

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2017

UPCOMING EVENTS

Kit Carson County

817 15th Street
Burlington, Colorado 80807
(719) 346-5571
coopext_kit_carson@mail.colostate.edu

Phillips County

127 East Denver
Holyoke, Colorado 80734
(970) 854-3616
coopext_phillips@mail.colostate.edu

Sedgwick County

315 Cedar
County Courthouse
Julesburg, Colorado 80737
(970) 474-3479
coopext_sedgwick@mail.colostate.edu

Washington County

181 Birch Avenue
Akron, Colorado 80720
(970) 345-2287
coopext_washington@mail.colostate.edu

Yuma County

310 Ash, Suite B
Wray, Colorado 80758
(970) 332-4151
coopext_yuma@mail.colostate.edu

JANUARY

- 7-22 National Western Stock Show – Denver. For the complete schedule, go to www.nationalwestern.com. Group ticket info will be in the office shortly.
- 13 4-H Day at National Western Stock Show
- 28-30 Leadership Development Conference (LDC). More info in this newsletter.
- 30 4-H Day at the State Capitol

FEBRUARY

- 10-12 YouthFest – Ponderosa Retreat Center in Larkspur, CO. More info in this newsletter.



4-H Scholarships



Attention graduating seniors! You may be interested in applying for state 4-H scholarships. It's simple to apply for them as they all have the same application. Fill it out once and you have applied for all scholarships. The application is available from January 2 to April 1, 2017.

For more information on state scholarships, go to <http://co4hfoundation.extension.colostate.edu/benefits/Colorado-4-h-foundation-scholarships/>.

4-H... More Than You Ever **IMAGINED.**



Throughout the coming year, we would like to highlight individuals who have benefitted from 4-H in a very special way. Many people might discourage a child from joining because of mental, physical, or social limitations, but as you will soon see, 4-H truly knows no boundaries and encourages youth from all walks of life to use this program to help them reach goals that they never imagined they would achieve. Let me tell you a bit about Pason.

Pason Frank was diagnosed with Autism over four years ago. Symptoms of Autism include sensitivity to light, sound, smell and touch, trouble with social interaction and challenges with communication. All of these, Pason experiences. Despite these limitations, Steve and Nicole Frank signed Pason up for 4-H, so he could learn to work through these limitations. Due to his disability, he is extremely sensitive to the sound that comes with the daily chores of showing animals. In order to make him more comfortable, he used to have to put in earplugs, but he's also had to find his own ways to cope. Pason has been able to push past his subconscious limitations in order to show by constantly reminding himself of the prize at the end of a show. For Pason, the prize isn't a new belt buckle or trophy. All he cares about is whether or not he can get a ribbon, no matter the color. Pason's family has helped him with these experiences. They have discovered that with patience, encouragement and commitment, they can help Pason succeed. Without the opportunities presented to Pason through 4-H, he would not be the person he is today. Each and every day he asks his family a question pertaining to the livestock industry, and he has become more willing to ask questions aloud in front of large groups of people. He has learned compassion with guidance through attending 4-H meetings, and he is now actually learning how to listen to others' opinions. If Pason had not been enrolled in 4-H, he would not have become the person he is today and his special needs would still be holding him back both socially and mentally. In his family's experience, scheduling is very important so that Pason is able to know what is coming next so instilling a schedule for Pason, through showing cattle. Every day, he is assigned the same tasks while the rest of the family works on chores while gradually increasing his responsibilities. By increasing his responsibilities, Pason is learning to not become fixated on a single task because he now understands that another life is depending on him completing his chores. When he first began showing cattle, he had simple tasks like drying a single steer and then being able to go back to the house instead of staying at the barn. However, he now is able to walk steers to move them in and out of the barn, give feed to animals, and completely wash and dry. These are simple tasks to most kids but for a child who was once afraid of animals and who has a disability, it is a huge accomplishment especially since he has gotten to this point in a matter of a couple of years. He is now able to show on his own instead of needing help to show. 4-H has given Pason an outlet to focus his energy into and for him to truly see what he can accomplish. In only a few short years, he has been able to become independent when it comes to preparing his animals for shows and then show them on his own. It is amazing what an organization, like 4-H has been able to do and what it has done for those with disabilities. There are numerous cases of kids with disabilities that have improved leaps and bounds because of the outlet that 4-H has given to them.



OPPORTUNITIES AND ACTIVITIES

Youth Sewing Club Meets Monthly

With great excitement and enthusiasm, two local women have teamed up to offer sewing lessons in Washington County for youth in Second grade through high school. Michele Harms and Carol Slusser, of Akron, are planning for an ongoing youth sewing club or series of lessons for the second Saturday morning each month at the Washington County Courthouse Annex, 181 Birch Avenue in Akron, from 9 a.m. to noon.

The first session on October 8, 2016 started off with introductions and orientation, followed by sewing pillowcases to give to children in hospitals. The November 12th class focus on getting familiar with the sewing machine and taking body measurements for pattern selection. The December session, the participants made Fleece snowman pillows.

In January, youth are to bring a pattern and fabric for their first clothing project, such as pajama bottoms or other simple sew project. Contact Gisele Jefferson for a supply list for January 14. Youth will sew on this project for two or three sessions: February 11 and March 11.



Washington County 4-H and CSU Extension are offering some support to this group by sharing some sewing machines, fabric and supplies for those youth who are not able to come up with them.

All interested youth are asked to call into the Washington County Extension office at 970-345-2287 to let us know of their interest to allow time for the gathering of enough equipment and supplies.



Leadership Development Conference

The annual Leadership Development Conference (LDC) will be held January 28-30, 2017 in Denver. Interested youth can contact your local office to pre-register by January 9th.

