Tuesday News – June 28, 2022

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Features

Washington 4-H State Livestock Judging Contest Recap

The Washington 4-H State Livestock Judging contest took place on Saturday, June 25th, with over 110 attendees including participants, parents and volunteers. The event was a success as a result of the many hands that pulled it together. Seven Junior, twenty-five Intermediate, and thirty Senior participants competed in eight evaluations and classes with: four sets of reasons (class 1, 2, 3 and 4) for Seniors, two sets of reasons (class 1 and 2) and two sets of questions (class 3 and 4) for Intermediates, and one set of reasons (class 3) and one set of questions (class 1) for Juniors.

Congratulations to Adams-Ritzville, Asotin and Grant for winning travel rights to the BIG three contests (NAILE in Louisville, KY, American Royal in Kansas City, MO, and the Western National Roundup in Denver, CO). The teams’ decision regarding which contest they choose to participate in will be shared in a future update. A shout-out to the High Individuals, Landon Williams (Adams County), Jaycee Cox (Columbia County) and Alyssa Williams (Adams-Ritzville) for their efforts in the Junior, Intermediate and Senior contests, respectively. Overall contest summaries, the top team placings and the high individuals overall for each of the three divisions can be found by clicking HERE.

A big thank you goes out to my colleagues and volunteers, our sponsors for the event, and most importantly to the Grant County Fairgrounds and Staff – their in-kind donations of staff and facilities made this event possible.
Alert your teams and prospective teams of the opportunity to participate in the 2023 Washington 4-H State Livestock Judging contest at the Grant County Fairgrounds next June! Exact dates will follow in a future update – stay tuned!

Paul Kuber, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, State 4-H Agri-Science Specialist

It’s Time For 4-H Hall of Fame and State Recognition Award Nominations!

Our volunteers are outstanding! To let them know we think so, and to acknowledge their contributions to the Washington 4-H Program, the time to nominate them for a state award is NOW! All state award nominations are due by August 1 to Tony Dell at adell@wsu.edu. The deadline for the Hall of Fame nominations has been extended to August 1! You will find all nomination forms, including criteria for nomination, at: https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/for-volunteers/wastate-volunteer-recognition/.

Also, remember to honor that volunteer and teen from your county as Outstanding Volunteer and Outstanding Teen of the Year. These forms are due no later than October 1; a picture of your honoree(s) is required by the same date – October 1. If a volunteer/teen does not have a picture submitted, we’ll use a clover logo in its place for the recognition slide show.
Washington Pork Producers Summer 2022 Newsletter Is Here!

The Summer 2022 edition of the Washington State Pork Producers Newsletter has just been released! Sarah Smith, Extension Regional Animal Sciences Specialist from the WSU Grant/Adams Extension Office, does a great job of providing up-to-date swine information two to three times per year. Included in this issue is information about 4-H/Swine Biosecurity Recommendations, Youth for the Quality Care of Animals information, the impact of high feed costs on youth swine projects, and preventing sunburn in pigs.

To download the newsletter, click [HERE](#)!

There are lots of youths participating in swine projects in the State of Washington. Please share this information widely throughout our 4-H community!

State 4-H Ambassadors Present the 4-H Youth of the Month for June!

The Washington State 4-H Ambassadors recognize the 4-H Youth of the Month honoree for June, Stella Marshall of Skagit County! The Ambassadors are proud to highlight 4-H youth monthly throughout the year!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stella Marshall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Favorite Part About 4-H:</strong> Stella is thankful that 4-H has pushed her to reach out through public speaking, and work hard on various projects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Favorite Hobbies:</strong> Stella has an Australian Shepherd named Fizz who is her 4-H project dog. Outside of 4H, Stella and Fizz train and compete in stock dog competitions, rally, obedience, and junior showmanship. She also likes to ride her horse, a Half Arab Mare. She also loves to draw and paint in her spare time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Favorite 4-H Memories:</strong> She loves the friendships she's formed within her club, especially during her county fair.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Biggest 4-H Achievement:</strong> Stella earned a merit for one of her public presentations, and is proud of the progress she's made with her show dog. She has also been to State Fair several times, and qualified for finals in showmanship and obedience.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Favorite Food:</strong> Her favorite food is pickles!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Future Career:</strong> Stella aims to be a veterinarian.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Washington State Veterinarian Releases Letter Addressing Avian Influenza and Fairs Recommendations

STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The WSDA strongly recommends temporarily suspending poultry shows, exhibitions, or swap meets until 30 days after the last detection of HPAI in the state. Commingling birds from many farms is extremely high-risk for disease transmission and has potential to create a superspreader event.

Read and download the complete letter HERE

Two Decades Working With Youth Provides Background For New Interim 4-H Director

Mark Heitstuman

This feature originally appeared in WSU Insider on June 2, 2022.

Mark Heitstuman has spent over 20 years in Washington State University Extension, helping youths with livestock education, STEM programs,
organizing youth camps, and more. He’s worked directly with 4-H students and volunteers as part of his job.

That experience will help Heitstuman as he steps into a new role as interim director of Washington State 4-H starting June 1st.

“4-H is really welcoming to all youth. We can and do make a difference in the lives of young people,” Heitstuman said. “That starts with strong leaders that provide mentorship and help develop skills for students.”

The WSU alum wears many hats in WSU Extension: livestock and community development regional extension specialist, director of Extension for Asotin and Garfield counties, and interim director of Whitman County. He’ll give up the last position as he steps into the statewide 4-H role.

“Mark has a great deal of leadership experience and has worked with 4-H as part of WSU Extension for his entire career here,” said Vicki McCracken, associate dean and director of WSU Extension. “I’m looking forward to working more closely with him over the next year as he leads and guides our dedicated 4-H students, volunteers, faculty, and staff.”

4-H is delivered in Washington by WSU Extension. It’s part of a network of hundreds of land-grant universities serving more than 6 million children through 4-H, nationwide.

Heitstuman has three primary goals for the next year in 4-H:

• Stabilize student enrollment in the organization and increase the number of volunteer leaders for programs around the state.
• Work with 4-H faculty and staff to see what they’re working on and how the state-level organization can help and support them.
• Recruit and retain quality 4-H coordinators, who do much of the day-to-day work with parents and youth in the organization.

“4-H is a powerful force for good around Washington, and there are numerous studies that show the value in 4-H programming,” Heitstuman said. “But to continue the impactful programs we have, we need stability in faculty, staff, and volunteers. That’s how we help and support as many youths as we possibly can.”

A native and resident of Uniontown, Wash., Heitstuman said the call from McCracken asking to take on the interim 4-H director role took him by surprise. But he’s confident he’ll make positive progress on his goals for leading the state organization.

“I can work with a variety of different types of people and have broad experience in programs, especially for youths,” Heitstuman said. “I understand and value the role 4-H plays in helping young people around the state and the nation. I’m looking forward to the challenge of helping this vital organization succeed.”
Heitstuman takes over as interim director from Nancy Deringer, who is currently serving as interim associate dean for Student Success and Academic Programming for WSU’s College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences.

Calling All Champions Photo Contest Opens June 15th!

4-H is proud to partner with Manna Pro to create more opportunities for the next generation of Champions passionate about animal care. Visit the partnership page to learn about all the ways Manna Pro is giving back to 4-H kids! Current 4-H members and 4-h alumni can submit a photo in their 4-H gear with one of their animals and Manna Pro will donate $10 for every photo submitted to 4-H (with a guaranteed maximum donation of $50,000!). Contest entrants have a chance to win a $1,000 donation to their club or $100 worth of Manna Pro products!

Submit your photos by clicking on the following link! https://companapetbrands.wishpondpages.com/sweepstakes/

Poultry Fit and Show Zoom Recording Now Available!

4-H youth and volunteers are invited to check out the latest Poultry Fitting & Handling Zoom workshop recording (from the May 22 Zoom) at this
2022 State Hippology Contest Results Announced!

