

W. 5.a.

## AGENDA COVER MEMO

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**DATE:** March 9, 2005  
**TO:** Board of County Commissioners  
**DEPARTMENT:** Health & Human Services  
**PRESENTED BY:** Rob Rockstroh, Julie Hynes



**AGENDA TITLE:** ORDER \_\_\_\_\_ / IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MARCH 6, 2005 AS PROBLEM GAMBLING AWARENESS WEEK IN LANE COUNTY

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### I. MOTION

ORDER \_\_\_\_\_ / In the Matter of Proclaiming the Week of March 6, 2005 as Problem Gambling Awareness Week in Lane County

### II. ISSUE OR PROBLEM

To educate the public that problem gambling is a serious public health issue facing Lane County citizens, to increase awareness that gambling is not a risk-free activity for youth, and to highlight that treatment in Oregon is free, confidential, and effective for problem gamblers and their family members.

### III. DISCUSSION

#### A. Background / Analysis

The purpose of Oregon Problem Gambling Awareness Week is to increase public awareness and educate community providers about problem gambling. The effort began in keeping with the message of "Hope and Help" available for individuals and families who experience problems associated with gambling behaviors. Key messages to be shared during the week and all year are: 1) problem gambling is a serious public health issue for Oregon; 2) Oregon's investment in addressing problem gambling reduces harm and helps the economy; and 3) gambling treatment in Oregon is free, confidential, and it works. This year, Oregon's Problem Gambling Awareness Week efforts will have an additional focus on youth and young adult populations.

Gambling opportunities have never been so available in Oregon, as a host of gambling expansions have been made in recent years. Gambling has become such a popular activity in our state that, in 1999, Spirit Mountain Casino surpassed

Multnomah Falls as Oregon's top tourist attraction (Associated Press, 1999, April 10). In 2004, the Oregon Lottery increased the amount of video lottery terminals that retailers are allowed by 20 percent. Click&Play computerized Lottery games were implemented, Keno games were increased in frequency to every four minutes, and the ninth tribal casino opened its doors in Lane County. In January 2005, video "line games" (slots) were approved by the Oregon Lottery Commission.

In addition to state-sponsored and Indian gaming, a host of emerging new gambling trends have become popular among the public. Television shows featuring poker and blackjack games, sales of poker sets, mobile gaming, and gambling-oriented websites have enjoyed unprecedented popularity. These trends have brought forth debate about the influences of gambling on youth, and prompted many prevention experts, parents, legislators, and other community members to question the potential impacts of the increased availability, accessibility, and acceptability of gambling opportunities.

Little research has been conducted in the area of youth gambling attitudes and behaviors. Problem gambling research in general is in its infancy, and scarce funding currently exists for local prevalence studies. However, limited research combined with anecdotal evidence suggests that the rate of problem gambling among youth appears to be the rise. Several risk factors appear to be involved. First, youth in general are two to four times more likely than adults to have a gambling problem (Gupta & Derevensky, 1998; Shaffer & Hall, 1996), and research shows that the earlier an individual begins to gamble, the more at risk he or she is of developing a gambling problem (Derevensky & Gupta, 2000; Gupta & Derevensky, 1997, 1998). Additionally, family history appears to play a key factor in whether a youth develops a gambling problem. Research consistently shows higher rates of pathological gambling in teens whose parents gamble excessively (Gupta & Derevensky, 1997; Jacobs, 2000; Wallisch & Liu, 1996). In Oregon, children of parents who gamble are nearly twice as likely to be weekly or daily gamblers than children whose parents don't gamble (Carlson & Moore, 1998). Surveys of middle school youth conducted since 2003 by Lane County's problem gambling prevention program show that three in four middle schoolers report having gambled, with the average age of gambling onset of nine years old.