LDC is a fun, educational weekend promoting

leadership development and community service. The event is open to youth 14 and over and registration is typically around \$150.00 (plus lodging). This conference is in conjunction with the annual 4-H Day at the Capitol where members can be present during the Proclamation for Colorado 4-H Day. Tours of the state capitol will be available. Details are available at your local County Extension Office or at www.colorado4h.org.



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
CONFERENCE



Be Somebody! Program

Several county 4-H agents across the eastern plains are looking forward to offering a fun and exciting one-day leadership experience on May 31st in Burlington. The Be Somebody! Program will help youth recognize and develop their personal character and leadership skills. 4-H members should be ready to be moving and active throughout this program. More information will be coming out this spring. Contact your Extension Office for more information on this and prepare to Be Somebody!



Colorado 4-H is Excited to Announce Our Community Service Project for LDC and Youth Fest!



We have teamed up with Funds2Orgs to not only raise a little money to support our state events, but with your donation of gently worn shoes, you will be helping to develop and sustain micro-businesses in more than 25 under-developed nations around the world.

Families in these nations that receive the shoes that you collect have little to no income or livelihood. These shoes, and their ability to be sold or repurposed, represent a micro-enterprise opportunity for individual families and their communities. It represents true sustainability.

GOAL: 300 bags of 25 pairs of shoes in each bag by mid-February 2017.

We are challenging each county to bring a minimum of 2 bags of 25 pairs of shoes to LDC and 1 bag of 25 pairs of shoes to Youth Fest. Western National Roundup is also contributing to this service project so between the three events, we should reach our goal. Shoes need to be rubber banded together and placed in clear plastic bags. PLEASE, shoes are to be new, or gently worn and clean. If you would not lend the shoes to your best friend, then they are not good enough for this donation.

You can collect shoes from your family, friends, neighbors, and anyone you know. It is estimated that around 600 million pairs of shoes go into America's landfills and a majority of these shoes can still be worn. I know I have four pair of shoes that are for sure getting donated. They can be heels, flats, tennis shoes, dress shoes, boots, work boots, any shoes. Just as long as they are clean and in good shape.

We are excited to work with you on this fun campaign.

Email or call Melissa Barton at melissa@moonstoneagency.com or 970-213-0899 with any questions.



Citizenship Washington Focus

June 25 to July 2, 2017

What does it mean to be a good citizen? Are you being a strong civic leader for your community, country and world?

Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) is a week-long 4-H citizenship program for youth ages 15-19 that takes place at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center, just 1 mile from the Washington, DC border.

Every summer, thousands of young people participate in the program, which provides opportunities for them to:

- strengthen their communication, leadership, and citizenship skills on a national level
- understand the importance of civic and social responsibilities as they relate to the development of better citizens and leaders.
- exchange ideas, practice respect, and for friendships with other youth from diverse backgrounds.
- experience hands-on learning using the historical backdrop of Washington, DC.

CWF participants enjoy:

- a behind-the-scenes look at our nation's capital and the chance to meet Member of Congress
- motivational speakers, educational workshops, and assemblies that increase individual commitment to citizen involvement and build life time skills for success.
- activities that encourage new and lasting friendships
- an enthusiastic staff of young adults that work directly with them

Participants are immersed in the culture and history of Washington through onsite workshops at it most spectacular sights.

The week's signature event called "Nightview" is a spectacular evening tour of our nation's most historic sites.

Destinations include, but are not limited to:

- The Capitol
- Mount Vernon
- Arlington National Cemetery
- Presidential and war monuments and memorials
- Smithsonian museums



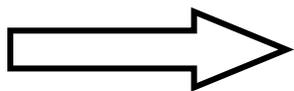
In between tours, youth can relax at the National 4-JH Youth Conference Center, the premier meeting and conference center in the Washington, DC area especially for young people. It offers a 12-acre campus with 24-hour uniformed security, fitness center, and full-court basketball. Recreation room with cyber café, all-you-can eat buffet in the Clover Café, free parking and more.

Eligibility:

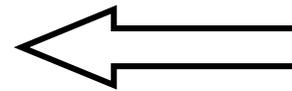
Must be 15-19 years of age by December 31 of the enrollment. Colorado 4-H membership and leadership, based on application and 1-3 page resume. Seventy 4-H members are selected. Counties are asked to interview and select prior to submission. Contact your local county Extension Office for more information.

LIVESTOCK

Certification/Recertification Workshops



You Must Attend A MQA Workshop
1. First 2 years taking a livestock project
2. Once at 12 years of age
3. Once at 15 years of age



Public confidence in our meat products is extremely important to the success of the livestock industry. Youth livestock projects play an important role in building or losing the trust of our consumers. It is important that youth livestock exhibitors exceed the standard in producing quality, defect-free livestock for our consumers. In the past, a very small number of exhibitors have given youth livestock shows a bad name by using unethical and unsafe

techniques to “win at all cost.” As a result, we have implemented a strong Meat Quality Assurance program in Colorado. Through the MQA workshops youth learn ethics and good production practices needed to produce a high quality, desirable product for the American Consumer. If you need to attend this year you will be notified by your county Extension office prior to the workshop.

You have the option to test out of the workshop at 12 and 15 years of age but it is highly recommended to attend a workshop instead. The workshops allow for hands on learning and experience. For those of you that participated last year, it will be the same layout. There will be different stations pertaining to the 10 Good Production Practices set up at each location and you will have the chance to observe and learn with real supplies and equipment. You will have the opportunity to come any time during the listed period as long as you are able to participate at each station. Allow yourself one hour. The following chart explains when and where the workshops will be. Keep in mind that dates and/or times and locations are subject to change so stay posted and be sure to call your local Extension Office if you have any questions.

