

Resilient in the face of adversity

How our state fairs bounced back in 2021

Washington State Fairs Commission



Washington
State Department of
Agriculture

Who are the Fairs Commissioners



Ron Crawford,
Western WA



Paul Nimmo,
Western WA



Greg Stewart,
Eastern WA



Megan Finkenbinder,
Chair & Program
Administrator



Tim Schneider,
At-Large



**Paul Kuber, Eastern
WA**



Lori Williams,
Eastern WA

The Washington State Fairs Commission consists of seven (*three from Western WA, three from Eastern WA and one at-large*) members who are appointed by the Director of the Washington State Department of Agriculture and one ex-officio who is the Chair.

The Commission is tasked with the evaluation of Washington Fairs along with presenting to the Director of Agriculture a recommendation for funding for both General Fund dollars and Capital Improvement grants. The primary role of the commission is to be a partner to the fairs in our state. Our commissioners are all invested in the success of fairs and through our partnership, are available as a resource of information and support.

“Pick a Fair, We’ll See you There!”

What fairs were evaluated in 2021

- Jr. Livestock Show of Spokane
- Waitsburg Jr. Livestock Show
- WA State Jr. Horse Show
- NW Junior Sheep Expo
- Whidbey Island County Fair
- Cowlitz County Fair
- Silvana Community Fair
- Grays Harbor County Fair
- Skagit County Fair
- Yakima Valley Fair & Rodeo
- Valley Community Fair
- Southwest WA Fair
- Pend Oreille County Fair
- Wahkiakum County Fair
- Hunters Community & 4-H Fair
- Benton-Franklin County Fair
- Pacific County Fair
- Klickitat County Fair
- North Central WA Fair
- Evergreen Youth Livestock Show
- Kitsap County Fair
- Evergreen State Fair
- Ferry County Fair
- Othello Area Fair
- Chelan County Fair
- Okanogan County Fair
- Garfield County Fair

Commissioner Ron Crawford



Social distancing signs throughout the fairgrounds



Hand-washing signs and hand-washing stations available throughout the grounds



Commissioner Ron Crawford



Masks available throughout the fairgrounds



Improved ventilation in buildings

Commissioner Ron Crawford



4-H demonstration area well marked



Example of chapter sign and educational materials in barn

Commissioner Paul Kuber



Yarn on display with Koolaid dye, showcased during a spinning demonstration



Beautiful open quilt display. Crowd voted daily on a new fair goers pick!

Commissioner Paul Kuber



Clean barns and comfortable sheep



Mission and objective statements were clearly posted

Commissioner Paul Kuber

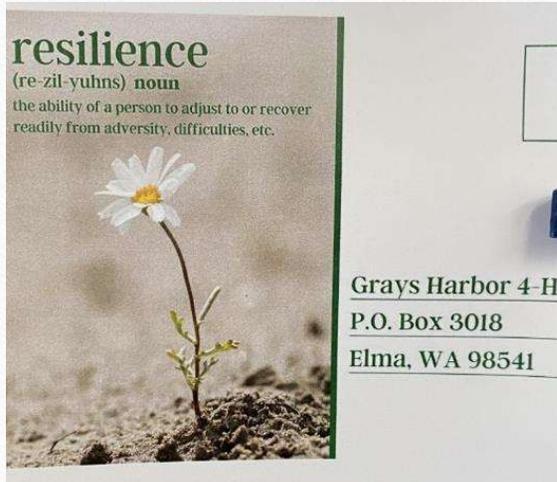


FFA projects at their best



One of the best Ag focused displays, showcasing products from the area

Commissioner Paul Nimmo



Resilience, the best term for agricultural fairs in 2021



What best represents the hope for the future, 4-H will thrive and bring new energy to our fairs



Well planned use of space made it difficult to notice any difference from years prior

Commissioner Paul Nimmo



Merging the need to use up space while promoting the longevity of fairs



Well laid-out exhibits welcomed new and returning fair patrons



This not only provides information on how to get info but also indicates a plan for the future

Commissioner Paul Nimmo



Quick interactive displays not only involve and inform, but also fill space



Volunteers returned ready to provide, here a volunteer is painting rocks for fair guests.



