

12-23-2024 (Monday of the week submitted)



Extension - Martin County

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The Purdue Extension Martin County weekly column is provided to help all learn about programs & opportunities. We highlight events from Purdue University & Extension where we hope you will choose to be part of Extension.... where there is Opportunity4All!

### **GIVE THE GIFT OF 4-H ENROLLMENT FOR THE NEW YEAR TO THE YOUTH IN YOUR LIVES!**

Kids benefit from participating in 4-H as it provides hands-on learning, an environment that builds valuable life skills like leadership, responsibility, communication, and community engagement. It allows them to develop confidence, resilience, and a sense of accomplishment through practical projects in areas like science, agriculture, health, and civic engagement, all while being guided by caring adults. It helps youth “LEARN BY DOING” across various interests, making them well rounded individuals with a strong foundation for future successes!

### **INDIANA TEEN TEACHERS AI (ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE) EXPERIENCE**

The Indiana Teen Teachers AI event will bring youth from all over the state to Purdue's West Lafayette campus to learn how AI can be used. Participants will learn how to teach AI concepts to younger youth in their communities.

Objectives:

1. Come learn about AI and machine learning
2. Discover powerful tools like ChatGPT and Teachable Machine
3. Teens teach younger kids in the community about the exciting world of AI!

When: Saturday, January 11, 2025

Time: 10 am EST – 4 pm EST

Where: Purdue University West Lafayette Campus

Register & get more details: <https://AI.4honline.com>

### **APPLY TO BE A CAMP COUNSELOR AT THE SOUTHERN INDIANA 4-H CAMP!**

Watch a video at: <https://extension.purdue.edu/news/county/lawrence/2024/11/4-h-camp-counselor-applications.html>

Camp dates are May 30- June 1

**WANT TO SPEND A WEEKEND AS A 4-H CAMP COUNSELOR AND HELP CAMPERS LEAVE WITH A REWARDING EXPERIENCE? APPLY TODAY TO BE A 4-H CAMP COUNSELOR!**

For 2024, 4-H Camp will be held May 30-June 1 at Country Lake Retreat Center in Underwood, Indiana. Applications are due in your 4HOnline Account by end of business day February 1, 2025. Please be sure to read the letter for all of the details on how to apply, as well as interview details. A complete application packet will include:

- Application Form
- Bio Form
- Health Form
- Behavioral Expectations Form

There will be Camp Counselor training sessions necessary to fulfill the role of Camp Counselor:

- Overnight Retreat: May 2, 3 & 4, 2024- Location Camp Illiana
  - May 2nd- Arrival 9:30am-10:00am
  - May 4<sup>th</sup>- Depart in afternoon
- May 29th, 2024 at Country Lake Retreat
  - Arrive at 4:30pm and depart at the conclusion of camp on June 1.

Qualifications for Counselors include:

- Minimum of grade 9 or higher as of January 1st.
- Courteous and responsible.
- Will attend all counselor training sessions

The following counties will be camping together: Clark, Crawford, Dubois, Floyd, Harrison, Jackson, Lawrence, Martin, Orange, Perry, Scott, Washington

Location of Camp: Country Lake Retreat Center, Underwood, Indiana

### **INDIANA 4-H & INVENTION CONVENTION: WHAT IS INVENTION CONVENTION?**

The Indiana Invention Convention is a program that encourages students to develop inventions and business innovations based on their own experiences. The program is part of Invention Convention Worldwide, an education program for students in grades K-12. The program's goals include:

- Helping students develop the confidence and skills to invent their own future
- Teaching students how to solve problems through real-world, project-based learning
- Building students' critical-thinking and entrepreneurial skills
- Exposing students to real-world audiences, including business leaders and innovators

Students develop inventions by identifying problems, conducting research, developing a project plan, designing, building, testing, and communicating. They then pitch their projects at the convention. Students who qualify at their state's highest competition may be invited to the National Invention Convention and Entrepreneurship Expo. In today's rapidly changing world, proficiency in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) matters more than ever. Yet, as important as STEM may be, business decision-makers, government leaders and educators are realizing that students' future success may depend on learning something more.

