



4-H Focus

Fall 2007



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
WHITMAN COUNTY EXTENSION

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Thoughts from Janet

Welcome to the New 4-H Year! October 1 marks the beginning of the 4-H year and 4-H is celebrated nation wide during National 4-H Week, October 7 – 13, 2007. Re-enrollment packets were recently mailed to main club leaders and a few clubs have met and started the enrollment process. I have observed that the clubs that hold enrollment meeting in October or early November have a much easier time in completing this important task. I encourage every club to wrap up enrollment by Thanksgiving so it will be one less thing to think about during the holidays. The 4-H enrollment deadline is January 31! Other important dates to keep in mind include the Whitman County 4-H Achievement Program on Thursday, November 1, 2007, 6:00pm in the Auditorium of the PSB in Colfax; and Fall Leader Training, Saturdays, October 27 & December 1, 9:00am – 12:30pm, in the PSB. In January, the 2008 4-H calendar will be included in the 4-H Focus with other significant dates for the year. For those that enjoy electronic communication, check out the Whitman County website, <http://whitman.4h.wsu.edu> or the State 4-H website, <http://4h.wsu.edu>. Both of these websites are continually updated and contain current information. If you have suggestions of things you would like to see on our county web page, please let me know. Our goal is to provide useful, timely information in a friendly manner. And lastly, I am utilizing email to communicate timely topics with leaders in between newsletter issues. If you would like to be added to the email list, please contact me via phone or email (schmidtj@wsu.edu) and let me know. Happy Halloween and have an enjoyable Fall, until next time... Warmly, Janet



4-H Achievement Program

Calling all 4-H Clubs in Whitman County! The Whitman County 4-H Achievement Program is scheduled for Thursday, November 1, 2007, starting at 6:00pm in the Auditorium of the Public Service Building. This county program is one of the highlights of the 4-H year. Members and leaders are recognized for their achievements throughout the year. Every club and family is encouraged to attend and celebrate their successes in 4-H. In addition to completion pin recognition for members and years of service recognition for leaders, the planning committee has added the highest club attendance award (at the Achievement Program), door prizes, fair sweepstakes, and more! Each club has been asked to nominate an Outstanding 4-H Member for the Year for recognition at the program. To nominate the member, please send an email or letter to Janet by October 26 with a brief explanation of why this member is being nominated. The club with the highest attendance at the 4-H Achievement Program will receive a \$25 award sponsored by Cougar Food Mart in Colfax. Everyone is asked to bring finger foods to share. Whitman County 4-H Council will provide beverages and place setting for the program. If you have questions about the program, contact the WSU-Whitman County Extension Office, 397-6290.

4-H Leader Training

Are you an adult and looking for a new challenge within the 4-H program? Consider volunteering to be a 4-H project leader or main club leader. To assist you in this endeavor, 4-H Leader Training is scheduled for Saturdays, October 27 and December 1, 2007, 9:00am – 12:30pm, in Conference Room A, in the Public Service Building in Colfax. Pick the one Saturday that best fits your schedule and contact the office to let them know of your participation. New 4-H leaders need to complete the leader application forms and undergo background and reference checks. In addition to the face-to-face training, leaders can do part of the leader training on-line with the e-learning for 4-H volunteer modules. Go to <http://4h.wsu.edu> and on the homepage click on e-learning for 4-H volunteers. After signing in, you can work your way through the four modules. For questions about 4-H leader training, please contact Janet in the Extension Office.

County Demonstrations and Public Presentations

Most of the clubs in Whitman County require their members to complete a 4-H Demonstration or Presentation to receive a completion pin. Since the clubs are doing this, I encourage leaders to take this one step further and have your club demonstrations be declared a "county contest". It is a very simple process; give Janet a call in the Extension office (or email) with your date for 2008, location and who to contact. If you do this soon, it will be included in the 2008 4-H calendar; otherwise it will be listed in the newsletter so everyone is aware of the opportunity. Occasionally, members from one club will give their demonstration at another club's contest. Whitman County 4-H Council provides ribbons to use in the contest and score sheets are available in the office or online. Each club needs to recruit their own judges. After the contest, return the score sheets to the Extension Office for inclusion in the 4-H Achievement Program. Youth are then eligible to repeat their demonstration or presentation at Palouse Empire Fair. If you have questions, contact Janet.

4-H Projects and Publications

The "New" 4-H Projects and Publications catalog, EM 2778 focuses on Mastering the Essential Elements of 4-H, *belonging, mastery of skills, independence and generosity*. The new guide features eight new projects: Embryology, Pets, Geospatial Science, Exploring your Environment, Communications, Visual Arts, Consumer Savvy and Entrepreneurship. It also lists new publications and they include: 4-H Horse Project Manual, Guidelines for Judging Dog Obedience, Food Activity Scoresheet, Food Activity Guidelines, Challenge Leader's Manual, Sewing Project Resources and Down- to- Earth Gardening. This catalog was mailed to main club leaders in early October. We also ordered several of these for the office. If you would like one, please contact the office. This catalog is a must for all 4-H leaders! It is a very useful tool.

Dates for the 4-H Calendar

We have started working on the 2008 4-H Calendar in the Extension office. If your club is hosting an event such as a clinic, workshop or demonstration contest, and you would like to list it in the calendar, please send an email to Janet or call the office with the details. The calendar will be sent out in January with the 4-H Focus newsletter.



4-H Calendars

Many thanks to Jones Truck and Implement for sponsoring the 4-H Calendar! The calendar will be available for distribution at the 4-H Achievement Program and then available in the Extension office after that. I encourage every club to send a thank you note to Jones Truck and Implement for their sponsorship of the calendar. They have been doing this for at least 15 years!



