

- 4-H Trip to Alaska
- Enrollment Opens Oct. 1
- Volunteer Help Needed
- 4-H Fair Board Elections

- Indiana State Fair Results
- Barn Quilt Workshops
- Homesteading Conference
- Monthly Creation Workshops

We Invite You to Ask Questions

Nearly everything we do has a solid “rhyme and reason” that accompanies it. Very little that we do is “willy-nilly.” It is our sincere hope that as you progress through the 4-H program that you will seek to understand and gain an appreciation for the procedures and intentions that exist. I recently spoke with a parent who made a lot of assumptions about things and learned that many of those assumptions were misunderstood. In learning about the accuracies, they were pleasantly surprised to learn that meaningful thought and reason were involved. If at any point you don’t understand why something is the way it is, please ask! We would love to explain why we use 4HOnline AND FairEntry, why fine arts exhibits must have a hanger, why guidelines and rules sometimes needs to change, why some projects advance to the Indiana State Fair and others don’t, why we can’t do whatever we want at the County Park, why we started Back a 4-H’er, and so many other why’s. While many of the answers have been provided at one point or another, we’re okay with you asking again. The Extension Office in Steuben County is a safe place to inquire about all of your curiosities and potential assumptions. We want to provide meaningful answers so that you feel connected in our mission to develop local youth.

Two Unique November Opportunities! - Registration Opens in mid-September!

The last two full pages of this newsletter showcase flyers for upcoming events that I’m super involved with. The first one is a barn quilt class. Odd as they may sound, barn quilts are peppered all across our nation and are really expensive...unless you make your own in a group setting! Four classes will be held over two weeks for each participants to create their own unique barn quilt to hang outdoors. These things sell for \$128 and \$255 in Shipshewana. Make your own with me for \$50 and loads of fellowship!

My husband Mike and I raise a lot of our own food (meat, produce, and milk) and do our best to live off the land in a sustainable way. We have grown to love the lifestyle and grit that comes with it, and many people are longing for that “down to earth” experience, too. Some call it farming. Some call it homesteading. And some think it’s only for hippies. Wherever you might fall on the spectrum, I invite you to check out the 50 educational sessions I have helped organize for northeast Indiana residents who long for more than what their hard-earned dollars can buy in a grocery store.

Tami ✿

A look ahead at important dates:

September 2—Extension Office Closed
September 9—4-H Celebration Social and Annual 4-H Fair Board Meeting (member election); First Reading of the Suggested Rule Changes
September 15—Paul and Inger Friend Scholarship Due
September 23-28—DeKalb County Free Fall Fair, Auburn
September 29-October 3—National Dairy Conference

October 1—4-H Enrollment Opens for 2024-2025

October 14—Extension Office Closed

October 21—2nd Reading of the Suggested Rule Changes and 4-H Fair Board Vote

November 28-29—Extension Office Closed

November 29-December 2—National 4-H Congress

June 20-26, 2025—Steuben County 4-H Fair



Club, Committee, and Board Happenings



4-H Bit and Bridle—The club will meet September 12th at 6 pm at the County Park for their meeting and open show set-up. The Speed Show will be September 13-14 with clean-up on the 15th. See the Horse and Pony Remind thread for the volunteer sign-up which can earn you points for the new year!

4-H Explorers—The club will not meet again until January.

Flint Arrows—Stay tuned for 2024-2025 meeting dates!

Fremont Ready Willing and Able—Stay tuned for 2024-2025 meeting dates!

Hamilton Fighting 4-H'ers—If you know an individual who would make a great 4-H club leader, please contact Tami! The club will not meet again until a leader is secured.

Lucky Ducks—The next club meeting will be November 12th at 6:30 pm in the Community Center.

Orland Creative Kids—Stay tuned for 2024-2025 meeting dates! Please text @4689h82 to the number 81010 to begin receiving Remind messages.

Otsego Go-Getters—Stay tuned for 2024-2025 meeting dates!

The Conquerors—Stay tuned for 2024-2025 meeting dates!

Tiny Clovers Mini 4-H—Dates have been set, but meetings won't begin until enrollment wraps up in January. All K-2nd grade youth are invited to participate!

Jr. Leaders—We will meet on Tuesday, October 22nd, 6:30-8 pm, in the Board Room to work on our YES! Grant which will allow us to prepare approximately 100 birthday bags for the food pantry. Everyone in grades 6-12 is welcome to attend and help with this service project!

4-H Fair Board—The annual meeting will take place September 9th at 6 pm in the Extension Kitchen/Board Room. Please bring a snack to share. Immediately following the annual meeting, we will conduct our regular business meeting at 7 pm. This will include officer elections and the first reading of the rule change suggestions.

