

# 4-H News to Know April 2015



Custer County  
P. O. Box 360  
Westcliffe, Colorado 81252  
PH: (719)783-2514 FAX: (719)783-0908  
mail: coopext\_custer@mail.colostate.edu  
Website: www.custercountygov.com/ext

**There may be a few times that both Robin and Beverly are NOT able to be in the office. We will try to keep you posted with these necessary office closures. Call before you make the trip. THANKS!**

**The Extension Office will be closed on April 20, 21 and 22 as Robin and Beverly will both be gone. The rest of the courthouse will be open for business.**

**Check out the new Custer County 4-H Facebook page:**

<https://www.facebook.com/CusterCountyCO4H>

**4-H Online updated** – For those 4-H members that want to check their online enrollment, etc. the new url is: **co.4honline.com**. If you bookmarked the other one, make sure to delete it. And if you do go in and make any changes – **REMEMBER, YOU MUST NOTIFY THIS OFFICE WITH THOSE CHANGES!!!!!!**

**County Fair Info** – all 4-H and FFA exhibitors will be receiving a mailed packet from the Extension Office. This packet will include your fair entry forms as well as other forms that will need to be completed and returned by the deadline. We will have these packets out to everyone in early to mid May with a deadline of JUNE 1<sup>st</sup> for them to be returned. Failure to complete and return these forms will result in **NON-PARTICIPATION AT THE COUNTY FAIR!!** So please watch your mail and return asap.

**Spring Carnival** – was held on Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> in the multi-purpose room at school. It was a tremendous success! It was lots of fun for all and funds were raised for the 4-H clubs!! Thanks to everyone for their hard work.

**Tools Lost** – we are looking for a ratchet and socket that were used at the fairgrounds last year. We have not been able to find them yet. Please look in any of your tool boxes/bags to see if they were picked up by mistake. Or picked up to return and then just forgot to bring to the office.



**Trailblazers 4-H Club Meeting** - The schedule for the meetings: April 12, May 3 and June 7<sup>th</sup>. Meetings start at 1 p.m. and are held at the Shy's residence.

**Silver Spurs 4-H Club Meetings** - The meetings will start at 4:15 p.m. and be held at the Courthouse Annex Building. The schedule is: April 9, May 7 and June 11.

**Triple C Clovers 4-H Club Meeting** – Schedule of meetings: April 12, May 24 and June 14<sup>th</sup>. All meetings will begin at 12:30 p.m. in the great room at school.

### **Market Livestock Weigh in Schedule**

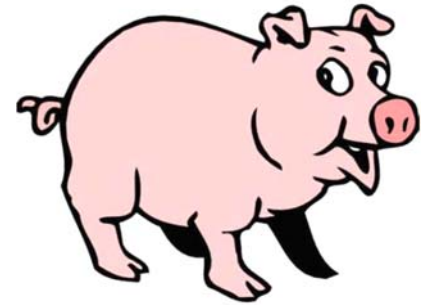
Market Beef – Jan. 11 (done), March 15, May 31 and *June 28 (this one is optional) (2-4 p.m.)*

Market Sheep and Goats – April 26, May 31 and June 28 (2-4 p.m.)

Rabbits – to be determined.

### **Market Swine Projects – DO NOT BRING YOUR PIGS TO APRIL 27 WEIGH IN!**

A mandatory meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. on April 27<sup>th</sup> for ALL 4-H AND FFA MARKET SWINE EXHIBITORS! The Custer County Fair Board will be speaking to everyone about their swine projects, PED swine virus and security measures that will be in place at the county fair. All market swine exhibitors will receive further information and identification forms in a letter from the Extension Office at a later date. PLEASE READ YOUR MAIL PROMPTLY!! Ear notch cards and photos will again be used to identify your swine projects.



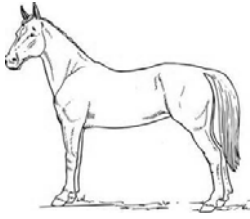
**Rabbit/Poultry Clinic** – will be held in Pueblo on April 4<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. at the Colorado State Fairgrounds. Selection, feeding, caring for and fair showing will be discussed. Call for more info.

