



# Weston County CHATTER



## February 2026

### Erin's Notes

Wow! 2026 is off to a crazy fast start! I honestly can't believe how fast January flew by. I'm excited for all of the great learning and project meetings that are happening. I hope you'll take advantage of them and try something new this year. Hopefully you have set some goals for your 4-H projects and involvement this year. If not, here is a reminder to get them written down and start working on achieving them!

Learning to set goals is an essential life skill to develop. Goals should change and become more challenging each year to show growth in a project.

What is a goal? A goal is the specific result or purpose expected from the project.

When setting goals think about making the goal specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound - also known as SMART goals.

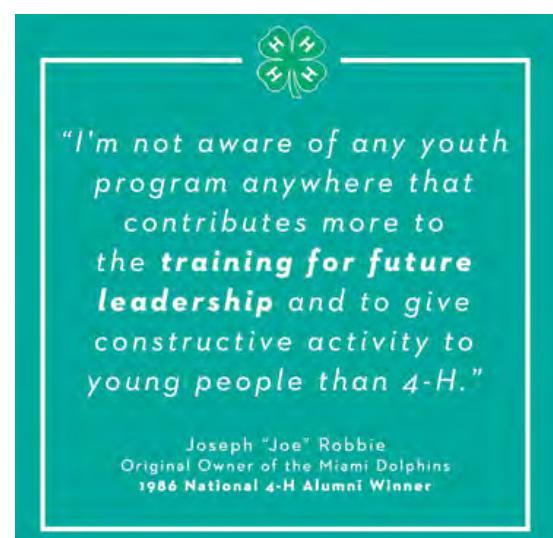
- Specific - what will be done and who will do it
- Measurable - how the action will be measured, measuring your goal helps you determine if you are making progress and keeps you on track and on schedule
- Achievable - goal is realistic, this helps set up the project for success
- Relevant - does the goal make sense
- Time-bound - a specific timeline for completion

Goals should also be able to pass the "control test". Does the 4-H member have control over the outcome of the goal or does someone else have that control?

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MY CONTACT INFO:  
[epersche@uwyo.edu](mailto:epersche@uwyo.edu)  
307-746-3531



*"I'm not aware of any youth program anywhere that contributes more to the **training for future leadership** and to give constructive activity to young people than 4-H."*

Joseph "Joe" Robbie  
Original Owner of the Miami Dolphins  
1986 National 4-H Alumni Winner

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Use the following sheet to guide you through the steps of making SMART goals.



Specific



Measurable



Achievable



Relevant



Timely



What exactly is the goal you want to accomplish?

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How will you track your progress?

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Plan how you can achieve the goal.

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Why do you want to accomplish this goal?

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When can you achieve this by?

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# Extension Office News

UW EXTENSION  
WESTON COUNTY

## We Are **HIRING** Office Associate

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Office & program administrative support
- Public-facing customer service
- Marketing, communications & outreach
- Event coordination for Extension & 4-H programs

APPLY TODAY  
AND JOIN THE  
UW EXTENSION TEAM

### ARE YOU

- Organized & detail-oriented
- Adaptable and flexible in a busy office
- Enjoy supporting programs, events & people
- Communicate clearly and solve problems effectively

APPLY ONLINE AT  
<https://bit.ly/4q7qhLK>



- Full-Time (40 hrs/week) | UW Benefits
- Minimum: HS Diploma/GED + 2 years experience

Do you enjoy  
supporting people,  
programs, and  
community events?

UW Extension –  
Weston County is  
hiring an Office  
Associate to help  
keep our programs  
running smoothly—  
from office support to  
events and outreach.

⌚ Full-time | UW  
benefits

👉 Apply here:  
<https://bit.ly/4q7qhLK>

## February Office Hours

The Extension Office hours will continue to look a little different throughout February as Erin spends time out of the office providing youth programs and opportunities in our community. Hours may vary by day, so please be sure to check the weekly schedule before stopping by or calling. Thanks for your flexibility and support of youth development in Weston County!

