

CLOVER CLOSE-UP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF KOSCIUSKO COUNTY 4-H

A FOND FAREWELL

It is with mixed emotions that we bid farewell to Andrew, who has dedicated his time and talents to our 4-H community. After several years of service as our 4-H Youth Development Educator, Andrew has moved on to new opportunities.

Throughout his time here, Andrew made a lasting impact on the youth and families involved in 4-H. From leading hands-on learning experiences to organizing county events, his commitment to the development of young people was unwavering. Andrew not only was an educator but also a mentor, friend, and advocate for the 4-H mission.

While we will miss Andrew's energy, creativity, and leadership, we are excited for what the future holds. He has laid a strong foundation for continued success in our 4-H programs, and we are confident that the positive influence of his work will resonate for years to come.

We want to take this opportunity to extend our deepest gratitude to Andrew for all of his hard work and dedication. We wish him nothing but the best as he moves on to the next chapter of his journey.

Thank you for all the memories and for making a difference in the lives of so many.

YES! THERE WILL BE A FAIR!

As we prepare for this year's fair without a full-time 4-H Educator, we ask for your patience and grace. The entire office staff is working together to ensure a smooth and successful fair, with Emily Kresca and Shannon Shepherd acting as interim 4-H Youth Development Educators at this time. It will take all of us pitching in to make it happen.

We truly appreciate our amazing screened volunteers and kindly ask that, if you're able, you consider stepping up just a little more when asked. Every extra set of hands makes a big difference!

Thank you for your support and dedication to 4-H—we couldn't do this without you!

2025 FAIR DATES

Kosciusko County Community &
4-H Fair

July 6 - 12, 2025

Indiana State Fair
August 1 - 17, 2025



CLUB LEADER CONTACT INFO

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Goat Club

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Horse & Pony Club

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4-H ENROLLMENT OPEN YEAR- ROUND

We would like to remind everyone that 4-H enrollment is open year-round! While many people still believe that January 15 is the deadline for enrollment, this is no longer the case. Enrollment has been open throughout the year for several years now, allowing youth to join 4-H at any time.

Indiana 4-H follows USDA/NIFA guidelines, which do not mandate a specific enrollment or membership deadline. This means youth can enroll in 4-H programs at any point throughout the year, and participation is not restricted to a single time frame. The start of each program year is marked by October 1st, so that is the official beginning of the next cycle of activities, projects, and events.

We encourage families to enroll as early as possible in the program year to ensure

that they receive all the important information, such as newsletters, animal enrollment letters, project updates, and other key communications. Early enrollment helps keep everyone informed and ensures that youth don't miss out on any opportunities or deadlines.

However, there are still important deadlines related to participation in the county fair. These include:

- May 15: Animal ID Enrollment (required for livestock exhibitors) and Add/Drop Projects
- June 15: FairEntry for final project registration for the county fair

These dates are critical for 4-H members intending to exhibit animals or other projects at the county fair, so be sure to keep them on your calendar.

We look forward to seeing new and returning members engage with 4-H activities year-round. If you have any questions or need more information, feel free to reach out to Extension Office at 574.372.2340.

Let's make this year the best one yet in 4-H!

2025 KOSCIUSKO COUNTY 4-H SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

2025 Kosciusko County Scholarship applications will be available February 3, 2025 in the Extension Office or on our website and will need to be submitted to the Extension Office no later than March 15, 2025.

ANGLIN-BISHOP AWARD: This award was created in memory of two Jr. Leaders, Mike Bishop and Jeremiah Anglin, who passed away during their 4-H careers. It is meant to recognize a Jr. Leader who exemplifies what it means to be a Jr. Leader, 4-H member and for outstanding achievement, service, leadership, and citizenship in our Jr. Leader program.

BOB STIFFLER 4-H BEEF SCHOLARSHIP: The Bob Stiffler 4-H Beef Scholarship was established by the Kosciusko County Cattlemen's Association in honor of Bob's outstanding contribution to the beef industry in the county. The goal of the scholarship is to reward an active Kosciusko County 4-H member in the Beef project for outstanding achievement, service, leadership, and citizenship in our 4-H Beef and Dairy Steer projects by awarding a scholarship for further agricultural study at an accredited college, university, or trade/technical school.

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY SHEEP COMMITTEE AWARD: \$100.00 to one or more individuals.

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY 4-H RABBIT COMMITTEE SCHOLARSHIP: \$100 Scholarship Award. Requirements for this award: Members must fill out, and turn in the 4-H Council General Scholarship Application. This scholarship will consist of \$100 for up to four (4) recipients per year.

