

# PURDUE EXTENSION



## Making a Difference in Henry County

### Teaching Youth Better Nutrition

Purdue Extension educators in Henry County led 64 third grade students at two local elementary schools through a six-week gardening and nutrition program called *Eat Your Way to Better Health*, based on the Junior Master Gardener® *Health and Nutrition from the Garden* curriculum. Students planted and tended cool-season crops, such as lettuce, spinach, radishes, and peas and sampled more than 18 fruits and vegetables. The students developed a better understanding of how plants grow and the importance of eating a colorful diet, and expressed a sense of pride and awe in being able to eat the fruits of their labor.

*"I used to love candy before you came...now I eat fruits and vegetables to be healthier."*—quote from third grade participant

### Helping Entrepreneurs Grow Businesses

Agricultural-based producers seeking to start or expand their businesses have found a great resource in Purdue Extension. During the past year, 52 budding entrepreneurs attended monthly meetings to network, develop business plans, and learn about adding value to products, such as flax, honey, meats, produce, and fibers. Of the meetings, one participant commented, *"I think they are very beneficial, by providing a wealth of information and sparking new ideas...we have a lot of positive things now happening with our beekeeping operation."*

### Purdue Extension Delivers

- *AgAnswers* provides timely agricultural problem-solving advice: [www.aganswers.net](http://www.aganswers.net).
- *Local Decision Maker* helps Indiana communities make informed land use decisions: <http://ldm.agriculture.purdue.edu>.
- *Money on Your Mind* answers questions about stretching dollars in tough economic times: [www.extension.purdue.edu/money](http://www.extension.purdue.edu/money).
- *New Ventures Team* experts help entrepreneurs and small business owners: [www.agecon.purdue.edu/newventures](http://www.agecon.purdue.edu/newventures).

### Connecting Youth to Agriculture

Henry County Farm Bureau and Purdue Extension partnered to host 549 first grade students at a local farm for hands-on learning. After the tour, one teacher commented, *"These children have not had many, if any, experiences outside of their own neighborhoods. Seeing, touching, hearing, and experiencing the farm in a sensory way is so important for them. The information that they glean from the stations reinforces the learning that we have taught before and after the trip."*

### Learn More About Purdue Extension in Henry County

**Purdue Extension**  
**Knowledge to Go**  
1-888-EXT-INFO

#### Extension Educators:

- 4-H Youth Educator & County Extension Director: Bethany Ratts
- Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator: Gary Wilson
- Consumer and Family Sciences Educator: Emily Becker

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