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Calendar of Events:

January:
___1, Thursday ................. New Years Holiday, OSU Extension office closed
___6 & 8, ................. New Leaders Training, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., 2-part, OSU Extension office
___20, Tuesday ............... Horse Leaders Meeting, 7:00 p.m., OSU Extension office
___19, Monday ............... Martin Luther King Day, OSU Extension office closed

February:
___2, Monday ............... Ambassadors Mtg., 6:15; Leaders Association Mtg., 7:30 p.m. OSU Ext. office
___7, Saturday ............ New Leaders Training, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., OSU Extension office
___17, Tuesday ............. Horse Leaders Meeting, 7:00 p.m., OSU Extension office
___21, Saturday ............ Columbia County Horse Classic, Columbia County Events Complex

4-H News to Use

Winter/Early Spring 4-H Leaders Meetings

The next General 4-H Leaders meeting will be held on Monday, February 2\textsuperscript{nd}. All meetings are scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. in the OSU Extension office conference room. Since weather could be a factor at this time of the year, you may want to call the office to confirm on the day of the meeting. Dates for the next two upcoming meetings are: April 6\textsuperscript{th}, and May 4\textsuperscript{th}. We look forward to seeing you there, and really need your very valuable experience and input as we go into this New Year!
Off to Teen Retreat we GO!

The Camp Committee is working on Teen Retreat 2009. This year the location of Teen Retreat will be at Camp Kiwanilong in Warrenton, Oregon.

It will be the weekend of April 3-5\(^{th}\) (Friday evening, all day Saturday and home on Sunday). Please also remember that for those who are considering serving as 4-H Summer Camp Counselors, this is a great opportunity for you to learn skills that will assist you at camp. It also allows you to begin building bonds with others who may also be at camp and gives the Camp Committee opportunity to see you in action. So plan to attend this retreat and get a jump on your leadership development program. Information will be mailed out to each 8-12 grade 4-H'er after the first of the year.

State 4-H Scholarships up to $14,000 available

Complete information for the 2009 State 4-H Scholarships is now available on the State 4-H Web site at http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/oregon-4h-scholarships

The Web site also contains the 2009 forms for County Submission of Resumes for State 4-H Scholarships, as well as the Statement of Financial Need form. Please note that a SAT or ACT score is required for all State 4-H Scholarship applications. Applications without official scores will not be considered.

The application due date for the State Fair 4-H Scholarships is March 1. Grades 10-12, Senior 4-H members who have been actively involved in State Fair participation are encouraged to apply. Complete information on State Fair scholarships and the State Fair Achievement Contest is also available on the State 4-H Web site.

School Camp and 4-H: 9\(^{th}\) Through 12\(^{th}\) Graders Wanted!

The 4-H program and OSU Extension is a partner in the Community Schools grant that was awarded to St. Helens Middle School. This partnership will allow for a number of new opportunities for both leaders and members.

The School Camp program will need camp counselors and workshop presenters for a weekend camp experience, March 6\(^{th}\) – 8\(^{th}\), 2009. Enrolled 9\(^{th}\) - 12\(^{th}\) grade 4-H members will be invited to apply for counselor and workshop presenter positions. The campers attending will be youth who are participating in the St. Helens Community School Program. The 4-H program will only be providing support staff for this camp.

There will be some limitations for the 9\(^{th}\) graders applying for the counselor and presenter positions, in that the state camping policy states that “counselors must be two full years older than the youth they supervise”. So, the number required will be based on the number of 7\(^{th}\) grade campers attending. There may be other opportunities that unfold as this whole program takes shape and planning progresses.

Continue to watch the newsletter for details, applications and deadlines. But the date is already set, so you can at least get it on your calendar if you’re interested.

New~New~New: The Lego Robotics Club

As you may have seen earlier in the 4-H Fair Book last year, the 4-H Program now offers Lego Robotics at the club, county and state level. I am proud to say that Columbia County has recruited a leader that is an expert in Lego Robotics and he knows others that will help him. So, this project has a very strong foundation and members of all ages (4\(^{th}\) - 12\(^{th}\)) will be able to investigate building and programming Lego ‘contraptions’.

This will be a county wide club and will meet in the St. Helens area. If you are interested in membership in this club, please contact the office ASAP for more details.

Know Your State Government (KYSG) for March 5\(^{th}\) - 7\(^{th}\), 2009

Come to Salem Thursday, March 5\(^{th}\) through Saturday, March 7\(^{th}\) to meet new friends and experience the Oregon state government. The conference center will be in Salem at the Phoenix Grand Hotel, just a few blocks from the State Capitol Building. The program is designed for teens, ages 13 to 19 or grades 9 to 12. 4-H members, their friends, and
other interested teens are invited to attend Oregon’s Know Your State Government program. The registration fee will be $135, due Friday, March 7th. (Registration materials are on the State 4-H website) The registration fee includes: all program materials, lodging (4 teens per room) at the Phoenix Grand, breakfast each morning, dinner Thursday evening, entertainment Friday evening, snacks, and lunch on Saturday. There are a limited number of Katy Zollner Memorial Scholarships available to youth based on merit. Please note that scholarships are fully funded. The application is found on the web: http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/\textit{know-your-government}

Start Thinking About: Almost Free Money

This money will only cost you some time! There are county-only scholarships that 4-H members may apply for.