This is Us

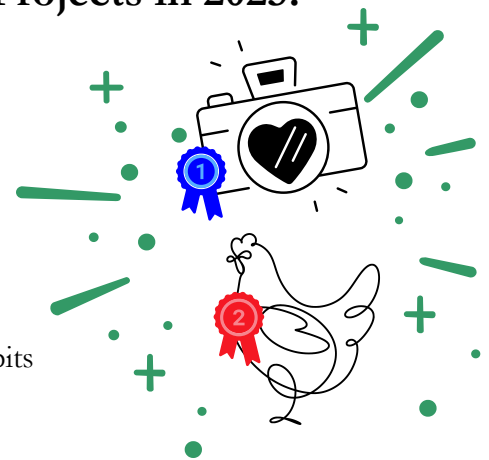
Steuben County 4-H is committed to creating a diverse, equitable, and accessible environment for all members, past, present, and future.

Special Accommodations

If you are in need of special accommodations for any and all 4-H or Purdue Extension programs and events, please call the Extension Office to give reasonable notices of the accommodations needed.

Most Popular Projects in 2025!

1. Photography - 108 exhibits
2. Poultry - 99 birds
3. Rabbits - 85 pens of rabbits
4. Dairy Goats - 72 goats
5. Swine - 63 hogs
6. Horse & Pony - 55 horses
7. Feeder Calf - 55 calves
8. Meat Goats - 43 goats
9. Arts & Crafts, General - 33 exhibits
10. Fine Arts - 31 exhibits



Mini 4-H Meeting Dates Set for 2025!

Miss Elizabeth is already on it for next year! Mini 4-H meetings will take place on the following dates (mostly the 4th Monday of the month, but a two are slightly different). We'll meet 5:30-7 pm in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Steuben Community Center (lower level, end of the hall) with all interested youth in K-2nd grade for fun and educational evenings!

- Monday, January 27, 2025
- Monday, February 24, 2025
- Monday, March 17, 2025 (earlier due to Spring Break)
- Monday, April 28, 2025
- Monday, May 18, 2025 (earlier due to Memorial Day)





A Trip Outside of “Our Bubble”

In late July, Emily Skinner and Katie Ridenour travelled with Tami and 3 DeKalb County 4-H individuals to Bethel, Alaska, for a cultural immersion and teen teaching experience. Emily and Katie worked with youth in grades K-6 to deliver a day camp focused on art and environmental science called The Art of Nature. While waiting in the Anchorage airport, ready to head back to Chicago O’Hare, one of the teens shared, “We don’t realize how much is happening in the world around us because we live inside our bubble.” Each teen came home from this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity with lasting memories that rocked their world in all the best ways. If out-of-state travel for educational purposes (not a vacation) is something you are interested in, be sure to connect with Tami. Emily and Katie, we are proud of you and your exceptional ability to see outside of yourself to help others!



Indiana 4-H Enrollment Opens October 1st!

All 4-H members and adult volunteers must re-enroll annually. Go to v2.4honline.com anytime on/after October 1st to re-enroll. The Extension Office is happy to help you with the re-enrollment process! Let us know how we can help and/or what projects need further explanation.

Help Needed!

While many volunteers stay with us for years, when a volunteer signs on, they are only making a one year commitment that can be renewed or declined each year. Some volunteers don’t even volunteer for a year...they volunteer in an “episodic” role where they help with a one-time project or a few weeks max. The volunteer year aligns with the youth program year, so each fall/winter, we ask volunteers to re-enroll in 4-H. If you haven't given 4-H volunteerism a try, consider these opportunities below. If after a year (or your episodic experience), you decide the role isn't for you, that's okay!

Club Leader Vacancies

- Hamilton Fighting 4-H'ers
- Lucky Ducks (to take over after Amber finishes)
- Mini 4-H Assistant
- Jr. Leaders

Project Vacancies

- Aerospace
- Air Rifle, training held in April
- Cat
- Crops
- Genealogy
- Goats (we plan to split Dairy and Meat/Pygmy responsibilities)
- Scrapbooking
- Sportfishing
- Vet Science
- Woodworking

One Time or “Episodic” Needs

- Record Sheet replacement workshops related to 4-H projects



You're Invited!

Please join Steuben County 4-H volunteers and families on Monday, September 9th at 6 pm for the 4-H Celebration Social and Fair Board Annual Meeting. The event will be held in the Extension Kitchen and Board Room at the Community Center. We will recognize volunteers, honor our 2024 Friend of 4-H recipient, and elect new 4-H Fair Board Members that evening. Come celebrate with us and cast your vote for the next board members who will make 4-H decisions affecting you. 5 seats are up for re-election each year. **This year's candidates are: Cindy Alaura, Liz Gasaway, Melissa Henney, Fred Hostetler, Ty Knox, Allie Tadsen, and Dylan Weisenfelder.**

Graduates, There's \$\$ on the Table!

