

PORTAGE COUNTY 4-H LIFE SKILLS BENEFIT BAKING CONTEST and AUCTION
Sponsored by 4-H Life Skills Committee and the Portage County Randolph Fair
Sunday of the Fair in the Hubbard Building, Randolph Fairgrounds

Entries can be entered in the **Bake Sale Auction** and the **Bake Sale Table**. All entries must be in a sealed non-returnable container or plate following the sealed container rules found in the rules section below.

BAKE SALE AUCTION - JUDGED: Up to sixty (60) items total will be accepted. Each official Portage County 4-H Member may make only one (1) entry with a total of fifteen (15) entries per club until 11:45am, fifteen minutes before registration closes, where after the total number per club limit is lifted and can accept up to the total number of entries of sixty (60) into the Baking Contest and Auction until registration closes at 12:00pm. Preference is given to Life Skills Clubs and Life Skills Project Members in a first-come first-serve order. These items will be registered and judged to compete for entry into the auction.

- **A sample tasting of the baked item must be attached to the entry for judging. The minimum one (1), eighteen (18) or two (2) dozen does NOT include the sample tasting item.** The sample must be in its own sealed container or sealed baggie. The sample must be cut out of the baked item for cakes, large loaf, etc. Any entry less than the minimum required amount will not be actioned and will go to the Bake Sale Table.

- **All auction entries must be accompanied by the recipe or will NOT be accepted.**

- **All entries must be in a viewable, sealed, non-returnable container or plate. The container must be no more than 12 x18 inches in size.** Your container must be easy for a person to carry.

- **Entries must be made from scratch and made by the 4-Her.** Box mixes and cake mixes may be used as an ingredient. A box mix or tube dough prepared per the instructions only on the box/tube will not be accepted.

- The Portage County 4-H Life Skills Committee has the right to deny any entry being sold if ingredients and/or weather conditions give reason to doubt food safety, or tasting by judges indicate quality is lacking.

SIX (6) BAKE SALE AUCTION ENTRY CATEGORIES:

1. **CAKES/CUPCAKES:** one (1) cake or at least eighteen (18) cupcakes. Do not enter an item needing refrigeration. Any frosting containing eggs or egg whites must be cooked. Item to be judged on taste not just on decorations.
2. **COOKIES:** At least two (2) dozen of any type cookie (drop, bar, rolled, and/or decorated). Entry must be in one (1) container. Less than two (2) dozen will not be accepted and will go to the bake sale table.
3. **PIES:** two (2) baked pies of any type. One (1) pie to be turned in whole, other pie is to be the "tasting pie" and cut into individually wrapped pieces. Single or double crust. Do not enter an item needing refrigeration. **NO CHEESECAKE, MERINGUE PIES OR CREAM PIES.**

4. **QUICK BREADS: (NOT YEAST BREADS)** - one (1) loaf or at least eighteen (18) small or miniature loafs/muffins displayed in one (1) container. Do not enter an item needing refrigeration.
5. **YEAST BREADS:** one (1) loaf or at least eighteen (18) yeast breads displayed in one (1) container. Can be savory or sweet. Do not enter an item needing refrigeration.
6. **MISCELLANEOUS:** Any item **not** in the above categories. Miscellaneous includes candy and confections. Can be one (1) large baked item or at least eighteen (18) of the miscellaneous baked good. Do not enter an item needing refrigeration.

BAKE SALE TABLE - NON-JUDGED: Open to any official Portage County 4-H Member or Cloverbud regardless of project enrollment. 4-H Members that are participating in the Bake Sale Auction CAN also participate in the Bake Sale Table.

Bake Sale Table Non-judged items can be ANY baked good of ANY amount not needing refrigeration. Do not enter an item needing refrigeration they will not be accepted.

Each participant may bring any item of any amount packaged in compliance with the sealed container rules. **Smaller serving sizes preferred** because smaller serving sizes sell better at the Bake Sale Table. Example: 6 cookies, 2-4 brownies, 1-4 cupcakes, mini or half loaf of bread.

- **Bake Sale Table entries must be accompanied by a list of ingredients or a recipe.**
- **All entries must be in a viewable, sealed, non-returnable container or plate.**
- The Portage County 4-H Life Skills Committee has the right to deny any entry being sold if ingredients and/or weather conditions give reason to doubt food safety, or tasting by judges indicate quality is lacking.

