



Weston County CHATTER



June 2026

Erin's Notes

We are off to a fantastic start to the summer 4-H craziness. We got all of the trash cans painted and a lot of the show ring painted yesterday plus had the beef hoof trimming. And I'm regretting not digging out the sunscreen yesterday.

I am so excited to have JJ Lipp and Kelly Cork in the office for the summer as interns. We are getting so much done and have an amazing line up of project workshops scheduled for every Tuesday for June and July - check out page 6 for all the details.

Plans for 4-H Camp are very late in coming together after such a wild winter and spring. I am excited to announce that we are going to have a great day camp at Mallo on June 27th with lots of new, fun things to do at Camp. Registration for camp is going to be a very quick turn around - you will have to be registered by June 14th at midnight and no late registrations will be accepted.

From now until Fair, please make sure that you are reading the This Week in Weston County email every Monday and checking Facebook and Remind daily so that you are up-to-date on all of the great activities.

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MEET THE INTERNS

JJ LIPP



Hey, 4-H families, I'm back!

My name is JJ Lipp, and I am excited to return as the Weston County 4-H Intern this summer! In May, I graduated from Casper College with associate degrees in Animal Science and Agricultural Business, and I was also a member of the collegiate livestock judging team. This fall, I will be a junior at Kansas State University, where I will study Animal Science with a pre-veterinary focus while continuing my livestock judging career.

During my years in 4-H, I participated in Market Beef, Breeding Beef, and livestock judging. As a former Weston County 4-H member, I saw firsthand how the program helps young people develop life skills, strong character, and a spirit of service. That experience makes me especially grateful for the opportunity to give back to the program that helped shape me.

I look forward to reconnecting with our county's youth this summer!

Being involved in 4-H for 10 years in my youth, I learned how to serve my community and build connections through the shooting sports activities I participated in. I also discovered my passion for serving the people around me and becoming an educator who can bring life and opportunities, just like my school educators, shooting sports educators, and my 4-H educator, Erin Perche did. Now that I am no longer a 4-H member, I get to intern, serve, learn, and educate alongside Erin. This experience is already setting me and my goals up for success by preparing me as an educator and helping me develop my virtues and goals of creating opportunities and strengthening my community. As an intern, I get to work with Erin, JJ, and Beverly. Every day, we work on new projects, plan for the fair, and organize 4-H activities like Robotics, the Shooting Sports banquet, and 4-H camp. Watching Erin light up when kids walk into her office and hearing how passionately she talks about 4-H to anyone passing by, shows me how dedicated she is. I feel so lucky to have her as a mentor and to learn and serve at the Weston County Extension office this summer!

KELLY CORK



2026 IMPORTANT DATES

January 18- Beef Weigh In and Tagging

February 1 - Market Beef Ownership and Tagging Deadline

February 15 - 4-H Scholarship Deadline

March 20 - Farm School Applications Due

April 19 -25 - National Volunteer Week

April 24 - Fairgrounds Work Day

May 1 - Horse, Dog and Cat ID Forms Due

May 15 - Enrollment Deadline for all summer 4-H Activities

May 26 - Swine, Lamb & Goat Tagging and Weigh In

**June 1 - Market Goat/Lamb/Swine and Breeding Livestock
Ownership Deadline**

June 9 - Shooting Sports Awards

June 15 - 18 - Showcase Showdown

June 27 - 4-H Camp

July 3 - Fair Entry Deadline

July 3 - Horse Safety Certification Deadline

July 9-12 - State Shoot

July 20 - Fabric & Fashion Judging Day

July 20 - Carcass Contest

July 22 - Fair Set Up Day

July 24 - August 2 - Weston County Fair

August 5 - State Fair Meeting

August 10-15 - Wyoming State Fair

September 15 - Your 4-H Stories Due

September 18 - Cloverbud Celebration

October 1 - New 4-H Year Begins

October 4 - 10 - National 4-H Week

October 10 - 4-H Jubilee

November 16 - Passport to 4-H Adventures



WESTON COUNTY FAIR 2026

RAISED ON FREEDOM & WESTON COUNTY FAIRS 4-H SCHEDULE

Friday, July 3rd

- Fair Entries Deadline

Monday, July 20th

- Fabric & Fashion, Quilting, Knitting and Fashion Revue Judging - 10:00 AM - Senior Center
- Carcass Contest - 6:00 PM