The 2022 State Hippology Contest was held on Saturday, June 11 at the Evergreen State Fairgrounds in Monroe. Two counties turned out for the contest: Snohomish and Thurston. Each had an Intermediate and Senior team.

Individuals also joined us from Grant, Chelan/Douglas, and Thurston counties to learn about and practice components of the contests in the hopes that perhaps more counties will be joining us next year! We’re so glad you made it! Special thank you for Carolyn Russo for helping to make it all happen!

Of special note, a hippology contest requires a huge number of volunteers and this year, those positions were filled almost entirely by 4-H alums who came to give back to contests they enjoyed so much as members. Some alumni parents came to help as well. Thank you! Thank you! A BIG shout out to: Hannah Kruchek, Katelyn Peterson, Christa King, Brooke Parsley, Makayla Wood, Haley Fryrear, Jace Bailey-Schindler, Bill Schindler, Heather Lyons, Julianne Carter, Miriam Huff, David Huff, Shannon Loane, Katie Fromm, Kim Harris, Laurie Johnson, Kari Amundson, and Haley Naumann.

Thank you as well to Jennifer Leach and Ramona Leber for assisting in administration roles again this year. It’s wonderful to have your support and assistance. Finally, a BIG THANK YOU to Kim Baker – as the contest could not have been done without Kim and her passion and knowledge for equine science and hippology.

Without further ado, here are the results!

2022 Senior State Champion Hippology Team: Thurston County
Baeya Kardokus, Charlotte Pestinger, Katie Pestinger, Solana Spector and Coach Molly Pestinger

2022 Senior State Reserve Champion Hippology Team: Snohomish County
Madison Erickson-Corp, Vivian Rice, Liberty Sukraw, Eric Harding, and Coach Rianan Livingston

2022 Intermediate State Champion Hippology Team: Snohomish County
Alice McFarlane, Emma Matter, Aerin Cuff, Klara Mayhan, and Coach Rianan Livingston

2022 Intermediate Reserve State Champion Team: Thurston County
Vannah Paulson, Cloey Yancey, Kaidence Yancey, Leah Andreasson, and Coach Molly Pestinger
Thurston County Seniors have been invited to represent Washington State at the Eastern National 4-H Round Up in November in Louisville, KY.

Congratulations on a job well done to all!

If you have interest in learning about how to facilitate horse bowl and hippology in your county, please reach out to Kim Baker: 425-520-3908.

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State Equine Presentations Date Has Been Set; Event Will Be Virtual

The Washington State 4-H Equine presentations, as part of the Washington State 4-H Fair, will once again be a “virtual” contest. It will be held on Sunday, September 11th within the time frame of 10 am to 5 pm. Please connect with your county 4-H staff person with regard to the registration form for this contest for State Fair. The registration form is WS4HF/1.06 and your county 4-H staff person is aware of the usual state fair registration process for state fair events and activities. Your county 4-H staff person must complete the WS4HF/1.06 to verify eligibility for this state contest.

Contest rules are in process, and will be posted soon on the State 4-H Webpage’s Horse page: [https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/projects/animal-science/companion-performance/horse/](https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/projects/animal-science/companion-performance/horse/). Please keep in mind – the Equine presentations are part of the National Eastern 4-H Horse Roundup and are not the usual public presentations. The rules have strict time limits and must be focused on the equine industry. So please be familiar with the rules that that will be posted to the state website.

