

# 4-H News to Know January 2016

Colorado  
State  
University

Extension

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

*We will continue to publish all newsletters electronically. Please make sure we have your current email address so we can keep you in the loop. If you don't have internet, we can print a newsletter for you. Stop by the office.*

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 Custer County 4-H Facebook page:

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

## 4-H Enrollment - Welcome to 4-H!!

We want to welcome all our previous 4-H members back and all the new 4-H members just getting started. If you ever have any questions, please give us a call or stop by the office. There are NEVER any stupid questions. We are here for YOU!!!

**Communication** - As we kick off the new 4-H year, we want everyone 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 most helpful to read this newsletter every month. Please make sure you keep both your mailing and email addresses current. On occasion, we mail letters to our 4-H membership. Please open and read your mail when you get it. Finally, all things related to the Custer County Fair are communicated through the Fair Book, which is generally completed and posted on [www.custercountygov.com/ext](http://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 at the end of the year. Information that needs to be included in the newsletter should be submitted to the Extension

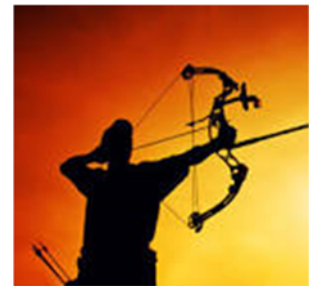
Office by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. If information is not included in the newsletter, but needs to be sent out, we will send out an email to all 4-H and FFA members. So please keep current on checking your email as well.

**Working Ranch Horse** - We have exciting news! As you know, we have a new person joining our awesome horse leader team, Lisa Behrman. She will be leading the Ranch Horse project this year. The first meeting will be held on Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> @ noon at the Saddle Club bleachers. This meeting will cover what the project is all about. Everyone is welcome to come, even if you aren't enrolled in the project. Remember you can add projects up until May 1<sup>st</sup> so if you have any interest in the project, come to the meeting.



**Beef Weigh in** - The first official weigh and tag day for beef will be scheduled for Sunday, January 10, 2016 from 2-4 p.m. at the fairgrounds. Please remember to bring your bill of sale or brand inspection papers with you.

**Archery News** - We have a new leader! Although Greg Watkins is not new to 4-H, he has stepped up to be our new Archery Leader after Shannon Byerly served as the archery leader for 6 years. We want to thank Shannon for his leadership and we thank Greg for becoming our new leader. We know our youth will benefit under Greg's leadership. Be looking for Archery practices to start sometime in May at the Cowboy Church.



**Club Meetings Scheduled** - Below you will find a list of the club meetings and times thru April. More will be added later:

Triple C Clovers - Jan. 3, Feb. 7, March 6, April 3 @ 1 p.m. at Ranchers Roost

Trailblazers - Jan. 3, Feb. 7, March 6, April 3 @ 1 p.m. at school.

Silver Spurs -Jan. 14, Feb. 11, March 10, April 14 @ 4:15 p.m. at Annex Bldg.

Don't forget that elections will be held at your next club meetings. Once officers are elected, there will be an officer training. This is NOT limited to officers - anyone can come. The date, time and place will be determined based on attendance availability sometime after the club meetings. If you are an elected officer or you have an interest in becoming an officer in the future, then this is an opportunity for you!



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS for the first ever Custer County 4-H Camp – February 13<sup>th</sup> from 1-7 p.m. at the Cowboy Church.** There will be food, games, prizes and fun, and getting to know your fellow 4-H members. There will be a pizza party from 6-7 p.m. Special gifts will be given to all attendees! We hope you will all come and enjoy the fun. Please let us know if you will be attending by Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>. There will be a second camp at A Painted View Ranch on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Look to the next newsletter for more information.



