

MARCH/APRIL 2017

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH

- 11-12 Yuma County Shooting Sports Hunter Safety Class.
- 18 Livestock Judging Field Day – Morgan County – More info in this newsletter.

APRIL

- MQA** Check dates in this newsletter.
- 1 Colorado State Fair Beef nomination forms due to Extension Office.
- 1 State 4-H Scholarships due to State 4-H Office.
- 9 District 5 4-H Council – 2:00 p.m. – Yuma County Fairgrounds – All Senators must attend.

MAY

- 1 Horse and Dog ID's due.
- 1-5 Ag Fest
- 5-7 Refashion Retreat – Pueblo – See flyer for more information.
- 25 Youth Hunter and Education Challenge (YHEC) – Horsethief Canyon, Fruita – 4-H Hunting/Outdoor Skills Challenge
- 31 Be Somebody! Youth Camp – Kit Carson County – More info in next newsletter.

JUNE

- 1 Colorado State Fair Sheep/Goat/Swine nomination forms due to Extension Office.
- 3 Yuma County Livestock Prospect Show – more information in next newsletter.
- 6-9 Wild Bug Fish Camp – Buena Vista Area
- 6 Yuma County Cake Show – more info to follow in next newsletter.
- 15 Mini Sportfishing Clinic. More info in this newsletter.
- 20-23 State 4-H Conference – Fort Collins
- June 25-July 2** Citizenship Washington Focus

Kit Carson County

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Burlington, Colorado 80807
(719) 346-5571

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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



UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Hunter Safety Course

March 11, 9:00

Yuma County Fairgrounds in
Yuma, Colorado

March 12, 9:00

Yuma County Fairgrounds and
concludes at the range.

Cost of the course is \$20.00, which includes course fee, snacks, lunch for both days and ammunition.

To register or for more information, please call Margaret at 970-597-0144. This course is sponsored by the Yuma County 4-H Shooting Sports program.

4-H Scholarships



There are several 4-H scholarships available to graduating seniors in Colorado. It's simple to apply for them as

they all have the same application and you only need to fill it once and you have applied for all scholarships. The application is available from January 2-April 1, 2017 online at <http://www.co4hfoundation.colostate.edu/scholarships.shtml>.

1. 4-H members can now start an application, save it and reopen as many times as they want before submitting it.
2. We can now receive letters of recommendation electronically through the website. Each member is required to have three letters of recommendation submitted.
3. Grade transcripts can now be uploaded to the website. Transcripts are required from each applicant.

State 4-H Conference

State 4-H Conference will be June 20th to 23rd on the Colorado State University campus in Ft. Collins. Several contests, workshops and award ceremonies will be held during the State Conference. If you are interested in going, contact your Extension Office.

Colorado State Western Heritage Contest

The Colorado State Western Heritage Contests will be held Saturday and Sunday, May 27-28 at Great Guns Sporting, 16126 Co. Rd. 96, Nunn, CO. More information and a map can be found at the Great Guns Sporting website:

<http://greatgunssporting.com/>. Three different contests will be held. They are Shooting Contest, History Contest, and Clothing & Persona Contests. Join us for good fun, good food, and good friends. More information will be available in mid-March on the State 4-H Shooting website: <http://www.co4hshooting.org/> or contact your local Extension Office.

Be Somebody!

On May 31st, the first Be Somebody! Program will be held in Burlington at the Community Center. 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. This camp will be for 4-H members 11-13 and registration will be \$10. Contact your local Extension Office for more information. More information will be coming out this spring.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Getting Information

Your first few years in 4-H can seem overwhelming with all of the stuff you need to know and remember. There are several sources to find all of the answers to your questions. Information about the Colorado 4-H program can be found at www.colorado4h.org or you can call your local Colorado State University Extension Office. You can also keep up to date on upcoming information by liking your county's Facebook page: Kit Carson County 4-H, Colorado; Phillips County 4-H; Sedgwick County 4-H; Washington County Colorado; or Yuma County Colorado 4-H. Also, make sure to read all of your newsletters as deadlines and reminders can be found there. Finally, there is no such thing as a stupid question. Please call your Extension office and we will be happy to answer your questions.

Record Book and Project Requirements



It's not too early to start thinking about your project's requirements and record books! Electronic record books for all projects are available online. Go to:

www.colorado4h.org/project_resources/index.php for your livestock and general project record books. If you are enrolled in a general project, it is a very good idea to read through the State Fair Exhibit Requirements for your project; *these are the requirements you will be judged on in your county.* To find your project requirements, got to: www.colorado4h.org/project_resources/StateFairExhibitReq.pdf

Display Boards and Record Covers

The Extension office has display boards and green record book covers available for \$3 each.

4-H 101



DEMONSTRATIONS: Don't forget that every 4-H member is required by state policy to do at least one 4-H related demonstration or other speech arts presentation. So what is a demonstration? Most members select something about one of their projects to teach to the other

members of their club. Examples might be to demonstrate how to show a pig, how to get your icing smooth on a cake, or how to lace leather. You can also use the demonstration to learn more about the project you are interested in. For example, research and discuss the parts of a horse, learn more about what by-products are made from cattle or teach us the science behind what makes your bread dough rise. Keep in mind that some club leaders require the demonstrations to be given at a certain meeting/event and some leaders may also require a demonstration for each project.