For contest information, education or helpful hints, registration details and eligibility contact Jennifer Leach, 4-H Equine Specialist and State Equine presentation coordinator at jleach@wsu.edu.
Wahkiakum and Naselle Robotics Teams Place 2nd and 3rd In International Contest

Wahkiakum County 4-H and Naselle and Wahkiakum School Districts robotics teams participated in the International SeaPerch Robotics Contest in Annapolis, Maryland, with the final competition taking place on Saturday, June 4th. 137 teams entered the contest from all over the world, participating in three divisions. The Wahkiakum and Naselle Teams competed in the Open Division, presumed to be the most difficult division of the three.
Saturday’s events started with the first competition – presentation of the team’s Engineering Report to other teams at 11:00 am. Students staffed our team table, answering other teams’ questions, while many of our other team members talked to all of the other teams at their own tables – all scouting for next year. Then after lunch, the team drivers got their robots passed through inspection, and waited….finally starting their runs at about 3:45 pm. Team drivers were frustrated that they did not get a perfect score on the Mission Course (one “battery” was dropped). Next came the Obstacle Course competition, where the teams’ best time at home was about 43 seconds. At nationals, the course was stretched out and some hoops turned in ways the teams had not practiced, resulting in a best run time of about 54 seconds.

After dinner came the awards presentation – and the announcements:
Second Place in Open Division for Engineering Design Report: Naselle
Third Place in Open Division for Obstacle Course: Wahkiakum
and finally,
Second Place in Open Division for Mission Course: Wahkiakum

In the first year of participation in SeaPerch. Wahkiakum and Naselle came home to southwest Washington with three trophies! In the Wahkiakum team debrief, the team talked about what was learned from scouting other teams and what can be done better to prepare for next year. Next season starts now for both teams. Congratulations to the Naselle and Wahkiakum teams for their incredible accomplishment – particularly for a county of 4,200 people with limited school resources. The result speaks eloquently to what 4-H and school collaboration, plus awesome volunteers and community support can accomplish together.
New this year for our 4-H horse members with small equines are show rules for those counties who are interested in expanding their equine program. The Small Equine program was approved at the State Council meeting in October 2019. And yes...we are now getting them out. A thank you to the “ad hoc” Small Equine Committee of Connie Medeiros, Pat Pehling, Kim Lansing, Laura Shackley; Shelby Gossett, and Hannah Kruchek. Small equine will be offered this year at State Fair. If you have questions about Small Equine—please reach out to Connie at her email address of mythicalmeadows@gmail.com. Connie is also the State Fair Small Equine and Harness Driving Superintendent. More information will soon be coming regarding the details of the Small Equine classes being offered at the 2022 4-H State Fair.

Small Equine Show Rules are now posted on the State 4-H Webpage! Click HERE to download them!

Submitted by Jennifer Leach, 4-H Equine Specialist (.25FTE)
WSU 4-H Scholarships Offer Ability to Make the Best Better

By Denise Echelbarger, WSU Extension 4-H Youth Development Program
May 25, 2022

Washington State University (WSU) Extension 4-H Youth Development Program and the WSU College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences (CAHNRS) are pleased to announce the 2022 scholarship winners. We are proud to offer scholarship assistance to support Washington high school students currently enrolled as 4-H members.

Shannon Allen (Thurston County) and Kathleen Sciarotta (Kitsap County) each received the J. Orville/Helen Young and 4-H Fund Scholarship. Allen will be attending South Puget Sound Community College in the fall of 2022. She has been part of 4-H for eight years, has shown rabbits, pack goats, and participated in several leadership activities including teaching an after-school program about gardening, plants, and healthy living once a week. Sciarrotta will be attending Washington State University (WSU) Pullman in August with plans to major in neuroscience on the pre-vet track. She has been in 4-H for eleven years and had the opportunity to take on a 4-H Academy community service project event that boosted involvement with local 4-H clubs.

Molly Greiner (Skagit County), Alaina Houser (Thurston County), and Chloe Mattson (Kittitas County) were awarded the Lewis County Leaders 4-H Council Scholarship. Greiner plans to attend WSU Pullman in the fall and double major in biochemistry and English with her goal being to attend the WSU Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine. 4-H has played an influential role in Greiner’s life for the past six years as she barely recognizes her painfully shy elementary school self as her leadership and organizational skills have developed significantly. Houser has been a member of 4-H for ten years and will be attending Oregon State University to major in environmental science. She hopes to become an involved leader and help the next generation of 4-Hers have as valuable an experience as she was given. Mattson will be attending the WSU Honors College and plans to study
biological science (with a pre-medical track) and Spanish. Over the last ten years in 4-H the projects Mattson participated in include lambs, food and nutrition, leadership, and Know Your Government.

