



4-H FOCUS

March 2006

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
WHITMAN COUNTY EXTENSION

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Thoughts from Janet

March Greetings to all! Thanks to all the 4-H leaders and members for completing your 4-H enrollments. Sherri has most of them entered into the system. Later this spring, an enrollment report will be generated and sent to all main club leaders as a tool to double check on your club 4-H enrollment. For a few enrollment tips, everyone who plans on participating in 4-H needs to complete and turn in their 4-H enrollment form every year. This includes adults, too. Sometime leaders and parents are so focused on enrolling the youth, they forget to complete their own enrollment. If you need adult or youth club materials, items can be purchased from our office, purchased directly from WSU publications using the order form in the publications guide or go to the website <http://4h.wsu.edu> and order on-line. Many publications can be downloaded at no charge. If purchasing publications creates a hardship for your club, please talk with Janet. On another topic, congratulations to Gina Whitman, who was recently appointed to President of Whitman County 4-H Council. Gina comes with several years of experience as Leader of Pine Grove 4-H Club. Other members of the 4-H Council Leadership Team include Kurt Kimberling, Vice-President; Helen Appel, Secretary; Joy McNaughton, Treasurer and Sid Mays, Representative to the Fairboard. Council has formed a new committee to review procedures for awarding the Don and Edna Appel 4-H Scholarship and the Whitman County Loan and Grant funds. Be watching the newsletter and website for more details. Congratulations to all the sports teams who did such a fine job in representing Whitman County in the play-offs! Happy St. Patrick's Day to all! May the luck of the Irish be with you. Warmly, Janet



National 4-H Photography Contest

Remember the 4-H Calendar that we receive each year? How would you like your winning photo to be in the calendar? National 4-H Council needs winning photos from state and county fairs (2001 - 2006) to create the 2008 4-H Calendar. Thirteen photos will be selected for inclusion in the calendar. The winning photos will also be on display at the National 4-H Council Headquarters and will be posted on the web site. The deadline for submission is March 15, 2006. Submissions, if not selected, will be returned in August and winning photos will be returned in December. For details on entry submission, contact WSU Cooperative Extension in Whitman County, 509/397-6290.



Whitman County Sheep Field Day

Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 11th, for the Whitman County Sheep Field Day! The field day is scheduled for 1-6pm at the Dick and Helen Appel Farm, in Endicott, WA. The field day will kick off with the Annual Meeting and Sheep Industry Updates. Mark Heitstuman, WSU Extension Educator from Asotin County, and experienced sheep judge will talk about Fitting and Showing Tips to Wow the Judge. There will be a fencing demonstration and talk, discussion on Water Quality Guidelines, Farm and Lambing Shed Tour, Barn Yard Races and again this year will be the famous Lamb Stew Cook-Off Contest! Everyone is encouraged to bring their favorite lamb stew and recipes to share. The winning lamb stew will be selected by people's choice. Participants are asked to bring a salad, dessert or bread if not a stew and your own service. Beverages will be provided. It will be a Blaaaaast! For more details or directions, contact the Whitman County Extension Office. See ewe there!



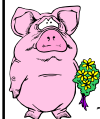
4-H and FFA Youth Beef Field Day

The 4-H and FFA Youth Beef Field Day is scheduled for Saturday, March 18, 9:30am to 2:30pm, at the Lewiston Livestock Market. Topics for the day include Beef Selection and Industry Standards, Quality Assurance, Feeding, Health Care and Fitting and Showing. The registration fee of \$5 per person is requested by March 10th. Lunch and materials are included in the fee. This field day will be one of the best educational opportunities for beginning and advanced beef project members to learn about their project! For more information, contact the Whitman County Extension Office, 397-6290.



4-H and FFA Youth Swine Field Day

Once again, Clarkston FFA is the site of the Youth Swine Field Day, on Sat., March 25, 2006, 9:30am to 2:30pm. Topics for the day include: Selection, Feeding & Nutrition, Environmental Factors Affecting the Health of Pigs, Quality Assurance, Fitting & Showing and Wrap Up. Presenters for the day include Dr. John Froseth, WSU Extension Swine Specialist, Mark Heitstuman, WSU-Asotin County Extension Educator and Clarkston FFA members. The registration fee of \$5 is requested by March 17 to cover lunch and materials expense. Contact the Whitman Co. Extension Office for the registration information.



PEF Steer Weigh In & Hoof Trimming

All market beef exhibitors who plan on selling steers at Palouse Empire Fair must participate in Steer Weigh-In. Families may choose from one of the following times~ Saturday, April 1, 9am - 12pm or Sunday, April 9, 1-5pm, at Palouse Empire Fairgrounds. Steers will be tagged at the time of weigh in. As an added plus, thanks to the efforts of Jim Koller, youth can have their steer's feet trimmed on Sunday, April 9th. The trim fee is \$20 per head and it takes about 15 minutes per trim. To schedule your trimming appointment, contact Jim Koller, (509) 549-3334.

