



4-H Focus

November 2006



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
WHITMAN COUNTY EXTENSION

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Thoughts from Janet

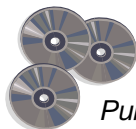
Welcome to the New 4-H Year! It has been very busy since the last newsletter and much has happened! We had a great fair, an amazing Lamb 300 program, a fun Make It With Wool Contest, a successful Beef Carcass Evaluation Program and made many preparations for the new year. Thanks to the many fine volunteers who gave their time and energy to the fair and the 4-H program. To kick off the new 4-H year, enrollment packets were recently mailed to main club leaders. I encourage leaders to schedule your enrollment meetings and take care of the enrollment task as soon as possible. The 4-H enrollment deadline is January 31 however, strive to complete it by Thanksgiving. There are a few important dates coming up in the near future that clubs, leaders and parents need to note on their calendars. The Whitman County 4-H Achievement Program is scheduled for Thursday, November 9, 2006, starting at 6:00pm in the Auditorium of the Public Service Building in Colfax. This is an all county event! It would be terrific to have a representative from every club in county at the program. See the notice enclosed with the newsletter. Fall Leader Training is scheduled for Saturday, November 4 and December 2, 9:00am – 3:00pm, in the Public Service Building in Colfax. See below for more details. Happy Thanksgiving a bit early and I hope to see most of you at the 4-H Achievement Program.

Warmly, Janet



Dates for the 4-H Calendar

We have started working on the 2007 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 Publications on CD

New this year, many of the WSU 4-H publications listed in the EM 2778, *4-H Publications and Projects Guide* will be available on CD at no charge to 4-H volunteers. Upon completion and return of your enrollment forms, the main club leader will receive a CD. Leaders and members will be able to print these publications on demand, from your own home computer.

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) one month in advance with the date, location and who to contact. This information is posted to the newsletter or calendar so everyone is aware of the opportunity. Occasionally, members from other clubs participate in the opportunity. 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 Program Policy Publication

The revised EM0758, *Washington 4-H Program Policy*, is now available as an online-only publication at <http://cru.cahe.wsu.edu/styer/4h/pdf/em0758e.pdf>. Leaders please discard old versions of this publication and print a new one. The updated policy statement will be distributed during leader training. If you would like a copy and unable to print it off the web, give us a call in the office and we will provide you with one. This is one of the most important documents for the 4-H program.

Club Calves

Are you looking for market steer project calves? Here is an opportunity that might interest you. Four nice Angus or Angus cross calves are weaned and ready to go. Three are from registered stock and all have gentle personalities and like attention. One angus-X calf is broke to lead and very gentle. Three of the calves have February/March birth dates and will weigh around 700 pounds. The other calf was born in May and weighs around 550 pounds. For more information, contact Peggy Wright at wright4angus@hotmail.com



eXtension LAUNCHES HORSEQUEST SITE

eXtension is pleased to announce the launch of its first Community of Practice web site: **HorseQuest**. Available at <http://www.extension.org/horses>, this is the first of many communities of practice to go public in 2006 and throughout 2007. HorseQuest provides internet visitors with reliable and up-to-date horse information through a knowledge base of commonly asked questions that have science-based, peer-reviewed answers. In addition, online lessons use self-paced learning objects to help users learn more about specialized areas of equine science. The newest lesson being introduced is a module for new and prospective horse owners. HorseQuest is the first eXtension "Community of Practice" to come online. Eight more communities with topics ranging from financial security, fire ants, disaster response, parenting, rural entrepreneurship, horticulture, and wildlife damage management are set to come online in the next several months. All will feature similar attributes of Frequently Asked Questions, Ask the Experts, news, events, and learning modules. For more information on the progress of eXtension go to <http://about.extension.org>.



Email List for Whitman County 4-H Horse Leaders

Whitman County 4-H Horse Leaders have developed an email list to post upcoming events, share ideas and plan activities for the year. If you would like to be added to this list please send an email to Janet at schmidtj@wsu.edu.



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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.