Many have questioned why prevention experts are concerned about the rise of gambling behavior in youth. Frequently, gambling is seen as a benign activity, even a healthy substitute for substance use, alcohol use, or other risky activities. It is true that the vast majority of people gamble with few or no consequences, however, the incidence of problem gambling has increased as gambling opportunities have become more available. In Oregon, over 60,000 adults (2.3%) and 10,000 teens (one in 25 youth, ages 13-17) meet the criteria for problem or pathological gambling (Moore, 2001; Carlson & Moore, 1998). This growing public health issue affects individual problem gamblers, their families and communities, and causes great social, economic, and psychological costs. The following information illustrates the costs reported by 1,398 problem gamblers enrolled in

Oregon's gambling treatment programs from July 2003-June 2004 (Moore and Marotta, 2005):

- One in ten problem gamblers (11%) considered and formulated plans to commit suicide within six months of enrollment to treatment
- About one in four problem gamblers (23.5%) reported their gambling cost them a marriage or significant relationship
- About three in ten (28.5%) of problem gamblers reported job-related problems because of their gambling, and over half (55.6%) of all respondents reported not accomplishing responsibilities at work
- One in four (24%) of problem gamblers committed crimes to finance their gambling
- The gambling-related debt reported by clients was about the same as their annual household income, an average of \$26,621
- The total gambling related debt, of just those 1,398 clients that obtained gambling treatment in Oregon in 2003, exceeded \$25.5 million

Effective prevention and treatment programs present the most significant opportunities to reduce the burden of problem gambling. The Oregon legislature, realizing the potential addictive effects of gambling, dedicated one percent of video lottery revenues to address problem gambling issues. Though current funding dedications are less than one percent, Lane County continues its commitment to supporting the continuum of care through its award-winning problem gambling prevention and treatment programs.

The prevention program, provided through Lane County Health & Human Services, aims to address the aforementioned risk factors for problem gambling through its educational materials, media efforts, and collaboration with other prevention and treatment partners. From July 2003 to June 2004, 844 Lane County youth were served through the program's problem gambling prevention workshops, and an additional 643 college students and adults were served. As a commitment to planning effective prevention practices, the program has partnered with local researchers to begin studying youth attitudes and behaviors with regard to gambling. Additionally, the prevention program has been key in helping shape statewide prevention services planning.

Lane County's gambling treatment program, Emergence, provided gambling addiction treatment services to 204 problem gamblers and family members last year. Emergence also houses the statewide problem gambling Help Line, which responded to over 4,500 calls last year.

This year will mark the third-annual National Problem Gambling Awareness Week and Oregon Problem Gambling Awareness Week, both to be observed during the week of March 6, 2004. Local activities to commemorate Problem Gambling Awareness Week include this proclamation, green-and-white ribbon week (green symbolizing help and white symbolizing hope) with interagency collaboration, presentations, media efforts, and a middle school poster search.

B. Alternatives / Options

1. To declare the week of March 6, 2005 as Problem Gambling Awareness Week in Lane County.
2. Not to declare the week of March 6, 2005 as Problem Gambling Awareness Week in Lane County.

C. Recommendation

To approve number one above.

D. Timing

Upon Board approval, the week of March 6, 2005 will be declared Problem Gambling Awareness Week in Lane County.

**IV. IMPLEMENTATION**

Implementation will be completed as stated above.

**V. ATTACHMENT**

Board Order

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, LANE COUNTY, OREGON**

**RESOLUTION:**    ) IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MARCH 6, 2005  
                      ) AS PROBLEM GAMBLING AWARENESS WEEK IN LANE COUNTY.

**Proclamation on Problem Gambling Awareness Week**

WHEREAS, the week of March 6, 2005 is celebrated across the state and nation as the third annual Problem Gambling Awareness Week; and

WHEREAS, promoting the awareness week provides individuals in the problem gambling community an opportunity to educate the public and policymakers about the social and financial effectiveness of services available for problem gambling; and,

WHEREAS, problem gambling is a public health issue affecting thousands of Lane County citizens of all ages, races, and ethnic backgrounds in all communities and which has a significant societal and economic cost; and,

WHEREAS, problem gambling is preventable and treatable, and treatment is effective in minimizing the harm to both individuals and society as a whole; and,

