

THURSTON 4-H NEWS



WSU EXTENSION
Thurston County

WINTER QTR | JAN-MARCH 2024



WA TEENS CONVERGE IN OLYMPIA FOR 4-H KYG

Over the President's Day weekend 4-H teen leaders from 17 counties and their adult chaperones attended the Washington State University Extension 4-H Know Your Government (KYG) Conference in Olympia. KYG is a civic education program with topics that rotate every four years. Topics include: The Legislative System, The Judicial System, Elections and Party Platforms, and Politics and the Media. This year's topic was Elections and Party Platforms. ...article continued on page 5.

NEW FAIR DATES!

7/31/24-8/4/24

On February 7, 2024, the Thurston County Fair Board voted to change the 2024 Thurston County Fair dates to Wednesday, 7/31, - Sunday, 8/4. The date change was necessary to secure a carnival for the fair. The carnival is a significant income generator for the fair and a draw for the general public visiting the fair so it was determined a date change was needed.

Families who find the new dates a hardship are encouraged to contact the 4-H Office as soon as possible. The 4-H Office can reach out to neighboring 4-H programs and/or fairs on your behalf if your child or children are unavailable to exhibit during the new Thurston County Fair dates. If your family wishes to exhibit at a different fair due to a schedule conflict, please e-mail the 4-H Office at tc4h@co.thurston.wa.us ASAP!

The Washington State Fairs Association lists area fairs on their website. You may find it helpful to search for an alternative fair date/location at this link <https://www.wastatefairs.com/>. Or by going directly to the webpage of the fair you would like to inquire about. Some county fairs allow out-of-county 4-H exhibitors based on space available and some fairs are "area or regional fairs" and allow 4-H exhibitors from any county.



Joanne K. attended the Washington State Sheep Producers (WSSP) Lambing School. WSSP Lambing School Participants learned about techniques used by open range sheep operations and small flock breeders. Mabton, WA

LOCAL 4-H'ERS LEARN BEYOND THE 4-H CLUB

The 4-H Youth Development Program helps equip youth with essential life skills, confidence, and a deep sense of belonging through hands-on learning experiences. The winter months may be cold and the days short but that doesn't stop 4-H members from pursuing new opportunities to build their project skills. Many Thurston County 4-H members attend events and competitions hosted by partner organizations to gain knowledge and prepare for the summer fair season. Here's a few examples of what Thurston County 4-H members have been doing over the winter.

BEYOND THE 4-H CLUB CONT.

Caiden T. shares that he has been enjoying his first multi-day archery tournament. "Archery World in Lacey is hosting their first Junior League Archery Tournament. This is the first time I have competed in anything other than 4-H for Archery. Chris Wenschhof, one of our 4-H leaders in Thurston County 4-H Shooting Sports works at Archery World and encouraged us all to sign up. I am really enjoying the competition, it has been a more relaxed competition. I have been shooting my recurve bow. I am looking forward to finishing out the competition and seeing what other events I can sign up for. I am really learning to slow down while I am shooting." To learn more about 4-H Shooting Sports e-mail Mark at tcssmark@gmail.com.



Thurston County 4-H archery project members who participated in the Archery World Junior League. L to R: Levi W., Christa F., Everett S., Jericho M., Cody C., Caiden T., and Sheldon W. Archery World, Lacey, WA



Owen B. with his Best Opposite Sex New Zealand rabbit at the Rebel Rabbit Breeders New Years Day ARBA Show, Chehalis, WA.



Tanner M. watches his Dutch rabbit get examined by the judge during Best in Show Judging at the Super Bowl Showdown Show, Graham, WA.

We are looking for stories! Send us your 4-H news!





Register Now - Level 1 Shooting Sports Training



- **Dates:** March 22-24
- **Disciplines:** Archery, Rifle, Pistol, Shotgun
- **Cost:** \$110-\$140
- **Location:** Olympia, WA

If you are a 4-H volunteer, 21 or older and want to become certified to teach Shooting Sports, this is the training for you!