Two are designed to enhance a member’s ability to continue their education at the post-secondary level. The other is to allow a member to attend OSU Summer Conference at a reduced cost.

High school seniors:

- **“William E. Durrant”** - a $500 scholarship. The completed scholarship packet is due into the Extension office by April 1, 5 p.m. The packet will include an application form, one page narrative, letters of recommendation; you will need to provide your school transcript and your completed/current 4-H Record book. Call the Extension office for this packet or go to http://extension.oregonstate.edu/columbia/4-H/4hforms.php

- **“4-H Leaders Memorial Scholarship”** - $500. The completed packet is due into the Extension office April 1, 5 p.m. The packet requires information on your 4-H projects, goals achieved in 4-H, 4-H experiences, growth through the 4-H program, how 4-H has directed your future, your qualifications for the scholarship and where the scholarship will be used. Call the Extension office for this packet or go to http://extension.oregonstate.edu/columbia/4-H/4hforms.php

7-12th grade 4-H’ers:

- **“Fluhrer Endowment”** - a full or partial scholarship to OSU Summer Conference. The application form and the requested information are due in the Extension office May 1, 5 p.m. This form will have you explain your desire to attend, what you hope to learn and how you plan to use the information you gain during the program. The form is in the Extension office, http://extension.oregonstate.edu/columbia/4-H/4hforms.php

Spring Contest is right around the corner, and the new State Fair Iron Chef Competition!

Get ready for the big event this April, at the St. Helens High School. So all you Intermediates and Seniors prepare and practice for the Mini-meal and Food Preparation Contests; plus Junior Presentations will all be here soon! **Special Note: Junior Favorite Foods and Sandwich Contest will be held during County Fair this year.**

And for State Fair 2009, there is a new competition called Iron Chef! The details are outlined on the state 4-H website. http://oregon.4h.oregonstate.edu/sites/default/files/4-H_Iron_Chef_Competition_10-08.pdf

Photography Sizes Reminder for your Fair Exhibits

We know, fair already??? But we wanted to make sure you had your prints made up with the correct sizes to qualify for the county and state fair requirements, as we had some exhibits oversized or not mounted correctly and they were disqualified before fair even started. They will be measured at the county fair, so be prepared! Here are the official rules regarding photography exhibits!

**Rules:**

4. All single images must be between 5”x7” and 13”x17” except as noted below. They may be mounted only or mounted and matted using mat board or heavy weight poster board. **Final exhibit with mat or mount must be no less than 8” x 10” and may not exceed 16”x20”.

5. **Exceptions** to photo size limits include:

   - Class 241 100 09_ Panoramic - photos must be at least twice as long in one direction as they are in the other
direction. Matted or mounted exhibit may not exceed 16”x20”.
Class 241 100 10_ Series or Story - may include photos of any size mounted on a single board not to exceed 16”x20”.
Class 241 100 11_ Creative Process – original image may be 4”x6”; final image must be at least 5”x7”; Final mount showing both photos must not exceed 16”x20”.

365, That’s it, There’s NO MORE!!

One may consider that 365 of any thing is a lot, 365 cars would fill a good size parking lot, 365 market steers would produce a lot of T-bone steaks and hamburgers, the wool from 365 sheep would make a lot of wool scarves. So, why then is having 365 days so hard to schedule 4-H events and activities?
The answer is because we each have our own 365 days, and we schedule our own events, the events of our families and the activities of individual family members. By the time that all of those dates are on the calendar, there are very few dates that are open and free for everyone. So, with all of that said, please know that when we set 4-H events for 2009 we ‘have and/or will’ set them for the time that best fits the program and the facility where the event is being held.

I can promise you that we do not purposely set events on dates to exclude any one person or family. There are times we know we will have a conflict, but have no other choice if we still offer the event. When these conflicts occur, we hope that as leaders, parents and adults, you will help your youth member weigh the pros and cons of each event. Consider what is most important to the youth/family and then make the best decision.

From the office, we would love to have every youth at every event; we know that is not humanly possible, even if the planets and stars align. So, we promise to provide solid educational programs for those who can attend, and we hope that your other events will be successful and meaningful for you and meet your personal goals.

Livestock and Small Animal Projects: Now is the Time!

Members who are considering Livestock/Small Animal projects should begin now considering how and where they will acquire project animals. If you are planning on purchasing an animal, there are several things you need to consider:
• purchase price
• # of animals you can feed and care for
• total project expenses
• housing for the animal
• transportation of the animal
• class or breed limitations at Fair
• what will be done with the animal after the Fair

All of these questions need to be answered before you purchase any animal project. This should assist you in preparing for your project from beginning to end.

Where do you go for the answers to these and other questions you may have? Your project literature will address most of them. However, your leader can probably give you more current information associated with your project and give you ideas that are available to you in your area. You can also call the OSU Extension office.