Cattlemen's Scholarship

Graduating seniors, plan ahead! The Whitman County Cattlemen's Association (WCCA) offers a \$500 college scholarship each year to a Whitman County high school graduating senior or a student currently enrolled in an agriculture program at a two year or four year accredited school of higher education. The scholarship is limited to students from Whitman County who wished to pursue a course of study or training in the agriculture field. The application, which includes the completed form, one page essay, copy of high school transcripts and letter of recommendation from any WCCA member, is due by May 1st, in the WSU-Whitman County Extension Office. Contact the Whitman County Extension Office for the Scholarship Application.



Teen Dance

An All-County Teen Dance is scheduled for Saturday, April 15, 8 - 11:30 pm, in the Community Building at Palouse Empire Fairgrounds. The dance is co-sponsored by the Colfax Branch of the Whitman County Library, Whitman County 4-H and other community groups. Be watching the next newsletter and the newspaper for more details.

Hunter Safety Education

The next Hunter Safety Education class is scheduled for April 10 - 12, 17-19 & 22 for the practicum. It will be held in the Public Service Bldg. in Colfax. To register for the class or for more details, contact Ken Hathaway in the Whitman Co. Extension Office.

Website Update

Thanks to Ken Hathaway, Whitman County Extension Webmaster, for all his work on the 4-H and County Extension website! Check it out at <http://whitman.4h.wsu.edu>. Computer record book files are on the website plus upcoming events and lots of other information. If you have suggestions for information you would like to see on the website, please let us know. We want the website to be useful for 4-H members and leaders.

Hosting the County Contest

This past year, several 4-H clubs sponsored their own County Demonstration and Public Speaking Contest. Since so many of our clubs require members to do a demonstration or talk, set your dates, call Janet and have it designated as a county contest! The benefits of hosting a county contest are 1) It is more convenient for the families in your club; 2) Members receiving a blue ribbon on their demonstration qualify to take their demonstration to State Fair; and 3) Members qualify to repeat their demonstration at Palouse Empire Fair and receive a premium incentive. To hold a county demonstration or public speaking contest, notify Janet about a month in advance so the information can be put in the 4-H newsletter, schedule your judge and make arrangements to pick up the score sheets and ribbons from the Extension Office. Upon completion of the contest, return your completed score sheets and any unused ribbons to the office. All youth who participate in Demonstrations or Public Speaking will be recognized at the Annual Achievement Program. It is easy and a great way to assist youth in learning terrific public speaking skills. Just do it!



4-H Clubs Host Demonstration and Public Speaking Contest

The Taste n' Tear 4-H Club is hosting a County Demonstration and Public Speaking Contest on Saturday, March 18th, at their club meeting, at the home of 4-H Leader Helen Appel. The Albion Best Adventures 4-H Club is hosting a County Demonstration Day and Public Speaking Contest on Saturday April 15th, following the Albion Community Easter Egg Hunt, in the Community Center. All youth are invited to participate in either one of these contests. For non Taste n' Tear and non Albion 4-H club members, please call the Extension Office to register for the contest. Remember, for a demonstration, be sure to demonstrate how to do or make something. Public speaking is a talk without a demonstration. An illustrated talk includes visuals. Be sure to work on having a catchy introduction to your demonstration or talk and if asked questions, be sure to repeat the question for all to hear. Recommended time limits for public presentation are Juniors – 3 to 8 minutes; Intermediates – 5 to 15 minutes and Seniors – 8 to 20 minutes. For more information on how to prepare for demonstrations or talks refer to EM 4787, "How To Make a 4-H Public Presentation".

March Leader Training

The next session of 4-H Leader Training is scheduled for Thursdays, March 16 and March 30. The time for each session is 5:00pm – 8:00pm, in Conference Rm. A of the Public Service Building in Colfax. Volunteers will need to attend both sessions to complete the leader training requirement. Be sure to bring a "brown bag dinner" with you to the training! Please call the Extension Office to reserve your spot and to help us plan for materials.

