

4-H News to Know January 2014

Colorado
State
University

Extension

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Communication – As we kick off the new 4-H year, we want you to know how we communicate with you. We have a lot of important information, deadlines, requirements, new changes and most importantly, educational opportunities to make you aware of. Our primary method of communication is through the *4-H News to Know* newsletter. It would be helpful to read this newsletter every month! Please make sure your mailing address and email address are both up to date!! On occasion, we mail letters or postcards to 4-H members', leaders' homes. Please open and ready anything you receive from our office. Finally, all things related to County Fair are communicated through the Fair Book, which is generally completed and posted on www.custercountygov.com/ext in May or early June.

Keep in mind that many 4-H contests and activities have registration forms and deadlines. These will be covered in the newsletter. We publish this newsletter nearly every month, with a few combined monthly issues near fair time and the end of year. Information to be included in the newsletter needs to be submitted to the Extension Office by the 25th of each month. If information is not included in the newsletter, but needs to be sent out, we will send out an email to all 4-H and FFA members. So please keep current on viewing your email as well.

Don't forget...if you make any changes to your 4HOnline account, you NEED TO LET US KNOW!!!!!!!

Custer County 4-H Club rule: All elections are to be held in the 1st meeting in the calendar year (January). The 1st meeting of the 4-H year (November/December) will be run by the previous officers who are returning to their clubs. If those officers have moved on, the meeting will be run by the leader in the interim of the clubs executive board (officer team). The bylaws and officer duties will be given at the first 4-H Meeting of the 4-H year (November/December) for a 30 day review. Any changes wanted to be made to the bylaws must be made available for review 30 days prior to a vote. A discussion must be had before making such a vote. After the Bylaws have been approved no changes will be made for the remainder of the 4-H year, unless it is an avoidable necessity which must be proven to the Extension agent and met with her approval to amend the bylaws. Age requirements for officers: the President, Vice President, Treasurer, or Secretary must be in high school and at least a second year 4-H member. You do not have to belong to the same club, but enrolled in 4-H for a 2nd year before running for an executive office. You must also be present at the election to run for an office and give a statement of why you are a good candidate.

Are you interested in .22 Rifle

We will be offering a .22 Rifle workshop for any 4-H members that are interested. Please call the Extension Office to get on the list.

Livestock Record Books

NEW THIS YEAR... we will **NOT** be using the electronic version of the livestock or horse record books. We have printed versions, age appropriate for all 4-H members here in the office. Only one type of livestock per record book will be allowed. We will NOT combine livestock projects. So, if you are bringing beef, sheep, swine and goats to the fair, you will need to complete four different books. You may have multiple

animals in your record book as long as they are all the same type. ie: 2 pigs-1 book, 4 rabbits-1 book, 3 sheep & 2 goats-2 books. Horses will have their own type of record book as well. If you have any questions at all, please call or stop by the Extension Office.

4-H Club Meeting Schedules:

Silver Spurs - at 4:15 p.m.: Jan. 9, Feb.13, Mar. 13, April 10, May 8 and June 12-courthouse annex.

Trailblazers – at 1 p.m.: Jan. 5, Feb. 2, March 2, April 6, May 4, and June 1-Mrs. Tillotson's classroom at school.

Triple C Clovers - Sunday, January 5 @ 1 p.m. in the school Great Room.

Livestock Weigh in Schedule

Market Beef – from 1-4 p.m.(Mandatory-January 12, March 9, May 18). Optional- June 22.

Market Sheep, Swine & Goats – from 1-4 p.m .(All are mandatory) April 27, May 18 and June 22.

4-H Beef Projects - make sure your beef project is halter broke when you come to the weigh in on Jan. 12th .

We also need your bill of sale or brand inspection papers at this weigh in or BEFORE. I will make copies of the papers and return one to you.

Colorado State Fair Retinal Scanning Requirements

All market beef, sheep and goats that will be nominated to compete at the Colorado State Fair MUST have a retinal scan done as part of the nomination process. Market beef will be done on February 1st and Sheep and Goats will be done on May 9th. The retinal scanning process will be done in Fremont County. The cost is \$5 per animal. There WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS MADE!!! You must plan to take your animals to Fremont County on these dates.

4-H SPEAKING CONTEST – The speaking contest will be held March 6th at 6pm at the Custer County Court House. Practices will be held starting with the first meeting on **January 13th at 4:30 p.m.** (this is a different date!!!) in the courthouse annex building. If you are unable to attend the first meeting but do want to participate, please call the Extension Office. Public speaking is a very important skill to develop, even if you never get up in front of a crowd to speak. If you are senior age, you could even qualify to compete at the state level! 4-H members may enter into as many categories as they wish. The public speaking contest is divided into the following categories:

Prepared Speech – The Prepared Speech category should relate to some aspect of 4-H club work (projects, activities, benefits, citizenship, leadership, etc.). The focus on the score card includes delivery, voice, pronunciation, articulation, fluency, appearance, gestures, eye control, effectiveness, composition, speech structures, choice of words, material and speech value. Time limits are as follows: **Junior:** 3-4 minutes; **Intermediate:** 3-6 minutes; **Senior:** 4-6 minutes.

