ISSUE 07

THE CLOVER CONNECTION

November Newsletter

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OCTOBER SPOTLIGHT



Laramie County 4-H celebrated the achievements of our youth members with an evening of dinner, awards, and a mysterious murder in the Emerald City. On the evening of October 24th, one hundred and eighty members, parents, volunteers, and guests helped celebrate our program by attending the Laramie County 4-H Achievement Program.

The evening started out with acts one and two of our murder mystery, and we would like to thank True Troop for offering the production of *Dorthy of Oz Kicks the Golden Bricks, the Ozening*. They really worked hard to make the production a fun and entertaining experience for our 4-H community, and we truly do appreciate everything that they did! We would also like to thank everyone at the Achievement Program who participated with True Troop. Your audience participation really helped make the evening fun!

Read more on page 1.

Laramie County 4-H Achievement Program

By Brenda Madrid



Following the first two acts of the murder mystery, attendees received dinner consisting of pizza, sides, and a chocolate fountain, which was planned by the Laramie County 4-H Junior Leaders. They then experienced the awards ceremony, in which the Junior Leaders helped hand out awards.

Over the course of the evening, we awarded over awards. We started with our cloverbud graduation, which we awarded nine cloverbud graduate awards to Eliana Austin, Alexander Goodell, Theodore Goodell, Aethel Meadowcroft, Addilyn Schmidt, Titus Temte, Waylon Travis, Sadie Vogler-Sandoval, and Lawson Wood. .



We awarded three senior graduate awards to Kodi Lamb, Sophia Stengl, and Rylie West. This was followed by our Friend of 4-H recipients: Mike Tweed, Capital Lumber, and Jacob Wright. Next, we awarded three outstanding club officer awards: Connor Olaveson, Liorah Stephens, and Tavia Zimmerman. The hardluck awards went to Haesel Meadowcroft and Connor Olaveson this year. 4-H Outstanding Member Awards were awarded to Haesel Meadowcroft, Clayton Boizot, and Annabelle Madrid.

The Bird Bandits 4-H Club and the Clover Club 4-H Club were recognized for the Outstanding 4-H Club Standard Awards. The Laramie County 4-H Junior Leaders were awarded the Outstanding 4-H Club Community Service award at the county level. The Wyoming State 4-H Office offers a Hands to Larger Service Award. This year, the Hillsdale Tip Toppers were awarded this award and were recognized at the Achievement Program for their Food Bag Project.

There were three recipients this year for the Mosaic Award: The Copple Family & Ranch, Sadie Estavillo, and Laura Schei. The outstanding 4-H Leadership Awards went to Eadgyth Meadowcroft and Riley West. This year we had the honor of inducting five youth members into the Wyoming State 4-H Honors program, which is the highest honor in Wyoming 4-H. Those members include: Therese Borgerding, Alexandria Brady, Owen Green, Landon Schei, and Reese West. Congratulations again to them on this huge accomplishment.
The Junior Leaders presented the awards for Gold Rush, as well as the Static Award Grand Champion winners from the Laramie County Fair. Outstanding Record Book Awards were also presented to the following members: Logan Schei, Ezra Martinz, Anders Schafer, Sage Derner, Teigen Derner, Rylie Vetter, Landon Schei, Tavia Zimmerman, and Riley West. The Horse N' Around 4-H Club received the top secretary's book and treasurer's book award.

First year members were presented their certificates during the Achievement Program. This year we had 125 first year members! We are so happy that they choose to join 4-H. We also had seven member who earned their 4-H letters: Kodi Lamb, Annabelle Madrid, McKenzie Merrell, Selena Millhouse, Landon Schei, Kaitlyn Smith, and Andrew Zubrod.





We had two outstanding 2-5 year leaders this year: Christine Meadowcroft and Jennifer Stephens. We also awarded years of Service Awards for first year, fifth year, 10th year, and 20th year leaders: Shannon Ferree, Lisa Hunter, Sean Kusiak, Benjamine Stadleman, Patrick Duzik, Amy Schick, Melissa Walls, Katherine Atkins, Robert Roof, Corinna Schueler, Magen Seeley-Marotz, Georgia Younglove.

This year we also had a leader who completed their 50th year. He was awarded the Wyoming State 4-H Legacy Award at the Laramie County 4-H Achievement Program. Congratulations to Marius Wilson, and thank you for your time and dedication to the 4-H program- you have inspired numerous lives.

The Achievement Program wrapped up with act three of the murder mystery. Congratulations to all members of the Laramie County 4-H program! We look forward to what the new year brings us!