Wednesday, July 22nd

- Fair Set Up Night - 6:00 PM

Friday, July 24th

- Cat Show - 2:00 PM

Saturday, July 25th

- Parade Line Up - 9:00 AM
- Parade - 10:00 AM

Monday, July 27th

- Horse Show - 8:00 AM
- **Static Exhibit Check-In - 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM**
- Public Fashion Revue - 7:00 PM - Senior Center

Tuesday, July 28th

- Dog Show - 8:00 AM
- **Static Exhibit Interview Judging - 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM**
- Rabbit and Poultry Check-In - 5:30-7:30 PM
- Horse Show Awards - 6:00 PM
- Dog Show Awards - 7:00 PM

Wednesday, July 29th

- Sheep, Goat, Swine Weigh-In - 7:00-8:00 AM
- Beef Weigh-In - 8:00-9:00 AM
- Rabbit Show - 9:00 AM
- All Livestock Exhibitors Meeting - 1:00 PM - Show Ring
- Swine Show - 7:00 PM

Thursday, July 30th

- Poultry Show - 9:00 AM
- Robotics Showcase - 5:00 PM
- Sheep and Goat Show - 6:00 PM

Friday, July 31st

- Beef Show - 8:00 AM
- Pet Show - 11:00 AM
- Round Robin Contest - 1:00 PM
- Junior Livestock BBQ - 4:30 PM
- Junior Livestock Sale - 6:00 PM

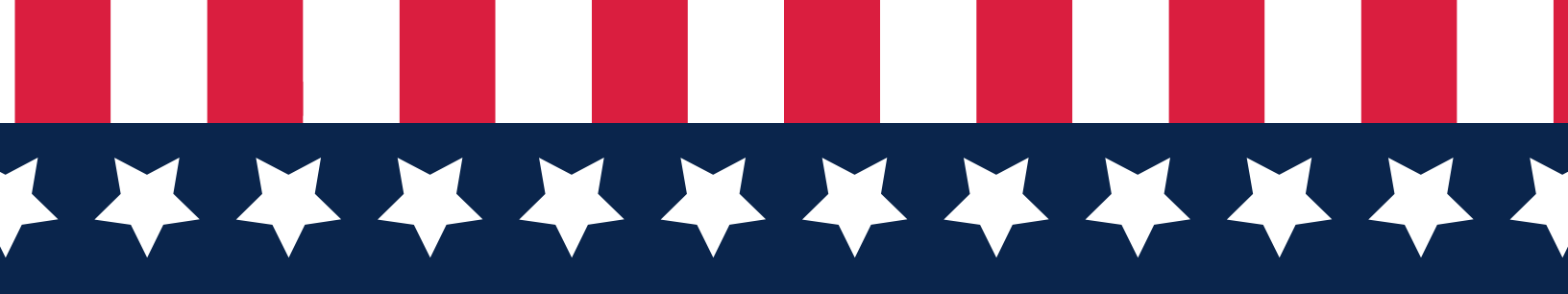
Saturday, August 1st

- Static Exhibits Released - 9:00-11:00 AM

Wednesday, August 5th

State Fair Meeting - 6:00 PM





RAISED ON FREEDOM AND 4-H CAMP

June 27th, 2026

Mallo Camp

Who: All 4-H members in Crook, Niobrara and Weston Counties
~Limited to first 50 youth to register

When: June 27th, 2026

Where: Mallo Camp, Weston County

Cost: \$25 (payment due at registration)

Registration: Via ZSuite - go to Events and 2026 Raised on Freedom and 4-H Camp

Registration Deadline: June 14th, 2026 - no late registrations will be accepted

Volunteers needed to help throughout the day

Must have 20 youth register to hold camp!

**Activities to include rappelling, fishing, archery
and much more!**

Blue Ribbon Project Quest

Exploring New Skills, Creating Fair-Ready Projects.

