



MASON COUNTY 4-H CLOVER CONNECTIONS

SPRING 2015

IN THIS ISSUE

- Something Magic Happened.....1
- Panhandle Offers Reel Fun.....1
- Ready, Set, Present.....2
- Scholarships Provide Educational Opportunities...2
- 4-H Extravaganza.....3
- 4-H Welcomes You to Shelton.....3
- The Regionalization of WA 4-H, Restructuring for Success....6
- World's Largest Youth-Led Science Experiment.....7
- Alumni Spotlight.....8

Something Magic Happened

By Jonathan Andrews, 4-H, AmeriCorps

Mason County 4-H recently partnered with the Skokomish Tribal Learning Center in order to bring 4-H education and programming to tribal youth. The learning center had little structure in the way of enrichment, only having tutors and homework help. Through 4-H, a six-week science enrichment program was implemented using “The Magic of Electricity” 4-H curriculum. The Magic of Electricity, as the name implies, focused on why and how electricity flows and how it is utilized in the world around us. The youth involved in the program were able to discover how electricity is involved in things they use every day. While some concepts had to be explained verbally, the majority of the learning was hands on, allowing the youth to make connections and observe the science first hand rather than through a demonstration. The first few weeks of the program focused on creating and understanding the different types of electric

circuits by connecting wires to a battery to light a small LED light bulb. By the end of the program those concepts were applied to make more complex machines like electromagnets and electric motors. The youth’s initial view of the program was that it was something keeping them from playing X-Box or computer games. But, as the program progressed, the real magic started to happen; students realized that science was more than just schoolwork - it was building machines and discovering how the world works. Their enthusiastic attitudes quickly reflected this change of heart.



Students celebrate the building of a motor.

Panhandle Offers Reel Fun!



Young anglers and their families enjoyed a day of fishing fun on June 7 courtesy of Panhandle Lake 4-H Camp. The free event included a stocked lake, complimentary breakfast and a chance to win raffle prizes. The event coincided with the Washington State free fishing weekend which meant no fishing licenses were required for the young participants. The Washington State Dept of Fish & Wildlife supplied nets around the dock to allow for increased success during the event.



Mason County

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

303 N 4th Street
Shelton, WA 98584

4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT TEAM

DAN TEUTEBERG
4-H REGIONAL SPECIALIST
dan.teuteberg@wsu.edu

KATHY FULLER
4-H PROGRAM COORDINATOR
fuller@wsu.edu

Phone
360-427-9670 Ext 681
Fax 360-427-7264

Visit us on the web:
www.mason.wsu.edu

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Jenna Vernon demonstrates how to make a Cookie Brownie

Ready.....Set.....Present!

The 4-H Public Presentation Program is often credited by 4-H alumni as having given them an edge above peers in both college and professional careers. The program provides an opportunity to develop a positive self-concept and poise, gain self-confidence before a group, learn to express ideas clearly, respond to questions, and gain knowledge. In their own words here is how the program has impacted our own Mason County 4-H members:

Jessica - I have given public presentations at Presentation Day, the Mason County Fair and the Washington State Fair. Public presentations have helped me learn to present and be confident in my own skin. My presentation this year about "What to Wear for Showmanship & Obedience Dog Shows" was judged "The best one yet!" by a judge whom has mentored me over the years to keep improving myself and how I present my topic.

Jakob G - It has made me comfortable to speak in public and in front of a group about any topic. I am usually quiet and told I am shy. Public presentations have helped me overcome any anxiety I had by doing them in a small setting

Trisha - Public Presentations have taught me that as long as you know your topic, speaking in front of people is NO problem!

Michael G - I have done public presentations since I was 7 and have never been nervous about talking to people, just nervous about forgetting what I wanted to say. Once I realized that no one knew exactly what I was going to say except me, it got much easier. I am able to talk confidently. I know more about Corgis than I would ever have without my presentation on them. I also hold the school record in literacy class for being given a topic and talking the longest without using the words or, but, and. I can talk even longer all thanks to 4-H!

Kelsey - 4-H public presentations have helped me to grow into a great speaker and leader. When I gave my first presentation I was so scared the judges could not hear me, that was several years ago. This year I gave a last minute presentation about baseball and how the game is played. I have gained the confidence and ability to do this through giving public presentations.

Scholarships Provide Educational Opportunities

*By Kathy Fuller,
Mason County 4-H Program Coordinator*

Whether youth are headed to college, an educational clinic or a conference, Mason County 4-H is proud to provide support that enables youth to continue their learning.

