



4-H Focus

February/March 2007



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY



WHITMAN COUNTY EXTENSION

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Thoughts from Janet

Mid-Winter greetings to everyone! Finally, the ground has thawed; we've had one nice day and all of us turn our thoughts to spring. Soon, I will start recruiting clubs to help with a 4-H gardening project at the courthouse and the fairgrounds. We have some great ideas for two 4-H flower beds. If your club is looking for a community service idea or would like to help with one of these projects, please call or email Janet in the Extension Office. In planning for the various field days and other activities over the next few months, it has become apparent how much 4-H and WSU Extension have changed over the years! In the past, we have strictly relied on the postal service to carry our message and publications in hard copy. Now, we rely on electronic communications such as email, web sites and CD's to share our information. 4-H leader training is now offered on-line with e-learning modules. We are relying upon our websites to feature vital information to our audiences. Recently, Ken Hathaway, Whitman County Extension webmaster, added two new documents to the website that should prove to be useful to the 4-H audience. Our website is <http://whitman.4h.wsu.edu>. Several leaders and families in our 4-H program were unaware that Whitman County 4-H Council had a **Loan & Grant Program**. This loan and grant program helps 4-H members with the purchase of their livestock project animal or the cost of participating in a 4-H experience. The other document is an updated list of various **Scholarships** that many 4-H members are eligible to apply for. Upcoming events are posted on site as well as records books, both the traditional version and the computer version. Check out the web site and if you have suggestions for information you would like to see on line, please let us know in the office. In the meantime, have a great month! *Warmly, Janet*

Youth Field Day Series- Horse, Beef, Sheep

Hear Ye, Hear Ye! Mark your calendars for the Youth Field Day Series scheduled for February and March in different locations in the Palouse region. The first in the series, the **Youth Horse Field Day** is scheduled for **Saturday, February 24, 2007**; registration begins at 8:45am in the Community Building at Palouse Empire Fairgrounds in Colfax. Door prizes will be available for those who register early! This is a non-riding event and will feature topics on the *Danish System of Judging, Hands-On Feeding Activities, Horse Nutrition, Judging and Conformation, Body Condition Scoring, Saddle Fitting, Trailer Safety* and *Horse Bowl*. The registration fee of \$5/person or \$10/family (includes a light lunch) is requested by February 16, with check payable to Whitman County Extension. The flyer is posted at <http://whitman.4h.wsu.edu>. For more information, contact Janet Schmidt in the Whitman County Extension Office, 397-6290.

The **Youth Beef Field Day** is scheduled for **Saturday, March 17, 2007**, at Lewiston Livestock Market, registration starting at 9:00am. Topics for the Beef Field Day include feeding, selection, health care, quality assurance, National Animal ID and Fitting & Showing. Registration payment of \$5/person is requested by March 9 to the Nez Perce County Extension Office. Lunch of pizza and pop is provided. The flyer is posted at <http://whitman.4h.wsu.edu>. For more information contact Kerry Sanford, Nez Perce County Extension, (208) 799-3096.

The following weekend, **Saturday, March 24, 2007**, the **Youth Sheep Field Day** will be held at Nez Perce County Fairgrounds, registration starting at 9:00am. Topics for the sheep field day include feeding, selection, health care, National Animal ID and fitting & showing tips. Registration payment of \$5/person is requested by March 16 to the Nez Perce County Extension Office. Pizza and pop will be provided for lunch, which is included in the registration fee. This flyer is also posted at <http://whitman.4h.wsu.edu>. For more information contact Kerry Sanford, Nez Perce County Extension, (208) 799-3096. These field days are the best opportunity for youth and their families to gain information related to livestock and horse project areas. Note that a swine field day will not be offered this year. Sign up for the field days today!

Whitman County Sheep Field Day

Not to be confused with the Youth Sheep Field Day, the Whitman County Wool Pool in cooperation with the University of Idaho Department of Animal and Veterinary Science is pleased to host the **Whitman County Sheep Field Day**. This field day will be held on Saturday, March 3, 2007, 1:00 – 6:00pm at University of Idaho, Livestock Pavilion. Highlights of the day will include an educational program provided by Animal Science faculty on current issues in the sheep industry, kid's races, Tour of the U of I Meats Lab and Sheep Facility, the annual meeting and door prizes! U of I will provide the meat for the evening meal. Families are asked to bring salads or desserts and their own service. Beverages will be provided. Wool Pool contracts will be accepted at the field day and are due by March 15 in the WSU Whitman County Extension Office. For more information about the day's events, contact the Extension Office, 397-6290.