WHEREAS, Oregon is dedicated to reducing the negative effects of gambling for all Oregonians through its nationally awarded problem gambling services system of prevention, outreach and treatment for citizens throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Lane County citizens have successfully sought treatment, are in recovery along with their families, and have benefited from the expertise of professionals in the prevention and treatment field who have dedicated themselves to helping people prevent and recover from problem gambling.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Lane County Board of County Commissioners proclaim the week of March 6, 2005 as **Problem Gambling Awareness Week in Lane County** and encourage all citizens that choose to gamble to make responsible decisions and to support men, women, and youth who are working to improve their lives through problem gambling treatment and recovery efforts.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Date 2/28/05 lane county

Heidlaw  
OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

\_\_\_\_\_  
Anna Morrison, Chair  
Lane County Board of Commissioners

March 9, 2005 Agenda Item – **Requesting 9:30 Time Certain**

Zoe/Melissa,

In the Matter of Proclaiming the Week of March 6, 2005 as Problem Gambling Awareness Week in Lane County

W. C. A.

# Report to Lane County Board of Commissioners February 23, 2005

Submitted by Charlotte Riersgard  
OSU/Lane County Extension Service (LCE) Staff Chair

## TRENDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### Some Upcoming

OSU/Lane County Extension  
Service

### Programs/Events

#### March

- 3 - Pruning Workshop
- 4 - 4-H Beef Clinic & Weigh-In
- 6 - 4-H Blago
- 10 - Integrated Pest Mgmt.
- 10-13 - Extension at the Home Show
- 12 - Compost Class
- 16 - 4-H Teen Leadership Training
- 17 - Identity Theft & Pruning Workshop
- 18 - 4-H Beach Clean-Up @ Florence Composting Workshop
- 24 - Greenhouses & Cold Frames

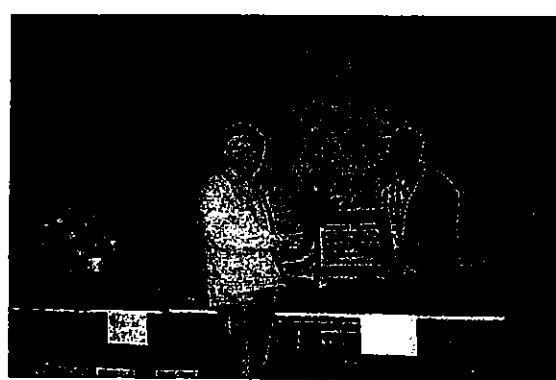
#### April

- 6 - Master Food Preserver (MFP) Orientation
- 12 - MFP Training
- 14 - Medicines and You
- 14-16 - 4-H State Government Program
- 19 - MFP Training
- 20 - LCE Homemaker Program
- 21 - Study of a Country
- 23 - 4-H Sheep & Goat Weigh-In
- 24 - 4-H Swine Weigh-In
- 26 - MFP Training

#### May

- 3 - MFP Training
- 10 - MFP Training
- 11 - Pruning Rhododendrons, Florence
- 14 - Compost Demo.
- 17 - MFP Training
- 18 - Pruning Workshop
- 24 - MFP Training
- 31 - MFP Training

▲ Over 200 Lane County home and small woodland owners purchased over 13,000 trees recently at the annual Tree Seedling Sale. The event is sponsored by the Oregon Small Woodland Assn. and the Extension Forestry program. The trees were sold in record time, a reflection of the popularity of the event. This year's selection of trees included drought resistant varieties and coast redwoods.



*Steve Bowers, the Treeman, and a MasterWoodland volunteer at a recent seedling sale.*

- ▲ Ross Penhaleggon, OSU/Tri-County Extension Service Horticulture faculty was featured on Oregon Public Broadcasting's "Smart Gardening" series on February 12. The series is a collaboration between OSU Extension, Chambers Productions and OPB. The program airs each Saturday at 10:30 a.m. on stations around the nation.
- ▲ The 2005 Master Gardener class began in January with 45 new trainees, 12 mentors and 10 Master Gardener veterans participating.
- ▲ The Food Safety/Preservation Hotline (June—October 2004) received 6,653 calls. Fifty-one percent of the calls had food safety implications emphasizing prevention as the first line of defense.
- ▲ Steve Woodard, Lane County Small Woodlands Manager volunteer, was named the 2004 Lane County Tree Farmer of the Year and the 2004 Oregon State Tree Farmer of the Year.
- ▲ The OSU Extension Family Community Development program of Lane County was awarded a grant to develop a Food Pantry Project Cook-Off. Lane County food box recipients are invited to submit recipes using pantry foods. Winners will be invited to compete for prizes in a county-wide cook-off and winning recipes will be featured in future Food Pantry Project cook-books.

