

Huntington County Purdue Extension Board—2016

The County Extension Board helps to formulate and carry out county extension programs and policies. They also help with financial support and personnel placement.

Robert Aughinbaugh, President Sandy Atkinson Vice-President
Keturah Hyde, Secretary Dennis Brubaker, Treasurer
Beth Stevens, Jenna Strick, Tom Stahl, Carrie Boxell, Jay Beekman, Cindy Blocker, Linda Aldridge
Appointed Positions:
Carol Holmes—Extension Homemakers; Tim Burnau—4-H Fair Board;
Scott Husband & Luke Vickrey 4-H Leaders Organization; Taylor Scher -4-H Junior Leaders
David Miller, Master Gardeners

2015 Government
Officials

Huntington County Government

Commissioners: Tom Wall, Larry Buzzard, Rob Miller
Council: John Hacker, Don Davenriner, Shane Bickel,
Jaime Miller, Kendall Mickley, Todd Landrum, Keith Eller
State Legislators
Senator Jim Banks, Columbia City
Representative Daniel Leonard, Huntington

2015-2016 Purdue Extension Staff Members

Purdue Extension Service

State Director **District Director**
Jason Henderson Linda Aldridge

Huntington County Staff

Educators
Karen Hinshaw, Health and Human Sciences and County Director
Ed Farris, Agriculture and Natural Resources
Rae Ann O'Neill, 4-H Youth Educator

Program Assistants

Cyndy McMillan, Veronica Briles, Shannon Hatfield, Becky Arnett;
Nutrition Education Program Assistants
Natalie Porter, Program Assistant
Melissa Strass, Program Assistant
Susy Jennings, Community Wellness Coordinator

Administrative Assistants

Elizabeth Brundige
Deidre Gray
<https://extension.purdue.edu/Huntington/Pages/default.aspx>



Making a Difference In ...



Huntington County

Purdue Extension—Huntington County

2016 Annual Report



The Purdue Extension Service is a vast network of County Educators working in collaboration with University Research Specialists across the state and country as part of the land-grant university system. Its purpose is to transform lives and livelihoods through research-based education.

Programs are focused in the areas of agriculture, youth development, families and community development. Educational materials are delivered through interactive workshops, one-on-one consultations and publications. Information that is shared is meant to give people possibilities and hope to enable them to improve their lives and the lives of those around them.

As a county department, Educators work with a variety of community agencies, businesses, associations, and county government, as well as individuals and families, to focus on issues and local needs important to the citizens of Huntington County. Through collaborations, building resources and providing opportunities to develop life skills, youth and adults are increasing their abilities to lead more productive lives and businesses. As an education outreach of Purdue University, Educators use state and national resources to assist with problem-solving and utilization of programs.

A strong and active core of volunteers in 4-H, Master Gardeners and Extension Homemakers help to extend the impact and work of the Extension Service throughout the county. With the guidance and direction of professional extension staff and the commitment of volunteers, Purdue Extension in Huntington County is making a difference in the lives of youth and adults.

Within this annual report are highlights of just some of the major efforts and outcomes from Extension programs that have impacted lives in Huntington County. We truly thank you for your support and desire to build a healthy community through knowledge and action.

How Can You Get Involved?

Here are some opportunities for you to help make a difference in your community by partnering with Purdue Extension Huntington County:

- Volunteer at the Helping Hands Community Garden. We need help with planting, weeding, tilling, helping others harvest, harvesting for those who are unable, helping when there are nutrition classes and much more!
- Volunteer for Cooking with Love classes. You can help someone figure out a recipe, wash dishes, help set up, organize, provide childcare and much more!
- Help with Block Parties to teach parents and caregivers how to interact with small children to build necessary skills for school readiness.
- Interested in helping Mini 4-Hers gain experience in making a project and learning some basics about 4-H? We have a need for volunteers with our County Mini 4-H program for the upcoming spring & summer program activities.

