

LAPORTE COUNTY

4-H Thursday Tidbit



EDUCATOR NOTES



"THE SECRET OF CHANGE IS
TO FOCUS ALL OF YOUR
ENERGY NOT ON FIGHTING
THE OLD, BUT ON BUILDING
THE NEW"

SOCRATES

Wow, I cannot believe we are already into March. We have been working really hard to bring you some family fun, workshops, and really get the word out there! We are nearing 1,000 youth! That is amazing! Thank you all for your hard work and support for the 2023-2024 program year. We only need 84 more kids, so get enrolled before you miss out on all the spring and summer programming.

With that being said, if you know of a new family be sure to help them through this crazy world of 4-H! We appreciate all the help and encouragement that volunteers give to new members. We were all new once and know how confusing it can be!

Friendly reminder that the Small Projects Building was just painted! Please do your part and keep it clean, by keeping feet and hands off the walls. We have already seen some scuffs and marks on the walls so please, please keep the building clean.

Lauren and I went to Lake Hills Elementary for STEM night and had fun building with LEGOs. We talked to 20 kids that evening!

Kelsey Guadarrama

Kelsey Guadarrama | 4-H Youth Development Educator | ksajdera@purdue.edu

Lauren Allison | 4-H Youth Development Educator | lnalliso@purdue.edu

Kelly Wozniak | 4-H Administrative Assistant | woznial1@purdue.edu

RECORD SHEETS

What you need to know:

- There will be a general record sheet for projects in LaPorte County. The office has those printed and ready to pick up or you can print one from our [website](#).
- The record sheet will be turned in at the members' first project check-in and returned in their ribbon packets after the fair exhibition.
- Projects that still need to complete an additional project record sheet/manual or skills sheet can be found in the project handbook which is available on our [website](#) or can be picked up at the Extension Office.

If you need help determining what paperwork you need, do not hesitate to reach out to the Extension Office.

SENIOR BIOS

Be on the lookout for a survey to fill out so the office can create your senior biography. The 4-H Senior wall in the small projects building is getting a facelift, so do not miss out on getting your bio in!

CREDIT FOR 4-H EXPERIENCE

If you are a high school seniors and you have not enrolled, please do so now. There is an upcoming opportunity to earn Purdue credit based on their 4-H experience. For now, a limited selection of course credits will be available. I will share that list as soon as it is available. Students must be admitted to Purdue University for Fall 2024. Credit will be offered through evaluation by exam OR portfolio OR interview OR a combination of these. Successful applicants will be awarded credit upon enrollment at Purdue.

LIVESTOCK UPDATES

Indiana 4-H Livestock Quality Care Dates have been set! Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care OR YOCA needs to be done by June 14th! Sign up in 4-H Online for Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care.

- March 28th: 1 PM at the LaPorte County Extension Office
- March 29th: 9 AM at the LaPorte County Extension Office
- April 4th: 1 PM at the LaPorte County Extension Office
- April 5th: 9 AM at the LaPorte County Extension Office
- April 18th: 6 PM at the LaPorte County Extension Office
- April 27th multiple times during the Workshop-a-thon
- May 13th: 6 PM LaPorte County Extension Office

Goat Tag-In will take place May 4th from 8:00 a.m. to NOON

Sheep Tag In will take place May 3rd from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and May 4th from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

BOAH UPDATES

With our 4-H year underway, the Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) and Indiana 4-H want to remind county staff and volunteers about best practices for livestock and poultry exhibitions. We all want successful fairs with healthy animals, healthy participants, and healthy visitors. Accomplishing that means being mindful of disease prevention throughout the season leading up to fair time. For updates visit their website: <https://www.in.gov/boah/>.

Here are two important articles in regards to animal health!

[EHV Equine HEALTH Advisory 1-31-2024](#)

[4-H BOAH 2-14-24](#)

STATE OPPORTUNITIES

[Ag Equipment Diagnostics](#)

[4-H Consumer Decision Making](#)

[Kitchen Skillathon](#)

[UAV/Drone Contest](#)

There is a trip letter that is being sent to all those that are eligible. Be sure to fill it out. Many trips are expensive but the 4-H Council will offset the cost so take advantage and go explore!

