



# Hendricks County 4-H Clover Connection

Volume 11 Issue 9 | September 2025



## FALLING FOR 4-H

**Welcome by Ashley Alexander - 4-H Educator**

Fall is coming, and it will be sweater weather before you know it! Fall is my favorite season and I look forward to the leaves changing and the weather getting cooler. Fall also begins the new 4-H year! 4-H sign ups begin in October each year for the following 4-H year. Tell your family and friends to start signing up for 4-H beginning on Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup> !

With fall comes the season of thankfulness. Looking back to the last 4-H year, I am grateful and thankful for the 4-H members and families that have stepped up to fulfill the 4-H motto of "Making the Best Better". I challenge you to "Make the Best Better" by thanking those who have helped you in the previous year and look forward to the new year.

I look forward to seeing all of your smiling faces this fall!

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## Extension Office Info

**The Extension Office  
will be closed Monday,  
September 1 in  
observance of  
Labor Day**

## Contact Us

Purdue Extension — Hendricks County  
1900 E. Main St. P.O. Box 7  
Danville, IN 46122  
317-745-9260  
hendrces@purdue.edu  
Open 8 AM — 4 PM  
Monday—Friday  
<https://hendricksco4h.com/HCGS>  
<https://v2.4honline.com>



# 4-H Opportunities

## NEW Blessing Boxes!

We want to thank Steve and Kim Somermeyer for helping us acquire TWO new blessing boxes! One of the boxes is for non-perishable food items or toiletries. The other box is a pet food pantry! We are so excited to have these new boxes on the fairgrounds. They are located in the same place as the original Blessing Box.



We appreciate and thank each and every person, family, club, or group that has donated to our Blessing Box!!

We look forward to blessing more families with the new boxes!



## We Need YOU!



Are you interested in helping with a 4-H Club or leading 4-H project workshops throughout the year? We have numerous clubs and projects that need additional adult volunteer help! Needs range from club leaders to co-leaders to extra sets of hands to help with meetings and workshops. Contact the Extension Office for more information!



## 4-H Projects & Awards

*Did you request that the Extension Office retrieve your project from the State Fair?*



*If so and you have not picked it up, PLEASE make arrangements to do so!*

We also have project awards, achievement awards and volunteer appreciation gifts in the Extension Office. If you are an award recipient please be sure to write a thank you note to your award sponsor!!

## 4-H Open Enrollment

**We know both county and state fair just ended but.... keep in mind that enrollment for the 2026 4-H year will begin October 1, 2025.**

**After October 1st, youth and volunteers will be able to enroll in 4-H Online at:  
<https://v2.4honline.com>  
Volunteers must re-enroll each year**

## 4-H Information

### Mini 4-H

**Thank you to all Mini 4-H members who participated in our program this year!**

**We are looking to update a few projects for Mini 4-H in the coming years. If you have feedback, please let us know!**



### Junior Leader Elections

The 4-H Jr. Leaders are electing officers at their Kick Off Meeting! Officer positions include:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Youth Council Representatives (2)
- Fairboard Representatives (2)
- Recreation Director
- Community Service Chair

Apply to be an officer here:

<https://hendricksco4h.com/26JLOfficer>

### Junior Leaders

Join us for our fall Jr. Leader Kick Off meeting! We will be gathering at the Washington Township Park shelter on October 16<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-7:30 p.m. to kick off the new 4-H year!

We will have hot dogs, chips, desserts and s'mores for you to enjoy! (if you have any dietary restrictions, please let us know).

Bring a friend and enjoy an evening of fun!





# LESSONS

**Tuesday, October 7, 2025**  
**Hendricks County 4-H**  
**Fairgrounds**



## Afternoon Lessons

### **1:00 pm Mandy Gray** **De-clutter & De-Stress**

Helps participants explore the connection between physical clutter and emotional well-being. This lesson offers practical strategies to simplify the home environment and reduce stress through small, manageable steps. Participants will leave with tools to create a more peaceful, organized space that supports mental clarity and calm.

