

4-H TODAY

November/December 2021
Dallas Howard, Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development

Wishing you all the best!

Hello everyone! I wanted to let you all know that this will be my last newsletter as the Newton County 4-H Educator. I have accepted a position as a Student Support Specialist at Purdue and will be starting at the end of October. My last day in the office is October 16th. There are several things I will miss about working with 4-H, the youth, the volunteers, and this community, but I am excited for the new opportunity as I will be able to spend more time with my wife. We'll even be able to carpool to work together!

Thank you all for all of your support as we've gone through all of this together for the last two years. COVID has thrown unprecedented challenges at all of us. While there were a lot of frustrations and we didn't always necessarily agree on the best course of action, as a team we all worked together to make the best of an incredibly difficult situation. I could not have asked for a better group of families, volunteers, and coworkers to navigate this with. You should all be proud of yourselves for how well you have adapted and continued through all of this.

Of course, things aren't completely back to "normal" yet, and there is a very good chance that we will ultimately have to adjust to a "new normal" as we continue on. However, if there is one thing that humans do above all else, it is adapt and keep going. Just remember that while the fair is an important tradition, and the trophies and banners are wonderful reminders of fond memories and accomplishments, as long as we put the youth and their education first, and we do everything we can to promote positive youth development and serve as positive role models by working together even through challenging times, then the program will continue to be an invaluable asset for our youth and our community.

Thank you for everything, and I wish you all the best!

Dallas



4-H Enrollment Open NOW!

We are excited for another great year and are preparing for many changes to make our program better than ever!

Hopefully you have heard by now, but this year we have really exciting news! This year, the Newton County Government has agreed to cover the enrollment costs of the first 400 youth to sign up for Newton County 4-H between October 1st and January 15th. To take advantage of that, simply go to <https://v2.4honline.com> and register the same way you did last year. Returning families will use the same login information that they used last year. New families will create a profile and add youth members to their family profile. The system will still ask you to select a payment option (we can't turn that off). Make sure you select cash/check, but DO NOT send us a payment. Once you have completed your enrollment our office will take care of the payment on our end.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact our office at 219-285-8620 x2800 or email newtonces@purdue.edu. Newton County 4-H is open to all youth in grades K-12. New members are welcome to join at any time!

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Club Annual Reports and Financial Info

In January, the required annual Club Report and Financial Info forms will be mailed to one leader per club or project. The club secretary can complete the Club Report, which is a summary of the year's accomplishments. The Treasurer can help complete the 2-page Financial Report. All reports **MUST** be returned to the Extension Office by **February 1**.

4-H Camp Counselor Application

Have you had a positive experience in 4-H and want to help younger members enjoy their involvement in the program? Consider being a 4-H Camp Counselor!

Counselors must be enrolled in grades 9-12 and be willing to help 3rd through 6th graders have a fun and safe stay at 4-H Camp. This year's camp will be held June 8-10 at Camp Tecumseh. Camp Counselor applications are due by January 7. Contact the Extension Office for an application.

Required Adult Volunteer Training

This year, new training modules have been added to the Adult Volunteer enrollment process in addition to the Operating Procedures for Programs Involving Minors. There will be a total of four required training modules that you will have to complete. The trainings will take approximately an hour to complete, but you do not need to complete all of the trainings in one session. Please note that the 4-H Online system will not allow the Extension Office to approve your volunteer enrollment until this training is completed. If you have any questions, please contact the Extension Office at 219-285-8620 ext. 2800.

Safety Plan Requirements

At this point, Safety Plans still need to be submitted, but only for events happening indoors. If an event is outdoors, you do not need a safety plan. If the event is both indoors and outdoors, you only need to have a safety plan for the indoor portion. This is now an online form that our office can submit for you. To do that, we need to know:

- Where you are meeting
- When you are meeting
- Approximately how many people you expect
- Any activities you plan that would not be part of a "normal" meeting (i.e. special activities, meals, etc.)

In the case of recurring meetings where the location and expected attendees remain consistent (club meetings, for example), a single safety plan can be submitted for multiple dates. Please contact Deb Arseneau, the County Extension Director, at arseneau@purdue.edu to get your safety plans submitted or if you have any questions.

2022 4-H Periscopes to be Mailed & Project Updates

In December, the new Periscopes will be mailed to everyone who was a member or volunteer in 2021. Spend some time checking out the 50+ projects listed and sign up for several!

This year there were several changes. Any project with an asterisk (*) next to it has been updated. The biggest changes you will see this year are in the State Fair eligible projects. The State 4-H Office worked very hard to simplify and standardize these exhibit requirements to make them easier to follow and to make sure that they were exactly the same in every county. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

4-H Scholarships

Are you a high school 4-H member getting your post-high school educational plans together? Don't forget about your 4-H experiences. You could be eligible for a number of scholarships!

Through the Indiana 4-H program, there are many scholarships available:

1. **4-H Accomplishment.** Includes an application within a 4-H project area, a cover letter, a resume, and an on-campus interview for those whose applications are selected.
2. **4-H Club.** For seniors enrolling at Purdue in the College of Agriculture or one of the following majors in the College of Health and Human Sciences; Apparel Design and Technology, Dietetics, Developmental and Family Science, Early Childhood Education and Exceptional Needs, Family and Consumer Sciences Education, Environmental Health Science, Financial Counseling and Planning, Foods and Nutrition, Hospitality and Tourism Management, Human Services, Nutrition Science, Retail Management, or Selling and Sales Management. Must have your FAFSA application on file by March 1, 2022
3. **4-H Foundation.** For seniors enrolled in 4-H, based on 4-H record and application.
4. Locally, **3 Newton County 4-H Council Scholarships** are available: One to a North Newton-area 4-Her, one to a South Newton-area 4-Her, and one to a student not enrolled in Newton County school systems but is a Newton County 4-H member.

Applications for these scholarships will be available soon and can be found at www.extension.purdue.edu/newton or <https://extension.purdue.edu/4h/Pages/scholarships.aspx>. —All applications will need to be uploaded to your 4HOnline profile by January 25, 2022 to be accepted, **except the 4-H Council scholarship, which is due February 1.**

Junior Leaders

Newton County Junior Leaders met October 6 at the Newton County Government Center and discussed fundraisers, upcoming projects and elected new officers.

New Junior Leader Officers for 2021-2022 are as follows:

President – David Hamilton
Vice President – Aaron Turner
Secretary – Hayden LaFlech
Treasurer – Abby Hamilton
Recreation Leader – Cecelia Marter
4-H Council Representative – Michael Klemme
Extension Board Representative – Micah Turner

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, November 3. We will meet from 6:00—7:30 PM at the **Newton County Government Center**. Jr. Leaders, check your email for a more detailed update for the next meeting.

New members are welcome to join us in November—anyone in grade 7 or above who is enrolled in a local 4-H club and completes at least one other 4-H project is eligible. We have a great time—come be a part of this fantastic club!



“4-H Grows Here” Yard Signs Available Now!

Yard signs are available for you to help recruit for 4-H. A few Spanish versions are also available. Please take one to display in your yard during our enrollment period.

Contact Us

Interested in learning more about what we do?

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Visit us on the web at
extension.purdue.edu/newton

Or Facebook at
[www.facebook.com/
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