Together with STEM learning or on its own, Invention Education empowers young people to develop the skills and self-confidence they need to identify and solve real-world problems and make informed choices about their future careers.

For students as well as society, the outcomes of this kind of education can be game-changing. Indiana 4-H and Invention Convention Worldwide host competitions through which student inventors can showcase their inventions and receive feedback on their projects. Student inventors present their prototypes, display boards, and inventor logbooks and give a live pitch to expert judges. You may review the [Indiana 4-H Invention Convention rubric](#) online or request a hard copy from us.

### **2025 INDIANA 4-H AFFILIATE SUMMIT**

Extension and affiliate Extension groups and boards, federal, state & local governments work together to provide robust and impactful Extension programming. As part of Extension and under the positive youth development program 4-H, there are various structures and affiliates throughout the state. In Martin County, the affiliate group is the Martin County 4-H Club Council, Inc. Members of the Council, committee groups and any others who have interest are invited to attend the 2025 Indiana 4-H Affiliate Summit!

The first and closest session will be:

When: Saturday, February 1, 2025

Where: Monroe County Fairgrounds, Bloomington, Indiana

Cost: \$30

Register and get more details at: <https://4-HAffiliateSummit2025.4honline.com>

### **ADULT VOLUNTEER ENROLLMENT FOR THE NEW PROGRAM YEAR**

Thank you to each and every Extension/4-H volunteer for all you do! We are excited for the start of this 2024-2025 great new program year. We work in the 4-H Motto, to make the best better in all that we do! Internet service, devices and support are available to all, including volunteers, club members, and families.

All adult volunteers must re-enroll to obtain volunteer certification for 2024-2025 programming season at <https://v2.4honline.com> which begun on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Volunteers must re-enroll prior to working with youth or making decisions on behalf of the 4-H Program. Please plan to complete your re-enrollment if not already completed. Internet service, devices and support are available to all.

### **INDIANA 4-H TEEN LEADERSHIP WEEKEND FRIDAY, MARCH 28 – SUNDAY, MARCH 30**

We are happy to announce an exciting opportunity: Teen Leadership Weekend! 4-H'ers in grades 7-12 will gather at YMCA Camp Tecumseh to build their leadership skills, connect with peers from across the state, and prepare to make a positive impact in their communities.

Participants will engage in hands-on workshops, interactive team activities, and inspiring sessions led by experienced mentors and fellow 4-H members. With a focus on personal growth, teamwork, and service, the weekend will empower youth to step into leadership roles, develop practical skills, and create lasting memories!

Connect with us to learn more and sign up!

### **INDIANA 4-H DAY AT THE INDIANA STATEHOUSE**

Watch this video to see what this event is about: <https://youtu.be/w-gHztuIjpk>

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 is a great day as a civic engagement opportunity to visit and learn about state government at the Indiana Statehouse! Youth in 7th-12th grade will learn about their state government through a day full of civic engagement and leadership. Participants will tour the state house, meet representatives, and have the opportunity to serve as student pages. Register via 4-H Online! Registration is open with the deadline of Sunday, January 12th. Martin County 4-H will pay the registration fee for the first thirty 4-Hers who sign up! See a video from the 2024 Indiana 4-H Day at The Indiana Statehouse: <https://youtu.be/w-gHztuIjpk>

**Indiana 4-H Day at the Statehouse** on February 11, 2025 **Registration Deadline:** January 12, 2025  
**Youth 7-12 Grade:** Do a day at the Indiana Statehouse to learn about legislative processes, meet with legislators, and experience Indiana history.