PURDUE EXTENSION - HUNTINGTON COUNTY OFFICE
County Courthouse Annex
1340 S Jefferson St.
Huntington IN 46750-2743

Phone: 260-358-4826
Fax: 260-358-4829

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Website: <http://www.ag.purdue.edu/counties/huntington/>

It is the policy of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service that all persons have equal opportunity and access to its educational programs, services, activities, and facilities without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, disability or status as a veteran. Purdue University is an Affirmative Action institution. This material may be available in alternative formats.

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EXTENSION | COUNTLESS CONNECTIONS
1-888-EXT-INFO • www.extension.purdue.edu

Looking Ahead. . .

Farm Succession Planning Workshop

- Nov. 30, 2017 @ 11:30 a.m. @ Huntington U Dining Commons

Everyday Cooking Classes - Hosted at Love INC.

- Starting in January 2017

Cooking with Love - Monthly Classes starting February 2017

- 2nd Tues of the month in Mt. Etna @ 10am
- 3rd Tues of the month in Markle @ 1:30pm
- 3rd Weds of the month in Htgn @ 10am
- 2nd Thurs of the month in Htgn @ 1:00pm
- 3rd Thurs of the month in Warren @ 1:00PM

Crockpot Cooking Class

Wednesday evenings 6:00– 7:30pm @ HCTPL

December 7, 14, 21 & January 4, 11, 18- \$5 per session

Beginners Guide to Grant Writing Workshop

- December 5, 2016 & January 11, 2017– Extension Office

Huntington County Leadership Academy

- Series begins January 18, 2017– Extension Office

I am Moving, I am Learning Workshop

- January 28, 2017– Extension Office

Ag Day for 3rd graders

- March 21st, 2017 - Huntington County 4-H Fair Grounds

Huntington County 4-H Member K-12 Enrollment Time Frame - October 1, 2016-January 15, 2017

Online 4-H Enrollment link: in.4honline.com

2017 Huntington County 4-H Fair

July 14-July 28, 2017

At the Huntington County 4-H Fairgrounds: July 21-July 28, 2017

2017 Indiana State Fair

August 5-21, 2017

2016 Huntington County Leadership

Huntington County Leadership Academy partnered with Purdue Extension to provide leadership programming for 14 graduates in 2016. This 11 session series gave participants a chance to learn about the community, interact with community leaders and complete projects to meet a community need. Two of the projects completed for 2016 were an online Community Calendar and a brochure with resources regarding addictions.



Ag Day 2016 Since the late 1990's, Ag Day has provided 3rd grade students with "hands-on" exposure to agriculture in Huntington County. Through the efforts of over 30 volunteers, students are engaged in learning activities to better understand the source of our food and the people involved in growing crops like corn or soybeans and livestock, as well as protecting soils and food safety. Over 420 youth from public, private and home schools participated in this event.



Master Gardener Intern Class

Volunteer training was held in Huntington County. There were eight participants in the thirteen session class. All reported becoming better gardeners and environmental stewards as a result of the class. Newly trained interns are now educating youth and adults in gardening activities. They earn the Master Gardener certification once they volunteer 35 hours of their time in the community.



Community Collaborations

Health and Wellness

The Community Wellness Coordinator helps plan, create, and implement long term health and wellness initiatives in the areas of diet quality, physical activity, food security, food safety, and food resource management. Purdue Extension has partnered with many organizations throughout Huntington to realize these goals.

Empowering Humanities

This is a community group that meets monthly to share resources, identify gaps and brainstorm solutions. The Health and Human Sciences Educator serves as co-chair of this group. This group provides input for Health & Human Sciences county programming.

Skill Building

Helping Hands Community Garden

Located on Viking Lane next to Huntington North High School, the Helping Hands Community Garden has been serving the Huntington Community since 2010—seeking to provide wholesome, locally grown fresh produce to people who need better access to it. It also provides opportunities for people to learn where their food comes from, how to grow their own produce, experience gardening for themselves, and volunteer with a project whose goal is to help make our community a healthier, more productive place to live. The garden relies primarily on volunteers to make it thrive. Thanks to their efforts, we were able to provide 10,800 pounds of quality produce to over 500 individuals and families here in Huntington during our 2016 growing season. 94% of visitors stated they are eating more fruits and veggies as a result of visiting the community garden .



