

June 2025 Newsletter

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Purdue Extension-Jennings County



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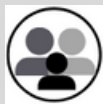
WELCOME TO THE TEAM!



In May, Ruth Yoder and Therese Hauersperger joined the Purdue Extension - Jennings County office as Summer Assistants, and Haylie May joined the office as an ANR summer intern. We are excited to have them as a part of our team this summer!



Jennings County Staff



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June 4-H Newsletter

Jennings County 4-H

JUNE
2025

Dear 4-H Families & Volunteers,

We have made it! Fair Time is here! Below you will find information pertaining to fair week events and other events throughout the rest of the month. This newsletter will not include a complete list of information you may need for fair week so please refer to your 4-H Handbooks as well as any mailings you may have received.

All the best,
Rebekah Cartwright
4-H Youth Development Educator



**FOLLOW OUR
FACEBOOK PAGE FOR
MORE UPCOMING
IMPORTANT DATES!**

Office Closure Friday, June 6th-13th

Beginning Friday, June 6 through Friday, June 13, our office at the government center will be closed due to fair preparation and the Jennings County Fair. We will return to the office on Monday, June 16th.

The office will also be closed on Thursday, June 19th.

Calling All Volunteers!

We are still in need of volunteers for fair preparation, static judging, and fair week. If you are able to assist, please contact our office!

- Community Building Set-Up, Thursday, June 5 beginning at 4PM
- Static Project Check-In & Judging, Saturday, June 7, 9:30AM - Noon
- Community Building Hosts for Monday, June 9 - Friday June 13
- Stock the Trailer Dunk Tank Host for Monday, June 9-Friday June 13, 5-9 PM
- Community Building Clean-Up, Monday June 16 after Awards Dinner

Static Project Schedule

Friday, June 6:

- 3:00 PM - BBQ Project Set-Up @ the Pavilion
- 5:00 PM - BBQ Project Judging
- 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Mini 4-H & Early Project Check-In @ Community Building
- 6:00 PM - Cat Show Registration @ Livestock Arena
- 6:30 PM - Cat Show @ Livestock Show Arena

Saturday, June 7:

- 9:00 AM - 9:15 AM - Junior Leader and Project Superintendent Arrival
- 10:00 AM - Noon - Open Project Judging @ Community Building

LIVESTOCK MEMBERS:

Refer to your Livestock Schedule for specific Check-In Times.

JENNINGS COUNTY 4-H PRESENTS

Fight Hunger

STOCK THE TRAILER

JUNE 8-14 2025

DUNK TANK
MONDAY-FRIDAY
5PM-9PM

HAVE A CHANCE TO DUNK SOME OF JENNINGS COUNTY'S LOCAL FAVORITES EVERY DAY OF FAIR!

OPEN GOAT SHOW
AFTER THE SUPREME SHOWMANSHIP CONTEST ON THURSDAY JUNE 12TH

\$5 TO NOMINATE PEOPLE \$10 TO GET OUT OF DOING THE SHOW! FUN AND GAMES COMPETITION. JUDGE DOES ACCEPT BRIBES!

Fight the Hunger
STOCK THE TRAILER
Presented by **formCREDIT MID-AMERICA**

A CONTEST BENEFITTING JUNIOR FAIRS, LOCAL FOOD BANKS AND COMMUNITIES.

Sponsored by **RURAL 1**

Outstanding 4-Her Award

The 4-H Council would like to honor two Outstanding Jennings County 4-Hers who have contributed the most to the 4-H program in the county. These individuals must exhibit leadership qualities. Please complete the application and return it to the Livestock Office at the Fairgrounds by Friday June 13th. There is no grade requirement to apply for this award. Nominations are made by the member or another person. This will be presented at the Awards Banquet on Monday, June 16th. If you would like an application, please contact the Extension office or ask for an application at the Livestock office during fair week.

