

January 2012

2012. Wow. It seems like yesterday when we were all worried about Y2K and what would be in store for us in the 21st century. Looking back over those twelve years we can reflect on all of the changes we have experienced in our country, our community, our personal lives, and also our 4-H world. It is true that one of the things that is constant in this world is "change."

It saddens me to tell you that there is another change taking place in 2012. In fact, it has already changed. Effective January 1st, I have taken on the role of District Director for the Northwest District of Purdue Extension. I will no longer be able to serve as a Youth Educator in Elkhart County as my new responsibility is to oversee the Extension Program in 17 counties in Indiana. Fortunately, Elkhart County is still in my district and I will be connected to all of you in a small way.

I want all of you to know that I have truly enjoyed my tenure as one of your 4-H Youth Educators. I have gained some valuable friendships from people that I otherwise would not have had the opportunity to know. When I reflect back on my time here, I realize more than ever what a great county 4-H program we have here and what a great bunch of 4-H members and 4-H volunteers. Elkhart County is a shining star in Indiana's 4-H system and I know that you will continue to keep that star shining bright for years to come.

Thank you for the opportunity to work with you in the greatest youth development organizations available in our country.

Until our paths cross again,

Chris Gillam

Chris

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www.elkhartcounty4h.org

Purdue University is an equal access/equal opportunity institution.

2012 ONLINE ENROLLMENT

The 2012 Elkhart County online enrollment is officially up and running! Our enrollment process has changed and you no longer have to fill out paper enrollment forms.



To access the website go to www.elkhartcounty4h.org. Click on the left tab ENROLL IN 4-H. You will be directed to a page that is titled, "Enroll in Elkhart County 4-H." Read the directions on this page and then scroll down and click on the ENROLL IN 4-H button. A \$15 non-refundable State Program Fee per child is due at the time of enrollment with a maximum of \$45 per family for 3 or more children.

There is no fee for Exploring 4-H youth. Enrollment and payment of fees are due by April 15, 2012. Please call the Purdue Extension Office (574-533-0554) if you have any questions or need assistance.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Be sure to submit a change of address to the office as soon as possible. We send much of our mail by bulk. The post office will not forward it nor will they let us know that it was not delivered. Be sure to stay informed.

BECOME A FRIEND OF ELKHART COUNTY 4-H

Elkhart County 4-H has a Facebook page, so log on to be a friend and you can get regular updates to events and activities of interest to Elkhart County 4-H members and leaders. If you are on Facebook become a fan of Elkhart County 4-H. There is a 4-H Facebook page (news from the National 4-H Council), an Elkhart County 4-H Alumni page and an Elkhart County 4-H Fair page. You may already be a friend of these sites. No information will be available exclusively on the Facebook page.



POLAND EXCHANGE TRIP

For the past several years, a group of students and adults from Poland have visited the northern Indiana area. In 2012, 4-H members now have the chance to travel to Poland. Indiana 4-H members attending will live with a host family, participate in 4-H activities, and learn about everyday life in Poland. Cost of the trip is estimated to be \$1600 - \$1800. The trip will take place June 25 through July 8. Applications are available via e-mail or in the Extension Office and are due on February 1, 2012. Grants to help pay for the trip are also available. Contact Laurie Sula for more information at 533-0554 or email sula@purdue.edu.

SCHOLARSHIPS 2012

If you are planning to apply for 4-H scholarships, remember most all applications are due in the Extension Office on Tuesday, January 17th. There are many opportunities for High School seniors. Accomplishment scholarships are also available to youth beginning in grade 10.

Don't wait until the last minute to look at applications. They are available online at www.elkhartcounty4h.org and many applications require a leader signature and/or letters of recommendation. Individual appointments can be scheduled with Pam or Laurie (533-0554) for assistance with applications.



ADDITIONAL 4-H/FFA SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The North Central Co-op has a number of scholarships awarded to high school seniors. Requirements are that you be an active member and have completed at least five years in 4-H or two years in FFA AND have parents who are current stockholders, patrons or employees of North Central Co-Op AND live in the surrounding trade area of North Central Co-Op. If you qualify, visit their website www.ncc.coop for the application form and additional instructions. Applications are due March 1, 2012.

PARENTS - 4-H CLUBS NEED YOU!

It's time to think about getting enrolled and helping lead the Elkhart County program. There are lots of different ways to get involved with your child's 4-H club. The program depends on people stepping up to lead in order to provide opportunities for youth.

Why volunteer?

- ⇒ to help youth learn life skills such as public speaking, responsibility, self-confidence, and a desire to serve
- ⇒ to have fun
- ⇒ to stretch your horizons
- ⇒ to experience the reward of seeing youth grow
- ⇒ to make a difference in someone's life
- ⇒ to help make a great program even better



Please call 533-0554 to volunteer. Help is available to get you started. You won't regret it!

DID YOU KNOW?

The Elkhart County Purdue Extension has a website that lists all of the 4-H calendar club meetings and events that we have been made aware of. Go to www.ag.purdue.edu/counties/elkhart/ and click on County Calendar on the left hand side. You can look and click on events to find meeting places and times.