4-H Youth Development programs across Washington State offer



Lacey Goldsby, 4-H Scholarship Recipient

unique opportunities for youth to learn leadership, citizenship, responsibility, teamwork, and problem solving skills. The cost of attending these learning opportunities is often offset with a financial contribution from the Mason County 4-H Council. Recently scholarships were awarded to three teen 4-H members to attend Teen Conference on the campus of WSU in Pullman. While at Teen Conference youth enjoy three days of hands-on activities and workshops, and live in WSU dorms, while checking out college and career possibilities.

Additional scholarships are offered to college-bound 4-H senior members. The Mason County 4-H Council offers scholarships to graduating 4-H members who plan



Katie-Jo Lester, 4-H Scholarship and Jean Sharer 4-H Memorial Scholarship Recipient

to continue their education. And, new this year is the Jean Sharer 4-H Memorial Scholarship; an award honoring the memory of a beloved 50 year Mason County 4-H volunteer. Hearty congratulations to Lacey Goldsby recipient of a \$600 Mason County 4-H Scholarship and to Katie-Jo Lester recipient of a \$300 Mason County 4-H Scholarship and a \$1000 Jean Sharer 4-H Memorial Scholarship.

4-H Extravaganza

The 4-H Alternative to County Fair

By Kathy Fuller,
Mason County 4-H Program Coordinator

What...no fair? The closure of the Port of Shelton Fairgrounds means big changes for the Mason County 4-H Youth Development program this year. These changes have provided 4-H youth and adult volunteers the opportunity to organize and plan the 4-H alternative to fair which has been named the 4-H Extravaganza. This event will allow Mason County 4-H youth to exhibit their 4-H projects, qualify

for State 4-H Fair and share their knowledge with the community.

“The loss of our county fair was a devastating hit for all of Mason County, but particularly for our 4-H community” said 4-H volunteer Marilyn Brennan. “The fair is a showcase of the member’s hard work and knowledge gained throughout the year. It is also an important social event where memories that last a lifetime are made.”

What can the community expect to see and do at the July 25 4-H Extravaganza? LEARN-members and volunteers from over 15 Mason County 4-H clubs will provide interactive activities and displays for the public to enjoy. SUPPORT-a \$10 Clothing Challenge designed to expand 4-H member’s clothing shopping experiences to second hand venues will culminate with a fun style show. ENJOY-4-H members will exhibit still life projects



and Record Books, give Public Presentations and participate in fun teambuilding activities. Animal projects will be qualifying off site prior to this event. You may call the WSU/Mason County Extension Office for dates & times.

The community is invited to attend this free, family-friendly event on July 25 at Shelton High School from 10am - 3pm for fun, games, and activities. Marilyn Brennan goes on to say “Certainly it is not the same as our county fair, but sometimes change can bring great things.”



4-H member Patty Brown rides in her final Mason Area Fair. July 2014.

4-H Welcomes You to Shelton

By Kathy Fuller, Mason County 4-H Program Coordinator

Shelton has a new sign located at 12th and Railroad, welcoming drivers and pedestrians into the City and highlighting local service organizations. On April 7 Mason County 4-H staff were present at the unveiling of the new "Welcome to Shelton" sign. This effort started late in 2013 with service organizations asking the Historic Preservation Board for signage to display their logos and service to the community and visitors. The group worked for two years to get the sign approved, funded, designed, built and installed. Funding for the project was provided by donations from many local service organizations and local citizens.

As the nation’s largest positive youth development and youth mentoring organization 4-H is present in every county in the U.S., this new welcome sign ensures that all who enter Shelton via Railroad Avenue recognize that the Mason County 4-H Youth Development

Program is here to serve the youth of our community . We are thankful to be included in such a wonderful community project!



Dan Teuteberg, Mason County 4-H Regional Specialist

FREE 4-H EXTRAVAGANZA JOIN US

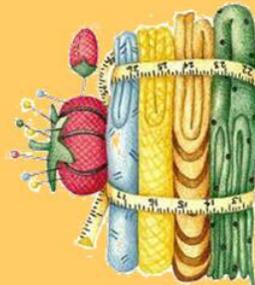
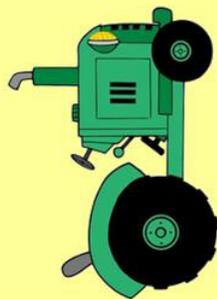
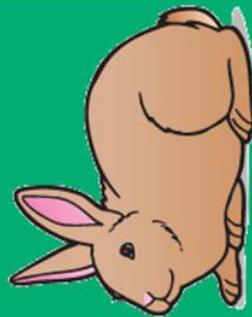
GAMES - ACTIVITIES

