

4-H News to Know June-July 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

It is very important that you read through the entire newsletter for any information that may pertain to you and your projects for the County Fair!!

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!

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!!!!!!**

4-H Public Speaking Contest Results – The 4-H public speaking event was held back in April (my apologies for not getting this out sooner!). It was a great evening with four participants who gave their best. Kaya Huffman gave us a pep talk, Sheyenne Shy told us about haltering and breaking the 4-H steer, Ben Penkoff reminded us of how the 1980 US Olympic Hockey Team was inspired by their coach before the big game, and Justice Saraceno showed us how to identify a bug and how English isn't for everyone – very clever and super funny! They were excellent speakers and wowed the audience with their skills. Sheyenne Shy was our junior grand champion and Kaya Huffman as the reserve grand champion. Justice Saraceno was the intermediate grand champion with Ben Penkoff as reserve grand champion. We appreciate the energy these youth put into their speeches. I've said it before and I'll say it again, public speaking is one of the best skills you can develop because you will use it anywhere you go!



The Agricultural Innovators Experience was a program with 10,000 youth in eight states from urban, suburban and rural backgrounds that had the opportunity to develop the workforce skills to feed the planet. The AIE

will drive youth awareness of and interest in agriculture innovation and agriculture careers. Our very own Grace Watkins was chosen to participate in this program and came back to Custer County to teach others about her experience. Great job, Grace! We know you will go far in the world of Agriculture!

Fair Book Online – go to www.custercountygov.com/ext then go to the 4-H section for the Fair Book. Each family will be receiving a printed fair book as soon as they are back from the printers. We will keep you informed.

68th Annual Custer County Fair

The Fair is fast approaching! The dates begin on Saturday, July 11th with the Shooting Sports .22 and Shotgun Competition and the fairground clean up work session. The rest of the fair will be held from Monday thru Sunday, July 13-19th. We have fair schedules for the complete line up of the fair. That means from today, June 10th, there is only a month left to get all your project work done!

The Extension Office will move out to the fairgrounds before July 13th. We will not have the Extension Office at the courthouse open during the week of fair.

4-H Shooting Sports .22 & Shotgun Competition – will be held at the Sangres Shooting Club Range south of Westcliffe on Highway 69. The shoot will begin at 9:00 a.m. and will probably last about two hours. Due to Club Rules, the gates must be closed and locked at all times unless member supervision is provided. We are trying to get the supervision for the gate so it can remain open, but if not it will remain closed. So if you want to come watch, you must be at the Range before the 9 a.m. start time and must stay until the competition is over. We would like to invite the community to come watch but we must follow the rules of the Club.

Fairgrounds Clean up Scheduled – ALL 4-H AND FFA MEMBERS are required to participate in the clean up to get the fairgrounds ready for the fair. Mark your calendar NOW and plan to be there – Saturday, July 11th beginning at 8 a.m. A sign up sheet will be your only proof of participating so don't forget to sign in. Bring your rakes, mowers, weed eaters, shovels, fuel, etc. If you are unable to attend on Saturday and haven't made prior arrangements for other clean up duties, then you will be assigned clean up duties during the Fair.

Indoor Projects Interview Judging Required – All indoor projects – family & consumer science and general projects: cake decorating, heritage arts, visual arts, leathercraft, foods, clothing, scrapbooking, shooting sports, outdoor adventures, rocketry, photography, vet science, entomology, pocket pets, pet rabbits, and wildlife are required to go through the interview process for your projects. A 15 minute time slot is allocated for each project. A tentative schedule will be mailed out to each family. Please review and if the time doesn't work for you, please let us know as soon as possible so we can try to accommodate the change. A final schedule will be sent out to all families when it is confirmed. **SO PLEASE CHECK YOUR MAIL!**

4-H General & Consumer Science Record Books

All 4-H General and Consumer Science record books (photography, foods, woodworking, wildlife, rocketry, shooting sports, entomology, visual arts, cake decorating, heritage arts, scrapbooking, pocket pet, pet rabbits, leathercraft, outdoor adventures, vet science, etc. are to be turned in with your projects on Monday, July 13th between 7-8 a.m. After 8 a.m., your recordbooks will be considered late and points will be deducted from your score sheets.

Interview questions during your time slot on the schedule may include:

1. Why did you take the project?
2. What did you think you might learn in the project?
3. How much experience did you have before you started this project?

4. What did you like the most about the project?
5. What did you like the least about this project?
6. What did you do for the first time in this project?
7. Who helped you decide what your project would be?
8. Where did you get help?
9. What new things did you learn?
10. How will you use what you have learned?
11. What would you like to learn next?
12. If you were to do the project again, would you do anything differently?
13. How do you feel your project could be improved?
14. Technical questions about your project – what tips you used for cake decorating, how high your rocket flies, your target practice sessions, etc.

Volunteers Needed to keep the Home Ec Building Open during fair – We have tentatively scheduled the Home Ec Building to be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day of the fair beginning on Tuesday, July 14th and going through Sunday, July 19th till noon. We need your help to keep it open. Visitors to the fair will not be able to enjoy all the projects exhibited if we have to lock the building up. Please consider helping for any amount of time you can spare. Time slots are usually marked in 1 hour increments. Thanks for your help!!