Bob Amick Award

Each Junior Leader is encouraged to apply for the Bob Amick Award. It can only be received one time. Junior Leaders must have completed two years in the Junior Leaders Club. The award must be applied for and applicants may be interviewed if necessary. The award consists of a plaque and a monetary award in the amount of \$100 and will be presented at the Awards Banquet on Monday, June 16th. Please return your application by Tuesday, June 10 at the Livestock Office at the Fairgrounds. If you would like an application, please contact the Extension office or ask for an application at the Livestock office during fair week.

Award Ceremony

4-Hers please be aware that there will be an awards ceremony before the Livestock Auction on Friday, June 13 at 5:30 PM. The awards include but are not limited to 10 Year 4-H Awards, Farm Bureau Tenure Awards, Scholarships, Livestock Herdsmanship, etc. Please be sure to attend this event so that you can be present to accept an award.

There will be an awards banquet for Static Project Exhibitors and Junior Leaders on Monday, June 16th at 6:00 PM at the Community Building.

State Fair Static Project

If you have a static project selected for the State Fair and would like the Extension Office to transport your project to the State Fair, we will keep the project at the Extension Office until it returns from State Fair. Based on transport space, there may be projects that we request families transport to the State Fair themselves. This eliminates the need for you to return your project to the Extension Office later this summer. Some projects are an exception (Cake Decoration, Foods, Garden, etc). Or if you would like to make improvements to your projects based on the judge's suggestions from the county fair, you may improve and then return to the Extension Office before the State Fair transport. The Extension Office will provide more information regarding when the projects need to be returned to the office for the State Fair at project check-in.



INDIANA
STATE FAIR



4-H Appreciation BREAKFAST

June 12, 2025 | 7:00 AM – 10:00 AM



SPONSORED BY:
The Jennings County
Community Foundation



4-H Fair Events

Daily Events

Wednesday, May 28

9am-2pm Mini 4-H Day Camp (Comm. Bldg.)
*\$5.00 fee for enrolled Mini members
*\$10.00 for Non-members

Friday, June 6

5-7pm Mini 4-H project Check-In (Comm. Bldg.)
5-7pm Early 4-H Project Check-In. (Comm. Bldg.)
6pm 4-H Cat Show Registration (Livestock Arena)
6:30pm 4-H Cat Show (Livestock Arena)
3pm BBQ Contest Set-Up (Pavillion)
5pm BBQ Contest Judging (Pavillion)

Saturday, June 7

9-11am Open Showcase Project Entry
(Open Showcase is open to all residents
in Jennings Co. of all ages!)

10am-Noon 4-H Project Check-In & Open Judging
(4-H grades 3-12) (Comm Bldg.)
Open Showcase Closed Judging

Noon 4-H Swine Check-In

Sunday, June 8

10am-Noon 4-H Beef, Dairy, & Rabbit Check-In
Noon-2pm 4-H Horse and Pony Check-In
Noon-3pm 4-H Goat & Sheep Check-In
1-3pm 4-H Llama and Alpaca Check-In
2-4pm 4-H Poultry & Turkey Check-In

Monday, June 9

8am 4-H Rabbit Show/Showmanship**
2pm 4-H Dairy Goat Show/Showmanship**
5pm 4-H Meat Goat Show/Showmanship**
& Pygmy Goat Show
7pm 4-H Meat Goat Show

Tuesday, June 10

8am Halter, Showmanship, and Western
Horse Show
9am 4-H Poultry & Turkey Show/
Showmanship**
5pm 4-H Swine Gilt Show
4-H Swine Barrow Show/
Showmanship**

*presented by Purdue Extension
**Mini 4-H Showmanship follows

Daily Events

Wednesday, June 11 (Kiddie Day!)

