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IN THIS ISSUE

- ArcelorMittal Grant Jumpstarts BoilerMAKER Blast STEM Project in Four Counties
- Google and 4-H Come Together for First of Its Kind Collaboration
- Donor Feature – Dave Weidmayer
- Farm Credit – Heifer International
- Bane Welker Equipment Celebrates 50 Years in Business by Giving Back



ARCELORMITTAL GRANT JUMPSTARTS BOILERMAKER BLAST STEM PROJECT IN FOUR COUNTIES

When Lou Donkle stepped up to be a project superintendent for the 4-H Model Bridge Project in Porter County, he wanted to support a project that his kids enjoyed. But his involvement turned into something much, much bigger.

Donkle quickly realized that the project desperately needed qualified judges, and he knew just where to find them. His employer, ArcelorMittal, operates the largest integrated steelmaking facility in North America in Burns Harbor, Indiana. Like many industries, steelmaking is increasingly a high tech, automated business that demands skills in science, technology, engineering and math, commonly known as STEM skills.

An engineer himself, Donkle was easily able to find fellow employees to judge the Model Bridge Project, but the search for judges led him to something even bigger.

“As I discussed my project and needs for volunteers with Jolice Pojeta, a manager at ArcelorMittal, we found that not only could volunteers be available to help with the Model Bridge project, but also that the company has an ongoing grant program to support STEM in the community to improve STEM competence among future prospective employees,” said Donkle.

Donkle reached out to Joan Grott, the Porter County 4-H Youth Development Extension Educator, to ask about interest in his company supporting 4-H's STEM programming to improve STEM competence among future prospective employees.

Grott jumped at the opportunity.

“When Lou identified the people in the ArcelorMittal organization that could make things happen, I made the connections with Shelly Bingle at the Indiana 4-H Foundation and Erika Bonnett, the Indiana 4-H STEM specialist,” said Grott.

As a result of that connection, ArcelorMittal gave a grant to support 4-H programming in Lake, LaPorte, Porter and St. Joseph counties. The ArcelorMittal BoilerMAKER Blast 4-H STEM Project focuses on providing youth with hands-on learning and self-guided experiences within STEM subjects.

4-H BoilerMAKER Blasts are planned and coordinated as county events to create excitement around STEM and expose youth to new technologies. These programs help young participants build their skills in creativity, design, problem-solving, teamwork, communication, and critical thinking. With the help of adult volunteers, youth advance through the program, learning the basics of robotics, circuits, design, computer programming, complex designs, and ultimately creating full projects using different kinds of robotics and maker skills. The youth participants also explore career options related to engineering and technical skills.

“The partnership between 4-H and ArcelorMittal will allow us to expand our STEM programming into underserved areas of Porter County, reaching more youth in more places with content that will help them build a solid foundation in STEM subjects,” said Grott. “Through this new connection, we'll be able to seek more volunteers from ArcelorMittal, as their employees are encouraged to volunteer in the community.”

And as Donkle has shown, one volunteer can make a world of difference.

EDUCATOR FEATURE – CATHY BOERSTE



Growing up, Cathy Boerste heard both her parents and grandparents talk of 4-H with nothing but fond memories. Cathy began her 4-H experience in elementary school in Kentucky, where the program is directed through the schools. When Cathy and her family moved back to Indiana while she was in junior high, her involvement with sports made being in 4-H difficult. But, many of her friends were active 4-H members, and Cathy always wished she had more time to be part of 4-H.

Cathy went on to pursue a career in youth development as a high school teacher and coach, and in student development for higher education. Hoping to make a career change and move closer to family, she applied for the Extension Educator position in Gibson County. While it was not something she had ever thought about doing, the more Cathy learned about the opportunity, the more excited she became.

"I realized that even though I'd had little experience with 4-H, my job skills fit very well with the position, and I could pull from all of my previous experiences to serve in this role," said Cathy. "I felt like my life had taken me full circle, although later I learned that the circle was really completed when I moved back to Perry County where I started and where I first learned what a great organization 4-H is."

