



GRANT COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER

May 2026

Happy May,

The first of May marks the midpoint between the spring equinox and the summer solstice. Throughout the world, many cultures have May Day celebrations that rival some of the largest of the year as they usher in spring, the promise of growth, and good weather. Many of us have seen historic paintings or heard stories of dances, festivals, and dancing around the Maypole.

The Kentucky Derby will be ran this weekend, and is ran annually on the first Saturday in May. This year, there are twenty horses, making it a full field tomorrow in Louisville.

Many of our youth members will be getting their project animals if they haven't already. Be mindful of the tagging dates and ownership requirements. Health papers are very important as well. Check with your 4-H leader or contact the Extension Office if you have questions.

Below are important notices on market ear tags, upcoming state events such as the teen conference and livestock judging, the international exchange program, etc.

Wishing you a happy start to May.

Carolyn

Market Ear Tags

Swine, Goat, and Lamb tags are available at the Extension Office. Due dates for tag information are based on species ownership dates. Make sure to record your tags on the survey link by the following deadlines: Beef—April 18; Swine—May 16; Goats and Lambs—June 13

To access the survey, scan this code and complete the questionnaire. You will receive an email confirming reception of tag information.



[Dairy Certificates](#) Due May 1 for All Non-Sale Dairy Animals

WA State Livestock Judging

Saturday, June 27, 2026

Once again the state level contest is being hosted here in Moses Lake. This year, the organizers are not permitting walk in registrations the morning of the event. If you are planning on attending this contest, please sign up by May 29 using your 4honline account.

Poultry Certificates

[Poultry Certificates](#) are due to the Extension Office by June 22.

Rabbit Tattoo Clinic

The tattoo clinic will be held on Saturday, June 13 at the fairgrounds from 4 to 6 p.m.

4-H International Exchange



One month or ten months of hosting.

We are looking for host families for several high school aged youth from Japan. These students come in August and depart in June. They live with a family while they attend a local public high school. Host families do not need to have children in the home to participate in this experience. Please reach out to [Carolyn](#) for more information.

Can't commit to the school year? Try the shorter summer program. We are looking for families with youth in the home to host students from Japan and Korea this summer. The dates are Thursday, July 23, through Saturday, August 15. This means they will be gone before the Grant County fair begins. This is an experience to share your life and your culture with someone else. Host families are often surprised by how much they learn about themselves in the process. When we share and experience life together, we frequently gain more than we imagined.

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Still-Life Judge's School

May 30, in Puyallup from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

This introductory course will prepare you to become a registered WA 4-H judge in Photography, Posters, Presentations, Food Activities, or Textile Arts. It is open to current 4-H volunteers, parents, and anyone in the community interested in fair judging. To register or learn more about the \$25 full-day event, visit this [webpage](#).

Spokane Summer Horse Camp

Learn about our two summer 4-H horse camps available in Spokane County, open to currently enrolled 4-H youth. Each camp offers unique opportunities, including:

- Camp under the stars
- Bring your own horse
- Make new friends
- Learn horsemanship skills
- Trail riding, drill team, western games, cattle sorting, and more

June 24-28th Chewelah WA

July 16-19th Spokane Fair Grounds

The Membership Fee Scholarship Will Not Be Available For The 2026-2027 Program Year

Public Demonstrations

Grant County 4-H Leaders Council is covering enrollment fees for any 4-H youth who presents a public demonstration at the Grant County Fair. To be eligible, youth must present their demonstration at one of the following events and during the fair. Please RSVP.

Friday May 1 and Saturday May 2 in George—Community Hall Friday May 1 from 2:30 to 4PM and Saturday May 2 from 9:30 to 2PM, contact [Jen Snyder](#) for scheduling.

Saturday June 20 in Ephrata—Garden Oasis, contact [Janelle Todaro](#)

Friday June 26 in Moses Lake—State Junior Horse Show, contact Extension Office

Wednesday July 15 in Moses Lake—Extension Office Wednesday July 15, contact [Extension Office](#)

FairEntry is Open

You may sign up for the Grant County Fair from May 1 through July 10.



Washington Junior Horse Show

June 26—28, for more information, please visit the [Junior Horse Show Facebook](#) page

Washington State Teen Conference

June 22—25, 2026.

A unique three-day conference experience at the WSU Pullman campus. Workshops and tours focused on career exploration, college readiness, leadership, and life skill development. The conference is open to 8th-12th-grade youth. Registration space is limited. Sign up online under 'events.' This is a wonderful opportunity for high school-aged youth to travel to Pullman, stay in the dorms, eat at the dining hall, attend career workshops, meet new people, and learn more about themselves! Please contact [Carolyn](#) for more information.