9am 4-H Sheep Show/Showmanship**
2pm 4-H Dairy Show/Showmanship**
3pm Grilled Cheese Cook Off* (Pavilion)
5pm 4-H Beef Heifer Show
7pm 4-H Beef Market Show/Showmanship**

Thursday, June 12

8am English, Driving, Mini Show, and
Contesting Horse Show
9am 4-H Llama Show/Showmanship**
4:30pm 4-H & Open Showcase Fashion Revue
(Community Building)
5pm 4-H Goat Grooming Demonstration
6pm 4-H Goat Milk Production Contest
6:30pm 4-H Supreme Showmanship Contest

Friday, June 13

4:30pm 4-H Auction Buyer Registration
5-6pm 4-H Auction Buyers Dinner (Pavilion)
5:00 pm Mini 4-H Rodeo
5:30pm 4-H Livestock Awards
6pm 4-H Livestock Auction

Saturday, June 14

9am-Noon Livestock Check Out & Clean-Up
9-10am Open Showcase Project Release

Post Fair 4-H Events

Monday, June 16

6:00pm 4-H Award Banquet
6:45pm 4-H Project Check-Out

Saturday, June 21

9:30am 4-H Dog Show: Livestock Arena

Friday, June 27

6:00pm 4-H Tractor Club Contest

Everyday Events

4-H Projects Viewing Community Building:

Mon.-Fri. June 9-13: 5pm-9pm
Wed. June 11: 1pm-9pm

Farm Bureau Building: Farmers in the Making*

Mon.-Fri. June 9-13: 5pm-8pm
Wed. June 11: 1-8pm

Open Showcase Building:

Open Class Project Viewing & Rock the Bike:

Mon.-Fri. June 9-13: 5pm-9pm
Wed. June 11: 1pm-9pm

Blend yourself a healthy smoothie on Brenda the Blenda Bike! Stop by the Junior Leaders' Food Stand to purchase your smoothie mixers, then head on over to the Open Showcase building to Rock the Bike!

In Memory of beloved Extension advocate and Open Showcase Committee member Beth Steiner, check out the details on the upcoming "12 Nights of Summertime Stories" reading program.



Junior Leader Food Stand

Mon.-Fri. June 8-13
11am-10pm



THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 4-H SPONSORS

ULTIMATE CLOVER SPONSORS

ISU BRIGHT AGENCY ~JENNINGS COUNTY FARM BUREAU INC.
ROSE ACRE FARM- JEN ACRE EGG FARM ~WAGSTER CROP INSURANCE

SILVER SPONSORS

ALMOSTA FARM - BRIAN AND ERIN BIEHLE ~ BAILEY FAMILY FARMS ~ BAIRD HOMES
BINGHAM FARM MACHINERY ~ BRAD AND EMILY PONSLE & FAMILY
BRADSHAW BUILDING SPECIALTIES INC. ~ FPBH INC. ~ GEORGI FAMILY
ITELL FAMILY FARM ~ JACKSON COUNTY REMC
JENNINGS COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
JOHNNY AND KATIE SUHRE & FAMILY~ LANE FARMS SHOW CATTLE
LETTS HARDWARE & EQUIPMENT ~ MARK AND ROBBIN STROPE
NORMA ROWE & FAMILY ~ PREMIER AG & ENERGY ~ RISK FAMILY
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TOM AND BEV MARTIN ~ VOGEL FARMS INC.
VOJKUFKA FAMILY ~ WK FARM INC.

GOLD SPONSORS

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GOINS FAMILY FARM & FENCING ~MCHALEY'S CONSTRUCTION AND CONCRETE

BRONZE SPONSORS

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ELISE ALLEN- IN MEMORY OF BILLY BLOEMER ~ JAKE AND NADINE SUHRE
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MARK AND BARB BIEHLE & FAMILY ~MIKE AND CHERYL WARD
NATHAN AND JOANNE BURBRINK ~ PONSLE & FAMILY FARMS LLC
RICK AND JEAN KLENE ~ TOM LAWSON REAL ESTATE & AUCTION SERVICE
ZENAS LIVEWIRES/ ZENAS PLOWBOYS

Ag & Natural Resources

June
2025

End of the Year Excitement in Schools

The ANR and 4-H Educator recently wrapped up the “Chicks in the Classroom” program at all Jennings County public schools. As part of this hands-on experience, 2nd grade students observed the life cycle of chickens by incubating and successfully hatching eggs in their classrooms. The program sparked curiosity and excitement while helping students connect science concepts to real-life experiences.



