Tuesday News – August 8, 2023

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Features

4-H Giving Page Update – Give Online to Your County!
Denise Echelbarger

We’ve Changed!

But it’s all good—we’ve just launched our new 4-H Giving Page design. It’s now even easier to find your county excellence fund give link and give directly to your county 4-H program. With better navigation, we hope you love it as much as we do. CHECK IT OUT! [https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/give-to-4-h/](https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/give-to-4-h/)

Washington State 4-H International Exchange Program Update—Summer 2023
Carolyn Russo

The 4-H International Exchange Program consists of three branches open to participation. Below is a current update on each one:

YEARLONG....last weekend our state welcomed a young man named Gyeol from South Korea. He will be staying with a family in Renton and attending high school
this year. Keep an eye out as he shares his experiences with us and offers opportunities to tell us of life in Korea.

**INBOUND**…This year Washington committed to hosting a combination of 21 delegates from Japan and Taiwan. A big thank you to all our host families who were able to welcome these exciting personalities into their homes. We were able to place all but six who arrived here for orientation and then were flown to Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky and Texas. The inbound delegates will depart for their home countries on Thursday August 17.

**OUTBOUND**…There were eight youth who participated in four outbound programs this summer – three to the eight-week Japan program, three to the four-week Japan program, one to South Korea for four weeks and another to Costa Rica for four weeks.

If you are interested in learning more about these opportunities, please contact Carolyn Russo at carolyn.russo@wsu.edu

Did you know that the 4-H program can be found in over 80 other countries?

Currently we have Johnny, a 4-H Agent visiting the state of Washington from the country of Taiwan. Johnny will be giving a presentation at two different times via Zoom. Please join us Monday, August 14th at 12:15 PM or 8:00 PM to learn more about our fellow 4-Hers in Taiwan!

**Monday August 14, 2023 12:15 PM Pacific Time**  
[https://wsu.zoom.us/j/96999606298](https://wsu.zoom.us/j/96999606298)  
Meeting ID: 969 9960 6298  
Phone Call (long distance) +1 (253) 215 8782, 96999606298#

**Monday August 14, 2023 8:00 PM Pacific Time**  
[https://wsu.zoom.us/j/97889916248](https://wsu.zoom.us/j/97889916248)  
Meeting ID: 978 8991 6248  
Phone Call (long distance) +1 (253) 215-8782, 97889916248#

Carolyn Russo  
Grant County 4-H Program Coordinator  
[WSU Grant County Extension](https://wsu.zoom.us/j/96999606298)  
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Moses Lake, WA 98837  
754-2011, Ext. 4309

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*No endorsement of products or services is granted or implied by WSU Extension.*
Attention County 4-H Horse Program — 4-H Staff; Volunteers, Donors, and Families!

Donations are needed for medals for the Equine section of the 2023 State Fair for Champion (gold); Reserve Champion (silver); and Third Place (bronze). as well as for Groom Squad teams — Champion, Reserve, and Third Place. These are awarded for all 4-H horse exhibits — performance; driving; small equine, and western games.

For Equine Presentations and Horse Judging, we are blessed to already have donors for this state fair activity. Also, we had donors for the State Horse Bowl and State Hippology contests that occurred in May 2023.

The total cost for 2023 4-H State Fair medals will be approximately $2,000. Any contribution, large or small, will help. From a funding capacity perspective — if there are not enough donations, there may be a possibility that bronze and/or silver medals may not be offered.

Please encourage folks to donate. The medals have been offered for many years through generous donations and are not provided for by the State 4-H Fair.

Make checks payable to Snohomish County 4-H Horse program and mail to:

Pat Pehling
7310 83rd Ave SE,
Snohomish WA 98290
If you have questions about the medals, please contact Pat, Snohomish County 4-H key volunteer, at pehling@frontier.com.

To those who have donated …
Thank you so much for your generosity and support!