Office will be closed on:

- February 6<sup>th</sup>
- February 13<sup>th</sup>
- February 18<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING Extension

**Summer 2026**

**UW EXTENSION ROOTS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

Opportunities in all 23 Wyoming counties and the Wind River Indian Reservation

**BENEFITS OF SERVING**

- ✓ Your choice of preferred county Extension office
- ✓ Receive a monthly living stipend
- ✓ Build skills that last a lifetime
- ✓ Participate in one of our three major focus areas depending on your interests
- ✓ Earn an education stipend at the end of your internship

If you are interested

[maltmann@uwyo.edu](mailto:maltmann@uwyo.edu)  
307-766-5125

QR code linking to the application page

2026

# My Golden Valentine

PROJECT



- Who: 4-H youth
- What: create Valentines and bake cookies for 350 Valentine Bags to be delivered throughout Weston County for Seniors
- When: Valentines by February 8<sup>th</sup>, Cookies on February 13<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM
- 350 Valentine Bags
- Where: Dropoff to The Kaffee Klatsch
- Why: a great community service project and an incredible way to brighten our community!

## Details:

- no nuts or peanut butter in the cookies
- approximately 200 women and 150 men

# 4-H Enrollment Info

## 4-H AGES

4-H Age is determined by your child's age as of January 1, 2026.

- Cloverbuds are 5-7 years old as of January 1
- Junior 4-H members are 8-10 years old as of January 1
- Intermediate 4-H members are 11-13 years old as of January 1
- Senior 4-H members are 14-18 years old as of January 1

## HOW TO ENROLL

Visit <https://4h.zsuite.org/> to complete your 4-H Enrollment

Below are tip sheets to help you create a new profile or access your current one.

**The earlier in the 4-H Year that you complete your 4-H Membership (Enrollment) the more you will benefit from the 4-H program!**

## ENROLLMENT FEES

October 5 – 11th – National 4-H Week – no enrollment cost

October 12th – December 31st – \$10 per member

January 1 – May 15th – \$20 per member

**\*\*No cost for Cloverbud members\*\***

## Enrollment Deadline

Youth must be enrolled with active status in 4-H in order to participate in any 4-H activities. Enrollment fees are due at the time of enrollment. Please note: youth are not covered by the 4-H insurance until you have active status in ZSuite!

**Youth must have active status by May 15th to participate in summer activities (camp, fair, etc.) This deadline will be strictly adhered to.**

# 4-H Club News

## Borderline Bandits

**Reporter: Adalyn Heiman**

The Borderline Bandits meeting was November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025. Ten people attended the meeting. We appointed officers and the Heimans provided the meeting activity consisting of team building and communication.



Clubs - please share photos and notes from your monthly meetings to be included in the Chatter each month. A great way to showcase what you are doing, give other clubs some great ideas and to inspire a 4-H'er to participate in a Club meeting!

# CLOVERBUDS

The 4-H Cloverbuds Program in the University of Wyoming's 4-H program is a non-formal education program designed for children ages 5-7. Participation, safety, personal development, learning and fun are the highest priorities for Cloverbuds programs. Cloverbuds is designed to introduce young people to cooperative learning and the many things they can do in 4-H. These programs are adult led, activity-focused, and are built on cooperative learning rather than competition. There are two different Cloverbud clubs that meet in Upton and Newcastle.

## UPTON SCHEDULE

February 10th  
March 17th  
April 21st  
May - no meeting  
June 27<sup>th</sup> - Camp  
July - County Fair  
August - no meeting  
September 18 - Cloverbud Celebration

You can join Upton Cloverbuds class at  
<https://www.remind.com/join/u4hclover>  
or by texting @u4htumble to 81010.

## NEWCASTLE SCHEDULE

February 12th  
March 19th  
April 23rd  
May - no meeting  
June 27<sup>th</sup> - Camp  
July - County Fair  
August - no meeting  
September 18 - Cloverbud Celebration

You can join Newcastle Cloverbuds class at  
<https://www.remind.com/join/n4hclover>  
or by texting @n4htumble to 81010.

## BE A BUCKET FILLER



Celebrate  
National Random Acts of  
Kindness Day  
and becoming a  
'Bucket Filler'

# 4-H PROJECT NEWS



## CROCHET PROJECT

Crochet Club continues! Heather Rodriguez has had some awesome projects and is excited to help everyone learn new skills!

February 11

4:00 - 5:00 PM

February 25

Extension Office

March 11

Bring your crochet hooks  
or borrow ours to get  
started!