This [link](#) will take you to all that is available.

4-H Statewide Drone/UAV Competition

**Test Your Skills
and Knowledge!**



**Madison County
Fairgrounds
Alexandria, IN
May 4, 2024
12:00 PM--3:00 PM**

- Free Event for 4-H Members
 - Junior Division (Grades 6-8)
 - Senior Division (Grades 9-12)
- Obstacle Course, FAA Regulations Test, Drone Robotic Programming
- Enroll Here: <https://drone-uav-comp-2024.4honline.com>
- For More Information, Contact: Bill Decker at wdecker@purdue.edu

Purdue University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action institution.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY LOANS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) makes operating loans of up to \$5,000 to eligible individual youths ages 10 to 20 to finance income-producing, agriculture-related projects. The project must be of modest size, educational, and initiated, developed, and carried out by youths participating in 4-H clubs, FFA, tribal youth organizations, or similar agricultural-affiliated groups.

For more information, visit fsa.usda.gov/farmloans or farmers.gov. Find your local USDA Service Center at farmers.gov/service-locator.

4-H VOLUNTEER ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you are meeting and you are not enrolled you are not covered under our insurance and you are not in compliance with the our 4-H Policies. We appreciate you wanting to volunteer but until you enroll you cannot host club meetings, vote, or actively participate in activities.

Project Superintendents:

Want to host a workshop... Here is how! Call the office for a roster of the 4-H youth enrolled in your project. You could also take advantage of our upcoming WORKSHOP-A-THON that is set for April 27th! Want to host a session sign up in 4HOnline under the events tab!

Area X Judges Clinic! Area X is hosting a judges and volunteer helper clinic on May 2nd at Purdue Northwest - Westville Campus from 6 PM to 8 PM. Please sign up through 4-H Online. We will have a general session on how to judge and the meaning behind feedback followed by round table discussions on different topics.

MISC. NEWS

Don't forget when enrolling in events in 4HOnline that you hit the submit button on the last page or your entry will show as "Incomplete".

In addition to the poster sleeves, the office will begin to carry the foamboard backing for a nominal fee. The 4-H Staff will NOT be replacing your backing this year, if your backing does not meet the requirements, it will get a white or green ribbon. **"Poster Kits" are \$6 which include the backing and sleeve (\$5 for backing and \$1 for sleeves).**

4-H Punch Cards - As an incentive program to encourage participation in all of the amazing workshops being offered by our volunteers and extension educators, all 4-H youth in grades 3rd-12th can pick up a 4-H punch card from the educators or from workshop hosts. Any 4-H youth who participate in 9 workshops + 1 club meeting can turn their completed cards in for a prize. If you are not associated with a club, reach out to 4-H Staff and we can help you!

DAIRY CLUB

Congratulations to our La Porte 4-H Dairy Judging Teams today at the Purdue Invitational Dairy Judging Contest on Saturday, March 2nd. Coaches and Members are - Front Row: Josie Gamble, Nora Ekovich, MaKynleigh Loetz. Back Row: Coach Nathan Baima, Abby Gamble, Robyn Ekovich, Caydenn Loetz, Logan Lewis, Coach Mike Ekovich Sr. and Michael Ekovich. Our Junior Team consisting of Robyn Ekovich, Abby and Josie Gamble placed 3rd Junior Team overall.



MINI 4-H CORNER

MINI 4-H MONDAYS

Mini Mondays are always fun! We had a full class for candles and pretzels. We love all the support of our mini 4-Hers. This month has already been filled, by 11 AM on Tuesday morning. If for any reason you cannot make it please let us know so we can open those spots for other youth. The sooner you know the sooner we can open that spot for a kid. We look forward to seeing you all for Legos!