**Registration Instructions:**

1. Log into <https://www.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>
2. Choose your profile
3. Click "Events" on the left side of the screen
4. Click "Register for a new event"
5. Click "Indiana 4-H Day at the Statehouse"
6. Click "Start Registration"
7. Follow all prompts to complete registration

**NOTE:** Choose Payment Method "Pay by Check", and we will pay the first 30 registrations.



#OPPORTUNITY4ALL

**Register Now!**

EA/EO

**MARTIN COUNTY CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH FAIR FEBRUARY 25, 2025**

Back and going to be better than ever, the Martin County Children's Mental Health Fair will be Tuesday, February 25, 2025 at the Martin County 4-H Fairgrounds & Event Center Community Building, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm. The Martin County Youth Performing Arts contest will be held in conjunction with the health fair.

**TIME TO HAND IN YOUR VENDOR FORM FOR THE MARTIN COUNTY CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH FAIR: DUE JANUARY 31<sup>ST</sup>**

Vendor forms will be accepted through January 31<sup>st</sup>.

To access the vendor application form, visit this website link below, receive a hard copy from us or text 812-653-2089 to ask for the link or pdf version: <https://bit.ly/2025ChildrensMentalhealthFairVendorRegistration>

**MARTIN COUNTY YOUTH PERFORMING ARTS CONTEST**

When: Tuesday, February 25, 2025

Time: 5:30 pm

Where: Martin County 4-H Fairgrounds & Event Center Community Building

Registration deadline: Thursday, February 13, 2025

How to register: Hardcopy form from the Extension Office or online at:

<https://extension.purdue.edu/county/martin/docs/2025-performing-arts-registration-form.pdf>

**MARTIN COUNTY 4-H FAIR 2025 & 2026 DATES**

2025: Thursday, July 10 to Tuesday, July 15, 2025

2026: Thursday, July 9 to Tuesday July 14, 2026

**INDIANA STATE FAIR 2025 & 2026 DATES**

2025: Aug 1 – 17

2026: Aug 7 - 23

\*With the State Fair closed each Monday.

**2025 INDIANA SMALL FARM CONFERENCE DATES**

When: March 4-5, 2025

Where: Hendricks County Fairgrounds, Danville, IN

The conference covers a broad range of topics relevant to diversified farming operations, including fruit and vegetable production, food safety, small-scale livestock production, business development, urban agriculture,

marketing, mushroom production, food systems, farmland access, regenerative agriculture, and more. Speakers typically include farmers, Extension staff, and professionals from agricultural agencies and organizations.

### **INDIANA 4-H 2025 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN NOW!**

Our scholarship applications are now open! In partnership with the Indiana 4-H Foundation, the Indiana 4-H Youth Development Program annually awards more than \$150,000.00 in scholarships to 4-H members to pursue post-secondary education. Scholarships are awarded to recognize youth participating in Indiana's 4-H Youth Development Program on their achievements and life skill development resulting from their participation in a variety of 4-H experiences.

Targeted youth: Sophomore, Junior & Senior students in high school / home school

Due Date to have draft to 4-H Educator for review: January 9, 2025 by emailing in one pdf to [heldd@purdue.edu](mailto:heldd@purdue.edu)

Applications due on 4honine by January 25, 2025.

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

\$166,725 AWARDED IN 2023!

Categories:

Senior Year Scholarships Available to 4-H members in their senior year of high school.

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

Accomplishment Scholarships 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 will be awarded in each of these categories: Premier Achievement; Premier Citizenship; and Premier Leadership.

### **MARTIN COUNTY 4-H FAIRGROUNDS & EVENT CENTER: TWO PATHS FOR FACILITY RENTAL AND USE**

Do you have rental needs for the Community Building or other space upon the Martin County 4-H Fairgrounds & Event Center?

The space is a source of recreation, education, community belonging, celebrations, and community forums. It's uses are vast and available year round! It is a space for family, local, regional, state & national gatherings and one that has massive rich Martin County pride both for yesterday and for the future! It is indeed one of Martin County's premier community spaces, as it was intended as built decades ago.

**Rentals are arranged by the Rental Manager.** All rentals require financial commitment by the renter and other steps depending on type of event, specific uses, time frame, etc.