## *Custer County 4-H Camp Registration*

*February 13<sup>th</sup> - 1pm to 7pm*

**Deadline is January 27th**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_

Projects \_\_\_\_\_

Years in 4-H \_\_\_\_\_

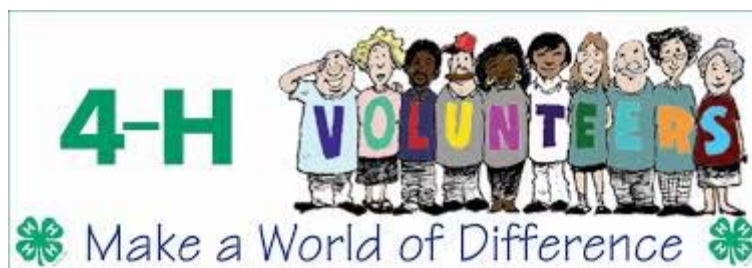
T-shirt Size \_\_\_\_\_

Special Dietary Needs \_\_\_\_\_

**New Club Leader for Triple C Clovers** – Welcome to McKenzie Huffman for volunteering to be your Triple C’s Club Leader! McKenzie is stepping in for Sara Shields while Sara is taking some much needed time to be with her mom. Sara is offering to help with all things 4-H like she always does, but will just be on the sidelines for now. Thanks Sara, for all you do for your 4-Hers! And we wish you, Bet, and all your family all the best wishes in the coming year.

And speaking of Sara’s family, Bonnie – we wish you well in your future endeavors in Nebraska! You have been such a big help for all of us. We will miss your smiling face and wealth of knowledge in the beef project!

**WANTED** – 4-H Leaders! Do you have a specific talent or just want to be involved in helping out the 4-H youth in Custer County? Then become a leader today! We are always looking for project leaders and those who are willing to give their time to our youth. Please come to the Extension Office and visit with us about becoming a leader.



**List of Leaders** - below is a list of current club and project leaders:

Janet Freeburg - Silver Spurs Club Co-Leader  
Marci Wommack - Silver Spurs Club Co-Leader and Horse Leader  
Alisha Shy - Trailblazers Club Leader  
McKenzie Huffman - Triple C Club Leader  
Bill Baker - Shooting Sports - .22 and Shotgun Leader  
Audrey Gluschke - Resource Leader  
Ashton Hutton - Horse Leader  
Katie Smith - Resource Leader

**4-H Public Speaking Event** - Practices will begin on Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. at the Annex Building. The four categories are: Prepared, Demonstration, Interpretative, and Impromptu. We have some new coaches as well as some that have been with us for a few years. Practices are not mandatory, but they are **HIGHLY** recommended. This year, we are offering an open category to the general public ages 8-18 or grades 3-12 so let your non 4-H friends know and encourage them to join! Speaking Contest will be held on March 7<sup>th</sup>, location and time to be determined at a later date. Deadline to sign up is March 2<sup>nd</sup>.



**Project Resources** - The Extension Office has many resources for you projects. There are pamphlets, videos, books and many other items for you to take home and use. If you have any questions, please come in and talk to us. You can check out these resources from the office and get the knowledge for your project.

**Hunter Safety Certification Classes** - A two day course is being offered in Pueblo on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 9 & 10 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. The minimum age for this class is 10 years of age. To pre-register, please call Jose Alvarado at 719-544-1922. All youth participating in the Custer County Shooting Sports projects are required to have a Hunter Safety Certification card. Please call for more information.

**Leadership Development Conference** - Just wanted to remind all of you know about a conference opportunity for 4-H senior members 14-19. It will be held in Denver on Jan. 23-25 at the Renaissance Hotel. Registration costs \$150 which includes program costs, two breakfasts, team meetings, lunch, banquet, speaker and a dance. All registrations are due by noon on Friday, Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>. We will need to find out how many want to go so we can make room accommodations. Rooms are \$109 each night which can be split between up to 4 kids. Don't forget that Custer County 4-H Foundations have scholarships available to help with the **costs. Please give us a call if you are interested in going.**

**Youth Fest** - This camp will be held at Larkspur, Colorado on February 5-7 for 4-H members ages 9-13 as of Dec. 31, 2015. The cost is \$120. Deadline to register is **January 27<sup>th</sup>**. Please give us a call or stop by for registration forms.

