

Miranda Edge
Agriculture Natural Resource Educator
County Extension Director

Katie Davidson
Community Wellness Coordinator

Linda Flock
Assistant Office Manager

Rebecca Wilkins
4-H / Youth Development Educator

Jackie Young
Nutritional Assistant

Anna Denny
Program Assistant

Annette Lawler
Health & Human Sciences Educator

Mary Eve
Office Manager

Partnered Programs

Ag Day

Purdue Extension offered their first Virtual Ag Day 2020 in Harrison County. Even though this looked very different than Ag Days in the years past, we kept the main principles of this event: Learning about agriculture through hands on experiences! Our Purdue Extension Team along with our partners at Indiana Farm Bureau have put together these resources for all Harrison County 3rd grade classes. We developed a website that contains curriculum for teacher led activities, and information about Zoom activities led by our Extension Educators.

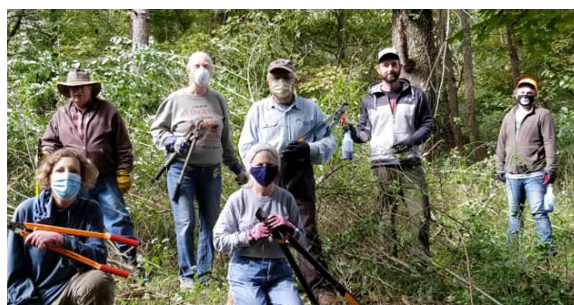


Ag Day lessons inspired us to reach out into the community more with the partnership with the Harrison County Agricultural Society during their Fall Fair. This partnership gave the community an opportunity to engage with our hands on agricultural activities

Agriculture/ Natural Resources

Mob Grazing

Purdue Extension teamed up with the Harrison County Parks Department to combat invasive species at Hayswood Nature Reserve by using a system called "Mob Grazing". A group of sheep and goats (and their livestock guardian dog) spent six weeks mob grazing a 3/4 acre field. Their work reduced overall work for staff and no chemical manage was used in this area. The goats and sheep will most likely return in 2021 to do more intensive grazing so we can start to reveal native plants that were once crowded out by unwanted plants.



Weed Wrangle

The Harrison County Habitat Alliance had another successful Weed Wrangle. Seven volunteers came out to help remove autumn olive, callery pear, multiflora rose, burning bush, privet, and bush honeysuckle from Hayswood Nature Reserve.

4-H / Youth Development

Embryology

Rebecca Wilkins took the students on a life cycle journey from eggs in an incubator to live chicks. Live updates were posted to the Ag Day website, Facebook page, and the chicks were even hatched live at the Harrison County Agricultural Fair in September. Students were able to explore and learn about parts of the egg during a live Zoom egg dissection lesson where in-school classes and students at home tuned in and dissect their own egg.



Take Home Kits

Purdue Extension and 4-H have been providing activity kits to local youth since the beginning of the pandemic. From painting kits to star charts, these kits inspire learning and creativity. Instructional videos are often included to provide parents with information to guide their child through the learning process.



Entomology

Our Purdue Extension Educators here in Harrison County are continuing to provide Live Zoom lessons with hands-on elements for students. Dr. Gwen Pearson, a bug expert from the Purdue University's Entomology department, provided a fascinating lesson on metamorphosis and even provided schools with live insects!

Area 2 Junior Leader Retreat

Junior Leaders from across area 2 came together to Wonder Valley in Salem on November 14th. The teens explored team building activities, communication skills, learned about parliamentary procedures and conflict management. They also had fun zip lining and rock wall climbing! They did all of this while following COVID-19 safety procedures.

Health & Human Sciences

Financial Literacy for Adults and Youth

Health & Human Sciences Educator, Annette Lawler, planned and presented financial literacy classes, Captain Cash to 3rd graders and Where Does Your Money Go? for adults. She also presented a Zoom training live to Head Start Parents training to discuss financial literacy and activities to help with budgeting and credit scores.

Food & Nutrition

Annette worked with teams on several programs. One team worked on a lesson about food labels called "What's in There Anyway". Another is extending the Foodlink program to mesh it with food preservation. Annette also participated in the annual ServSafe Trainers update.

Community

During this quarter, Annette worked with Leadership Harrison County (LHC) serving on the board and as the program planning committee chair. She presented a team building exercise Zoom sessions at the 2020 LHC retreat. She served on the Step Ahead Coalition sharing programming opportunities. Annette provided lessons and activities to Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (R.S.V.P) members. She co-hosted the Indiana Youth Institute Youth Worker Cafe Zoom meeting on cultural awareness. Annette conducted an in-person introductory Matter of Balance workshop to detect community interest. A full-length program will be offered in February. She also assisted in curriculum update for Bridges Out of Poverty training.

For More Information

Visit us on our website at extension.purdue.edu/Harrison or call us at 812-738-4236