# FAMILY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (FCD)

**Faculty: Susan Busler and Nellie Oehler**

## Holiday Hotline

Family Food Education/Master Food Preservers (FFE/MFP) staffed a Thanksgiving and Holiday statewide as well as a local hotline. There is a shortage of FCD staff in Oregon and many counties are not able to field calls from consumers. Since volunteers answer local calls, Lane County decided to offer the service statewide the week before Thanksgiving and Christmas to better address food safety needs. During the Thanksgiving hotline, 182 calls were received representing 18 different counties. During the Christmas hotline, 72 calls were received from 12 counties.

## Food Pantry Project Update



*Extension volunteers learn to make a recipe from the spring/summer Food Pantry Project Cookbook during a recent training.*

The Food Pantry Project, a partnership between Lane County Extension programs and FOOD for Lane County, continues to develop. A third cook book, featuring recipes for spring and summer, is now available at the pantry sites. Each of the cook books features seasonal recipes utilizing foods that are plentiful and under used by the patrons.

Twenty-six volunteers attended the fourth Food Pantry Project training in January. An active recruitment is underway to attract more volunteer participation from the general public. Five of the Food Pantry Project volunteers are food box recipients.

Since the fall of 2004, volunteers have presented 130 food demonstrations using cook book recipes at most of the Food Pantries in Lane County and reached 4,100 people.

The Lane County Extension has received an "Increasing Our Capacity" Extension FCD grant to develop evaluation tools to record the impact of the Food Pantry Project. Components of the evaluation will include an assessment for Food Pantry managers, Food Pantry shoppers and the Food Pantry volunteers. The evaluation will be completed by June of 2005 and used to improve the project.

## 2005 Master Food Preserver Training Set

Recruitment is underway for the 2005 class of Family Food Education/Master Food Preservers. The eight-week training program includes in-depth food safety information and covers all aspects of food preservation. Special emphasis will be on preserving foods, assuring an adequate and safe food supply for the family.

The program encourages preservation of local produce and supports the new federal dietary guidelines which increase the amount of fruits and vegetables in an individual's diet.

## Maximizing Brief Encounters

Lane County has been selected as a replication site for a program developed by the Jackson/Josephine County Extension Service. The target audience for this educational series will be Lane County Meals on Wheels volunteers. The eight-session program provides an educational foundation for healthy aging and steps for improving senior's quality of life. It will be implemented in Lane County this spring.

## Indoor Air Quality

FCD received a grant for the replication of an education poster on household molds. The posters are being distributed through the Housing and Community Services Agency of Lane County (HACSA) and the Mid-Oregon Chapter of the National Association of Residential Property Managers for use in apartment complex laundry rooms.

## Pathways Job Placement Program

FCD offered a series of educational classes on "Managing Between Jobs" to HACSA's Pathways Job Placement Program. The educational series concentrated on areas of family, food and financial stability. The three class series addressed food stability. Evaluations will be used to assess personal goals that have been set and changes in behavior in relation to food shopping skills, food selection and family involvement in food preparation.

## Don't Let Your Golden Years Be Tarnished

A financial management program will be offered this spring to seniors in a partnership with the Emerald Empire Council on Aging, and will be held at the Trude Kaufman Senior Center. The financial management series will be geared to retired seniors. The program will be offered in six-sessions during April and May.



# NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAM (NEP)

**Faculty: Charlotte Riersgard, Anna Galas and Dana Baxter**

## Working To End Hunger

The Nutrition Education Program (NEP) continues to address the Oregon Hunger Relief Task Force Act to End Hunger through its many programs that reach limited resource families, adults and youth. Teaching to the USDA Food Guide Pyramid and recently updated USDA Dietary Guidelines, NEP implements a variety of programming including in-home, group series, single events, in-school, after-school, summer activities, and local outreaches. Program goals focus on dietary quality (and promotion of physical activity), food security, food resource management and food safety. NEP also reaches food pantry recipients.