National Animal ID

The Washington State Department of Agriculture is encouraging all livestock producers including youth and small farm producers to register their premise as part of the voluntary National Animal Identification System (NAIS). The purpose of NAIS is to be able to quickly locate or trace animal movement within 48 hours of an agro-terrorism event or devastating foreign animal disease outbreak such as foot and mouth disease. Hardcopies of the form and information are available in the extension office or online at http://agr.wa.gov/FoodAnimal/Animal_Premise/default.htm.

Whitman County Quality Assurance Training

Whitman County Quality Assurance Training is scheduled for Tuesday, February 20, 2007, 7-9pm, in Conference Room B of the Public Service Building in Colfax. Quality Assurance is required for all adult volunteers who wish to work with youth on quality assurance and sign off on their fair entry. All youth must complete their quality assurance training and complete their Health report form on their animal to be eligible to sell their market animal at Palouse Empire Fair.

Spring Session of 4-H Leader Training

The Spring Session of 4-H Leader Training has been changed to Wednesday, March 21, 2007, 5-8:30pm in Conference Rm. A in the Public Service Building in Colfax. This session is by appointment only, so please be sure to contact the Extension Office if you plan on attending. For questions or more information, contact Janet in the Whitman County Extension Office.

Washington Livestock Round-Up Newsletter on-line

The *Washington Livestock Round-Up* newsletter is published by WSU Extension faculty and staff four times per year. Topics for the newsletter include animal science, agronomy, youth development and more. The newsletter is available free on-line at <http://animalag.wsu.edu>. Check it out for current information on animal science topics.

4-H Scholarship Application due March 1

Washington State 4-H Scholarship deadline is **March 1, 2007**. 4-H members who are seniors in high school or are completing their GED may apply for scholarships from the Washington State 4-H Program. In order to be eligible to apply for these scholarships you must either be a current or former member of the Washington State 4-H Program and have accumulated at least 2 years of 4-H affiliation. Previous Washington State 4-H scholarship recipients are not eligible to apply. The Washington 4-H Scholarships require a completed 4-H Scholarship Application and Washington State 4-H Scholarship Supplemental Application Information. Each applicant will be considered for all Washington State 4-H Scholarships. These applications must be postmarked by **March 1, 2007**. Please send applications to Washington State 4-H Scholarship Committee, State 4-H Office, 601 Johnson Tower PO Box 644852, Pullman, WA 99164-4852. These scholarships may be used at any institution offering post-secondary education. The 4-H Scholarship Application form may be obtained from your local county Extension office or downloaded from the Washington State 4-H Website at <http://4h.wsu.edu>. If you have any questions about the scholarships please contact **Jan Klein** at (509) 358-7937 or email jklein@wsu.edu.

4-H Science Camp-In

The Spring 2007 4-H Science Camp-In is planned for Saturday & Sunday, March 31-April 1, 2007 at Pacific Science Center in Seattle. Camp-In is designed for 4-H youth and their friends in grades 3-8. Of course families and leaders are invited, too! The fun begins at 6pm on Saturday with a light dinner, followed by hands-on exhibits throughout the evening, tour of the tropical butterfly house, combustion activity, become a grossologist and sleep among the stars in the planetarium. IMAX films and laser shows are part of the experience. The registration fee of \$40 per person is due by March 18. Long and short sleeve t-shirts are also available for an additional fee to commemorate the event. For more information check out <http://4h.wsu.edu/conference/CampIn> and flyers are available in the WSU-Whitman County Extension Office.

St. John/Endicott 4-H to host "Barn Sale"

Jennie Miller and Tammy Gering of St. John/Endicott 4-H Club are organizing the first-ever "Barn Sale" which is scheduled to be held on March 7 in St. John, 6:30-8:00 pm, Elementary Library at the St. John school. This will be just like a garage sale where you take your donated, old, outgrown and/or no-longer needed show-related supplies, clothes and equipment. All proceeds will go to the SJE 4-H Club. This Barn Sale will be open to 4-H clubs throughout Whitman County. Clubs can donate items to the sale or buy items that you need to outfit your kids for the coming year. For more information, please contact: Jennie Miller, jennleemiller@aol.com, 648-3993 or Tammy Gering, ktgering@pionnet.com, 657-3635.

