



4-H NEWS TO KNOW

Colorado State University
Extension

Custer County

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MARCH

CUSTER COUNTY 4-H IS ON FACEBOOK!

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



Like

Find us on Facebook

As most of you have Facebook, we are becoming more interactive on our local Facebook page. Like this page and share it with other Custer County 4-H members and watch it for important updates, events and reminders.

2017 Custer County Courthouse closures:

The 4-H Office will be closed on April 3rd, 5th, and 7th for Staff Training. Office will be open on the 4th and 6th of that week for limited resources.

4-H Project Manuals & Record Books – ALL LITERATURE IS IN! If you have not yet picked up your project record books please come to the 4-H (Extension) Office and do so. Also, if you have not paid your 4-H dues and/or literature fees yet be prepared to do so when you pick up your record books.

If you have any record book or literature questions, please stop by the Extension Office or give us a call.

CALLING ALL DOG SHOWMEN: Sue Roberts has shared information on 4-H Dog Training Classes in Fremont County. The Fremont County Dog Leader has graciously invited our dog project members to join her classes on Wednesday evenings. The Leader is Margie McNew and her phone number is 719-429-5573 or you can email her at mmmcnew64@gmail.com. Margie's classes are EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT. Beginner dogs or kids class starts at 6:30 P.M. and the Advanced class meets at 7:30 P.M. Classes are held at the Fremont County Fairgrounds. If you choose to join one of Margie's classes, please remember that we are invited guests to her classes. You need to be on-time and prepared. You will need to have a Show Lead, Training Treats and any other necessary supplies or equipment when you arrive. We recommend that you contact Margie if you have any questions about the proper equipment or supplies needed before your first class.

Local Resource Leader Katlyn Freeburg has also offered to help dog project kids as well. If you would like contact information for Katlyn, Please call extension. **Katlyn's set dog practice schedule is 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Saddle Club Building on the following dates: March 12th & 26th, April 9th & 23rd, May 14th & 28th, June 11th, July 2nd & 9th.**

CLUB NEWS: WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR CLUB?

TRIPLE C CLOVERS

LEADER: Sara Shields

TELEPHONE: 719-783-9798

MEETING TIME & PLACE: All Regular Meetings will be the 1st Sunday of each month at 1:00 P.M. at the Ranchers Roost Meeting Room.

- ◆ **OFFICERS:**
- ◆ **President-** Lindsey Gillmore
- ◆ **Vice President-** Kaya Huffman
- ◆ **Secretary-** Makynna Reiff
- ◆ **Treasurer-** Keli Smith
- ◆ **Historians-** Shelby Murphey, Kyleigh Martin, Ronja Sutinen

SILVER SPURS

LEADER: Janet Freeburg **CO-LEADER:** Marci Wommack

TELEPHONE: Janet: 719-783-2136 Marci: 719-371-1508

MEETING TIME & PLACE: Regular Meetings will be the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 4:15 P.M. in the Annex Building
There will be NO February Meeting. The March Meeting date will also change. The new date is TBD.

- ◆ **OFFICERS:**
- ◆ **President-** Grace Watkins
- ◆ **Secretary-** Scott Freeburg
- ◆ **Treasurer-** Justice Saraceno
- ◆ **Vice President Candidates-** Hannah Kennedy and Dalton Wommack

TRAILBLAZERS

LEADER: Alisha Shy

TELEPHONE: 719-783-2399

MEETING TIME & PLACE: All Regular Meetings will be the 1st Sunday of each Month at 1:00 p.m. at the Courthouse.
MEET AT THE BACK DOOR. Please be on time, doors will lock at 1:10 p.m.

- ◆ **OFFICERS:**
- ◆ **President-** Cameron Penkoff
- ◆ **Vice President-** Ben Penkoff
- ◆ **Secretary-** Emma Rusk
- ◆ **Treasurer-** Brylee Shy

CLOVERBUDS:

Leader: Brianna Evert 719-371-4839

NOTES TO LEADERS: Please have your designated club officers contact the Extension Office with any club information that needs to be in the upcoming newsletters. Please have that information into the Extension Office no later than the 25th of the month.