Happy Halloween

Youth Horse Clinic

Asotin County 4-H is excited to host the Youth Horse Clinic on Monday, November 12, 2007, 8:00am – 5:00pm, at Asotin County Fairgrounds. Monday is the holiday for Veteran's Day so what better way to spend it then horsing around! The morning session will focus on Selecting the Horse, Care and Feeding, Safety, Hauling and much more! The afternoon will feature Showmanship, Western and English Equitation, Trail, 4-H Equine Rules and much more! The pre-registration form/fee of \$10-\$15 is required by November 5! Do bring your lunch, but do not bring your horse. For more information contact Asotin County Extension, (509) 243-2009 or Whitman County Extension, (509) 397-6290.



Eastern Washington Boer Goat Sale!

Come join us for our 3rd annual Eastern Washington Boer Goat Sale **October 20, 2007** at the Toppenish Livestock Yard. Full-blooded and percentage Boer goats-commercial, production and meat type registered and unregistered does and bucks. View goats the morning of the sale starting at 9am. This will be a catalog sale and only goats consigned by October 1 will be included in this catalog (\$2.00 fee per goat must be paid by 10/01/07 to be included in the catalog-no exceptions, no refunds). The sale will be held along with the regular Saturday sale and Boer goats will sell following hogs (usually after 12 pm). Regular commission and no sale fees apply. Call Toppenish Livestock today at 509-865-2820. Contact **Kathy** (509-837-6523) or **Sandy** (509-894-5426) for questions or catalog information. Farms and Ranches are encouraged to advertise in our catalog-\$25 -full page, \$15 -1/2 page. Submitted by Elsie David, WSU- Klickitat County Extension

We Need Your Help! Become a Foster Parent.*

Service Alternatives, a multi-faceted human services agency, is in the process of a statewide recruitment effort to increase the number of the foster homes for children. Service Alternatives receives approximately 2 to 5 children per week that need a foster home. Unfortunately, foster homes are in short supply throughout the state of Washington and it is sometimes difficult to find foster homes in a child's home community. Currently there are over 300 children in foster care in the Tri-Cities alone and many children from our area must be placed in other communities. If you would like to open your home, and your heart, to a child in foster care, or if you would like more information, please contact me at (509) 374-9598, visit our web site at www.servalt.com or see the online [Tuesday News](#). Submitted by Melissa Ellison, Foster Care Licensor



KYG Training at State 4-H Forum

The 4-H Know Your Government Conference, scheduled for February 16-19, 2008, in Olympia, is an excellent opportunity for youth to learn about state government through hands on activities. Whitman County 4-H is looking for one to two adult volunteers to coordinate the KYG program at the county level and then travel with the youth to the conference in Olympia. We are also looking for youth interested in learning about state government. KYG orientation will be provided on Saturday, October 20, 2007, at the State 4-H Forum in Tri-Cities. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Janet in the WSU-Whitman County Extension Office.

Funding Source, The Surdna Foundation

The goal of the Effective Citizenry program is to support young people to take action with others to address meaningful problems in their schools, neighborhoods and the larger society. The Surdna Foundation funds efforts that help young people (ages 13-29) become effective, problem-solving citizens; improve practices and performance of organizations that help young people move through leadership development and into productive action; and develop networks that can anchor and expand a field of effective citizenry. Program support follows two primary themes: 1) Young People Taking Action and 2) Strengthening Infrastructure. There are no formal deadlines to apply for funding. The Surdna Foundation accepts applications on an ongoing basis. However, grants are approved three times per year: in February, May and September. We need your request three to four months ahead of time for staff review. For more information visit: http://www.surdna.org/grants/grants_show.htm?doc_id=326178&cat_id=949.

Animal Identification

The Washington Department of Agriculture (WSDA) is encouraging all livestock producers, including small farms and youth producers, to register their premise as part of the *voluntary* National Animal Identification System (NAIS). This program includes cattle, bison, alpaca, llama, goats, horses, sheep, swine, chickens, ducks, emu, geese, guineas, pheasants, quail, and turkey owners. The primary purpose of NAIS is to be able to quickly locate and/or trace animal movement within 48 hours of an agro-terrorism event or devastating foreign animal disease outbreak, such as foot and mouth disease. These animal disease outbreaks could quickly cripple the infrastructure of the United States because the economy of this nation is based on agriculture. Registering your premise is as simple as listing the farm's address, contact person, checking the kinds of livestock and listing the contact information. You can do it either by filling out a form and mailing it to WSDA or registering directly online at http://agr.wa.gov/FoodAnimal/Animal_Premise/default.htm. It is important to protect your animals, livelihood, and the health and safety of America's animal agriculture. The DVD is also available from the "Mini-Conference on Animal Premise Identification". For more information on premise identification contact the WSDA office at 360.725.5493 or nais@agr.wa.gov or the WSU-Whitman County Extension Office.

NE District Teen Rally

Whitman County youth are invited to attend the Spokane-Lincoln-Adams 4-H NE District Teen Rally coming soon, October 27-28, 2007. Teens and adults have been busy planning an exciting weekend of great workshops, fun adventures, and a chance to learn about 4-H and hang out at the WSU Spokane campus. The theme this year is "Discover Yourself, Discovering 4-H". Rally is for youth 7th grade-12th grade and you don't have to be in 4-H to attend! Rally will feature: Hands-On Workshops, Talent Showcase, New Friendships, Service Learning Projects, Ice Cream Social, Semi-Formal Banquet and Spokane Museum of Arts & Culture. For registration forms & more information check out: <http://www.spokane-county.wsu.edu/4h/>

