Tuesday News – January 11, 2022

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Features

The Power of Showing Livestock and Staying Positive
Grand Champion 4-H Livestock Showman Shares Her Inspirational Story

“Life will throw obstacles at you, but your positive mindset is what will get you through those lows,” said Staci Kmetz. (Courtesy Photo)

This article appeared in Morning Ag Clips, January 11, 2022

MARYSVILLE, KS. — Nineteen-year-old Staci Kmetz beams a smile for the camera, standing alongside her is grand champion heavyweight market lamb, Foxtrot, who had just sold for a record-breaking sum of $30,100 at the Fayette County Fair’s 4H Livestock Auction in Pennsylvania. The fair’s previous record最高的
was $90 per pound; Foxtrot brought some $215 per pound, with more than 180 contributors across 15 states.

The road to this snapshot was paved with both trial and triumph. Her determination, love for 4H, and the support from her livestock family and friends helped see her through to this moment, a memory which she would hold in her heart forever.

Read the full article HERE

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EPA Launches “Companies Crushing Pollution” Video Challenge for High School and College Students

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has launched the “Companies Crushing Pollution” Video Challenge. EPA will award a total of $50,000 in prize money through the video challenge. The Challenge invites high school and college students and others including people who live near industrial facilities to create videos illustrating how businesses in the U.S. are reducing toxic chemical releases through innovative pollution prevention (P2) practices, and by having a positive impact on the environment and communities. Participants have a chance to win up to $5,000. All videos must be submitted by March 1, 2022.

The recorded webinar that discusses challenge logistics and rules can be found at https://youtu.be/mVoMxtQha4Y

Challenge Website: https://www.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program/companies-crushing-pollution-video-challenge
Quick Facts on the Challenge:

Eligibility

- Students: high school (grades nine -12) or college/university
- Other members of the public (those living close to a TRI facility)
- Must live in the United States or U.S. Territories
- Participants may be an individual or a team

Timing

Submissions accepted: December 1, 2021 – March 1, 2022

Review of submissions: March – May 2022

Prizes awarded: Late May/Early June 2022

Prizes

EPA will award a total of $50,000 in prize money to multiple participants as outlined below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1st Place (1 award)</th>
<th>2nd Place (1 award)</th>
<th>3rd Place (2 awards)</th>
<th>Honorable Mentions 4-5 awards</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Open</td>
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WSU CAHNRS Corner for Tuesday, January 11th
Elizabeth Perez, Director, Recruitment and Retention, CAHNRS
Hello, Washington 4-H Community!

In this week’s CAHNRS Corner, we share a story that provides a window into some of the great work our students are doing!

**CAHNRS News**

**COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, HUMAN, AND NATURAL RESOURCE SCIENCES**

**WSU Students Make, Distribute Blankets For Those In Need**

Snuggling up in a warm, comfy blanket when it’s cold is a basic human need and one of life’s great pleasures. Thanks to Washington State University students, and a grant from [Cotton Incorporated](http://www.cottoninc.com), new blankets were given out to people in need last month.

Around 60 students, mostly from WSU’s [Department of Apparel, Merchandising, Design, and Textiles](http://www.wsu.edu/academics/cahners/amdt/), gathered in November to make blankets using materials purchased using a grant from the cotton industry.

“We wanted to help the community and give students a chance to help those in need,” said Xingqiu Lou, an assistant professor in the AMDT department. The students chose different patterns, mixing two layers of fabric for each blanket. They cut tabs along the edges of both layers, then tied those tabs together. It’s a fairly simple process, but takes time. “The 60 students worked in pairs, so they made about 30 blankets in 90 minutes,” Lou said.
The blankets were donated to two groups based in Spokane: the **Crosswalk Youth Shelter** and **Women’s Hearth**. Crosswalk serves runaway and homeless youth in Eastern Washington. Women’s Hearth is a drop-in day center for women who have experienced poverty, trauma, or homelessness.

“We appreciate the time and effort that went into making the blankets, but are especially pleased when students reach out to their community, find a need, and take action to fill the need,” said Susan Tyler-Babkirk, Program Director at Women’s Hearth.

Some of the blankets her group distributed went to women staying at various night shelters, while others went to women transitioning from homelessness to housed. “Having a cozy blanket to take to their new place is a great way to say welcome home!” Tyler-Babkirk said.

The blankets are only a small part of the grant from Cotton Incorporated, a not-for-profit company that helps companies develop and market cotton products. The overall goal is to teach AMDT students all about the material. Four courses in the major are learning more about cotton this academic year, said Hang Liu, AMDT associate professor and leader on the grant.