Activities for kids creates memories, happy memories encourage future visits

Commissioner Paul Nimmo



This FFA member is proud to share their project information, newcomers to the fair learn as well as understand the importance of fairs to these youth



A day at the fair does not need to be stressful



Junior Grange reminds us all that there is a viable future in agriculture and the relationship with fairs

Commissioner Paul Nimmo



Space for families also has a new importance during these troubled times



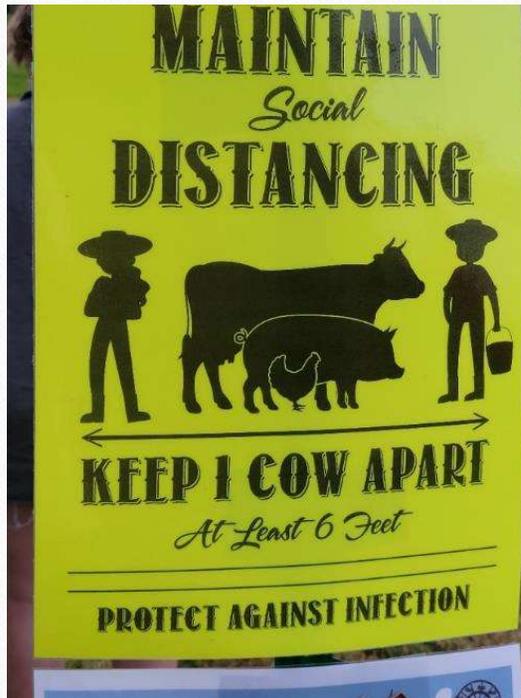
Many fairs struggle with the requirement for a “Featured Agricultural Display.”

Please see the guidelines on the WSDA website at agr.wa.gov – search for “**agricultural display guidelines county fairs**”

Or go here:

<https://cms.agr.wa.gov/WSDAKentico/Documents/AdminRegs/Fairs/Agricultural-Display-Guidelines-County-Area-Fairs.pdf?/Agricultural-Display-Guidelines-County-Area-Fairs>

Commissioner Tim Schneider



Commissioner Tim Schneider



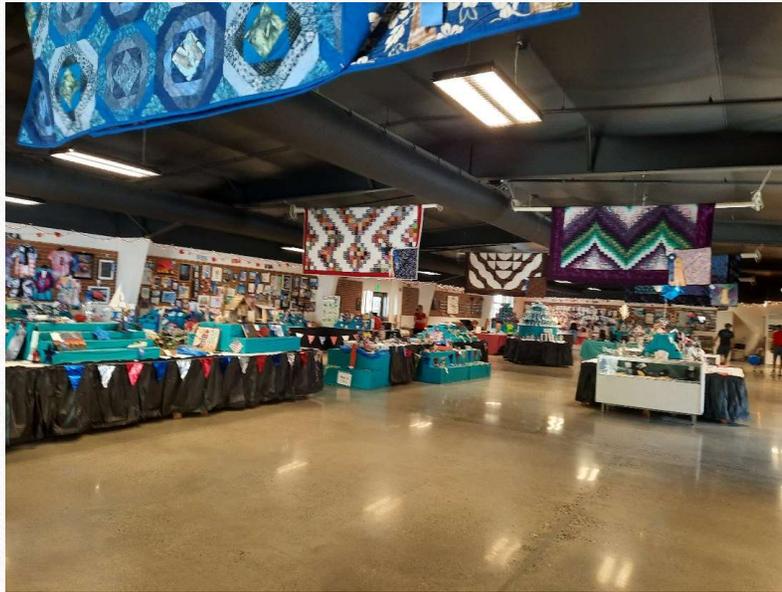
Commissioner Tim Schneider



Commissioner Tim Schneider



Commissioner Lori Williams



Commissioner Lori Williams



Commissioner Lori Williams



Commissioner Lori Williams



Commissioner Greg Stewart



Having a ramp to
push the
wheelbarrow up to
the manure storage

Commissioner Greg Stewart



Spotted this way of handling manure with a pit dug into ground allowing a dump truck to allow exhibitor to unload a wheelbarrow. Avoid handling manure twice