Farmers in the Making:

Hey kids! Come join the fun at the Farmers in the Making station inside the Farm Bureau Building during the Jennings County Fair! Open Monday-Friday at 5 PM and Wednesday from 1-8 PM, this hands-on activity lets you try out real farm chores in a fun mock-up farm setting. Learn how food is grown, take care of animals, and earn a tasty prize (snack!) as you "farm" your way through the stations!

Ag & Natural Resources

June
2025

Jennings ANR Services

Soil Sample and Testing:

The Jennings County Extension Office offers soil sample bags and test forms for sample submission. We have a soil probe available to borrow. Office hours are Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm.



Plant and Bug Identification:

If you need a plant, weed, or bug identified, bring it to our office and Emily Peterson, our ANR Educator, will assist you. Please call ahead at 812-352-3033 to make sure Emily is in the office and available. You may also email photos of the specimen to Emily at epeterson@purdue.edu for ID.



Protect Your Flock

From Avian Influenza

- Prevent waterfowl from accessing or mingling with your birds.
- Wear dedicated clothing and shoes to care for your flock. Do not visit other poultry unless absolutely necessary, and wear different clothing/shoes before entering your premises.
- Wash hands before and after handling birds, feed, or waste.
- Clean and disinfect equipment in contact with birds or waste.
- Check birds daily for signs of illness or death. Signs include: lack of energy, decreased or malformed egg production, swelling of head, purple discoloration on wattles/combs/legs, Stumbling, diarrhea, sudden death.
- Obtain a premise ID number from the Board of Animal Health.

More info? Scan.



CALL 1-866-536-7593
to report sick or dead poultry



Ag & Natural Resources

June
2025

Upcoming PARPs and Events

There are no upcoming PARP events in the South East District at this time.

Check out additional PARP program details at:
<https://ag.purdue.edu/departments/extension/ppp/private-applicators/recertification-parp/parp-events/parp-events-southeast.html>

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/departments/hla/extension/publications-and-newsletters.html> or search HORTICULTURE EXTENSION NEWSLETTERS to get signed up for topics such as gardening, fruit, lawncare, flowers, weed and insects, and much more. Most newsletters are a simple weekly or bi-weekly 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.



College of Agriculture

Publications & Newsletters

Purdue Agriculture, 615 Mitch Daniels Blvd., West Lafayette, IN 47907-2053 USA, (765) 494-8392

 Purdue University

Health & Human Sciences

JUNE
2025

12 Nights of Summertime Stories: July 14-26

We are excited to partner again with North Vernon Main Street for this special bedtime stories series that starts virtually July 14th!

Register youth by July 14th at <https://bit.ly/12NightsSummer2025>

Join the Facebook Event for the nightly stories by scanning the QRC below or going to <https://www.facebook.com/share/1FjPG9EeoB/>



12 Nights of Summertime Stories

Virtual Bedtime Stories

14-25 JULY
2025 | 8PM



Join
the FB
event
here!

Each night will have a special code word to decipher a summer message to receive a free book at the Main Street Live event!

North Vernon Main Street Live!

26 JULY
2025 | NOON-2:00 PM
NV MAIN STREET
50 SHORT STREET

Join us at the NV Main Street Live event to receive a free book and enjoy some fun kid activities before the main event. Register your family at the link below by July 14.

<https://bit.ly/12NightsSummer2025>



ServSafe Food Manager

2025 Training & Exam Dates

Monday, July 14, 2025

Monday, September 15, 2025

Monday, November 17, 2025



Monday, July 14, 2025
Purdue Extension Office
Registration 8:15 AM
Training begins at 8:30 AM
Exam immediately following

**Register by July 7th by
scanning QR Code or at:
<https://cvent.me/KNx1PE>**



Health & Human Sciences

JUNE
2025

Boys & Girls Club Market2Go

We kicked off our third summer with the Boys and Girls Club of Jennings County's Market2Go in May. We were able to set up at the CSL, Hayden and Graham Creek clubs and had 98 youth participate! Youth tried a simple kale salad with sunflower seeds, raisins, pineapple and a simple oil & pineapple juice dressing. They received a new recipe packet to try out at home and some tips for growing their tomato and herb plants that they received from the market in raised beds or container gardens.