COMMUNITY SERVICE:

As you may have already learned, one of the H's in 4-H stands for Hands. Part of the pledge we recite at each meeting calls for you to pledge your Hands to Larger Service. As 4-H members and leaders, we should all do our part to work with our communities and commit ourselves to service. State 4-H policy requires each member to take part in some sort of community service action. Adopt a senior citizen from the nursing home to send holiday wishes to, clean up a city park or cemetery, paint a community building or come up with your own unique way to give back to your community!



How to Be a Great 4-H Parent

We all want our kids to succeed. That is our job. How do we define success? If our definition of success has to do with learning skills, becoming more confident, and learning how to lead, then a parent's job can be fun! The following are the Do's of being the best 4-H parent you can be.



DO let them learn by trial and error. Even if this means that the project that goes to the county fair is not perfect, they will learn from looking at other projects and from the interview judging process. If they have done the best of their ability and are proud of the work that they have done, then they have succeeded. Success is learning from our mistakes and realizing that receiving the blue ribbon is not always possible. We, as parents, should be going through this process and learning with our children, but the thing we need to remember is that this is their project. This is their work and accomplishment. Do we really want them to be proud of something that you did for them, all in the effort to be awarded a blue ribbon?



DO remember that this is a team effort. Parents need to attend club meetings and be available to give them the resources they need to complete their project. Make sure that you are learning about the project along with your child. Please make sure to schedule time during the week for 4-H. Think about the week before interview judging. Would anyone really call that fun? Personally, it is not the highlight of the year in our home because we have procrastinated until the last minute to finish our projects and record books, so the ability to enjoy the fruits of our labor is not there.



DO have fun. The underlying value in 4-H comes from having fun and accidentally learning something. If there is something that you enjoy, you can find it somewhere in the 4-H program. From learning about a specific project, to becoming more confident, to meeting new people, and even traveling, you can find it in the 4-H program. Enjoy each and every opportunity that you can get from 4-H and allow this program to mold you into someone who enjoys what they are doing.



DO remember that the motto of 4-H is "Learning by Doing". The more you put in, the more that you will get out of the program so let your kids have fun and learn about the skills and projects that they enjoy!

Use these hints to help you make the most of this 4-H experience for both you and your child. It doesn't have to only be a youth program but something that the entire family can enjoy doing together. Something that will bring your family closer together by experiencing all that 4-H has to offer.

LIVESTOCK

Don't Come Up Short on Your Swine Project

Decisions made now will affect your swine project either positively or negatively at fair time. Many 4-H and FFA members find themselves in a battle to make a light pig gain 30 pounds in the last week before fair because of decisions they made at the beginning of the swine project. Making sound choices early will help to eliminate the stress on you and your parents as the fair draws near. You have invested countless hours and your life savings into a pig that absolutely refuses to gain the weight needed to meet the minimal weight requirement to be sale eligible.

The most critical element to your success is to look for appropriate aged pigs from a reputable producer who is willing to assist you in making the right choices throughout your project. Be careful purchasing pigs from producers who are happy to sell you a young pig, telling you that he will make weight even though he is smaller than the rest of his littermates. A good producer will help you select a pig that is going to be big enough to make weight and is not just concerned with making a sale. Such a producer understands that your success is

also his success. You should also look for a leader, agent or parent with some hog showing experience to assist you with purchasing your project.

It is difficult to use a standard figure how much a small pig will gain per day because of the way a pig develops. It works in a cycle with a limit on how much feed it can consume daily. The bigger a pig gets the more he can consume. The more he eats the more he gains, and thus the more he gains the bigger he gets. So, if you think this through, the bigger pig can eat more feed and will gain more rapidly. The main limiting factor for gaining weight is the amount of feed a pig can consume in each day. Pigs will generally convert 3 pounds of feed into one pound of gain. It will take a 40 pound pig nearly ten days longer to gain 100 pounds than it will take a 70 pound pig to gain 100 pounds. Knowing this, it is highly critical to start with a pig that is the right age and size to gain the required weight. The early part of the feeding period is extremely important to your pig's overall gain as it has to get big quickly in order to increase its feed intake and in turn, gain more weight. The "Pork-ulator" is available at your local Extension office to assist in determining the size of pig you should purchase. Remember, it is easier to hold a pig for a few days than to make rapid impossible gain at the last minute, so consider purchasing a heavier pig to start. More correctly, 5-10 extra pounds on the purchase weight may mean a 25-30 pound bigger pig at fair time.

After you have selected the right pig, it becomes your job to give it every chance to succeed. There are other critical factors that affect gain in swine. First, it is important that they are comfortable. Being too cold or too hot can negatively affect feed intake and as a result, reduce gain. Provide your pig with housing that reduces cold morning drafts. Keep the feed where the pigs can get to it without having to go out in the cold on winter mornings. As days get warmer, remember that like humans, pigs can sunburn. It is important to adjust pigs to long hours of sunlight slowly. In the summer, it is just as important to provide a cool area for your pigs and keep the feed in a shady area if possible. Spraying water on your pigs several times a day will help them stay cool. You can provide a mister system to will keep the area cool also.

A quality health plan including vaccination and worming are needed as well. Your veterinarian can assist you in planning your vaccination program. Many of your pigs will have been vaccinated for several diseases when you purchase them, but you need to ask the producer. Keeping your pig healthy to avoid weight loss and slow gain is extremely important to your success. You should consider worming your pigs monthly, alternating wormers so that worms don't build up resistance to any one wormer. Worms are common to livestock fed in confined areas. When worms are allowed to grow in your pig uncontrolled, they will reduce gain and feed efficiency considerably.



