

# Clover Courier

March 2007

## 4-H

### Inside This Issue

Public Presentations .... 1

Character Education.... 2

Upcoming Events ..... 2

4-H News..... 4

WSU Extension News .. 4

Calendar of Events ..... 5

Clover Quest ..... 6

*sent to each 4-H family*

### Public Presentations

The 2007 4-H Area Public Presentation Contest schedule:

- March 11 at 1 p.m. at Onion Creek School
- March 25 at 1 p.m. at Evergreen School
- April 11 from 4-6 p.m. at Gess Elementary
- April 18 at 3:30 p.m. at the extension office

All blue ribbon winners at area contests are invited to the **County Finals Contest on April 25 from 4-6 p.m.** at Gess Elementary. Junior, intermediate, and senior blue ribbon winners at the County Finals are eligible to attend the State 4-H Fair held in Puyallup during September.



*The top scoring presentation at County Finals will win a hooded sweatshirt.*

A 4-H Public Presentation can be a demonstration or an illustrated talk. It should teach a skill, concept, or principle. At area and county contests your public presentation must be related to a project you are enrolled in. Public presentations should be from two to ten minutes in length. Maximum length including set-up, questions, and clean-up is twenty minutes.

You may use live animals if appropriate. You are encouraged to use life-like models, miniature models, and/or illustrative materials where practical to visualize your presentation. Visuals should enhance the understanding of your presentation, be legible, and easily seen.

You can contact Public Presentation Program Leader McCanna at 935-8942 for more information. She can also visit your club and teach you how to prepare and deliver a blue ribbon presentation.

*All members of the Horse 'n Around club are doing a public presentation at area contests. They are challenging all clubs in the county to have 100% attendance at area public presentations.*



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## Character Education

### The Power of Responsibility

It's been said that the line between childhood and adulthood is crossed when we move from saying, "It got lost," to, "I lost it." Indeed, being accountable, understanding and accepting the role our choices play in the things that happen is a crucial sign of emotional and moral maturity. That's why responsibility is one of the main pillars of good character.

Many people of adult age as well as adolescents have been seduced by the Peter Pan philosophy of refusing to grow up and avoiding the burdens implied in being responsible. Yes, responsibility sometimes requires us to do things that are unpleasant or even frightening. It asks us to carry our own weight, prepare and set goals, and exercise the discipline to reach those goals. But the benefits of accepting responsibility far outweigh the short-lived advantages of refusing to do so. No one makes their life better by avoiding responsibility. In fact, irresponsibility is a form of self-imposed servitude—to circumstances and other people.

Responsibility is about our ability to respond to circumstances, to choose the attitudes, actions and reactions that shape our lives. It is a concept of power that puts us in the driver's seat. The grand panorama of the potential of our lives can only be appreciated when we begin to be accountable and self-reliant. Responsible people not only depend on themselves, but show others that they can be depended on. This breeds trust, and trust is a key that opens many doors.

So if you want more control over your life and the pleasures, prerogatives and power of freedom and independence, all you have to do is earn it by being responsible.

—Commentary by Michael Josephson, *Character Counts!*

## Upcoming Events and Opportunities

**Meat 'n Good Times...**This annual Livestock Judging Contest and Clinic is set for **April 14** at the Arden Hall and Arena. This is a state-qualifying event for livestock judging.

The day includes a skil-a-thon, judging contest, and potluck lunch.

For details contact Livestock Program Leaders Marv Burgess at 684-1523 or Dean Hellie at 935-0756.

**Horse Program Meeting...**The next horse program meeting is **Wednesday, March 14 at 6 p.m.** at the extension office. On the agenda will be the approval of a revised and updated horse policy for Stevens County.

**Horse Lovers Day...**See the enclosed flyer for this day of fun and learning on **March 24** in Valley. Elissa Wellhausen is looking for adult leaders to help. If interested contact her at 937-4165 or wellhausen@excite.com.

## **2007 4-H Camp In...Experience Pacific Science Center Overnight!**

Experience the Pacific Science Center Overnight at the 4-H Science Camp-in! As the sun sets outside, the fun gets started in the Pacific Science Center! Embark on a journey through hands-on exhibits, warm up in our Tropical Butterfly House and explore the night sky in the Planetarium. This spring, learn all about just how gross critters can be in our workshop, "Animals: From Eating to Excreting." Life is boring without discovery, so come discover Pacific Science Center at night!

4-H youth and their friends in grades 3-8 are invited to the annual camp-in at the Pacific Science Center in Seattle on **Saturday, March 31**. Registration is \$40 and must be postmarked by March 18. Visit <http://4h.wsu.edu/conferences/campin/index.htm> for more information and to register.

## **WSU College of Vet Medicine Teaching Hospital Open**

**House...April 14** from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Festivities will include guided tours of the vet hospital, a canine fun run, and informative lectures. Exhibits from the College of Veterinary Medicine student organizations, pet food and drug companies will be displayed along the main hall of the large animal hospital. Other booths will include information ranging from exotic animals to equine anatomy and offer educational, as well as entertaining looks at the field of veterinary medicine. A panel of current veterinary students, professors and clinicians will be available for a questions and answer session geared toward prospective students. Groups planning to attend this fantastic opportunity should inform Abby Demurer at 509-335-5107 or [abbiedem@vetmed.wsu.edu](mailto:abbiedem@vetmed.wsu.edu) by March 15<sup>th</sup>. This will allow for any special interests or arrangements for 4-H'ers attending the open house.



