

La Porte County 4-H Newsletter

October 2009



What is New for 2010?

Win an iPod Nano

In an effort to increase 4-H enrollment we will be giving away an iPod nano to one lucky 4-H member. For every new 4-H member that you enroll, you will receive one entry into the drawing (sorry, younger brother and sisters do not count). So start talking to your friends now and watch the next newsletter for more details.

Theme for 4-H Week

In keeping with our goal of getting new people in the 4-H program, our theme for 2010 will be: "Double Your Fun in 2010 - Join 4-H and Bring a Friend." When creating your posters for the contest, keep this theme in mind. If every current 4-H'er brought in one new person, we would double our enrollment!

Home Environment

There will be a new manual and new project requirement for the Home Environment project next year. So keep a look out for future information.

Booster Club Scholarship

The Booster Club will be offering a new scholarship in 2010. They are currently developing their criteria. If you would like to make a donation, please contact Curt Morrison at 362-0697.

New Club Forming

There is a new club forming that will meet once a month in either Fish Lake or Mill Creek. The leaders will be Diania Franks, Deanna Holifield and Angela Hamilton. If you are interested, contact Diania at 369-9994 or email at jdctrucking@yahoo.com.

New Event for 2010

We will have an all-day scrapbooking event on March 6 at the Small Projects Building at the fairgrounds. This will include lots of fun classes, contests, prizes and food. More information and registration forms will be in the next newsletter.

In This Issue...

4-H Leaders
4-H Boosters & Alumni
4-H Junior Leaders
Calendar

2010 La Porte County Fair
July 18th - 24th

2010 Indiana State Fair
August 6th - 22nd

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The Cass Merrymakers 4-H Club participated in the Scarecrow Fest parade and received a trophy for "Patches Choice." Congratulations!

Thank You for a Great 4-H Year!

Thank You!

Without a doubt, the 2010 LaPorte County Fair was one of the best yet. Thank you to all the 4-H members, parents, and volunteers who worked so hard throughout the year to ensure its success.

State Fair Results On-Line

LaPorte County was well represented at the Indiana State Fair. You can view the results on-line by searching for "LaPorte" at www.four-h.purdue.edu/state_fair/index.html. We had 358 entries this year – congratulations to all who participated.

Thank Your Supporters!

The fair has come and gone, but there is still time to thank those who donated trophies or purchased livestock at the fair. If a person or place of business supported you during the fair and you haven't thanked them, please be sure to send them a note of recognition. It's very important to let them know how much you appreciate their support.

Congratulations

Scholarship Award Winners

Congratulations to the following award winners. The Robert M. Morris Scholarship winner was **Nate Shireman**. The Louis M. Daube Memorial Scholarship winner was **Angela Lile**. Farm Bureau Tenure award winners were **Brad Rauschenbach and Angela Lile**.

Fashion Revue

Congratulations to La Porte County 4-H members who place in the top 15 State Fair Fashion Revue. They are in Dress Up, Brittany Fisher; Informal/Casual Wear, Melissa Smoker; Free Choice, Brandon Ames; and Suit or Coat, Elizabeth Fisher.

4-H Key Club Winners

The 4-H Key Club Award is a program designed with a life-long membership for each recipient of this one-time award. The award designates the recipient as an outstanding 4-H member in the local club and county and encourages him or her to continue leadership in action "to further develop 4-H club work in Indiana".

The 4-H member who earns this Indiana 4-H Key Club Award can be proud of their contribution to club and community. This award is sponsored by the Indiana 4-H Foundation. The Foundation will present each recipient with a certificate and a special gift.

Congratulations to **Justin Knoll, Sandra Seymour, Abby Sweet, Zacc Sweet and Tommy Thomasino** for being our 2009 winners!

Skill-A-Thon

Congratulations to Dakota and Bailee Cook who participated in the Livestock Skill-A-Thon on September 26th. Dakota placed 8th out of 115 in the Sr. FFA students and Bailee placed 7th out of 18 in the Jr. 4-H members.

Next Year's 4-H Projects

You may not want to think about 4-H project work already, but some projects need to be done in the fall season, instead of July. Start very soon if possible.

Forestry - Collecting seeds.

Arts and Crafts - Drying flowers, drawing fall and winter scenery, starting your cross stitches and latch hooks.

Insects - This is a good time of year to start adding to your collection. They slow down in the fall, and sometimes can be found indoors.

Photography - Hopefully you will be able to get the vibrant fall colors. Winter scenes will be upon us soon.

Project summary books listing all requirements will be available in January.

4-H Updates for 2010

Poultry

Again in 2010, members may only show in the turkey, roaster, and broiler classes if they have purchased birds from the stock ordered from Townline Hatchery. Birds will be available to purchase and pick up at Tractor Supply on Pine Lake Avenue; members must pay for birds at that time. Price has not been determined, but last year turkeys were \$3.50 and chickens were .85. Members will need to inform the Poultry Committee of purchase quantity prior to December 18th. This will allow the hatchery sufficient time to make sure our needs are available.