**Rabbit Cages Project** – we are looking for 2” tall by 4” diameter (12-13 oz.) tuna or chicken, etc. cans to be used in the rabbit cages. These cans will be wired to the cages for food and water – **No More Overturned Messes!** You may bring them to the Extension Office.

**Add/Drop Deadlines** - 4-H members – don’t forget your project deadlines: if you want to add or drop an indoor project (those judged in the home ec building) the deadline **is May 1<sup>st</sup>**. For livestock and animal projects, the deadline is the first weigh in date for those animals. Horse and Dog projects, the deadline is also **May 1**.

**4-H Project Requirements** – The Custer County Fair follows the Colorado State Fair requirements on all your indoor projects. These projects are: cake decorating, clothing construction, entomology, foods, heritage arts, leathercraft, model rocketry, outdoor adventures, photography, robotics, scrapbooking, shooting sports, vet science, visual arts and woodworking. The 2015 requirements, e-records, tip sheets, score sheets, etc. are all posted on the State 4-H website @ [www.colorado4h.org](http://www.colorado4h.org)

**Record book class at 2pm and Livestock Marketing class at 2:30pm set for May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Annex.** The record book class is not mandatory but highly recommended for new members or those that struggle with filling out the books. You can ask questions and get help with your record books. Remember that these books are required to complete your 4-H project and are graded. This class will start at 2pm. Immediately following the record book class will a Livestock Marketing class at 2:30. You will learn how to not only market your animal, but yourself. You will get a list of local businesses that you can solicit to come to the sale and buy your animal. Marketing is the key to getting your buyers to support your 4-H livestock project! Again, these classes are not mandatory but will be helpful to you as we get closer to fair time. Hope to see you there!



**Horse Certificates** – Horse Certificates are due to the Extension Office by **May 1<sup>st</sup>**. This certificate must be completed for each horse that you may use for your project at the county fair. Certificates may be copied from the Horse record book or stop by the office for your copies. If leasing your horse, the lease agreement must be turned in with the horse certificate.

**Dog Health Certificates** – Dog certificates are due to the Extension Office by **May 1<sup>st</sup>**. This certificate must be completed for each dog that you may use for your project at the county fair. Certificates may be copied from the Dog e-record or stop by the office for a copy.



**Public Speaking Contest** - The public speaking event will be held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Custer County Court House at 5PM (please note the earlier time). The youth participating have worked hard on their speeches and are ready to present them to the public. There is still time if you would like to participate. The deadline to sign up is Tuesday March 31<sup>st</sup>. Call the Extension office for more information.



**AK-SAR-BEN competition** – for those 4-H members that are interested in participating at the competition in Nebraska with their sheep, swine or goats, I have ordered the DNA envelopes and will let you know when they arrive. Let me (Beverly) know you are interested NOW so I can keep track who to notify.

**Retinal Scans for Colorado State Fair Animals** - Please mark your calendars if you are planning to exhibit livestock at the State Fair. All livestock going to State Fair need to be brought to the Fairgrounds from 1-2 p.m. on May 17<sup>th</sup>. Each exhibitor will be responsible for the cost of \$5 per animal for the retinal scan. They will also pay for the mileage reimbursement for Mr. Covington's travel to Westcliffe to perform the scans. More information will be sent out at a later date. Contact the Extension Office to let us know if you are attending.

**Robotics is back!** Any youth wishing to participate in the 2015 Robotics team, please contact the office. The Robotics team will learn how to build and program robots, then compete with other teams from across the state. There will also be a robotics camp offered in July (more details to come). A leader for the elementary group is needed, no experience necessary. For more information, please contact the Extension office.