“Students are learning about the properties of cotton fibers, how cotton is used traditionally, advanced cotton technologies for broadened applications, and cotton sustainability, in addition to cotton-related supply chain and principles of merchandising,” Liu said. “They also get some hands-on experiences, like this blanket project, that helps the community.”
WSU Extension 4-H Small and Companion Animal Committee Presents Virtual Rabbit Basics Zoom on January 16th!

Join the WSU Extension Small and Companion Animal Committee for a Zoom workshop on basic rabbit care and handling. The Rabbit Basics Zoom is appropriate for 4-H youth members, 4-H volunteers, parents/guardians, FFA members, and general public who are new to caring for rabbits. Rabbit housing, feeding, and basic handling will be presented. Pre-register at the link below to join the Zoom.

You are invited to a Zoom meeting.
When: Jan 16, 2022
Time: 02:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:
https://wsu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJIsf-muqT4qGdJcTeAzuNKkkxImEDbXcnrZ

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.
Animal Talk Tuesdays Continue With Second Session On January 25th!

Animal Talk Tuesdays is a collaboration between Pierce County 4-H and the WSU Animal Sciences Program. This series features quarterly sessions with Staff, Professors and Grad Students from WSU Animal Sciences showing where they work and what they are researching. We will also have questions and answer time so 4-H youth can ask the experts about their animals or what it is like to study Animal Sciences at WSU.

Our second session will be on January 25th from 6:00 to 7:00 pm with Michael Phelps, WSU Associate Professor. He will discuss what it is like to be an Animal Scientist. Please note that this session has been rescheduled from the original January 18th date.

Register now to get your Zoom link and to get access to the recorded program if you can’t attend the live sessions.

Registration link – https://tinyurl.com/AnimalTalkTuesday2

Hope you can join us!

Upcoming Animal Talk Tuesdays
April – Date and speaker confirmation to be announced soon!

July 19th – WSU Animal Sciences – Graduate Student Roundtable  Learn about how WSU students chose their area of study and what they love about their work.

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**Save the Date! Spring Youth Calf Sale In Monroe On March 19th!**

2022 Calf Scholarship and Grant Application Links Are Here!

Mark your calendars for the 29th annual Springtime Youth Calf Sale! The sale will be held on March 19, 2022 at 1:00 pm, in the Dairy Barn at the Evergreen State Fairgrounds in Monroe.

The link to the 2022 Calf Grant Application is [HERE](#).
The due date for grant applications is **February 22, 2022**.

The link to the 2022 Calf Scholarship Application is [HERE](#).
The due date for scholarship applications is **March 1, 2022**.

Questions? Please contact sale chairman, Liz Holtcamp at [sycs4h@gmail.com](mailto:sycs4h@gmail.com).
For more information about the Springtime Youth Calf Sale please go to this link: [https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/dairy-endowment-fund/programactivities/springtime-youth-calf-sale/](https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/dairy-endowment-fund/programactivities/springtime-youth-calf-sale/).

Also find us on Facebook at [Springtime Youth Calf Sale](https://www.facebook.com/SpringtimeYouthCalfSale/).

The State Dairy Quiz Bowl contest will also be held on March 19, 2022 at the Evergreen State Fairgrounds, Monroe at 9:00 am in the Dairy Barn.
UPDATE! Date Change Announced for 2022 4-H Healthy Living Summit

Please note the following update for the 2022 4-H Healthy Living Summit from Jennifer L. Sirangelo, President and CEO, National 4-H Council:

To:
Extension Directors and Administrators
State 4-H Program Leaders
Foundation Directors
ED&A Team
Healthy Living Summit Participants and Speakers

Dear Colleagues,

National 4-H Council is committed to the health and safety of all youth and adults participating in its National Positive Youth Development (PYD) Experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic.
The current COVID-19 surge and Omicron variant has introduced new complexities in planning for and participating in the upcoming National 4-H Healthy Living Summit, scheduled for February 10-13, 2022.

After consulting with Extension leadership and the Healthy Living Summit planning team, Council has decided to postpone the National 4-H Healthy Living Summit to April 21-24, 2022. Registration for the Summit has been extended to April 4, 2022. Any participant currently registered for the Summit who is unable to attend during the new April dates will receive a full refund.