Sign up for one or for them all! At each Project Quest you'll create at least one fair entry that will be completely ready for County Fair! We will even keep it at the office so it doesn't get lost before Fair! Please RSVP on the Friday before each Project Quest to make sure that we have enough supplies for everyone that plans to attend.

June 9th

9:00 AM - Smore's Bread and Energy Bites

June 16th

9:00 AM - Photography

1:00 PM - Potholders

June 23rd

9:00 AM - To be Announced

1:00 PM - To be Announced

June 30th

9:00 AM - Plant ID and Plant Pressing

1:00 PM - To be Announced

July 7th

9:00 AM - Photography

1:00 PM - Christmas in July - Visual Arts projects

July 14th -

9:00 AM - Exploring Entomology - Bugs, Bugs and More Bugs!

1:00 PM - Cake Decorating

July 21st

9:00 AM - Blue Ribbon Cookie Academy

1:00 PM- Fair Entry Preparation/Skill Statements/Final Touches

4-H Club News

Borderline Bandits

Reporter: Adalyn Heiman

The May meeting for Borderline Bandits was a community service project towards the fire department. We all made snack packs for the fire department and some members even donated to help make the snack packs for the fire department. There were six in attendance at the meeting. Hale Redding gave us a tour of their fire department. Then we ended with seeing a fire get dispatched in real time.



Elk Mountain Outlaws

Tie-dye t-shirts



The entire text area is framed by a decorative border featuring the stars and stripes of the United States flag. The border consists of a blue field with white stars on the left and right sides, and red and white diagonal stripes on the top and bottom.

VFW 4th of July Parade

Patriotic or Historical Events

Costumes Encouraged!

No Political or Campaign entries

Larry Blessing 605-209-5129

Stan Dixon

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

June 27th - Camp

July - County Fair

August - no meeting

September 18 - Cloverbud Celebration

NEWCASTLE SCHEDULE

June 27th - 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.

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



4-H Camp
June 27th
Mallo Camp



9:00 AM - Noon

Register on 2Suite by June 14th
\$15 per youth

4-H PROJECT NEWS



DOG PROJECT

Agility Practices - Lauren Pickle

- June 7th
 - June 28th
 - July 12th
- Beginners - 3:00 PM
Advanced - 3:30 PM
- flat buckle collar with a regular 6 foot leash
 - high value treats
 - water for kids and dogs
 - poop bags

July 19th

- final agility practice at 3:00 PM for everyone
- followed by moving all of the equipment to prepare for County Fair



Statewide 4-H

Dog Leader Training

Mark your calendars for the Wyoming State 4-H
Dog Leadership Training during Showcase Showdown!



June 16, 2026

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Laramie, WY

Register by June 10th:

<https://forms.gle/Qd3JsIs3jVA2iRmt7>

Training will cover:

- Wyoming State 4-H Rules
- Showmanship
- Obedience
- Agility
- Dog Resources
- Practice Ideas

**Please Do Not bring dogs
they will not be allowed in
the training.**



**Volunteers, Project leaders,
Parents, and Extension
Educators are all welcome
to come and learn tips &
tricks from talented
volunteers across the
state.**



4-H PROJECT NEWS



SHOOTING SPORTS PROJECTS

IMPORTANT DATES:

- June 6th - Shotgun County Shoot at 4 PM in Upton
- June 9th - Shooting Sports Awards Dinner
- June 13th - YHEC in Upton
- June 15th - State Shoot Registration Deadline
- July 9th - 12th - State Shoot in Douglas

WESTON COUNTY 4-H



CELEBRATE WITH US

SHOOTING SPORTS AWARDS DINNER

Wrap up the 2026 Shooting Sports
season with a fun awards dinner!

Things to Know

- All members, volunteers, and families are invited
- Main dish and drinks provided
- Bring a side dish to share

Tuesday, June 9th

6:00 PM

Weston County
Events Center
Newcastle

RSVP 746-3531 | westncty@uwyo.edu

4-H PROJECT NEWS



MARKET ANIMAL PROJECTS

County Fair Weights:

- Market Steer Minimum Weight: 1100 pounds
- Market Heifer Minimum Weight: 1050 pounds
- Market Lambs - Minimum 90 lbs
- Market Swine - Minimum 200 lbs
- Market Goat - Minimum 50 lbs

HORSE PROJECT

Safety Certifications must be completed for each horse that you plan to show as well. Safety Certification Deadline is July 3, 2026.