Block Party Block Parties provide an opportunity for parents and caregivers to interact and play with their children while learning how to help them develop a variety of skills such as math, science, social, physical and language. As a result of participating in a Block Party, parents are making blocks more available for their children, playing more frequently with their children with blocks, , using new vocabulary words with their children, and asking more open-ended questions.

Community Engagement

Representing Purdue Extension– Educators serve on a variety of Boards and Committees in the community.

- Place of Grace Board of Directors
- Empowering Humanities Committee
- Huntington County Health and Wellness Coalition
- Huntington County Leadership
- Huntington County Plan Commission
- Huntington County Farm Bureau
- Healthy Families Advisory Board

Nutrition Education Program partners with:

- Bowen Center & Senior Center
- WIC & Free Health Clinic
- Love INC & Pathfinder Services
- Head Start & Kids Kampus
- LaFontaine Center & Jackson Square
- Bread of Life Food Pantry (Warren)
- Huntington County Community School Corporation
- Huntington County Boys & Girls Club

Marketing and Public Relations

- Interacted with attendees at Huntington Senior EXPO
- Participated in the 4th Grade Health Fair and the United Technologies Employee Health Fair
- Taught youth at Healthy Kids Day (Huntington YMCA)
- “**Like**” us on Facebook and “**Follow**” on Twitter, Instagram and Pinterest to keep up to date with current educational programs



Agricultural & Natural Resources Programs

Ag Producer Workshops

Four workshops were held for crop advisors and growers to earn education credits for private and commercial pesticide licenses. Topics discussed



included seed treatment, cover crops, weed management strategies and safety. Sixty-five percent said that they would change an agronomic or pest control practice as a result of their participation.



Huntington Co. Master Gardeners

Volunteers contributed over 1300 community service hours with nine community forums for youth and adults, a spring plant sale, tending display gardens at Salamonie Int. Center and Forks of the Wabash, and teaching at other events.



Nutrition Education Program (NEP)

The Nutrition Education Program (NEP) is a program for limited-resource audiences operating in partnership with Purdue Extension, Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, The National Institute of Food and Agriculture and Food and Nutrition Services. Outcomes and Impacts:

- ◇ 82% of those who completed the evaluation indicated they are eating more fruits and vegetables as a result of participating in the program
- ◇ 93% indicated they understand MyPlate after attending the program.
- ◇ 80% are getting more exercise as a result of attending the program.
- ◇ Participants also made and tried new foods such as avocado smoothies, pumpkin French toast and pumpkin oatmeal
- ◇ Students reported that they would try new foods now because they tried them during class and liked them “even if they are green”.

Empowering Others

Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin' By World

This series helps those on the lower rungs of the economic ladder to build their resources toward financial stability. 100% of participants set and met at least one goal during class. Participants learned how to set small goals and be accountable for reaching them by reporting back to the group each week on their successes. Participants become more aware of first impressions given by their dress, appearance, language and body language when applying for employment. Participants are more aware of predatory lenders and alternatives for making purchases. They become more aware that different places have different rules and you must follow them to fit in.

Where Does Your Money Go?

This workshop focuses on basic budgeting, expense tracking, saving and finding spending leaks. 88% said they are thinking differently about how they manage money as a result of the program. 80% of participants said they would otherwise be using that money to start saving for things like college education or retirement. Given the chance to do things differently in the future, 75% of participants said they would reduce spending leaks, followed by develop a savings plan (72%), track monthly expenses (69%) and finally, spend money on needs before wants (62%).

I am Moving, I am Learning

The program participant's implementation of actions to get young children engaged in more physical activities on a daily basis will make a difference in children's lives to get them more actively involved to help reduce childhood obesity and help them in their learning. The lessons of I am Moving, I am Learning significantly improved the participants' level of understanding and also their willingness to implement the practices and strategies taught to enhance children's welfare.