MINI MONDAY EVENT:
Registration Full
MARCH 18 6PM - 7PM
@ THE EXTENSION OFFICE

DONE
and
DONE

REGISTRATION OPENS FEBRUARY 20TH AND CLOSES MARCH 4TH OR ONCE REGISTRATION REACHES 30 MINIS. SIGN UP IN



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: SUNS, STARS & SPACE

Learn about planets, asteroids, comets, stars, and constellations. Exhibit one of the following:

- A solar system mobile.
- A self-made asteroid or comet.
- A constellation poster.
- A story board about what you would find or do if you were an astronaut.

MINI 4-H ACTIVITIES

This year all mini 4-Hers will be required to enter into Fair Entry. Do not panic it is not time to do this yet, I just want to make sure that everyone has plenty of notice. There is not a max number of kids except for some of the livestock. Once Fair Entry opens, we will make sure everyone gets registered.



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

LAPORTE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY & THE EXCHANGE

The LPCPL Exchange is full of opportunities that can help 4-H youth develop skills they can use on their fair projects this year. The library branches also have some great programming fun that you might be interested in. Check out upcoming events at their website:
<https://laporte.librarycalendar.com/events/upcoming>

How to be a Super Spy: Secret Codes

Coolspring Branch Meeting Room
Saturday, March 16, 10:00am-11:00am

Have you ever wanted to write notes like a super-secret spy to share with your family and friends? Join us as we learn about secret codes and learn to write our own.

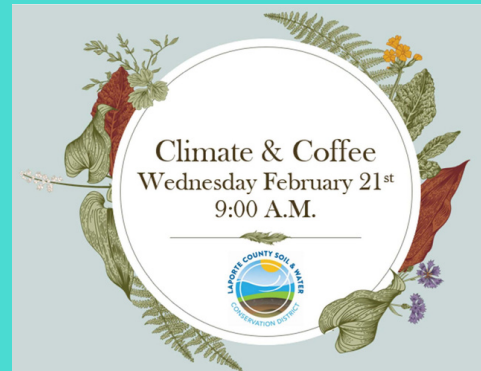
Curious Kids Innovation Camp

Library Exchange Classroom
March 28th 1:00pm-4:00pm (Register here:
<https://www.laportelibrary.org/event/curious-kids-innovation-camp-7613>)

*** OR ***

April 4th 1:00pm-4:00pm (Register here:
<https://www.laportelibrary.org/event/curious-kids-innovation-camp-7614>)

Some of the most important inventions were made by people who were curious, challenged rules, had wild ideas, and worked together. Get ready for silly challenges that will stretch your imagination. Purdue University Youth Development Extension Educator, Lauren Allison, will help lead us through activities from the Henry Ford Foundation Invention Convention program.



LAPORTE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION

Breakfast with a Forester | Arrow Head Country RC&D Forestry Committee would like to invite you to an informal breakfast with friends to discuss issues you may be having in your woodland areas. Foresters, including IDNR, Purdue, Consulting, and Industry Foresters, depending on the month, will be available for conversation and questions. Everyone is welcome - no reservations needed, just walk in sometime during that 1.5 hours and join us. No charge other than paying for whatever breakfast you order. Find more information on their [Facebook Page](#).

LAPORTE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

Kingsford Heights History Pop-Up | Learn about Kingsford Heights in the second "Towns of LaPorte Pop-Up" March 1-March 30.

**Free Admission for Kingsford Heights residents
Saturday, March 9th!**

LAPORTE COUNTY FAIR

Fair Dates: July 6th - 13th

The first weekend will not have a carnival but will focus on 4-H and the exhibits we have.

Follow [LaPorte County Fair on Facebook](#) for more events and updates!