GENE MILNER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: Gene Milner was the first pistol instructor in the Kosciusko County 4-H Shooting Sports Program. The Kosciusko County 4-H Shooting Sports Committee created the scholarship after Gene passed away very unexpectedly. The goal is to reward an active Kosciusko County 4-H member in the Shooting Sports project for outstanding achievement, service, leadership, and citizenship in our 4-H shooting sports project by awarding a scholarship for further agricultural study at an accredited college, university, or trade/technical school.

SHAYLEEN CRITES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: A \$250 scholarship is given in memory of Shayleen Crites, a Kosciusko County 4-H member. Applicants must be a 10-year 4-H member or in their last year of 4-H eligibility with a minimum of 3 years of participation in the 4-H swine project. Applications are available in the Extension Office and must be submitted by April 1ST of the current year.

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP: The Kosciusko County 4-H Scholarship program is to reward active 4-H members for outstanding achievement, service, leadership, and citizenship in the 4-H by awarding scholarship to them for a further study at an accredited college, university, trade or technical school.

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY 4-H POULTRY COMMITTEE SCHOLARSHIP: Two (2), \$200.00, scholarships will be given each year by the Kosciusko County 4-H Poultry Committee. This scholarship was established to recognize those students who have contributed to the success of the Poultry project at the county fair. You must also exhibit a willingness to assist other Poultry exhibitors by helping them care for, learn about, and present their Poultry projects in a positive manner. Applicants must be a 10-year 4-H member or in the last year of 4-H eligibility with a minimum of 5 years of participation in the 4-H Poultry project. Payment will be made directly to the school of your choice and credited to your account. This award may be used for tuition, room/board, books, or other school academic fees only.

2025 KOSCIUSKO COUNTY HOMEMAKERS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

THE KOSCIUSKO COUNTY HOMEMAKERS ASSOCIATION: Two (2) \$1000 scholarships will be awarded each year to college/university students including those seeking a two year associates program. And one (1) \$1000 scholarship will be awarded each year to a Career & Technical Program earning certification/license in their chosen field. Applications are due March 15, 2025.

CAREER ADVANCEMENT SCHOLARSHIP (IEHA): Eight (8) \$500 scholarships. Two (2) to and IEHA member, one (1) to a degree in the medical profession and five (5) random scholarships. Applications are due March 15, 2025.

STEPS TO SUCCESS SCHOLARSHIP (IEHA): Five (5) \$500 scholarships are awarded. Four (4) to applicants admitted to a state accredited college or university and one (1) scholarship to applicants of state accredited vocational and technical program. Applications are due May 1, 2025.

RUTH B. SAYRE SCHOLRSHIP is from the Country Women's Council and is offering a \$500 scholarship to foster the educational development of women. Applications must be an Indiana resident. Applications are due March 1, 2025.

Pick up an application from the Extension Office or find it online at our website.



QUALITY LIVESTOCK CARE CLASSES

All 4-H youth enrolled in a Livestock Project (Beef, Dairy, DCFS/Dairy Beef, Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, and Swine) are required to be certified in the Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care Program or to complete the YQCA online certification.

If you choose to complete the YQCA online course please register online at the YQCA Program Registration. The cost for the online course is \$12. After completing the course, email your certificate to Tami at graff8@purdue.edu to receive credit.

Alternatively, you can take the in-person Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care Program for \$3 per member (exact change, please). If you prefer, you may also attend the QLC workshop at other counties, but you must still provide a copy of the certificate to our office.

Please note, in order to exhibit your Livestock Project at the 2025 Kosciusko County 4-H Fair, you must complete either the Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care Program workshop or the YQCA online course.

If you have any questions about the certification, please contact **Tami** at the Extension Office or email graff8@purdue.edu.

Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care Program dates for **Kosciusko County:**

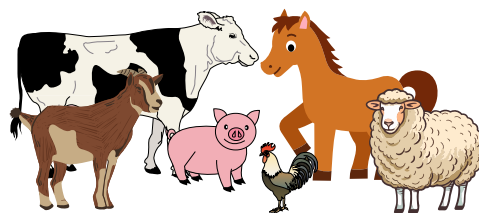
- Tuesday, March 25th at 6:00PM at the Extension Office
- Monday, April 28th at 6:00PM at the Extension Office
- Thursday, May 22nd at 6:00PM at the Extension Office

Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care dates for **Whitley County:**

- Saturday, March 15 at 10:00AM at the 4-H Center
- Wednesday, April 30 at 5:00PM at the 4-H Center
- Tuesday, May 13 at 6:00PM at the 4-H Center

Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care dates for **Noble County:**

- Monday, February 24th at 7:00PM at the 4-H Park, Albion
- Wednesday, March 19th at 3:30PM at the Central Noble High School Cafeteria
- Saturday, April 26th at 3:30PM at the Noble County Fair Grounds, Kendallville
- Wednesday, May 21st at 7:00PM at the 4-H Park, Albion





4-H SUMMER CAMP

Kosciusko County Not Participating in 4-H Summer Camp This Year

We regret to share that Kosciusko County will not be participating in 4-H Summer Camp this year. While we know this is disappointing news for many, please know this decision was not made lightly. We appreciate the enthusiasm and excitement our 4-H members bring to camp each year, and we hope to explore opportunities for future participation.

