

## News to Help You Get the Most Out of Life

- **AG Expo 2011**
- **March 3, 4, 5, 6 Sewing / Stitchery**
- **Test Your Smoke Alarms**
- **4-H Fundraiser**
- **Pesticide Recertification / Training**
- **Winter Planning for High Production in Irrigated Pastures**

### AG EXPO 2011

Ag Expo 2011 will host a 4-H local fund raiser, during this exciting day event there will be items donated to benefit the Yakima County General 4-H program as well as our flagship **Know Your Government** program for 4-H teens. Save these dates of January 7 and 8, 2011, at the Yakima State Fair Park.

#### Classes and seminars| Education | Networking

You don't have to travel to be a better farmer. Take your operation to the next level. Yakima Ag Expo offers not only the latest technology and products, but also quality learning and more networking opportunities. The event is filled with exhibitors and experts from many different venues. No matter what size or type of operation you run, there's something for you at the Yakima Ag Expo

#### Friday's schedule .

- 8:00 am Former GW Bush Administration U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, **Ed Schafer**
- 9:30 am-12:30 pm Hops Commission Meeting
- 12:30 pm Washington State Department of Agriculture, **Dan Newhouse**
- 1:00 pm-4:00 pm Agriculture industry seminars hosted by Yakima County WSU Extension
- 1:00 pm-1:55 pm "**Best Practices for Irrigated pasture Management**" *Frank Hendrix*, Yakima County Extension Educator
- 2:00-2:55 pm "**Resources to Help You Save Energy and Money**" *Roni Baer*, Business Program Specialist Rural Development U.S Department of Agriculture
- 3:00-3:55 pm "**Growers Improve Water Quality Standards, and Improve their Bottom Line**". *Elaine S. Brouillard* RSBOJC Water Quality Specialist

#### Saturday Guest Speakers

- 10:00 am-Noon Moss Adams Session
- 12:30 pm, Attorney General **Rob McKenna**,

- Saturday Night Aggie Awards ...Back by popular demand!  
Country Music Star, **Michael Peterson** - *Aggie Awards Dinner Entertainer*

### 4-H FUNDRAISER-GENERAL 4-H PROGRAM

Live & Silent Auction during Ag Expo 2011 January 7 & 8, 2011

Auction Items Include:

Mountain Cabin Weekend  
Guitar Signed by Carrie Underwood & Billy Currington  
Jack Connley Collector Saddle & Hamley Collector Chaps  
Seahawks Signed Memorabilia  
Emerald Downs Day at the Races  
Yakima Valley Private Fly Over, Homemade Pie a Month, Coin Collection, Gourmet Seafood Dinner for Six

### KYG Fund

Homemade Quilt  
Horse riding Lessons  
Salmon Dinner  
Lap Robe  
One day of yard work  
Window washing  
Dried Hop Arrangement  
Pendleton Wool Throws (3)  
Pendleton Fabric Pillows (2)

### WESTERN WASHINGTON FAIRGROUNDS MARCH 3,4,5,6 SEWING / STITCHERY EXPO

Puyallup Fair / Events Center, 110 9<sup>th</sup> Ave SW.  
Choose from more than 100 daily seminars and hands-on classes and browse the booths over 200 exhibitors.  
Call toll free 866-554-8559 or visit.  
<http://www.sewexpo.com>.

### PESTICIDE RECERTIFICATION / TRAINING

Locations & Dates for 2011:

January 24, 25 - Yakima Clarion Hotel

January 31, Feb.1 - Wenatchee Red Lion Hotel  
 February 2, 3 – Moses Lake Big Bend Community College  
 February 14, 15 – Moscow, ID University Inn  
 February 16, 17 – Pasco TRAC, Holiday Inn Express  
 February 23, 24 – Spokane Mirabeau Park Hotel

Classes are from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. for 6 credits (Washington and Idaho). For Oregon credits see <http://oregon.gov/ODA/PEST/recertification.index.shtml>. For detailed agendas directions, and parking information, visit the website <http://pep.wsu.edu>.

### TEST YOUR SMOKE ALARMS

All homes should have smoke alarms, an escape route, and fire extinguishers on hand.

**Testing our smoke alarms** is one of the most important things we can do to protect ourselves and our loved ones. There should be smoke alarm in every bedroom and on every level of your home. According to FEMA, smoke alarms should be tested at least once a month.

Replace batteries in all smoke alarms at least once a year. If an alarm “chirps”, warning the battery is low, replace the battery right away. A good time to change the batteries is at the same time you change your clocks to daylight savings time.

Read the homeowner booklet that came with your smoke alarm. Most need no other maintenance besides an occasional vacuuming of dust or cobwebs.

Replace all alarms, including alarms that use 10-year batteries and hard-wired alarms, when they are 10 years old. Replace sooner if they do not respond properly.

Smoke alarms are available for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. These devices use strobe lights. Vibration devices can be added to these alarms.

**Have ABC type fire extinguishers** on each level of your home and know how to use them. The extinguisher should be easy to handle and needs to be maintained regularly. To use, remember **PASS**:

**P – Pull the pin**  
**A – Aim the nozzle**  
**S – Squeeze the handle and**  
**S – Sweep at the base of the fire**

**Have an escape plan** and practice the plan twice a year with the whole family. Be sure to know two ways out of your home and have a designated meeting place outside. Call 911 from a neighbor's house after you

have escaped. **Never** go back inside a burning building.

For additional information and more tips on fire safety, visit the National Fire Protection Association website at <http://www.nfpa.org/>. If you would like to learn more about safety and emergency preparedness, log on to <http://www.ready.gov> or call your local fire department.

### WINTER PLANNING FOR HIGH PRODUCTION IN IRRIGATED PASTURES — 2010

In irrigated pasture management there are many places to spend money, but four common areas make the greatest economic impact on pasture and grazing income. The economic impact areas include: pasture fertility, pasture fencing, pasture seeding and irrigation improvements.

Answering a key question, is it economically feasible to fertilize irrigated pastures with 150 pounds of available nitrogen, the answer is yes. Several years ago, when nitrogen fertilizers were higher than \$1,000.00 per ton, the numbers showed fertilizing at this level was profitable. At today's nitrogen prices (approximately \$550.00 per ton) it is feasible, profitable and intelligent to spend money on soil testing and fertilizer in irrigated pastures. Every dollar spent on fertilizing results in \$19 to \$35 of forage production, depending on forage plant species, population and several other variables. A fertility plan should be one of the highest priorities in a managed intensive grazing program.

– Frank Hendrix



Washington State University Extension helps people develop leadership skills and use research-based knowledge to improve their economic status and quality of life.

*Christine B Jackson*

Christine B. Jackson, County Director and 4-H Youth Development

Michael R. Bush, Entomology and Pest Management

Angela Combe  
 Family and Consumer Sciences, EFNEP and SNAP

W. Frank Hendrix, Animal Sciences,  
 Irrigated Pasture and Range Management

*Helping You Put Knowledge to Work*