March 25

## FABRIC AND FASHION PROJECT

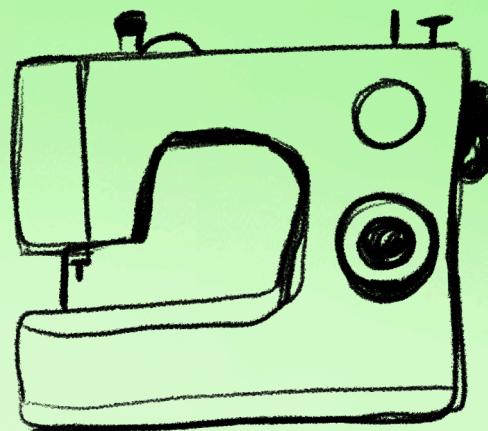
### Sewing Workshops

January 13th

January 27th

2:00 - 4:00 PM

Michaels Room - Weston  
County Senior Center



### Leaders:

Kim Reiniger  
Kris Nordstrom

# 4-H PROJECT NEWS



## SHOOTING SPORTS PROJECTS

### IMPORTANT DATES:

- February 9<sup>th</sup> - Upton .22 County Shoot and Newcastle Air Pistol County Shoot
- February 10<sup>th</sup> - Newcastle Air Rifle County Shoot
- February 16<sup>th</sup> - Upton Air Practices Begin and Newcastle .22 Pistol Practices begin
- February 17<sup>th</sup> - Newcastle .22 Rifle Practices begin
- April 11 & 12<sup>th</sup> - Shooting Sports Training in Sundance

#### Newcastle .22 Pistol Practice Schedule

February 16th, 23rd, March 2nd, 9th, 16th  
County Shoot - March 23rd

4:00 PM	4:45 PM	5:30 PM	6:15 PM
Audrey Goodall	Evelyn Rosse	Teresa Lamb	Isaac Whipple
Tyan Marty	Colby Rich	Micah Fowler	Adaleigh Himrich
BlazeLee Marty	Peter Keeler		Nolan Gregory
Tanner Lendardson	Tavern Liggett		Liam Gregory
Ava Malsam	Ainsley Liggett		Callan Smith
	Eli Ottaway		
	Keira Ottaway		
	Lindsey Ottaway		

#### Newcastle .22 Rifle Practice Schedule

February 17th, 24th, March 3rd, 10th, 17th  
County Shoot - March 24th

4:00 PM	4:45 PM	5:30 PM	6:15 PM
Sergey Goodall	Evelyn Rosse	Carter Doell	Isaac Whipple
Tyan Marty	Garrett Rosse	Cody Doell	Adaleigh Himrich
BlazeLee Marty	Colby Rich	Teresa Lamb	Nolan Gregory
Tanner Lendardson	Peter Keeler	Micah Fowler	Liam Gregory
Kori Hartinger	Hailey Reiniger		Callan Smith
Ava Malsam	Emma Schmidt	Henry Haynes	Andrew Braden
Josiah Popma	Parker Owens	Roberta Haynes	
Andrey Goodall	Maizy Owens	Eli Ottaway	
Tavern Liggett	Orrin Owens	Keira Ottaway	
Ainsley Liggett		Lindsey Ottaway	

#### Upton Air

Joely Rightnowar
Finnley Todd
Sawyer Todd
Grace Rightnowar
Taylor Perkins
Tevon White
McKinley Hepker
Ryder Hamilton
Tanner Taft
Breckan Morton

# 4-H PROJECT NEWS



## SHOOTING SPORTS PROJECTS

### 2026 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Certification Trainings

The Shooting Sports Training Team will be coming to a county near you! If you are a new shooting sports leader or have reached five years since your last certification, plan to attend one of these certification/training opportunities.



Steve Mack, Director  
Wyoming State 4-H Foundation  
College of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
1000 East University Ave. Dept. 3354  
Laramie, WY 82071  
(307) 766-5170  
[Smack@uwyo.edu](mailto:Smack@uwyo.edu)

#### Big Horn County, Basin, WY

- Dates - March 7-8, 2026
- [Registration : Big Horn County](#)

#### Carbon County, Rawlins, WY

- Dates - March 21-22, 2026
- [Registration : Carbon County](#)

#### Sweetwater County, Rock Springs, WY

- Dates - March 28-29, 2026
- [Registration: Sweetwater County](#)

#### Crook County, Sundance, WY

- Dates - April 11-12, 2026
- [Registration: Crook County](#)

#### Natrona County, Casper, WY

- Dates - April 25-26, 2026
- [Registration: Natrona County](#)

#### Shooting Sports Development Committee Meeting

- Date - February 21, 2026, Casper
- Hilton Garden Inn - 10 am to 3 pm
- [Directions from Douglas](#)
- [Directions from Riverton](#)

You can register using the links above or visit the Wyoming 4-H webpage at: <http://www.uwyo.edu/4-h/> then select "Volunteers" and "Additional Trainings."