After taking the position as Extension Educator in Gibson County, Cathy quickly learned that she loved being back home where she had attended high school. It was a privilege to see her friends' and classmates' children learn and grow within the 4-H program.

In 2013, Cathy transferred to Perry County, the place where she first came to learn about and love 4-H. Perry County felt like home for Cathy since it was the place her parents grew up and where she still had many relatives.

"This is the 4-H program that I had heard so many stories about and the one where my family has deep roots," said Cathy. "It is so rewarding to work with my cousins' children and their friends in the 4-H program. When I'm on the fairgrounds I feel the presence of my parents, grandparents, and other relatives who were in 4-H many years ago... while helping current 4-H members make their own memories and grow through the program."

4-H has come to enrich Cathy's life in many ways. She loves helping young people develop the life skills they need to become future leaders, and particularly loves teaching youth to give back to their communities.

"It is so rewarding to see youth gain the confidence to improve their community through service projects," said Cathy. "They learn how they can change and improve the lives of others, and they experience the joy of being a giver rather than a taker."

Cathy believes that 4-H is vital to our communities. Even as projects have changed throughout the years, Cathy emphasizes that 4-H and its core values and purpose remain the same: to help youth develop lasting friendships, gain leadership skills, and grasp that they have the potential to improve their communities.

"We are woven into the fabric of strong communities because of our rich history, relevant present, and vision for the future," said Cathy. "Many of the leaders in our local communities and our country are 4-H alumni. Those who are not directly involved in 4-H reap the benefits of the example set by 4-H members and alumni. 4-H'ers have the skills and confidence to find solutions to problems and the work ethic to roll up their sleeves and do what it takes to make their world better. 4-H gives us hope that the young people of today can face the challenges ahead of them just as the past generations have done. It's an honor for me to be a part of making this happen."

Cathy Boerste may not have had the same 4-H experiences as her parents and grandparents, but 4-H's impact on her life is unmistakable. Through her work as an Extension Educator, she found a passion and dedication for 4-H and the youth she works with every day.

GOOGLE AND 4-H COME TOGETHER FOR FIRST OF ITS KIND COLLABORATION

Google and the National 4-H Council have announced a collaboration between the two organizations, funded by a \$1.5 million grant from Google.org, to establish a computer science program that will empower more than 100,000 young people across 22 states in its first year. Indiana is proud to be one of the first 22 states to participate in this program.

Google has pledged \$1 billion over the next five years to nonprofits that provide skills and education for the modern workforce. 4-H has always been and always will be about workforce development. 4-H, the nation's largest youth development organization, grows confident young people who are empowered for life today and prepared for career tomorrow.

Indiana 4-H has a special connection to Google. Julie Eddleman grew up in Indianapolis, spent 10 years in 4-H, and is now a Senior Director at Google. Julie has said about her experience in 4-H, "I started going to 4-H meetings as early as two years old, tagging along with my older sisters. Through 10 years of hands-on projects, we learned anything you can imagine, from rocketry to water conservation. I was a very curious child and couldn't choose just one subject! When I think back to why I stayed in 4-H so long, I think it was because of the variety of the education styles—there was reading, workshops, hands-on projects, team events and, of course, the competitions filled with ribbons and trophies."

The Google-funded program will focus on computer science programming such as CS First and virtual field trips utilizing Google Expeditions.

"Coding and basic technology skills are a must for the next generation", says Eddleman. "I have five children, ages 11-31, and they all use technology every day—from video games to social media to coding puzzles. The combination of understanding tech, and working with diverse people has helped me find different ways to approach or solve a problem. These skills are critically important in any career, from agriculture to computer programming to fashion design."

Eddleman now resides in Loveland, Ohio and has chosen to give back to Indiana 4-H by establishing an endowment with the Indiana 4-H Foundation in honor of her parents, Robert and Patricia Eddleman. The endowment, which will be known as the Eddleman Family Scholarship for Marion County 4-H, will fund an annual \$1000 scholarship for a Marion County 4-H participant enrolled at Purdue University.



DONOR FEATURE – DAVE WEIDMAYER



Today Dave Weidmayer is a financial planner with Weidmayer Wealth Solutions (affiliated with Commonwealth Network), but he traces his success to his participation in 4-H. Growing up, Dave was involved in the 4-H program in Michigan. His parents were club leaders and he completed a variety of projects.