The Educator's Desk

Rebecca Austin



Well, it finally feels like fall! I was beginning to wonder if we were going to have a second summer instead of the second winter we typically seem to get here in Wyoming. The cooler temperatures, changing leaves, and shorter days are finally reminding us that the seasons are changing.

As the cold weather sets in and outdoor activities become a little harder to squeeze into our schedules, this is the perfect time to turn our attention toward making progress on 4-H projects! Whether you're working on a sewing project, experimenting with a new recipe, building something in the workshop, studying for your next judging contest, or keeping up with your livestock records, there are plenty of ways to stay engaged and continue developing new skills during the colder months.

Fall and winter are also a great opportunity to slow down, revisit project goals, and get a head start on things that might otherwise sneak up on you in the spring and summer.



Take some time to organize project materials, work on record books, practice new skills, research topics that interest you, or start planning what you'd like to accomplish this 4-H year. Even setting aside a little time each week can make a big difference by the time county fair rolls around!

And remember, progress doesn't always have to mean completing a big project or creating something ready to show. Sometimes it's learning a new technique, making a mistake and figuring out how to fix it, asking questions, or trying something you've never done before. Those experiences are all part of the 4-H learning process!

So, as we trade our outdoor adventures for cozy afternoons and indoor projects, let's make the most of the season. Stay curious, keep creating, and don't be afraid to try something new. Before we know it, spring will be here, and we'll be gearing up for another busy 4-H season!

Brenda's BLOG

Hello!

Happy November- can you believe it is already November?! As you are all aware, it is a new 4-H year, so I want to remind everyone (members, volunteers, parents) that it is time to re-enroll!

As we turn the page to a new month, we are excited for the opportunities ahead to learn, lead, serve, and grow together. Whether you are working on project goals, participating in club activities, preparing for upcoming events, or exploring new interests, every experience helps build valuable life skills and lasting friendships.

I encourage you to take the opportunities that are presented to you as the year progresses. Whether those opportunities are in 4-H, school, or another club or activity you may be involved with, you should embrace them if you have the capabilities to do so. I am excited to see what activities you will take advantage of this year! Be on the lookout for 4-H opportunities as the year progresses.

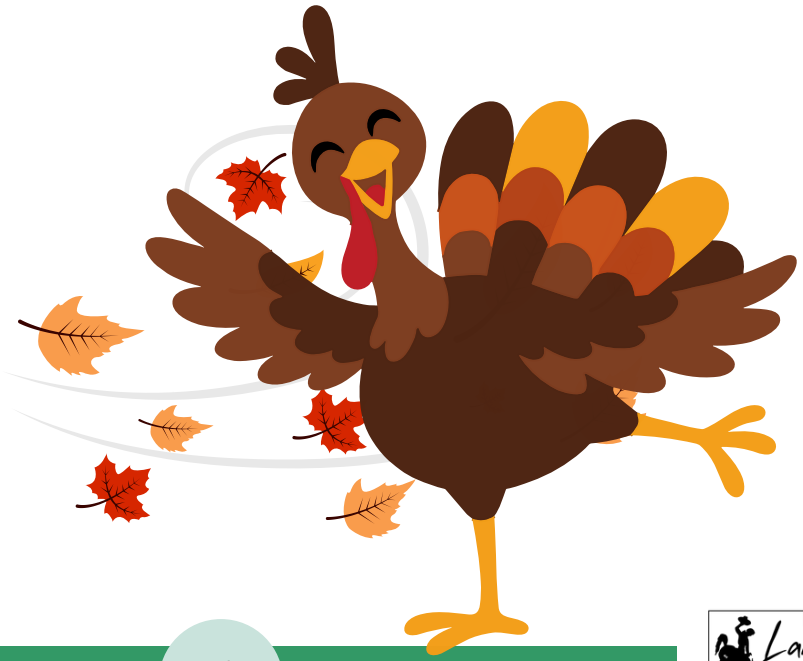
Remember, success isn't measured only by the ribbons and banners, but by the lessons learned and the effort invested along the way. 4-H is about preparing you for the next steps in your life, and you will benefit from the energy you put into your projects, learning, and work.

Stay warm, start working towards setting your goals for this 4-H year, and remember to have fun along the way! Gain the skills that 4-H opportunities allow you to gain and make a few lasting friendships along the way!Also, take a moment this month to reflect on the things that you are thankfulf for- perhaps your family, teachers, or a 4-H volunteer.

As you work on setting goals this fall, please remember, you can always come talk to me about your projects- I really do enjoy seeing the passion each of you exhibits for your projects! Enjoy your November!