Water! Water! Water! Water is the most critical nutrient to any living organism. Clean cool drinking water is an absolute necessity to your pig. Water should be near the feed so the pig can drink with its meal much the same as you do. A nipple water is a good way to get fresh clean water to your pig, however if it is on the end of a hose, be sure that the hose is covered or buried so the sun will not have the water hot when the pig is ready to drink.

Once you have purchased a pig, the feed you feed is important to your success. Feeding a balanced ration is necessary to allow the pig to gain to its potential. There are a variety of show feeds you can purchase for your pig; most of which are designed by nutritionists who have years of experience in making pigs convert feed efficiently and gain well. You should consider purchasing one of these feeds from a reputable dealer instead of attempting to design your own, unless you have an extensive knowledge of swine nutrition. Don't let poor quality feed be the reason that your pig didn't make weight.

Having a successful swine project involves a combination of many areas of livestock husbandry. Paying close attention early and often to your project pigs will allow you time to fix anything that could cause you problem and help make it a successful project year. However, letting just one of these areas fall by the wayside can be the limiting factor in your success. Be a good livestock producer and don't let that happen!

MQA Certification/Recertification Workshops



You Must Attend an MQA Workshop

- 1. First 2 years taking 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 Workshops		
Date/Time	County	Location
March 29, 4:00-7:00 pm	Kit Carson	Community Center, Burlington
April 4, 4:00-7:00 pm	Yuma	Fairgrounds, Yuma
April 5, 2:30-5:30 pm	Yuma	Roundhouse, Wray
April 6, 4:00-7:00 pm	Logan	Fairgrounds, Sterling
April 9, 4:00-7:00 pm	Sedgwick	Fire Hall, Julesburg
April 10, 4:00-7:00 pm	Phillips	Fairgrounds, Holyoke
April 12, 4:00-7:00 pm	Washington	Fairgrounds, Akron
May 15, 4:00-6:30 pm	Morgan	Fairgrounds, Brush
May 16, 4:00-6:30 pm	Morgan	Fairgrounds, Brush



KIT CARSON COUNTY

Mick Livingston (4-H Youth Development/Livestock)

Scott Stinnett (4-H Youth Development)

MARCH

- 5 KCC Horse Projects Meeting
- 12 Shooting Sports – Safety Training/ Range Clean Up
- 20-24 Spring Break Project Days
- 25 YHEC – Horsethief Canyon, Mesa County
- 29 MQA Training at Burlington Community Center

APRIL

- 2 Shooting Sports – Discipline Training
- 9 District Five 4-H Council Meeting – Yuma
- 14 Holiday – Office CLOSED
- 30 Shooting Sports – First Shoot

MAY

- 1 4-H Project Add/Drop DEADLINE
- 1 Horse and Dog Registrations/Lease Forms Due
- 15 Sheep Weigh-in – Fairgrounds
- 15 Swine & Goat Nomination DEADLINE
- 20 Prospect Cattle, Sheep & Goat Show / CJSA Swine Show (Fairgrounds)
- 21 Shooting Sports – Second Shoot
- 29 Memorial Day, Extension Office CLOSED
- 30 Shooting Sports – Shotgun Shoot Only
- 31 Be Somebody! – Burlington Community Center



AgFest Packet Stuffing

If your club would like to stuff AgFest packets as a fundraiser, we need about 2000 packets put together. Contact Mick at the Extension Office for more information.

Livestock & Horse Judging Contests

Practices are starting for 4-H members interested in judging. If you would like to participate contact Mick about Livestock Judging, or Scott about Horse Judging.

YHEC at Horsethief Canyon

The Youth Hunter and Education Challenge/4-H Hunting/Outdoor Skills Challenge will take place March 25th, 2016 at Horsethief Canyon in Fruita. Information is available in the Extension office or go to: <http://www.co4hshooting.org/>.



Wild Bug Fish Camp

Details for the 2017 Wild Bug Fish Camp are still in progress. Camp is set for June 6th-9th, in the Buena Vista area. Activities will include Outdoor Survival Training, Shooting Sports, Fishing, Wildlife Management, Rangeland Ecology and Management and a community service project. Check with the Extension office in mid-to-late March for specific details.

Colorado 4-H Scholarships

The Colorado 4-H Foundation scholarship applications are now available. The application deadline is April 1st. For more information, go to: <http://www.co4hfoundation.colostate.edu/scholarships.shtml>.

Shooting Sports



4-H members in Shooting Sports must complete Hunter's Education before participating in any 4-H shooting activities and attend the **Safety Training on Sunday March 12th, 1:30pm at the Burlington Gun Club**. If you have any questions, contact Mick at the Extension Office.

Be Somebody!

On May 31st, the first Be Somebody! program will be held in Burlington at the Community Center. 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. This camp will be for 4-H members 11-13 and registration will be \$10. Contact Scott for more information.



State 4-H Conference

State 4-H Conference will be June 19th to 23rd on the CSU campus in Ft. Collins.

Several contests, workshops and award ceremonies will be held during the State

Conference. If you are interested in going, contact Scott at the Extension Office.

Western Heritage Camp

The 2017 Western Heritage camp will be held at Ft. Garland June, 27th – 29th. 4-H members do not need to be enrolled in the Western Heritage Project. Activities will be focused on frontier history, outdoor cooking, wildlife and other outdoor skills. There will also be a community service project as well.