The important thing to remember is that you have to ask the questions, if and when you do not understand. "The only dumb question is the one not asked."
Animal/Livestock Ownership Deadline

For animals to be eligible to be shown at County Fair, 2009, they must have been owned and cared for by the member on or before June 1st, 2009. This is for any and all animals that do not have another printed/stated date in the fair book. Exceptions would be market animals that have “tag days” or others that have to be a specific number of days of age at fair, etc.

If you have questions or need more clarification on this, please call Woody at the OSU Extension office. In the event, that a member has complied with the date and has unforeseen situations after the date, again please contact Woody. All reasonable efforts will be explored to see that the members have the best opportunity to participate.

(Note: Lease and Borrow agreements are now up to you individually. We have samples that you may choose to use but are not 4-H specific. A copy of your lease/borrow agreement will still be required to be on file at the Extension office.)

Horses, Hoofs and Hay!

Horse Project Date

The date for the Horse Project will remain April 1st of the current year. This is set by the state Horse Contest Guide Book (EB 1974). All members must submit a COPY of the front page of the Horse Project Record for each horse that they may be planning to show for the current fair year by April 1st. Please remember that those who submit after the deadline, will not be eligible for special awards or state fair, but are still eligible to show at county fair.

(Note: Lease and Borrow agreements are now up to you individually. We have samples that you may choose to use but are not 4-H specific. A copy of your lease/borrow agreement will still be required to be on file at the Extension office with your Project page copies.)

Columbia County Horse Classic is right around the corner!

Don’t forget the Columbia Classic on February 21st! We know with the holidays, it is a rushed and frantic time, but the Classic is a requirement for Intermediates and Seniors to qualify for State Fair in July. We really encourage everyone to participate in the fun and education. Juniors are especially encouraged as the requirement will be something they will need to be ready for when they become an Intermediate.

The Horse Skill Building Track, Junior members only, is a new option for Junior members attending Columbia County Horse Classic. This will be an opportunity for the Junior members to gain horse knowledge in their own track at their own pace. The track will cover the same contest categories, but in a less stressful more relaxed way and with a whole lot of fun built in. members will leave the event with more answers than questions, unlike some other events of the past.

Please encourage your Junior’s who may be terrified/horrified/mortified of the ‘traditional’ Horse Classic events to come see what is in store for them!!

Besides it’s a lot of fun!

Show your knowledge and prowess with your team members, and learn a few new details about your favorite friend, your horse!

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A Night Under the Stars

Please join us as we celebrate the Coronations of

2009 Miss Northwest Professional Rodeo Association (NPRA) Mackenzie Carr
2009 Columbia County Fair and Rodeo Court:
Queen Katie VanWinkle, Princess Kailee Murdock, Princess Leilani Schmidt

Saturday, January 3, 2009, 6:00 p.m., Columbia County Events Complex and Fairgrounds Pavilion, St. Helens, Oregon
Dinner, Silent & Live Auctions, Coronation Ceremonies, Entertainment
Advance tickets - $12 each ～～～ Tickets at the door - $18 each
For information or tickets, please contact Jean McPherson at cerodeo@hotmail.com or 503-481-3384

Horses For You!

Miniature Appaloosa. 3 years. Very cute and sweet. Has foundered, not lame now but will need someone who can keep a close eye on his feed and/or a dry lot. Free to good home! Email Abby at mrkowebowitz@msn.com.

17-year-old sorrel Appendix Quarter Horse mare for full lease and possibly for sale. She does pretty much everything: gaming, jumping, western, trail, cow stuff, English, and she's good at showmanship. I've made it to state every year with her and I've won multiple 1sts and 2nds in state in gaming. Anybody can ride her! She's done 4-H for 6 years and OHSET for 3 years. For more info contact Nicole at 503-556-9689, or at 1-503-791-1888, or email at blue_fox28@hotmail.com.

And yet another horse that is need of a home. It is free and pending auction if not placed. Her name is Montana, is an Arabian and is guessed about 8 years old. Contact info is Chrystal at summermistlnsdep@earthlink.net.

Record Books and You!

Inquiring minds want to know! What exactly is the State Senior Resume Format?

We thought you'd never ask! Come join us on January 12, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. here at the O.S.U. Extension office for a workshop to help you create and answer all your burning state resume format questions! We will have committee members there to help you, so bring your record books with you and be ready to learn the whole story…..or at least the story about the State Senior Resume format. You must RSVP by January 8th to sign up for this great learning experience!

Recognitions!!

Last year we had a great group of members who really stepped up to the plate and got things done. Many were seniors and they have gone on to new adventures and learning new life experiences. But some are still with us, contributing and offering service to the 4-H program. These members had to apply and were interviewed and all were chosen to represent us at many 4-H events and non 4-H events.


So we say THANK YOU to our 4-H Ambassadors! Taking the time out of busy school and school sports schedules, meeting most of the months and planning events through-out the year. They are our best and brightest stars, so if you see them, give them your thanks and encouragement!

If you haven’t re-enrolled for the 2009 year, please use our website for printable forms and turn in your re-enrollment paperwork now. We are hoping for February as the end of all current members and leaders re-enrolled, with only new members to add in before the spring events and activities really ramp up for us here in the office. 

So please help us with your promptly turned in paperwork!