We are going on a Zoo Snooze!

See the lions up close and personal! Tour the zoo in the dark! Learn how animals are trained to allow keepers to do health checks. Sleep overnight in the zoo! All of these activities will be part of the Zoo Snooze field trip we are taking on March 14, 2020. Condon participants will board the bus at 9 am and we will meet Arlington participants at 10 am. Along the way, we’ll have lunch at Sorosis Park in The Dalles and later hike to the top of Multnomah Falls (weather permitting). The Zoo Snooze begins at 5 pm and ends at 10 am. We’ll stay an additional 3 hours at the zoo to ride the train and tour in the daylight.

Zoo Snooze health form (enclosed) and $20 fee must be submitted to the OSU Extension Office by February 27th at 5 pm. Full cost of this trip would be $150 per person. We are very grateful to the Arlington School District for donating bus transportation and to the 4-H Ambassadors for donating $1000 from their fund raising. Gilliam 4-H Association is generously making this trip possible. A minimum of 6 chaperons will be needed (at least two male). Let me know if you are interested in serving as a chaperon. Up-to-date background checks are required.
Time is running out for these important deadlines!

- **4-H Enrollment**: due by January 30th. Late enrollment will need agent approval.
- **Camp Counselor Applications**: due January 31st.
- **State 4-H Scholarship Applications**: due February 20th.

Youth Voices in Action

**Dates:** March 23-26, 2020  
**Location:** Salem Grand Hotel and Convention Center  
**Cost:** $60 with completed Jaeger Scholarship application (or $250)  
**Website:** [https://extension.oregonstate.edu/4h/youth-voices-action](https://extension.oregonstate.edu/4h/youth-voices-action)  
Registration is currently open and closes March 1st.

Youth Voices in Action is a 4 day (3 night) statewide 4-H civic engagement conference for 8th – 12th grade youth. Modeled after National 4-H Conference, this event introduces older youth to the legislative processes at our state capitol in Salem as well as connecting and working with teens from throughout the state. The purpose of the conference is to prepare youth to be future leaders. The conference provides opportunities for youth to learn about government agencies, learn to think critically and share ideas, engage in problem solving, practice public speaking, and give a public presentation.

New 4-H agent update

**Good News!** Three very qualified candidates were interviewed for the 4-H Coordinator/SNAP position. The search committee has made their recommendations known to OSU representatives, however, references and backgrounds still need to be verified and then the 4-H and SNAP program administrators will make the final decision as to whom the position is offered. This should happen within a month. (I know it is an excruciatingly slow process!) I plan to be very available throughout the year and especially during the first several months of the transition.
Rural to Urban Exchange
City youth want to visit our rural county and experience life as we know it. Homes are needed to host students in grades 6-8 (two to a home) on April 4th (late afternoon arrival) through April 9th (early morning departure). Students will attend school on Monday, April 8th. Your home does not have to have youth of the same age.

The reverse exchange is available to Gilliam County youth in grades 6-8. Members will stay (in groups of two) in a family home and explore the sights of Portland. Youth will also attend one day of school in the greater Portland area. Dates for this exchange are March 13-17. Contact the OSU Extension Office readily if you would be interested in either of these opportunities.

Oregon 4-H Japanese Exchange Program
25 youth and 3 adults are looking for host families July 26th-August 21st.

Experience the richness of the world without leaving home! Open your home to host a Japanese youth age (11-16) this summer. These eager kids want to experience American culture, make friends, and improve their English by staying with your family. (You don’t have to be active in 4-H to participate.) Don’t miss out – apply now!
https://www.states4hexchange.org/host-family/application

Academic Year Programs (AYP)
Host an international high school youth for 10 months and bring the richness of the world to your home!

American families have the opportunity to host a high school student for one academic year (August-June). Students are enrolled in public high school and participate in school activities as members of their host families. States’ 4-H (the organization that works with us to enable international experiences) places students from Japan, South Korea, and Eurasia/Africa through AYP. Our Eurasian and African students are scholarship recipients participating in either the Future Leaders Exchange Program (FLEX) or Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange & Study Program (YES), which are sponsored by the US Department of State, Bureau of Educational & Cultural Affairs.

State coordinators and local representatives in the host community provide support services for host families and exchange students throughout the school year.

Are you interested in other countries? Would you like to welcome an international student into your home? If so, check out the link for more information and to apply! https://www.states4hexchange.org/year-long/
February
5  Fair Board Meeting, 6 pm, Fairgrounds
9  Ambassadors, 1:30 pm, Fairgrounds
    International Club, 2:30 pm, Fairgrounds
10  Stitch in Time, 2 pm, Condon Day Care
16-17  Camp Counselor Training, Condon High School
18  Wingin’ It Poultry Club, 5:30 pm, Fairgrounds
23  Prime Rib, 1 pm, Fairgrounds
27  Zoo Snooze health form and $20 fee due

March
10  4-H Association Meeting, 6 pm, Fairgrounds
14  Zoo Snooze
14  Beef Weigh-In, 1 pm, Campbell Ranch
16  Wingin’ It Poultry Club, 5:30 pm, Fairgrounds
23-26  Youth Voices in Action
25  A Stitch in time, 9 am, Condon Library

June
14  Swine/Sheep weigh-in, 4-6 pm
18-21  4-H Camp, grades 4-6
24-27  OSU Summer Conference, grades 7-12