Junior Fair Superintendents

There are still some openings for Junior Fair Superintendents. Please contact Jean in the Extension Office as soon as possible.

Market Sheep Weigh-in



Sheep weigh-in will take place at the fairgrounds, **Monday, May 15th from 3:30 to 6 p.m.** A weigh-in fee of \$5 per head is due at the time of weigh-in. All members must weigh their market lambs

at this time in order to be eligible to show and sell at the Kit Carson County Fair, no exceptions!

Market Swine & Goat Nominations

Market swine and goat projects will not be weighed-in prior to the fair. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to nominate their own animals in order to be eligible to show and sell at the Kit Carson County Fair. Exhibitors must complete a nomination form, as well as tag and photograph each animal. A total of three color photographs per animal must be submitted – two profile photographs (one of each side) and one close-up photograph of the animal's ear tag (the tag number must be legible). Swine exhibitors must also indicate the animal's ear notches on the nomination form.

Nomination forms and ear tags are available at the Extension Office. A fee of \$3.50 per head must be paid when the tags are picked up. Completed nomination forms and photographs are due to the Extension Office by **Monday, May 15th at 5:00 p.m.**, no exceptions!

MQA/PQA Certification

The Kit Carson County MQA/PQA certification program will take place **Wednesday, March 29th from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Burlington Community Center.** The training should take approximately one hour to

complete, so please arrive no later than 6 p.m. Kit Carson County will host only one MQA/PQA training. If members are unable to attend locally, they may attend any training in Colorado. (See the livestock section of the newsletter for other dates and locations.)

All livestock exhibitors are required to attend Meat Quality Assurance/Pork Quality Assurance training during the first two years of being enrolled in a livestock project, regardless of age. Also, members must attend when they reach age 12 and again at age 15. **If you are required to attend an MQA program this year you will receive a letter in early March.** Please call Jean at the office, 346-5571, if you have any questions.

Project Add or Drop Deadline

The add/drop deadline for all 4-H projects is **May 2**. Postcards, listing each member's enrolled projects, will be mailed in April. If changes need to be made, call the Extension Office before **May 2**. **NOTE: Sheep weigh-in and the deadline for swine/goat nominations are after the official add/drop deadline. 4-H members enrolled in these market livestock projects prior to May 1 will be allowed to drop the project if they are unable to purchase animals by the May 15 weigh-in date and nomination deadline.**

Project Record Book Info

Records for all 4-H projects are available online. Visit www.colorado4h.org and click on the Projects & Record Books link. CDs, which include general projects, livestock and family & consumer science records, are available from the Extension Office for \$1.00.

Display Boards & Record Book Binders

General 4-H project and Shooting Sports display boards are available for purchase from the Extension Office – cost \$3 each.

Three-ring binders for livestock and general 4-H project record books may also be purchased from the Extension office – cost \$3 each. *(For livestock members with multiple years in the same project, please include records for the two most recent years, along with the current project year's records.)*

**2017 Fair Theme:
Building the Future on
100 Years of Heritage**

PHILLIPS COUNTY

Kindra Plumb (4-H Associate)

MARCH

- 18 Livestock Field Day, Morgan County Fairgrounds
- 20 Phillips County Fair Board meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 25 Adams County Livestock Judging Contest
- 26 Phillips County 4-H Council meeting (may be moved to April 2)
- 30 Market Beef state fair nominations due in Extension office

APRIL

- 1 State 4-H Scholarship applications due
- 8 Lincoln County Livestock Judging Contest
- 9 District 5 4-H Council meeting, Yuma
- 10 MQA/PQA, Phillips County Event Center, 4-7 p.m.
- 15 Project Add/Drop Deadline
- 17 Phillips County Fair Board meeting
- 22 Logan County Livestock Judging Contest
- 28 Horse ID's due in 4HOnline

MAY

- 6 Eastern Slope Livestock Judging Contest
- 7 Market Sheep and Goat weigh-in, Phillips County Fairgrounds, 3-4 p.m.

MAY (continued)

- 8 On-line Swine ID due
- 15 Phillips County Fair Board meeting
- 19 Tri-River Area Livestock Judging Contest, Montrose
- 20 Western Slope Livestock Judging Contest, Gunnison
- 29 Memorial Day, Extension Office CLOSED
- 30 Ronald McDonald House Community Pride Activity
- 30 Market Swine, Sheep and Goat state fair nominations due in Extension office
- 31 Be Somebody Program, Burlington

JUNE

- 2 Cloverbud Mini Camp, Ortner Room, 9-11:30
- 4-8 Phillips County/Jefferson County Exchange Program
- 26 Beef and Hog Showmanship Clinic
- 27 Sheep and Goat Showmanship Clinic



Add/Drop Deadline



The deadline for 4-H members to add or drop a project is April 15th. Members are encouraged to give serious consideration to the projects they are enrolled in. 4-H members must complete a record book and the exhibit requirements for each project they are enrolled in. General projects will also participate in interview judging. Projects that do not meet these requirements are incomplete. Incomplete projects go on the member's record and count against the overall completion of their 4-H club. 4-H members are required to complete at least one project during the 4-H year. Now is the time to review your projects and consider the time and expense it will take to complete each project. If you feel you are not going to be able to complete one or more of the projects you are enrolled in please call the Extension office or visit with your club leader about your concerns. Those of you who think you may want to try another project that you have not yet enrolled in should also visit with your club leader or call the Extension office. You will want to add any new projects by April 15th to be eligible to participate with that project at the Phillips County Fair. To add or drop projects, please call or email Carrie or Kindra at 970-854-3616. Carrie's email address is:

coopext_phillips@mail.colostate.edu. Kindra's email address is: kindra.plum@colostate.edu.

