

4-H members learn to make powerful pitches

Members of 4-H have been preparing speeches and practicing delivery as part of a Presentations Competition challenged.

Last week, they gave their pitch to parents and other judges on topics that included triathlons, cookies, diamonds, tsunamis, rabbits, chickens, Legos, trail rides and swing dances.

Those in grades four to six talked for up to 10 minutes and those in grades seven to twelve talked for 10 to 15 minutes.

Members also gave impromptu speeches. They were judged on subject matter, voice, manner and appearance, visual clarity, and how they answered questions.

Winners were: Jake O'Connor, Katrina Phillips, Titus Cano, Faith Jones, William Phillips, Alicia Cano, and



Courtesy OSU Extension Office

Junior 4-H member Katrina Phillips demonstrates how to make Peanut Butter Cookies at 4-H Presentation night.

Matthew Cano.

Four-H is a program coordinated by Oregon State University for children in kindergarten through high school.

For more information about 4-H membership or leadership, call the Clatsop County Extension Office at 503-325-8573.

News in brief

New Citizens Academy forming

A new Clatsop County Citizens Police Academy is scheduled to start in April.

Residents will have an opportunity to meet local police officers and deputies, learn about different aspects of law enforcement and find out how to volunteer.

Applications are available at police departments and at the sheriff's office.

The 10-week academy is from 6 to 9 p.m. Tuesdays beginning April 16 at various locations with an added fire-arms training on Saturday, May 18.

It's the second year the academy has been offered.

The class is free; those who'd like two college credits would pay \$35.

For more information, call

Contact: Jason Schermerhorn at 503-436-2811

Deputy graduates from parole class

Clatsop County Sheriff's Deputy Jasper Devereaux recently graduated from the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training Parole and Probation Officer Class.

The agency operates the Oregon Public Safety Academy, which spans more than 235 acres in Salem. The academy is nationally recognized for its innovative training programs.

Girls Circle goal is leader skills

A group of Astoria Middle School girls have successfully completed an eight-week Girls Circle leadership program.

The Girls Circle program is a

strengths-based, skill-building approach aimed at creating a safe space for girls to address issues they face, build on protective factors, and improve relationships in a format that is positive, interesting, and engaging.

The program was facilitated by Teresa Crouter and Laura Parker from the Clatsop County Juvenile Department.

The goal is to enhance girls' abilities to take full advantage of their talents, academic interests, future career pursuits, and potential for healthy relationships.

The Clatsop County Juvenile Department has partnered with Astoria Middle School for six years, offering the program to incoming sixth-graders. The program has been expanded to include Broadway Middle School, Warrenton Grade School and Hilda Lahti Elementary School.

Good with money? Help a senior

Volunteers are being sought for the Oregon Money Management Program, which assists individuals in their own homes with budgeting, organizing financial paperwork, sorting mail and filling out applications.

Clients are low-income seniors and people with disabilities and others who may be vulnerable to fraud and financial exploitation.

Volunteers enjoy a lot of flexibility, said Suzanne

Bjaranson, community programs supervisor for the Northwest Senior and Disability Services. In as little as 2 hours per month, a volunteer can make a difference in the life of a vulnerable adult, she said.

Volunteers have flexible schedules, they can take time off for vacation and travel, and can choose the day of the week and time of day to volunteer.

For information, contact Julie Sobel at 503-304-3407.

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