In our hustle to get a June fair accomplished, we realized we missed sharing a scholarship opportunity with you! The Paul and Inger Friend 4-H Scholarship is available and will be due on/before September 15th. The awards will be no less than \$300 (likely more!) and while we can only guarantee one, the family often chooses more than one. Check your email for the parameters. Tami emailed about the opportunity in mid-August and early-September. Here are the items needed:

- 200-word essay on how 4-H has influenced your career choice.
- Copy of 4-H Record of Achievement (if you have kept up on them and turned them in this year, we will pull your records for you)
- High school transcript.
- Supporting statement (reference letter) from a former teacher or supervisor of any paid or volunteer work

Apply here: <https://bit.ly/friendscholarship2024>

Let me know what questions you have and how we can help you get this scholarship submitted on/before September 15th!



Google Grant: AI Teens as Teachers

If you are a teen who is really interested in Artificial Intelligence (AI), consider the upcoming Teens as Teachers opportunity on the West Lafayette campus on November 2nd. We don't have a lot of details yet, but if this piques your interest, be sure to notify Tami of your interest by emailing mosier@purdue.edu.

Career Discovery Mentors

Do you have 30-60 minutes of time to give per academic semester? Are you passionate about supporting Indiana youth? Indiana 4-H is an approved intermediary to assist Indiana students in grades 11-12 meet new College and Career readiness requirements. Indiana 4-H Career Discovery Mentors will work in public school buildings during the school day with individual students or student groups of no more than 5 to discuss future career opportunities, education requirements for those careers, and the potential rewards of those careers. Virtual 1-hour trainings are currently scheduled for 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm on Thursday, September 5 to assist potential Mentors as they prepare to meet with students. Each trained Mentor commits to one 30 minute Career Discovery Meeting per semester for the 2024-2025 school year. Mentors are welcome to conduct additional sessions as needed by the schools. All Mentors must also be approved 4-H volunteers. More information on becoming an approved 4-H volunteer will be discussed in the September meetings OR you may contact your local 4-H Educator to get started now. Fill out the interest survey: <https://bit.ly/CDM24-25>

Archery Tournament

The Whitley County Shooting Sports Archery Club is hosting a Bullseye & 3D Tournament on September 14th. Registration begins at 8 am at the Whitley County Fairgrounds in Columbia City. The tournament is open to youth (grade 3+) and adults. The cost is \$10 per archer. Youth and adults can register online.



Bullseye
Registration



3-D Registration

Congratulations to our Indiana State Fair Exhibitors!

Earning merit ribbons at the Indiana State Fair is a big deal! Here are the merits earned by our non-animal (static) exhibitors:

Karli Sattison - Child Development
 Raegan Wright - Child Development
 Myla Duke - Consumer Clothing
 Isaiah Smith - Electric
 Anaiah Smith - Foods, Baked; Photography
 Landon Foster - Forestry
 Elizabeth Skelly - Genealogy
 Zachary Crawford - Model Craft
 Emmy Cline - Needle Craft, Vet Science
 Preston Stoy - Photography
 Caylee Beard - Rabbit Poster
 Whitlee Duke - Sewing, Wearable
 Ethan Sanders - Sewing, Wearable
 Isaac Sanders - Sewing, Wearable
 Elliot Boszor - Sewing Wearable
 Trey Buell - Shooting Sports
 Alexyss Keener - Sport Fishing, Weather & Climate

All Indiana State Fair results can be found here:
extension.purdue.edu/4-H/fair/fair-results

If you have not picked up your State Fair project yet, please do so right away. We will hold them until September 13th. After that, we will repurpose or dispose of them.

Showing livestock at the Indiana State Fair is a big undertaking! Check out the results from our livestock exhibitors:

Beef Cattle

Harlee Henney - Champion Angus Heifer, Champion Senior Showman, 1st (x2), 2nd, Champion Heavyweight Dairy Feeder, Overall Champion Feeder Steer
 Lexie Schworm - 4th, Reserve Champion Showman
 Zackery Clark - 3rd, Showmanship Participation
 Westin Clark - 8th, Showmanship Participation
 Taylor Schworm - 6th, Showmanship Participation

Dairy Cattle

Cade Bachelor - 2nd, 2nd, 3rd, 3rd, Champion Senior Showman
 Wyatt Jackson - 4th

Dairy Goats

Elijah Weible - 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 6th (x3), 14th, 7th Showmanship, Reserve Champion Senior Doe
 Tysen Weible - 1st (x2), 2nd (x2), 3rd, 11th, 5th Showmanship, Champion Senior Doe, Best Senior Doe
 Maddy Weible - 6th, 7th, 10th, 2nd Showmanship
 Meghan Rice - 1st, 16th, Showmanship Participant