Register Now For The Inaugural Washington 4-H State Meats Judging Contest on August 12th!
Paul Kuber

The inaugural Washington 4-H State Meats Judging Contest will take place at the WSU Meats Lab in Pullman, WA on August 12, 2023. Contest Rules and Guidelines for the State Contest and the Registration link are included below. These are also linked on the state 4-H calendar on the date of the event. The registration link is on the Washington 4-H State Meats Judging Contest page; General Rules and Guidelines are linked HERE

Registration will remain open up to the day of the contest. Registration is $30 per Individual.
Visit Pullman to Celebrate 4-H Day With Cougar Football On September 23rd!
Denise Echelbarger

Save the date! Celebrate 4-H Day with the Cougs in Pullman on September 23rd vs. the Oregon State University Beavers at Martin Stadium. Game time is yet to be determined. Discounted tickets are available!

4-H Day with the Cougs!
Discounted Tickets Available
PURCHASE HERE
Hello everyone!

“Hunger Doesn’t Take a Vacation” Food Drive Checkpoint 2 is here! If you and your county collected food for the drive in the month of July, please fill out the google form below by August 4th. Whichever county donated the most items will receive recognition on social media and be sent a certificate of achievement!
Click This Google Form Link: Copy of “HDTV” Food Drive: Check 2

The Food Drive Flyers link below will take you to our flyer template. This way you can let your community know where and when you will be collecting food. The QR code on the Printing Flyer will take you to our information page. This just has our general rules and guidelines. We ask that, if you decide to spread the word on social media, you add the link in the description so that the viewers have access to the page as well.


Information Page
Link: https://docs.google.com/document/d/15JYnE-sbAUfHI8FJRHC9MGplOYyzWFNx8GA-6cNEgQ/edit

The end of our Food Drive and the last Checkpoint will be August 31st. If you have not already done so, we encourage you to take pictures and send them to the WA 4-H State Ambassador email below. We love hearing updates and getting the opportunity to answer your questions!

Berklie Sheppard, Asotin County
WA State Ambassador Team
wa4hsa@gamil.com
The 2023 Washington 4-H State Livestock Judging contest took place on Saturday, June 24th, with 112 contestants participating over the three divisions. The event was a success as a result of the many hands that pulled it together.

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.
Below are the results of the Senior, Intermediate and Junior Divisions, listed by the top three teams in each division. Detailed Scoring Summaries can be found HERE, and Final Results can be found HERE.

**Junior Division (26 Individuals and 5 Teams)**
First – Adams County  
Second – Lincoln County  
Third – Spokane County

**Intermediate Division (42 Individuals and 9 Teams)**
First – Lincoln County  
Second – Garfield County  
Third – Grant County

**Senior Division (44 Individuals and 9 Teams)**
First – Adams County  
Second – Pend Oreille County  
Third – Snohomish County

2023 High Junior Team
We are in the process of determining the best location for access to additional photos aside from the first-place teams attached here. A future feature will
include more contest reports, as well as the travel opportunities chosen by the first-place teams. Stay tuned!

Volunteer to Support the Washington State 4-H Fair
State Fair Board

The Washington State 4-H Fair board encourages individuals with an interest in serving youth development to offer their time and talents in support of the State 4-H Fair as volunteers.

Please send an email to 4-H Fair Board President Kirk Gresham at st4hfair@gmail.com with any questions, for more information, or to volunteer.

Thank You!

Donate to the Washington State 4-H Fair
4-H State Fair Board

Every year, the Washington State 4-H Fair Board ensures the continuation and success of 4-H programs old and new alike, from purchasing trophies and ribbons, buckles and banners for awards to fair participants to scheduling and facilitating events and more. This year, the State 4-H Fair Board is asking for your donations to assist the board in its efforts to provide youth an environment that fosters caring relationships, constructive learning experiences, leadership opportunities and to serve our communities.
State 4-H Fair Board Seeks Qualified Candidates For State 4-H Fair Manager Position Opening

The State 4-H Fair Manager Position Is Now Open!