2017 Northeast Colorado MQA Dates

*March 29, 4:00-7:00 p.m. - Kit Carson County
Community Center, Burlington*

**April 4, 4:00-7:00 p.m. – Yuma County
Fairgrounds, Yuma**

*April 5, 2:30-5:30 p.m. – Yuma County
Roundhouse, Wray*

**April 6, 4:00-7:00 p.m. – Logan County
Fairgrounds, Sterling**

*April 9, 4:00-7:00 p.m. – Sedgwick County
Fire Hall, Julesburg*

**April 10, 4:00-7:00 p.m. – Phillips County
Fairgrounds, Holyoke**

*April 12, 4:00-7:00 p.m. – Washington County
Fairgrounds, Akron*

**May 15, 4:00-6:30 p.m. – Morgan County
Fairgrounds, Brush**

*May 16, 4:00-6:30 p.m. – Morgan County
Fairgrounds, Brush*



Welcome to The Blue Ribbon - Youth Livestock Projects blog!

The purpose of this blog is to provide information, advice and suggestions for improving youth livestock projects from multiple sources. The information, advice and suggestions in this blog come from professional agricultural educators who have multiple years of experience working with youth and their livestock projects. If you ever have a question or a particular subject you would like addressed, please feel free to contact Scott Stinnett via email, or leave a comment and we will do our best to assist or address the subject. Should the question or subject be more technical, we will help direct you to an appropriate resource for the best possible answer. This blog has recently covered topics such as Heat Lamps, Help or Hazard?, Veterinary Feed Directive, and Decemburr! Click on the link <http://theblueribbonyouthlivestockproject.blogspot.com/> or visit the Golden Plains Extension website and click on the Youth Livestock Blog link on the bottom, left hand of the page.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

4-H 101

New to 4-H and not sure what to expect?

Newsletter: Your enrollment automatically subscribes you to this newsletter which is dedicated to our five county area called “Golden Plains”. Watch the front of the newsletter for information and events that may be pertinent to all area counties. Flip to our county section for specific news, events, deadlines and rules for your county.

You will receive another newsletter bimonthly. Current and past editions are available on the Golden Plains website at <http://goldenplains.colostate.edu/>



Club Meetings: Are you in touch with your club leader to find out when your club meetings are? Try to attend as many meetings as you can so that you can get involved, make friends, and learn more about your projects. Many clubs have requirements as to how many meetings you need to attend so make sure you are aware of that number.

Manuals: Be sure to ask your club leader or the Extension office if you need a project manual. These manuals were designed to help you learn more about your specific project. TIP: For additional help, try to find out if your club has any project leaders that can help you. Colorado4h.org also has tip sheets for most projects. Click “Projects and Record Books”. Scroll to the middle of the page and click “Tip Sheets”.

Livestock Weigh In: Are you taking a livestock project? If you plan to show a market animal (one that will be fed out, shown and possibly sold) you’ll need to be sure to check the newsletter for information about livestock weigh-in or nomination. All market beef, market goats, and market lambs must be weighed in on the specific date listed. Market Swine must be tagged and have appropriate “nomination” paperwork turned in before May 1st. Rabbits and Poultry do not need to be weighed in or tagged.



Websites: Check out our local Golden Plains website at goldenplains.colostate.edu or the state 4-H website at www.colorado4H.org. Some of the Golden Plains Area counties also have a 4-H Facebook page, just search for Phillips County 4-H, Washington County Colorado 4-H, Yuma County Colorado 4-H, or Kit Carson County 4-H, Colorado on facebook and then “Like” to follow their updates.



Check for the Right Project Manual



Leaders or families often have extra 4-H manuals from previous years on hand and give them out to youth, especially to those who want to get a head start on 2017 projects.

BE SURE THE MANUAL IS CURRENT!! Various 4-H manuals are updated each year, and if a youth has an outdated version, they might end up doing the wrong requirements and exhibit. *If you have unused manuals, please bring them to the Extension Office to check if they are still current. Thanks!!*

KIT CARSON COUNTY

Mick Livingston (4-H Youth Development/Livestock)

Scott Stinnett (4-H Youth Development)

JANUARY

- 6 LDC Registrations Due
- 7-22 National Western Stock Show
- 13 4-H Day at PRCA Rodeo and National Western Stock Show
- 16 Kit Carson County 4-H Council Meeting
- 28-30 Leadership Development Conference

FEBRUARY

- 1 Kit Carson County Fair Superintendent Applications Due
- 10-12 YouthFest
- 16 Citizenship Washington Focus Applications Due
- 19 Kit Carson County Fair Beef Weigh-In



Leadership Development Conference

Leadership Development Conference will be January 28th to 30th and is for 4-H members age 14 and older. It is a great opportunity to network with other 4-H members while growing leadership skills. Members will also be able to go to the capital and meet and visit with their legislators. KCC 4-H Council will help pay for part of a member's expenses. Registration is \$105 and closes on January 6th.

National Western Stock Show

NWSS will be January 7th through 22nd. We have several KCC 4-H members who will be exhibiting livestock and would love to have your support. There are also discounted tickets available for groups and especially for 4-H Day at NWSS. For ticket information, contact group ticketing at 303-295-3959 or visit <http://nationalwestern.com/tickets/>.

YouthFest

YouthFest is for 4-H members age 9-13 and is an opportunity for members to learn teamwork, leadership, communication and citizenship skills through a variety of workshops. YouthFest is conducted by the Colorado State 4-H Senate Officer Team. Registration is \$80 and will open sometime in the middle of January. KCC 4-H Council will help pay for part of a member's expenses.



Livestock Judging and Horse Judging

4-H members interested in judging livestock or horses should contact Mick or



Scott at the Extension office. Practices will begin in January with contests in the spring.