Best Wishes,
Brenda Madrid
4-H Military Educator





Laramie County



Laramie Co. 4-H Represented on State Leadership Team

Laramie County 4-H had three members selected to be a part of the Wyoming State 4-H Leadership Team. Youth members ages 16-18 who are ready to grow as leaders, meet new people, represent Wyoming 4-H, and make a difference in their communities can apply every fall for the Wyoming State 4-H Leadership Team. Applications come from the Wyoming State 4-H Office.

The Wyoming State Leadership Team helps with several events around the state. They include Wyoming Civic Day, State Meat and Wool Judging Competitions, Showcase Showdown, State Shoot, 4-H Foundation Fundraisers, and Wyoming State Fair. This year, three members from Laramie County 4-H were selected. Congratulations to Wyatt Kruchten, Walter Martinz, and Emily Schuck.

By: Brenda Madrid, Photo Credit: Mijal Altman, Wyoming 4-H Youth Development Specialist

4-H at Warren Air Force Base Youth Center

Brenda has been working with the Warren Air Force Base Youth Center to create a partnership, which will allow for the youth who enroll in the Youth Center to also enroll in 4-H. We are in the process of having the Youth Center's staff become 4-H volunteer leaders, so that they may lead activities in the name of 4-H. We are also working on offering different activities and project exploration to those youth, so that they may showcase what they learn at the Laramie County Fair in 4-H! We are excited to offer the opportunity to these youth to be a part of the 4-H Organization!

4-H Military Partnership

4-H Participates at local Harvest Market

By: Rebecca Austin

We had a wonderful time participating in the Harvest Market! It was a great opportunity for our 4-H youth to showcase their creativity, entrepreneurial skills, and hard work by selling their very own handmade items. From coming up with ideas to creating products and interacting with customers, our youth got to experience a little bit of what it takes to turn their creativity into a small business. We love seeing them put their skills into action and share what they've been working on with the community!

But that wasn't the only exciting part of the day! We also introduced a new friend for Carlos, our unofficial 4-H mascot. We asked the community to help us choose a name, and the votes are in... Jeff was the winner! So, help us give a big 4-H welcome to Jeff, our newest unofficial mascot and Carlos's new best buddy. We think they're going to make quite the team!

Thank you to everyone who stopped by, supported our youth, cast a vote, and helped make the Harvest Market such a fun event. We always love opportunities to get out into the community and show off what 4-H is all about!

Buffalo Ridge Human Coding:

By: Rebecca Austin

We had a robot invasion at Buffalo Ridge Elementary! 4-H teamed up with Buffalo Ridge's 4th-grade classrooms to introduce students to the basics of coding through a fun, hands-on activity. But instead of bringing in a bunch of robots, we turned the students themselves into robots!

Working in teams, students took turns being the programmer and the robot. Their mission? Navigate their human robot through a series of obstacles using only simple, step-by-step directions. It sounds easy enough, right? Well, it turns out that robots aren't always great at interpreting vague instructions! Students quickly discovered that directions need to be clear, specific, and in the right order to get their robot where they need to go.

There were plenty of robot noises, unexpected movements, error codes, and, of course, debugging along the way! When a robot took a wrong turn or ran into an obstacle, students had to go back, figure out what went wrong, and adjust their instructions to try again.

Beyond all the laughter and silly robot antics, students were exploring some important computer science concepts, including algorithms, sequencing, problem-solving, and debugging. They got to experience firsthand how even the simplest coding instructions require careful planning and a little trial and error.

A big thank-you to the Buffalo Ridge 4th-grade teachers and students for welcoming us into their classrooms! We had a blast turning people into robots and showing that you don't need a computer or a fancy piece of technology to start learning how to code. Sometimes, all you need is a good set of instructions and a willing human robot!

Laramie County 4-H Kicks-Off New 4-H Year with STEAM Night

By: Rebecca Austin, Photo Credit: Rebecca Austin & Brenda Madrid

For National 4-H Week, we had a fantastic time celebrating with our 4-H STEM Night! It was an evening full of creativity, curiosity, experimentation, and hands-on learning. From making holiday circuit cards and whipping up handmade ice cream to mixing slime, exploring robotics, and so much more, there was no shortage of opportunities to learn something new and have a little fun along the way!

It was wonderful seeing youth and families dive into the activities, experiment with new ideas, and discover just how much fun science, technology, engineering, and math can be. Whether they were building, creating, testing, or getting a little messy, everyone had the opportunity to explore STEM in their own way.