MANUALS UPDATED - AVAILABLE ONLINE

The 4-H Arts & Crafts project manual, Exploring 4-H Foods and a few other in-house 4-H project manuals have been updated for 2012. As a way to save paper and as a convenience to parents and 4-H members, these manuals will also be available on our 4-H website towards the end of January. You may still request a hard copy of the manual from your 4-H leader. You can preview the manuals online so you can see what the project requirements are before enrolling in a particular project. We felt this was also a great way for 4-H parents to view the activities in each project before completing their child's online enrollment.

VISIT 4-H ON THE WEB



If you are looking for information about Elkhart County 4-H, visit the website at www.elkhartcounty4h.org. Most upcoming activities, deadlines and forms are available there. We will be posting the Exploring 4-H manuals, the Arts & Crafts manual and other in-house printed 4-H manuals to the website so you can print them at home.

Here is the QR code for the Elkhart County 4-H website. Use your smart phone to scan the code and visit our website.



PURDUE GLEE CLUB TO PERFORM AT NORTHRIDGE

The Purdue University Varsity Glee Club and the Purduettes are coming to Elkhart County! On Sunday, February 26, 2012 the Glee Club and Purduettes will perform at Northridge High School at 2:30 p.m. The Purdue Glee Club show is sponsored by the Purdue Alumni Club Foundation of Elkhart County. All proceeds from the show will help underwrite scholarships for Elkhart County students attending Purdue. A Boiler Backer Buffet with the Glee Club will also be held in the high school's cafeteria after the concert, and will start at approximately 5:00 p.m. The buffet is catered by Rulli's.

Tickets for the concert are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. The buffet is an additional \$15 for both adults and students. Tickets may be purchased in person at the Purdue Extension Elkhart County Office or by mail. If purchasing tickets by mail, send your name, address, phone number and the number of tickets and meals you would like along with a check payable to Purdue Alumni Club Foundation Elkhart County, PO Box 382, Goshen, IN 46527. If you need more information about this event, please contact Jim Kouts at 533-5107 or Laurie Sula at 533-0554.

TRACTOR CLUB WANTS YOU!



Do you have an interest in garden or farm tractors? If so, join the Elkhart County Garden or Farm Tractor Clubs. You do not need to have your own tractor to join. These clubs meet every Thursday during the month of March at the fairgrounds and then hold a driving contest in May. Imagine having your 4-H project completed BEFORE school is out and before the 4th of July! During the weekly meetings, the leaders will help members identify various tractor parts and help them work through trouble shooting possible engine and mower problems. If you have any questions about this club and how you can become part of it, please give us a call in the Extension Office and we will put you in touch with one of the leaders. This is a very practical club that teaches valuable life skills.

FEATURED PROJECT 2012: WEATHER

Weather is the featured project for 2012. This project is one of the many options designed to help 4-H'ers explore their interests in science. This projects walks members through a series of activities to help them understand weather patterns and climate. Displays are posters detailing what they have learned. This is a State Fair project. We have scheduled a workshop on Thursday, April 26, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the Martin Room of the ECCC, 4-H fairgrounds. This workshop will help 4-H'ers explore the many possibilities for active learning through weather.



CAMP COUNSELORS NEEDED

4-H Junior Leaders & Teens

4-H members are invited to volunteer as counselors at Exploring 4-H Day Camp! Exploring 4-H Day Camp is **Wednesday, June 13, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at the Fairgrounds, Goshen. You do not need to be in Junior Leaders in order to be a camp counselor. Training is scheduled for Monday, June 11th to practice the activities you will lead that day. The theme has been selected for 2012 as Fun With 4-H! There will be two or three youth working together. Call Pam Brock at 533-0554 or e-mail pjbrock@purdue.edu to volunteer.



POTENTIAL TEN YEAR MEMBERS 2012

The Extension Office will be mailing each ten year member a packet of information concerning activities and things you need to do to complete your ten year membership requirements soon. It would be a good idea to go to our website to see if your name is included in our list of potential ten year members. If you think you are a ten year member and your name is not listed, then there is a problem in your records or our records and it would be prudent to resolve the issue sooner rather than later.

2012 PROJECT CHANGES

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Here is the list of project changes for 2012. Always read the project requirements very carefully, as sometimes only a few words are changed.

Achievement Record Book – Added info about using Member Record covers in #1 and #2 under the Putting Your Record Together section.

Arts & Crafts – Added wording in manual under General Requirements about Ceramics and Models being considered part of the A & C category for State Fair.

Beekeeping – Added option for educational display in Division 3.

Cake Decorating – Minor requirements change in Advanced Level.

Ceramics – Added wording about this project being considered part of A & C category for State Fair.

Entomology – New manuals and requirements for Poster Option in Levels 1-3; Independent Study Poster Option and Collection Option are unchanged.

Exploring 4-H Foods – New manual.

Fabric Craft – Minor wording changes for clarification.

Floriculture – Size requirement added in Level B Flower & Plant Categories #2: Exhibit not to exceed 18' x 18".