DISPLAYS - FOOD



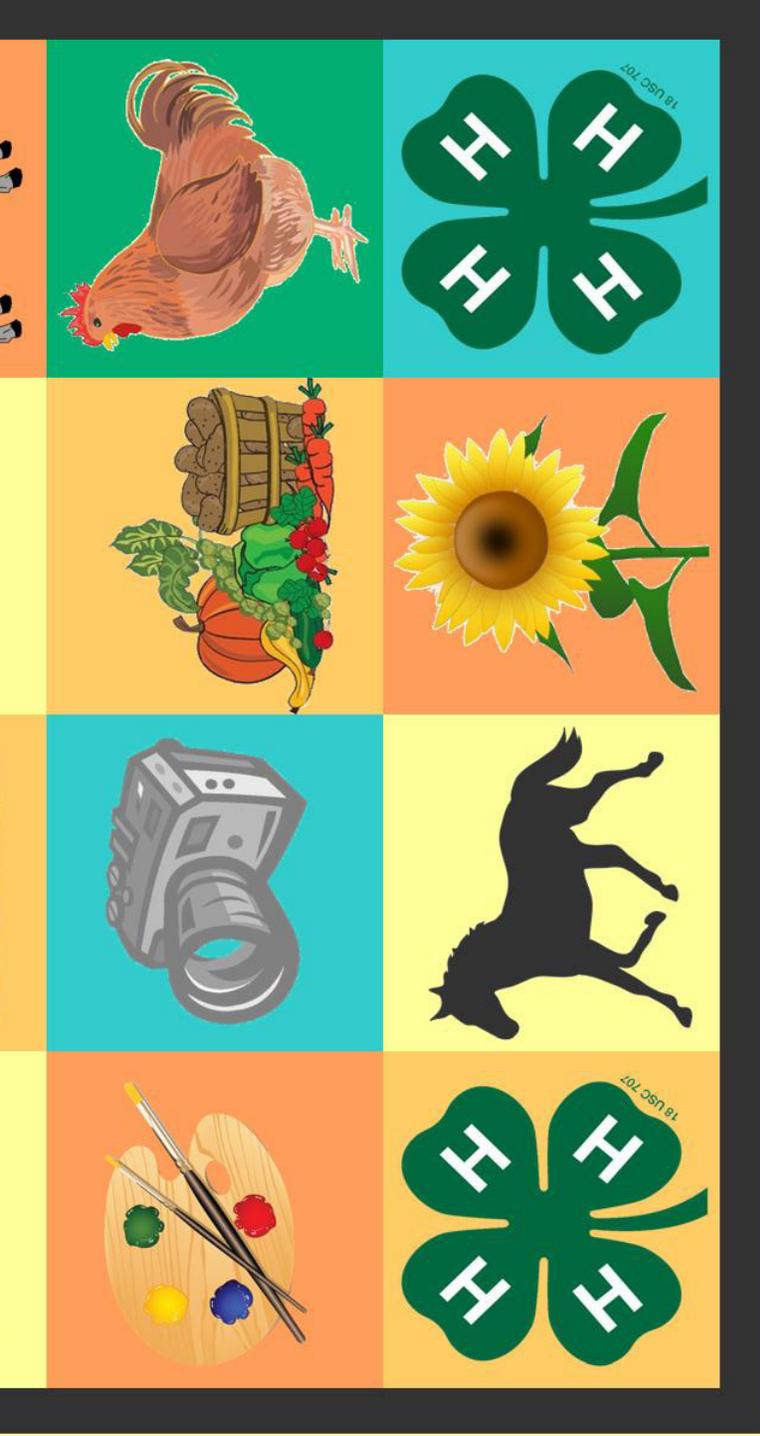
THE 4-H ALTERNATIVE TO COUNTY FAIR

FUN FOR THE



HOLE FAMILY

WHOLE FAMILY



FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

SHOWCASING OUR YEAR OF LEARNING BY DOING!

EDUCATIONAL 4-H ACTIVITIES, DISPLAYS & PRESENTATIONS BY 4-H MEMBERS

COME SEE WHAT WE'RE ALL ABOUT!