A big thank-you to all of our community activity partners and exhibitors who shared their time, knowledge, and creativity, as well as our amazing volunteers who helped make the evening possible. Events like these wouldn't be the same without the support and enthusiasm of our community!

We loved seeing so many curious minds come together, and we hope everyone left feeling inspired to keep exploring, creating, and asking questions. That's what 4-H is all about: learning by doing!



New 4-H Year & Zsuite Re-enrollment

October 1st will start the new 4-H year! Please re-enroll starting October 1st on Zsuite. See the following instructions on how to re-enroll or give us a call at 307-633-4383. Remember, you will need to re-enroll with your Household profile and pin number!

1. All first-time families must create a HOUSEHOLD profile with a PIN # that is unique to the family.
2. Once created, you can add the youth participant to the family profile. The family information will auto-populate in the youth profile. (Please be sure that youth DO NOT select the volunteer box- this is for adult volunteers only)
3. Fill in the information, clicking continue at the bottom of the page to save and continue.
4. At the CLUB SELECTION page, click on the drop-down menu to find the club that you chose in step 3. (Please DO NOT select the Project Volunteer Club for youth)
5. Select the youth's desired project areas- youth can have as many as they like but must have AT LEAST ONE project selected. (Cloverbuds can ONLY ENROLL in the CLOVERBUDS PROJECT)
6. Once all Projects are selected, select " Add to Cart" to continue to the payment page.
7. The "Cart Checkout" page will display. The invoice for enrollment fees will display for the individual member. Please verify that the amount due is $10.00. Note that if a shooting sport project was selected, there is an additional $10.00 fee per shooting discipline in addition to the standard $10.00 enrollment fee.
    - The shooting sport fees will only be added to the checkout page if it is included with the initial yearly enrollment fee. If shooting sports is selected after the $10.00 enrollment fee is paid, the shooting sports fees must be paid in cash or check in the County Extension Office located at 1400 E. College Drive, Pathfinder Building, 406D, Cheyenne, WY, 82007.
    - Fee Explanation – 4-H Members must pay the annual enrollment fee of $10.00. This fee can be paid online or in the Extension Office. Members who will be participating in shooting sports must pay a fee for each discipline that they select. This fee is only due once per project, per discipline (Archery, Rifle, Muzzleloader, Shotgun, Pistol). For example; if a youth will be participating in both "Pistol: Air Pistol" and "Pistol: .22 Pistol", they pay the $10.00 fee once for the Pistol discipline. Shooting sports fees must be paid prior to attending shooting sports orientations or participating in the first shooting practice of the year.
    - Any fees paid to Laramie County 4-H for shooting sports or enrollment are non-refundable.
    - If you are enrolling more than one youth, you do have the option to select "Add Enrollment" to enroll all of your youth. When enrollments are completed, you may opt to follow the online payment directions or select "Submit & Pay Later/In-Person".
8. After hitting submit, your enrollment will become pending until payment or approval is completed. Once your payment and enrollment are completed and approved by the Extension Office, the enrollment will be active.
9. If you change your contact information or wish to change clubs, projects, etc., please return to ZSuite at any time throughout the year.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Laramie County

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Laramie County

UPCOMING EVENTS

4-H Babysitting Camp

Albany, Goshen, Laramie & Platte County 4-H welcome you to the 4-H Babysitting Camp! Open to youth 4-H age 10-14.

Camp Dates & Location:
Friday, December 18th 4:00 PM-7:00 PM &
Saturday, December 19th 7:00 AM-5:30 PM
LCCC Pathfinder Bldg., ANB Leadership Center
1400 E. College Drive, Cheyenne, WY 82007

Dinner Friday, Snacks & Lunch on Saturday will be provided!

Registration Fee of $20. Free to Military Youth.

Come Learn About:

- Babysitter Basics
- Safety
- CPR & First Aid
- Child Development
- Food & Nutrition
- Entertainment
- The Business of Babysitting



Register for the event by scanning the QR code!

Space is Limited! Register today!

University of Wyoming Extension

ATTENTION:

YQCA WILL BE DUE BY JUNE 1ST, 2027



Laramie County

UPCOMING EVENTS



Laramie County

UPCOMING EVENTS



Laramie County

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Want to submit an event? We'll post your event to social media, Band, and on our Website Calendar. Fill out the form by scanning the QR code below or visit **https://form.jotform.com/LaramieCounty4H/event-submission-form**.

If you want to share a story or highlights in the newsletter, reach out to Rebecca Austin at raustin5@uwyo.edu. The newsletter is sent out on the first of each month.

Newsletter designed and partially authored by Brenda Madrid

University of Wyoming Extension

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Laramie County