4-H ZOO DAYS

APRIL 13TH 3RD TO 5TH GRADE - FOCUS ON WILDLIFE
APRIL 20TH 6TH TO 8TH GRADE - FOCUS ON WILDLIFE
MAY 11TH 9TH TO 12TH GRADE - FOCUS ON VET SCIENCE

ALL DAYS ARE FROM 1 TO 3 PM AT THE WASHINGTON
PARK ZOO

PARENTS PAY IF THEY ARE STAYING
PARKING IS FREE!
SPACE IS LIMITED TO 20 PEOPLE PER SESSION

ALL GRADES INVITED TO SCIENCE FAIR JUNE 15TH FROM
11 AM - 2 PM AT THE WASHINGTON PARK ZOO FOOD
PROVIDED

SIGN UP HERE: [HTTPS://4HZooDays24.4honline.com](https://4HZooDays24.4honline.com)



YOU'RE INVITED TO LAPORTE COUNTY 4-H

SPRING BREAK FRENZY

4TH-8TH GRADE

\$45



MONDAY - WEDNESDAY

MARCH 25 - 27, 2024

APRIL 1 - 3, 2024



START AT

8:30 AM - 3:30 PM (LUNCH PROVIDED)



LAPORTE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

2851 WEST STATE RD 2

LAPORTE IN, 46350

K-3RD GRADE

\$15



THURSDAY & FRIDAY

MARCH 28 & 29, 2024

APRIL 4 & 5, 2024



START AT

8:30 AM - 12PM (SNACK PROVIDED)



LAPORTE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

2851 WEST STATE RD 2

LAPORTE IN, 46350

**Registration Opens January 31, 2024
and Closes March 11, 18, 21, & 28**

**K - 3rd Grade Registraton
4th - 8th Grade Registraton**

ROBOTICS SPARK CLUB

Upcoming Meetings

Mon Feb. 12

Tues Feb. 20

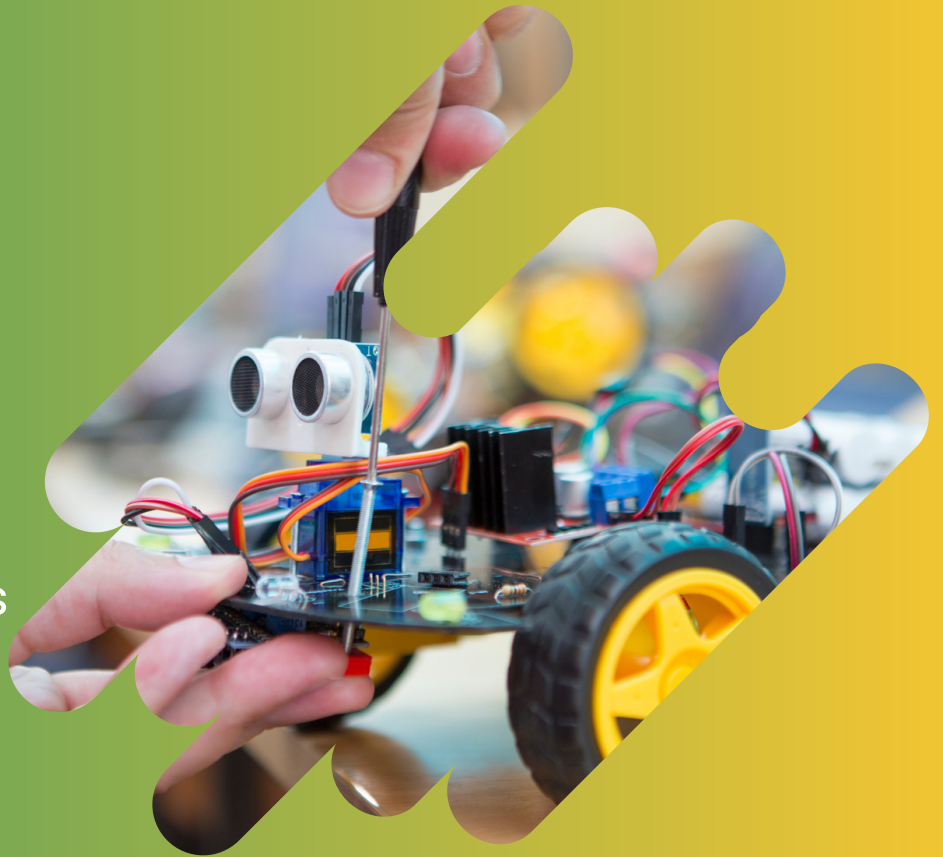
Mon Mar. 25

Tues Apr. 2



Available to all 3rd-12th graders
Meet @ the Exchange classroom
from 6:30PM - 7:30PM

For any questions, please contact the Extension Office at 219.324.9407



INDIANA 4-H NEEDS YOU TO BE A



What is an Indiana 4-H Broadband Influencer?