Haley Neumiller (Spokane County) was the recipient of the Thomas R. Quann 4-H Scholarship and will be attending the University of Washington this fall to major in bioengineering to become a pediatric occupational therapist. In Neumiller’s seven years in 4-H she learned to seek opportunities to serve the community and owes many accomplishments to the skills and lessons she learned through the guidance from countless 4-H leaders and mentors.

Olivia VanderVeen, (Whatcom County) received the O.M. Plummer Scholarship of the Oregon Community Foundation, and will be attending Iowa State University to major in animal science and become a large-animal veterinarian. VanderVeen has been a 4-H member for nine years and has raised market hogs, dairy goats, rabbits, chickens, and more. Her goal is to use her education to give back to the community that she loves and has already given her so much through their support and countless opportunities.

Tressa Wade (Grant County) was awarded the Woody and Joan Bernard 4-H Higher Education Scholarship and will be carrying on a Vandal family tradition and attend the University of Idaho to major in animal sciences and minor in agriculture communications to seek a career in the field of genetics and artificial insemination (AI). Eleven years as a 4-H member has built Wade’s passion for agriculture which led to her desire to produce her own livestock and grow a cattle and sheep breeding business using AI.

Katherine Moen (King County), Rosetta Renwick (Walla Walla County), and Aubree Triplett (Pacific County) have all been 4-H members for over ten years and are the recipients of the WSU 4-H CAHNRS Dettman Scholarship. Moen will be pursuing a major in animal science with the pre-veterinary pathway in the CAHNRS program. She gained experience and knowledge, with the leadership roles in her club, as well as presenting on poultry care and handling, organizing community service projects, and teaching incoming members about 4-H and showing chickens. Renwick has wanted to attend WSU for as long as she can remember and the generous contribution towards her continued education will help make her goal of majoring in wildlife ecology a little easier to achieve. She showed swine for eight years, participated in livestock judging and oral reasons, and gave demonstration presentations to improve her public speaking and presenting skills. Triplett has carried on a 4-H family tradition with her livestock projects based on beef cattle, swine, sheep, rabbits, and marketing off livestock at her county auction. She will be majoring in agribusiness at WSU. Triplett’s thank-you letter shares a compassionate reminder that, “One of the biggest reasons I would love to give back to 4-H is because it has taught me countless life skills and blessed me with valuable memories and
friendships that will last a lifetime. Every child should get the opportunity to experience that like I did.”

Congratulations to all the 2022 award recipients that dedicated their 4-H experience “to make the best better,” and continue working towards accomplishing their next steps in higher education. For more information on the Washington State 4-H scholarship opportunities or to support 4-H visit extension.wsu.edu/4h.

AVIAN INFLUENZA UPDATES
Articles and Links

All About Avian Influenza

If you have poultry or know someone who does, please read through this material and use the links as needed. Currently, the surveillance areas are for 10 kilometers/about 6.2 miles and for 30 days from the point of origin, current information at https://agr.wa.gov/departments/animals-livestock-and-pets/avian-health/avian-influenza/bird-flu-2022, you can see when and where there are confirmed cases around the state. This first one is the updated WSDA website it has the daily update and a brand-new interactive quarantine area map. There is also a new map showing all of the positive locations in the U.S. As of May 17th, at 10 AM there are eight confirmed positive backyard flocks (small flocks), in eight different counties in the State of WA.

Fairs will make their own decisions but remember it is still early for most fairs to make a call on hosting poultry shows at county/community fairs and the surveillance is for 30 days. At this time, this is not a quarantine other than for the properties that have been depopulated.