Register at <https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/projects/shooting-sports>

THURSTON COUNTY HOSTS SHOOTING SPORTS TRAINING

Attention 4-H Volunteers and parents/guardians! Are you interested in helping with Thurston County 4-H Shooting Sports? Thurston County is hosting Level 1 Shooting Sports Training for adult volunteers. It isn't very often that this training is held so close to home. Take advantage of this opportunity while it is available locally!

Date: March 22 - 24, 2024

Location: Evergreen Sportsmen's Club in Littlerock
12736 Marksman St SW, Olympia, WA 98512

Disciplines Offered: Archery, Rifle, Shotgun, & Pistol (up to 2 disciplines allowed per volunteer over the weekend) Friday night is classroom 6 to 8 p.m., one discipline Saturday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., second discipline on Sunday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Pistol discipline will only be offered on Saturday. **Cost: \$110 for one discipline, \$30 for second discipline, plus for volunteers who haven't completed level one recently \$20 for online class**

Scholarships: Financial assistance is available through the Thurston County 4-H Council. Just ask the 4-H Office.

Eligibility: Current 4-H volunteer who is age 21 or older.

Sign up here:

<https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/projects/shooting-sports/>

JR. MG DAY CAMP SPRING BREAK APRIL 2 & 3, 2024



Thurston County 4-H will be hosting Jr. Master Gardener Day Camp during Spring Break!

Jr. Master Gardener 4-H Spring Break Day Camp is designed to teach youth about gardening, horticulture, and environmental science education through creative activities. Campers will also use their creative skills to express themselves through arts and crafts.

What: Jr. Master Gardener 4-H Day Camp

When: April 2 & 3

Time: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Where: Thurston Co. Fairgrounds, Heritage Hall

Who: Youth age 5 (by 10/01/23) through 5th grade

Registration due by March 22, 2024

Space is limited! First come, first served.

Please e-mail tc4h@co.thurston.wa.us or call (360) 867-2157 for more information/forms.

Registration forms and **\$45.00 (or \$40.00 for enrolled 4-H youth members who bring a friend who is not currently enrolled in a 4-H Club)** registration fee to the Thurston County 4-H Office by **March 22, 2024**.

We will accept cash or a check, made payable to Thurston County 4-H Council. Scholarships available. Option - Day Campers will be invited to continue with the 4-H Garden Project by attending monthly 4-H meetings at the fairgrounds through County Fair. More details will be provided during camp.



The 4-H Garden Beds on the fairgrounds. Summer 2023



TCYMAS ADDS POULTRY TO THE 2024 FAIR AUCTION!

The Thurston County Youth Market Animal Sale (TCYMAS) organization voted at the end of February to add poultry to the annual fair livestock auction. New options include a **Single Market Turkey and a Pen of Fryer Chickens** (Cornish Cross/Red Ranger type meat birds). Watch for more details on the TCYMAS website: <https://www.tcymas.org/>.

Families with 4-H youth who are interested in raising poultry for the auction are encouraged to **reach out to the 4-H Office ASAP** so we can get a more accurate headcount of who is interested. Youth wanting to do turkeys need to be ready and set-up at home with brooder for turkeys ASAP!!! Turkeys have to be between 16 and 24 weeks for the fair.

ZOOM WORKSHOP - Sunday, March 10th!

We will cover fryers, turkeys, ducks, and geese, focusing on fryers and turkeys.
When: Mar 10th, 2023, 02:00 PM PT
Register in advance for this meeting at: <https://bit.ly/3Ig6Ahk>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.
Questions? Contact Pam Watson, M.Ed., pwatson@wsu.edu – WSU Lewis County Extension, 4-H Agent, WSU Faculty.