Thank you for your understanding, and we encourage families to stay involved with other upcoming 4-H events and activities!

AUCTION COMMITTEE NEWS BLAST

As we launch off into 2025 the Auction Committee would like to remind you that all important dates and reminders will be shared via the newsletter and Facebook! If you have any questions please don't hesitate to reach out!



JUNIOR LEADERS

Important Update: February Meeting Change

Our regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, February 17th has been rescheduled. Instead, we will be providing and serving dinner at the Strengthening Families program on Monday, February 24th. If you're interested in helping provide food for this event, please reach out to a Junior Leader or advisor.

Attention 4-H Members (7th-12th grade): If you want to participate in Junior Leaders, be sure to join our Kosciusko County 4-H Junior Leaders group on the Band app to stay up-to-date on events and activities.

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS

Registration and Safety Training
The 4-H Shooting Sports Program provides youth in grades 3-12 the opportunity to build life skills in a safe and supportive environment, guided by 4-H Shooting Sports Certified Instructors.

Youth who are new to the program must complete all three beginner mandatory safety training courses before participating. The training classes will begin this month and will be held at the Extension Office from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Be sure to mark your calendars!

- Tuesday, February 11, 2025
- Tuesday, February 18, 2025
- Tuesday, February 25, 2025

PREMISE ID REQUIRED FOR LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS

Anyone who buys, sells, or exhibits livestock is required to have a Premise ID, which is an identification number for the physical location where animals are housed. This is essential for protecting animal agriculture and the livestock industry.

All 4-H members must know the Premise ID for the property where their animals are kept, and it must be entered into 4HOnline when enrolling animals for the 4-H Fair and Indiana State Fair.

The BOAH staff asks that you not wait until the last minute to request your Premise ID. While they do their best to accommodate everyone, they experience a high volume of calls and emails, and they cannot guarantee instant processing.

VOLUNTEER NEWS

4-H New Volunteer Enrollment

As a new volunteer with Kosciusko County 4-H, there are a few important steps to ensure your involvement is officially recognized:

Step 1 – Enrollment

- Go to: www.v2.4honline.com
 - Create an account OR add yourself to an existing account
 - If you have ever had a login, as a youth or adult, in 4HOnline, please DO NOT create a new account but use the one on file. If you cannot remember your login/password, contact the Extension Office, we can help with that.
- Select “New” as Volunteer Type
 - Fill out New Volunteer Application, online
 - Supply Personal References
 - Copy of Driver’s License

Step 2 – Training

- Youth Protection Program Volunteer Training
- New Volunteer Basic Training

Please note that you are not considered a fully approved volunteer until all steps are completed. While you may attend committee meeting, you will not have voting rights and cannot engage with youth in the program as a 4-H Volunteer.

If you have any questions about the enrollment process or need assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Extension Office at 574.372.2340 or graff8@purdue.edu. We're here to support you every step of the way!

4-H Returning Volunteer Enrollment

Many adult volunteers think they've completed their 4-H enrollment, but some may have missed a step. To ensure you're fully enrolled, please check the following:

- Did you re-enroll at <https://v2.4honline.com>?
- Have you completed the online adult volunteer training modules?
- Does your status show as "Active" in 4HOnline?

All steps must be completed for you to be considered an active adult volunteer.



DON'T LET THE MANY WEBSITES OF 4-H CONFUSE YOU!

Navigating 4-H resources is easier than it seems when you know where to go. The three key websites—4HOnline, Purdue Extension Kosciusko County, and FairEntry—each serve a specific purpose. Here's a simple guide to understanding how to use them effectively.



Step 1 & 2: 4HOnline

4HOnline is your starting point for all things 4-H. This platform is used to enroll in 4-H, manage member information, and identify projects and animals.

- **Step 1:** Enrollment begins on October 1. Families are encouraged to enroll and select projects by January 15 to make the most of the 4-H experience.
- **Step 2:** Use the site to identify animals and finalize projects by May 15, ensuring eligibility to exhibit at the county fair.

Visit v2.4honline.com to get started!

Step 2.5: Purdue Extension – Kosciusko County

For updates and additional resources, bookmark the Purdue Extension Kosciusko County website and follow their Facebook page. These platforms share important announcements, event details, and newsletters like the “Clover Close-Up.”