PORTAGE COUNTY 4-H LIFE SKILLS BENEFIT BAKING CONTEST and AUCTION RULES

1. **All items must follow the Sealed Container Rules.** Sealed containers are required by the Portage County Randolph Senior Fair Board and are intended to help keep everyone safe. Sealed Container Rules are as follows:
 - a) All entries in the Bake Sale Auction must be in a sealed container. **ANY item not in a sealed container WILL NOT be accepted.** Acceptable entries must be in a sealed bakery (cake) box that is taped shut, zip lock bag, or shrink wrapped. Items in plastic (Saran) wrap or foil will NOT be accepted.
 - b) The container needs to be viewable, meaning it must be possible for a person to see the baked item(s) inside the container.
 - c) A sample of the baked item must be attached to the entry for judging. The sample must be in its own sealed container or sealed baggie. The sample must be cut out of the baked item for cakes, pies, large loaf, etc.
 - d) All entries for the Bake Sale Table must be in sealed containers. Smaller serving sizes preferred. Example: 6 cookies, 4 brownies, 1-4 cupcakes, mini or half loaf of bread.
 - e) No item shall be on the fairgrounds without being in a sealed container.
2. **Items needing refrigeration will not be accepted.** Refrigeration includes toppings, frostings and individual ingredients.
3. **The Life Skills Committee has the right to deny any entry being sold if ingredients and/or weather conditions give reason to doubt food safety, or tasting by judges indicates quality is lacking.**
4. **Entries must be made from scratch.** Box mixes and cake mixes may be used as an ingredient. A box mix or tube dough prepared per the instructions only on the box/tube will not be accepted.
5. Baking **MUST** be done by the 4-H member, **NOT** an adult.
6. Entry for the Bake Sale Auction must be in a sealed container with completed entry forms, sample, and recipe. **RECIPE must be attached to the Bake Sale Auction entry.** If the recipe is NOT included, the item will go to the Bake Sale Table.
7. Entries for the Bake Sale Table **must** be accompanied by a list of ingredients or a recipe. One list or recipe will suffice for multiple entries of the SAME baked item.
8. Entries for both the Bake Sale Auction and Bake Sale Table, will only be accepted between 11:00 am and 12:00 pm in the Hubbard Building on Sunday of the fair. **NO ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED BEFORE 11:00 AM.** Members belonging to more than one (1) club must specify **ONE** (1) club they are representing in this event.
9. Judging and preparation for the auction will take place from noon until 1:45 pm. We ask that participants and family members leave the Hubbard Building during this time.
10. The judged categories will have 1st through 10th place awards and Honorable Mention. All participants will receive a 4-H participation ribbon.

11. Results of the Baking Contest and Display Contest (see rules and guidelines in the Baked Sale Display Contest section below) will be announced at 1:45 pm followed by the auction.
12. All proceeds from the bake sale table and the auction will be equally divided between Portage County's 4-H Life Skills Committee and the 4-H Clubs designated by the 4-H member upon entry.
13. Participants are to be present during the auction, if possible, to show their entry and to thank and help recognize the buyers.
14. **AUCTION PROCEDURE:** Up to sixty (60) items will be auctioned.
Auction begins at 2:00 pm. Auction ends at 3:45 pm.
At 3:30 pm, auction assistant(s) will remove all but the four highest placed items and place on the Bake Sale Table. This will ensure auction ends promptly at 3:45 pm
15. Remember this is a FUN activity as well as a fund raiser. Our judges are not necessarily experts in the field, but base their decisions on a lifetime of good eating. *Remember our judges and committee members are volunteers!*

Portage County 4-H Life Skills Committee -2026

PORTAGE COUNTY 4-H LIFE SKILLS BENEFIT BAKE SALE DISPLAY CONTEST
Sponsored by Portage County 4-H Life Skills Committee

All entries must be in a sealed non-returnable container or plate following the sealed container rules found in the rules section. The goal of the Baked Goods Display Contest is to encourage you to display your baked item in an attractive manner. With a little bit of planning, you can make an auction bidder want to taste your baked item!

BAKE SALE DISPLAY CONTEST RULES:

1. All entries in the Portage County 4-H Life Skills Benefit Baking Contest and Auction are automatically entered in the Baked Goods Display Contest.
2. The container must be no more than 12 x18 inches in size or about the size of a large cookie sheet. Your container must be easy for a person to carry.
3. Participants will be judged according to their 4-H age: Junior Division (9-13 years old as of January 1) and Senior Division (14-18 years old as of January 1).
4. The judged Junior and Senior Divisions will have first, second and third place awards.
5. The awards will be cash awards. Junior and Senior Divisions will be awarded the following: First place receives \$25; Second place receives \$15; and Third place receives \$10.
6. Judging will take place from noon until 1:45 pm and results announced at 1:45 pm.
7. This is a fun activity as well as a fund raiser. Our judges are not experts, but base their decisions on what visually appeals to them. *Remember, our judges and committee members are volunteers!*

DISPLAY TIPS AND OTHER INFORMATION:

- The Baked Goods Display contest encourages participants to be creative in how their baked item is presented for sale.
- First impressions are everything when it comes to food. We've all said, "That looks so good," before digging into dinner or dessert. If food looks good, you want to taste it!
- A cute basket, plate, tin or decorated box makes a baked item look even better! Just remember the container/display needs to be viewable meaning you can see the baked goods.
- For pies, the carrier or container into which the pie is placed for easy transport is judged-so be creative!
- Sources for cute plates and containers at low cost include garage sales, after holiday sales, or local thrift and discount stores.
- Check out the library for free resources. For example, the Reed Memorial Library in Ravenna has items that can be checked out such as cake pans, pie pans, and more.

Portage County 4-H Life Skills Committee Rules for Silent Basket Auction
Sponsored by Portage County 4-H Life Skills Committee

1. A Portage County 4-H Club must have at least one 4-H member in a Life Skills project in order to participate in the Silent Basket Auction. Club participation in the silent basket auction is optional.
2. All proceeds from the first basket will be equally divided between Portage County's 4-H Life Skills Committee and the 4-H Club.
3. If a 4-H Club donates a second basket, 100 percent of proceeds goes to the Portage County 4-H Life Skills Scholarship Fund.
4. If an individual not associated with a Portage County 4-H Club donates a basket, 100 percent of proceeds goes to the Portage County 4-H Life Skills Scholarship Fund.
5. The 4-H Club name and description/list of the basket's contents must be attached to the basket at check in.
7. Baskets must be checked in between 11 am and noon on Sunday of the Portage County Randolph Fair in the Hubbard Building. The basket must be identified as a club basket or a scholarship basket during check in.
8. Baskets will be displayed in the Hubbard Building on Sunday of fair. Bidders will place their bids on a bid sheet in front of the basket. Bidding begins at 1pm and ends 15 minutes after the conclusion of the Life Skills Committee Bake Sale Auction. At that time, the winning bids will be announced and the winning bidders will pay and take their baskets.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Belinda Sasala at pc4hifeskillscommittee@gmail.com