WSU Feeder Pig Sale

The WSU Feeder Pig Sales are scheduled for Saturday, April 15, 11:00a.m. at Kittitas County Fairgrounds and Saturday, May 13, 9:30a.m. at WSU Swine Center. An educational program focusing on health care, management, selection and feeding your pig will be presented prior to each of the sales. Prices for the pigs will range from \$95 to \$105. To reserve your pig(s), completed form and payment must be received by April 13th or May 12th for the respective sales. For detailed sale information, contact the WSU-Whitman County Extension Office (509) 397-6290 or <http://www.ansci.wsu.edu/facilities/>



Spokane Jr. Show Reminders

All animals going to the Jr. Livestock Show must have ear tags in their ears upon arrival, with the exception of heifer and breeding class ewe lambs. There will be no tagging at the scales. If you need ear tags, call the Jr. Show office and order them today! All lambs must have a scrapie tag in their ear from the flock of origin. Junior show will not provide scrapie tags this year. The sheep division has added a breeding class for ewe lambs. The age and weight requirements are the same as for market lambs. The ewe lambs must have their scrapie tag. Sheep exhibitors may enter two market lambs and one ewe lamb. Quality assurance forms are due on animals at the time of weigh in. Applications for the Ambassador program and the scholarship program are due by April 10th as well as all entries. This past year, each ambassador received a \$750 scholarship. To apply for the scholarship, exhibitors must be seniors in high school and have attended Jr. Show for at least three years. For more information, contact the Whitman County Extension Office or <http://www.juniorshow.org>

4-H Science Camp In is scheduled for April 1-2, 2006, at the Pacific Science Center in Seattle. This is a fun filled weekend for youth in grades 3-8 to learn more about science through hands-on workshops. 4-H will have the run of the Pacific Science Center all night, sleep among the exhibits and awake to a laser demonstration and IMAX film in the morning. At night, youth will become an engineer in the "Get Over It: Bridges" workshop, visit the tropical butterfly house, and learn about The Science of Peeps. The registration fee is \$40 per person and includes a picnic style dinner, a snack and continental breakfast. T-shirts can be pre-ordered. For more information, contact the WSU Extension Office in Whitman County, (509) 397-6290 or <http://4h.wsu.edu/conferences/CampIn/>

Equine Presentation Contest

Attention 4-H Horse Members! Rather than doing a demonstration or illustrated talk on a non-horse topic, select a horse topic, and do an Equine Presentation! County blue ribbon winners can give their presentation at State 4-H Fair. The winners at state fair can attend the National Contest in Louisville, Kentucky. Contact the Whitman County Extension Office for contest rules and guidelines.

4-H Project Materials

For the past few years, many of you have heard me talk about the 4-H Cooperative Curriculum Systems (CCS) project materials. These are the handy, colorful 4-H booklets that cover many topic areas. The good news is until March 31, 4-HCCS is having their annual Online Sale on 2006 Closeout Products. This is a great time to stock up at these special prices. Leaders, with savings of 75% or more, take a look at your club needs and take advantage of this month-long sale. Simply place your order online at: <http://www.n4hccs.org/shop/products.asp>. Many great titles are available; Goat, Sheep, Computer, Bicycle, and The Moving Ahead Posters CD-ROM which includes 14 wall visuals for use in Moving Ahead workshops. Some of the products have limited inventory, so order early. This sale is the start of our new season. The National 4-H Curriculum System, Inc. looks forward to providing support for your youth development curriculum needs in 2006. So place your order today!

2006 Spring Shedding Off Open Horse Show

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 1, 8:00am sharp, at the Lewiston Round-Up Grounds for the Spring Shedding Off Open Horse Show. The show features a full compliment of Western and English Equitation, Pleasure, Pony, Trail and Showmanship classes for youth and adults. Other fun classes include walk/trot, dressage suitability, jumping and halter. The show is sponsored by Palouse Dressage & Eventing Association. The fee is \$7 per class or \$40 all day. For more information, go to <http://www.palousedressageandeventing.org>

Deferred Feed Accounts at Pullman and Colfax Granges

Attention 4-H and FFA members with Market Livestock Projects! Pullman and Colfax Granges offer deferred feed accounts to help you with your project enterprise. Stop in at the Grange of your choice, fill out the application and youth and parent are required to sign the application. Monthly statements will be sent to you detailing your feed purchases. Payment for your feed purchases will be due in full by Oct. 31st. Thank you to Pullman and Colfax Granges for your support of 4-H and FFA youth and programs!



WSU Vet School Open House

The WSU College of Vet Medicine Teaching Hospital is holding an Open House on Sat., April 8, 10:00am – 3:00pm. Vet students warmly invite all 4-H and FFA members, clubs and chapters to participate in this event. The Open House features guided tours of the vet hospital, a canine fun run, informative lectures, student exhibits, pet and drug company displays and much more. For more information, contact Cassandra Mundy, cmundy@vetmed.wsu.edu or 509.386.8957.

Dog Agility Seminar Dog Agility is a sport in which a dog runs through a timed obstacle course under the guidance of the handler. Agility training strengthens the bond between dog and handler, and provides fun and exercise for both. The Palouse Hills Dog Fanciers are sponsoring an Agility Seminar on Sat., March 25th, 9:00–12:00 at Latah County Fairgrounds. This seminar is free to 4-H members and spectators are welcome. There are only 10 handler openings so RSVP is requested by March 20 by calling Donna Duffau, (208) 882-8960.