## NEP Awarded Grant Funding

Lane County Extension NEP was recently awarded an additional \$15,000 from OSU Family and Community Development. Funds will be used to target expanded programming to culturally and ethnically diverse audiences specifically the Latino and Native American population. These non-recurring funds must be expended by June 30, 2005.

## Lane Coalition for Healthy Active Youth

The Lane Coalition for Healthy Active Youth (LCHAY) is a community-based coalition dedicated to the prevention of childhood obesity in Lane County. The coalition formed in September 2004, under the auspices of the Lane County Medical Society Community Health Committee and currently has 67 members. The membership consists of community leaders in the areas of childhood physical activity, nutrition and public health. NEP has taken an active role in the coalition by providing consultation on the strategic planning process, securing funding for intervention research on youth obesity and funding to address community needs. The coalition's mission is "To prevent childhood obesity by mobilizing our community to adopt active lifestyles and healthful nutrition." The group's vision is that "all Lane County youth live healthy, active lives fueled by nutritious food."

## NEP Programming

From November through January, NEP served adult and youth audiences in the following communities: Florence, Eugene, Springfield, Mapleton, Junction City and Fern Ridge. Over 16 different Food Pantry sites were served monthly: WIC, DHS and other outreaches focused on the Eugene, Springfield and Florence areas.

Enrollment	Adult	Youth
OFNP	126	91
EFNEP	24	77
<b>Outreaches/Single Events</b>		
WIC	1	14
Pantries	12	54

## OSU Obesity Research Group

Obesity has become an epidemic in America. Although smoking is still the leading cause of death in the US, poor diet and physical inactivity may soon overtake tobacco as the leading cause of death (JAMA, Mokdad, 2004). Over 300,000 Americans die each year from illnesses caused or worsened by obesity. Currently, over 60% of US adults are overweight or obese, as are nearly 13% of US children. In Oregon, 67% of adults and 13% of children and adolescents are overweight or obese; rates that have doubled in the last 10 years.

Anna Galas, Professional Faculty and NEP Manager, has joined the OSU Obesity Research Group. The goal of the group is to establish sustainable funding for research, education and outreach on promoting physical activity, healthful nutrition behaviors aimed at obesity prevention, and effective dissemination of successful intervention strategies. Currently, NEP is coordinating efforts to gather preliminary nutrition and physical activity data at a local elementary school to apply for funds from the National Institute of Health. Research will address school-based interventions to prevent obesity, of which Lane County would be a host site.

## FOOD For Lane County Relations

NEP has partnered with FOOD For Lane County for several years on a very successful project known as Healthy Futures. Healthy Futures is a nutrition education class offered to people living on limited incomes an opportunity to learn about nutrition and healthy, low-cost cooking. NEP staff provided the nutrition education series to participants of the Healthy Futures program. Also during the past year, NEP has coordinated the highly successful Food Pantry Project which through volunteer efforts to date, has made over 4,100 contacts. In addition, NEP is embarking on a third collaboration to develop and train community garden volunteers on nutrition education lessons.

## FORESTRY

### Faculty: Steve Bowers

#### When Douglas-Fir Isn't The Answer

The Alternative Species Silviculture: When Douglas-Fir Isn't The Answer workshop was held in December 2004. The event was hosted by the Emerald Chapter of the Society of American Foresters (SAF). The species discussed at the event included grand fir, hemlock, western larch, western redcedar, ponderosa pine and coast redwood. Approximately 160 foresters attended the event.

Steve Bowers researched the coast redwood and made his presentation on this species. As a result, he is developing a database of individuals and organizations in Oregon that are currently growing coast redwoods or are planning to grow them.

#### Tree Volume And Value Table

Steve Bowers developed a tree volume and value table that will allow users to enter the amount the mill is paying for a specific length and diameter log. Instead of displaying a sheet with individual cells showing Scribner Volumes, the table shows the dollar values in each cell based on the information the user placed in the cells at the top of the page.