4-H & FFA Livestock Project Packets – Don't forget to pick up your livestock exhibitor packets on Wednesday, July 15th before weigh in. Some forms need to be completed and returned to the Fair Office BEFORE you can weigh your animals.

Market Livestock Exhibitors – have you written your buyers letters yet? If you haven't, then there is still time to do that and include meal tickets for the Steak Dinner. These are not mandatory, but it is definitely a nice way to say "thanks for your support". These meal tickets are available at the Extension Office but must be purchased with no returns if tickets are not redeemed.

4-H Foundation sponsored Pork Dinner – Don't forget about the pork dinner that will be served on Thursday, July 16th beginning at 4 p.m. The proceeds from the meal will go to the Custer County 4-H Foundation. Please put it on your calendar and show your support!

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.

Market Swine Weigh Ins by Appointments Only

Please call the Extension Office if you want to weigh your pigs and we will set up a schedule. There will be ONLY ONE Family per day allowed and each family will be responsible for clean up after the process. We will have a disinfectant spray to be used. We will arrange for a Fair Board member to be at the fairgrounds to open the gates and the scale. They will operate the scale and provide the supervision to ensure the disinfectant is applied properly and the area is thoroughly cleaned up. Your pigs will be checked in your trailer before they will be allowed to unload. If your pig is sick or has diarrhea, then DO NOT EVEN TRY TO BRING THEM!!!

Horse Written Test – Friday, July 10th, 3 p.m. at the Saddle Club Building. This is required for all horse exhibitors participating at the County Fair in Horse Events.

Market Livestock Weigh in Schedule

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

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

Rabbits – June 22 @ 9 a.m. All market rabbits eligible for the market sale must be identified and weighed.

2015 Fair Market Livestock Weights to Sell – Market Livestock weights must fall in the following weight range in order to sell at the Livestock Sale:

Beef – minimum 1,000 lbs., no maximum

Sheep – minimum 105 lbs., no maximum

Goats – minimum 55 lbs., no maximum

Swine – 220 minimum, 290 maximum

Rabbits – 2 lbs. minimum, 5 lbs. maximum

Market Rabbit Weigh in – All market rabbit projects will weigh in and be tattooed on Monday, June 22 beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the fairgrounds. Sue Roberson, Rabbit & Small Animal Superintendent/Fair Board member will be performing the weigh in and tattooing process.

Beef Workshop – Tuffy Lawson will be at the fairgrounds on June 14th at 3 p.m. for this workshop. Steers can be weighed and he will assess their feeding for finishing by fair time. Review grooming and showmanship will be a part of the workshop. Other topics that will be discussed are: water, feed, frame, exercise, feet, hair, etc. Plan to come to this very informative workshop for your beef projects.

Practice schedules –

Archery – practice sessions on Tuesdays, 6 p.m. at the Cowboy Church.

Horse – with Marci – 4-H horse – Fridays @ 9 a.m.: June 12, 19 and 26, July 3 and 10.

4-H Horse Gymkhana – Mondays @ 6 p.m. – June 15 and 29.

Saddle Club members Gymkhana – Mondays @ 6 p.m. – June 22 and July 6 (time to be determined).

Horse – with Ashten Hutton -

Riding days will be at saddle club : Friday June 12th, 26th, July 3rd, 10th @ 5:30 pm

Written test study dates will be at Pizza Place, Please bring your own books and help pitch in for pizza!

Wednesdays, June 17th, 24th, July 1st, 8th @5:30 pm

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.

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

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 received the DNA kits. Please stop by to pick them up.

Jackpot Shows – Several of our 4-H youth have been attending jackpot shows around the area with some fantastic results – Lindsey Gillmore earned Grand Champion Market Sheep, Grand Champion Intermediate Showmanship; Morgan Foster won Grand Champion Jr. Showmanship, Reserve Champion in Light wt. market sheep; Kyle Rose earned Reserve Champion in Sr. Showmanship; Garrett Stepanich won 3rd place in Jr. Showmanship. Sierra Stepanich and Emma Rusk presented a good showing at the event as well. Congratulations!!

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 July 6-10. A leader for the elementary group is needed, no experience necessary. For more information, please contact the Extension office.

4-H Truck Raffle Sales have begun!

Tickets have arrived! Club leaders that are interested in selling the truck raffle tickets for a club fundraiser need to come into 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

2nd prize - \$1450 cash

3rd prize - \$1200 cash

4th prize - \$1000 cash

5th prize - \$750 cash

6th prize - \$500 cash

7th prize - \$250 cash

8th 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.

We will have the actual truck that will be raffled off at the Bluff for the Ride the Rockies event on June 20th. Come out to purchase your tickets for a chance to win it!! Other raffle tickets events will be:

July 4-5 for Independence Day celebrations

July 17, 18 & 19 for County Fair and Stampede Rodeo

Custer County Courthouse will be closed on Friday, July 3rd to observe Independence Day!

2015 Custer County Fair

July 13-19, 2015

4-H Shotgun and .22 Competitions will be held Friday, July 10th beginning at 9 a.m.