

# Chance to travel, understand foreign cultures offered by 4-H

The opportunity to know and understand other cultures, either abroad or here in Morrow County, is one of the benefits of 4-H membership. The International program offers members of most age groups the chance to travel, as well as to host families for those traveling to our county from all parts of the world. When you spend a time in someone's home, or they in yours, you really get to know and understand the many ways the various cultures are the same and to understand the differences!

Morrow County was fortunate this past year to host many international guests, and to have local residents who traveled, or hear from other Oregonians who had been abroad under 4-H programs.

Were you aware that IFYE Eric DeWulf, Belgium, spent a month in our county? Or did you meet Pree Garner, PRYLE from Barbados, who spent a time here studying our rural 4-H program? Did you know that all our students had the opportunity to learn about a foreign country from an IFYE who came in and reported at the schools?

The Oregon 4-H and Japan Labo program brought five young Japanese students to the county for a month, with Shirley Palmer of Heppner serving as coordinator for the program for four eastern Oregon counties. At the same time, under the same program, Monica Swanson of Ione traveled to Japan for a month's visit, serving as chaperone for about 20 young Oregon 4-H members.

Former IFYE, Val Madison of Echo was in and out of Morrow County, sharing the delights of her six month stay in Switzerland with us.

Just last week, two young farmers from England visited in our county. The Gary Grieb and Jerry Myers families were their hosts, with each family finding them a challenging addition to the family circle. Edward Robinson and Roger Henry were totally impressed with our agriculture and area. Both were sponsored by the Young Farmers Clubs of England, and both are farmers at home.

Two girls from Canada enjoyed our county fair, staying with Janette Piper and Jyl Hobbs during the fair

week. Janette and Jyl had previously traveled to Canada on the new exchange, learning many things about the Canadian people, and the 4-H program there. This exchange will be continued next year, with other older members having the opportunity to participate.

The next international guest in our county will be Debbie Heoft, IFYE from Pendleton, who spent six months in Hungary.

These are just a few instances of recent international experiences that

have touched Morrow County. Other chances to travel and see the world and the people are available under the Teen Caravan and Citizen Ambassador programs, as well as the Central American work experience program.

Incidentally, if you want to share in the international experience, application forms to host an IFYE are always available at your local extension office. More information on all international programs is available by calling 676-9642.

## Mrs. Evans exemplifies County's 4-H spirit

A true believer in the value of 4-H youth development, that is Francine Evans of Irrigon. She not only believes, she takes action to make the program available to all, and to help it grow and keep up with needs of youth today.

A nine year 4-H leader, currently leading both clothing and foods, Francine is also serving the third year of a three-year term on the state 4-H advisory committee. The advisory council serves dual purposes, as the executive council of the Oregon 4-H Leader's Association the important advisory body to the state 4-H staff. Meetings are twice a year, taking approximately three days time each session.

In the advisory role, the council serves as a "sounding board" for statewide 4-H program ideas, shares the felling, ideas and attitudes of various regions of the state as representative of the people of their area. All new ideas, or changes of project or policy come under the watchful eyes of the council, and must receive the council's blessings before being accepted to the Oregon 4-H program.

As the executive council of the association, the group approves programs and authorizes financial support for activities, as well as suggesting training programs or events to help 4-H leaders become more effective. Francine represents a wide area on the committee, including Gilliam, Grant, Morrow, Umatilla and Wheeler counties. Her commitment is strong and she takes time to research the feelings of the area she represents before each session, to be sure that her decisions and suggestions are representative. She is one of the 16 area representatives of 4-H, who along with six other 4-H members and up to 3 business representatives, make up the total committee.

What else, in addition to 4-H, occupies Francine's time? Well, seven daughters, the oldest just entering college and the youngest, four years of age take part of her time. Church and community demand their share. She is well known for her creative abilities, ranging from painting to wheat weaving, and many in between. In her basement she maintains a specialty bakery, catering wedding cakes that are each a work of art. She serves on the Irrigon school advisory committee, and then there are more community projects dear to her heart.

A true believer, Francine insists she can pick the 4-H members from a crowd! They have a special air of confidence and poise, developed through their 4-H opportunities and activities, she claims. Her own 4-H family members, as well as her club members prove the point. She shows the way and they follow!

# Many from Morrow serve on state 4-H panels

Morrow Countians have made their presence known to state and national 4-H officials this year, by winning nationwide and statewide awards, serving on state and national 4-H panels, and earning the privilege of attending the National 4-H Convention in Chicago.

Jan Peterson of Ione and Erin Evans of Irrigon will represent Oregon when the National 4-H Convention convenes in Chicago next spring. Jan was selected for her outstanding work in 4-H foods and nutrition programs, and Erin was chosen for her achievements in 4-H clothing programs.

Both Erin and Jan are nine-year 4-H members, who have served as 4-H camp counsellors, junior leaders, and statewide 4-H advisory and development groups.

Louis Carlson of Ione and Allen Nistad of Heppner were recently appointed to terms as members of the board of trustees of the Oregon 4-H Foundation.

The Foundation was established to assist 4-H work not supported by tax funds. By law, tax money may be spent only for 4-H professional salaries and for educational materials. The Foundation has been responsible for raising funds for the purchase

and development of the Oregon 4-H Center, helping to attract 4-H leaders and for supporting club programs and special events.

Francine Evans of Irrigon, a long-time 4-H leader, was

recently appointed to the Oregon 4-H advisory Council.