"I was mentored and helped continuously through my 4-H involvement," said Dave. "I credit 4-H for a lot of the work ethic and leadership qualities that have allowed me to achieve success in the business world."

Because of the impact 4-H had in shaping him, Dave now wants to give back to the program. He has done so by providing a Leadership Accomplishment

Scholarship and helping sponsor the Citizenship Washington Focus – D.C. Trip.

Now that Dave has family involved with 4-H, he once again sees the impact the program has on youth.

"4-H instills strong values, work ethic, and a sense of purpose for community and environment," said Dave. "Youth learn to win and lose with dignity."

Dave's contribution to the Indiana 4-H Program helps provide youth with opportunities that will give them the skills they need to succeed in the future, just as it did for him. We are grateful for Dave's commitment to supporting the program that was so influential in his life.



FARM CREDIT – HEIFER INTERNATIONAL

Aimed at teaching youth about citizenship and global hunger issues, Global Gateway Experience at the Heifer Ranch in Perryville, Arkansas, is an opportunity for 4-H members, grades 7-12, to experience what it means to take nothing for granted. Those who have participated in this experience have come to understand global hunger through several exercises, preparing a meal with limited resources, and staying in the Global Village.

Lori Tennell, the Regional Vice President of Farm Credit Mid-America, attended a 4-H Foundation Annual Meeting earlier this year and heard a presentation from 4-H members on how impactful the Heifer International experience was for them. The youth that participated in this trip learned about food resources not only in the United States, but also in other countries. They also learned the impactful initiative of the Heifer International Program.

“What I loved about it was they were all challenged to come back to their local communities and create something to

‘give back,’” Lori says about the youth who gave the presentation. Some of the youth organized a food drive while others started a backpack program for children after their participation in the Global Gateway Experience. Inspired by the youth taking action within their communities, Farm Credit Mid-America made the decision to sponsor this trip and give more youth the same opportunity. “When I heard 4-H’ers speak about their trip – I knew this was the perfect way for us to continue our support of 4-H, youth development and leadership, while sharing the importance and value of agriculture with those who are generations removed from the farm,” Lori says.

Farm Credit Mid-America believes passionately in the importance of teaching consumers where their food comes from. As a result, Farm Credit Mid-America supports many initiatives throughout Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee where their employees glean fresh fruits and vegetables to be given to food banks in their communities as well as volunteer their time to work in food pantries. In the hopes

of creating stronger and more economically vibrant places for their customers and team to live and work, Farm Credit Mid-America gives back to their local communities. This is part of who they are and how they choose to support their purpose to secure the future of rural communities and agriculture. Each year, Farm Credit invests in initiatives that support the next generation of agriculture, advocate for agriculture and help sustain the rural communities they serve.

Farm Credit Mid-America knows that even those unaware of the agriculture industry are impacted by it. It’s not just farmers who have an interest; every single person in the world is affected by the agriculture industry. By 2050, the world will need to feed two billion more people. Farm Credit Mid-America hopes that, by sponsoring youth to attend the Global Gateway Experience, they can multiply the passion and excitement youth have shown in making a difference in their local communities and combat world hunger issues, worldwide.

BANE WELKER EQUIPMENT CELEBRATES 50 YEARS IN BUSINESS BY GIVING BACK

As Bane Welker Equipment approached 50 years in business, they were looking for a way to commemorate the milestone. They decided to celebrate their success by giving back to others through a challenge match to support youth in Indiana.

From Aug. 1-25, Bane Welker matched, dollar for dollar, every gift given online to the Indiana 4-H Foundation, up to \$10,000.

During the company's 50th Anniversary "Celebration of Agriculture: Past, Present and Future" at the Boone County Fairgrounds, representatives from Bane Welker presented a check for \$10,000 to the Indiana 4-H Foundation and 4-H Youth from Boone County.