The job description for the State 4-H Fair Manager position is available for download by clicking HERE.

The State 4-H Fair Manager is not a WSU position, but reports directly to the State 4-H Fair Board. The salary is $32,500, paid in twelve monthly installments. There are no benefits associated with this position.

This is a part time position of about 1,000 hours annually, with extended hours during August and September, during the fair cycle in Puyallup, Washington.

The position will remain open until filled.

Please forward your cover letter and resume to:

Washington State 4-H Fair Board
PO Box 1225
Puyallup, Washington, 98371-0233

or by email to the Fair Board at st4hfair@gmail.com.
The State 4-H Fair Board has updated the 2023 Fair Exhibitor guide. Several sections, including the judging contest and equine portions, have undergone major changes. There is also a new Class 10 – 4-H Youth Showcase which gives our youth an opportunity to display their 4-H experiences on Labor Day Weekend!

Links to the complete guide, as well as each separate section, can be found at https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/fairs/state-4-h-fair/exhibitor-guide/

Please read the guide carefully and let us know if there are additional refinements which may be helpful at st4hfair@gmail.com.

Kirk Gresham, State 4-H Fair Board, President
Washington State 4-H Youth Showcase Coming to State Fair Labor Day Weekend
Peggy Gresham, State Fair Board

Announcing a great new opportunity to Promote 4-H...

**Washington State 4-H Youth Showcase**

Presented in the Dog/Cat Barns Labor Day Weekend – Friday thru Monday

Come and help us spread the word about 4-H to State Fair goers Labor Day weekend. Both adults and youth are encouraged to come and share their experiences. This is the Fair’s opening weekend and we want to share clovers with everyone!

Drawing everyone into the two buildings will be an opportunity to take part in a fun, hands-on recycling challenge.

The Dog/Cat Benching Barn will have general 4-H Information booths for counties to share program information, volunteer opportunities, and project membership promotion.

Teen Programming opportunities will be presented with members sharing their learning opportunities at Teen Conference, participating in the WSU 4-H Know Your Government Program, and being a youth representative as a State Ambassador or Fair Board member!

The Dog/Cat Showing Building will host even more action where members can sign up to do a Public Presentation and earn premium while educating the public about agriculture, home arts and healthy living, leadership, civic engagement, science and technology.

Make your project come to life in the 4-H In Action arena! Come as an individual or bring your whole club to demonstrate what you have learned from taking part in 4-H!

**Class 10 – 4-H Youth Showcase has been created for you to participate in this exciting event!**

AND additional premium may be awarded to entries for 4-H Club/Group Displays (Class 4B), Public Presentation or Speech (Class 1-3), 4-H In Action (Class 8), Educational Displays promoting 4-H (Class 70), WA Agricultural Product Ed Displays (Class 75), 4-H Videography (Class 156), and 4-H Promotional Photos (Class 157) used for display during this Showcase event.

**Get a pass for you & your chaperone from your County 4-H Office - Arrive early to set up your display!**

Can’t attend the Washington State Fair this year?

No problem!! We are encouraging youth from across the State to send in videos of their 4-H experiences for us to share during the entire weekend.

Display Ideas Welcome!

Adults interested in sharing your 4-H volunteer experiences and promoting our programs are encouraged email us to select a time slot, too.

For more info or questions, please email st4hfair@gmail.com

Help to showcase how Washington State University 4-H Youth Development is developing young people to become productive citizens who are engaged in positive change, meeting the needs of a diverse and changing society.

Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension office.
Ask Dr. Universe: Why Don't Birds Get Electrocuted When They Sit On Power Lines? – Angel, 14, California

Do you love science and writing? You might enjoy the latest Ask Dr. Universe podcast. My guest, Sara Zaske, writes about all kinds of science—and she edits my column every week before I send it to you.

Dr. Universe: Why don't birds get electrocuted when they sit on power lines?
– Angel, 14, California

Dear Angel,

I've never sat on a power line. I like to keep my paws firmly on the ground. But birds love resting there, especially in winter. Power lines give off a little heat, so it's a good spot for birds to snuggle together and stay warm.