Foods – Level C Grade 7 requirement change for Baked exhibit: Six yeast breadsticks or yeast rolls.

Garden – Minor wording changes in Single Herb Exhibit requirements: All edible types.

Models – Added wording about this project being considered part of A & C category for State Fair.

Photography – Minor wording changes in Level 2 and 3 Creative/ Experimental Salon Prints: Exhibit (1) black & white and/or color print, or a combination no smaller than 7"x9" nor larger than 11"x14", etc.

Shooting Sports – Minor wording changes concerning notebook requirements.

Soil & Water Conservation – Disregard the list of exhibit activities in the box on the first page (page i) of the manuals. Follow the list of exhibit activities for your level on the requirements sheet inserted into the manual instead. Choose a different activity for your exhibit each year.

Veterinary Science – Minor wording changes.

Weeds – New exhibit requirements for Divisions 1-2 #7: In year two, exhibit a different set of weeds, not repeating the ones from year one and new exhibit requirement for Division 3 #7: In each consecutive year, exhibit different seeds, not repeating the ones from the year before.

Page 7 **ELKHART COUNTY 4-H ENROLLMENT**

An official Elkhart County 4-H enrollment policy was adopted at the December 4-H Corporation meeting. The policy is as follows:

Starting October 1, 2011, there will be a \$15 annual **non-refundable** state program fee for any youth in grades 3 through 12 joining a 4-H club. This fee is assessed at the time of registering your 4-H enrollment and can be paid by credit or debit card online, or by cash, check or money order in the Extension Office. No credit or debit card payments can be accepted in the Extension Office. The fee assessment is per youth, not per club. A child enrolling in 3 different 4-H clubs within a county would still only pay \$15. The fee will be assessed for up to 3 children in 1 family, for a maximum of \$45 per family per year. Youth in grades 1 and 2 joining Exploring 4-H are exempt from paying the fee. All fees will be used by the state 4-H office to enhance the Indiana 4-H program. None of the annual state program fees collected will be available for use in the Elkhart County 4-H program.

Youth in grades 3 - 12 are required to complete the Elkhart County 4-H enrollment form on an annual basis. Their 4-H enrollment form – electronic or paper – must be completed, submitted electronically or physically presented to the Elkhart County Extension Office, and the fee paid by 11:59 p.m. on April 15. Any enrollment form completed between April 16 and 11:59 p.m. May 15 must be accompanied by the \$15 annual state program fee plus a \$15 county late fee. Enrollment forms completed between May 16 and 11:59 p.m. June 1 must be accompanied by the \$15 annual state program fee plus a \$20 county late fee. **NO 4-H ENROLLMENT FORMS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR THE CURRENT 4-H YEAR AFTER JUNE 1.** Any late fees collected will be used by the Elkhart County 4-H Club Corporation for the benefit of the Elkhart County 4-H program.

Youth in grades 1 and 2 are required to complete the Elkhart County Exploring 4-H enrollment form on an annual basis. Their Exploring 4-H enrollment form – electronic or paper – must be completed and submitted electronically or physically presented to the Elkhart County Extension Office by 11:59 p.m. on May 15. Exploring 4-H enrollment forms completed between May 16 and 11:59 p.m. June 1 must be accompanied by a \$5 county late fee. **NO EXPLORING 4-H ENROLLMENT FORMS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR THE CURRENT YEAR AFTER JUNE 1.** Any late fees collected will be used by the Elkhart County 4-H Club Corporation for the benefit of the Elkhart County 4-H program. Enrollment forms and payments must be submitted to the Elkhart County Extension Office, electronically or physically by the 4-H member, parent or leader, by the enrollment deadline in order to be considered valid.

PURDUE TRIPS – 2012

You have an opportunity to try something new and attend these events. Most require that 4-H members pay the fees.

Purdue Science Workshops – Wednesday, June 13 – Friday, June 15, grades 9-12; workshops offered: Aerospace, Animal (Aquatic Science, Beef, Dairy, Goat, Poultry, Domestic Rabbit, Sheep, Swine, Veterinary Science - separate track for large & small animals), Computer, Engineering Science, Food Science & Nutrition, P.I.N.E (**P**lants, **I**nsects, & **N**atural Resources and **E**nvironment). Cost is \$180.

State 4-H Junior Leader Conference – Tuesday, June 19 – Friday, June 22, University of Indianapolis, grades 9-12. Cost is \$160.

Electric Workshop – Friday, June 22 – Sunday, June 24, Purdue University, Div 3+. Cost is \$125.

State 4-H Band – Saturday, June 23 – Monday, June 25, Purdue University; perform Monday evening of 4-H Round-Up; grades 9-12. Cost is \$175.

State 4-H Chorus – Saturday, June 23 – Wednesday, June 27, Purdue University; perform at closing session of 4-H Round-Up & on 4-H Day at Indiana State Fair; grades 9-12. Cost is \$250.

4-H Round-Up – Monday, June 25 – Wednesday, June 27, Purdue University, grades 7-9. Cost is \$170.

Citizenship Washington Focus – June 16-23, Washington, D.C., must be at least 15 years of age by June 15 or older. Cost is \$1450.