"This year, as we celebrate our 50th anniversary, we reflect back on all the people and groups who are so important in this industry – and there are many, but one group in particular holds a special place in our hearts. They educate our youth, our future in many ways, and it is likely that everyone in this room has been involved in this group at some point in our lives. 4-H is a community of more than 100 public universities across the nation which provide experiences where young people learn by doing. Kids complete hands-on projects in areas like health, science, agriculture and citizenship, in a positive environment where they receive guidance from adult mentors and are encouraged to take on proactive leadership roles. Kids experience 4-H in every county

through in-school and after-school programs, school and community clubs, and 4-H camps. The youth is our future and Bane-Welker is fiercely vested in that future."

– Phil Bane, CEO of Bane Welker Equipment

Thanks to the match from Bane Welker, the online campaign raised \$22,550 to be used to support programs and initiatives through Indiana 4-H. The Indiana 4-H Foundation thanks Bane Welker Equipment and all of the generous online donors who helped make this happen.



FARM CREDIT MID-AMERICA'S AG TAG PROGRAM



There are more than 225 Farm Credit employees working in Indiana to ensure a successful future for rural communities and for the agricultural industry by providing rural residents and farmers the financial services they need.

Farm Credit Mid-America is always looking for ways to ensure a successful future for

rural communities and agriculture. In an effort to show their support for agriculture and all that farmers do, Farm Credit Mid-America has nearly 500 company vehicles carrying agriculture license plates, or ag tags. In Indiana, that includes 4-H license plates, which returns part of the license plate fee to the Indiana 4-H Foundation and the county where the plate was sold.

The ag tag sales programs in Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee send nearly \$1 million a year back to farms and rural communities in the form of grants, agriculture initiatives, and educational opportunities for youth organizations such as 4-H and FFA. These programs align with

the mission and values set by Farm Credit Mid-America; many of these organizations are their partners in advancing rural communities.

4-H has played a big role in the lives of many of Farm Credit Mid-America's employees. Many of their employees were members of 4-H and many are involved through their children as adult advisors or as volunteers. Farm Credit Mid-America supports 4-H because it encourages youth to become active members of their communities and fosters the work ethic and life skills needed in today's innovative economy.



2017 INDIANA 4-H CONGRESS SCHOLARSHIP RECOGNITION LUNCHEON

The 2017 Indiana 4-H Congress is presented each year by the Indiana 4-H Foundation in partnership with Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service and Indiana 4-H Youth Development and with generous support from sponsors CountryMark, Ceres Solutions, Beacon Ag Group, Dow AgroSciences, Farm Credit Mid-America, Harvest Land, and the Indiana State Department of Agriculture.

This event would not be possible without the support of our generous event sponsors. CountryMark has been a co-sponsor of the Indiana 4-H Congress since 2009, and this event would not be what it is without their support. The Indiana State Department of Agriculture is a new event sponsor for 2017 and we are grateful for their generous support!

The 2017 4-H Congress Scholarship Luncheon was held October 14 at the Farm Bureau Building at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. Forty-three youth received scholarships for outstanding achievement. These scholarships are made possible thanks to many generous donations to the Indiana 4-H Foundation. The emcee for the luncheon was Kevin Gregory, RTV6 Chief Meteorologist and father of two ten-year 4-H members. The entertainment for the luncheon was presented by the Purduettes, from the Purdue Musical Organizations.

This year, there was a special appearance by First Lady of Indiana, Janet Holcomb. Mrs. Holcomb was a 4-H member in Delaware County and made remarks during the luncheon.

"It was a pleasure to celebrate the accomplishments of so many talented 4-H members at this year's 4-H Congress," said Melissa Rekeweg, ISDA interim director. "We are proud to support 4-H as it continues to prepare Indiana's student leaders for the future."



2017 Scholarship Recipients

Premier Scholarship Recipients

2017 Premier Achievement Scholarship

John Michael Beale, Carroll County
Sponsored by McKinney Farms

2017 Premier Citizenship Scholarship

Tristan Swihart, Elkhart County
Sponsored by Dow AgroSciences, LLC

2017 Premier Leadership Scholarship

Emily Wagoner, Carroll County
Sponsored by Indiana State Fair Commission

All Other Categories

Emma Wischmeier, Bartholomew County
Sponsored by Indiana Beef Cattle Association

Haley Smith, Carroll County
Sponsored by David and Brenda Day

Hayley Jackson, Huntington County
Sponsored by Kiefer Dairy Consulting

Grace Klopfenstein, St. Joseph County
Sponsored by American Dairy Association, Indiana Inc.

