

4H members learn to pitch the perfect product plan

For the past few weeks, local 4-H members have been preparing speeches and practicing delivering information on a variety of subjects.

Public speaking skills are ranked No. 1 among the desired skill sets of professionals, the organization says. Every 4-H member is encouraged to give a presentation each year, which can include audio-visual aids, a demonstration, or problem-solving.

Through their presentations, members learn to research a subject, organize their thoughts into a logical order, and practice public speaking.

For the local members, the big day came March 7, at the 4-H Presentations Competition. One by one, they spoke in front of a judge, parents and other members.

Those in grades four to six talked for three to 10 minutes, while older grades spoke for 10 to 15 minutes. Members also gave impromptu speeches in which they received a topic, planned for a few minutes and presented.

Winners were Amelia Hockett, Junior Illustrated Talk Champion; Joyana Bellingham, Junior Illustrated Talk Reserve Champion, Junior Impromptu Speech Champi-

on, and Overall Junior Division Champion.

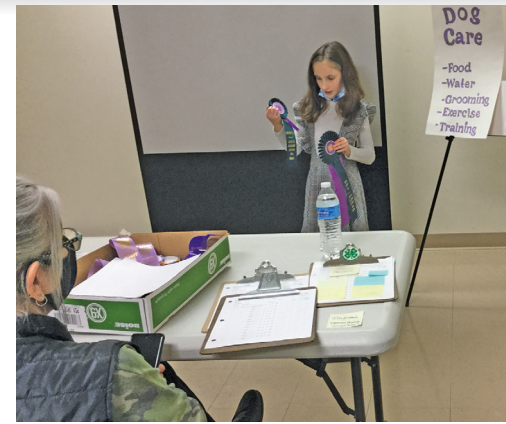
Katrina Phillips was named Intermediate Impromptu Champion and Titus Cano was named

Intermediate Impromptu Reserve Champion.

Matthew Cano won the Senior Demonstration Championship competition.

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

Amelia Hockett pitches dog care on 4-H Presentation Night.



Jobs: School adds manufacturing to its offerings

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also help provide academic credits that meet state graduation requirements and career-related learning experiences.

The campus CTE program also has received pledges from the Warrenton Schools Foundation and Hampton Mill, which pledged \$15,000 per year for the next four years.

"It's really exciting," Heyen said. "We can offer some new stuff and expand programs. We've got some good things going on."

Financial awards totaling \$7.32 million will go to 148 Oregon middle schools and high schools, according to a joint announcement March 11 by Oregon Department of Education Director Colt Gill and Labor Commissioner Val Hoyle.

"It's been just great to see schools and students em-



The students' experimental bridge spans the gap between two workbenches.

brace these opportunities to learn real-world, hands-on skills they will carry into the future," Labor Commissioner Val Hoyle said. "It's important that all students, no matter where they live, get to experience unique CTE opportunities. There is no one way students learn or one

path to success."

The state's schools have been focusing more on work experience and the technical trades in the past decade. It's an acknowledgment that most high schoolers won't move on to college, that the trades labor pool needs boosting, and that some students need programs more aligned with their career interests.

Students who pass CTE courses graduate at higher rates when compared to the general student population. Student populations concentrating on CTE courses graduated at a 92.9 percent rate, 12.3 percentage points higher than the state as a whole, according to ODE's 2020-21 school year figures.

"Now more than ever, helping students prepare for the shift to college, career, and beyond is critical," Gill said. "It is exciting to see the expansion of critical programs that align to high-need and high-wage opportunities. We've seen the power of CTE to support learner success and economic vitality, and we're ready for more."

In making the awards, the grant committee prioritized applications based on geographic diversity, community partnerships and programs that lead to high-wage, in-demand occupations, especially for historically and currently marginalized students.

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