This program is made possible thanks to an Indiana Department of Health-Health Issues & Challenges grant to help address food insecurity and obesity in Jennings County. If you are a Jennings area grower that would like to participate, please contact Deidre.

Thanks again to our local growers and producers that participate. An extra thanks to the club staff for making this possible in the three clubs this month!



Thank You to our May Market2Go Local Partners!!

Armand's Harper Valley Farm
Brewer Livestock
Clark's Berry Farm
Gatrell Family
Hayden Hubb
Maschino Family Farm

McCowan's Market
NexGen
Redmond Produce
VanAntwerp's Farm Market
Vojkufka Greenhouse

The Family Dinner Project: Managing Mealtime with Fidgety Kids



The Welcoming Table

Managing Mealtimes with Fidgety Kids



Set kids up for mealtime success

- Give them a chance to move, jump, and bounce before dinner
- Try whole-family activities like a dance party, followed by a cool-down with deep breathing exercises

Make their seat fidget-friendly

- Try sensory tools like wiggle cushions or stretchy chair bands
- Give kids a footstool so their feet don't dangle
- Sometimes it's okay to let kids stand, stretch, and take movement breaks from the table



Meet kids where they are

- If they need to stim, let them stim
- Set slow goals. If you get 5 minutes of sitting together, that's okay!
- Be realistic about how much sitting and participating in the meal is right for your child

"Sometimes the ask (to sit still) isn't developmentally appropriate. Stillness isn't really something we can expect of all children."

-Naureen Hunani, RD



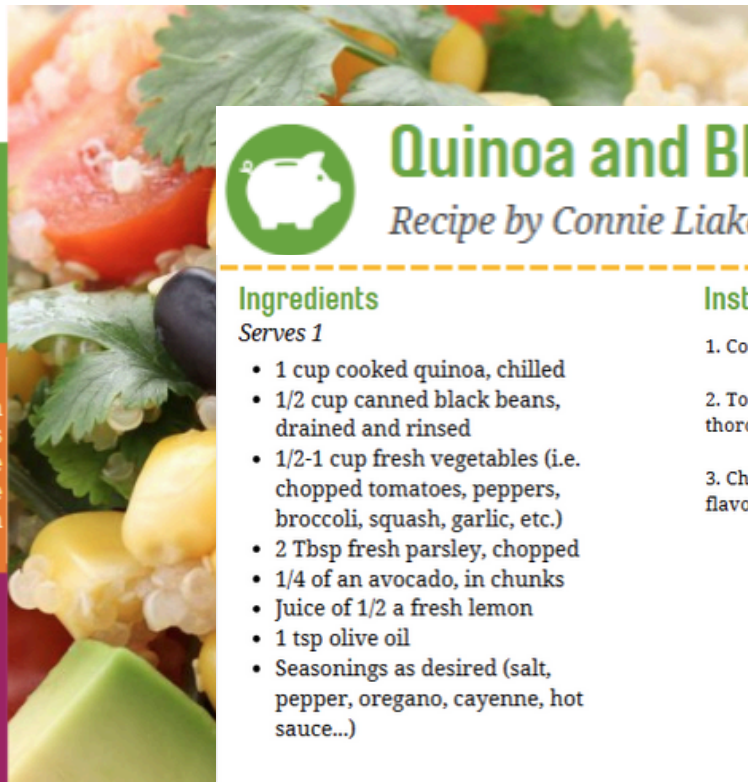
**DINNER TONIGHT:
BUDGET FRIENDLY**
Quinoa and Black Bean Bowls



FUN
The leader thinks of a person everyone knows. The others ask questions like "If she were a vegetable, what vegetable would she be?" until they can guess who it is!



