

Fairs are small part of 4-H experience

County fairs are just around the corner. This is a busy time for everyone involved with 4-H. Many find little time for anything else, but each involved needs to remember that fairs are just one small part of the total 4-H experience. In fact many 4-H'ers may learn from their projects, have group experiences, assume responsibilities both as leaders and followers and explore their own talents and "be somebody" without participating in county fairs.

For those who do take part in fair, competition is a very real part of the fair experience. Competition is a fact of every child's life and plays a significant part in the learning and maturing process. Leaders, agents and parents sometimes can create problems for children. As soon as winning becomes the primary focus, consideration for the other person and enjoyment of the activity for its own sake is ruined.

We are often unaware of the ways in which we influence children's attitudes. Consider that moment when your 4-H'er comes home after a contest. If you ask him if he won, you are in effect, telling him that this is what matters most to you. If, instead, you ask him if he had a good time, you are telling him it is the activity and not the winning that matters most.

Children are always anxious to win approval of adults in their lives. For most children, however, as for most adults, winning is a "sometimes thing." For youngsters who are average in ability, the pressure of trying to be best—instead of doing their best—creates anxiety and a loss of self esteem.

Improve the child's skill and knowledge, and give him a sense of value for doing his best. If we show a child that we are proud of this hard work or mastery of a skill rather than of his being a winner, we are more likely to have an emotionally



4-Hers show their animals



and their cooking skills at fair

healthy, successful child, who enjoys competition and who plays fairly.

By our attitudes we can teach our children that competition is fun, that being part of a team is a wonderful experience. But...win or lose...helping a child grow into a well balance-

ed person of integrity is what really counts.

(A reprint from the July Central Oregon 4-H Newsletter.)

Extension thanks the donors

The Morrow County Extension staff would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Morrow County 4-H donors. The people that donate their time and money to 4-H must know that they are doing a great deal to encourage the growth of our young people in Morrow County. The time spent by

volunteers to make activities available to 4-H is one of the most important functions of our program.

The donors that provide scholarships and awards help to encourage and reward young people for their work.

Without their help, the 4-H program would not exist.

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Beef BBQ Dinner

All Saints Episcopal Church - Corner of Church & Gale Sts.

4:00 - 7:00 p.m. - Sat., Aug. 20

MENU

•Pit BBQ Beef •Baked Beans •Coleslaw •Baked Potatoes

•Garlic Bread •Hot & Cold Beverages •Ice Cream

Adults - \$7.00—Children 6-12 - \$3.50—Seniors - \$6.00

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