Janet L. Schmidt

Janet L. Schmidt
WSU Extension Agent

Helping You Put Knowledge To Work



WSU Extension Announces Online Resources for Washington Pork Producers and Educators

Washington State University Extension and the Department of Animal Science has partnered with the U.S. Pork Center of Excellence; National Pork Board; and over 20 other land-grant universities to develop an online resource with current, accurate and readily available information concerning pork production. This new system, called the Pork Information Gateway (PIG), will increase knowledge and will be valuable for Washington pork producers, managers, stakeholders and educators. PIG is a virtual library with information from national swine researchers contained in over 200 fact sheets. Information has been developed for pork operations of all sizes and there is even a section for youth producers raising 4-H and FFA swine projects. This valuable resource is free to anyone interested in the pork industry. People can access the site and register for a free account on the WSU PIG page that can be found at <http://wsu.porkgateway.org>. Free registration allows visitors to search PIG for any topic they may need or are curious about. In addition to fact sheets, registered producers also can submit questions regarding pork production. The goal of the site is for industry experts to respond to questions within 72 hours. The U. S. Pork Center of Excellence is a public/private partnership that brings together academic research and extension related to pork production. In addition to universities, the coalition includes two governmental agencies, two industry associations and seven state pork producer associations.

Washington Pork Producer's Newsletter

Use the link below to see the Washington Pork Producer's October 2006 Newsletter. In the past hard copies of the newsletter have been sent to each Extension Office and FFA Advisor. In order to save on postage and printing cost, the newsletter will be sent to Extension offices and FFA advisors electronically; hard copies are still available to swine producers. The newsletter can be downloaded at <http://animalag.wsu.edu/swine/index.html>. Submitted by Sarah Smith

WSU Swine Information Day

Swine Information Day is scheduled for Friday, February 2, 2007 at the Red Lion Hotel in Pasco. This exciting program features many excellent speakers and is designed for commercial and youth producers alike. Registration materials will be available soon.



4-H Leader Training

Each year, veteran leaders turn over the reins (leadership) of their 4-H clubs to new leaders. All main club leaders and project leaders are required to complete the application, screening and training process to become a 4-H Leader. This fall, two dates have been selected for 4-H Leader Training. The dates are Saturdays, November 4 and December 2, starting at 9:00a.m.in Conference Room A, in the Public Service Building. New this year, we will be piloting e-learning, leader training modules on line. If all goes well with technology, the training session will be completed around noon. If not, the training may go until 3:00pm. Participants are encouraged to bring a snack or lunch with them to the training. If you want to be added to the list for leader training or have questions, please contact Janet in the Extension Office.

Nutrition Survey at WSU

Do you have a child aged 10-13 at home? Are you interested in good nutrition? A professor in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition is seeking parents and their children to fill out a survey about their eating habits and their family's eating habits. The surveys take from 20 to 30 minutes to fill out. Parent and child will each receive \$5 in compensation. If you are interested, please contact Miriam Edlefsen, PhD, Registered Dietitian at medlefsen@wsu.edu by email or at 509-335-1395. This study has been reviewed and approved by the WSU Institutional Review Board for human subject participation. To participate, you should be the primary food purchaser/preparer in your home. You should be Asian, Hispanic, or Caucasian or some mix of these races, read and speak English, and have lived in the US for 12 months or longer.

Red, White, & Green: New Climate Change Youth Grants For Community Service Projects Set by Youth Service America, Civil Society Institute*

The Red, White, & Green Youth Action Campaign (<http://www.redwhiteandgreen.org>), a new joint project of the nonprofit and nonpartisan Civil Society Institute and Youth Service America, announces the availability of 60 grants for young people, ages 15-25, to create community service projects that address climate change. The \$500 grants will support younger Americans as they develop their voice and impact public policy on the critical issue of climate change. The ambitious three-year Red, White, & Green Campaign is intended to encourage widespread youth engagement on the issue of climate change leading up to the 2008 national presidential election. Grantees will bring their project results and their public policy recommendations to Washington, DC for a three-day Youth Summit in late 2007. The young participants will share the outcomes and next steps of their service ventures, hear from climate change experts, and present their policy recommendations to Members of Congress, the Administration, and to candidates hoping to capture the White House in 2008. "Young people will be affected by climate change throughout their lifetime. Fortunately, they are energetic, idealist, technically savvy, and more experienced in community service than any generation in American history. Youth leadership is always a critical component in any important advances in our society," said Steve Culbertson, President and CEO of Youth Service America. "Providing seed money to help young people think outside the box will ensure that they have the opportunity to voice their concerns and solutions about climate change." Civil Society Institute President and Founder Pam Solo said: "Working to help young people find their voices on this vital public policy issue reflects our desire that Americans get real action on climate change and not merely lip service. Innovation and creative breakthroughs in science as well as social policy often come from 'non-experts' who take the intellectual and other risks necessary to solve the world's big problems. Young people are every bit as capable of making a difference when it comes to climate change as are their elders, in fact, it is young people who have the most at stake in the outcome."

For more information about the Red, White, & Green Campaign, visit www.ysa.org/awards. Submitted by Pat BoyEs, 4-H Program Leader