### Shoot for the Jackpot!

4-H youth are invited to test their skills at the Campbell County 4-H Shooting Sports Jackpot on April 11 at 9:00 a.m. at the Ag Complex in Wright. Compete in archery, air rifle, and air pistol for just \$2 per discipline or \$5 for all three. It's a fun way to challenge yourself, build confidence, and spend the day with fellow 4-H members—plus, concessions will be available!

RSVP required by scanning the QR code or visiting [tiny.cc/ccjackpotshoot](http://tiny.cc/ccjackpotshoot).

### Adults Needed: Become a 4-H Shooting Sports Leader

Help support safe, high-quality shooting sports programming by becoming a certified 4-H Shooting Sports Leader.

Certification trainings will be held April 11-12 in Sundance and April 25-26 in Casper. New leaders and those needing recertification are encouraged to attend. Register now—contact the Extension Office or use the links provided to save your spot.

### Campbell County 4-H Shooting Sports Jackpot



CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE

APRIL 11 • AG COMPLEX, WRIGHT • 9 AM

THE COST IS \$2/DISCIPLINE OR \$5 FOR ALL

ARCHERY • AIR RIFLE • AIR PISTOL

Please RSVP at <http://tiny.cc/ccjackpotshoot>



CAMPBELL COUNTY 4-H  
dream it | explore it | live it

# 4-H PROJECT NEWS



## MARKET ANIMAL PROJECTS

Weston County 4-H and Ranchers Feed present

### FEEDING YOUR MARKET ANIMAL WITH SHOW-RITE

March 12th | 6:00 PM  
Weston County Events Center

#### LEARN ABOUT

- Proper nutrition for market animals
- Feeding strategies for growth & performance
- Understanding feed labels and rations
- Tips for show season success

#### DINNER PROVIDED

Open to all 4-H youth exhibiting market animals and their parents



RSVP BY MARCH 9TH  
[EPERSCHE@UWYO.EDU](mailto:EPERSCHE@UWYO.EDU)  
746-3531

## For Sale

Fitting table for sheep and goats  
Contact Kyla Popma for details  
307-941-0576

Looking for a market lamb or market pig project for this year?  
Call James Whitney at 746-6106

# 4-H PROJECT NEWS



## ROBOTICS PROJECT

If you are interested in Robotics make sure you are signed up in ZSuite. Meeting dates and times will be coming soon!



**June 15-18, 2026**

**Laramie, WY**

**Showcase Showdown is a fun-filled 3-day event at the University of Wyoming where youth dive into contests, workshops, tours, and activities- plus dances, games, ice cream socials, and an awards ceremony!**

### SHOWCASE SHOWDOWN INFO

**AgRobotics:** Teams design, build, and program a LEGO robot to complete agriculture-themed challenges autonomously in a timed match. Known challenges are released ahead of time, with surprise challenges revealed on contest day to test problem-solving and adaptability.

**Sumo:** Teams build a robot designed to push an opponent out of a 4-foot ring. The contest is divided into junior and senior divisions and uses a Swiss tournament game for fast-paced, head-to-head competition.

**BREAKING  
NEWS**

### Showcase Showdown Awards

1<sup>st</sup> Place - Belt Buckles

2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Jackets

3<sup>rd</sup> Place - vests

# Graduating Seniors



## 4-H Honor Cords

Wyoming 4-H is providing 4-H Honor Cords to all 4-H members that are graduating in 2026 to recognize your 4-H involvement. Each student is responsible for requesting their Honor Cord and for asking the school to wear it during graduation.



## 4-H Scholarships

As you consider the next steps in your education and career path, your involvement in 4-H may help you obtain scholarships at the college or school you choose to attend.

Each year the Wyoming 4-H Foundation awards thousands of dollars in scholarships to youth that will be attending a college, university, or technical school to further their education.

Find out details at:

<http://www.wyoming4h.org/4hfoundation/scholarships>. Just click on each scholarship to find out its specific criteria, and then use the universal application to apply. There are many available scholarships! Up to \$30,000 total for new and first-time qualified applicants!

Applications are due by February 15, 2026, and use a resume built from your 4-H Portfolio.

Remember - the best way to be awarded a scholarship is to **APPLY!**

Please call the State Office if you have any questions. Our number is (307) 766-5170. Do not Delay - Apply Right Away!!