Swine ID

Swine identification for 2017 will be online again this year. You will still need to pick up ear tags and taggers, which will be available in the Extension office starting April 3rd. Members will need to tag their pigs, take pictures of both sides of the pig and a picture of the pig's ear with the tag in place. You will then go online to complete the ID sheet and upload and attach your pictures. To complete your online ID go to www.pc4hffa.com. All ID's are due Monday, May 8th. No Exceptions!

Livestock Judging

Have you ever attended a livestock show and wondered why the judge placed the animals in a certain order? Or maybe you heard the judge giving oral reasons for his or her placing and asked yourself, "Where did the judge learn to talk like that?" One area of 4-H that teaches 4-H members about livestock selection and evaluation is 4-H Livestock Judging Teams. Phillips County is fortunate enough to have two livestock judging coaches and they are very excited about the upcoming judging season. Livestock judging is open to any currently enrolled 4-H member; you do not have to be enrolled in a livestock project to participate on the livestock judging team! Practices are being held Tuesday evenings starting at 6 p.m. in the Ortner Room at the Event Center.



MQA Dates 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 the rule is the market swine project. Market swine members will need to take MQA/PQA each year he/she is a junior in 4-H. 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.

Market Livestock Weight Ranges

Swine: 230-300; Lamb: 100-160; Goat: 55-110; Beef: 1000-1500; Poultry: Broilers/fryers, 3-6 lbs; Roasters, 6 lbs. minimum

Jr. Livestock Sale Thank You’s

After much discussion and consideration, it was decided to once again require that all thank you’s (general fair thank you and Jr. Livestock Sale thank you) are turned into the Extension Office prior to release on Sunday of fair. You will need to submit all thank you’s before you are able to obtain a check out sheet.

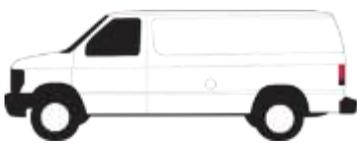
Shooting Sports

Shooting sports members: it’s time to start thinking about shooting sports practices! Watch your email inboxes, mailboxes and the Phillips County Extension Facebook page to find out when your practice starts and where it will be held.

Project Mentors/Leaders

If you are in need of a project mentor or leader, please contact the Extension office ASAP so we have plenty of time to find someone to help you with your project.

Van Fundraiser Update



We are still working diligently on raising funds to purchase a 12-passenger van. The county commissioners

are supportive of the project and we have signed a memorandum of understanding for the van title, insurance, maintenance, and usage. If you haven’t already made a donation to the project, please consider doing so! Please contact Kindra with questions about the project.

Attention Graduating Seniors

Make sure to check out the 4-H Scholarships that are available to graduating seniors. For more information go to: <http://www.co4hfoundation.colostate.edu/scholarships.shtml>.

Be Somebody Program Review

Nineteen youth in grades 3-6 participated in Phillips County’s 1st ever Be Somebody program, which was held in conjunction with the annual New 4-H Year party in December. Many thanks to the following program leaders for an outstanding job with the younger youth: Grace Gibson, Owen Knode, Kylee Workman, Brooklyn Plumb, Janessa Lutze, Ryan Tempel, Taylor Hendrix, Rebecca Owens, Aly Lock, Trent Huffman, Baylor Struckmeyer, Kylie Donovan, Morganne Kumm, and Lauren Bergner. Be on the lookout for our next Be Somebody program!

Phillips County/Jefferson County Exchange Program



Attention 11-13 year old 4-H members! Phillips County and Jefferson County will be hosting a 4-H Exchange program, June 4-8, 2017. Details are being finalized,

but we will be hosting Jefferson County 4-H members June 4-6 and traveling to Jefferson County June 6-8. We are working on lots of fun activities and tours in both counties. Our focus will be showcasing the uniqueness of each county and building a bridge between rural and urban communities. Watch your email inboxes and mailboxes for more information! We will also be seeking older 4-H members to help with activities/tours and adults to help chaperone.

SAVE THE DATE!

Beef and Hog Showmanship Clinic will be June 26 and the Sheep and Goat Showmanship Clinic will be June 27.

Don’t forget! Phillips County 4-H is on Facebook! Like our page and receive 4-H and general Extension updates!

SEDGWICK COUNTY

Jessica Harrington (4-H Associate)

MARCH

- 14 Sedgwick County Fair Board Meeting
- 15 Add/Drop Deadline
- 15 Manual Order Deadline

APRIL

- 1 State 4-H Scholarships due
- 3 Local 4-H Scholarships due
- 9 MQA-PQA, 4-7 p.m., Julesburg Fire Hall
- 11 Sedgwick County Fair Board Meeting
- 28 Horse, Dog ID forms due. Poultry, Rabbit, and all Breeding proof of ownership Deadline

MAY

- 7 Lamb and Goat weigh-in 1-2 p.m., Sedgwick County Fairgrounds
- 8 Swine ID's due in Extension office
- 9 Sedgwick County Fair Board Meeting
- 29 Memorial Day, Extension Office CLOSED



Add/Drop Deadline



The deadline for 4-H members to add or drop a project is **Wednesday, March 15th**.

