by utilizing stop motion animation. They learned about developing stories, internet safety, and stop motion techniques. A Spark Club is a short-term 4-H club that provides an experience about a specific topic. They include 6 educational hours and a culminating experience. The schedule depends on what fits the content best. Spark Clubs are open to ALL Harrison County Youth. Participants will get to join 4-H as part of this experience. Check out the highlights of the 2021 Storytelling Brick by Brick here: [https://youtu.be/J8G1l7-uj\\_c](https://youtu.be/J8G1l7-uj_c)

### Educational Kits for English Language Leaders Partnership

Rebecca Wilkins, 4-H Youth Development Educator, with Purdue Extension provided educational kits for students in the South Harrison School Corporation English Second Language program. This kit taught the students the layers of the ocean. "This is a fun way for students to be introduced to new vocabulary without the pressure of grades and evaluation," says Wilkins. "We're very excited about this new relationship and hope to provide more opportunities to these students."

## Health and Human Sciences



*Southeast District Health and Human Science Educators, Annette Lawler, Sonya Mitchell, and Gail Peitzmeier, team up to produce the Nature of Chocolate live webinar.*

### Teams

Annette Lawler worked with other educators in teams on new and updating programs, serving on the following teams: Digital Ready Business; INwork: INnovate, INvest, INspire, Skills for Tomorrow's Workforce; Facilitative Leadership; Dining with Diabetes; Where Does Your Money Go?; Label Reading, Food Link; A Matter of Balance; and ServSafe. She also participated in professional development trainings for HHS and CD.

### Financial Education

Annette presented live in-person training for "Where Does Your Money Go?" in partnership with Choice Life Resources clientele. The clients learned about financial management from the program. Classes are scheduled again in March. Annette presented multiple in-person sessions at the Life Long Learning center on the topic of INwork: Innovate, Invest, Inspire, Skills for Tomorrow's Workforce. The team covered time management, planning for life, financial management, and what skills pay bills. She plans to offer these classes again in a few months.

### Nutrition and Food Safety

A "Break to Educate", part of the Area 2 HHS Educators Lunch & Learn Series, addressed food safety during COVID. The Nature of Chocolate was presented live and taped, and addressed the science and nutrition behind chocolate as well as covered chocolate tasting and uses. To watch the recording of "The Nature of Chocolate", please visit the Purdue Extension Harrison County YouTube Channel or go to [www.youtube.com/watch?v=e5MrKWDIXuQ&t=2243s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e5MrKWDIXuQ&t=2243s)

### Community Leadership

Annette is the program chair for the program committee for Leadership Harrison County. She works with the team to make sure that the educational program is the best it can be. They find presenters who can provide training on topics for the year. This is a nine-month program. She assisted with the programming at the beginning of the class and also planned for the speakers for the Navigating Differences presentation, who were Extension staff. She completed presenting the topic of Leading Effective Meetings and Facilitative Leadership.

She used multiple techniques including using virtual format such as Jamboard, in person with flip charts, and other tools.



## Community Wellness

### 2020 WIC and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program

#### Program Details

The Farmers Market Nutrition Program is a federally funded program that provides vouchers to both senior adults and WIC recipients in the community that can be redeemed at farmers markets for fresh fruits and vegetables. Every year, Blue River Services (Seniors) and Lifespan (WIC) provide these vouchers to their clients in Harrison County. Vouchers provide \$8 to WIC recipients and \$5 to senior recipients once per month during the market season. The farmers/vendors deposit these vouchers to their bank like a check. Indiana State Department of Health manages this program in Indiana, and provides us with impact data each year.

#### Poverty in Our Community

- Corydon: 17.3% of population below poverty level (2019: data.census.gov)
  - An increase of 1.7% from 2018\*\*
- Harrison County: 11% of population below poverty level (2019: data.census.gov)
  - An increase of 0.5% from 2018\*\*
- WIC and Senior participants are eligible for FMNP if they are below 185% of the poverty level.

#### Double Up Bucks

For the past four years, outside organizations have provided “double up bucks” to the Corydon Farmers Market to increase the amount of fresh fruits and vegetables that participants can receive. This means that if a participant presents a \$5 voucher to the farmer, they are able to walk away with \$10 worth of fresh produce for free. The market then reimburses the farmer from the funds received from the outside organization. This greatly increases the impact of an already rapidly expanding program.

#### 2019-2020 Redemption Rates

- Lifespan 2019: 350 checks redeemed (55% redemption rate) totaling \$1,750.00
- Lifespan 2020: 283 checks redeemed (redemption rate unavailable) totaling \$1,415.00
- Blue River Services 2019: 387 checks redeemed (50% redemption rate) totaling \$3,096.00
- Blue River Services 2020: 251 checks redeemed (46% redemption rate) totaling \$2,008.00

#### Impact

In 2020, issuance and redemption of checks was difficult due to COVID. This is the cause for the decrease in total funds redeemed this year. It is important to note that Lifespan and Blue River Services both provide these checks in multiple counties. These are the redemption statistics for checks distributed in a four-county area. We have already seen poverty levels increase in our area from 2019-2020, and we will expect to see even greater increases in poverty and food insecurity when 2020 data is available, due to COVID (source: FeedingAmerica.org). We will seek out new and different opportunities to increase participation in these programs in the 2021 market season.