### **A letter from Grace Watkins on District Retreat**

On Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, I had the opportunity to attend the South Central District Retreat in Nathrop, CO at the Silver Cliff Ranch. It was an amazing trip to go on. The food, the fellowship, the workshops and scenery made it so. Since I was the only representative from Custer County, I want to encourage other teens to

attend. It taught me determination, more respect for others, and many more skills to use in 4H. It gave me new ways to use my head, my heart, my hands and my health for the betterment of others. For me, it was also a great way to meet new people and share my own 4H experiences. It was such a blast and again, I want to encourage other 4H Custer County teens to attend in 2016. Finally, I want to thank the Custer County 4H Foundation for their scholarship, Robin Young and Beverly Goertz because without them, I would not have been able to attend this event. Until next time, Grace Watkins

## **Grab the Torch**

Our very own Elly Gluschke is attending the Grab the Torch event again this summer and is taking the opportunity to teach one of the classes and serve as an intern with them. This event focuses on developing the Leadership, Ethics, and Philanthropy skills/abilities of young people. The Mission of Grab the Torch in the four core areas are: leadership – the process of social influence, which maximizes the efforts of others, towards the achievement of a goal and shared purpose; ethics building - an understanding of core values and moral principles; empathy - understanding another person's cognitive and emotional experiences; and philanthropy - unconditional and authentic giving for an enlightened life. Ask Elly about her experiences the next time you see her. She does a great job of representing Custer County 4-H. Way to go, Elly!

**Scholarship Information** - Are you a graduating high school senior? Are you interested in pursuing a career in agriculture? Agriculture is an exciting field to be in. There are so many areas that you can explore; everything from animal husbandry to diesel mechanics, range science to welding, Parks, Recreations, and Tourism Resources, Packaging, Horticulture, Forestry, Food Science, and Fisheries/Wildlife. The possibilities are endless! According to the Farm Bureau News, "Food Scientists and engineers will be in the greatest demand in the agricultural job market over the next four years, according to a new Purdue University study". There are a number of scholarships available from local sources here in Custer County that encourage youth to go into the agricultural field. The Custer County Stockgrowers Association, the Custer County Cattlewomen, and A Painted View Ranch all offer agricultural related scholarships, the Dan Riggs Memorial, and the High Altitude Gardening Club offers a scholarship in horticulture or related field, and The Custer County Medical Foundation- Ben Kettle Memorial Scholarship offers scholarships to students interested in pursuing a career in any area of animal or human medicine. These scholarships are not just for Custer County High School Students, they are also offered to graduating homeschoolers as well. If you are interested in these scholarships, please contact the CSU Extension office at 783-2514.

**Custer County 4-H Foundation** - The Custer County 4-H Foundation is looking for board members. As a board member, you will help contribute to the 4-H youth by helping them attend camps and conferences, furthering their 4-H experience. Without the 4-H Foundation, camps would be very expensive and there would be no awards ceremony! For more information please contact the Extension office. We appreciate your willingness to help!

**FREE Babysitter training class offered.** There is still time to register for the Baby Sitter's Training Course. Any youth ages 10-18 interested in becoming a trained babysitter should contact the Extension office to sign up.

Classes run from April 6<sup>th</sup> to May 11<sup>th</sup> from 4pm – 5:30pm at the Annex building. You will learn the basics on the responsibilities of babysitting; infant, toddler, and preschool development, and how to handle emergency situations. Please call the Extension office at 783-2514 for more information and to sign up.



## ***4-H Truck Raffle Sales to start soon!***

***Tickets have arrived!*** Club leaders that are interested in selling the truck raffle tickets for a club fundraiser need to stop in the Extension Office. This year, the clubs will receive 50% back from the ticket sales!! Ticket sales will end September 11, 2015.

More prizes have been added:

Grand prize - 2015 Ford Super Crew pick up

2<sup>nd</sup> prize - \$1450 cash

3<sup>rd</sup> prize - \$1200 cash

4<sup>th</sup> prize - \$1000 cash

5<sup>th</sup> prize - \$750 cash

6<sup>th</sup> prize - \$500 cash

7<sup>th</sup> prize - \$250 cash

8<sup>th</sup> prize - \$100 cash (5 prizes to be given)

This is twice as much as previously offered!!

Cost is \$5 each per ticket or \$20 for 5 tickets. Let's get busy selling these tickets.

Upcoming Camps:

**State Conference dates – June 23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>.**

### ***2015 Custer County Fair***

*July 13-19, 2015*

*4-H Shotgun and .22 Competitions will be held on (date and time to be determined)*