State Fair Exhibit Hall Workers – end of July through completion of Indiana State Fair. Workers are at least 15 years old at time of work.

State Fair Youth Leadership Conference – Tuesday, July 31 - Saturday, August 4, Indiana School for the Deaf (across from the State Fairgrounds), grades 9-12. Cost is \$125.

Indiana 4-H Youth Congress – Saturday, Nov. 10, Indiana State Fairgrounds, grades 8-12.

National 4-H Dairy Conference – Sept. 30-Oct. 4, Madison, WI, grades 10+.

State Fair Achievement Trip – Sept. 26-30, Washington, D.C.; trips awarded to winners in Public Speaking/Demonstrations, Fashion Revue, Tractor Driving, Bicycle Rodeo, State 4-H/FFA Career Development Events, Rabbit & Poultry Illustrated Talks, and Rabbit Ambassadors.

**For more information regarding Purdue trips visit:
http://www.four-h.purdue.edu/ind_4h/scholarships.cfm#**

4-H SCIENCE WORKSHOPS

4-H Science Workshops is a program held at Purdue University specifically designed to offer 4-H members and other students a hands-on, realistic, and exciting opportunity to learn about Science, Technology, Agriculture, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEAM) careers. As a participant, you will have an opportunity to meet with and learn from Professors, Graduate Students, and other experts in these fields and participate in hands-on activities and experiments in the laboratories and classrooms at Purdue University. You will stay in the Purdue Residence Halls for the three days that you are at the Workshops, so you will be able to explore the Purdue campus and meet other students who share your interest in STEAM careers. You will have learning sessions and activities based around your area of interest throughout the day and in the evenings you will be able to take advantage of Purdue's recreational facilities and have social time. The workshops are designed so that you will leave campus not only with a better understanding of your impact on science but also of your role in society. Areas of study you can register for in 2012 include:

- Aerospace
- Aquatic Science
- Animal Science
 - Beef
 - Dairy
 - Goat
 - Poultry
 - Domestic Rabbit
 - Sheep
 - Swine




- Computer
- Electric
- Engineering Science
- Food Science & Nutrition
- PINE - (Plant, Insects, Natural Resources, & Environment)
- Veterinary Sciences – Large Animal
- Veterinary Sciences – Small Animal

The cost for this activity will be \$180. This fee covers the cost of registration, materials, 3 or 4 meals and some snacks, ticket to the athletic center and 2 nights lodging in a Purdue dorm. The dates for the workshops are Wednesday, June 13 thru Friday, June 15 for grades 9-12. If you are interested in attending, please contact the Extension Office before April 1st to make sure there is still space available.

DINE FOR DOLLARS AT APPLEBEES
GOSHEN RESTAURANT



Dine at Applebee's, 1807 Rieth Road, Goshen location on the Dine to Donate dates below. 15% of your bill will be donated to Elkhart County 4-H. You must present the coupon to the server on your visit. Applebee's also offers take out and gift certificates if these dates are not good for you. Thanks for supporting Elkhart County 4-H. Elkhart County 4-H earned over \$90 from our first Applebee's night in October. **Dates: April 3rd, 2012 & July 3rd, 2012**




DINE TO DONATE

Dine at Applebee's and 15% of your bill will be donated to:

Elkhart County 4-H

Present this flyer to your Server on:
Dates: April 3rd, 2012 & July 3rd, 2012

Only valid at the following:



1807 Rieth Road, Goshen, IN 46526
574-875-4929

RECYCLE MANUALS PLEASE!

Each year, the 4-H Club Corporation spends well over \$6,000 to purchase manuals. To keep these project manuals "free" to Elkhart County youth, we are asking that you return any "un-marked" manuals that you have at home. We will determine if they are the current edition.

These may be projects that you did not complete and/or projects that were completed but did not require you to write in the manuals. Turn these into the Extension Office for re-use by other 4-H members. This will save us the expense of re-ordering these manuals and may help Elkhart County avoid having to impose a charge for manuals.

Thanks for your help!



HELP WANTED FROM YOUTH IN GRADES 8-12

The Indiana 4-H Youth Development Program is in the process of developing a strategic plan to guide future 4-H programming and priorities for the next 5 years. It is important to us as we move through this process to be certain that the thoughts and ideas of our 4-H members help to inform this process. We have created a short survey that we are asking all Indiana 4-H members in grades 8-12 to complete on-line prior to February 14. The information from the survey can in no way be tied back to you individually or to your county, and will be utilized to help inform our decision making as we continue working "To Make the Best Better." The survey should only take about 15 minutes to complete and can be found at the following URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/IN4HYouthSurvey>

EXPLORING 4-H 2012

Exploring 4-H is designed to introduce first and second grade youth to the 4-H program through a special program of their own. If you know a young person in first or second grade, please encourage them to join the Exploring 4-H program. This County Club has no regular meetings but four special activities are offered for youth to experience the fun of 4-H.

Exploring 4-H Welcome Event - Tuesday, March 27, 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the ECCC, Fairgrounds, Goshen.