I talked about how they do that safely with my friend Javier Guerrero. He's a professor of electrical and computer engineering at Washington State University. He told me birds do get electrocuted on power lines sometimes. But that won't happen if the bird touches just the power line—and doesn't touch other lines or the pole at the same time.

Power lines carry electricity. To understand how this works, we have to talk about atoms. Everything in the world is made of atoms. The air, the water, the bird sitting on the power line. Even you and me. Atoms are the basic building blocks for everything.

Atoms are made of three kinds of particles: protons, neutrons and electrons. The protons and neutrons stick together in the middle of the atom. The electrons float around the outside of the atom. Electrons closer to the middle stick to the atom. But electrons farther away aren't as stuck. They can be pulled off.

Power plants use magnets to pull off electrons and send them through power lines. They flow down the power line to people's homes. That's electricity. There are also electrons in the ground.

“The electrons in the power line and the electrons in the ground want to get together,” Guerrero said. “But that's not possible unless you provide a path for them to get together. Anything you put between the power line and the ground provides a path for them to hang out.”
The big poles that hold up power lines are buried deep in the ground. If that pole touched the power line, it could be a path for electrons to get together.

But power companies stop the pole from touching the power line by installing **insulators**. They’re made of glass or plastic or some other material that electrons can’t move through easily. They cut off the path, so the electrons don’t move.

That’s why a bird can safely stand on the power line. All the electrons stay in the power line and out of the bird’s body.

But if a bird stretches its wings and touches the pole and the power line at the same time, it makes a connection between the pole and the power line. The electrons will flow through the bird’s body—also known as electrocution.

That doesn’t happen very often because power companies design their equipment to minimize accidents. Sometimes they even build nesting platforms to give birds a safe, cozy spot away from any electrical danger. Because unsafe power lines are for the birds.

Sincerely,
Dr. Universe

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Dr. Universe: Why do dogs have tails? – Bailey, 7, Ohio

Dear Bailey,

My best friend is a golden retriever. When I get home, she greets me with a goofy smile and a big wag of her fluffy tail.
I talked about why she has a tail with my friend Jillian Haines. She’s a veterinarian at Washington State University.

She told me dogs use their tails for lots of things. Tails help dogs balance while running, jumping or swimming. Tails help dogs communicate with each other and other animals. Some dogs in the Arctic—like sled dogs—use their tails to stay warm. They curl up and cover their noses with their fluffy tails.

When a dog is moving, its tail acts as a counterbalance. When you need to balance yourself, you probably stick out your arms. That’s what a dog’s tail does, too. If the dog starts tipping one way, it can stick its tail the other way to stay balanced. “It is also used for making sharp turns,” Haines said. “Breeds like greyhounds that are fast runners, have a whip-shaped tail. They can use it to make a quick turn. It also balances them when they’re jumping.”

Some dogs are good swimmers. They use their tails for balance and steering in the water. It works like a boat’s rudder.

Tails are also important for communication.

“It’s how dogs talk to each other—and it’s part of how they talk to us,” Haines said. “Depending on how that tail is held, it can tell us the dog is feeling happy or excited. It can tell us the dog is scared. It can say they’re ready to play. Or it can say to stay away.”

Not all tail wags are the same. A happy dog usually holds its tail softly and wags it in a chill way. An angry dog might wag its tail, too. That dog might hold its tail high and stiff. It may wag its tail very fast.

The direction of the tail wag sends a message, too. Dogs usually wag their tails to the right when they see something they like—such as their human. They usually wag their tails to the left when they want to stay away from something—like another aggressive dog.
But some dogs are born without long tails. These include corgis, Boston terriers, bulldogs, and some Australian shepherds and spaniels.

“For those dogs, having a tail can make it harder for them to do their jobs or can be a source of injury,” Haines said. “A low-to-the-ground herding dog could get their tail stepped on by a cow. A tail can get stuck when squeezing through obstacles or tight areas.”