- **Website:**
extension.purdue.edu/county/kosciusko
- **Facebook:**
facebook.com/KosciuskoCounty4H



Step 3: FairEntry

FairEntry is used to prepare for the annual county fair. This site helps you enter exhibits for each project, organize classes, and track results.

- Identify your exhibits and animals after May 15.
- Keep an eye out for specific FairEntry deadlines in the “Clover Close-Up” newsletter.

Visit fairentry.com to complete your entries closer to fair season.

Need Help? Contact the Extension Office

The Extension Office is here to assist you. Whether you have questions about enrollment, projects, or events, feel free to reach out!

- Phone: 574-372-2340
- Email: graff8@purdue.edu

By keeping these websites and resources in mind, you'll find everything you need to make the most of your 4-H journey!



FEBRUARY 2025 SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 1, 2025

- Beef Weigh-In
 - 8:00am - 10:00am
 - Milford Vet Clinic, 913 N Higbee St, Milford
 - Rain date February 8, 2025

Monday, February 3, 2025

- Claypool Classics Club Meeting
 - 6:00pm
 - Claypool Lions, 201 W Calhoun St, Claypool
- Beaver Dam Better 4-H'ers Club Meeting
 - 7:00pm
 - Beaver am Community Church, 9798 W 1000 S, Akron

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

- Horse & Pony Club Meeting-Note time & Location
 - 6:30pm
 - Edgewood Middle School-Use front door

Thursday, February 6, 2025

- 4-H Council Meeting
 - 6:00pm
 - Extension Office Main Hall

Monday, February 10, 2025

- Swine Committee Meeting
 - 6:30pm
 - Extension Office Main Hall

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

- Mentone United Club Meeting
 - 5:30pm
 - Miller's Merry Manor, 1630 S County Farm Rd, Warsaw
 - Bingo with the residents
- Goat Club Meeting
 - 6:30pm
 - Extension Office Main Hall
- Shooting Sports Beginners Mandatory Training
 - 6:30pm
 - Extension Office Auditorium

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

- Poultry Committee Meeting
 - 6:30pm
 - Johnson' house

Thursday, February 13, 2025

- Mini 4-H Meeting
 - 6:30pm
 - Extension Office Main Hall & Auditorium
 - Committee Meeting to follow

Sunday, February 16, 2025

- Syracuse Community Hands Club Meeting
 - 3:00pm
 - Wawasee High School-Ag Room

Monday, February 17, 2025

- Poss-ABILITIES Committee Meeting
 - 6:00pm
 - Martin's Deli, Warsaw
- Beer Dairy Lease Call-Out
 - 6:30pm
 - Extension Office Auditorium
- Dairy Committee Meeting
 - 7:30pm
 - Extension Office Auditorium

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

- Sidney Triple S Club Meeting
 - 6:30pm
 - Sidney Fire Station, 103 E Center St, Sidney
- Goat Committee Meeting
 - 6:30pm
 - Extension Office Main Hall
- Shooting Sports Beginners Mandatory Training
 - 6:30pm
 - Extension Office Auditorium

Tuesday, February 20, 2025

- Auction Committee Meeting
 - 6:30pm
 - Extension Office Main Hall
- Shooting Sports Committee Meeting
 - 7:00pm
 - Extension Office Auditorium

Saturday, February 22, 2025

- Blacksmith
 - 8am - 10am - 1pm
 - Blacksmith Shop, Fairgrounds
 - Call Jackie at 574.527.2271 to reserve your spot

Monday, February 24, 2025

- Junior Leaders
 - 6:30pm
 - Strengthening Families Program
- Milford Helping Hands Club Meeting
 - 6:30pm
 - Wawasee Bible Church, 2035 E 1300 N, Milford
- Silver Lake Rambling Farmers Club Meeting
 - 6:30pm
 - Silver Lake Lions Building, 108 N Harrison St, Silver Lake
- Pierceton Hayseeds Club Meeting
 - 7:00pm
 - Harvest Community Church, 512 S Seventh St, Pierceton

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

- Shooting Sports Beginners Mandatory Training
 - 6:30pm
 - Extension Office Auditorium
- Horse & Pony Committee Meeting
 - 7:00pm
 - Shrine Building, Fairgrounds
- Leesburg Mighty Farmers Club Meeting
 - 7:00pm
 - Leesburg Methodist Church, 111 W Prairie St, Leesburg

COMMITTEE SUPERINTENDENTS CONTACT INFORMATION

Alpaca Committee

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Auction Committee

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Beef Committee

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Horse & Pony Committee

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Mini 4-H Committee

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Shooting Sports Committee

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Supreme Showman Committee

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Swine Committee

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- Monday - Friday
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Office Phone Number:

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- extension.purdue.edu/county/kosciusko

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