Sincerely,

Wyoming State 4-H Foundation



### University of Wyoming:

- Edna Mae and Wallace McClaflin
- Ella E. Schloredt
- Jimmy Nichols Memorial
- Farmhouse Foundation
- Janie Smith Memorial
- Margaret Butterfield Memorial
- Brown-Kohl
- Marian M. Henderson Memorial

### Other Schools:

- Wilbur Brettel
- Murdoch's Ranch and Home
- Lynette Wallace
- Linnabur Scholarships
- John and Pauline Peterson
- Bonnie Ellenwood
- Underwood Family
- State 4-H Foundation
- Charles and Eileen Oakley
- Hjalma Williams



**Scan to Apply:**



# WYOMING 4-H VOLUNTEER TRAININGS SCHEDULE 2026

## JANUARY 20TH

TUESDAY / 6:00PM-7:30PM

### TOPIC: SMART GOALS

Enjoy a volunteer focused training on how to help 4-H members set SMART goals for the 4-H year. No matter what the project or club area focus is on, SMART goals are for everyone! This training will be interactive and give volunteers an opportunity to connect with other volunteers across the state.

Registration required for access to the zoom link. You can register using the QR Code.



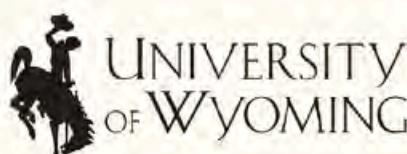
## FEBRUARY 17TH

TUESDAY / 6:00 PM - 7:30PM

### TOPIC: COMMUNITY & SERVICE

Join us for some great conversation, share ideas, and join a discussion on our featured topic "Community & Service". Share what it means to volunteer in your communities, it's benefits, ways to get more involved, and share your community service ideas with other volunteers across the state. This will be an interactive training giving you opportunities to connect and have deeper conversations with other volunteers. Registration required for access to the zoom link. You can register using the QR Code above.

SAVE THE DATE



Extension



## MARCH 31ST

TUESDAY / 6:00 PM - 7:30PM

### TOPIC: MEANINGFUL MEETINGS

Training focused on creating meaningful meetings and the tools and science behind techniques to accomplish this. No matter what type of gathering you are having; a club meeting, project meeting, or even just attending an activity. This training will be interactive and give you an opportunity to connect with other volunteers. Registration is required for access to the zoom link. You can register using the QR Code above.



FOR ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT

Tiera Bevilacqua  
Volunteer Specialist  
tarndorf@uwyo.edu



# GET COOKING WITH 4-H

Learn, cook, taste, and share with your family while building lifelong skills in the kitchen.

## WHAT IT'S ABOUT:

- Monthly recipes and cooking challenges
- Hands-on learning: baking, grilling, holiday treats & more
- Fun for the whole family — kids and parents cook together
- Opportunities to try new foods and explore creative twists

## YOUTH SAID IT BEST:

“I liked learning how to make eggs a new way.”

“The banana bread became our new family favorite.”

“I made my own grilled chicken sauce and everyone loved it!”

## WHY JOIN?

- Try new recipes
- Build kitchen confidence
- Create family memories



Extension



## JOIN US FOR YEAR 4!

SIGN UP AT  
[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/CDUBZF9UVCTRYJ26](https://forms.gle/CDUBZF9UVCTRYJ26)



SCAN ME

# JR. LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE

Next Meeting:  
February 11th @ 6:00 PM  
at Event Center



## Members

Hale Redding	Rebecca Kelton
Curtis Rankin	Morgan Loepp
David Kline	Sara Rankin
Stephanie Kline	Katrina Tysdal
JD Rhoades	Grace Sandrini
Cindy Rhoades	
Nastel Dean	
Erin Persche	

## FRIENDS OF FAIR

Friends of Fair is a non-profit organization to benefit the Weston County Fairgrounds. The purpose is to encourage and stimulate use of the grounds and to help the fair board have the highest quality fair.

Next Meeting:

Contact Megan Stith or  
message Weston County  
Friends of Fair on Facebook

## FAIR BOARD

Next Meeting:  
February 9th @ 6:30 PM  
at Fairgrounds

## Members:

Billy Jackson  
Francie Hamilton  
Mason Kaiser  
Lindsey Guden  
Joe Tedar



UNIVERSITY  
of WYOMING

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Extension  
Weston County

**Office Location**

204 W Main Street  
Newcastle WY 82701



(307) 746-3531



**Monday - Friday**

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
1:00 PM- 4:30 PM



Erin:  
epersche@uwyd.edu  
Admin (vacant):  
westncty@uwyd.edu



**Weston County Extension Website:**  
<https://wyoextension.org/westoncounty/>



**Weston Extension:**  
<https://www.facebook.com/WestonCountyExtension>  
**Weston County 4-H:**  
<https://www.facebook.com/WESTONCOUNTY4H>

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