#### Holiday Cheer From the Forest

Oregon remains number one in the nation in the production of Christmas trees with 6.7 million trees sold in 2003 and a production value of \$113 million. Oregon Christmas trees are found in homes and offices in virtually all U.S. states and a number of foreign countries.



Many of those trees are from Lane County where production and gross income increased in 2003. Lane County is one of the top five Christmas Tree selling counties in the state. Gross income from the sale of Christmas trees in Lane County rose to \$7,440,000.

The interest in growing trees in the county continues. Twenty-three interested growers attended a November workshop at the Extension Service on "The Ins and Outs of Growing Christmas Trees."

## 4-H and SCHOOL ENRICHMENT

### Temporary Faculty: Amy Rowe, Sara Miller

#### 4-H School Enrichment Publications

Over 15 educators in Lane County have either purchased or borrowed 4-H materials to supplement and enrich their classrooms. Participants used 4-H publications on leadership, gardening and food and nutrition while others borrowed our Groundwater Flow Model and Creek Carving kit to teach about the physics of water in our environment. Student involvement totaled more than 430.

#### Membership And Leadership Is On The Rise

4-H club membership is up 25 percent over 2004. This is the first year in some time that graduate 4-H members have remained involved with 4-H by training to become club leaders. Graduates are 4-H members who have completed high school. These new club leaders are volunteering while attending college.

#### Tack Sale and Fashion Show Successful

About 200 people attended a recent 4-H Horse committee Tack Sale and Fashion Show.



The successful event helps fund the Horse Pre-Fair (allowing the club members to practice showing their horses before the Youth Fair event). The funds also supported a Dressage Clinic for club members.

## COMMERCIAL HORTICULTURE, HOME GARDENING

### Faculty: Ross Penhallegon and Program Asst.: Pat Patterson

**Update on Eastern Filbert Blight**  
New findings of Eastern Filbert Blight keep growers looking for this devastating disease. Two more infected sites were found in the Jasper area with the infection having been there for several years. Scouting for the disease and using protective sprays help to slow the movement and are being implemented by many growers county-wide.

**Community Gardener Certificate Series**  
The Community Gardener Certificate series is in its seventh year. The series is offered to those who are unable to attend the daytime Master Gardener (MG) classes. Attending six of the eight evening classes earns a community gardening series certificate. This year 55 people are attending the bi-monthly classes.

**Integrated Pest Management Course Successful**  
Integrated Pest Management Short Course was organized by the Lane County Extension Horticulture faculty and provided participants an opportunity to think about how to deal with insects, weeds and disease from a variety of perspectives. The 125 participants spent two-days examining biological, cultural, mechanical, and chemical means of dealing with pests. Participants came from all over the state and included representatives from federal, state, county and city government, as well as school and park districts and private citizens. The workshop made a local economic impact as out of town guests stayed in local motels and hotels and ate at local dining establishments.

**Garden Rhythm A Money Maker for MGs**  
Master Gardener volunteers created a money maker when they developed "Garden Rhythm: A year-Round Guide and Journal for the Maritime Northwest." The book features monthly lists of gardening tasks, tips for healthier and more productive plants as well as space for gardeners to track their garden's progress through the year.

Sales were initiated just in time for the holidays. Almost all 1,500 books that were printed have been sold. MGs plan to use the profits to help establish an endowed Lane County Master Gardener program assistant position, ensuring Lane County will always have a Master Gardener Program. Copies may be purchased at the Extension Office.



*Master Gardener, Marcia Hafner, helps with the beet harvest at the GrassRoots Garden.*

**The GrassRoots Garden**  
The OSU/Lane County Extension Service has been working cooperatively with FOOD for Lane County for more than 10 years to produce food for Lane County's limited resource residents. The GrassRoots Garden is one of those cooperative programs. It is located at St. Thomas Episcopal Church on Coburg Road, and is directed by a Master Gardener (MG) graduate.

Despite the unexpected weather-induced blight that took most of the garden's tomato crop, the GrassRoots garden grew over 33,500 pounds of produce during 2004. This outperformed the 30,000 lbs in 2003. To facilitate this large harvest, it took nearly 2,000 dedicated volunteers. Volunteer hours jumped to over 14,500 in 2004—representing over 5,600 separate visits to the Garden. A large percentage of these volunteer hours were from MGs. MGs put in a total of 2,630 hours.