## **Foreign Exchange Hosts Needed..."Bring Home the World,"**

by hosting a Japanese student this summer. Home stay families are being sought for the 2007 Japanese Summer 4-H Exchange program. There are 10 girls—three age 12, three age 13, three age 14, and one age 16. There are also 10 boys—five age 12, four age 13, and one age 16. The students arrive July 22, 2007 and depart August 18, 2007. Japanese students are placed in homes where there is at least one child close to the same age as the Japanese student. Japanese youth are eager to learn American customs, experience new surroundings, try different foods and take part in your family's daily life. They, in turn, will be delighted to introduce and share their culture and way of life with your family and friends.

For more information and homestay applications contact 4-H Exchange Coordinator Judy Cressey at 684-8300 or the extension office at 684-2588.

## 4-H News



This is important!

### Record Books May be Mandatory...

There has been a motion in Leaders' Council for records books to be mandatory for the NE WA Fair. Stevens County 4-H Leaders' Council is asking for input on the subject. All 4-H leaders and parents are invited to attend the next 4-H Leaders' Council meeting on **Tuesday, March 13 at 5 p.m.** We strongly encourage you to come and give input. We will present a plan on how it might work. *—submitted by Steve Minaker, Leaders' Council Reporter*

**NE WA Fair Premium Checks...** If you haven't cashed your check yet please do so as soon as possible. If your check has been lost or misplaced and you need a replacement call Micki Smith at 684-7566.

**What's new at the NE WA Fair?** The old commercial building and youth barn have been demolished and the process of getting bids and starting the new Beef Barn has started. This will be exciting to all who go to the fair and for beef exhibitors. The Association is aware that it will take some creative thinking to place the commercial and educational booths around the fairgrounds.

The theme for this year's fair will be "Lead the Way." Now all that is needed is the logo (front cover design) to go with the theme. The Fair Association is offering \$25 and a season pass for a winning design. Everyone is welcome to offer a design. The dates for this year's fair are August 23 - 26.

The Executive Board this year is President Mitch Short; Vice-President Mike LeCaire; Secretary Jody Hoffman; and Treasurer Betty Parazoo. Directors are Hal Morehouse, Wayne Pond, Ron Cox, Barb Cartwright and Ron Hentges. The Association meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Ag Trade Center. Meetings are open to the public. *—submitted by Jody Hoffman*

## WSU Extension News

**Spring Gardening Workshops...** Join WSU Master Gardeners and WSU staff for a series of gardening workshops. March topics are as follow:

- Ornamental Tree Care and Maintenance on March 24 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Pinewood Terrace Nursing Home
- Restoring Neglected Fruit Trees on March 26 at 5 p.m. at the extension office

Workshop fee is \$5 each. For more information or to sign up call the extension office at 684-2588. Watch our website at <http://stevens.wsu.edu/Gardener/spring07workshops.htm> for more spring workshops.

# 2007 Stevens County 4-H Calendar of Events

## March

- 11 Public Presentation Contest in Onion Creek at 1 p.m.
- 13 Leaders' Council, 5:00 p.m. meeting with Church Camp Board followed by regular Leaders' Council meeting
- 25 Public Presentation Contest at Evergreen at 1 p.m.
- 31- 4/1 4-H Science Camp In, Seattle

## April

- 11 Leaders' Council Meeting 5:30 p.m. at the extension office
- 11 Public Presentation Contest in Chewelah, 4-6 p.m.
- 14 Meat n Good Times Livestock Clinic
- 18 Public Presentation Contest in Colville at 3:30 p.m.
- 25 County Finals Public Presentation Contest in Chewelah, 4-6 p.m.
- 20-22 Cougar Youth Weekend (Dairy Project)
- 30 4-H Horse Certificates and Commitment to Excellence due

## May

- 1-6 Jr. Livestock Show, Spokane
- 9 Leaders' Council, 5:30 p.m. at the extension office
- 12 May Madness Performance State Qualifier
- 31 Last day to add 4-H projects for NE WA Fair Participation

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Jeanette Cornwall  
4-H Program Director

**Helping You Put Knowledge to Work**

4h\clover\march 2007

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## March 2007 Clover Quest

1. Where is the 4-H Science Camp-in held?
2. Which public presentation contest is closest to you?
3. What month is Camp Princess Pine available for 4-H use?
4. When is Meat 'n Good Times?
5. How many Japanese Exchange Students are coming to Washington this summer?
6. Who is the Leaders' Council Reporter?
7. What is one of the WSU Spring Gardening Workshop topics?
8. Is there a state qualifying event on May 12?
9. What is the theme for the 2007 NE WA Fair?
10. Do you think record books should be mandatory? Why?

Points are available if your club submits an article for the next issue of Clover Courier or if you send a representative to a Leader's Council meeting.

Your club president, secretary, and 3 other members must sign the back of this form to be an eligible entry! If you have less than five members—everyone must sign! Make sure your club name is on the back.

**Return to WSU Stevens County Extension, 985 S. Elm Ste. A, Colville, WA 99114 by April 13, 2007**