SATURDAY, JULY 25 10am - 3pm @ SHELTON HIGH SCHOOL

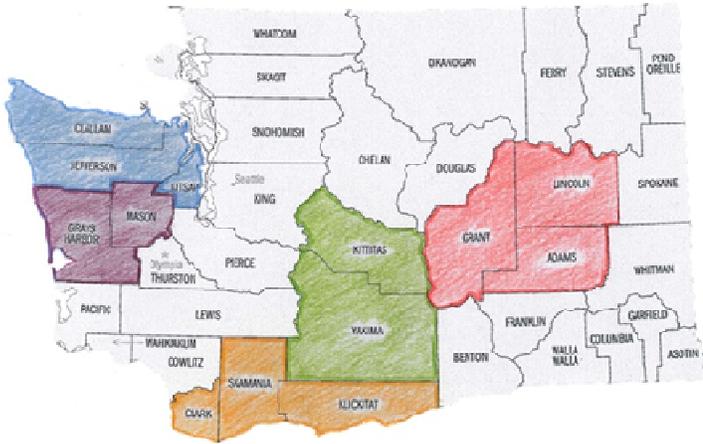
Animal projects will be qualifying off-site prior to this event, call for dates & times

For additional information call 360-427-9670 Ext. 681

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Washington State 4-H Youth Development - Restructuring for Success

By Dan Teuteberg, 4-H Regional Specialist



Five regions have been created and staffed since 2011

From 2008-2010 Washington State University Extension took a devastating 53% cut from state funding. At the same time, the Washington State 4-H Youth Development program was going through an in-depth 4-H program review. This review included both internal and external reviewers, statewide assessments, and a variety of evaluation tools. The purpose of the review was to validate and strengthen the Washington 4-H Youth Development Program by recognizing strengths as well as opportunities for improvements. This review focused on the state-level systems that are intended to support county-based programming efforts.

The major recommendations from this review included:

Management versus Leadership - intentional program emphasis shift from management of programs to leadership for positive youth development.

Clarity and Measurement of Outcomes - state-wide initiative to ensure and communicate program quality.

Build Capacity of Faculty, Staff and Volunteers - educate, empower and support individuals in their respective roles within Washington State University 4-H Youth Development program.

Focus on Positive Youth Development - this must remain the central focus of all individuals associated with the 4-H Youth Development program.

WSU Extension leadership began creating a staffing model that 1) addressed the 4-H program review recommendations, and 2) could function sustainably in a new state budget environment. As part of this task, staffing models from across the country were reviewed and subsequently the “Regional Staffing Model” was identified and selected as the best model to provide dynamic program leadership, while addressing the 4-H program review 81 recommendations, and living within the current budget realities. The Regional Staffing Model is not simply a cost saving strategy. This model is driven by the need to create a system to deliver positive youth development programming consistently across Washington State. 2011 marked the beginning of a Regional Staffing Model in Washington State with Mason and Grays Harbor County marking the first regional program.



WHAT DOES REGIONALIZATION OF THE WASHINGTON STATE 4-H PROGRAM MEAN FOR MASON COUNTY 4-H?



Mason County 4-H has a proud history of a strong traditional 4-H community club program. Mason County 4-H also has a strong community outreach history through non-traditional educational programs. Regionalization does not change the face of the 4-H program in Mason County. Regionalization does change the staff structure to ensure that the program review recommendations are being administered. Management and leadership are the two terms that best describe regionalization. An example of this is the role of the County 4-H Coordinator. The County 4-H coordinator is the person entrusted to support 4-H volunteers, 4-H clubs, and 4-H members. The County 4-H Coordinator works with County 4-H Leadership Councils to put this support into action (management). The 4-H faculty is entrusted to provide the leadership to the county 4-H program and to show the educational value of 4-H Youth Development programming efforts to community stakeholders.

Mason County 4-H will continue to be a premier Youth Development organization teaching youth valuable life skills needed to make competent, caring, and contributing citizens for years to come! Thank you to all the dedicated 4-H volunteers who help make the best better for Mason County 4-H!

Youth to Explore Physics of Motion and Distracted Driving for World's Largest Youth-Led Science Experiment



This year, 4-H National Youth Science Day combines cars, calculators and cell phones in an experiment that shows the science behind a pressing problem among U.S. teens

WASHINGTON, D.C. (May 28, 2015) --- Kids who are captivated with the crash collisions and daredevil stunts of the *Fast and Furious* movies will soon have a chance to explore the science that makes it all possible as part of this year's 4-H National Youth Science Day (4-H NYSD).

4-H NYSD is the world's largest, youth-led science experiment. The 2015 National Science Experiment will combine a speeding car collision and a distracted driving demonstration in a simulated activity that investigates the physical and human factors of motion. The activity, called "Motion Commotion," was designed

by **Oregon State University Cooperative Extension** in partnership with Vernier Software & Technology and selected as the winning experiment for the eighth annual 4-H NYSD.

The national rallying event for 4-H Science, 4-H NYSD is an interactive learning experience that gets youth excited about science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), and spotlights the many ways millions of youth are engaging in 4-H Science programs year-round.