Members are encouraged to give serious consideration to the projects they are enrolled in. 4-H members must complete a record book, interview judging, and the exhibit requirements for each project they are enrolled in. Projects that do not meet these requirements are incomplete. Members who are incomplete in a project are required to “lay out” of that project during the next 4-H year. Incomplete projects count against the overall completion of their 4-H club. 4-H members are required to complete at least one project during the 4-H year. Now is the time to review your projects and consider the time and expense it will take to complete each project. If you feel you are not going to be able to complete one or more of the projects you are enrolled in please call the Extension office or visit with your club leader about your concerns. Those of you who think you may want to try another project that you have not yet enrolled in should also visit with your club leader or call the Extension office. You will want to add any new projects by March 15th to be eligible to participate with that project at the Sedgwick County Fair at the end of July. The Add/Drop forms are available at the Extension office.

MQA/PQA

The Meat Quality Assurance (MQA) date for Sedgwick County will be **Sunday, April 9, 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. 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 any 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. We will be sending out postcards to those who need to attend this year’s session. 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 questions.

Market Livestock Weight Ranges

Weight ranges for Market Livestock are as follows:



Swine: 225-300
Lamb: 100-170
Goat: 40-110
Beef: 1050-1500

4-H Council Annual Pancake Supper

The date for the annual pancake supper will be **Sunday, March 26, 2017** at the Sedgwick Lion's Den from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.



4-H Scholarships

Attention graduating seniors!! The scholarship deadline for the Sedgwick County 4-H Council Scholarship and the Sedgwick County Commissioners Scholarship is April 3rd. Applications are available at the Extension office. You should also check out the list of state 4-H scholarships that are available. For more information on these scholarships go to: www.co4hfoundation.colostate.edu/scholarships.shtml.

Record Book and Project Requirements

It's not too early to start thinking about your project's requirements and record books! Electronic record books for all projects are available online. Go to: www.colorado4h.org/project_resources/index.php for your livestock and general project record books. If you are enrolled in a general project, it is a very good idea to read through the State Fair Exhibit Requirements for your project; *these are the requirements you will be judged on in Sedgwick County*. To find your project requirements, go to https://colorado4h.org/project_resources/StateFairExhibitReq.pdf.

Project Manual Orders

Some of you have submitted your project manual orders when you enrolled in 4-Honline and your leaders have this information. Some of you may have already given your orders to your leader. If you haven't submitted your order, the deadline to order manuals is March 15. All orders must go through your club leaders. If you are unsure about your order, please check with your club leader first. For those in a livestock project, if you ordered a manual (Resource Handbook) in the last few years, you will not need to re-order. The manuals haven't changed and we highly encourage one Resource Handbook per family. Your leader will submit the order to the Extension office. All orders will be

sent to the Extension office and the leaders will be notified when the manuals are received at the office. Your leaders will distribute your manuals to you, collect the charges and pay the Extension office.

Swine ID's

Swine identification for 2017 will remain unchanged from last year. Ear tags and taggers will be available to pick up in the Extension office starting **April 3rd, 2017**. Members need to pick up their tags and ID forms at the Extension office. Members will tag their pigs, take pictures of both sides of the pig and a picture of the pig's ear with the tag in place. You will fill out a hard copy of the identification form and submit it to the Extension office. All ID's are due **Monday, May 8th**. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Horse & Dog Identification



The State 4-H Office is requiring that Horse and Dog members register their animals in 4-H online by **May 1st**. If you have question about this contact the Extension Office. The Sedgwick County office will still require 4-H members to submit a hard copy of the ID forms to the Extension office. The office will be mailing out forms to the Horse and Dog members by March 15th. These ID forms must be returned to the Extension office by **Friday, April 28th**. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** As a reminder if we do not have these forms by the deadline you will not be allowed to participate in the Horse/Dog Shows at the Sedgwick County Fair.

Interview Judging

Interview judging for **All General** projects will be held Saturday, **July 29, 2017**. In order for projects to be considered a complete project and eligible for fair competition, you will need to participate in an interview for each project you are enrolled in. The interview judging schedule will be mailed out in June.



WASHINGTON COUNTY

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

Jamie Axtell (4-H & Youth Development)

MARCH

- 11** Youth Sewing Club, Extension Office, Akron – 9-11:30 a.m.
- 14** Shooting Sports Safety Meeting, County Events Center, Akron – 6:30 p.m.
- 20** 4-H County Council Meeting, Extension Office, Akron – 7:00 p.m.,
- 31** Raffle Tickets Due to Extension Office

APRIL

- 7** Carnival, Events Center, Akron
- 8** Youth Sewing Club, Extension Office, Akron – 9-11:30 a.m.
- 9** District 5 4-H Meeting, Yuma, 2:00 p.m.
- 12** Meat Quality Assurance Training (MQA), Events Center, Akron
- 17** 4-H County Council Meeting, Extension Office, Akron – 7:00 p.m.,

MAY

- 1** **Add/Drop Deadline!!!**
- 1** Dog ID Due, Swine ID Due
- 8** Sheep/Goat Weigh In



Meat Quality Assurance Training (MQA)

**Wednesday, April 12 – Events Center - Akron
4:00 – 7:00 p.m.**

We encourage all exhibitors to attend the training each year; however, you are **REQUIRED** to attend if you meet the following criteria:

1. First 2 years taking a livestock project
2. Swine exhibitors age 8-12
3. Age 12 and Age 15 (As of Dec 31, 2016)

The training is self-guided so you can take as much time as you want to walk through various stations about topics such as animal ID, injections, feeds, or ethics. Supper will be provided for all attending courtesy of the Junior Livestock Sale Committee and the 4-H Council. If you can't make it to this date or location, please contact the office for alternative dates in the area.