Citizenship Washington Focus

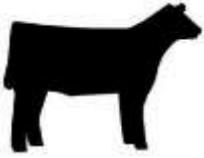
Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) is a week-long 4-H citizenship program for youth ages 15-19 that takes place at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center. Every summer, thousands of young people participate in the program, which provides opportunities for them to strengthen their communication, leadership, and citizenship skills, and experience hands-on learning using the historical backdrop of Washington, DC.

Kit Carson County 4-H Council offers two partial scholarships to pay a part of the total cost. Members wanting to attend should fill out an application available at the Extension Office. The applications will be ranked to determine the amount paid by the council. The remainder of the balance will be the responsibility of the delegate.

After CWF, members who attended will be asked to create a booth for the KCC Fair and give oral presentations at a county council meeting and the 4-H achievement program.

Junior Superintendents

4-H members interested in being Junior Superintendents for the 2016 KCC Fair need to contact the Extension office and apply by February 1st. We ask that junior livestock superintendents not apply for a specie they intend to show at the fair.



Beef Weigh-In

Beef Weigh-in will be **Sunday Feb 19th, from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM**. Any market beef cattle who may be showing at the KCC fair must weigh during those times in order to be eligible to show at the fair. This weight will be used to determine the animals Rate of Gain. There will be 155 days between weigh-in and fair. To meet the 2 pound per day rate of gain, animals will need to gain 310 pounds by fair. Maximum weights will be 1500 pounds for steers and 1450 pounds for market heifers at fair.

Livestock Showmanship Clinic

This year a basic showmanship clinic will be held sometime after schools are out. The clinic will go over basic and advanced showmanship principles including feeding, grooming, showmanship practice, show day preparation and show ring presence. If you would like to help, please contact Scott at the Extension office.

Spring Break Workshops

Last year we held our first spring break project area workshops. They included cake decorating, leatherwork, and livestock. If there is a project area you are interested in learning about or mentoring other 4-H members, contact Scott at the Extension Office.

Shooting Sports

Shooting sports will be getting underway soon. **Safety Training** for **ALL** participants will be held at **1:30 PM, Sunday, March 12th** at the Burlington Gun Club. **All shooting sports members are required to attend.** Range cleanup will be immediately after safety training. Bring your warm work clothes and gloves.



All participants must complete hunter's education before participating in any shooting activities. Go to <http://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/HunterEducation.aspx> for more information on hunter's education.

Discipline trainings will take place at 1:30 PM on April 2nd at the Burlington Gun Club.

| <u>2017 Shooting Dates</u> | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Date | Place | Discipline Time |
| April 30th, First Shoot | Burlington Gun Club | Shotgun 9:00 am All Others 1:30 pm |
| May 21 st , Second Shoot | Burlington Gun Club | Shotgun 9:00 am All Others 1:30 pm |
| May 30 th , Third Shoot | Burlington Gun Club | Shotgun ONLY 5:30 pm |
| June 3 rd , Fourth Shoot | Flagler Wildlife Area | 2:00 pm (NO SHOTGUN) |
| June 4th | Flagler Wildlife Area | 2:00 pm (NO SHOTGUN) |
| June 10th | Burlington Gun Club | Shotgun ONLY 2:00 pm |
| June 25th, Fifth Shoot | Burlington Gun Club | Shotgun 9:00 am All Others 1:30 pm |

PHILLIPS COUNTY

Kindra Plumb (4-H Associate)

JANUARY

- 2 New Year's Holiday – Office Closed
- 4 LDC Registration Deadline
- 7-22 National Western Stock Show
- 13 4-H Day at Stock Show
- 15 Phillips County 4-H Council Meeting – Ortner Room, 4:00 pm
- 16 Phillips County Fair Board Meeting
- 28-30 Leadership Development Conference – Denver
- 30 4-H Day at the State Capitol

FEBRUARY

- 4 Market Beef Weigh-In – Fairgrounds, 9-10 am
- 4 Livestock Judging Meeting – Ortner Room, 10:30 am
- 10-12 YouthFest – Ponderosa Retreat and Conference Center, Larkspur
- Mid-Month CWF Applications Due – Call office for more information
- 20 Phillips County Fair Board Meeting



Remember: All 4-H Enrollments Are Due January 15th!



All enrollments for the new 4-H year are due by midnight, January 15th using the 4HOnline system. You are welcome to use an Extension Office computer to complete online enrollment. Your club leaders have step-by-step instructions for online enrollment. Please contact the Extension Office with any questions or concerns about enrolling online. April 15th will remain the add/drop deadline for projects. Please to go <https://co.4honline.com> to enroll.

Next Council Meeting

Council officers and representatives: our next regularly scheduled council meeting will be Sunday, January 15, 4 p.m. in the Ortner Room at the Event Center.

Youth Fest

Youth Fest is for 4-H members ages 9-13. It will be held February 10-12, 2017 at the Ponderosa Retreat Center in Larkspur, CO. For more information or to register, please contact the Extension Office. All registrations are due by January 25. Youth will learn important skills such as leadership, teamwork and critical thinking. They will also have the opportunity to meet other 4-H members from across the state. The registration fee for Youth Fest is \$130. Camp reimbursements may be available from the council and/or your club.

Citizenship Washington Focus

4-H members who are 15 years or older by the first of the year are eligible to attend the Washington Focus trip to Washington D.C. this coming summer. As a participant, you will develop a greater understanding of American heritage, gain insight into the American government, as well as explore personal and social objectives. You'll get the opportunity to visit the National 4-H Center, Capitol Hill, governmental departments, historical sites, and memorial buildings. Phillips County would like to send at least one delegate on this trip. If you are interested in applying to go, please call the office for more information. The deadline for this application is mid-February. The Phillips County 4-H Council offers one \$1,000 scholarship to attend CWF.