This event gives Exploring 4-H'er's a chance to get acquainted, meet the Exploring 4-H leaders and learn more about Elkhart County 4-H.

Exploring 4-H Workshops - Saturday, April 14, 9:15-10:30 a.m. at the Fairgrounds, Goshen.

Project leaders will be leading some hands-on fun and answer questions.

Exploring 4-H Activities Night – Monday, May 14, 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the ECCC, Fairgrounds, Goshen.

Youth will have four sessions of fun activities. Parents are invited to a special session to learn about 4-H.

Exploring 4-H Day Camp - Wednesday, June 13, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at the Fairgrounds, Goshen.
Theme – Fun with 4-H!



BETTER WORLD BOOKS BENEFITS 4-H

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Thank you to those of you who are placing books in the Better World Books bin outside the Extension Office in Goshen. Elkhart County 4-H Club Corporation has partnered with Better World Books to collect used books. All books collected in the 4-H bin that are sold will return 15% of the sale price to the Elkhart County 4-H program.

Better World Books Mission is to keep books out of landfills and promote literacy. Books collected will be sold in retail stores in Goshen and Mishawaka, on the Better World Books website or donated to literacy efforts worldwide.

This collection will be an on-going fundraiser for Elkhart County 4-H. Support 4-H and drop off your used books in the 4-H bin at the fairgrounds. So far we have raised over \$100 to benefit Elkhart County 4-H. Keep up the good work!



EXPLORE VETERINARY MEDICINE

Saturday, April 14, 2012

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

This open house is FREE to the public and features food, games and fun for people of all ages. School groups are welcome.

Highlights include:

- hourly tours of the veterinary school and teaching hospital
- explore a veterinarian's farm truck
- watch a live spay demonstration
- dive in and explore a cow's stomach
- equine treadmill demonstration (space is limited)



Purdue Veterinary Medicine

At the January 2011 Adult Leader meeting the leaders prepared soup and cookies to be judged during the meeting. Here are the recipes of the winners and other participants.

**First Place Recipe
PB & J Cookies**

1/2 cup shortening	1 teaspoon vanilla
3/4 cup creamy peanut butter	1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1/3 cup granulated sugar	1 teaspoon baking soda
1/3 cup packed light brown sugar	1/2 teaspoon salt
1 egg	granulated sugar
2 tablespoons heavy whipping cream	jam or pie filling

Heat oven to 375°F.

Beat shortening and peanut butter in large bowl until well blended. Add 1/3 cup granulated sugar and brown sugar; beat until fluffy. Add egg, cream, and vanilla; beat well. Stir together flour, soda, and salt; gradually beat into peanut butter mixture.

Shape into 1" balls. Roll in granulated sugar; place on ungreased cookie sheet. Press down centers and bake 8-10 minutes. Out of oven and place filling - move to wire rack.

Yield: 4 doz. Store in airtight container up to 2 weeks. Freezes well.

**First Place Recipe
Creamy Potato Soup
Colleen Prough, Kreative Kids 4-H Club**

6-8 potatoes	2 quarts milk
1 stick (1/2 cup) margarine	2 cups water
1 sm.-med. onion	1 teaspoon salt
2 stalks celery	dash of pepper
3/4 cup flour	1 tablespoons parsley flakes

Scrub and boil potatoes. Remove skins and cut in cubes. Melt margarine in large sauce pan. Chop onion and celery and cook in margarine until tender. Add flour, salt, and pepper. Stir until smooth. Slowly add milk and water.

Bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Boil and stir 1 minute. Add potatoes and parsley flakes and cook until heated through.



Peanut Blossoms
Jackie Mundy
Elkhart County 4-H ATV Club

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Sift together:

- 1 3/4 cup sifter all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp. soda
- 1/2 tsp. salt

Cream together:

- 1/2 cup shortening
- 1/2 cup peanut butter
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar

Add:

- 1 unbeaten egg
- 2 Tbsp. milk
- 1 tsp. vanilla; beat well



Blend in the dry ingredients gradually; mix thoroughly. Shape by rounded teaspoonful into balls. Roll in sugar; place on ungreased cookie sheets. Bake at 375° for 8 minutes. Remove from oven and place a chocolate bit on top of each cookie, pressing down so that cookies crack around the edge. Return to oven; bake 2-5 minutes at 375°.

Makes about 3 dozen.

Pizza Soup
Patti Bailey, Knee Deep in 4-H

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1 lb. Italian sausage | Season to taste with Italian seasoning, |
| 1/2 chopped onion | garlic powder, basil, rosemary, salt, and |
| 1/2 chopped green pepper | pepper. |
| 2 jars pizza sauce, 14 oz. | |
| 4 cups water | |
| 2 large tomatoes, chopped | |
| 6 oz. pkg. of pepperoni, chopped | |

Brown sausage in skillet. Add about 1/4 cup water and sauté onion and green pepper in this until tender. Add seasonings. Put pizza sauce and water in a large saucepan. Begin heating and add chopped tomatoes, sausage mixture, and pepperoni. Bring to a boil and simmer for about 15 minutes. Before serving top each bowl with shredded mozzarella cheese. Some may want to add chopped fresh mushrooms. Other types of sausage and flavors may also be used.