Members may opt to purchase a maximum of 10 birds from each of the three classes. No other birds will be allowed to show in these classes - only birds purchased from the program. All other classes in the program will continue as usual. Any questions, please call June Lenig at 324-3921.

4-H Shooting Sports

La Porte County will host its Shooting Sports sign up for archery, shotgun and rifle on January 9, 2010 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Michigan City Rifle Club, 4801 West, U.S. 20. The shotgun and rifle disciplines are being added this year and we are currently fundraising to buy equipment for these two added programs. If you know of some potential contacts for donating, please contact our office. Mark your calendars for this sign up and more information will be available.

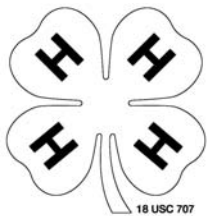
4-H Camp

The La Porte/Porter County 4-H Camp held at Camp Alexander Mack this past summer was very successful with 107 youth and adults attending the 3 day camp on beautiful Lake Waubee in Milford Indiana. Camp provided meaningful learning experiences as well as plenty of fun activities for all those attending. Twenty camp counselors along with 6 adults helped supervise

and provide leadership for the 2009 4-H camp. A big thanks goes out to the sponsors of camp that included: Rolling Prairie Gleaners #557, Mill Creek Gleaners Arbor #418, Co-Alliance LLP and Land O'Lakes Foundation, New Prairie Arbor Gleaners #756, and the Homespun Harmony Extension Homemakers Club. These sponsors provided camp scholarships for campers as well as helping keep the cost for attending camp affordable. Your sponsorship is greatly appreciated!

Growing Up Drug Free Poster Contest

Calling all artists! Create a poster (size 11" x 17") about this year's theme: Growing Up Drug Free: Why It Is Important to Me. Posters will be judged in three categories: elementary, middle school, and high school. They will be judged on their artistry, creativity, originality, evidence of age-appropriate research related to the topic, and their ability to communicate a clear message about growing up drug free. Each winner will receive a \$25 gift card and the grand prize winners will be awarded a \$50 savings bond from the La Porte Savings Bank. Prizes will be awarded and winning posters will be reproduced and displayed as part of Drug Free Work Week. Posters must be submitted to the Extension Office by 4:00 p.m. on October 23. Contact the office for all the details.



For 4-H Leaders

Don't Forget!

Forms listing your adult 4-H leaders and township council representatives for 2010 are due in our office by **October 30th**.

This information is needed for our 2010 4-H Project Handbook, adult leaders' lists, newsletter mailing list, lists for fair and updates to our Extension database (computer mailing list). It is extremely important for these people to receive the notices and new information for the coming year. The form calls for you to list the committee persons on one side and your leaders on the other side of the form.

Financial Statements

4-H Club financial statements for all clubs are due to the Extension Office by **November 30th**. One fifth of all 4-H units will be selected for audits in January. Therefore, your club's records will be audited once every five years.

Standard and Honor Clubs

If you would like to apply for standard or honor club status, we need to have your applications by **October 30th**. Blank forms are in the leaders notebook information you received in January.

4-H Accident Insurance Coverage

Just a reminder that the Extension Office will be submitting your club's enrollment form for Accident Insurance effective January 1, 2010 to American Income Life. Your club will then be billed and you are to submit your payment to the Extension Ed Fund at the Extension Office. Exceptions are EZ Riders, ATV, and Shooting Sports project clubs who will still be responsible for submitting their own insurance enrollment.

Leaders Banquet – Save the Date!

The Adult Volunteer Recognition Banquet will be held on Monday, November 2nd at the United Methodist Church in Rolling Prairie at 6:30 p.m. Mark your calendars now so you won't miss this great event!

Biofuels Blast

We have a great opportunity to involve your 4-H members in a fun science experiment. The National 4-H Council is coordinating a national effort to involve members in Science, Engineering, and Technology. We have supplies that you can use to conduct an experiment during your club meeting and then report your findings on a national website. Please call Patty for more information. The activity should take place sometime in October.

4-H School Visits

School visits are an important step in letting others know about 4-H. These visits take place the end of January through the first week of February. Both Patty Keating and Hugh Tonagel will be visiting elementary schools and speaking to 3rd and 4th graders about how to get involved.

If you have a good working relationship with one of the local schools in La Porte County, please ask if the Youth Educators may come and visit these grades to speak about the 4-H program. We will talk about the program, clubs, activities, workshops, trips, camp, etc. Your help in any of the presentations is always appreciated.

We also need 4-H projects to show as examples. We have lots of poster projects, but could use some examples of arts & crafts, models, woodworking, gift wrapping, sewing, scrapbooking, etc. If you have items to share, please bring them to the Extension Office. Items may be picked up after March 1.

**La Porte County 4-H Booster/Alumni Association
Pie Auction**

A big thank you to our Booster Club volunteers and especially all our bakers who made such wonderful pies for the auction during the fair. This year we raised over \$1,600 – more than ever before!



