



# 4-H Focus

## June 2008

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
WHITMAN COUNTY EXTENSION



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### Thoughts from Janet

Summer greetings to all! This year more than ever, all of us are very appreciative of the sun. Speaking of weather, we had great weather for the 2008 Fishing Kids Event. Thanks to Gilchrist Families for allowing us to use the pond for the event. Thanks are also due to Whitman County Sheriff Department, Beckman Family, Tate Family, Commissioner Greg Partch and all the volunteers, friends and 4-H families for helping and participating in the event. We had 325 youth from the Palouse Region at Gilchrist Pond. It was a great day!

Earlier in the month, the Don and Edna Appel Scholarship was awarded to Miles Pfaff, who will be an incoming freshman at WSU in the fall. Congratulations Miles and best wishes in your future endeavors! Robyn Taylor, of Yarn Barn 4-H Club in Colfax, was the recipient of the Whitman County Sheep Producers Youth Rotating Flock Award and was awarded one of the Lambs from the Shriner's Lamb Giveaway. The other Lamb went to Connor Appel of the Mockonema 4-H Club. We wish you much success with your lamb projects!

Now that school is out everyone's attention will turn to summer activities, vacations and then fair preparation. 4-H clubs and families may want to create a checklist with important dates so as not to miss items like Pre-Fair Clinic and Sheep Shearing, Quality Assurance Training, Record Book or Fair Entry dates. I encourage every leader to review the **Washington State 4-H Youth Development Program Policy, EM0758E** on an annual basis. The "E" stands for electronic. It is available on line at <http://4h.wsu.edu> or stop by the office and we will provide you a copy. Summer is a good time, before fair to do this. It contains useful information such as animal ownership guidelines. Animal projects must be under the 4-H member's care and management prior to the official county exhibit event or junior livestock show for the following days- Market Beef = 120 days; Equine, breeding beef, llama and dairy = 90 days; Dairy heifer replacements, goats, sheep, swine, cats, dogs and covies = 60 days; rabbits and poultry = 45 days. As always, should you have questions about 4-H, leader training or Extension programs in general, please call or stop by the WSU-Whitman County Extension Office. Our goal in partnership with you is to grow kids to be productive, contributing, capable and caring members of society! Have a great month!

Warmly,

### Pre-Fair Clinic and Project Day

It is back! The **Pre-Fair Clinic and Project Day** and **Sheep Shearing** is scheduled for Saturday, July 12, 2008 at Palouse Empire Fairgrounds. Mark the date on your calendar! This will be a great opportunity to prepare kids and animals for the fair! Sheep Shearing will start at 7am in Old McDonald's Barn with Martin Dibble. Families are invited to bring in their farm flocks for shearing in addition to the 4-H or FFA project lambs. Sheep topics of Slick Shearing, Showmanship Skills and Judging will start at 7am as well. Beef and Swine topics will feature showmanship, feeding your animal to make weight and preparations for the fair. See the flyer with the newsletter for more details.

### Old McDonald's Barn Schedule

Thank you to the 4-H clubs and FFA chapters that have turned in their OMB schedule form. We appreciate your timeliness! With high school graduation upon us, summer will be in full swing. Take a moment and complete this detail before time gets away from you. We are starting to work on fair details like the schedule for Old McDonald's Barn. If you have a unique, fun or interesting animal for OMB, complete your entry form and return it to the Fair Office or the Extension Office by August 1.

### Finances and Fair Projects

The Bank of Whitman would like to do a presentation titled "Finances and Fair Projects" for 4-H Clubs. The presentation would cover topics like how to manage a savings or checking account, how to write checks, how to balance a check book, how to record expenses and income from fair projects, how to net out the income from the sale of a market animal and how to save for future projects. This would be a great topic for a summer 4-H club meeting! To schedule a presentation, contact Julie Hawley at Bank of Whitman, [JAH@bankofwhitman.com](mailto:JAH@bankofwhitman.com).

### State 4-H Fair Commodity Presentations

The State 4-H Fair Board is pleased to announce the Commodity Public Presentation Categories for 2008:

- Bountiful Beef, sponsored by the WA State Cowbelles
- Charming Chicken, sponsored by the WA State Fryer Commission
- Luscious Lamb, sponsored by the WA State Wool Growers Auxiliary
- Precious Potatoes, sponsored by the WA State Potato Commission

The Commodity Public Presentation Contest is for the intermediate and senior age divisions and will be held on **September 20-21** at the State 4-H Fair in Puyallup. Additional information will be available on the State 4-H Fair website, <http://4h.wsu.edu/statefair/index.htm>.