Thank you!!

The Heginbotham Trust is once again paying your state 4-H dues for the 20156-17 4-H year. State dues are \$15 per member. Please remember to send them a thank you for supporting Phillips County 4-H! Their mailing address is: The Will Heginbotham Trust, P.O. Box 245, Holyoke, CO 80734.



A special thank you goes to Mardi Stewart and Mendi Lutze for agreeing to serve as the Leader Advisors for the 2016-17 Phillips County 4-H Council. Thank you!

Livestock Weigh-In Information



Market Beef Weigh-In will be held at the Phillips County Fairgrounds on Saturday, February 4th from 9-10 a.m. You will need the brand inspection paper or official bill of sale at this time to prove ownership. Please be on time! If you do not weigh your animal in, you are not eligible to show at county fair. The weight range for county fair will be 1,000-1,500 lbs.

Market Lamb and Goat Weigh-In will be held at the Phillips County Fairgrounds and is scheduled for Sunday, May 7th from 3 – 4 p.m. You will need to weigh – in your lambs and goats in order to be eligible to show at county fair. **Catch-it-goat recipients:** you will receive your goat at this time. Make arrangements to pick your goat up at weigh-in and transport it to your home or the place where you will be keeping your animal.

Market Swine will not be weighed in. All swine ID will be entered online. It is your responsibility to tag your pigs and take **THREE** pictures of each pig. Please pick up the tags, tagger, and instructions for entering your information online at the Extension Office. Tag your pigs and take a picture of the left side, right side, and a picture of the pig's head showing the tag. There will be example pictures attached to your instruction paper. You will also need to record the pig's ear notches on the swine ID form. The due date for the completed swine ID and pictures (online) is May 8.

All Potential State Fair Exhibitors: market beef, sheep and goats all need retinal scanned if you plan on showing at state fair. (Market hogs do not get retinal scans; ear notches will need submitted when nominating for state fair.) Retinal scans will be done at weigh-in. Retinal scans cost \$5 per animal. Please be prepared to pay on the day of weigh-in for any animal you have scanned. Thank you.

Livestock Judging

Would you like to understand why your animal won a class at fair? Or maybe your animal placed lower in a class and you would like to know why. If you answered yes to these questions, consider participating in livestock judging to learn what to look for when selecting and judging livestock. Livestock judging also offers you the opportunity to improve your decision making, public speaking, and critical thinking. You will make a few friends along the way and have the opportunity to travel to several contests. If you are interested in judging, please contact Kindra at the Extension Office. The first meeting will be February 4, 10:30 a.m. at the Phillips County Event Center, Ortner Room (immediately following market beef weigh-in).

MQA Date Set!

The Meat Quality Assurance (MQA) date for Phillips County will be Monday, April 10, 4-7 p.m. at the Phillips County Event Center. If you are new to a 4-H livestock project, you are required to participate in the training the first two years of your project. You will need to re-certify when you are 12 and again when you are 15. The exception to this rule is the market swine project. Market swine members will need to take MQA/PQA each year he/she is a junior. At ages 12 and 15, market swine members are eligible to “test out.” Please contact the Extension office if you have questions about this. Livestock projects that require MQA training include: beef, sheep, swine, goats, rabbits, and poultry.

Pork Quality Assurance (PQA) is included in the MQA training. If you haven't met this requirement by **June 11, 2017** you will not be eligible to show at fair.



4-H Project Selection Guide

If you are still deciding on your projects for this year, take a look at the Colorado 4-H Project Selector Guide. Click on the project area to get more detailed information about that specific project. Go to www.colorado4h.org/project_resources/index.php to find the project guides.

E-Records

It's not too early to start thinking about your e-records, especially if you are enrolled in a livestock project! To locate your e-records for your project, please go to http://www.colorado4h.org/project_resources/erecords/index.php.

Record Book Folders

If you are in need of a green record book folder for your record book, please stop by the Extension Office to purchase one. You are encouraged to use a green record book folder for all your record books (one folder per book). The cost is \$3 per folder.

4-H Scholarships

Attention graduating seniors! You may be interested in applying for state 4-H scholarships. For more information on state scholarships, go to <http://co4hfoundation.extension.colostate.edu/benefits/colorado-4-h-foundation-scholarships/>.

SEDGWICK COUNTY

Jessica Harrington (4-H Associate)

JANUARY

- 6 Leadership Development Conference Registration Deadline
- 13 4-H Day at the National Western Stock Show
- 17 Sedgwick County 4-H Enrollment Deadline
- 28-30 Leadership Development Conference in Denver

FEBRUARY

- 5 Market Beef Weigh-In – Fairgrounds, 1:00-2:00 p.m.
- 10-12 YouthFest – Ponderosa Retreat and Conference Center, Larkspur, CO



MARKET BEEF WEIGH-IN

Market Beef Weigh-In will be held at the Sedgwick County Fairgrounds on **Sunday, February 5th from 1-2 p.m.** You will need the brand inspection paper or official bill of sale at this time to prove ownership. Please be on time! If you do not weigh-in, you are not eligible to show at county fair. All Market Beef are required to weigh-in at this time, 4-H members are not required to attend weigh-in if they have prior commitments; however, we will need to know which animal belongs to which child **AT THE TIME OF WEIGH-IN** in order to accurately complete our paperwork. For safety reasons, we encourage all market beef exhibitors to have your animals halter broke by weigh-in. The weight range for county fair will be 1050-1500 lbs.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE (LDC)

Attention 4-H members 14 to 19 years old! LDC will be held January 28-30, 2017 in Denver. Highlights of this conference are: a community service project, IFYE presentation, banquet and awards presentation, think-tank meetings, county night out and a dance. Monday, January 30th is 4-H Day at the State Capitol. The legislature will issue the Proclamation for Colorado 4-H Day, tours will be available and you will also get the opportunity to participate in an information/question and answer session with legislators, aids, and interns. If you are interested in attending this amazing opportunity, you will need to have your registration form to the office by **January 6, 2017**. Eligible participants will be getting a postcard in the mail.