THURSTON 4-H COUNCIL

The Thurston County 4-H Council is your county-wide advisory board. The 4-H Council raises and manages funds to help support the Thurston County 4-H Program. The 4-H Council supports scholarships for 4-H membership, provides financial support to 4-H members attending camps and conferences, and purchases 4-H recognition items/awards to for county fair and achievement afternoon. All 4-H volunteers, parents/guardians, and 4-H teen leaders are encouraged to attend 4-H Council meetings to share your ideas and input!

Monday, March 25, 7 p.m. via Zoom

Link: <https://wsu.zoom.us/j/92840794652?pwd=SHMxRWZJVTVPm3l0dGhRdkFyRXcvdz09>

Meeting ID: 928 4079 4652

Passcode: 863568

Monday, April 29 - 4-H Volunteer Appreciation Dinner prior to the Fair Superintendent/4-H Council meeting

Time: 6:30 p.m. Dinner, 7 p.m. meeting
Where: Thurston County Fairgrounds, Heritage Hall
Please RSVP by 4/26/24 to tc4h@co.thurston.wa.us

HOLD THE DATE

Opportunities coming up soon!

May 3-5 - Spring Youth Fair, SW WA Fairgrounds, Chehalis

May 18 - Showmanship Clinic for Market Sale Participants

June 1 - Lacey Rotary Duck Dash at the fairgrounds (variety of 4-H events and activities including 4-H archery promotions/demos, District Public Presentations, and 4-H Pack Goat Challenge contest. More details to come!

June 24-27 - State 4-H Teen Conference on the WSU Campus for youth graduated from 8th grade through 4-H age 18. Please reach out to the 4-H Office if interested at tc4h@co.thurston.wa.us as we have to arrange enough seatbelts/chaperones and need to reserve motor pool vehicles early. Financial assistance available for teens to attend from the 4-H Council.

For more details <https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/stc/>



Sun., March
10th, 2-3:30 PM

This presentation is for any youth or volunteer who has an interest in market poultry and how to get started.

Daylight Saving Time Starts on Mar. 10th, spring forward!



ANIMAL CERTIFICATE DEADLINES FOR FAIR

For the 2024 fair season we are asking animal project information be provided to the 4-H Office in either hardcopy form (animal certificate paper copy) or uploaded via 4-HOnline. We are no longer accepting electronic copies sent via e-mail. It is helpful if the hardcopy forms are collected at the club level and then submitted as a group. Forms can be mailed or dropped off at the WSU Extension Office on the fairgrounds. There's a drop box at the front entrance for after-hours delivery.

Due May 1 - Horse, Dog and Dairy Cattle Certificates

Due June 3 (6/1 falls on a Saturday so due 6/3) - Cat, Rabbit, Cavy, and Goat Certificates

To upload in 4-HOnline: Log into family profile. Under the Member list, click the blue "view" button for the member adding animals. Click "Animals" in the left menu bar. Click "Add Animal". Click "Add New Animal". Fill in required information and click "Next". Fill out animal questions. Click "Submit". Some animals, like horse or dog, require photos and/or animal certificates to be uploaded before submitting.

cont. from front page WA TEENS KYG

Thurston County joined with King County 4-H to participate in pre-conference preparation meetings and to attend the conference. During the pre-conference meetings teens learned about Washington's election process, political parties, how to get a candidate elected through building support among peers, and how to recognize bias and propaganda in campaign messages. Delegates attending the conference participated in a mock political convention and selected a candidate to run for Governor. Teens representing different counties ran as candidates and their supporters worked over the weekend to get their preferred candidate selected. San Juan County's delegate, Moose K., was the candidate selected during the KYG Conference. Here's the campaign video Moose K. and his supporters made for KYG:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mj_i0b1kMtU.

For the 2025 4-H Know Your Government Conference the topic will be The Judicial System. Do you have a 4-H teen who will be high school age for the 24-25 4-H year? Email the 4-H Office today to get on the list for next year's KYG opportunity!

4-H PROJECT MTGS.

