

## ***Purdue Extension's contributions to Grant County in 2007-08\****

**Here are some of our programmatic highlights:**

### ***4-H Youth***

- 672 youth were enrolled in 4-H and Mini 4-H; 560 in 4-H, 112 in Mini 4-H.
- 4663 total projects were taken by 4-H members.
- Youth learn project skills and life skills of leadership, responsibility, communication, organization, and citizenship.
- 100% of the 23 ten-year 4-H members said 4-H was a valuable learning experience for them.
- 179 adult volunteers contribute hundreds of hours of service in various capacities to make 4-H happen.
- School enrichment curriculum provided by Purdue Extension reached 1951 children.

### ***Youth & Health***

- Obesity is epidemic in U.S. children, as one child in five is overweight. Purdue Extension staff taught "Exploring MyPyramid with Professor Popcorn" program to 296 students in five elementary schools. The following improvements were reported by students:
  - 9% increase in youth practicing healthy physical activity habits
  - 12% increase in practice of one or more healthy food selection habits
  - 16% increase in those who tried new foods
  - 17% improvement in knowledge of healthy food choices and food preparation.

### ***Low-income Families with Children***

- Purdue Extension's family nutrition advisor taught 91 low-income homemakers in their homes or in small groups about nutrition, smart food buying, food preparation, and food safety through the federal Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP). Eighty-one completed the program.
- She also taught the "Have a Healthy Baby" program to 22 families. She covered the benefits of breastfeeding and the dangers of smoking while pregnant.
- The Federally-funded EFNEP program benefits residents at no direct cost to Grant County taxpayers in county tax dollars.

### ***Agriculture***

- Purdue Extension facilitated the organization of Purdue University's state-wide "Forage Day" in Grant County June 26 at Hodupp Hay Farm. Approximately 185 people attended to hear educational presentations and observe field demonstrations.

### ***Youth Literacy***

- Purdue Extension staff and Extension Homemakers worked together to provide the "First Book" project to 170 local children in the Head Start program. Extension Homemakers read books to children then gave each child a copy of that book to read again at home.

### ***Public Policy***

- New property tax legislation was the primary public policy issue in 2008, accompanied with a great deal of uncertainty as to how those new laws would impact taxpayers and local governments. Purdue Extension facilitated two 2-way video educational sessions on how new property tax legislation would affect property owners and local government.



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*The mission of the Purdue Cooperative Extension Service is the education of Indiana residents through application of the land-grant university research and knowledge base for the benefit of agriculture, youth, families and communities.*

**\*Purdue Extension's** reporting year begins October 1 and ends September 30.

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