MQA DATES SET!



The Meat Quality Assurance (MQA) date for Sedgwick County will be Sunday, April 2, 4-7 p.m. at the Julesburg Fire Hall. If you are new to a 4-H livestock project, you are required to participate in the training the first two years of your project. You will need to re-certify when you are 12 and again when you are 15. Livestock projects that require MQA training includes: beef, sheep, swine, goats, rabbits, and poultry. Pork Quality Assurance (PQA) is included in the MQA training. If you haven't met this requirement by **June 11, 2017**, you will NOT be eligible to show at fair. Contact the Extension Office with any question

LITERATURE ORDERS

It is important for 4-H members to have the appropriate information to successfully complete their projects in a timely manner. Especially those members enrolled in General Projects. To help members accomplish this we are asking the club leaders to collect the orders for 4-H project manuals from their membership. In an effort to be more efficient and to insure these members have the necessary materials for their projects, these literature orders are due to the Extension office no later than **March 15, 2017**. When you are confident you have the manual order needs for everyone in your club, submit the order to the Extension Office. The Extension Office will order the literature and bill individual 4-H clubs for all members' purchases. Members will need to reimburse their clubs for this expense.





ATTENTION: HORSE & DOG MEMBERS!!

The State has moved the deadline up for Horse and Dog Identification to May 1st, 2017. Please make sure that you have your Horse and Dog ID's in the Extension Office no later than May 1st, 2017.



THANK YOU!

The Stretesky Foundation is once again paying for state and local 4-H dues, which total \$20 per member. This grant also allows some funding to help send 4-Hers to camps and conferences throughout the year. Please remember to send them a thank you for supporting Sedgwick County 4-H! Their mailing address is: The William Stretesky Foundation, 104 W. 1st St., Julesburg, CO 80737.



WASHINGTON COUNTY

Gisele Jefferson (4-H & Youth Development/Family & Consumer Sciences)

Jamie Axtell (4-H & Youth Development)

DECEMBER

- 30 4-H Swimming Party, Sterling Rec Center 1-3 p.m.
- 31 Re-enrollment Deadline for returning 4-H members

JANUARY

- 2 New Year Holiday – Office Closed
- 6 LDC Registrations Due in 4honline
- 14 Youth Sewing Club – 9:00 a.m.
- 16 4-H County Council Meeting – Ext. Office, Akron 7 .pm.
- 28-30 Leadership Development Conference - Denver
- 30 4-H Day at the Capitol



CHRISTMAS BREAK SWIMMING PARTY

Join us for a fun afternoon of swimming and snacks during Christmas break. The party will take place Friday, December 30th from 1-3 p.m. at the Sterling Rec Center. This event is hosted by the County 4-H council and is free to all members.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

4-H members age 14 and older, plan now to attend the annual Leadership Development Conference, better known as LDC. The event will be held January 28-30 in Denver at the Renaissance Hotel. During the two day program, you will interact with other members while exploring leadership development and community service. There will be an option to stay until Monday, January 30 to attend 4-H day at the state Capitol. If you are interested in attending, you will need to have your registration form completed in 4honline by **January 6**. County 4-H Council graciously helps sponsor members to attend so the cost per member is \$80. Transportation is provided by CSU Extension. For more information, contact the office today.

YOUTH FEST

4-H members age 9-13 are invited to Youth Fest, a leadership camp held February 10-12 at the Ponderosa Retreat Center in Larkspur. The event is a mix of games and activities designed to teach elements of the 4 H's: Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. County council has approved paying half of the registration cost for up to 10 members to attend so the cost per member would be \$65. Chaperones are also needed, please contact Jamie today if you are interested. Registration will be available in January.

FEBRUARY

- 11 Youth Sewing Club – 9:00 a.m.
- 11-12 YouthFest – Ponderosa Retreat Center, Larkspur
- 18 Beef Weigh-In – East. CO Research Station, north of Akron

MARCH

- 11 Youth Sewing Club – 9:00 a.m.
- 20 4-H County Council Meeting – Ext. Office, Akron 7 p.m.

APRIL

- 7 Carnival - Akron
- 12 Meat Quality Assurance Training (MQA) - Akron

LIVESTOCK JUDGING

Have you ever wondered why your animal placed a certain way at the fair? Maybe you'd just like to know more about how to select a perfect animal? Consider joining the Washington County 4-H Livestock Judging Team.

Judgers will have a chance to learn about the selection of beef, sheep, and swine. They will practice their skills on livestock throughout the county and will also have a chance to compete against other teams at area contests. This is a great chance to meet other 4-H members, practice your decision making skills, and learn more about your livestock project. The team will start meeting sometime in February. Field days and contests begin in March and run through the first couple of weeks of May. Seniors are also eligible to compete at the state contest to be held June 20-23 in Ft Collins. Please contact Jamie Axtell today to ask questions or sign up to be on the team.

BEEF WEIGH IN



Market beef weigh-in is scheduled for **SATURDAY, February 18th** from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Eastern Colorado Research Station north of Akron. All market steers and market heifers **MUST** be

weighed in on this date to be eligible to show at county fair - **NO EXCEPTIONS**. Be sure to bring your brand inspection paper or an official bill of sale to prove ownership of your animal, the brand inspector will be onsite collecting that information. Retinal scanning will not be available on this date so please contact the Extension office as soon as possible if you are planning to show at the state fair. 4-H members enrolled in the market beef project will receive a postcard with more details in January.