**Custer County 4-H Foundation** - The Custer County 4-H Foundation is your local organization to help our 4-H youth further their experiences by providing funds to send them to camps and conferences. Membership is \$25 per family and runs for the calendar year - Jan. 1 thru Dec. 31. Membership fees are due by January 31<sup>st</sup> to receive benefits for that current year. If you are a member of the Foundation and attend a camp or conference, 75% of your cost will be covered by the Foundation. Non-members may receive a 25% scholarship for the cost of camps/conferences. The Foundation also sponsors the Awards Ceremony in September. This organization cares about our 4-Hers. Please support the Custer County 4-H Foundation today!

**National Western Stock Show** - January 9 - 24<sup>th</sup>. They are offering family discount packages for certain events. If interested, call the Extension Office for more info or go online to: <http://nationalwestern.com> for tickets.

### **Dates to Remember:**

- Jan. 9 - Ranch horse meeting-Saddle Club bleachers @ noon. No horses, just meeting.
- Jan. 10 - Beef weigh in at 2 p.m. @ fairgrounds. Small animal weigh dates TBD.
- Jan. 11 - speech practices start at 4 p.m. at the Annex. Speaking event held on March 7.
- Jan. 23 - 25<sup>th</sup> - (yes, that is a Monday) - LDC in Denver. Senior ages only.
- Feb. 13 - Custer County 4-H Camp - please encourage all to attend. 1-7 p.m. @ Cowboy Church
- March 5 - Meat Quality Assurance @ 10 a.m. (**Required** by all first year livestock members & again when livestock members turn 14 - a list will be sent out at a later date)
- March 7 - Speech Contest (time and place TBD)
- March 12 - 4-H Camp @ A Painted View Ranch, 10-3 p.m. More details to come.
- March 30 - Carnival 4:30-6:30 P.M.

Custer County Courthouse will be closed:

Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup> for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

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.

# FYI

January 2016

**2016 IRM Redbooks are in!!!!!! Ranchers... stop by soon! Quantities are LIMITED!!**

## **Seedling Tree Sale Applications**

Applications to purchase the seedling trees from the Colorado State Forest Service are available. For best selection, the earlier you order the better chance you have of getting the trees you ordered. They do sell out of a large variety of the trees early. Stop by the Extension Office to get your application or give us a call to get one put in the mail. Application forms are also available at the Post Office.

## **Native Plant Master Course Scheduled**

Would you like to learn more about the beautiful plants that grow in nature? Take a Native Plant Master course and get to know the plants of Colorado. Course I – DeWeese is being offered in 2016. The course dates are May 14, 21 and 27. To register or get more information, please call or stop by the Extension Office.

## **Fall and Winter Watering**

Dry air, low precipitation, little soil moisture, and fluctuating temperatures are characteristics of fall and winter in many areas of Colorado. There often can be little or no snow cover to provide soil moisture, particularly from October through March. Trees, shrubs perennials and lawns can be damaged if they do not receive supplemental water.

The result of long, dry periods during fall and winter is injury or death to parts of plant root systems. Affected plants may appear perfectly normal and resume growth in the spring using stored food energy. Plants may be weakened and all or parts may die in late spring or summer when temperatures rise. Weakened plants also may be subject to insect or disease problems.

Woody plants with shallow root systems require supplemental water. Herbaceous perennials and ground covers in exposed sites are more subject to winter freezing and thawing. Winter watering as well as mulch can help prevent damage. Lawns, particularly south and west exposures are susceptible to damage during dry winters.

Water only when air temperatures are above 40 degrees F if possible. Apply water at early to mid-day so it will have time to soak in before possible freezing at night.

Go to <http://extension.colostate.edu/topic-areas/yard-garden/fall-and-winter-watering-7-211/> for more details.