Something to Consider

We have all heard about concerns regarding avian health and the spread of zoonotic diseases. Please remember that there could be a disease outbreak in any species, which could prevent you from exhibiting and selling your market project at the fair. You, as the animal owner, are responsible for the care of your animals. Understand that there is risk involved when agreeing to an animal project in 4-H, and fair participation (and the livestock sale) is never guaranteed. The state vet and other authorities are monitoring emerging disease and will make informed decisions if the need arises. Please be vigilant and prudent in your selection and care of your animals.

America 250 Spotlight

Recently, our nation has welcomed the King of England, Charles III. This visit is a pretty big deal in our nation's history, and I encourage you to watch his address to Congress. Our two nations have been intertwined for over 400 years, and even after the signing of the Declaration of Independence 250 years ago, we have continued to work together to uphold democracy around the world.

During his address to Congress, King Charles said, "The founding fathers were bold and imaginative rebels with a cause. 250 years ago, or as we say in the United Kingdom, just the other day, they declared independence by balancing contending forces and drawing strength in diversity. They united 13 desperate colonies to forge a nation on the revolutionary idea of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. They carried with them and carried forward the great inheritance of the British Enlightenment as well as the ideals which had an even deeper history in English common law and Magna Carta."

"...bold and imaginative rebels with a cause" can lead one to reflect. In the 1770s, taxation was rising, and many colonists—men and women alike—began making personal sacrifices to support their cause against the Crown. Women started embellishing their garments in ways that did not require styles from England or imported materials. Some tea drinkers turned to other beverages, so they didn't get taxed. Many people tried to avoid buying British imported goods and focused on materials produced only in America.

When the Declaration was signed, those men who signed it realized the weight of what they were doing—committing treason, which was a capital crime (punishable by death). Have you ever wondered what happened to them? The Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution shares what actually happened to the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence. "Five signers were captured by the British as traitors, and tortured before they died. Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons in the Revolutionary Army, another had two sons captured. Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or the hardships of the Revolutionary War." These were not all politicians—some were businessmen and farmers—but all had a vision and a cause. They signed a document knowing that their lives were at stake; they also believed in their cause. (<https://www.sarconnecticut.org/the-price-they-paid/>)

Although the colonists eventually won the Revolution and separated from England, the two nations have remained close. Many of our American traditions are rooted in British traditions, as King Charles III mentioned. We are two nations (some would argue separated only by a common language!) who have learned to move past our differences and work together during some of the darkest times of world history. This working relationship continues today on major global issues.

National 4-H Survey Coming Soon

As part of the national Beyond Ready initiative, a national effort is underway to evaluate the 4-H program. Youth members aged 13 to 18 will be invited to complete a survey between now and July 15. Participation is voluntary and will be conducted virtually. Email addresses in 4honline will receive an electronic invitation. Participation is voluntary, and names are not collected, so it is completely anonymous. The survey is estimated to take about 15-25 minutes to complete, and the data collected will be used to enhance current methods and improve future programming.

The National 4-H Index Study is an annual survey designed to measure youth development experience and assess the readiness of 4-H youth for work and life. We know that our ability to help youth be ready depends on the quality of the youth development experience, which is why it's essential to measure it alongside the Beyond Ready outcomes.

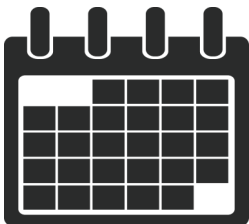
Grant County Fair Educational Posters, Record Books/Project Reviews, and Photography Entries are due to the Extension Office by Friday, July 31.

YQCA

[YQCA - Youth for the Quality Care of Animals](#)

Youth selling market projects at the Grant County Fair will need to be current on their YQCA certification. It is possible to update your credentials now. There is no need to let it expire before recertifying.

Upcoming Events



May 1	Non-sale Dairy Animal Certificates Due
May 1	FairEntry opens for Grant County Fair registration (through July 10)
May 1 & 2	Public Demonstrations in George
May 12	Llama Ownership
May 16	Market Swine Tag Photos Due to Extension Office by end of the day
June 1	Rabbit Ownership Date
June 13	Market Goat and Lamb Tag Photos Due to Extension Office
June 13	Rabbit Tattoo Clinic 4-6 p.m.
June 20	Public Demonstrations in Ephrata
June 22	Poultry Certificates due to Extension Office
June 26	Public Demonstrations, WA Junior Horse Show
July 15	Public Demonstrations, Moses Lake
July 31	Posters, Record Books, Photography Fair Exhibits due (Extension Office)
August 16	4-H Building Grant County Fair still-life exhibits check in from 3-6 p.m. (food stuffs, gardening, baked goods, sewing, crafts, etc)
August 18-22	Grant County Fair, Moses Lake
September 4-27	Washington State 4-H Fair



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

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