Currently, migrations of wild waterfowl are the major mode/vector/fomite that is spreading Avian Influenza. However, attention to bio-security practices should be enhanced so that we (people) and our modes of transportation as well as other animals do not become fomites. There is MUCH more information below and many links to help answer your questions and a link to watch a recorded broadcast via YouTube with our WA State Veterinarian Dr. Amber Itle from 5/12/22.

Pam Watson, WSU Lewis County Extension 4-H and Poultry
Avian Influenza in Washington State – What all bird owners should know and think about …

Avian Influenza is in Washington State and since birds use a flyway and don’t stick to the freeways it should be considered everywhere. Be extra careful during wild bird migration seasons (spring and fall) particularly wild waterfowl, to protect your flock from infectious diseases. Where possible keep birds inside or undercover and check coops, pens, and poultry houses regularly for areas that allow wild birds to perch, nest, or interact with domesticated fowl. Learn more about biosecurity at: bit.ly/DefendtheFlock-Resources (available in several languages).

Please report any unusual or high rates of illness or death in your flocks: WSDA Sick Bird Hotline at 1-800-606-3056.

For food safety questions, call WSDA Food Safety Program at 1-360-902-1876
Contact the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to report sick or dead wild birds Report Wildlife Observations (arcgis.com)

AVIAN INFLUENZA – HOW POULTRY OWNERS CAN PROTECT THEIR FLOCK

Below is a recording of a 2021 WSDA webinar on highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) and steps poultry owners can take to protect their birds from this disease. In this webinar you will learn:
• What HPAI is and signs to look for in your flock
• How the global conditions are similar to the 2014/2015 outbreak of HPAI that reached Washington
• What effective biosecurity means and practical steps you can take to protect your flock
• Where to find additional resources about biosecurity
• When and how to report bird health issues, including suspected avian influenza

You can [watch the avian influenza webinar on YouTube](#).

Pam Watson, M.Ed.
WSU Lewis County Extension
4-H Youth Development Agent, WSU Faculty

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May 13, 2022  |  Contact: [State Veteranarian](tel:(360)902-1878)

Quick Links to HPAI Information in Washington
Dr. Amber Itle, Washington State Veterinarian

Good morning! With an all-hands-on-deck response effort at WSDA to contain HPAI, I’m having trouble getting these emails out to you all in a timely way. Please regularly check these resources for up-to-date information. You can join our WSDA bird flu Facebook group, watch pre-recorded you tube videos, monitor our bird flu website and check our WSDA new release website for information about detections in new counties, as well as any guidance about shows and fairs. Please distribute widely. Don’t hesitate to reach out if you have questions or concerns. Responses may be delayed, but we will get back to you as soon as we can.

[Washington Bird Flu Updates 2022 | Facebook](#)
[WA State Veterinarian Bird Flu Q and A](#)
[WSDA News Releases](#)
[2022 Washington Bird Flu Detections](#)
[2022 Confirmations of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Commercial and Backyard Flocks](#)
[2022 Detections of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Wild Birds](#)
The State 4-H Dairy Judging contest determines the individuals that will represent Washington participating at the National event in 2023.

This year the contest will be held: on July 19, 2022, at the Fairgrounds in Monroe, Washington, starting at 11:00 am.

If you have an individual 4-H’er or team that wants to compete, please contact Gary Fredricks at 360-577-3014 Ext. 3 or at garyf@wsu.edu.

Gary Fredricks
WSU Extension\Cowlitz County
304 Cowlitz Way
Kelso, WA 98626
360-577-3014 Ext. 3
garyf@wsu.edu
4-H INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM SEEKING HOST FAMILIES
JULY to AUGUST 2022

Have you ever wanted to experience another culture through hosting? Consider opening your home to a short-term visiting delegate. This summer we have twelve young people aged 13-15 visiting from Japan for about a month. We are looking for host families who have a child in the home of the same gender and within three years of age of the delegate. The 4-H International Exchange program is a learning opportunity that allows one to learn about another culture, develop friendships and learn something about oneself. Delegates are here to experience cultural immersion, not tourism, so there are no required gatherings, tours or site seeing requirements. We are looking for families who will open their hearts to a short-term international experience. Although this is a 4-H opportunity, families do not need to be in 4-H to participate.