Commissioner Megan Finkenbinder



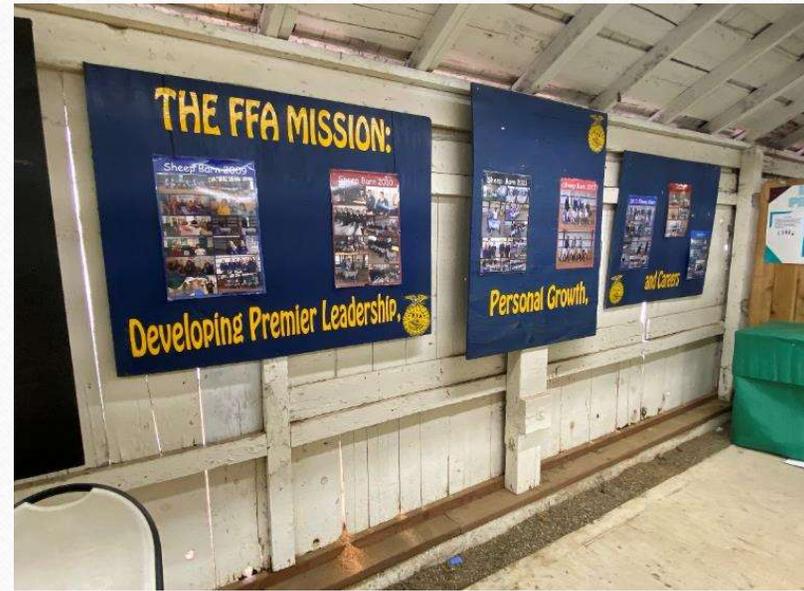
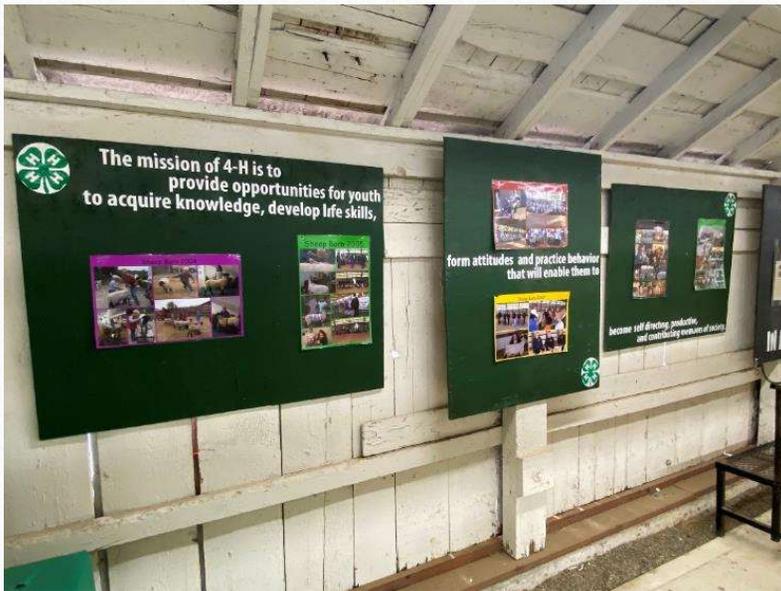
Examples of great signage!

The ability to move a sandwich board around the grounds to advertise is really helpful.

The SW WA Fair sign was right when you entered the grounds, providing fairgoers lots of information.



Commissioner Megan Finkenbinder



Great display boards of both the 4-H and FFA mission and goals.

Commissioner Megan Finkenbinder



A very unique and eye catching way to display quilts.



Great education on Nigerian Dwarf Dairy Goats



**Congratulations to all for a successful
2021 season!**

We look forward to next year.

- Your Washington State Fairs Commissioners -