Custer County Important Event Dates:

4-H PUBLIC SPEAKING PRACTICES: Remaining practices at **Tony's Mountain Pizza** are Monday March 27th, Monday April 3rd, Monday April 10th at 4:15 p.m.

PUBLIC SPEAKING EVENT: Scheduled for April 13, 2017 at Tony's Mountain Pizza. Time is TBD.

SHOOTING SPORTS SCHEDULES: FIREARMS ONLY: **Mandatory Safety meeting** for Shooting Sports Firearms will be from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on March 10th, 2017 at the Catholic Church Parish Hall (Enter through the West Doors).

IF YOU DID NOT MAKE THIS SAFETY MEETING YOU WILL HAVE ONE AND ONLY ONE MORE CHANCE FOR A MAKE-UP MEETING. A MAKE-UP MEETING HAS BEEN SET FOR 4:15 P.M. AT THE ANNEX BUILDING ON THURSDAY MARCH 30TH. IF YOU DID NOT ATTEND THE FIRST SAFETY MEETING AND YOU MISS THE NEXT ONE, YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO SHOOT IN PRACTICES OR COMPETITION!!!

SHOOTING SPORTS FIREARMS MEETING REQUIREMENTS: You will be **required** to attend 10 of your 15 scheduled practices in order to qualify to compete at the County or State Shoot. Practices will be held at the SDC Shooting Sports Range.

.22 RIFLE SHOOTING SPORTS PRACTICE: Practices start on March 31st at 9:00 a.m. and will go until noon at the SDC Shooting Sports Range. Practices will be every Friday following first practice.

HUNTER'S EDUCATION CLASS: A youth class was tentatively scheduled for the first weekend of April for those of you who are between the ages of 8-12 and still need your card. However, there have been some scheduling conflicts with that date and we will be re-scheduling. I will let you know a new date as soon as possible. We will make sure that you get a class option in plenty of time for the county competition shoot.

****HUNTER'S EDUCATION IS MANDATORY FOR ALL 4-H ARCHERY AND FIREARMS PARTICIPANTS****

ARCHERY SHOOTING SPORTS: MESSAGE FROM GREG WATKINS THE ARCHERY LEADER: I think it appropriate to have my safety class on the first Saturday of April (April 1). I think I will try to have practices every Saturday. The practices in April and May will be optional because of what we endured last year with wind and snow and school. After that I will kick it up a notch and have practices twice a week every Wednesday at 5:00 PM and ending at 6:00 PM and every Saturday beginning at 8:00 AM and ending at 9:00 AM. Thanks for the inspiration.

CUSTER COUNTY 4-H CAMP: Unfortunately this year we will have to cancel the county 4-H camp that was planned. It is my hope that we will be able to re-organize and have this camp in 2018. I know, it's a bummer but that will give us time to plan an awesome camp for all of you!!



4-H CARNIVAL



This Year's Carnival was March 14th and we had an awesome turnout!!! THANK YOU to all of the hard working club members and leaders for hosting a successful carnival this year!

2017 TRUCK RAFFLE

We have received notice that the Rocky Mountain Local Ford Stores are donating a 2017 Ford F-150 truck to the 4-H Foundation for our annual raffle. This is the 10th truck they have provided. The 2016 raffle grossed \$155,000. Let's set a goal of raising \$200,000 in 2017.

Custer County Leaders, Parents and 4-H Members: RAFFLE TICKETS ARE FINALLY AVAILABLE AND HAVE BEEN ORDERED. I'LL LET YOUR LEADERS KNOW WHEN THEY WILL BE IN AND READY FOR PICK-UP!!

ALL THINGS LIVESTOCK: BREEDING AND MARKET

Look for information on livestock camps and clinics in the Upcoming Events & Camps section of this newsletter.