DATES: Sunday July 24-Monday August 15
REQUIREMENTS: A youth in the home of the same gender and within three years of age of the delegate, an open heart and an open mind. Screening process involves an application, references, background check and home interview.

For more information contact Carolyn Russo, carolyn.russo@wsu.edu

To start a host family application, visit https://www.states4hexchange.org/apply/host/

Or learn more by visiting the national page www.states4hexchange.org

This week, we are featuring three girls who are looking for host families (contact Carolyn if you would like the full list of delegates)

Delegates are placed on a first fully screened basis.

Wakana, age 14 – Wakana loves dance and has practiced since she was very young. She is excited to meet lifelong friends on her exchange. Wakana also enjoys soccer, trying new foods, being in nature, the outdoors, movies, watching sports and shopping. She is in a track and field club. Her favorite school subjects are P.E. and English. Wakana describes herself as considerate, energetic, curious, honest and studious. Wakana has been learning English since she was very young.

Ayumi, age 15 – Ayumi is very excited to be part of an American family for the summer. Her interests include watching anime, reading manga and novels, ballet, shopping and seeing musicals. She also plays the cello and loves to sing. Ayumi really enjoys animals and wants to be around animals on her summer exchange as well as experience the outdoors. Ayumi’s favorite subjects in school are math and music. She describes herself as considerate, outgoing, energetic, sociable, and tolerant. She is excited to learn more English this summer.
Kanako, age 15 – Kanako really enjoys movies, dance, shopping and watching TV. She has been in dance for many years and loves K-pop and American pop music. She is excited to practice English and communicate during her summer home stay. Kanako likes sports such as badminton, ping pong and basketball. Kanako describes herself as talkative, cheerful, considerate, tidy, and outgoing. She has some minor allergies to dust and pollen but can manage them on her own.

Carolyn Russo  
Grant County 4-H Program Coordinator  
WSU Grant County Extension  
1525 E. Wheeler Rd.  
Moses Lake, WA 98837  
509-754-2011, Ext. 4309

COVID-19 RESOURCES

4-H COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS
UPDATED MARCH 12, 2022

Washington State University has adopted the Governor’s updated mask policy which is effective March 12, 2022. This policy eliminates the general masking requirement in both indoor and outdoor situations, unless specifically required for a particular location for health reasons (such as clinics). Also eliminated is the general requirement for social distancing among vaccinated individuals. WSU has extended the relaxation of the masking and distancing requirements to those employees who have exemptions from the vaccine requirement (for religious or medical reasons) and have approved accommodations at their workplace.

WSU Extension has therefore adopted the following:

Vaccination Requirements Continue

The vaccine mandate for WSU employees and volunteers remains in place. WSU employees and volunteers must be fully vaccinated or have an approved exemption with an accommodation on file to engage in work with WSU Extension.

Masking Policy Changes

WSU Extension has adopted the Governor’s mask policy effective March 12, 2022. This policy eliminates the general masking requirement in both indoor and outdoor situations, unless specifically required for a particular location such as health care settings and public transportation. This extends to individuals who have an approved accommodation based on a medical or religious exemption, who no longer are required to wear a mask as a condition of that accommodation.
Social Distancing Changes

WSU Extension applies the relaxation of social distancing requirements to those volunteers who are fully vaccinated or have an approved exemption with an accommodation (for religious or medical reasons) on file at their workplace or county office.

PLEASE NOTE – individual offices and locations may continue to require masking and/or distancing at the office level for all office programs in light of local risks and conditions.

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/](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/](https://extension.wsu.edu/vaccination-policy/).

Questions regarding WSU’s Vaccination Policy can be directed via e-mail to [extension.vaccinepolicy@wsu.edu](mailto:extension.vaccinepolicy@wsu.edu)
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