Horse and Pony

Hallie Shrewsburg - 1st, 3rd, 4th, 9th, 10th
 Karson Shrewsburg - 3rd (x2), 4th, Participation (x2)

Sheep

Dana Gardner - 6th, 9th
 Drake Gardner - 4th, 6th
 Corbin Gardner - Participation

Swine

Isaac Shively - Participation (x2)
 Whitney Calderwood - Participation (x2)
 Macy Mortensen - 2nd, 3rd, 4th, Participation

JUNE

Save the Date

20-26

**2025
 STEUBEN COUNTY 4-H FAIR**



Register by Oct. 21! →
<https://bit.ly/barnquiltcreation2024>



Barn Quilt

CREATION WORKSHOP

Create your own colorful, geometric 2'x2' masterpiece to hang on a barn, a home, or a business.

Boards, primer, tape, brushes, and up to 4 paint colors will be available for participants.

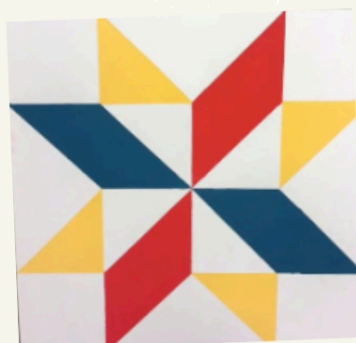


Workshop Dates:

Tuesday, November 12: 5:30-7:30 pm (2 hours)
Thursday, November 14: 5:30-7 pm (1.5 hours)
Tuesday, November 19: 5:30-7 pm (1.5 hours)
Thursday, November 21: 5:30-7 pm (1.5 hours)

Workshop Location:

Steuben Community Center
317 S. Wayne St., Angola, IN



ROOTED AND RESILIENT:

Homesteading Conference

GATHERING HOMESTEAD SKILLS FOR FAMILIES

SAVE THE DATE

NOVEMBER 1 & 2, 2024

KENDALLVILLE, INDIANA

Friday, November 1

Hands-on Workshops to include:

- Food Preservation
- Poultry Processing
- Seed Saving
- Chainsaw Safety and Tree Felling
- Beekeeping

Saturday, November 2

Wide Variety of Sessions for Novice thru Seasoned Homesteaders, including a Kidsteader Track for young learners.

- Food Preservation
- Livestock Production
- Mixed Ventures
- Financial Resources



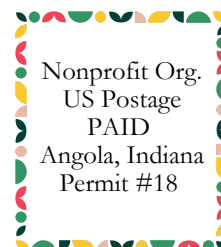
Extension

REGISTRATION OPENS: SEPTEMBER 15



Tami M. Mosier

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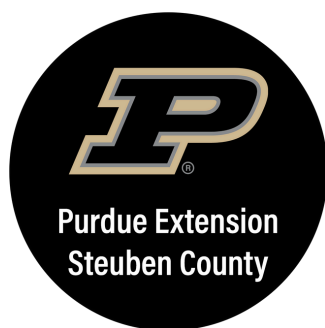
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In Other Extension News:

- Ladies Night Out on September 9th will teach ladies how to safely back a trailer, judgement-free! Master the skill is essential, so join others at the Elkhart County Fairgrounds in Goshen, 6-8 pm. Registration is \$20 and includes dinner.
- DIY Lawncare will be held Thursdays in October, 5-7 pm at the Extension Office. You can have a greener and healthier lawn by learning from Purdue Extension experts. The cost is \$25 for the four-session series or \$10 for individual classes.
- Save the Date! The Ag Women Engage Conference will be held February 12-13, 2025 in Fort Wayne.



Save the Dates for our 2024-2025 Monthly Creation Workshops!

Open to 4-H members and non-members alike, these monthly workshops can serve as interest builders, date nights for parents, and ways to meet other kids in our community around a unique content area.

- Friday, November 8, 5-7 pm - Pie Baking, Extension Kitchen
- Thursday, December 19, 5:30-7:30 pm - Candy, Candles, & Cards, Extension Kitchen and Board Room
- Tuesday, January 28, 5:30-7:30 pm - Woodworking, Board Room
- Thursday, February 13, 5:30-7:30 pm - Canvas Painting, Board Room
- Thursday, March 13, 5:30-7:30 pm - Macrame Wall Hanging, Board Room
- Thursday, April 10, 5:30-7:30 pm - Dissection, Board Room
- Thursday, May 8, 5:30-7:30 pm - Charcuterie with Mom (or another loved one), Extension Kitchen

Pre-registration and a registration fee will accompany each workshop so that we can secure supplies for all participants. Stay tuned for more info!