Mini 4-H Achievement Party

The Mini 4-H Achievement party will be held on Tuesday, October 20 at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Building at the fairgrounds. The evening will feature story-telling, arts & crafts, pumpkin decorating, a costume parade, games, and lots of treats. Winners of the fair coloring contest – Sarah Henrich, Kindergarten; Allie Kraus, 1st grade; and Katelyn Rudolph, 2nd grade - will be recognized and record sheets that were turned in will be available for pick-up.

We need Junior Leaders to help run the games and activities for the Mini 4-H Achievement party. If you are available to help our younger members have a great time, please call the Extension Office to sign up. Thank you!

Forestry Field Day

This event will be on Saturday, October 24th from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at Pinney Purdue Ag Center. Topics will include Woodland Management, Wildlife Rehabilitation and Healthy Forest Reserve Program.

Bright Green T-Shirts

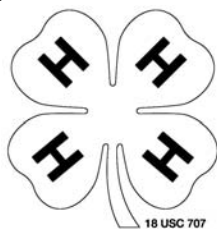
Show the world that you believe in a bright, green future! 4-H T-shirts are available at the Extension Office for \$10.00 each. We are starting to run short on some sizes (especially youth sizes), so please come in as soon as you can to make sure you'll have the right size for that great Christmas gift!

Judges Workshop

Are you interested in judging 4-H projects? If so, attend the Northeast IN 4-H Judges Clinic on Saturday, Nov 7th. Topics are garden, genealogy, crafts, fashion revue, natural resources, flowers, sewing/cc, scrapbooking, photo, posters and new judges. Call the office if you are interested.

Endowment Fund Update

We have already raised \$1,450 of the \$5,000 need to create an endowment for La Porte County 4-H. To make your tax-deductible contribution just send a check made out to the "4-H Supply Fund." You can help ensure that 4-H will be here for many years to come.

**La Porte County 4-H Junior Leaders****Want..... You!
Junior Leader Callout**

Come join us on Wednesday, October 28 at 7 p.m. at the Small Projects Building as we kick off the Junior Leader year. Election of club officers and District Representatives will take place along with the

addition of food, fun and games making this a night you won't want to miss.

Prizes will be awarded for those 4-H members bringing a guest with them who has not previously joined Junior Leaders. Mark your calendar and plan to be there!

More Junior Leader meeting dates:

Junior Leaders will be meeting on the following dates at the Small Projects Building: November 23; December 7; January 20; February 18; March 24; April 14; and May 12.

Other Junior Leader News of Interest

As we begin another "4-H season" and project year we are appreciative of the help of our Junior Leader adult sponsors. Adult sponsors help us chaperone events and activities as needed plus arrange to have refreshments at the Junior Leader meetings (yes, you will be reimbursed!). If you know of an adult or two who would be willing to help us out this year please contact Hugh Tonagel at the Extension Office at 324-9407.

Officer Elections and Responsibilities

As you consider whether or not you are willing to serve as an officer in Junior Leaders for the coming year, make sure you are aware of the responsibilities. Officers have specific responsibilities in regard to the individual office they hold but are also responsible for helping the club recommend, plan, and conduct its activities. So if you are considering running for an office at the October 28th meeting, please be prepared to state your past involvement in Junior Leaders (Mini 4-H workshops, Food Stand work, Float decorating, Community Service, etc.) as well as any work in your local club or other youth organizations. We will have new members present who will need to get to know you. We appreciate your consideration!

Your Help Needed with Mini 4-H Achievement Party

On Tuesday, October 20th the Mini 4-H Achievement Party will be held at the Community Building with set up beginning at 5 p.m. Your help is needed to make this party and workshop a success for these future 4-H members. There will be fun, food, pumpkins and more on this evening. Please call us by October 13 and let us know if you will be able to help on this evening. We have an answering machine for calling after hours.



Something to Remember

June Lenig, our Poultry Superintendent, received this letter from a fair visitor and we thought it was important to share:

“Dear 4-H Leaders,

I wanted to let you know what a great job one of your kids did. My family toured all the animal barns. In most, the kids made us feel like we were in the way and a bother. I was getting upset because this is why my kids like the fair and I always thought the barns were there for the public. Well the last barn we stopped in was the Poultry Barn. In there we met a young man who asked my kids if they wanted to pet his duck. He pulled the duck out and let all my kids pet it. He also answered all their questions. The name on the duck’s cage was Bryce Wells Pen 66. He saved what was looking like a very bad day. Maybe other kids could learn from him and make the public who pay for the fair welcome.”

Please remember that we are all ambassadors for the 4-H program. Thank you Bryce for being a great 4-H ambassador!

New 4-H Fundraiser

4-H Clover Crop



Come join the fun and enjoy
8 hours of non-stop scrapbooking!

Classes ▪ Make ‘N Takes

Silent Auction ▪ Contests

Prizes ▪ Food

Vendors will be on-site with both
scrapbooking and home products

Saturday, March 6, 2010

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