CONVERSATION
What's one thing you hope to accomplish in the next year?



Quinoa and Black Bean Bowls

Recipe by Connie Liakos, MSN, RDN, CSSD, LD

Ingredients

Serves 1

- 1 cup cooked quinoa, chilled
- 1/2 cup canned black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1/2-1 cup fresh vegetables (i.e. chopped tomatoes, peppers, broccoli, squash, garlic, etc.)
- 2 Tbsp fresh parsley, chopped
- 1/4 of an avocado, in chunks
- Juice of 1/2 a fresh lemon
- 1 tsp olive oil
- Seasonings as desired (salt, pepper, oregano, cayenne, hot sauce...)

Instructions

1. Combine all ingredients in a medium bowl.
2. Toss together, or cover and shake to mix thoroughly.
3. Chill for at least one hour to help blend the flavors.

Nutrition Education Programs

June
2025

Nutrition Education Program Advisor

Hi everyone!

I am excited to announce that I am partnering with the **Boys and Girls Club of Jennings County** again this summer! I am teaching CATCH, a Coordinated Approach to Child Health, in addition to a brand new series of lessons, called Learn, Grow, Eat, and Go (LGEG, for short)! The CATCH lessons will be taught at both **North Vernon Elementary School** and **Country Squire Lakes** locations, while the LGEG series will only be taught at Country Squire Lakes.

The CATCH lessons consist of teaching 3rd grade students about **the importance of all five food groups**: dairy, fruits, proteins, vegetables, and grains, which physical activities are best, and why we should try new foods. These lessons teach kids how physical activity can improve mood and reduce symptoms of stress and mild depression. Each lesson comes packed with food, fun, and exercise!

The Learn, Grow, Eat, and Go lessons are similar to the CATCH lessons but offer a more hands-on approach. Emily Peterson and I will be teaming up to teach the students about **gardening and nutrition**. We will cover topics like what plants need in order to grow, portion sizing, and what people need in order to grow! These lessons will include use of a garden to teach the kids about the full cycle of our food. It all starts with a seed and eventually ends up as a meal on our dinner plate!

If you or your family would like to learn more about how to **make the healthy choice the easy choice**, send me an email!



Purdue Extension Nutrition Education Program

@PurdueNEP



Community Wellness Coordinator



Hi all!

It's been a little while hasn't it? Between caring for a beautiful little girl and getting in the groove with work projects after parental leave, I've not shared an update since February's newsletter. We've been busy in the Purdue Extension office this month, here's a quick rundown of highlights from my work:

- 1. Summer Walks 4 Jennings is getting ready to begin!** If you'd like to join us for the fourth year of the summer walking social, you can learn more at the group's Summer Walks 4 Jennings Facebook page or contact me for more information!
- 2. Town of Vernon held a ribbon cutting ceremony for their new trail on April 26th.** If you haven't taken a moment to check out the new trail from the Vernon Commons to Vinegar Mill at Muscatatuck County Park, then you should! This has been a project six years in the making and congratulations to everyone involved!
- 3. The County's first official Bike to School Day event was held on May 12th.** Fifteen students enjoyed a ride from the City Park to St. Mary's with Mayor Shawn Gerkin and the NVPD joining in on the fun. The event was organized by the Active Transportation Committee!
- 3. The Jennings County Food Security Coalition can double your money!** Thanks to the Lilly Endowment the Coalition is matching every dollar donated in 2025 (up to \$30,000) to build an endowment at the Jennings County Community Foundation. This endowment will allow the Coalition to continue hosting community events and workshops, bimonthly meetings, and support a shared fund that gives back every year to local organizations fighting hunger!
- 4. June's Walk with a Doc will be held on Friday, June 13th at 4pm.** Come join Dr. Jen Stanley to hear about the health topic of the month and enjoy a walk with others.

If you're interested by this work, please contact our office or email me at jeffwalker@purdue.edu. Many groups in our community are working on these efforts and I'd be happy to connect you to one!

Healthfully yours, Jeff Walker