1

Checks your
internet speed
pcrd.purdue.edu/speedtest



2

Validates it on
the FCC website
broadbandmap.fcc.gov

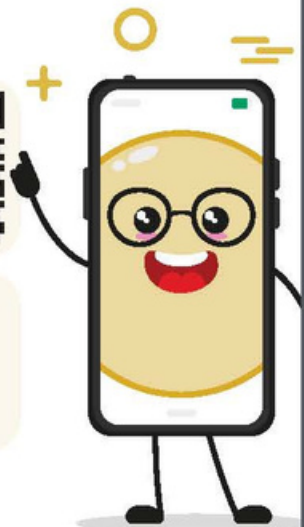


3

Share what they've
done with others

4

Reports work in the
Broadband Influencers
event in 4-H Online



Once you have completed all 4, you will receive your Broadband Influencer Pin and be eligible to win an iPad*!

Why should I be an Indiana 4-H Broadband Influencer?

There are a lot of different ways to connect to the internet. Some of them are *very* fast, and some of them are *very* slow. We would like everyone in the state of Indiana to be able to use the internet at fast speeds. While it might help you play games and watch videos more easily, it also can help people who are looking for jobs or trying to communicate, do business, or do schoolwork.

The FCC, or Federal Communication Commission, can't help everyone get fast internet unless they know all the places the internet is installed and how fast it is in each location.

I have more questions!



For more information contact your
county extension 4-H educator OR email:
state4hleader@purdue.edu



Extension - 4-H Youth
Development



*Indiana 4-H Broadband Influencers will be asked to write a short essay about their experience.
The Broadband Influencer Program is a Purdue Broadband Team initiative.

Indiana 4-H STEM Showcase

March 9
Indiana State Museum

Indiana 4-H Robotics Competition



Robotics teams and clubs can compete in the spring Indiana 4-H Robotics Competition using any brand of robot. Review the new challenges on the [Indiana 4-H Robotics page](#). Contact your county 4-H Extension Educator about volunteering to lead a team or joining a team.

Register teams via [4-H Online](#).

Do You Want To Learn More About 4-H STEM Programs?

Even if they are not competing, 4-H members can bring their families and friends to the Indiana State Museum for the STEM Showcase to celebrate and explore 4-H STEM programs. Check out the Invention Convention and Indiana 4-H Robotics competitions in the Great Hall and learn how to get involved with these programs. Engage in hands-on STEM activities. Explore the Indiana State Museum galleries and exhibits, including the Towers of Tomorrow LEGO® Bricks exhibit.

Register 4-H members via [4-H Online](#).

Indiana 4-H Invention Convention Competition

Invention Convention is a global K-12 invention education program that activates STEM + Invention + Entrepreneurship (STEMIE) learning to instill problem identification, problem-solving, and creativity skills for life. Student inventors can present their inventions to a panel of expert judges and engage with other student inventors at the first Indiana 4-H Invention Convention State Competition. Exceptional projects may be eligible for awards and advancement to the RTX Invention Convention U.S. Nationals at The Henry Ford in Dearborn, Michigan. Learn more about this program on the [Indiana 4-H Invention Convention page](#).

Register inventors via [4-H Online](#).



INDIANA 4-H
**iNVENTION
CONVENTION**



Getting Chicks for the First Time?

Don't Know How to Start?