Thin Crisp Oatmeal Cookies
Colleen Prough, Kreative Kids 4-H Club

Cream 1 cup margarine, 1 cup white sugar, and ½ cup brown sugar. Add 1 egg and 1 tsp. vanilla and mix thoroughly. Combine 1 ½ cups flour, 1 tsp. baking soda, and 1 ½ tsp. cinnamon and add to first mixture. Then stir in 1 ½ cups rolled oats and ¾ cup finely crushed walnuts or pecans.

Chill for an hour. Then roll walnut-sized pieces and place on greased cookie sheet. Butter the bottom of small glass, dip in granulated sugar, and flatten out dough pieces. Keep doing this; you don't have to re-butter the glass, just re-sugar each time.

Bake at 375° for 8-10 minutes.



Chedda Chowder
Helen Yoder
Middlebury 4-H Club



- 2 cups boiling water
- 2 cups potatoes, diced
- ½ cup celery, sliced
- ½ cup carrots, sliced
- ¼ cup onion, chopped
- ½ tsp. salt
- ¼ tsp. pepper
- ¼ cup butter
- ¼ cup flour
- 2 cups milk
- 2 cups (8 oz.) sharp cheddar cheese, shredded
- 1 cup cooked ham, cubed

Add water to potatoes, carrots, celery, onions, salt, pepper, and ham. Cover; simmer for 10 minutes. Do not drain. Make white sauce with butter, flour, and milk; add cheese and stir until melted. Add ham and un-drained vegetables. Heat, but do not boil. Serves 6-8

Harvest Soup

1 lb. package of Harvest Soup Mix
(purchased from E & S Sales, Shipshewana)
8 cups water
2 cups carrots
2 cups celery
2 cups sliced cabbage
1 can of tomatoes
1 lb. browned ground beef, drained
Salt, pepper, garlic salt, and cumin to taste

Simmer contents of bean mix and 8 cups water for 1 hour. Add the vegetables and hamburger to the soup mixture and simmer for one more hour.

Season to taste with spices or put the mixture in a crock pot and cook all day.

I "HERD" IT IN THE BARN.....



LIVESTOCK JUDGING TEAMS

You have an opportunity to be part of an Elkhart Count 4-H Livestock Judging Team. Being part of a Judging Team is a fairly big time commitment but the reward can be great. Remember that anything worth doing is worth doing right! Many schools in Elkhart County do not offer an Agriculture curriculum and do not have Livestock Judging opportunities for students. This program will allow anyone to be a part of a fun, learning activity as long as they are in 4-H. You must be at least a 6th grade student to be a part of this group. Call Chris Gillam in the Extension Office (533-0554) to get signed up or you can contact the Fairfield Ag teacher, Kraig Bowers at kbowers@fairfield.k12.in.us.

BEEF CLUB ENROLLMENT

The last date to enroll steers and commercial heifers for the 2012 4-H fair is fast approaching. Ear tagging will take place at the Shipshewana Livestock Auction Barn on Saturday, February 18 from 9 a.m. to noon. Make sure you attend to enter you animals for the fair. At least one parent should attend the tagging session as well as the 4-H member in order to get all of the necessary signatures on the enrollment forms.



NEWS For 4-H LEADERS

LEADER BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

All leaders are required to sign a new 4-H 785-Adult Behavioral Expectations form each year. Be sure to sign the form promptly and return the form to the Extension Office.

You should have already received instructions to complete this form electronically if we have your current e-mail address. If you require a paper form, you can stop by the Extension Office to fill it out there. Leaders whose forms are not received prior to the printing of leader badges will not receive leader badges for the 2012 fair.

Remember: You are not considered a leader or covered for liability until this form has been signed and returned to the Extension Office. You should not be working with youth until this form is signed and returned.

2012 ADULT LEADER MEETINGS

January 12, 2012 – 4-H Leader’s Meeting, 7 pm - ECCC

February 23, 2012 – **Officer’s Training** and Leader Meeting, 7 pm,
ECCC

March 26, 2012 – Adult Leader Training, 7 pm - ECCC

April 26, 2012 - 4-H Livestock Leaders Meeting, 7 pm - Extension Office

June 14, 2012 - 4-H Leader Meeting, 6:30pm pictures; 7pm meeting,
ECCC

June 28, 2012 - 4-H Livestock Leaders Meeting, 7 pm - Extension Office

4-H OFFICER TRAINING



It’s not too soon to start planning to send your 2012 4-H Club officers to Officer Training on Tuesday, February 23rd in the ECCC. Classes will be taught by community volunteers for the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Health & Safety Officer, Devotions Leader, News Reporter/Historian, Recreation Leader and Song Leader.

This is a great way for your officers to learn about the duties of their office and interact with others from across the county who hold the same office.

CLUB INFORMATION SHEET

A club information sheet listing all your leadership must be submitted each year even if there are no changes. This is the list we use to prepare leader ribbons and passes for the fair. It is important that it be sent in a timely manner so new leaders have adequate time to get their paperwork in before the fair. You may add leaders later in the year by notifying the office. These reports are due January 31, 2012. Make sure you thoroughly complete the form listing all of the information requested.