Name of Rental Manager: Jill Ziegler

Direct Contact phone/e-mail: 812-630-1592 | [jill.ziegler38@gmail.com](mailto:jill.ziegler38@gmail.com)

### **When a program includes 4-H / Extension, those are scheduled directly through The County Extension Director/Extension Educator.**

Name of County Extension Director / Extension Educator: Dena Held

Direct Contact phone/e-mail: 812-887-2783 | [heldd@purdue.edu](mailto:heldd@purdue.edu)

### **CALLING YOUTH TO GO ON TRIPS FOR SUMMER OF 2025! SIMPLE TRIP FORM DUE THURSDAY, MARCH 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2025!**

To save your spot, please complete and return the simple commitment form and make a \$50 copay, cash or check made payable to Martin County 4-H Club Council, Inc.

Additional registration steps will be completed later. Registration fees minus the \$50 copay & bus fees for Academy & Round-Up will be paid for by Martin County 4-H. Call 812-295-2412 or text 812-653-2089 or email [heldd@purdue.edu](mailto:heldd@purdue.edu) or [jone2589@purdue.edu](mailto:jone2589@purdue.edu) with questions. Form available in office or online at:

<https://extension.purdue.edu/county/martin/calling-youth-to-go-on-trips-for-summer-of-2025-final.pdf>

### **A Few 2025 Highlighted 4-H Trips**

Southern Indiana 4-H Overnight Camp, May 30 – June 1 Grades 3-8
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4-H Academy, June 11-13  
Grades: 9-12

4-H Band, June 21-23  
Grades: 9-12

4-H Chorus, June 21-23  
Grades 9-12

4-H Round Up, June 23-25  
Grades: 7-9

### **MARTIN COUNTY 4-H JR. LEADERS ACTIVITIES**

February 9: Jr. Leaders Meeting  
7 pm  
Community Learning Center

TBD: Cookies and Canvas Winter 2025  
12:30 pm- Preparation at the 4-H Fairgrounds & Event Center  
2:00 pm - Event starts  
4:00 pm -5:00 pm- Junior Leader Meeting

March 9: Jr. Leaders Meeting  
7 pm  
Community Learning center

March 15: Ag Day Community Service  
7 am arrival  
Community Building  
12:00 pm

April 13  
Easter Egg Hunt and Jr. Leaders Meeting  
12:30 pm arrival  
2:00 pm - Event starts  
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm Junior Leaders meeting

May 4: Jr. Leaders Meeting  
7 pm  
Community Learning center

TBD- Day Camp, June meeting, fair activities and completion party!

All youth 7-12 grade are invited to be part of the Jr. Leaders 4-H Club!

### **VETERANS IN FARMING CONFERENCE**

The mission of Veterans IN Farming (VIF) is to provide veterans and their dependent family members with the training and support they need to succeed in homesteading, farming, ranching, and agriculture. To that end, VIF is sponsoring its second Winter Farm Conference on January 24-25 at the Monroe Convention Center in Bloomington.

The agenda features sessions on diverse topics such as poultry processing, USDA programs, hydroponics, beekeeping, and scaling-up your operation. Indiana AgrAbility is scheduled to provide an exhibit and a session on adaptive farming resources. In addition, the U.S. Small Business Administration will provide an all-day “Boots to Business” class for veterans transitioning from active duty to entrepreneurial civilian careers.

The regular registration rate is \$120, but scholarships are available to qualifying veterans in Indiana and its surrounding states to reduce the cost to \$20. For more information, including the complete agenda, registration information, and hotel accommodations, visit [vetsinfarming.wildapricot.org/conference](https://vetsinfarming.wildapricot.org/conference)

**Martin County 4-H Junior Leaders visited nursing home residents to engage in recreation including several games of bingo. Many gifts were awarded to all who played. We are thankful for the youth to bring smiles to the residents during the holiday season.**

**After bingo, youth had their monthly meeting, exchanged gifts and ate pizza, and put together two build-a-baskets for the Martin County Senior Citizens Center.**







**Martin County 4-H Junior Leaders rang bells for Salvation Army earlier this month. Some youth even brought their music instruments to provide entertainment as store shoppers passed by.**