

## NORTHEAST INDIANA

# EXTENSION HIGHLIGHTS

## The next giant leap in education



346

### STUDENTS

*increased their understanding of nutrition and healthier habits at the Westview 2025 Healthy Living Program. The program taught students about nutrients and making smoothies in a fun way.*



## Purdue Extension Teaches More Than 800 Agriculturalist at Fort Wayne Farm Show

The 2025 Fort Wayne Farm Show (FWFS) was an action-packed, knowledge-rich event that left a lasting impact on attendees. Sessions covered topics such as Midwest Ag Market Outlook, farm emergency care, pesticide safety, and climate impacts. Farmers and industry professionals gained critical insights to improve their operations.

An overwhelming majority of attendees reported learning something new, increasing their awareness, and planning to implement changes such as better marketing strategies, enhanced safety precautions, and smarter crop management.

Attendees appreciated the expert speakers, practical advice, and life-saving safety tips. With calls for even more discussions on agricultural trends, chemical safety, and energy-efficient farming, this event continues to be a must-attend for anyone serious about advancing in the ag industry.

45

### BUSINESSES

participated in the first job fair organized by Purdue Extension and SWCD at the FWFS.

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## 'Reality Store' Transforms Students' Financial Literacy

Purdue Extension - Kosciusco County's "Reality Store" sessions gave 63 students a crash course in real-world finances. Every participant now understands the importance of budgeting, can confidently manage a check registry, and is committed to prioritizing savings. But the real impact? Their powerful takeaways!

Students realized just how expensive life—and kids—can be, acknowledging the need to budget wisely and make tough financial choices. Many were shocked by the cost of living, the importance of emergency savings, and the impact of high interest rates. Their reflections show a deep shift in mindset, proving this experience was more than just a lesson—it was a wake-up call.

With this newfound financial awareness from Shannon Shepherd (HHS Educator), these students are better prepared to navigate their futures with confidence; making informed decisions that will set them up for lifelong financial success.



60

### BEAUTIFUL WREN HOUSES

*were built across the area as a youth STEAM workshop taught 4-H members practical skills in drilling, measuring, and wood construction.*

44

### POULTRY OWNERS

*learned the importance of biosecurity on poultry farms including techniques to improve their flock health. They also learned important skills in showing poultry including proper grooming and handling.*



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