

## December 2025 Newsletter

200 E Brown, St. P O Box 365 Vernon, IN 47282

Phone: 812-352-3033 Fax: 812-352-3040 Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

#### Find us Online:

Website:

www.extension.Purdue.edu/Jennings



Purdue Extension-Jennings County



@purdueextensionjenningscounty



@JenningsCoExt

## **Jennings County Staff**



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Jennings County, We Need You!
Our team is planning the 2026 Jennings
County 4-H Life Skills Workshop Series,
and your insight is essential. Whether
you are a parent, teacher, guardian, or
youth, tell us what life skills would best
support our teens.

Your input = Stronger, more confident young adults in our community!

Please complete the survey by

December 31, 2025.

Survey Link:

<u>https://purdue.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\_2fUeZViAKLQPTme</u>



### December 4-H Newsletter

## Jennings County 4-H



#### Dear 4-H Families & Volunteers,

We are nearly halfway through the 4-H Enrollment Period but only have about 15% of our members enrolled for the 2026 year! It is important that 4-Hers and volunteers are re-enrolled by January! You must be enrolled for 2026 to sign up for camps, submit scholarships, enroll animals, receive important mailings, and much more! If you have any questions or need any help with enrollment, please contact the office by calling 812-352-3033!



Merry Christmas, Rebekah Cartwright 4-H Youth Development Educator



FOLLOW OUR
FACEBOOK PAGE FOR
MORE UPCOMING
IMPORTANT DATES!

#### SEI 4-H Camp Updates

The applications for any 4-H member in grades 8-12 who would like to serve as a Junior Director, Group Leader, Counselor, or Counselor in Training (CIT) for 2026 Southeastern Indiana 4-H Camp are available now through December 8th! Payment is not required for you to apply for a Junior Staff Position. Payment is due on May 1<sup>st</sup> of 2026. You must be enrolled in 4-H to apply!

#### Camp Dates:

- Junior Directors, Group Leaders, and Counselors will report to camp from June 1-5.
- Counselors in Training and Campers will report to camp from June 3-6.

#### Junior Staff Upcoming Dates:

- Junior Directors Only
  - January 20<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm at the Ripley County Extension Office
- All Junior Staff
  - April 11th from 9 am 3 pm at new Decatur County Extension Building.
  - May 6<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm at SEPAC

#### Volunteer Enrollment

Volunteers, it is extremely important that you get enrolled as a volunteer as soon as possible to be able to assume your volunteer duties. **You cannot attend meetings, events, or vote on committees until you have your volunteer enrollment complete.** You can begin enrolling now. If you have any questions or are not sure which volunteer role you should select, please call the extension office or email bargerr@purdue.edu for guidance.

#### Adult Volunteer In-Person Training

Any adult volunteer who has enrolled, but has not completed the online training videos, may attend the in-person volunteer training at 5:00 PM on December 8<sup>th</sup> at the Extension Office. You must have submitted your 4-H Online enrollment before attending! The online training videos or the in person training are mandatory to be approved as a 4-H Volunteer. Please contact Rebekah if you are interested in attending this in person training at 812-352-3033 or bargerr@purdue.edu. You must RSVP to attend.





## <u>Important Dates</u>

### December

2 Junior Leader Meeting

2 Muscatatuck Mudpuppies Meeting

**5** Zenas Livewires and Plowboys Bell Ringing

11 JC Riders End of Year Awards

**20** Zenas Livewires and Plowboys Bell Ringing

24 Office Closed - Christmas Eve

25 Office Closed - Christmas Day

31 Office Closed - New Year's Eve

### **January**

1 New Year's Day

5 Muscatatuck Mudpuppies Meeting

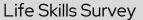
6 Junior Livestock Committee Meeting

**6** Junior Leader Meeting

## Jennings County 4-H

#### Club Meetings & Events

- Junior Leaders
  - December 2nd at the Extension Office at 6 pm
  - December 6<sup>th</sup> Float Prep and Parade
  - December 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:45 am Senior Housing Food Delivery
- Junior Livestock Committee
  - December 2nd at the Extension Office at 5pm
- Muscatatuck Mudpuppies
  - o December 2<sup>nd</sup> at New Bethel at 6 pm
- Zenas Livewires and Plowboys
  - Bell Ringing
    - December 5<sup>th</sup> from 3-5 pm at Walmart
    - December 20<sup>th</sup> from 11 am -1 pm at Walmart
- JC Riders
  - End of Year Awards
    - December 11<sup>th</sup> at the Goins Family Farm at 6 pm



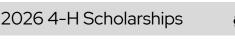
If you are a 4-H member or a parent of a 4-H Member, please fill out the survey linked below. Here in Jennings County, we want our youth to be ready to tackle adulthood when that time comes. We would like to provide a series of Life Skills Workshops in the upcoming program year to help prepare our youth for success! Please respond by December 31st

Survery Link:

https://purdue.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\_2fUeZViAKLQPTme

Or Scan the QR Code







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. On the next page, the different scholarships are listed with brief descriptions. To access the application, visit 4-H Online through the events tab! Youth who are still members of 4-H must be in approved enrollment status to register for scholarships. If you are registering for the scholarships as a graduated senior, you can use your existing profile without re-enrollment.

Scholarship Help - Need help with scholarships? Whether you need help submitting, need scholarship writing advice, or just don't know where to begin, I am always here to help! Your green record folder would be helpful when applying for these scholarships. The Extension Office also has laptops available for you to utilize to help submit scholarships. Call the Extension Office and set up an appointment with Rebekah for help or schedule a time to use a laptop to submit your application!









