

4-H Youth Development

Kit Carson County Newsletter

McKayla Bishop - Family Consumer Sciences / 4-H Youth Development

Scott Stinnett - Livestock / 4-H Youth Development

January and February 2026

NWSS Passes

We should have a limited number of NWSS day passes and badges if you are going. Badges can be loaned out and to be returned so others may use them. These passes and badges will only get you in the gates at NWSS. 4-H day at NWSS is Friday, January 16, 2026.

Leadership Development Conference

Leadership Development Conference (LDC) will be Saturday, January 24 through Monday, January 26, 2026, at the Renaissance Hotel in Denver. County Council will cover the entire hotel cost, and half of the \$225 registration fee. To register, contact the Extension office ASAP. Payment will be due by 5:00 P.M. January 6, 2026. Monday the 26th is 4-H Day at the state capital. If youth are not interested in LDC but would like to go to the capital that day, please let Scott know.

Youth Fest

The State 4-H office has announced Youth Fest will be March 27-29, 2026, in Pueblo again for the intermediate age groups. Please watch for more information as the plans are confirmed.

Livestock Judging and Horse Judging

4-H members interested in judging livestock or horses should contact Scott at the Extension office. If we have enough youth interested and find a few coaches to help out, we can put together a team. You do not have to be enrolled in a livestock or horse project to participate.

Livestock Quiz Bowl and Horse Bowl

If you are interested in participating as part of a competitive team, please let Scott know and plans can be made for practices and getting youth some study material. Senior 4-H'ers can compete in these activities at the State 4-H Conference in mid-June.

Public Speaking, Horse Demo and Horse Public Speaking

Public speaking is a competitive contest for senior 4-H'ers at the State 4-H Conference and the competitions do not require qualifying to compete. Scott is the superintendent of the horse contest and in 2024 only one contestant

competed in demo and public speaking. This is a great opportunity to get involved. Ask Scott for more details about public speaking and demonstration contests.

Project Days

We will be planning some project days for Fridays, Mondays and Spring Break in 2026. Watch for announcements on Facebook or from your club leaders.

Record Book Workshop

We will be holding record book workshop opportunities throughout the year as well. They will be held on Fridays and Mondays. For specific projects, call or email Scott to schedule. Be on the lookout for upcoming dates!

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Congratulations to our own CSU Extension Specialist McKayla Bishop and her husband Wyatt on the birth of Bristol McCall Bishop. She was born on November 19th. Bristol, McKayla and Wyatt are all doing fine. McKayla will be out on leave until later in spring 2026.



Ms. Bristol Bishop



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Shooting Sports

Shooting sports will be getting underway soon. **2026 Mandatory Safety Training for ALL participants** will be held at **1:30 PM, Sunday, March 22nd** at the Burlington Gun Club. **All shooting sports members are required to attend.** Range cleanup will be immediately after safety training. Bring your warm work clothes and gloves. Discipline trainings will take place beginning at 1:30 PM on **April 12th** at the Burlington Gun Club. **All participants must complete hunter's education before participating in any shooting activities.** For more information on hunter's education Go to: <http://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/HunterEducation.aspx>.

2026 Official Shooting Dates

All official shoots will be at the Burlington Gun Club. Shotgun will start at 9 AM and all other disciplines at 1:30 PM. Here are the dates:

First Shoot	May 31 st
Second Shoot	June 7 th
Third Shoot	June 14 th
Fourth Shoot	June 28 th

Adult Volunteer Shooting Sports Discipline Trainings

Enrolled adult 4-H volunteers or senior 4-H members wanting to attend a discipline training, please contact Scott at the Extension Office. Dates will be:

March 13-15, Weld County – (Rifle, Pistol, Archery, Shotgun)

March 20-22, Pueblo County – (Rifle, Pistol, Archery, Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Hunting & Outdoor Skills, Western Heritage)

March 27-29, Garfield County - (Rifle, Pistol, Archery, Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Hunting & Outdoor Skills, Western Heritage)

April 25, Morgan County - Recertification for all disciplines

Beef Weigh In

Beef Weigh-in will be **SATURDAY February 21st, from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM.**

Any market beef cattle who may be showing at the KCC fair, or will be nominated for the Colorado State Fair, must weigh in during those times in order to be eligible to

show at either fair. **CATTLE MUST BE BROKE TO LEAD ACROSS SCALES.** This is due to safety concerns, and wear and tear on the scale equipment. **Cattle that cannot be led across will not be weighed in.** There will be 156 days between weigh-in and fair. **Weight ranges have not changed for 2026** at fair. All Market Heifers and Steers must weigh 1,000 to 1,600 pounds. No minimum rate of gain requirement for the livestock sale at fair, but this weight will be used to determine the animal's rate of gain. Cost is \$5 per animal (for tags and scale certification and scale repairs) If you do not have a brand inspection for your calves it can be done at weigh in as well.

Any Market Beef going to the 2026 Colorado State Fair must be nominated at this time as well.

Junior Superintendents

4-H or FFA members 12 years and up, who are interested in being Junior Superintendents for the 2026 KCC Fair need to contact the Extension office and sign up by February 2nd. We ask that junior livestock superintendents not apply for the species they intend to show at the fair. Those still needed: 4-H Cake Dec – 1; Poultry – 1; Rabbits – 1; Beef – 3; Swine – 3; Sheep & Goat – 2; Horse – 1 for each day, Thurs & Fri ; General Living Arts – 2; Paintings – 1; Open Class Quilts – 2. Please call the office as soon as possible if you can help us out! 719-346-5571.

Meat Quality Assurance (MQA)

All 4-H members enrolled in livestock projects must attend an MQA program. **NEW for 2026:** 4-H members must attend MQA once as a Junior (age 8-10), once as an Intermediate (11-13) and once as a Senior (14-19). No matter their age, they must attend MQA their first year in a livestock project. **NEW Location for 2026** will be in the Show Pavilion at the KCC Fairgrounds.

Meat Quality Assurance (MQA)

*****April 8, 2026 *****

Show Pavilion – KCC Fairgrounds

Letters will be sent to those 4-H members who need to go through the program.

Dates to Remember

January 2026

1 **Extension Office Closed – New Year's Day Holiday**
15 Enrollment forms are due in the office for re-enrolling 4-H members and adult leaders

February

2 KCC Fair Junior Superintendent Sign Up Due
16 **Extension Office Closed - Presidents Day Holiday**
21 KCC Fair Beef Weigh-in 8 A.M. to 10 A.M.
23 KCC 4-H Council Meeting

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