Welcome to the…

An occasional email of announcements, reminders, and updates that just can’t wait until the next newsletter! Please print & share this information with those in your club that do not have email.

In the October 1, 2010 edition:

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1. Support 4-H or apply for a scholarship from JCPenney – now through October 3
JCPenney is offering two opportunities to benefit youth through its JCPenneyCaresContest. They have been longtime supporters of 4-H, especially of afterschool programs.

VOTE FOR 4-H ON FACEBOOK – vote every day!
Everyone is invited to vote for their favorite of four afterschool programs. The winning program receives $250,000. To vote, “like” the JCPenney page or JCP Teen page. Click on the tab to “vote.” You will need to fill out a short registration the first time you visit. Then, click on the 4-H clover and submit your vote. You can vote every day through October 3.

SCHOLARSHIP – teens may apply
JCPenneyCares also includes a scholarship contest for youth ages 13-18. Submit a 250 word essay that highlights your service to the community, and a photo of you in action. Applications are due October 3.

Grand Prize Winner: $50,000 scholarship and $50,000 charity donation
Second Place: $30,000 scholarship and $30,000 charity donation
Third Place: $20,000 scholarship and $20,000 charity donation
Plus! 50 finalists are awarded a $3,000 scholarship and $3,000 charity donation each.
2. **2010 – 2011 enrollment forms now available**
The new, updated enrollment forms for 2010-2011 are now available at the Extension office. If your Annual 4-H Club / Independent Registration form has been turned in, your packet is waiting to be picked up. Please stop by the Extension office during business hours or Advisory meetings. Any packets not picked up will be mailed on October 14.

If you haven’t turned in the Annual 4-H Club / Independent Registration form, it’s not too late. Remember, we can’t accept any leader or member enrollments for your club until the 4-H Club / Independent Registration form is turned in. Need extras? They’re available at the Extension office and online at [http://extension.oregonstate.edu/clackamas/enrollment](http://extension.oregonstate.edu/clackamas/enrollment).

3. **Spend time at the Coast learning about Natural Resources**
The first Natural Resources School will be presented by OSU Extension this fall. This is going to be a one-day event on Saturday October 23rd, 2010 at Oregon Coast Community College in South Beach (near Newport). There will be over 40 classes offered with 10 classes and field classes being offered concurrently at any one time. We start at 8:30 am and end by about 5:00 pm. There is something for everyone who is interested in nature, gardening, and the environment. Please see the list of classes and speakers online at [http://extension.oregonstate.edu/lincoln/natural-resources-school](http://extension.oregonstate.edu/lincoln/natural-resources-school). Registration closes October 15.

4. **Donation of Clothing for a Service Project**
The ACTIVATE OREGON Program would like to make a donation to a 4-H group that is planning a community service project that would involve a contribution of personal items to needy youth or adults. Specifically, the donation includes about 75 new shirts (sizes XS to XL) from Columbia Sportswear. The shirts are light weight, mostly short-sleeve shirts, many different colors, for males and females, children and adults.

A 4-H club or group of independent 4-H members may submit a proposal for use of the Columbia Sportswear shirts, by completing the three (3) statements and taking the steps listed below. (One or two proposals will be selected to receive the shirts.) The shirts can be part of a community service or civic engagement project. By accepting and using this donation, a 4-H group can practice learning in one or more of the four essential elements of 4-H: belonging, mastery, independence, and generosity.

   a. Our 4-H club/group will practice *(name one or more of the four Essential Elements)*, by using Columbia Sportswear shirts to...
   b. The donated shirts can make a big difference in this project because… *(No more than 1 paragraph.)*
   c. The 4-H name and emblem will be visible during our project because we will… *(No more than one paragraph.)*
   d. AND, List the county name, group name, and participating 4-H member names, at the end of the proposal.
   e. THEN, e-mail the proposal to: marilyn.lesmeister@oregonstate.edu BY NOVEMBER 1, 2010. (In the SUBJECT LINE, note “Proposal to use Columbia Sportswear Shirts.”)

5. **Take the Bird Chow Challenge!**
Birds can have funny eating habits, just like we do. The Celebrate Urban Birds project at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology would like you to submit your observations of interesting or unusual bird feeding behavior for its Bird Chow Challenge contest. “Take a walk outside – you might see pigeons trying to snag a piece of pizza in the park or a flock of Cedar Waxwings scarfing up berries from a bush,” says project leader Karen Purcell. “Maybe a gull will steal your sandwich! Look for a horde of grackles going nuts at a feeder, or an American Robin tagging along after a farmer plowing his field.”

Entries can be digital photos, artwork, or video – even a story or a poem. Just show or describe some avian food follies! [Have a look at some of the entries received so far.](http://extension.oregonstate.edu/clackamas/enrollment) Prizes include bird feeders, nest boxes, sound CDs, guides, books, posters, and much more. We’ll send the first 50 entrants a copy of our poster showing some behaviors of American Crows, Blue Jays, and other closely-related species.
Email your entry to urbanbirds@cornell.edu:
1. Write Bird Chow-Your First and Last Name-Your City and State in the subject line.
2. In the email, you MUST include your name, mailing address, and location where photos were taken.
3. Tell us why you submitted your entry to the contest.
4. Choose your best/favorite entry and send just that one, please!
5. Read the terms of agreement
6. If you agree to the terms above, send us your entry before November 1, 2010.

Visit the Celebrate Urban Birds website for more information.

6. Be the Oregon State Park’s Youth Ambassador!
Are you between the ages of 16 – 26? Do you like to take photos or capture your outdoor adventures on video? Love to blog about your outdoor recreational activities and share your creative streak? You can be… Oregon State Park’s Youth Ambassador!

If selected as Oregon’s State Parks Youth Ambassador, you will have the opportunity to travel around our beautiful state capturing photos and video footage and creating dynamic on-line logs to promote the natural, cultural, recreational and wellness value of Oregon’s State Parks. To request a volunteer application, contact Jill Nishball, OPRD Youth Services Program Coordinator at 503-986-0752 or e-mail at jill.nishball@state.or.us.

7. Fill your freezer with meat raised the 4-H way
At this time of year, many of our 4-H members have market beef, sheep, swine, or goats ready to be processed and go into your freezer. A 4-H raised animal is typically the same or better quality that you will find in the supermarket, was raised with care, and the sale benefits a young person in our community. The price is less than if you purchased the same cuts from the supermarket too, and many families chose to buy ½ or ¼ of an animal to make it even more affordable. Contact a local 4-H livestock club or see the opportunity below.

Jeromy and Briana Lee have several beef for sale this year. They are 4-H raised, grain fed beef. If you or anyone you know are interested please call 503-266-5667 or email.

8. Small Farm Newsletter now available online
The Fall 2010 Oregon Small Farm News has been posted at http://smallfarms.oregonstate.edu/newsletter

Featuring:
- Getting Livestock Farms Ready for Winter
- USDA-Inspected Poultry Processing Scio, OR
- Getting in the Tractor Seat, Some for the First Time
- New Publication Helps Farmers Conserve Energy with Tractor Ballasting
- Incubating New Farmers
- Measuring Soil pH
- New Rainwater Harvesting Manual for Pro and Novice Alike
- Establishing Winter Cover Crops
- Oregon Tilth Offers Organic Certification and Natural Resources Cross-Training Materials
- Agricultural Exchange: The Experience of a Lifetime
- Calendar