We are monitoring and continue to follow the latest CDC guidelines as well as any new directives or guidance from federal, the District of Columbia, State of Maryland and/or Montgomery County as we plan for in-person National 4-H Healthy Living and Agri-Science Summits as well as Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF). This includes:

· This month, Maryland Governor Larry Hogan declared a 30-day state of emergency based on the recent surge of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations across the state.
· The Hyatt Regency Bethesda, the host hotel for both Summits and CWF, is located in Montgomery County, MD, which is currently classified as an area of high COVID-19 transmission by the CDC.
· The District of Columbia also adopted a city-wide vaccination entry requirement that requires COVID-19 vaccination for those ages twelve and older to enter certain indoor facilities within the city.
· While this new requirement does not impact the activities currently planned for either Summit, the Montgomery County, MD Council is currently considering similar vaccination entry requirements. If these are adopted by the county, National 4-H Council and the Hyatt Regency Bethesda (the hotel hosting both Summits and CWF) will need to comply.

The dates for the National 4-H Agri-Science Summit as well as Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) have not changed.

Below is the updated complete list:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Summit Dates</th>
<th>Registration Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Healthy Living Summit</td>
<td>April 21 – 24, 2022</td>
<td>April 4, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agri-Science Summit</td>
<td>March 10 – 13, 2022</td>
<td>February 1, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizenship Washington Focus</td>
<td>June 5 – July 8, 2022</td>
<td>May 2, 2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Current COVID protocols for all three national events have also been updated to require proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test within 48 hours (reduced from 72) of arrival in Bethesda, MD. These protocols may be further updated prior to or during the event(s), based on any new directives or guidance from federal,
the District of Columbia, State of Maryland and/or Montgomery County governments. Review the complete protocols.

We hope that these proactive changes will provide additional time and flexibility for states to plan their travel and participation in these national experiences and for National 4-H Council to host you as safely as possible.

Please direct any questions to Freeman Thompson, Director of Educational Programs.

Sincerely,

Jennifer L. Sirangelo
President and CEO
National 4-H Council

More From National 4-H Council….

APPLY FOR THE 2023 4-H YOUTH IN ACTION AWARDS

It’s that time of year again – time for all 4-H youth ages 15-19 to apply to be a 2023 4-H Youth in Action Award winner! Now is the chance for 4-H’ers across the nation to tell us how they’re impacting their communities through service and leadership. Four selected recipients will each earn a $5,000 scholarship and an opportunity to serve as a national youth spokesperson. Learn more about the application process and set your calendar to apply by March 28, 2022.

APPLY NOW!

SUPPORTING KIDS THROUGH COVID TRAUMA
From our friends at America’s Promise Alliance, The COVID Collaborative, MENTOR and Tuesday’s Children, comes an invitation for 4-H professionals and volunteers to join a briefing and discussion on January 12 from 3:30 – 4:30 PM ET to discuss the report, Hidden Pain: Children Who Lost a Parent or Caregiver to COVID-19 and What the Nation Can Do to Help Them, and plan of action. Learn more about the report in the New York Times [here](#) and register to attend.

**REGISTER NOW**

NATIONAL 4-H COUNCIL

**NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR YOUNG ALUMNI ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

National 4-H Council needs your help to identify & nominate dynamic, proven leaders to serve on the Young Alumni Advisory Committee (YAAC). This group
serves as a bridge to the young alumni community, informing Council’s Board of Trustees & working closely with Council associates to provide counsel, work on strategic initiatives and help grow our network of 4-H alumni. Applicants must be nominated by a 4-H professional or volunteer by February 28, and completed applications are due on March 28. Nominees should be between the ages of 18-22 as of July 1.

REGISTER NOW

APPRECIATING THE POWER OF PLANTS

In this set of hands-on activities brought to you by University of Georgia Extension, we’ll explore how scientists study plants, grow them and change them to create new kinds of plants.

GET STARTED

State 4-H Ambassadors Announce 4-H Youth of the Month for December!
The Washington State 4-H Ambassadors recognize the 4-H Youth of the Month honoree for December, Brenna Keene of Asotin County! The Ambassadors are proud to highlight 4-H youth monthly throughout the year!

**4-H YOUTH OF THE MONTH**

Brenna Keene  
Intermediate  
Asotin County

**PROJECTS:**  
Rabbit  
Goat  
Dog

**Brenna Keene***

Favorite part about 4-H: Brenna likes getting to work with animals and making new friends. She also loves getting to teach other people about animals.

Current issues you are passionate about: Climate change and the mental health crisis

School Activities: ASB President, Promoting Kindness and inclusivity.

Recent Service Project: Making a compliment tree in the school hallway

How do you inspire change: Writing to government officials about many topics, including climate change and the mental health crisis happening in schools.

Register Now For Know Your Government 2022!

2022 Know Your Government Has Leveled Up!  
Students across Washington are invited to come together and learn about the legislative process through interactive programming! Friendly competition will encourage engagement with real bills, real legislators and real civic-minded students across the state.