Are you interested in a 4-H market livestock project, but need some financial assistance? At this time the only Micro-Loan available is for Beef. Once mandatory state changes have been made the small animal micro-loans will be available once again. Beef are funded under the Custer County Cattlewomen Micro-Loan and any 4-H or FFA Member can apply for the beef micro-loan. Please ask the Extension Office for more information or fill out an application today! Applications for the Small Animal Livestock Foundation micro-loan are due March 15th.

Meat Quality Assurance: The local MQA was on FEBRUARY 19TH @ 1:00 P.M. AT THE SADDLE CLUB BLDG. If you did not attend this meeting you need to enroll and attend a class in another county to be able to show and sell at the 2017 Custer County Fair. If you need MQA class information for other counties, call the 4-H office!!

Yearly MQA is MANDATORY For ALL 4-H & FFA Market Livestock Members!!

(The previous rule was that first-year members attend the class and they were to attend again when they turned 14). Please note that ALL 4-H & FFA Market Livestock participants will be required to attend a MQA CLASS EVERY YEAR that they are enrolled in a market livestock project from 2017 forward!

BREEDING BEEF: Would you be interested in a Breeding Prospect Heifer class at our County Fair? If so, contact us at the Extension Office and let us know that you are interested. Remember, the deadline to Add this project is May 1st, 2017, However, you will want your heifer before this date.

MARKET BEEF EXHIBITORS: There will be an **OPTIONAL** weigh-in for you on April 30th from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. (before the small animal weigh-in). This is a good opportunity to get a marker weight on your steers and to expose them to the fairgrounds before you have to bring them to county fair.

MARKET & BREEDING SMALL LIVESTOCK (LAMB, SWINE, GOATS): HAVE YOU BOUGHT YOUR ANIMALS FOR COUNTY AND STATE FAIR YET? If not your time is running out!!! Are you new to livestock showing? Have you contacted a breeder to purchase your Lambs, Pigs or Goats? Many breeders for these species have a waiting list and it's first come first serve. If you have not contacted a breeder yet, you need to. If you NEED names and contact information for breeder's you can call us at the 4-H Office for a list of breeders for your species. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE OR YOU WILL MISS OUT!** These species SELL OUT FAST at reputable breeding farms.

SMALL ANIMAL MARKET LIVESTOCK WEIGH-IN : MANDATORY FOR ALL SMALL ANIMAL MARKET PROJECTS. Weigh Date is set for April 30th from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. PIGS DO NOT WEIGHT BUT YOU STILL NEED TO BE THERE WITH YOUR REQUIRED PAPERWORK. All other animals need to weigh and you will need to have your required paperwork as well. **MANDATORY PAPERWORK HAS BEEN SENT OUT IN AN EMAIL AND IT WAS PROVIDED AT THE MQA CLASS AS WELL.** If you somehow missed getting this you need to contact the 4-H office or come in so that I can get it to you.

*****IMPORTANT***** IF YOU HAVE AN UNAVOIDABLE CONFLICT WITH THIS WEIGH DATE YOU NEED TO CONTACT DIANE ROSE ON THE FAIR BOARD (OR ANOTHER FAIR BOARD MEMBER) TO ASK FOR AN EXCEPTION & AN ALTERNATE DATE TO WEIGH-IN. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO DO THIS!!!! YOU NEED TO GIVE PRIOR NOTICE OF CONFLICT AND ASK FOR AN ALTERNATE DATE BEFORE APRIL 31ST. IF YOU DON'T AND YOU DO NOT SHOW UP TO THE WEIGH-IN, YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO SHOW.

STATE FAIR LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS: RETINAL SCANS

If you have animals that will require retinal scans you will need to take them to Fremont County this year.

RETINAL SCAN INFORMATION:

Cost is \$5.00 per scan.

LOCATION: Fremont County Fairgrounds

Sheep – Saturday, May 13 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Goats – Saturday, May 13 beginning at 9:30 a.m.