ANNUAL CARNIVAL AND RAFFLE

Each spring, we host a carnival for area youth to enjoy. As part of the event, all clubs will be required to participate by hosting a booth. Most clubs already have a traditional booth that they sponsor but new ideas are always welcome. The carnival serves as a fundraiser for clubs who share proceeds from the ticket sales.

A raffle drawing is held during the carnival. Clubs are also asked to sell raffle tickets leading up to the event. Tickets will be ready for distribution at our January council meeting date. Each member is asked to sell at least three books of tickets. Proceeds from the raffle are split between the clubs and county.

Watch for more information in the next newsletter or at your next club meeting. The date for the event has been set for April 7 at the Events Center in Akron.

SAVE THE DATE – MQA TRAINING

Our annual Meat Quality Assurance Training will be held Wednesday, April 12th in Akron. 4-H and Pork Quality Assurance policy requires that all 4-H members attend if they meet one of the following criteria: *Members in 1st or 2nd year of taking a livestock project, a member turning 12 or 15 (as of Dec 31, 2016) enrolled in livestock, and all 8-12 year old members (as of Dec 31, 2016) enrolled in SWINE projects.*

Our county fair policy requires that FFA members must also attend the program once (age 15). If you cannot attend this scheduled training, please contact us about dates of training in other counties.

4-H COUNCIL MEETING

January 16 - Courthouse Annex, 7:00 p.m.

Agenda Items:

Leadership Development Conference, spring carnival and raffle, and upcoming spring events

COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL NOTES

The county council has met twice in the past few months, once in September and once in November. The following are some highlights of the items discussed:

Junior livestock sale recommendations were discussed. All 4-H members have been notified by letter of the final changes approved by the fairboard and commissioners.

The council approved the 2016-17 county council budget. Copies are available at the Extension office if you'd like one.

Policy for the upcoming year was discussed. Final recommendations approved in November are as follows:

If a member does not complete a project, they cannot enroll in that same project the following year and if a member does not complete their ONLY project, they will be put on probation. They cannot enroll in that same project the following year and they are limited to a general project. If they complete that general project

and meet other member requirements, they will be reinstated as a member in good standing.

The Potato Supper was discussed and a report given at the November meeting. Profits were approximately \$1400 and the event was considered a huge success.

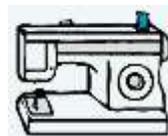
National 4-H week was discussed and it was decided to do the hay bale challenge and a coloring contest. The coloring contest reached nearly 160 local school and daycare children.

The officers are planning a fun activity for Christmas break. A swimming party will be held from 1-3 p.m. at the Sterling Rec Center on December 30th.

The leadership development conference was discussed and the council voted to pay for half of the cost of registration (\$80). The deadline to register locally is January 6. YouthFest was discussed and the council approved to pay half of the registration fee for up to 10 members to attend.

Preliminary discussion was held on the carnival and raffle and more details will be discussed at the January meeting. For more information about council happenings or to learn more about how to get involved in council, contact Jamie Axtell at 970-345-2287. The next meeting will be held January 16th at 7:00 p.m. at the Annex.

YOUTH SEWING CLUB MEETS MONTHLY



With great excitement and enthusiasm, two local women have teamed up to offer sewing lessons in Washington County for youth in 2nd through 12th grade. Michele Harms and Carol

Slusser, of Akron, are planning for an ongoing youth sewing club or series of lessons for the second Saturday morning each month at the Washington County Courthouse Annex, from 9 a.m. to noon.

The first session on October 8th started off with introductions and orientation, followed by sewing pillowcases for children in hospitals. The November 12th class focus on getting familiar with the sewing machine and taking body measurements for pattern selection. The December session, the participants made Fleece snowman pillows.

In January, youth are to bring a pattern and fabric for their first clothing project, such as pajama bottoms or other simple sew project. Contact Gisele Jefferson for a supply list for January 14. Youth will sew on this project for two or three sessions: February 11 and March 11.

Washington County 4-H and CSU Extension are offering some support to this group by sharing some sewing machines, fabric and supplies for those youth who are not able to come up with them.

If you are interested please call the Washington County Extension office for more information.

YUMA COUNTY

JoLynn Midcap (4-H Youth Development Coordinator)

Joy Akey (Family & Consumer Sciences)

JANUARY

- 2 New Year Holiday – Office Closed
- 4 Yuma County 4-H Leaders’ Banquet – On the Green, Yuma
- 7-22 National Western Stock Show – Denver
- 9 LDC Registration Due – 4Honline.com
- 13 4-H Day at Stock Show
- 16 Yuma County Fairboard Meeting
- 28-30 LDC – Denver
- 25 Youth Fest Registration Due – 4Honline.com
- 26 Yuma County Extension Office Open House – more info in this newsletter.

FEBRUARY

- 1 Project Registration Deadline
- 1 Yuma County 4-H Council Meeting – Idalia, 7:00 pm
- 10-12 Youth Fest – Larkspur
- 17 Citizenship Washington Focus Applications Due in Extension Office
- 19 Shooting Sports Safety Meeting (All disciplines)
- 25 Beef Weigh-In—Yuma County Fairgrounds, 9 am-11 am; Ranchland Livestock, 9 am-11 am; Idler Residence, 9 am-10 am



Thank You



A great big Thank You once again goes out to the Yuma County Cattleman’s Association and their partners!! In an effort to promote the great cattle in our county and the Yuma County Fair Breeding Beef show, the participants of the 2017 Yuma County Breeding Beef Show will have the opportunity to win a bred heifer that will come back to show at the 2018 Yuma County Fair. Be on the lookout for more details.

