

4-H News to Know March 2015



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Beginning in 2015, we will start publishing the newsletters electronically. (NOT YET, but sometime soon) Please submit your email address to us or make sure we have your current email address so we can keep you in the loop. If you do not have internet and prefer to continue to receive a mailed newsletter, YOU MUST NOTIFY US WITH YOUR REQUEST or stop by the Extension Office for the newsletter. We will also take newsletters to the library for distribution. This will help to keep our rising costs down and keep up with advancing technology. Please send your email address to the office email address above.

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

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

One omission for the Officer training - Grace Watkins! She is the Silver Spurs secretary and attended the officer training. Thanks Grace!

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!!!!!!

Spring Carnival – mark your calendar – Wednesday, March 11th from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the multi-purpose room at school. This is a little earlier start and ending time! Remember, this is your chance to help your club with this fundraiser.

We will have lots of fun activities and games for youth of all ages. Pizza and pop will be available for purchase. Invite your family and friends to come out for a fun time!

Trailblazers 4-H Club Meeting - The schedule for the meetings: March 1, April 12, May 3 and June 7th. 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: March 12, April 9, May 7 and June 11.

Triple C Clovers 4-H Club Meeting – Schedule of meetings: March 1, April 12, May 24 and June 14th. All meetings will begin at 12:30 p.m. in the great room at school.

Meat Quality Assurance Class – The MQA class and trailer will be on March 14th at 10am-12 noon at the annex. If you are a first time livestock exhibitor or are turning 14, this class is required. I highly encourage all to attend as we have experts in their fields teaching, and for the first time ever, the MQA trailer will be coming to Custer County! The trailer will be open to the public from 12-1pm. Please contact the office for more information.

Market Livestock Weigh in Schedule

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

Market Sheep, Goats and Swine (swine –not sure yet) – April 26, May 31 and June 28.

Rabbits – to be determined.

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 1st. 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.

Horse Certificates – Horse Certificates are due to the Extension Office by May 1st. 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 1st. 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.

Hunter Safety Certification – (Hunter Safety Certification is required for ALL 4-H members signed up for Shooting Sports 4-H projects to be able to participate in shooting competitions at the Custer County Fair – please call us if you have any questions) Hunter safety education class will be offered on March 7, 8am-5pm and March 8, 8am-2pm at the Wet Mountain Fire Protection District station. Hunter Education is required in Colorado for all hunters born on or after Jan. 1, 1949. Hunter Education is much more than just hunter safety. The course covers hunter responsibility, outdoor preparedness and survival, bow hunting information, wildlife management and wildlife identification, hunting regulations and hunting opportunities in Colorado. It provides a solid foundation for hunters of all ages. Many take a hunter education class to learn more about hunting or basic firearms safety even though they do not intend to hunt. The local hunter safety course will be held at the Wet Mountain Fire Protection District station located at 215 N. 4th street on Saturday 8am-5pm, and 8am-2pm on Sunday. The cost is \$10 and participants should bring water and a lunch for both days. They should also bring pen and paper to take notes. Please contact Justin Krall with questions and to sign up 371-2240.

Public Speaking Contest - The Public Speaking event will be held on April 2nd. As you know this is an optional event and I encourage all of you to learn to hone your public speaking skills. These skills will prepare you for life happenings such as interviews and how to address crowds and individuals. This confidence building skill is invaluable to learn and have fun in the process! If you are a senior 4-Her, this can even provide the chance to compete at the State Conference held on the CSU Campus in June. Practices will start in February, but it's never too early to start practicing at home and even writing your speech. This is a wonderful chance to overcome your fears of public speaking.

Public speaking practices will take place on Mondays starting February 23rd and go every Monday through March 30th (except for March 23rd) from 4:15 to 5:15 at the Annex. Practices are not required but highly encouraged to get the most out of this experience. There are four kinds of speeches: prepared, demonstration, impromptu, and interpretive. For more information or to sign up, please contact the Extension office. Entry form is found at the end of the 4-H newsletter.

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 17th. 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.

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.

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.

CAMPS: Grab the Torch Summer Institute in Colorado

The Colorado State 4-H Office has a working relationship with an organization called Grab the Torch. In 2014, this organization hosted one of their summer institutes in Colorado and 5 Colorado 4-H members attended. These members all expressed that this was a life changing event for them to attend. Once again, Colorado 4-H member's high school age Freshmen to college age Freshmen are qualified to apply. The deadline to apply is March 15th. The cost is \$2,000 but there are many full and partial scholarships available through the State 4-H Office. There are ONLY EIGHT spots available for Colorado so if you are interested, you need to apply NOW!

An email blast will be sent out to all age appropriate 4-H members with more details. The application will only be available online. If you are interested, please give us a call, so we can help if needed.

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!

Babysitter Training Class to any youth ages 10-18 interested in becoming a trained babysitter.



Six Lessons cover:

- Character Concepts
- Ages and stages of child development
- Appropriate activities for children
- Food and nutrition
- Partnering with Custer County Office of Emergency Management on How to handle emergencies
- Partnering with Custer County Health Nurse for First Aid and basic CPR concepts

Date: April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11

Time: 4:15pm to 5:45pm

Place: Custer County Annex

For questions or to register, Contact Robin Young 783-2514 or Robin.young@colostate.edu

4-H Truck Raffle Sales to start soon!

More info will be available when we get the tickets. This is another great fundraising opportunity for the 4-H Clubs!

High Country Recycling is looking for volunteers to help bale cardboard on Friday mornings. Contact Joanie Liebman at 371-0005.

2015 Custer County Fair

July 13-19, 2015

4-H Shotgun and .22 Competitions will be held on Saturday,

July 11th at 1:00 p.m.

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

The Speech Contest is a very important part of the 4-H program –You do NOT have to come to practices, however it is recommended. Remember—awards are presented to winners of the Speech Contest at Achievement Banquet in September.

PUBLIC SPEAKING PRACTICES

Mondays @ 4:15 p.m. Annex Building (March 16th will be in the Court Room).

Entry deadline for the speech contest will be March 30th). You do not have to be at the practices to enter the contest, but it will give you an advantage.

SPEECH CONTEST: April 2nd

The 2015 Speech Contest will be held at the Custer County Court House on April 2nd at 6pm.

DIVISIONS:

Cloverbuds 5-7 (participation ribbon only)

Junior Division — 8-10

Intermediate Division—11-13

Senior Division— 14 and over

All ages are based on 4-H age as of December 31, 2014

PREPARED SPEECH

The score card includes content, delivery and articulation, fluency, appearance, gestures, eye control, effectiveness, composition, speech structure, choice of words, materials and speech value.

INTERPRETATIVE READING

The reading should not be over 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.

IMPROMPTU SPEECH

The contestant will be given a topic and 10 minutes to prepare their speech. After ten minutes they will give a presentation on that topic not to exceed 5 minutes. This speech should include an introduction to gain the audience's attention, reasons and 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.

Contestants will receive 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place ribbons. Participant ribbons will be awarded to 5th place and below. Cloverbuds will receive a participation ribbon only. A Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion will be named from an average in each age group if merited. Senior Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Prepared and Impromptu speech will be eligible for the state contest.



SPEECH CONTEST ENTRY

Name _____ Club _____

Age (12/31/14) _____ Phone: _____

Email address: _____

I will be entering the following:

_____ Junior; _____ Intermediate; _____ Senior

_____ Prepared Speech Contest - Title of Speech _____

_____ Interpretative Reading – Title of Reading _____

_____ Impromptu

_____ Presentations – Title of Presentation _____

Return this application to the Extension Office by March 30th