

**MASON COUNTY 4-H NEWS BLAST**  
**September 12, 2019**

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**IMPORTANT DATES**

August 30 - September 22 **DO THE PUYALLUP**  
Washington State 4-H Fair in Puyallup-closed Tuesdays  
Oct 1 Record Books and Year End Completion Forms Due  
Oct 1 New 4-H Year Begins – Re-enrollment opens  
Oct 2 Clover Kids Cake Decorating 5:30pm Memorial Hall  
Oct 8 4-H Council Meeting 6:00pm Mason General Hospital Washington Room  
Oct 24 4-H Fall Fair & Achievement Program

**HONORING JAMIE DOBSON**

The sad news of the passing of our Council President, Jamie Dobson, continues to be difficult for all of us. We will miss Jamie immensely; her generous spirit, passion for youth, and her friendship can never be replaced. Jamie will be honored as the 2019 Mason County 4-H Leader of the Year, this was a unanimous vote of the council at the September meeting. For those who would like to attend, services for Jamie will be held on September 28 at 1:00pm at Shelton High School. The 4-H program will provide a floral arrangement for the service. Please continue to keep Jamie's family in your thoughts.

**SUMMER CAMP PLANNING BEGINS NOW**

For many kids, 4-H summer camp is the best part of their summer and we are looking for teens and adults who are interested in being a part of the process. We need fun, organized, and creative individuals who can help us plan and deliver a summer experience to remember! We are recruiting counselors ages 16-18, counselors in training ages 14-16, and adult volunteers. This is a great way for teens to develop their leadership and communication skills. Join us on Sunday, September 22 6:00-7:30pm in the Washington Room at Mason General Hospital. Questions? Contact Leanne 360-490-8793 or [lgunter20@gmail.com](mailto:lgunter20@gmail.com).

**KICK-OFF MEETING**

We look forward to seeing a representative from each club on October 8 at 6:00pm in the Washington Room at Mason General for the 4-H Council meeting. Expect to receive your new 4-H year club packet, updated information and some great 4-H swag!

## **FALL FAIR AND ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM**

Invite your friends and neighbors to celebrate with us at 4-H Fall Fair on Thursday, October 24 from 5:30–7:00 at the Transit Community Center Gym. This is our year-end celebration and awards program and will include 4-H displays, games, year-end awards & ice cream! We look forward to sharing 4-H fun with the community. It is important that each club plan to participate as the community joins us to celebrate another wonderful year of Mason County 4-H programs.

## **CLOVER KIDS – CAKE DECORATING**

The Clover Kids series is designed to give families a fun 4-H experience while providing educational and unique hands-on opportunities. The series focuses on a new topic each month with topics ranging from art to baking, science, veterinary, and so much more. The October 2 session will be all about the art of cake decorating! We meet the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30pm at Memorial Hall. Attendance is free, however, you must pre-register. Registration is limited to the first 20 youth. Call Kathy at 360-427-9670 Ext 681 to register. Please share this information with your friends and neighbors – you do not have to be enrolled in 4-H to attend.

## **IMPORTANT POLICY CHANGES**

Mason County 4-H policy has changed and now requires that all Mason County 4-H clubs provide representation at the October and June 4-H Council meetings. Clubs will also be required to participate at either the Spring or Fall Clover Days events at Tractor Supply Company. The council believes this is a positive step in clubs getting to know each other, working together and sharing program information. Council meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 in the Washington Room at Mason General. The October council meeting is set for October 8 at 6:00 in the Washington Room at Mason General Hospital. Fall Clover Days is scheduled for October 9 – 20, contact Kathy to schedule your shift, 360-427-9670 Ext 681 or [fuller@wsu.edu](mailto:fuller@wsu.edu).

## **YEAR END COMPLETION FORMS AVAILABLE**

4-H year-end completion forms are now available on our website and at the Extension Office. All Record Books and Year End forms are due to the Extension Office no later than Tuesday, October 1. 4-H members wishing to receive their 2018/2019 4-H year pins are required to turn in a completed 4-H Record Book and Completion Pin Request form no later than **Tuesday, October 1**, @ 4:00pm to the Mason County WSU Extension Office. They may also use this form to nominate themselves for a 4-H Project Recognition Medal. This form must be completed by the member; including the reason that the member believes they should receive a medal.

- There are also forms for leaders to nominate members for **2019 4-H Recognition Medals**, and **2019 Clover Awards** (formerly Sportsmanship Award). Record Books are not required for these leader nominated awards.
- Cloverbud 4-H members are not required to turn in a 4-H Record Book to receive year-end pins and they are not eligible for 4-H Recognition medals (per Washington State 4-H policy). Leaders who have Cloverbud members wishing to receive their year-end pin must complete and turn in a **2019 Cloverbud 4-H Member Year-End Pin Request** form. They may also receive a recognition certificate at the awards ceremony on October 24.

Forms are available at <https://extension.wsu.edu/mason/4-h-youth-families/4-h-forms/>.

## **TELL US WHAT YOU THINK**

In cooperation with Missy Cummins from the Washington 4-H Program and 4-H staff from New Jersey, California, Idaho, Florida, Louisiana, and Wyoming, all first-year families in Washington will be invited via email to complete a quick survey about the first-year experience in 4-H. On **September 16** you will be sent a survey link. Your feedback will inform local county and state 4-H staff about the current experiences of first-year members and help find ways to make it better. This survey was conducted last year in other states, and plans for helping new members learn about 4-H are already in the works based on feedback from families like you. Let your voice be heard! The survey will come to you from [missy.cummins@wsu.edu](mailto:missy.cummins@wsu.edu) it's not junk mail—it's from us! Your family will receive two emails: one for youth and one for adults. Please fill out the survey that applies to you. We look forward to hearing from you.

## **NATIONAL YOUTH SUMMITS**

The National Youth Summit Series brings together some of the best and brightest students to focus on STEM, agriscience, healthy living, and photography. Designed for high school students (grades 9–12), the Summits provide opportunities to learn technical skills, participate in hands-on activities, workshops, and engage with nationally-recognized leaders. Students typically attend in groups comprised of two to eight youth and are accompanied by an adult mentor/chaperone. School year 2019-2020 will be our seventh year of programs and the results have been amazing! Surveys show up to a 47% increase in the number of students who felt after attending a Summit they were more aware of areas of study they could pursue in college relating to their Summit subject matter. The National Youth Summit Series aims to teach lessons students can use for the betterment of their personal lives and communities. More information is available at <https://bit.ly/2ITIHGv>.

## **STATE 4-H FAIR**

We are proud to have so many 4-H members representing Mason County at the State 4-H Fair in Puyallup this year.....have fun and good luck to you all! To view a complete schedule of all 4-H State Fair activities visit <https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/fairs/state-4-h-fair/>. The State 4-H Fair runs August 30 – September 22. Reminder, the fair is closed on all Tuesdays and Wednesday, September 4.

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.