#### **Senior Year Scholarship**

Available to 4-H members in their senior year of high school

#### Club Scholarship

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 Scholarship**

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

#### **Accomplishment Scholarship**

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.



## Ag & Natural Resources

Dec 2025

### Master Gardener Basic Training

Ready to deepen your gardening knowledge? The 2026 Master Gardener Program runs from February–May. Register now to reserve your spot! Don't forget to sign up by reaching out to epeterson@purdue.edu for more information and registration details.



PURDUE EXTENSION

## MASTER GARDENER

BASIC TRAINING

THURSDAYS NOON- 3 PM FEBRUARY-MAY

#### JOIN OUR 2026 COHORT OF LOCAL HORTICULTURE ENTHUSIASTS





Our local Purdue Extension Master Gardener Program will be returning this spring on February 5th and will run weekly through May 7th.

The course includes an in-depth text book and a chance to network with local and state horticultural presenters on topics ranging from soil health and vegetable gardening to invasive species control and fruit tree management. This course is designed to accommodate all gardeners no matter the shade of green on their thumb. The 40 hour course & textbook costs \$175. There is a discount for anyone wishing to share a textbook.

If you are in need of accommodations, an interpreter or a translator to attend this program please reach out to copelanb@purdue.edu by January 15, 2026. Purdue University is an equal access/equal opportunity institution.

### PARP Credit Reminder

 Don't forget to check your PARP credits before the end of the year and make sure your license isn't expiring – you need 3 credits every 5 years!

#### **CLASSES HELD IN MADISON & SURROUNDING HORTICULTURE VENUES**

3767 W SR 265 MADISON, IN 47250

ARE YOU READY TO APPLY TO JOIN THE 2026 COHORT?

EMAIL COPELANB@PURDUE.EDU OR CALL (812) 265--8919



Extension

PURDUE EXTENSION
MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM





## Ag & Natural Resources

### **UAV Technology Program**

#### Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Technology Program

December 10, 2025

8 A M - 4 P M

Southeast Purdue Ag Center (SEPAC) 4425 East 350 North Butlerville, IN 47223

COST: \$200

RSVP by Dec. 5th

Dave Osborne osbornda@purdue.edu (812-689-6511)



- FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot Test Preparation
- Flight Instructions / Practice Flights

**NO PRIOR EXERIENCE REQUIRED!** 

If you are in need of accommodations to attend this program, please contact Dave Osborne at 812-689-6511 by November 26.

If you need an interpreter or translator, please contact Dave Osborne at 812-689-6511 by November 26.





Extension

PURDUE UNIVERSITY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/EQUAL ACCESS UNIVERSITY

#### Final call!

Don't forget to sign up for the UAV program! We are very fortunate to have this opportunity offered here in Jennings County, and it does not come around often. If you are interested, be sure to get registered during the first week of December!

## Materials Available

Stop by our office or check the display in the hall outside to see the materials available. If you are interested, feel free to come in and pick some up, or call ahead to ask about what we have on hand.





Emily Stockdale: epeterson@purdue.edu

## Ag & Natural Resources

### **Upcoming PARPs and Events**

- December 16<sup>th</sup> Jennings County Last Chance PARP 1-3pm
- December 16<sup>th</sup> Bartholomew County PARP 6-8 pm
- January 12<sup>th</sup> Decatur County PARP 8:30-11:40 am
   March 10<sup>th</sup> Jefferson County Tobacco PARP 6-8:30 pm



Check out the Purdue On The Farm YouTube for a bi-weekly crop and weather update:

https://www.youtube.com/@PurdueOnTheFarm

#### Visit -

https://ag.purdue.edu/department/hla/extension/publicati ons-and-newsletters.html or search HORTICULTURE EXTENSION NEWSLETTERS to get signed up for topics such as gardening, fruit, lawncare, flowers, weeds, and insects, and much more. Most newsletters are a simple weekly or biweekly email that discusses what growers are seeing across Indiana at the current time. This helps growers of all sorts know and identify any issues they are having in their own landscape. If you are having trouble getting signed up, reach out to our ANR Educator for help.



**Extension** 

## Health & Human Sciences

DEC 2025

#### ServSafe Food Manager

Monday, Jan. 26, 2026 **Purdue Extension Office** Registration 8:15 AM Training begins at 8:30 AM Exam immediately following

Register by Jan 16th at: https://cvent.me/14mPQb



2026 Training & Exam Dates Monday, March 16, 2026 Monday, May 4, 2026 Monday, July 13, 2026 Monday, September 14, 2026 Monday, November 30, 2026





### 12 Nights of Bedtime Stories



We are excited to bring back our virtual stories and partner with North Vernon Main Street and JC Public Library for this special holiday series!



Scan code to register youth by Dec. 7th or at https://bit.ly/12NightsBedtimeStories

## Virtual Bedtime Stories

8-19 DEC 7 PM Videos available online at the FB

event only!





Each night will have a special code word to decipher a holiday message to receive a free book at Donuts with Santa!

Donuts with Santa 9:00-11:00 AM

**NV MAIN STREET 50 SHORT STREET** 

Page

Deidre Wagster: dwagster@purdue.edu



DEC 2025

# Health & Human Sciences





Purdue University is an equal access/equal opportunity institution

## **Money as You Grow**

Help for parents and caregivers
No need to be a money expert—the tips and
activities here can help your children's money
skills, habits, and attitudes grow.



## Interested in joining an online book club? Scan the QR Code to register your family!

Starting in 2026, Purdue Extension-Jennings County will provide a Facebook event page were parents can access the Money As You Grow resources and virtual stories to share with their children.

## Parent Guides will need picked up at the Extension Office.

Can't scan the code?
Register here instead: https://bit.ly/48ud9K7