Carol and Grace McElligott, both of Ione, and Kryn Robinson of Heppner last month were awarded John W. Graves scholarships for work

performed during their outstanding 4-H careers.

This summer, Kryn won the coveted E.L. "Dad" Potter 4-H Horsemanship Award, becoming the first Morrow Countian to do so since the

award was created in 1956. Only eight 4-H members in Oregon this year passed the strenuous test required to qualify for the award, which is

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## Morrow County's 4-H program leaves imprint on state and nation

Oregon 4-H programs in horsemanship and skiing started in Morrow County—two of many "firsts" that our county has contributed to the 4-H program.


This year, for the first time, two Morrow Countians will be among Oregon's delegation to the annual National 4-H Convention in Chicago. The are Jan Peterson of Ione and Erin Evans of Irrigon.

The opportunity for creating new "firsts" in 4-H projects in Morrow County still exists, according to County 4-H Extension Agent John Nordheim. "The great thing about 4-H is that you can have anything you want as a project. The individual member can write up a proposal for a club or an independent project," thus tailor-making a program to fit his or her needs, Nordheim explained.

"Right now, we're interested in starting community clubs on many topics, especially those dealing with skills for life and leisure—projects that will carry through for a lifetime—like the creative arts, leather work and mechanical skills," said Nordheim.

During the coming 4-H year, "we hope to expand our field trips and exchanges, and develop more social activities. We also hope to develop a calendar for the year's 4-H events and activities," stated Nordheim.

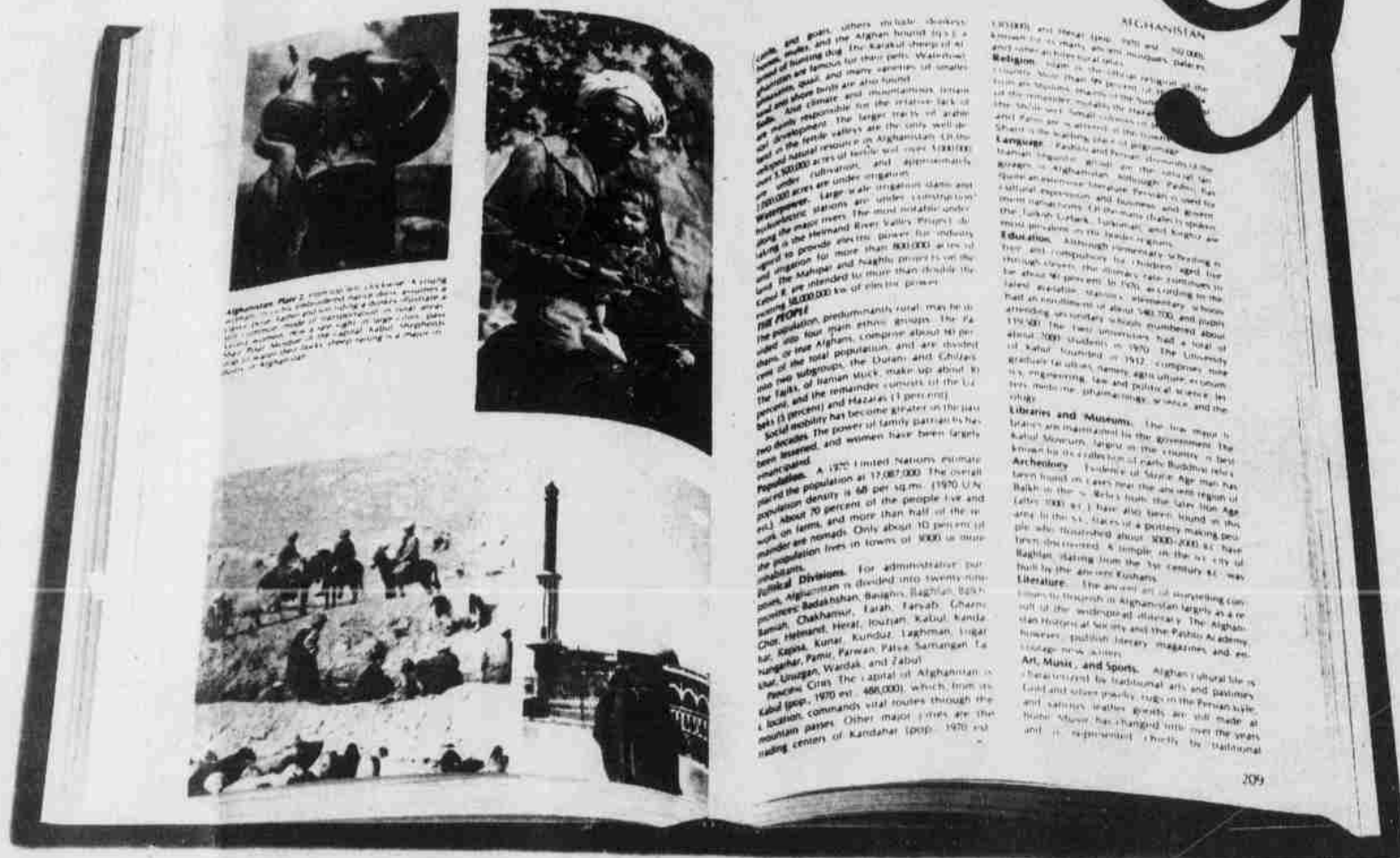
Last year, Morrow County added geology and outdoor survival to its ever-expanding 4-H program. Who knows what the new year will bring?



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