4-H Volunteer Development & Training

- New 4-H Volunteer Training (Recommended) 14 have completed as of 8/15/16
- Protecting Minor Children (required by University) 60 have completed as of 8/15/16
- How to use 4honline for Club Leaders



Volunteer Development & Training

Huntington County 4-H Fair Association, Inc

- Air conditioning was added to Heritage Hall. It is hoped that more rentals will come as a result of this addition.
- New windows were added to Heritage Hall to make it more energy efficient.
- Buildings and streets were auctioned for the naming rights for the next 6 years as a fundraiser to support the Fairgrounds.
- New trees, benches and picnic tables were added through donations from supporters and local businesses.
- Restrooms in Heritage Hall and the Community Building were updated with new sinks and counter tops.
- New cabinets and an industrial refrigerator were added to the kitchen in Heritage Hall thanks to Kenny & Barb Rupley and the Barb Rupley Memorial.

Huntington County Extension Homemakers

Extension Homemakers were busy in 2016 with several events and projects:

- April was the annual Achievement Day celebration with guest Jeanine Arnett, the State President. Clinton County was also hosted as the Host a Hoosier Sister Extension County.
- Ladies Day at the Fair was held in conjunction with the Huntington County 4-H Fair. Attendees enjoyed three different speakers which included Sharon Ernst & Sharon Laupp with their therapy dogs, Scott Husband spoke about composting, and National AgraAbility talked about gardening for those with arthritis and those getting older.
- The annual Open Class Adult Exhibits project was overseen by Extension Homemakers with a total of 111 entries being displayed. A luncheon for the 4-H Royalty contestants was also provided by Extension Homemakers.
- Two educational lessons were held for the membership, one in the spring and fall.
- Homemakers conducted the First Books for Kids programs and sewed book bags for each one of the students that were read to within the school year.
- The annual Cookie/Candy Sale will be held once again this year. The date for that event will be December 9th at Heritage Hall.

4-H Program Goals

4-H Science

- 4-H Robotics finish 7th in the World Championships
- 4-H Science series of workshops

4-H Life Skills

- 4-H Basic Crochet series of workshops
- 4-H Gardening & Cake Decorating Workshops
- Health Careers Day Camp Grades 5—7
- 4-H Members participated in the 4-H Royalty Contest which provided training and the opportunity to practice public speaking and interview skills
- 4-H Junior Leaders learn money management skills through organizing and operating food concessions for the Beef Preview Show and an Open Hog Show
- New 4-H projects were added: Sportfishing, Recycling, Small Engines and Beekeeping

4-H Citizenship

- 4-H Junior Leaders provided Thanksgiving Baskets to 4 families
- 4-H Junior Leaders provided Christmas Baskets to 4 families
- 4-H Junior Leaders served a meal at the local “Soup Kitchen”
- Youth Advisory Board—thirteen (13) different youth have participated in these 3 sessions.

4-H Leadership

- 4-H Junior Leaders planned and taught the Mini 4-H Day Camp
- 4-H Junior Leaders assisted throughout the 4-H Fair with Judging and Shows
- 4-H Royalty—8 youth participated

4-H Area & State Participation

4-H Camp—4 4-H Round-Up—7 4-H Academy @ Purdue—1
4-H State Band—1

4-H 2016 Program Participation

- 1455 youth involved county-wide in community 4-H Clubs, Mini 4-H and school enrichment programs
- 741 youth enrolled in 29 organized community 4-H clubs
- Mini 4-H involved 143 Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade students
- 560 young people participated in school enrichment programs (*using Extension curriculum in the classroom*)
- 132 adult volunteers provide leadership for the 4-H Youth programs in Huntington County. 89 of those are 4-H club leaders directly working with our youth.
- Most popular 4-H projects include Rabbits (246) Poultry (230), Arts & Crafts (216), Swine (203), Goats (181), Photography (133), Foods (125) & Shooting Sports. (87)