Discussion Topics

- How to get started with chickens successfully
- How to pick out chicks for the store and online
- Best suited chickens for your family's needs
- Proper housing & space



Time: 7-8pm EST

Date: March 13th

Virtual: <https://bit.ly/49tjHqX>



If you have questions please contact JP Pietrowski at jpietrow@purdue.edu or call 260-358-4826

Purdue University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action institution.

**IT'S CHICK
DAYS!**



**YOUNG FARMERS &
AG PROFESSIONALS.**

Superior Ag

INDIANA 4-H LIVESTOCK SHOWMANSHIP CLINIC

Saturday, March 23rd

8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. EST

Dubois County 4-H Fairgrounds
157 S SR 162, Huntingburg, IN

Featuring Mr. Terry Burks

- Beef, Goats, Sheep & Swine
- IN 4-H Quality Livestock Care Training
- Lunch provided by Superior Ag

Register by March 1st



<https://bit.ly/4HLivestockClinic>



katiestenagel9222@gmail.com



812-482-1782, Purdue Extension Dubois Co.

812-338-5466, Purdue Extension Crawford Co.

Purdue University is an equal opportunity/equal access university.



**PURDUE
UNIVERSITY**

Extension - 4-H Youth
Development





Poultry Event

with Dr. Nancy Jefferson

Raising Backyard Poultry

You don't want to miss this opportunity to learn from Dr. Nancy Jefferson! An expert on health and nutrition, she is happy to share her vast knowledge and answer your questions on layers, meat birds, turkeys, geese, ducks, gamebirds & more.

Special Gift to first 40 to register!
Discount coupons for attendees
Giveaways & Refreshments

Each household to register by March 9th will receive one FREE 10 lb bag of Poultry Feed. Limit 1 per family. RSVP to: Patti Nichols 219-306-7845 or Crown Feed: 219-663-0139

Hosted by: 
Lake County 4-H Poultry Program
Crown Feed & Supply



Saturday March 16th, 2024
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

4-H Building
Lake County Fairgrounds
889 S. Court Street
Crown Point, IN 46307

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

**AREA 9
LIVESTOCK
JUDGING
INVITATIONAL
APRIL 11TH
TIPPECANOE COUNTY
FAIRGROUNDS**

**REGISTRATION
9:00AM-10:00AM EST
CONTEST START TIME
10:00 AM EST**



Extension - Indiana 4-H



**Register by
March 28th using
the QR Code below!
Registration fee of
\$15/ participant.**



**Want more
information?
Contact Ashlee Davis
davi1730@purdue.edu**

AREA X 4-H/FFA LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST

General Information

Date:

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Where:

St. Joseph County Fairgrounds

5117 S Ironwood Dr

South Bend, IN 46614

Registration begins at 9 am EST with contest beginning at 9:30 am EST.

Registration Information:

Cost: \$15 per contestant

Entry Deadline: April 2, 2024

Register by scanning the QR code with your phone's camera below:



Registration Fee DOUBLES after April 2nd.

Reminders and Questions

- Registration will begin at 9 am EST/ 8 am CST.
- Checks made payable to Area X 4-H Fund.
 - Dress accordingly for weather.
 - Lunch is NOT provided.
- 3 Sets of Reasonings and Questions
- 7 Classes of Livestock to Evaluate



4-H Academy @ Purdue University June 12-14, 2024

At 4-H Academy, high school students visit Purdue University to interact with faculty and industry professionals and meet new friends from across Indiana.

Contact your county's Purdue Extension 4-H Educator before May 15 to register.

To learn more, visit
bit.ly/in4hacademy



Animal Science

Cyber Security

Personal Finance



Plant Science: Living Landscapes



Digital Agriculture



Intro to EMS



Food Science

Investigating Forensic Science



Biological Engineering



The Science of Flight



Natural Resources

...and more!



An equal access/equal opportunity university.

SUPPORT 4-H

Support 4-H'ers with a donation in stores or online at [JOANN](#) now through May 4th!

Current & Alumni members, parents of members, volunteers and 4-H staff can save 15% off total in-store and online purchases everyday with 4-H rewards!

Click [HERE](#) to donate and enroll online!



JOANN