Erika Campbell, White County
Sponsored by JBS United, Inc.

Emily Acker, Johnson County
Sponsored by Ross and Judy Jabaay

Emma Spreckelson, Decatur County
Sponsored by Indiana Turkey Market Development Council

Lucy Wahnsiedler, Hamilton County
Sponsored by Kentland Veterinary Clinic

Olivia Dybing, LaPorte County
Sponsored by Orscheln Industries Foundation, Inc.

Holly Kiess, Wells County
Sponsored by Indiana Farm Bureau

Kirsten Morris, Owen County
Sponsored by John A. Garr II

Taylor McKinley, Elkhart County
Sponsored by Regions Bank

Benjamin Kahles, Franklin County
Sponsored by American Income Life Insurance

Madelyn Minns, Tippecanoe County
Sponsored by American Income Life Insurance

Gloria Koester, Vanderburgh County
Sponsored by Purdue College of Agriculture

Carson Rody, Wabash County
Barnes & Thornberg, LLC

Andriana Smith, Pulaski County
Sponsored by John A. Garr II

Katherine Hurst, Dubois County
Sponsored by Joel and Kara Hartman

Evan Merida, Floyd County
Sponsored by Katie Stam Irk & Gerry and Robin Nickel

Crystal Xue, Hamilton County
Sponsored by Hoosier Ag Today

Andrew Hatfield, Hendricks County
Sponsored by Indiana Electric Cooperatives

Rosalynn Kowal, Marion County
Sponsored by Orscheln Industries Foundation, Inc.

Katie Kleckner, Carroll County
Sponsored by Farm Credit Mid-America

Zoe Robinson, Randolph County
Sponsored by June Ladd

Madelene Martinez, Tippecanoe County
Sponsored by Paulette LeCount-Dowden Scholarship Endowment

Cecilia Susott, Warrick County
Sponsored by Barbara J. Faris Scholarship Endowment

Robert Burton, Hamilton County
Sponsored by Ceres Solutions Cooperative

Zachary Maudlin, Lawrence County
Sponsored by Farm Credit Mid-America

Peyton Newman, Pulaski County
Cecilia M. Ritchie & Robert M. Ritchie

Emily Zimmer, St. Joseph County
David and Kendra Weidmayer

Justin Johnson, Whitley County
Sponsored by Indiana Electric Cooperatives

Lexie Schuman, Whitley County
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Melanie Hawkins, Martin County
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Sponsored by Bruce and Tammy Kettler

Emily Kuhn, Dearborn County
Sponsored by John A. Garr II

Luke Rasberry, Hendricks County
Sponsored by Claudia Truax Merrill

Adrienne Rudolph, Warrick County
Sponsored by Corinne Wagner

Taran Brown, Vermillion County
Sponsored by Thomas P. Murphy

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Gabriella Eck, Dubois County
Sponsored by Indiana Association of Soil & Water Conservation





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Agricultural Administration
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West Lafayette, IN 47907

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The Indiana 4-H Foundation provides resources that give the opportunity for all Indiana youth to develop life skills that benefit their communities.

Partnered with:

Purdue Extension Specialists and county-based Extension educators who deliver 4-H youth development educational programs to over 200,000 Indiana youth.

Purdue Extension 4-H Youth Development Program

Dr. Jason Henderson, Director of Purdue Extension & Associate Dean of Purdue College of Agriculture

Dr. Renée McKee, Assistant Director of Purdue Extension & Indiana State 4-H Program Leader



Learn more at www.in4h.org

Follow us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/indiana4hfoundation

The 2017 Matching Gift Challenge is in progress!

Check your mailbox or go online to give before December 31st to double the impact of your gift! Farm Credit Mid-America will match every donation given to the Foundation's end of year campaign - up to \$25,000.

www.in4h.org