Interpretative Reading – The reading **should not exceed 10 minutes**. It can be one or several articles including poetry, humor or anything appropriate for 4-H. The selection should be introduced and explained before it is presented. This is a great category for younger 4-H members and for anyone who would like to do a reading instead of making up a speech.

Impromptu – The contestant will be given a subject or a word. After a 10 minute preparation period, the contestant will give a presentation on that subject. The presentation **should not exceed 5 minutes** in length. This speech should include an introduction to gain the audience's attention, reasons, an explanation of the subject and a conclusion to summarize.

Presentations – Demonstrations or illustrated talks are a part of this category. A presentation is **limited to 10 minutes** in length. You will be allowed time to set up and take down your presentation. You will be expected to provide your own equipment. General equipment and supplies, such as tables, easel and chairs will be furnished upon request one week prior to the contest.

For any questions or to sign up, please call the Extension office.

Colorado CattleWomen Youth Beef Spokesperson Competition

Would you like to:

- Have adults listen to you for a change?
- Travel Colorado to CCW/CCA events and other local and state activities?
- Practice your speech and presentation skills in a welcoming environment?

- Have an opportunity to create your own YouTube video that shows your support for the beef industry with the possibility of earning a cash prize?
- Have an outstanding activity on your resume, college and scholarship applications?
If you answered yes to any of the above, then sign up for the Colorado CattleWomen Youth Beef Spokesperson Competition.

Official rules and more information are available at the Extension Office or these contacts:

Sallie Miller at smiller@wigginstel.com or 970-656-3792 or Colorado CattleWomen website: www.ColoradoCattleWomen.com

Journalism Workshop

Do you love to write? Have you ever considered writing for the public? Then here is the perfect opportunity to learn what happens in the world of journalism. If you serve as an officer in your 4-H club, then you should consider learning how to write a good article or press release. Bonnie Long is a local freelance writer who is willing to introduce our 4-H members to some basic journalism skills. If you have an interest or know someone who does, please have them contact the CSU Extension Office at 719-783-2514.

2014 Leadership Development Conference

– *Kindle the fire in 4-H!*

4-H members ages 14 and up are eligible to attend LDC to be held in Denver on January 25-27th. Registration cost is \$150 per participant which includes the program costs, two breakfasts, team meeting tracts, lunch, banquet, speaker and a dance. The room accommodations at the Renaissance Denver Hotel are \$104/night.

If you are interested in attending, you must hurry to sign up. Registration forms, payment must be in the Extension Office by the **deadline of Friday, January 10th**.

Don't forget that the Custer County 4-H Foundation has scholarships available to their members for 75% of cost and non-members at 25%, but you must apply for them.

National Western Stock Show – NWSS will be held in Denver from January 11 – 26th. Check out their website for great deals on tickets and shows, etc. Go to www.nationalwestern.com

Youth Fest

Youth Fest will be held February 7-9th at the Ponderosa Retreat Center in Larkspur, Colorado. Youth Fest is for 4-H members 9-13 years of age. The cost is \$115 per participant. This year's theme is "Firing Up Your H". Workshops will be centered around Head, Heart, Hands and Health. Deadline to register for the camp is January 29th. So hurry if you are interested.

South Central District Retreat

District Retreat will be held March 14-16th at the Silver Cliff Ranch in Nathrop, Colorado. This camp is for 4-H members ages 13 and up. Registration costs are estimated at \$125 per camper. Deadline to register is February 26th.

Night Owl

The Douglas County Extension Office is hosting a Rodeo themed Night Owl camp. This is one night only, March 21st-22nd from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. at their fairgrounds. This overnight event is for ages 13-18, cost is \$10. AND you can bring your non 4-H friends. If you are interested, you must sign up Feb. 14th. Stop by for more information.

Upcoming camps:

State 4-H Conference – members 14 & up are eligible to attend this conference held on CSU campus in Ft. Collins, June 17-20th.

Custer County 4-H Foundation is seeking your financial support to help the 4-H kids with camps, scholarships and awards. Call the Extension Office or stop by for a membership form.

Custer County Courthouse will be closed on Monday, January 20 for Martin Luther King Day

Please check out the Custer County CSU Extension website: www.custercountygov.com/ext

CUSTER COUNTY FAIR DATES...JULY 14 – 20TH, 2014