Participate in Zoom meetings with facilitators & delegates, hear from speakers and participate in challenges involving local & State governments! Open to ALL 13 years old and up Cost is $15 per participant Get Started here: https://sites.google.com/view/kyg-2022

Live Link: https://sites.google.com/view/kyg-2022

Washington State Fair Foundation Scholarship Applications Open November 1!
The Washington State Fair Foundation is pleased to present scholarship opportunities to local students for continuing education. 4-H member students may be eligible for some of these opportunities.

BLUE RIBBON SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS FOR 2022 WILL BE OPEN NOVEMBER 1, 2021 THROUGH JANUARY 21, 2022.

Go to https://www.thefair.com/foundation/scholarships/ and click any of the scholarships listed to see specific qualifications, or apply directly at: https://thefairfoundation.awardspring.com.

Students only need to submit one application for all scholarships offered online. The application system will automatically apply students for the scholarships they qualify for.

For any Scholarship questions, please email kima@thefair.com.

4-H Scholarship Applications Open January 1

Attention 12th grade 4-Hers!

The WSU 4-H Scholarship Applications will open on January 1, 2022. There are a variety of scholarship available! The deadline to apply is March 15, 2022.

Like last year, the scholarships are available to all approved 12th grade 4-Hers who have accumulated at least 2 years of 4-H participation. An applicant must have an approved 4-H enrollment prior to the application deadline.
Please note that the supplemental documents required for the application (resume, essay, letters of recommendation, and academic transcripts) must be combined into a single PDF file before uploading to 4-H Online. The scholarship requirements as well as instructions on how to apply can be found at http://extension.wsu.edu/4h/youth/scholarship-opportunities/

Questions regarding the requirements or scholarships themselves, should be directed to Britta Nitcy (nitcy@wsu.edu).

COVID-19 RESOURCES

4-H UPDATE – GOVERNOR INSLEE’S VACCINATION PROCLAMATION

Announcement Revised September 7, 2021

Governor Jay Inslee issued a health and safety proclamation on August 20, 2021, in response to a continued state of emergency that exists in all counties due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The health and safety proclamation, as ordered by the Governor, includes employees, contractors and volunteers engaged in activities with state agencies and in educational settings. Therefore, WSU (including WSU Extension and the 4-H program) is required to comply with Governor Inslee’s recent vaccination proclamation directives.

With regard to volunteers, below are a series of references, deadlines and explanations that provide further details.

- **The Proclamation (21-14.1)** can be found [HERE](#).
- **Deadline:** All current WSU Volunteers are required to be fully vaccinated or exempted by October 18th. Volunteers who are not fully vaccinated or who do not have an approved exemption on file by October 18 will be put on inactive status. They will not be able to engage in any volunteer activities with WSU Extension until proof of full vaccination can be observed or until an exemption request has been reviewed.
- **Proof of vaccination:** Contact your local 4-H office for information on how to share proof of your vaccination status.
- **Exemption process:** The state-level exemption process (for religious or medical reasons) can be found at https://extension.wsu.edu/volunteer-exemption/

More information on WSU’s Vaccination Policy is available on the web at https://extension.wsu.edu/vaccination-policy/.

Questions regarding WSU’s Vaccination Policy can be directed via e-mail to extension.vaccinepolicy@wsu.edu
COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS

All other protocols for health and safety remain in effect and should be followed. The Washington State 4-H Youth Development Program policy is referencing requirements set forth by the Washington State Department of Health’s K-12 COVID-19 Requirements for Summer 2021 and the 2021-2022 School Year document. WHILE INDOORS, EVERYONE IS REQUIRED TO WEAR MASKS, REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS. This policy is required to protect the safety of all and to model the behavior for youth, who are still required to wear masks.

If an activity is conducted outdoors, it is now required that masks be worn in any outdoor setting involving 500 or more people. People should continue to practice physical distancing of at least six feet whenever possible.

Your county may have more protective protocols in place. County protocols supersede the information presented here. Please contact your local County Extension 4-H Office with any questions.

The Washington State Department of Health released a recap of recent COVID-19 news and updates on September 7, 2021. It is available by clicking HERE.

A Reminder: COVID-19 Resources Available from WSU Extension

The WSU Extension COVID-19 Updates and Resources page is updated as new information becomes available. The Link to the page is https://extension.wsu.edu/covid-19/

WASHINGTON STATE RESOURCE GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS: Caring for Your Family During COVID-19

The Washington State Department of Children, Youth and Families has created a resource for parents during COVID-19. The WASHINGTON STATE RESOURCE GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS: Caring for Your Family During COVID-19 was developed to help parents and their families navigate the pandemic and the days to follow.

The publication is available at https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/sites/default/files/pubs/FS_0039.pdf