STATE FAIR LIVESTOCK EXHIBITORS: GENERAL ENTRY & LIVESTOCK NOMINATIONS



If you are planning to enter the Colorado State Fair you need to be checking the Exhibitor Requirements for the 2017 Deadlines!

Go to <http://www.coloradostatefair.com/> and click the Exhibitors tab on the far right side of the screen and follow the directions for your project from there. It is YOUR responsibility as an exhibitor to make sure you have met all paperwork and deadline requirements for entering the State Fair.

HORSE MEETINGS:

Your first meeting is scheduled for Tuesday March 28th. This is an indoor MANDATORY safety meeting and will be held at the Annex Building at 6:00 p.m. I will let you know which location as soon as I hear back from the annex building.

Following Practices will be Outdoor practices and will start at 10:00 a.m.: Location TBD

Saturday April 8th

Saturday April 22nd

Saturday May 6th

Saturday May 20th

Saturday June 3rd

Saturday June 17th

Saturday July 1st

Your leaders this year are Casey McNew Lead, Margie McNew Co-Lead, Marci Wommack Co-Lead and Lisa Behrman Co-Lead. If you have any conflicts with these dates contact Casey McNew as he is the one who sets the schedule. Casey's phone is 719-429-2953 and his email is k-ccattleco@live.com.

Upcoming Events and Camps:

For a list of **ALL** upcoming Colorado 4-H Events go to the link below:

http://www.colorado4h.org/events_opportunities/index.php

IF YOU WANT TO ATTEND ANY 4-H RELATED CAMPS THE CUSTER COUNTY 4-H FOUNDATION WILL PAY FOR 75% OF ENROLLMENT FEES FOR FOUNDATION MEMBERS AND 25% OF ENROLLMENT FEES FOR NON-MEMBERS.



**4-H & FFA MEMBERS
IN THE SPOTLIGHT!**

Congratulations to Grace Watkins on being selected through an interview process to be one of the seven **Colorado State Delegates** who will attend the **National 4-H Conference in March 2017**. This is a HUGE accomplishment for Grace and for Custer County. We are excited that Grace will be representing us and the State of Colorado at the National Level!!

SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT RETREAT

Custer County had four members attend SCDR this year. Grace Watkins, Keli Smith, Jessie Smith and Ashley Gillum represented our County with Ashely and Keli being our county delegates who were allowed to vote on the 2017-2018 District 13 Officers. Grace Watkins ran for District 13 President and she **WON!!** Congratulations Grace, you worked hard on your campaign board and gave a wonderful campaign speech that was delivered from the heart and it paid off!! We are looking forward to the leadership that you provide to District 13 throughout the next 4-H Year!!

DO YOU HAVE SOME SPOTLIGHT NEWS TO SHARE? LET US KNOW SO WE CAN INCLUDE YOU IN THE NEXT SPOTLIGHT!!

PAST CAMP RECOUNTS & EXPERIENCES:

2017 SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT RETREAT (SCDR):

The theme this year was "Color Your Story"! We had some great workshop sessions with Public Speaking experts who not only told stories of personal achievement but they taught our members some exceptional skills on public speaking and how to improve their own delivery method and engage the audience in which they are speaking to. As always the camp dance was a hit and this year we tie-dyed our camp t-shirts. Other workshops and activities included a photo scavenger hunt, a personality trait class, mini golf and a rock climbing wall. This year SCDR was held at the Golden Bell Camp and Conference Center in Divide Colorado.

MARCH Birthdays!

**Sam Babcock
Payton Black**

**Sara Shields
Marcí Wommack**



Thank You All for being a part of our Custer County 4-H Family!!!

Colorado State University, U. S. Department of Agriculture and Colorado counties cooperating. Extension programs are available to all without discrimination.

Individuals requiring special accommodations to participate in any activity, program or service should notify the program coordinator at least 5 business days prior to the scheduled event.