### **2:00 pm Rachel Peine** **Creating a Beautiful & Healthy** **Edible Centerpiece**

Participants will learn how to create an edible centerpiece using fruits and vegetables. This lesson will offer nutritional and safe food handling information. The participants will leave with skills on how to create a fruit arrangement that is artistic, safe, and nutritious.

## Evening Lesson 6:00 pm

### **Pandora Taylor Cooking for One or Two**

Preparing healthy meals at home can be challenging when cooking for just one or two people. Meal planning, food storage, and using leftovers efficiently are key to reducing food waste, saving money, and maintaining a balanced diet. This program provides practical strategies and confidence-building techniques to make cooking at home enjoyable and manageable.

#### What You'll Learn:

- Easy and practical meal preparation for one or two
- How to modify recipes for smaller portions
- Smart ways to repurpose leftovers
- Strategies to reduce food waste and grocery costs
- Essential food safety tips

This interactive session includes discussions and hands-on activities to help participants develop skills they can use immediately. Whether you're a college student, single parent, or retiree, this program will empower you to create healthy, delicious meals with ease.

**Lessons are**  
**FREE**  
**Registration is**  
**required to**  
**provide sufficient**  
**materials to**  
**participants.**  
**Link to register**  
**below:**

<https://bit.ly/EHMOctLessons>

**Questions?**  
**317-745-9260**  
**hendrces@purdue.edu**



# Dining with Diabetes

Dining with Diabetes is a four-week cooking school, with a follow-up reunion session after three months, designed to help individuals with type 2 diabetes adopt healthy eating habits. Offered in-person or virtually, the program features meal planning strategies, cooking demonstrations with food sampling, tips for increasing physical activity, and opportunities for peer support. Participants also gain a better understanding of how diabetes impacts overall health.

**When: September 10, 17, 24, October 1**

**Time: 5-7pm**

**Where: Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds and Conference Center**

**COST: FREE \*MUST ATTEND ALL 4 SESSIONS\***



**Public Health**

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Hendricks County Health Department

Participant Registration and Program supported by the Hendricks County Health Department

# BE HEART SMART



Be Heart Smart is a 4-week program designed to help individuals prevent heart disease through heart-healthy lifestyle changes. Participants will learn to monitor risk factors and incorporate simple, heart-healthy habits into their daily routines.

Participants will be provided Fitness Trackers after completing all four sessions of Be Heart Smart.

**When:** October 8, 15, 22, 29 - 5-6 pm

**Where:** Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds and Conference Center

**Cost:** FREE \*Must attend all 4 sessions\*

**For more information:** Call Purdue Extension at (317)-745-9260 or email at [hendrcces@purdue.edu](mailto:hendrcces@purdue.edu)



Join us for the annual gardening conference  
& silent auction presented by the  
Hendricks County Master Gardeners

# Dirty Fingernails

Saturday, October 11, 2025  
8 am - 3 pm  
Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds  
& Conference Center



Kerry Ann  
Mendez



Michele  
Jones



Marian  
McCanless



Kelly  
Allen

## 2025 Presentations

- ✓ *Design Tips for Striking Sustainable Flower Gardens*
- ✓ *Time-Saving, Mighty-Mite Shrubs That Outshine Perennials*
- ✓ *Composting 101*
- ✓ *Marian's Monarchs*
- ✓ *Tomatoes*

**Register by September 26**

[www.hendricksgardeners.com](http://www.hendricksgardeners.com)



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



PURDUE EXTENSION  
MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

**\$45 registration fee includes coffee  
& muffins, lunch, & snacks**

*Purdue University is an Equal Opportunity/Equal Access University.  
If you are in need of accommodations or need an interpreter or translator,  
please contact the Hendricks County Extension Office prior to the program at  
317-745-9260 or email [hendrces@purdue.edu](mailto:hendrces@purdue.edu).*

# Calendar of Events

## HENDRICKS COUNTY 4-H FAIRBOARD DIRECTORS NOTIFICATION & ELECTION AT ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Hendricks County 4-H and Agricultural Fair Association, Inc., will be Monday, September 22, 2025, starting at 6:00 pm at the 4-H Fairgrounds Conference Center, Danville, Indiana.