Submitted by Tom Gwin, State 4-H Fair Manager

### 4-H Adventure Day Camp

Hold the dates of August 4-8, 2008, for the 4-H Summer Adventure Day Camp! All youth ages 7 – 11+ years old are invited to attend the 4-H Adventure Day Camp which, will be held at the Community Education and Training Center (CETC) in Colfax. A summer intern has just been hired and will start organizing the camp. Stay tuned to the website <http://whitman.4h.wsu.edu> and the next **4-H Focus** newsletter for details.



### Last Chance Quality Assurance Training

Mark the date of Tuesday, July 15, 2008 for Whitman County Quality Assurance Training. The first session will be held at 9:00am in the Extension Office. More sessions may be scheduled during the day on an as needed basis. RSVP is required to reserve your spot! Youth and adults are welcome to attend either session. Adults only need to do QA training once however, youth need to complete the training every year. Youth intending upon showing and selling a Market Livestock Animal at Palouse Empire Fair are required to complete QA training by August 1, the animal entry due date for the fair. The completed animal health record is due at weigh-in for the fair. If you need the training but have conflicts with this time, contact Janet in the WSU-Whitman County Extension Office for other arrangements, 397-6290 or [schmidtj@wsu.edu](mailto:schmidtj@wsu.edu).



### 4-H Record Book Due Date

Reminder: 4-H Record Books are due on Monday, August 11 by 5:00pm in the WSU-Whitman County Extension Office. We have a good supply of Level 1 and Level 2 Record Books and Permanent Records in the office. Members can also find record books on the Whitman County 4-H web site, <http://whitman.4h.wsu.edu> then select record books. You have your choice of the traditional book as a PDF that you can print out or you can download the computer book. If enough people are interested, a record book session can be planned later this summer. Call the office and let us know if you would like a record book session for your club.

Cooperating agencies: Washington State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Whitman County Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension office.



### Summer Sizzler 4-H Horse Show

The Whitman County Summer Sizzler 4-H Horse Show is scheduled for Saturday, July 12, 2008, 7am registration, at Palouse Empire Fairgrounds, outdoor arena. This show is also the county qualifying event for the State 4-H Fair, Horse Division and includes performance and gaming classes. The entry fee is \$5 per class or \$50 all day for early registration. Show information and entry forms have been mailed to all enrolled members. If you did not receive your information, contact the office.

### Skill-A-Thon at Palouse Empire Fair

Even though the fair is a few months away, it will be here before we know it! In your club meetings this summer, you may want to be working on preparing youth for the Skill-A-Thon at Palouse Empire Fair, on Wednesday, September 3, 1-9pm in the Community Building. This is a premium event and awards are presented on Saturday, just before the start of the Jr. Market Stock Sale. This fair activity is sponsored by the Tate Family and includes beef, sheep, swine, goat and horse skill stations. It is fun, interactive and tests your knowledge. This fair activity is open to all youth, including 4-H, FFA and Open Class. Test your livestock knowledge and have fun in the process!

### USDA Ag Youth Loans

Farm Service Agency makes operating loans to individual rural youth to finance income-producing, agriculture-related projects of modest size in connection with their participation in 4-H clubs, FFA, and similar organizations. Each project must be part of an organized and supervised program of work. The project must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience in agriculture-related skills. Loan recipients may use the money to buy livestock, equipment, and supplies; buy, rent, or repair needed tools and equipment; and pay operating expenses for running the project. The maximum amount for FSA youth loans is \$5000. To apply or learn more about youth loans, please contact your local USDA Service Center.

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=fmlp&topic=dfi-yl>

### 4-H Tail Docking Policy

The missions of the 4-H Youth livestock programs are to: develop knowledge and skills in animal agriculture, develop life skills, and develop leadership skills in youth. These skills aid youth in becoming responsible citizens. We should encourage them to practice the highest standards in animal agriculture. Therefore, all sheep shown at 4-H Youth shows should be docked in a manner that does not compromise the animal's health and well-being. As a working guideline we recommend that lambs be docked so that at the show the tail (dock) is long enough to be lifted. Moreover, the stress caused by docking increases with age, therefore docking should be performed early in life and certainly before the lambs are two weeks of age. The tail should be healed at the time of show and any animal that has been redocked, except for a medically justified reason, should be ineligible for show. For more information refer to the 4-H Sheep project page, <http://4h.wsu.edu/projects/sheep.htm>, for the tail docking policy. Submitted by Jerry Newman



### 4-H and FFA Livestock Insurance

Protect your investment! Whitman Insurance Agency in Colfax can provide 4-H, FFA and Youth Grangers and their families with market project animal insurance. Rates vary depending upon the age, specie of animal and percent of indemnification. For instance market steer insurance can vary from \$3 - \$6/month. Application forms with mailers are available in the Extension Office. Drop by and pick up your application today!