Miss Rodeo Washington

Former Whitman County 4-Her, Jesse Bud was crowned Miss Rodeo Washington for 2007. Way to go Jesse! A coronation and fundraiser is being held in her honor on Saturday, February 24, 2007, at the Colton Booster and Gun Club. The event starts at 6:00pm with social hour and silent auction followed by dinner, coronation and live auction. Tickets are \$25 per person and must be purchased by February 19. Miss Rodeo Washington is a non-profit organization. Donations and auction items are greatly appreciated. For more information contact Joan Budd, (509) 229-3711 or wvbudd@inlandnet.com.



Steer Weigh-In Dates

Reminder, be sure to add the Steer Weigh-In dates to your calendar of must do activities! Weigh-In dates are Saturday, March 31, 8:00am – noon and Sunday, April 15, 1:00-5:00pm at Palouse Empire Fairgrounds. Weigh-In is mandatory for all youth who plan on selling their market steer project at Palouse Empire Fair.

Spokane Jr. Show Important Dates

Spokane Jr. Livestock Show is scheduled for May 1-6, 2007. Entries for the show are due on April 10, no exceptions! Applications for the Ambassador Program and Scholarship Program are also due on April 10. Key dates include: January 1-steer ownership deadline; February 1 – hog ownership deadline; February 20 – carcass barrow weight to the office; February 24-Benefit Auction; March 1 – lamb ownership deadline; April 28 – setup day at the fairgrounds and May 1 – bring your animals to the show! Past participants should have received a recent mailing. If you are new and would like the Jr. Show information, please contact the office. For more information go to <http://www.jrshow.org>

County Demonstration Day

The Albion Best Adventures 4-H Club is hosting a County Demonstration Day on Saturday, April 7, starting at 10:00am in the Community Building in Albion. For non-Albion 4-H members, contact the Whitman County Extension Office to sign up for the contest.

Latah County 4-H Horse Happenings

Whitman County 4-H Horse youth are invited to participate in Latah County 4-H Horse activities. On March 3, Latah County will offer horse bowl at 9am in the Grange Building at the Latah Fairgrounds and at 12pm, the Model Horse Show will begin. The Model Horse Show is like a regular horse show but for model horses...like Breyers. Entries for the model show must be postmarked by February 26. The fee is \$0.75 per class or \$10.00 for all day. On March 10, the Moscow Mustangs 4-H Club is hosting riding and vaccination clinics in the morning and a tack swap in the afternoon at the Beebe Arena in Potlatch.



College of Vet Med Open House

The WSU College of Veterinary Medicine Open House is scheduled for Saturday, April 14, 2007, 10:00am – 3:00pm. 4-H and FFA clubs and chapters are invited to attend this event! Activities for the day include guided tour of the vet hospital, canine fun run, informative lectures, exhibits and displays from vet med students and displays from pet food companies. It will be an interesting and informative day.

Pasture for 4-H Project

Are you looking for a small pasture for your 4-H or FFA Steer Project? An ideal location near the fairgrounds is available! Contact the Extension Office for details, 397-6290.

Date Correction

Please note that St. John Stock Show is April 26-29, not the previous weekend as listed in the 2007 4-H calendar. For information about St. John Stock Show, contact Larena White at 648-3779.

Registration Packet for the 2007 State Hippology Contest

Registration packets for the State 4-H Hippology Contest are available on-line at <http://4-h.wsu.edu/projects/horse.htm>. This is a fun contest that tests your horse knowledge. Consider putting together a team and participating in this event!

2007 Fair Equine Schedule

Each year we have a few youth who attend State 4-H Fair with their horse project. For planning purposes visit <http://4-h.wsu.edu/statefair/equine.htm> for the equine schedule for the 2007 WA State 4-H Fair. Take note of the schedule changes.



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Washington State University Extension helps people develop leadership skills and use research-based knowledge to improve their economic status and quality of life.
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