4-H Project Loans

We are very fortunate in Yuma County to have access to loans that benefit not only your livestock project, but general projects as well. Please call the Extension Office if you would like an application for the Kerst Loan or the JP True Memorial Loan.

MQA

Don’t forget to add the MQA dates to your calendar. These class are mandatory for any member that is taking a 4-H/FFA livestock project to fair. If you are in your first two years of a livestock project or are 12 or 15 years old, please make plans to attend either one of these classes. The same class is being offered all over the state and you may attend any of these classes if you are unable to attend the ones in Yuma County. The dates for the Yuma County classes are April 4 in Yuma and April 5 in Wray.

Livestock Judging

Yuma County has the privilege of once again fielding a county Livestock Judging Team. I would encourage any of you that are interested in learning more about selection of market and show animals and meeting new friends with similar livestock interests, to consider this opportunity. Please call the Extension Office if you are interested. We will start workouts after stock show.

Conferences and Camps

CLC, Youth Fest and the State 4-H Conference and LDC are great opportunities to enhance your 4-H Experience, and definitely make the best better! You will get the chance to meet friends that you will run into for years to come, eat great food and have great opportunities to build on your leadership skills. Please keep an eye on the newsletters and the Yuma County Colorado 4-H facebook page for more information.

Cloverbuds

The purpose of the Cloverbud project is to give our younger members an opportunity to get a feel for the projects available to them when they turn 8. In the Extension Office, we have kits available for you to check out if you have Cloverbuds enrolled in your club. Please call the Extension Office if you would like to check out the following kits...Gardening,



Farm Safety, Worms, Butterflies, Rocketry, Eggs, Moose Muffins, and Leathercraft.

Yuma County 4-H Council Meetings

February 1st

Idalia, 7:00 p.m.

April 12th

Eckley, 7:00 p.m.

June 14th

Yuma, 7:00 p.m.

October 16th

Liberty, 7:00 p.m.

Market Beef Weigh-in



Beef Weigh-In will be held February 25th at Ranchland Livestock Sale Barn 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., the Yuma County Fairgrounds 9:00 – 11:00 a.m., and the Idler Residence 9:00-10:00 a.m. again this year. If you are planning on showing market beef at the Colorado State Fair, you must attend the Yuma location to have your steers retinal scanned. The Brand inspectors will be at these locations so please bring your brand papers. Weight requirements will remain the same as last year. Your market beef project will need to weigh between 1050 and 1500 lbs.

2017 Yuma County Shooting Sports Schedule

| <u>Date/Time</u> | <u>Discipline</u> | <u>Location</u> |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| February 19, 2:00 p.m. | MANDATORY Safety Meeting | Yuma County Fairgrounds |
| March 4, 2:00 p.m. | Western Heritage | Bonnieville |
| March 5, 1:00 p.m. | Archery, Shotgun, .22, Muzzle, Pistol | Wray Gun Club |
| March 18, 2:00 p.m. | Outdoor Skills | Yuma County Fairgrounds |
| April 1, 2:00 p.m. | Western Heritage | Bonnieville |
| April 2, 1:00 p.m. | Archery, Shotgun, .22, Muzzle, Pistol | Wray Gun Club |
| April 22, 2:00 p.m. | Outdoor Skills | TBA |
| May 6, 2:00 p.m. | Western Heritage | Bonnieville |
| May 7, 1:00 p.m. | Archery, Shotgun, .22, Muzzle, Pistol | Wray Gun Club |
| May 20, 2:00 p.m. | Outdoor Skills | TBA |
| May 27-28 | Western Heritage State Contest | Great Guns, Fort Collins |
| June 3 | Archery, .22, Muzzle Regional | Fort Lupton |
| June 4, 1:00 p.m. | Archery, Shotgun, .22, Muzzle, Pistol | Wray Gun Club |
| June 10, 2:00 p.m. | Western Heritage | Bonnieville |
| June 15, 9:00 a.m. | Outdoor Skills, Fishing Camp | Wray Hatchery |
| July 1, 2:00 p.m. | Western Heritage | Bonnieville |
| July 2, 1:00 p.m. | Archery, Shotgun, .22, Muzzle, Pistol | Wray Gun Club |
| July 15, 2:00 p.m. | Outdoor Skills | TBA |
| August 3, 9:00 a.m. | Interview Judging | Yuma County Fairgrounds |
| August 19-20, 8:00 a.m. | State Archery, .22, Muzzle | Pueblo |
| September 2-3, 8:00 a.m. | State Shotgun, Pistol | Colorado Springs |

Safety Meeting is MANDATORY!

These dates may change due to weather conditions or other conflicts.

Shooting Sports Pre-requisites
Western Heritage and Pistol project pre-requisites include being at least 11 years of age and being enrolled in another shooting sports discipline for 2 years prior to enrolling in these disciplines.

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION
GOLDEN PLAINS AREA
310 ASH, SUITE B
WRAY, CO 80758

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GOLDEN PLAINS AREA 4-H NEWSLETTER

- 1.....Upcoming Events
- 1.....4-H Scholarships
- 2.....4-H...More Than You Ever Imagined.
- 3.....“H” is For Head
- 4.....Youth Sewing Club Meets Monthly
- 4.....Leadership Development Conference
- 5.....Be Somebody! Program
- 5.....Colorado 4-H Community Service Project
- 6.....Citizenship Washington Focus
- 7.....MQA Certification/Recertification Dates
- 7.....Welcome to The Blue Ribbon Livestock Blog
- 8.....4-H 101
- 8.....Check for the Right Project Manual
- 9.....Kit Carson County
- 11.....Phillips County
- 13.....Sedgwick County
- 15.....Washington County



17.....Yuma County