### 2008 Fair News – It's a Grand ol' Fair

Exhibitor Handbooks are out! Check the focal points in your community for the books such as banks, post office and other public access locations. The book will soon be posted to <http://www.palouseempirefair.org>. If you need an RV spot, contact Terry in the Fair office, 397-6263. Reminder: Animal entries for the 2008 Palouse Empire Fair are due on Wednesday, August 1<sup>st</sup>!

### PEF 4-H Shooting Sports Contest

Holly and Skip Tate of Hayburners 4-H Club are hosting the Palouse Empire Fair 4-H Shooting Sports Contest on Saturday, August 2, 2008, starting at 8:00am sharp at the Fairgrounds! Pre-registration is required! Registration forms will be available very soon. The contest will feature archery, air rifle and air pistol. For more information contact Holly Tate at 509-499-4511.

### Hunter Safety Education

Ken Hathaway in the Extension Office will be offering the next session of Hunter Safety Education July 8-10, 15-17 and the 19 for the practicum. Participants must attend every class! The time is 7-9:30pm, in Conference Room A of the Public Service Building in Colfax. The class is limited to 20 participants. To register and for more information, call the WSU-Whitman County Extension Office, 397-6290. There is no registration fee although donations are greatly appreciated!



### 4-H Shooting Sports Project Book

We recently received a small supply of 4-H Shooting Sports Education Project Books, 4-H 950. It is a combination of an activity book and project book. You may find this useful in working with the members in your club. Contact the office to purchase your book!

### Family Horse Camp

The Wheatland Gallopers Horse 4-H Club will sponsor its Fourth Annual Family Horse Camp June 27-29, 2008, at the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds. This event is open to youth and adult riders. Spend three days with your horse- bonding, learning, riding and playing. A variety of instructors will offer classes in dressage, western, competitive trail, ground training as well as non riding lectures and demonstrations. Classes begin each day at 8:30 a.m., and non-riding lectures and demonstrations will be featured over the lunch hour. Registration is \$90 per person for 4-H family members or \$120 per person for non 4-H family members. Camping and stabling at the fairgrounds are available for \$10 per day for full RV hookup and \$5 per day for stalls. For more information, contact Connie Ham at (509) 878-1765/ham@wsu.edu or KO Spangler at (208) 875-8981/ko@moscow.com. To download registration and liability forms, visit <http://whitman.4h.wsu.edu>.

### SE District 4-H Teen Rally

The 2008 Southeast District 4-H Teen Rally is scheduled for Friday evening through Sunday afternoon, October 24-26, 2008, in Anatone at Field Springs State Park. The theme for the rally is "Learning from the Past – Building Our Future". The fee for rally is \$60/person by September 27. Youth 7<sup>th</sup> grade and above are invited to participate in the fun. You may ask the question, "What is teen rally"? Teen rally is an opportunity to meet with friends, make new friends, participate in workshops ranging from Orienting, Outdoor Survival and Keeping Our Forests Green to learning about advanced leadership opportunities in 4-H. Guest speakers, cowboy poetry, line dancing and campfire stories are other highlights of the teen rally. This event is sponsored by Asotin County 4-H Teen Committee in cooperation with Asotin County 4-H Council and WSU-Asotin County Extension. For more information, contact Nicole Wright, WSU-Asotin County Extension (509) 243-2009.

### Eastside Clothing/Textiles Judges Training Offered

A judges training for 4-H and open class clothing, sewn item, and needle art exhibits is being offered in Walla Walla at the fairgrounds, 363 Orchard Street, on **Saturday, June 21**. Susan Parr of Pierce County will conduct the workshop from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. The workshop is being offered for \$10. Participants will learn the basics of judging and practice judging garments, quilts, and other items. Brochures and pre-registration information is available with the online [Tuesday News](http://www.wallawalla.wsu.edu), on the Walla Walla 4-H Extension website <http://wallawalla.wsu.edu> or call the **Walla Walla WSU Extension office** at 509-524-2685 for more information. Submitted by Jeanie Fulton



### Poultry Help Needed

Due to the loss of one of the Poultry Barn assistants, help is needed in the Poultry Barn in preparing the barn for fair and then during the fair. If you are available to help out, please contact Janet Schmidt in the Extension Office or Bob Reynolds in the Fair Office. Annette Phillips, Poultry Barn Superintendent would appreciate the help and it is a great way to contribute to the fair!

### Poultry Photo Contest

Attention Poultry Exhibitors! The Washington State Department of Agriculture wants a photo of your bird- for the 2009 Avian Health Calendar! Take a picture, *enter it in the fair and submit it for the WSDA Photo Contest!* The entry deadline is July 31, 2008. Two winners will be selected for each month. Digital photos are preferred and they must be at least 2 megapixels in size. Send submission to Jeff Larsen, WSDA, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA, 98504-2560, [jlarsen@agr.wa.gov](mailto:jlarsen@agr.wa.gov). Flyers are available in the Extension Office for more details.

