

MASON COUNTY 4-H NEWS BLAST

February 6, 2020

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FAMILY ROBOTICS NIGHTS

Jump in and have fun with us at Family Robotics Nights. STEM is a major focus in education, and robotics is a great way for youth to discover the fun in science and technology. We will get hands-on with robots, Legos, electronics, computer coding and more each month! Family Robotics is a free series for youth in grades K – 6. We meet the third Wednesday of each month beginning February 19 from 5:30 – 7:00pm at Memorial Hall 210 W Franklin Street in Shelton. Registration is free, please call Kathy at 360-427-9670 Ext. 681 or email fuller@wsu.edu. Feel free to share this information with your friends and neighbors, as this program is open to all! Please note: this is not a drop-off program, for safety reasons parents must remain on site.

RECORD BOOK WORKSHOP

If 4-H Record Books are a mystery to you, join us on Tuesday, February 25 for a fun, hands-on workshop and learn the in's and out's of 4-H record keeping. Bring your Record Book with you and get the answers to all of your questions! The workshop is set for February 25, 5:30 – 7:00 pm at Memorial Hall 210 W Franklin Street. To register contact Kathy 360-427-9670 Ext. 681 or fuller@wsu.edu.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION DATES

In 4-H, idea sharing in a structured way is called a public presentation. 4-H members are expected to give public presentations as part of their total 4-H experience. Mason County 4-H policy states that junior, intermediate & senior 4-H members must give a county or club level presentation to attend county events such as camp and fair. A county presentation is required for out of county events such as State 4-H Fair. Public Presentations dates are set for:

- Friday, **April 24**, 4:30pm – 7:00pm, Memorial Hall in Shelton
- Saturday, **May 2**, 10:00am – 12:00pm, Tractor Supply in Shelton
- Belfair date and location TBA soon

Although we highly encourage all members to give a county level public presentation, a club presentation is an alternative. A club presentation is given in a club setting rather than a public venue, club level presentations limit the member's participation to club and county events only, and they would not be eligible for State 4-H Fair participation. The deadline for submitting a club presentation scoresheet to the Extension Office is May 1.

RECRUITING CAMP COUNSELORS

We are currently recruiting teen counselors and counselors in training to be a part of 4-H Summer Camp. Age requirements are 14-15 for CIT and 16-18 for counselors. The camp committee meets the fourth Sunday of each month at 6:00 in the Washington Room at Mason General Hospital. Contact Camp Director Leanne at 360-490-8793 for more information.

GETTING READY TO PRESENT

Learning how to communicate your thoughts and ideas to others is an important life skill and helpful as you prepare your 4-H Public Presentation. "[Getting to the Point](#)" is a publication full of ideas, recommendations and tips for shaping your effective, organized, and successful presentation. Leaders may also want to review the [4-H Leader Guide](#), which defines the 4-H leader's role in presentations and has suggestions for how leaders can provide guidance for youth – from the beginner to seasoned presenters. So...choose a subject, gather information, work out a plan, practice, and get ready to deliver a memorable presentation! Public Presentation dates for 2020 will be announced soon.

IMPORTANT EQUINE FAIR INFORMATION

If your club will have members participating in fair with their horse, your club is required to send at least one representative to the March 2 and June 1 Grays Harbor Horse Council meetings. For your convenience Kathy will be hosting the meetings remotely at the Mason County Extension Office. The meetings begin at 6:30. Watch for more detailed equine fair information coming to your inbox soon.

WASHINGTON STATE 4-H SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Washington State 4-H is pleased to offer a number of different scholarships. Current and former Washington State 4-H members are eligible to apply. Applicants must have accumulated at least two years of 4-H affiliation. Previous Washington State 4-H scholarship recipients are not eligible to apply. Applicants must be a senior attending an accredited two or four year college or university in the fall. Additional information is available at <http://extension.wsu.edu/4h/youth/scholarship-opportunities/>. The application opens January 1, and is due no later than March 15 at 9:59pm.

MASON COUNTY 4-H SCHOLARSHIPS

The Mason County 4-H Council offers annual scholarships to graduating high school seniors currently enrolled in the Mason County 4-H Program. Packets have been mailed to eligible members.

SHOOTING FOR THE STARS

The Mason County 4-H Sharpshooters club is not just teaching youth to shoot, but helping them take proper aim at life. Join us for Friday night archery practice or Saturday morning shotgun practice. Youth who participate in 4-H Shooting Sports learn marksmanship, the safe and responsible use of firearms, the principles of hunting and conservation ethics. If you know someone who is between the ages of 8 - 18 and would like to participate in this project please contact club leader Aaron at 757-339-3632 or decksnipe@gmail.com or the 4-H office at 360-427-9670 Ext. 681.

SEWING & STITCHERY EXPO

Get your club together and plan to attend the 2020 Sewing & Stitchery Expo. The Expo takes place February 27-March 1 at the Puyallup Fairgrounds. Youth Sew is new for 2020, with many classes specifically designated as appropriate for youth. This is the nation's largest

sewing show and is tailored for novices & experts alike! There are opportunities to attend outstanding workshops and shop for great products. Get inspired to create! Go to <http://www.sewexpo.com/> for more information or stop by the Extension Office to pick up an Expo Guidebook and free youth passes for Sunday, March 1.

FAIR PLANNING BEGINS NOW

The Grays Harbor 4-H Fair committee recently met to begin planning for the 2020 fair. The committee identified areas needing volunteers and are asking for help with:

1. Public Presentations. Serve as a public presentation superintendent for one or all five days of the fair. This position can be shared among several people.
2. Kitchen Activities. Serve as kitchen activities superintendent for one or all five day of the fair. This position can be shared among several people.
3. Creative Arts/Fine Arts. Serve as a co-superintendent, help with set-up of the department prior to fair, direct judging, assist with exhibit entry and display.
4. Still Life Activities. Looking for a group of teens to plan and facilitate still life building daily activities. Think Legos, arts & crafts, corn hole, pin the tail, etc.
5. Educational Posters. Serve as the educational poster superintendent and coordinate intake, judging, and display of these entries.
6. Judges. We are in need of judges for all still life areas. If you or someone you know has specific knowledge or experience in any of the still life areas let us know. We will provide training and guidance.
7. Planning. Provide input by attending fair committee meetings. Attend in person or remotely using your phone or computer.

Since Grays Harbor has so generously included Mason County 4-H members in their fair, it is important that we provide support before, during, and after the fair. Let us know where you can lend a hand, contact Kathy 360-427-9670 Ext. 681 or fuller@wsu.edu.

Archived copies of previous weeks "Mason County 4-H News Blast" are available at <http://extension.wsu.edu/mason/4-h-youth-families/4-h-newsblast/>. Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension office. Reasonable accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities and special needs who contact Kathy Fuller at least two weeks prior to program start at 303 N 4th Street Shelton, WA 98584, fuller@wsu.edu, 360-427-9670 Ext 681.