4-H PROJECT NEWS



SWINE PROJECT

JOIN US IN GOING WHOLE HOG IN THE FIGHT AGAINST FOOD INSECURITY IN WYOMING!

Sources of high-quality protein are notoriously expensive and difficult to procure for local anti-hunger organizations. In partnership with University of Wyoming Extension 4-H and FFA, Fair to Fork works to purchase hogs not sold at junior livestock sales from every county in Wyoming, through a lottery selection. Wyoming Hunger Initiative will purchase the pig, ensure the meat is processed by a USDA or state-inspected participating facility, and then coordinate with the 4-H or FFA member to donate it to a local anti-hunger organization in the county of origin.

Think a **pig** can't
change the world?
Think again.

We know Wyoming kids have a heart
for helping; we also know you're never
too young to join the fight against
food insecurity.



Interested in
participating
in Fair to Fork?

COMPLETE
THIS FORM TODAY!



John P.
ELLBOGEN
FOUNDATION



UNIVERSITY
of WYOMING

Extension

Get signed up via the QR code shown below by July 3rd. One youth from Weston County will be chosen in 2026. Please let me know if you have any questions. This is a great way to help our community and if you are already raising a second market pig this is the perfect place for it to go.





We're asking for your help in strengthening the Wyoming 4-H program. As part of the national Beyond Ready initiative, youth ages 13 to 18 are invited to complete a short, anonymous survey about their 4-H experience. Your participation is vital.

The survey is part of a nationwide effort to better understand how 4-H is helping youth build life skills, feel connected, and prepare for the future. We need at least 250 responses from Wyoming 4-H members to ensure our state is well represented and to help us continue improving the program for youth across Wyoming.

The survey takes just a few minutes and can be accessed here:
https://4hcouncil.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6DsCKWqW7AhPB9s
The deadline to complete the survey is July 15th.



JR. LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE

Next Meeting:
July 1st @ 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	Lindsey Guden
Nastel Dean	Sara Ogle
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:
June 8th @ 6:30 PM
at Fairgrounds

Members:

Billy Jackson
Francie Hamilton
Mason Kaiser
Lindsey Guden
Joe Tedar

National 4-H Animal Science Career Night



**Presented by the National Association of
Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals,
Animal Science Working Group**

Join us for an evening to hear from noted speakers in the animal science industry as they share career exploration insights, advice, and more! Youth do not need to be a 4-H member to participate.

Open to youth in grades 7-13 (ages 12-19)

**June 18,
2026**

**at 7-8:30p.m. EST
via Zoom**

***Classes and Clubs
encouraged to join**



**Register by June 17 at
11:59p.m. EST
at [go.illinois.edu/
CareerNight](https://go.illinois.edu/CareerNight)**



**For more information contact:
srcarls2@illinois.edu**



Dr. Mark Hoge
Associate Professor of
Animal Science and
Livestock Judging Coach
Western Illinois University



Mr. Kevin Robinson
Senior Animal Care Specialist
Sea World San Diego

NAE4-HYDP Animal Science Night

Speakers: Dr. Mark Hoge, Associate Professor of Animal Science and Livestock Judging Coach, Western Illinois University and Mr. Kevin Robinson, Senior Animal Care Specialist, Sea World San Diego.

Date and Time: June 18, 2026 7-8:30 p.m. EST

Registration: Register by 11:59 p.m. EST at go.illinois.edu/CareerNight starting
May 14



UNIVERSITY
OF WYOMING

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westncty@uwyo.edu



Monday - Friday

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



Weston County Extension Website:

<https://wyoextension.org/westoncounty/>



Weston Extension:

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

Weston County 4-H:

<https://www.facebook.com/WESTONCOUNTY4H>

Issued in furtherance of extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Mandy Marney, Director, University of Wyoming Extension, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Wyoming Extension, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming 82071.

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