Master Gardeners are encouraged to grow an extra row, donate produce to FOOD for Lane County and to assist with the gardening and composting at the GrassRoots Garden or other garden sites in Lane County.

**More Master Gardener Classes**  
Master Gardeners recently held a workshop for members to make garden art from twigs to sell at the annual MG Plant Sale in April. They also potted 200 donated bulbs to sell at the same event.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### Wildlife Stewards Takes Off

Over the months of October, November and December 2004, the 4-H Wildlife Stewards program trained 10 volunteers to work with Lane County schools to establish wildlife habitat and create learning areas on school grounds. Three schools (Dorena Elementary, Ridgeline Montessori and River Road Elementary) have been actively involved in the program. There are currently 330 students participating.

4-H faculty applied to the 4-H Extension Department for one-time funds to help boost the Wildlife Stewards program. The \$8,500 is being used to promote and expand the program in Lane County. The funds provide scholarships for volunteers to attend state training events, supply volunteers with educational materials and provide some schools with funds to begin a wildlife habitat on their school grounds.



*A future Wildlife Steward from River Road Elementary learns that wildlife habitat begins with the soil.*

### 4-H GOES ELECTRONIC TO SAVE BIG

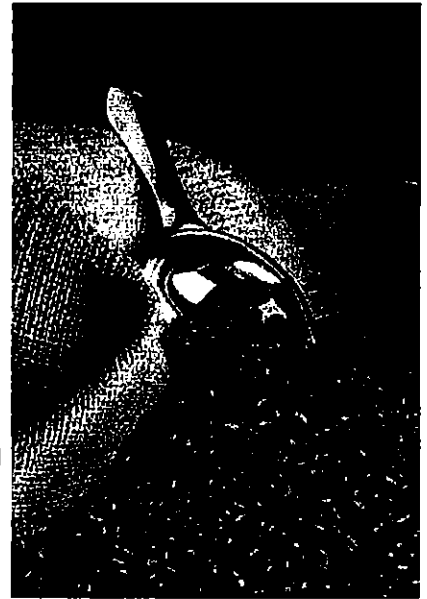
In an effort to save funds, the OSU/Lane County Extension Service 4-H program now publishes their newsletter on-line. The change has meant big savings for the program. Before October of 2004, the program printed and mailed 700 copies of the "Clover Patch" 7 to 9 times a year. Now that the newsletter is printed on-line, the program saves approximately \$1000 per issue. Communication with members and leaders has increased because the program now publishes the newsletter each month. In January, the 4-H website had more hits than any other OSU/Lane County Extension Service website. The increase is related to the improved on-line service.

## EXTENSION STAFFING

- ▲ Robin White has been hired to fill the new Operations Manager position. She has office management, budgeting, administrative assistant, and grant writing experience.
- ▲ Margaret Beller-Owen has been hired to fill the new Office Specialist II position in the Nutrition Education Program. She has worked as a clerical support and a case manager for Looking Glass and other youth services agencies.
- ▲ Two .50 4-H fixed term instructor positions are currently being filled. The two positions have been temporary since July, 2004, helping with the transition between 4-H agents. The interviews are complete and the preferred candidates are being offered positions.

### Coffee Crew Recycles Grounds

Coffee grounds are considered a nitrogen source for composting. They are less than two percent nitrogen by volume and are between 6.5 and 6.8 pH. This valuable soil amendment and compost material was routinely tossed by area espresso shops until the OSU/Lane County Extension Service and City of Eugene Composters got involved.



Composters recruited 12 area coffee shops to recycle their coffee grounds through the Coffee Crew Program. These shops were, on average, discarding 50 pounds of grounds a day, which translates into 4,200 pounds a week or 109 tons a year. Although it seems like a lot, the 109 tons are a fraction of what is thrown away by Lane County's coffee shops each year. Although the Coffee Crew recycling effort is new, members hope to grow the program and divert more coffee grounds from the Lane County Landfill in the future.

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