Livestock projects considered in this policy include Market/Breeding Beef, Market/Breeding Goat, Market/Breeding Swine, Market/Breeding Sheep, Rabbits (only market/breeding, not pet rabbit) and Poultry. No cloverbud members are required to attend but are welcome to come.

Add/Drop Deadline Approaching

Just a reminder that the deadline to add or drop projects is May 1st. Please contact our office if you add/drop a project online.



Livestock Judging

If you are interested in livestock judging, please contact the Extension office ASAP.

Raffle & Carnival Reminders

Just a reminder that raffle tickets stubs and money are due in the Extension Office on or before **MARCH 31**. ALL tickets, sold and unsold, should be returned!



The raffle drawing will take place during our annual carnival to be held Apr 7th at the Events Center. Each club will be responsible for at least one booth space. If you still need to sign up for a booth, contact the Extension Office. This year's theme is "Barnyard" so try to plan your décor and prizes accordingly. For questions, contact the office at 345-2287.

4-H Council Meeting

March 20, 2017

Courthouse Annex

Agenda Items:

Finalize carnival details

MQA

Spring event planning

Shooting Sports Safety Meeting
Tuesday, March 14 – Events Center – Akron
6:30 p.m.



All 4-H members enrolled in the Shooting Sports project is expected to attend and participate in the annual Safety Meeting. The Shooting Sports leaders will go over key rules and instructions for the upcoming practice sessions and any changes in the contest rules for this year. Please bring a parent with you to the meeting! Following the Safety Meeting, everyone is welcome to stay and try air rifle shooting that same evening. The practice schedule for all the shooting sports practice sessions was mailed out recently – with sessions starting in March!!

Upcoming Livestock and Horse Deadlines

Market lamb and goat weigh-in will be held at the fairgrounds on Monday, May 8th from 3:30 – 6:30 p.m. All market lambs/goats **MUST** be weighed in on this date to be eligible to show at the county fair - **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Market swine will **NOT** be weighed in. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to nominate your pigs for the county fair. To nominate your hog, start by picking up nomination forms and ear tags at the Extension Office. Tag your pigs and take three photos of each – one of each side plus one of the pig’s head showing the tag, clearly readable. Complete the form by filling out the tag number and description of each pig. You will also need to record ear notches on the nomination form. These nomination forms, completely filled out with ear notch information and the three pictures, must be returned to the office by May 1 at 4:30 p.m. for eligibility in the county fair show. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** This applies to all 4-H and FFA members exhibiting market hogs.

Horse ID Forms must be completed online prior to May 1. Complete instructions can be found in your e-record or by contacting the office. Please feel free to bring in photos to our office to be scanned and uploaded if you need assistance.

Save the Date!

Did you know that all 4-H members age 14 and older can attend the annual Colorado State 4-H conference in June? Take part in leadership workshops, participate in the state livestock judging contest, start a quiz bowl team, give a speech or sign up for one of the many other contests that are offered. The dates of the conference are set for June 20-23. The conference takes place on campus at Colorado State University in Ft. Collins. We provide transportation to and from the event and lodging is provided in the campus dorms. Contact us now to learn more!

Need Project Help?

Don’t hesitate to contact our office for help with your projects. We can offer personal help, put you in touch with a project leader, or help provide written project materials. Project manuals are available, prices vary and some clubs offer assistance in purchasing these for their active members. A variety of online project resources are available on the state 4-H website including project tip sheets and Colorado State Fair project guidelines. Visit the page at www.colorado4h.org. Local and regional camps, workshops and clinics may be available, check this newsletter or follow us on Facebook on our “Washington County Colorado 4-H” page.



YUMA COUNTY

JoLynn Midcap (4-H Youth Development Coordinator)

Joy Akey (Family & Consumer Sciences)

MARCH

- 11-12** Hunter Safety – More info in this newsletter
- 24-26** YHEC and Outdoor Skills State Contest, Fruita

APRIL

- 1** Beef nomination cards due for state fair
- 1** Swine tags and nomination cards available
- 1** State 4-H Scholarships due
- 4** MQA, Yuma County Fairgrounds, 4:00-6:30 p.m.
- 5** MQA, Wray Roundhouse, 2:30-5:30 p.m.
- 9** District 5 Council meeting, Yuma County Fairgrounds, 2:00 p.m.
- 12** Yuma County 4-H Council, Eckley, 7:00 p.m. (prior to meeting, Friend of 4-H Committee at 6:00 and Trophy Committee at 6:30)

MAY

- 1** Dog & Horse ID forms due in Extension office...NO EXCEPTIONS!!!
- 5-7** Refashion Retreat, Pueblo – See flyer for more information.
- 6** Sheep/Goat Weigh-in and Bucket Calf tagging (Open Class baby calves are not tagged.), Yuma County Fairgrounds and Blackham Residence, 9:00-11:00 a.m.
- 8** Swine nominations due in Extension office...NO EXCEPTIONS!!!

MAY (continued)

- 29** Memorial Day, Extension office CLOSED
- 31** Be Somebody! Program – More information in next newsletter.

