



# GRANT COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

December 2025

Happy December

I hope you all enjoyed the Thanksgiving holiday. It is always a nice opportunity to reflect on the past year and begin to consider the one ahead. In this newsletter, I would like to provide a program enrollment update and then a summary of the livestock sale at the Grant County Fair this past August along with some upcoming dates. Our office will be closed the week leading up to Christmas (December 22-26) due to under staffing.

As of today, there are 185 member enrollments that have been started but not approved...either there is an awareness form missing, a payment that has not been received, or there is not a leader to lead the project yet. Thirty-nine adult volunteers have fully completed their process and over twenty have completed everything except their online profile. If you are in this latter category, please update your 4Honline profile so we can approve it, it may be holding up some youth memberships from being processed. There are currently twenty-eight youth members who are completely enrolled. Please remember, youth and adult volunteers should be fully enrolled before they start meeting. There will once again be a 25 dollar late fee applied on February 1.

Each year around Thanksgiving, I send general summaries of the Grant County Fair Livestock Sale to everyone who purchased 4-H animals. On Friday of the Grant County Fair, 320 4-H youth sold animals. Over 78,000 pounds of live 4-H youth development beef, swine, sheep, and goat projects walked through the auction ring. This does not include the forty-five combined rabbit and poultry projects that were carried into the sale in the arms of members, nor does it reflect the dairy sale heifers who have since given birth to a calf and are producing milk as I write and, in a few years, will eventually be marketed as edible beef.

We are very fortunate that many of our animals enter commercial packing facilities, which provides our youth an opportunity to learn about food animal quality assurance to ensure healthy carcasses enter the food chain. Although some meat is processed and consumed locally, most of the animals enter the commercial food supply chain and are distributed far and wide supplying both domestic and international markets. This is not something that happens at every county fair!

This year's livestock sale brought in over three-quarters of a million dollars in donations (not counting individual add-on payments). The beef members received average prices over 1.5 times the live market value of their animals, with total average donations of over \$1,800 apiece. Dairy heifers received average donations of \$580 per animal. Swine projects sold for 9.5 times the animal's market value, with members receiving an average donation of nearly 1400 dollars each. Lambs brought in 6.3 times the market price with individual donations averaging sums of over \$1,500 per youth member. The average donation above market value for each 4-H goat was over \$ 800, with the average selling price over 5 times their market value. Rabbit and poultry project members received average donations of over \$ 790 and \$ 525, respectively, above the market value of their animals.

The support that our local community provides for our membership is outstanding! If you have not thanked your buyer, please remember to do so. Each year is different, and prices may vary—accept the gift graciously. It is truly a gift. Many are donating because they believe in the learning opportunities and the value that 4-H provides young people. It is a beautiful thing.

This summer, our country will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. How do you plan on celebrating? What should we do as a 4-H program to mark the occasion? The US Department of State has some interesting information and even some YouTube videos highlighting American historical events and personalities. Please reach out to me at the office if you have ideas and thoughts on how we can mark the occasion.

There will not be a mid-month update for December.

Wishing you a joyful Christmas season and prosperous New Year.

Carolyn

## Member Agreement Forms

Remember all 4-H members will need to submit completed [4-H Member Agreement](#) forms before enrollment can be processed.

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## Know Your Government (KYG) February 2026



Join us for an exciting youth conference looking at civic engagement and leadership! This year's theme is how a bill becomes a law and will look more closely at the Legislative System. Please contact the Extension Office to be put on the delegation list. Initial meetings should start in mid-December. This opportunity is for high school aged youth.

\*Grant County Leaders Council has set aside funds to support youth and the chaperone attending KYG this year. Please contact the Extension Office for more information.

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## International Exchange...travel to another country in 2026

Outbound Travel Opportunities to the following countries in the Summer of 2026.

Costa Rica (youth 15-18): June 25—July 24, 2026

Japan 8-week (youth ages 15-18): June 10—August 7, 2026

Japan 4-week (youth ages 12-18): July 8—August 7, 2026

Taiwan (youth ages 12-18): July 8—August 7, 2026

Argentina (youth ages 15-18): July 11—August 3, 2026

South Korea (youth ages 12-17): July 15—August 14, 2026

\*Program dates subject to slight change or modification



There are opportunities for adults over 21 to be chaperones.

You can start an application by visiting the online link:

[Youth Delegates](#)

[Adult Chaperones](#)

YEARLONG—a high school student stays with a host family in Washington for the school year.

SUMMER INBOUND—youth from participating countries stay with a host family for about a month. This year's dates are Thursday July 23 through Saturday August 15. Delegates will be visiting from the Japan Labo organization and Korea 4-H.

Application process includes online application, references, signed terms and conditions as well as a virtual interview. For more information, please contact Carolyn. [carolyn.russo@wsu.edu](mailto:carolyn.russo@wsu.edu)

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**There will be a late fee applied to 4-H member enrollments beginning February 1**

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## Year-End Club Paperwork

Club documents include the updated secretary book, financial report and the club plan/project list for the next program year.

Clubs cannot receive youth members until paperwork has been completed and all volunteers leading a project have approved enrollments.

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**Enrollment deadline for youth wishing to attend the Grant County Fair is April 1, 2026**

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# Dairy Sale Certificates Are Due February 1

## Get Cook'n with 4-H!

Love to cook? Want to boost leadership, public speaking, and share your Fair Foods experience? Join our monthly Zoom cooking sessions (Jan–July 2026) and lead from your own kitchen!

As a Guest Chef, you'll:

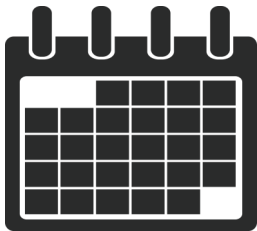
- Teach favorite recipes
- Strengthen leadership + speaking skills
- Practice for Fair exhibits
- Help newer members feel confident

Pick one or more months—sign up at least two Mondays before your session. Recipes must be tested and teachable in one hour or less. This is a youth-led space—4-H'ers teaching 4-H'ers!

Ready to lead? Contact Jennifer Snyder:

[jensnyder4h@gmail.com](mailto:jensnyder4h@gmail.com) | 509-398-6419

## Upcoming Events



September 15	All clubs' year-end paperwork is due.
December 22—26	Extension Office Holiday Closure
January 1	New Year's Day—Extension Office Closed
January 5	Get Cook'n
January 19	Martin Luther King, Jr Day—Extension Office Closed
February 1	Late Fee applied to new enrollments
February 13—16	Know Your Government
April 1	Enrollment deadline for Grant County Fair participation



4-H Grant County  
[grant.4h@wsu.edu](mailto:grant.4h@wsu.edu)  
1525 E Wheeler Road  
Moses Lake, WA 98837  
(509) 754-2011 ext. 4301

### LINKS

<a href="#">Grant County 4-H</a>	<a href="#">Volunteer Training</a>
<a href="#">4-H Tuesday News</a>	<a href="#">Washington 4-H Volunteer Orientation Modules</a>
<a href="#">WSU 4-H Youth Development Program</a>	<a href="#">WSU Put the Child First</a>
<a href="#">4HOnline Registration</a>	<a href="#">4-H Forms &amp; Materials</a>
<a href="#">Virtual 4-H Programs and Resources</a>	<a href="#">4-H Club Officer Resources</a>
<a href="#">Youth Livestock Producers</a>	<a href="#">4-H Policies and Procedures Handbook</a>
<a href="#">Report Your 4-H Volunteer Hours</a>	<a href="#">Scholarship Information</a>



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