The purpose of the meeting will be to elect directors to represent specified geographic areas on the Hendricks County 4-H Fair Board. Directors will be elected from the following townships and district for a three-year term: Center Township, Franklin Township, Middle Township, Washington Township, and District Three: Brown, Lincoln, Washington, and Guilford Townships. In addition, Lincoln Township Director will be elected for a one-year term. Hendricks County residents in these respective townships or district, eighteen years old or over and interested in being nominated for one of these positions, must submit their intentions in writing to the Hendricks County 4-H & Agricultural Fair Association, 1900 East Main Street, P.O. Box 7, Danville, Indiana, 46122, or email [spatterson@4hcomplex.org](mailto:spatterson@4hcomplex.org) by 4:00 pm on Friday, September 5, 2025. The letter must specify the position requested for nomination. Any questions should be directed to the Hendricks County 4-H Fair Association, Inc., at 317-718- 6156. All Hendricks County residents, eighteen years old or over, are eligible to cast a ballot in this election on September 22, 2025, at 6:00 pm.



### September Dates

**8 - Fairboard - 7pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds**

**9 - Pittsboro Trailblazers Meeting; 7pm @ Truax Farms**

**11 - Discovery Club Meeting - 6:30- 8:00pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds**

**14 - Bridle Bunch Banquet @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds**

**22 - Youth Council; 7pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds**

### October Dates

**6 - Fairboard - 7:00pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds**

**9 - Discovery Club Meeting - 6:30- 8:00pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds**

**27 - Youth Council - 7:00pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds**

#### **4-H Youth Council**

Sept. 22nd

7pm



#### **4-H Adult Leaders**

TBD



#### **4-H Fairboard**

Sept. 8th

7pm





# HENDRICKS COUNTY 4-H OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, November 9, 2025  
3-5 p.m.



**FREE  
EVENT!**



## WHO

Mini 4-H: Youth in grades 1-2

Regular 4-H: Youth in grades 3-12

*\*\*Also looking for additional adult volunteers!*



## WHERE

Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds  
1900 E Main St, Danville, IN 46122

## WHAT TO EXPECT

- More than 60 projects to explore
- Talk to 4-H Leaders
- Enroll in Hendricks County 4-H
- Purchase your project manuals
- Free **Snacks**
- Free **Family Activities and Games**
- **Prizes** for everyone

## LEARN MORE ABOUT 4-H



CALL US FOR MORE INFO



**317-745-9260**

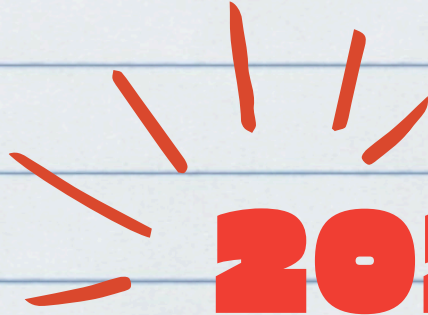
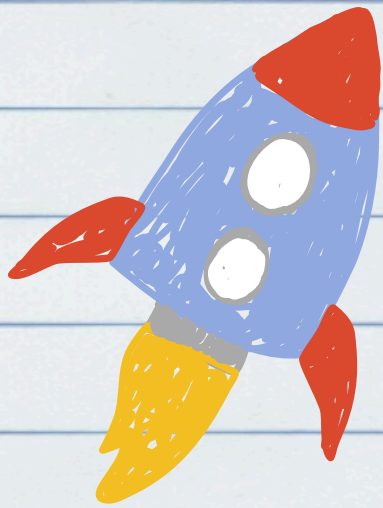


[hendrces@purdue.edu](mailto:hendrces@purdue.edu)



<https://hendricksco4h.com/googlesite>





# 2026 4-H Handbook Cover Contest

## CONTEST RULES:

- We want to see your best artistic skills using paper or create a computer design
- Keep your design 8" x 10"
- Design must include "Hendricks County 4-H Handbook", "2026", and the 4-H Clover (we will insert the official clover if that is not used in the original design)



**SUBMIT YOUR DESIGN**

**BY WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH**

To the Extension Office via  
email at  
[hendrces@purdue.edu](mailto:hendrces@purdue.edu)