BUILDING SUPERVISION



All non livestock clubs must take at least one shift in the building. Livestock clubs have their own buildings to supervise so they are not required to take a shift. The number of shifts is determined by the size of your club. Check out the requirements on the 4-H website. Our 4-H youth work hard and it is important that we protect their precious projects from unintentional damage.

For the best shift choices next year, schedule your shifts early. Some slots are already scheduled. Call the Extension Office soon for the best available choices.

T-SHIRTS

Remember, clubs that have t-shirts printed must have the design approved by the Extension Office before ordering if they use a 4-H clover or say 4-H on the shirt. The form is available on the Elkhart County 4-H website and approval generally takes only a day or two. We can approve locally as long as the design includes Elkhart County or a particular club name. The official clover must be used according to National 4-H guidelines. Rules are available on the web.



EXPANSION & REVIEW CLUB REPRESENTATIVES

Each club is asked to appoint a youth representative to the Expansion & Review committee. This is a study committee responsible for determining the needs of all youth of 4-H age in all socioeconomic, ethnic, racial minority and geographic areas in Elkhart County. Recommendations are forwarded to Elkhart County 4-H Corporation.

This 4-H program belongs to the youth. Youth are a vital part of this committee. The committee meets five times a year, usually the first Monday of the even months. Send your representatives to the March 19th meeting at the Extension Office in Goshen. If names are sent to Pam Brock in advance of the meeting (pjbrock@purdue.edu), youth will receive minutes and a reminder notice to attend.

REMEMBER . . . to CLEAN UP

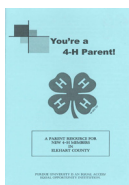
When using the facilities at Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds, please remember to clean up after your meeting or banquet. It is also a good idea to check the restrooms to be sure everything is in order. Many times these buildings are being used the next day and we need to make sure they are clean and presentable to the next group coming in. Also make sure the chairs and tables are stacked according to signage, lights are turned off and doors locked. All of our groups do a very good job of this but it is a good idea to be reminded of what is expected. It is also a good idea to make sure your meeting rooms are properly scheduled. Don't assume they are reserved just because you have "always" had your meeting on that day. Check with Tanya Swihart in the Fair Office just to be sure your rooms are reserved. You can contact Tanya at 533-3247.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY FOOD DRIVE

Plan to participate in the county 4-H food drive at project check in on Monday, July 16th. Have club members bring a non-perishable item to project check in (or your livestock barn) to share with Elkhart County food banks. It is more important than ever that those who are able reach out to our community. Livestock clubs may collect in their barns and we will pick it up from you. In 2011 we collected over 1,000 items. Let's strive to do even better in 2012!



FIRST YEAR MEMBER PARENT GUIDE



The office has published a first year member parent guide for you to share with your members who are new to 4-H in 2012. Pick one up for your new families when you fill your manual orders. This booklet will help those families who are new to the program with some terms and tips to get them started, and answer their basic questions. It is often difficult for families new to 4-H to understand the program, and this tool has been revised to help families understand and utilize the online enrollment process.

FASHION REVUE MEMBER INFORMATION

Leaders should pick up a Fashion Revue information packet for ALL members enrolled in Sewing and/or Consumer Clothing. Youth receiving new manuals will have these included with their manual. Leaders should plan to pick up additional copies for those members not receiving new manuals. Thank you for helping us stretch our postage budget. We will not be mailing these, as in the past.



2011 SURVEY RESULTS

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The summer of 2011 we distributed three surveys to 4-H members to help us determine if we can better serve Elkhart County 4-H members & their families. Overall the responses were very favorable. 4-H is fun, educational and a positive program for youth, thanks to your efforts. We are sharing with you some things we learned so that you can help families feel welcome and an important part of the 4-H program in Elkhart County.

The groups surveyed were:

- Parents of members completing their first year of 4-H.
- 4-H members completing their final year of 4-H.
- 4-H members who were enrolled in 2010 but did not join in 2011.

The Survey Says.....

First year parents: Lots of positive comments & a few suggestions.

- It is sometimes difficult for parents to hear announcements in the meetings.
- Key announcements should be passed out in written form.
- First year members feel a little lost (if parents were not in 4-H).
- Be sure every new family gets a copy of the first year member guide - very helpful.
- Have older youth or families mentor new families.
- Meetings should be over by 8:00 p.m. for young children.
- More hands-on activities - difficult in a large group with a wide age span.
- Have 2 small clubs do things together.
- Need help figuring out what projects to take.
- Have older kids more involved in running the meetings.

Last year member survey: Lots of positive comments & a few suggestions.

- Get more kids involved in 4-H – recruit at schools.
- Have project leaders and/or workshops to help with specific projects.
- Judges' comments should teach how to do it better next time.
- More community service opportunities.
- More activities for older members.
- Better communication on special events.

Non-returning 4-H members: A few suggestions.

- Too many conflicts with sports.
- Projects too expensive to continue - particularly raising animals.
- We were lost and had no guidance - confused.
- Meetings were boring.