Upcoming county-level 4-H project learning opportunities (all 4-H members invited):

- 03/14 - 4-H Robotics, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the 4-H Office
- 03/21 - 4-H Garden Project, 6 p.m. Sokolik Bldg. TCF
- 03/27 - 4-H Still Life Project (intro to acrylic painting), 6:30 p.m., at the 4-H Office
- 03/28 - 4-H Robotics, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the 4-H Office
- 04/11 - 4-H Robotics, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the 4-H Office
- 04/18 - 4-H Garden Project, 6 p.m. Sokolik Bldg. TCF
- 04/24 - 4-H Still Life Project, 6:30 p.m., topic TBD
- 04/25 - 4-H Robotics, 6:30 to 8 p.m. 4-H Office
- 04/29 - 4-H Small Animal Project (cat, rabbit, cavy, poultry), 6:30 to 8 p.m. meet at the 4-H Office

Questions or to RSVP: tc4h@co.thurston.wa.us



THURSTON COUNTY WIN PROJECT

NEW! Thurston County is offering a new community service opportunity for local youth groups. The Thurston County Storm and Surface Water Utility encourages youth to engage in community service and leadership by completing projects that protect or improve our community's water including streams, lakes and drinking water sources. Six hundred dollars (\$600) will be awarded to qualifying youth groups who successfully complete an approved community service project. Typical projects include neighborhood stormwater pond maintenance.

Applications for the 2024 WIN! Youth Groups Program will be accepted starting **February 16, 2024**. Approved projects must be completed by **November 3, 2024**. To apply, youth groups must be either based in unincorporated Thurston County or the majority of their participants reside in unincorporated Thurston County. To learn more or apply:

<https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/thurston-youth-win>

PRAIRIE HATCHERS SHOW

The Clark County Prairie Hatchers 4-H Club is hosting a poultry show!

March 23, 2024

Clark County Fairgrounds
Ridgefield, WA

Judging starts at 9 a.m.

Entries due March 10



The Prairie Hatchers invite you to their 24th Annual ALL Youth Poultry Show! This show is completely organized and arranged by the youth in our club with the adults just to guide us. In addition to the show there will be a bird auction, raffle that will be full of incredible stuff from our local businesses and of course loads of fun! Schedule of events includes poultry type judging, showmanship, egg judging, and avian bowl. Entries emailed to and questions about the show can be sent to: prairiehatchers4hclub@gmail.com.

CATTLEWOMEN SCHOLARSHIP

The Thurston County Cattlewomen are pleased to offer a \$500 Scholarship for 2024.

We ask that applicants meet the following criteria:

- Be an active member of a Thurston County 4-H or FFA organization in the Beef project area, or in a Jr. Breed association.
- Be a current senior in a Thurston County high school enrolling in, or currently attending a 2 or 4 year college or technical school OR have involvement in an Agriculture related field

As the 2024 Thurston County Beef Scholarship recipient, you will receive:

- A \$500 scholarship towards your college education paid directly to the college you are attending upon receiving a copy of the student's registration receipt.
- If the scholarship is not redeemed by winter quarter/semester of award year, it will be relinquished to the second placing applicant.

Applications must be postmarked by **May 15, 2024**, for the 2023-2024 school year. Applications were sent out via 4-H Online Reg Max e-mail blast. Questions e-mail mountytwo@gmail.com or call 360-701-0362.



SAVE THE DATES

June 24-27, 2024



WHO: Washington 8th – 12th grade youth
(completed 8th grade by conference) & adult chaperones

WHAT: A three-day conference with workshops and tours focused on career exploration, college readiness, leadership and life skill development

WHERE: Pullman campus of Washington State University

**Registration will be limited to 150 youth and will open April 29th*

<https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/stc/>

ATTENTION - Contact the 4-H Office if you want to attend 4-H Teen Conference by **Friday, April 12**. We are already making group transportation and chaperone arrangements. **Email tc4h@co.thurston.wa.us to RSVP.**