The "Motion Commotion" experiment is a two-part science activity that involves every day materials, including a toy car, modeling clay, ruler, calculator and cell phone. In the first phase, youth will construct a simulated runway to analyze the speed, momentum and kinetic energy of a car in motion, and will explore the science behind the car's collisions. In the second phase, they will lead an experiment that uses the same physics principles to demonstrate the consequences of distracted driving.

Youth will conduct the experiment at hundreds of local events taking place in all 50 states. National 4-H Council will host the flagship national event, with hundreds of youth participating in the experiment on October 7 in Washington, D.C. The national sponsors of 2015 4-H NYSD are Hughes (HughesNet satellite Internet), Lockheed Martin and U.S. Cellular.

"More than 70,000 young people participated in the 4-H National Youth Science Day experiment last year, and we're looking forward to record-setting numbers again as this year's activity connects science to cars, collisions and distracted driving – subjects that are a high priority for youth across America," said Jennifer Sirangelo, president and CEO, National 4-H Council. "We are very thankful to our national sponsors Hughes, Lockheed Martin and U.S. Cellular for their support in showing millions of young people that science can be exciting and fun."

A recent longitudinal study conducted by Tufts University, *The Positive Development of Youth: Comprehensive Findings from the 4-H Study of Positive Youth Development*, revealed 4-H programming does indeed get young people more connected to science. According to the study, 4-Hers are **two times** more likely to participate in **science, engineering and computer technology programs** during out-of-school time (Grades 10-12) and 4-H girls are **two times** more likely (Grade 10) and nearly **three times** more likely (Grade 12) to take part in **science programs** compared to girls in other out-of-school time activities.

4-H Alumni Spotlight

Marcy Pearson

At eight years old Marcy Pearson joined the Windrider's 4-H Club. In her 10 years with 4-H, Marcy's experiences with people and projects helped prepare her for the many different situations that she faces each day in her career as a Radiologic Technologist. A recent graduate of Pima Medical Institute, she credits 4-H for her outstanding leadership and communication skills along with the lifelong friendships she has made along the way. As a new homeowner her hobbies are mostly home improvement projects, although occasionally you might catch her helping out behind the scenes at a 4-H event.

Q How did 4-H help prepare you for life?

It's hard to think of just a few ways that 4-H has prepared me for life. A good work ethic is something that was instilled in me at a young age. 4-H helped to develop that and I learned how to better apply myself in all aspects of my life. Keeping a record book helped me to learn organization skills, public presentations helped me to become more comfortable speaking to others and the everyday things we did in our 4-H club helped me to become a more confident leader. Responsibility, initiative, resourcefulness: I think almost every skill that helps me today has some root in 4-H.

Q What would you like to tell youth who are enrolled in the 4-H program now?

I would tell 4-Hers now to first and foremost enjoy their time in the program. It's easy to get caught up in competition but I think it is important to remember that your biggest competition is yourself and you should always strive to make yourself better. Also 4-H is a unique program that has so many wonderful opportunities within it. Try something new! I would encourage everyone to take advantage of as many aspects of it while they can.

Q Which 4-H life skills have assisted you most in your professional life?

Most definitely communication skills! I'll share a secret with you: I liked doing public presentations! It was fun for me to put together a poster board and dialogue that would intrigue my audience. Once I did a public presentation on "how to do a public presentation" in the style of an infomercial! It became just another creative outlet for me and making it something that was fun made it easy to build that skill. I interact with so many different people on a daily basis that being able to communicate effectively is a crucial part of my job. 4-H has



helped me to become more comfortable with talking to people. It's something that comes more naturally now. As a teen leader in my club and a counselor at camp I learned to develop leadership skills. Things like effective listening, problem solving and critical thinking skills that I began to develop in 4-H are utilized everyday at work where I am also often a teacher.

Q What would you say to teens who aren't quite sure of their future path right now?

It is completely fine to be unsure at this point. Even to the ones who are sure, don't be surprised if you change your mind. You will change so much in the next few years. When I was 18 I wanted to go into art and design. It suited me. If you had told me then, that now at 26 I would be working at a hospital everyday seeing the kinds of things I see, I would not have believed you at all! I hated hospitals, blood, smells and everything about the medical field. However, you would be surprised what you are capable of when a situation presents itself to you.

Q What were your favorite 4-H activities?

I could never forget horse camp and 4-H camp. Some of my fondest childhood memories come from those years at Panhandle. Being a counselor at camp and getting to be one of the "wildmen" in the alders was something I always loved. It's like playing dress-up, but with mud and sticks. I am proud to say that I could probably still sing most of the campfire songs and find a darn good hiding place for Herkemer!