CLUB FINANCIAL REPORTS & AUDITS

4-H club full audits will be required for those clubs audited five years ago. We are required to audit all clubs every five years. Clubs who are under a full audit this year will be notified. Yearly financial reports and activity reports are due January 31 from all clubs. If it is your full audit year, both these reports must still be submitted. You can get the forms on the 4-H website, pick up forms in the office or call for a copy to be mailed to you.



CLUB EMAIL ADDRESS FOR ONLINE ENROLLMENT

Please let the Extension Office know as soon as possible of the email address you would like to use for your 4-H club for online enrollment information. As youth enter what projects they plan on taking for 2012, then you will also receive a copy in your email box.

CLUB FOLDERS

Remember to check your club folders at the Extension Office when you have the opportunity. Occasionally we have handouts or important information for each club throughout the year. We don't want you to miss out on any upcoming events. If the organizational leader cannot come to the office, the assistant or project leaders are welcome to obtain the information as well.

4-H MANUALS

All 4-H manuals will have record sheets and requirement sheets inserted inside the manual. If youth need additional sheets, then add what is needed to the manual order form. The manual order form is available in the office or on the 4-H website.

MORE RECIPES:

Lemon Bars

Blend together:

- 1 cup flour
- 1/2 cup soft butter
- 1/4 cup powdered sugar

Pat in 8 x 8 inch pan and bake at 350° for 20 minutes.

Meanwhile beat together:

- 2 eggs
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 2 1/2 Tbsp. lemon juice
- Dash of salt

Pour over baked crust. Return to oven for 20-25 minutes at 350°.



Olive Garden Toscano Soup

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5 1/2 cups chicken broth
1 lb. spicy Italian sausage (or 1/2 sweet and 1/2 spicy), ground
2-3 medium russet potatoes, unpeeled, cut in 1/2 inch cubes (or use red)
1/4 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes, to taste
2 cups chopped kale
1 cup cream or evaporated milk
1/4 tsp. salt, optional



Cut potatoes into 1/2 inch cubes. Place in slow cooker.

Grill and brown sausage. Add all ingredients except cream to slow cooker; cover and cook on low for 6-8 hours.

15-20 minutes before serving add cream and cook until heated.
Serves 4-6.

Chocolate Chip Cookies

Prep: 40 min.
Makes 36 cookies

You will need:

1 pouch Betty Crocker sugar cookie mix
1/2 cup butter or margarine, softened
6-8 drops green food coloring
1 egg
1 cup semisweet chunks
1 cup crème de menthe chips



1. Mix Cookie mix, egg, butter, and food color into bowl until soft dough forms. Stir in chocolate chunks and crème de menthe chips.
2. Drop by teaspoonful 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheet.
3. Bake at 350° for 8-10 minutes. Remove from cookie sheet and place on cooling rack. Store in tightly sealed container.
4. Some options are to add 1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon mint extract or use regular chocolate chips instead of crème de menthe chips.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- January 12, 2012 - 4-H Leader's Meeting - 7 p.m., ECCC
- January 17, 2012 - 4-H Scholarship Applications Due
- January 16, 2012 - Elkhart County Offices Closed - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- January 17, 2012 - 4-H Livestock Leader's Meeting - 7 p.m., Extension Office
- February 23, 2012 - 4-H Officer's Training & Leader Meeting - 7 p.m., ECCC
- March 13, 2012 - Cake Decorating Workshop - 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m., ECCC
- March 26, 2012 - Adult Leader Training - 7 p.m., ECCC
- March 27, 2012 - Exploring 4-H Welcome Event - 6 p.m., ECCC
- April 13, 2012 - Geranium orders due to Extension Office
- April 14, 2012 - Exploring 4-H Workshops - 9:15 a.m., Fairgrounds
- April 24, 2012 - Cake Decorating Workshop - 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m., ECCC
- April 25, 2012 - Geranium Delivery Day, Fairgrounds - Building A
- April 26, 2012 - 4-H Weather Workshop - 6:30 p.m., Martin Room of ECCC
- April 26, 2012 - 4-H Livestock Leaders - 7 p.m., Extension Office
- June 13, 2012 - Exploring 4-H Day Camp - 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Fairgrounds
- June 13-15, 2012 - 4-H Science Workshops at Purdue (9th-12th grade)
- June 14, 2012 - 4-H Leader Meeting - 6:30 p.m. pictures: 7 p.m. meeting, ECCC
- June 25-27, 2012 - 4-H Round Up at Purdue (7th-9th grade)
- June 28, 2012 - 4-H Livestock Leaders - 7 p.m., Extension Office
- July 3, 2012 - Notebooks due for 4-H Achievement, Cloning, Consumer Clothing & Genealogy
- July 10, 2012 - Open Judging - Cloning, Consumer Clothing, Foods, Genealogy, Microwave & Sewing
- July 16, 2012 - 4-H Exploring & 4-H Project Check-In - 11am-7pm, ECCC
- July 20-28, 2012 - Elkhart County 4-H Fair "Providing the Cornerstone to Build Upon"