So, humans have bred some dogs to have a bobtail instead of a long tail. These dogs can still wag.

“That little wagging nubbin is just as cute and rewarding to see as a big fluffy tail,” Haines said.

Just don’t tell that to my bestie.

Sincerely,
Dr. Universe

Get more questions and answers here!

Know a kid with a science question?
Help them submit it for a chance to be featured in a future Q&A.
Submit a question!

Updated PNW Horse Judges List Is Now Available!
Jennifer Leach

An updated PNW Horse Judges List is now available. It can be found at https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/2050/2023/05/PNW-Horse-Judges-3.14.23..pdf

Counties are encouraged to select 4-H Horse judges off the PNW 4-H horse judges list. However, in Washington our policy is not to mandate that judges come from this list. However, if a county choose to hire a judge that is not on the PNW 4-H horse judge’s list—we encourage the counties to select a judge that understands
4-H youth development, has access to the PNW 4-H Horse contest guide, understands and judges according to the Danish system of judging and understands the value of providing positive comments in judging. The philosophy in the Washington 4-H program in horses—is that the “judge is an educator.”

In regard to the PNW 4-H Horse Contest Guide—Washington is still waiting for the final version from our PNW partner, Oregon. In the meantime, we are working on an “addendum” to specifically outline the very minimal changes to the PNW 4-H Horse Contest Guide.

Questions? Please reach out to Jennifer Leach, State Contact for 4-H horses at jleach@wsu.edu

Q and A Sessions for the Washington 4-H Horse Program
Continue – Now On First Wednesdays!

Have questions about the Washington 4-H horse program? Our monthly Q and A for leaders, parents, members, and staff will now be meeting on the first Wednesday of each month via Zoom from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. beginning June 7th.

Zooms are structured around the theme/parameters of horses and youth development. They are more than “what are the rules.” There is also time set aside for input on future topics for subsequent Zooms. The Zoom meeting ID is 452-082-9765 with no passcode. You must have a zoom account to participate.

The meeting will be facilitated by Jennifer Leach, WSU Extension 4-H State Fair Board Staff Liaison.

Feel free to contact Jennifer with any questions at LeachJ@co.cowlitz.wa.us.
Announcement of Dressage Tests for the 2023 4-H State Fair

The dressage tests for English dressage at the 2023 4-H State Fair will be Test 3 for both Training Level 1 and First Level.

Western Dressage has come back for the 2023 4-H State Fair and Test 3 for both Basic Level and Level 1.

4-H horse members will only be able to ride either English Dressage or Western Dressage, but not both, due to time constraints related to arena time.

These tests are available on the respective governing organizations—United States Dressage Federation (USDF) for English (https://www.usdf.org/) and the Western Dressage Association of America for Western dressage (https://www.westerndressageassociation.org)

The Western Dressage Association of America is the governing body for the Washington State 4-H Horse program. The information in the 2015 PNW 4-H Horse Contest guide on page 20 is outdated. In Washington, we do not use the North American Western (NAW) dressage tests.

Reining Pattern for 2023 4-H State Fair Now Available

The 4-H State Fair reining pattern is now posted on the horse page on the WSU 4-H webpage located at https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/projects/animal-science/companion-performance/horse/
Reining will once again be offered at State Fair for Seniors only. The reining pattern is the same as last year to encourage participation since this is only the second year of 4-H reining. And also includes the scoresheet as an educational and judging tool.

There will be additional reining patterns for county level use that are reflective of basic reining and/or introductory reining. More to come next week. For those who do reining—it is a series of circles, stop, back, figure 8, flying changes, roll backs, and/or spins. And based on skill level and/or complexity of the series of movements.

*Submitted by Jennifer Leach, Chair of the “Ad Hoc Reining Committee” and 4-H State Fair board 4-H Staff Liaison. E-mail Jennifer at LeachJ@co.cowlitz.wa.us.*