JUNE

- 1** Add/Drop Deadline for projects
- 1** Swine/Sheep/Goat nominations due for state fair.
- 3** Yuma County Progress Show
- 6** Yuma County Cake Show
- 8** Food Booth Committee, 6:30 p.m.
- 13** Cloverbud meeting, Extension office, 10:30 a.m.
- 14** Yuma County 4-H Council, Yuma, 7:00 p.m.
- 15** Mini Sportfishing Clinic
- 20-23** State 4-H Conference, Ft. Collins
- 25-July 2** Citizenship Washington Focus



Quiz Bowl Teams

We are looking for members to participate in Home Economics, Livestock, and Horse Quiz Bowl teams. This process is similar to the Quiz Bowls in FFA where you are asked questions and the first team to answer correctly gets the point. We will practice and then have our competition at the State 4-H Conference in June. Please call the Extension office if you would like to participate in this event.

Donated Breeding Heifers

Several breeding heifers will be donated to one of the exhibitors in the Junior Beef Breeding show at the 2017 Yuma County Fair. Intentions are to randomly draw a name out of exhibitors following the breeding show at the fair. The winner of the heifer must be eligible to show at the 2018 fair, and must show the donated heifer in that show. Before accepting the heifer, the exhibitor must declare they have the facilities and means to care for the heifer for the year. The heifer will come from established breeders in Yuma County and all sponsored by the

Yuma County Cattleman's Association, and The Don Hendrix Memorial. For more information, contact JoLynn Midcap at the Extension office in Wray.

Thank You's



~Yuma County Commissioners for providing \$5.00/member enrollment fee.
~JD's Barn for supplying tags for market animals.

- ~All of the Beef Weigh-in Help
- ~Dave Walter and Ranchland Livestock and the Idler family for letting us use your facilities.
- ~Matt Linman, Terry Seat and Pat McGinnis for providing the brand inspections.
- ~Yuma County Fairboard and Superintendents and all other volunteers for providing manpower at weigh-in.
- ~Dick Mekelburg, BJ Mekelburg, and Ed Berry for the use of the portable corrals.
- ~Dr. Tom Parks, Dean & Pam Wingfield, Travis & Shawna Fonte, and the Hendrix family for the 2016-2017 breeding heifer donations.

Colorado Association of Fairs and Shows Scholarship

Eligibility: Applications must be postmarked by March 20, 2017. Applications postmarked after March 20, 2017 disqualified...**NO EXCEPTIONS!**

- Applicants must be CAFS member, member's child, or a member's legal dependent.
- A member is defined as a person who is involved and active in a fair or show which is a member in good standing with CAFS. (Yuma County qualifies)
- Applicant must be active in local county fair or show which is a member of CAFS.
- Applicant must be an active 4-H member prior to college or and active FFA member.
- Only eligible high school seniors or a graduate with a minimum of a "B" average in both the junior and senior year.
- This scholarship is non-renewable.
- College may be any creditable post-secondary school.

Contact the Yuma County Extension office for an application.

2017 Record Books

Please make sure you use the online record books for your Home Ec & General Projects. As in years past, we will use the CD for all livestock projects.

DO NOT USE THE LIVESTOCK RECORD BOOKS ONLINE!

Display Boards

Project display boards are available for you at the Extension office for \$3.00 each. P.S. These are also great for the science fair!

Exhibit Requirements

Please look at

<http://www.colorado4h.org/members.php> to find information on State Fair requirements. This site also has a link to the e-records that you will use for all General and Home Ec projects. Hard copies of all of this information can also be picked up at the Extension office.

Swine Information

Swine members, leaders, or designated individuals within 4-H Clubs and FFA Chapters will need to come to the Extension office and pick up ear tags and nomination information. Nomination forms will have instructions for tagging and taking photos of your swine nominations. The tags may be picked up after April 1, 2017 with completed nomination forms returned to the Extension office no later than Monday, May 8, 2017. There will be **NO EXCEPTIONS**. The weight range of all market swine eligible to show in the market show is from 220 lbs. to 290 lbs.

Sheep & Goat Weigh-in Information

Sheep

May 6, 2017

Yuma County Fairgrounds

Blackham Residence

92 feeding days



The following criteria must be met for market class participation and for selling market sheep in the Jr. Livestock Sale at the Yuma County Fair. 100 lb. min. and 160 lb. maximum. All market lambs that weigh in are eligible for the feeding contest.

Goat

May 6, 2017

Yuma County Fairgrounds

Blackham Residence

92 feeding days



The following criteria must be met for market class participation and for selling market goats in the Jr. Livestock Sale at the Yuma County Fair. 60 lb. min. and 110 lb. maximum. All market goats weighed in are eligible for the feeding contest.



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GOLDEN PLAINS AREA 4-H NEWSLETTER

- 1.....Calendar of Events
- 2.....Hunter Safety Class
- 2.....4-H Scholarships
- 2.....State 4-H Conference
- 2.....Colorado State Western Heritage Contest
- 2.....Be Somebody!
- 3.....Getting Information
- 3.....Record Books and Project Requirements
- 3.....Display Boards and Record Covers
- 3.....4-H 101
- 4.....How to Be a Great 4-H Parent
- 4-5.....Don't Come Up Short on Your Swine Project
- 6.....MQA Certification/Recertification Workshops
- 7-8.....Kit Carson Count
- 9-10.....Phillips County
- 11-12.....Sedgwick County
- 13-14.....Washington County
- 15-16.....Yuma County

