



# West 1 Field Education Unit 4-H HEADLINE NEWS

## August 2007



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### West 1 Field Education Unit Educators

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#### **Pennington County**

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South Dakota 4-H  
Website  
<http://4h.sdstate.edu>

### **Western Junior Livestock Show Celebrating 70 years!**

The Western Junior Livestock Show will be held October 10-13, 2007 in Rapid City at the Central States Fairgrounds. This year The Western Junior Livestock Show will be celebrating 70 years of providing this outstanding venue for showcasing 4-H youth and their livestock projects. Plans at this time are to hold an Ice Cream Social on Thursday evening, a free meal and a family dance on Friday evening. Alumni of the show are encouraged to attend and renew old acquaintances and share memories. A slide presentation is being put together so if you have any "old" pictures of your Western Jr. Livestock show projects and would like to share them please send copies of the pictures to Jackie Maude at 15678 Lower Spring Creek Rd. Hermosa, SD 57744

The Western Jr. Livestock Show includes Beef, Sheep, Swine, Dairy Livestock and Showmanship Contests, a Futurity Show and Market Beef Sale, a Range and Forestry contest, Wool contest, Range Plant ID contest and a Livestock Judging contest.

The Livestock show sponsors 4-H members to attend the National Western Stock Show in Denver and several scholarships. The winners for the trip are chosen based on points earned from participation in previous years and in this years show. Scholarship winners are selected by an interview committee.

4-H members from across SD and surrounding states are welcome and encouraged to participate in the Livestock show.

Rules, regulations, entry blanks and trip/scholarship applications will be available from the Western Junior website at: [www.westernjuniorlivestock.com](http://www.westernjuniorlivestock.com) or contact the show secretary Jackie Maude at 605-255-4445 or your local Extension Office. 2006 exhibitors will be mailed entry information. Entry deadline is August 25, 2007.

Creating Opportunities for a Lifetime

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## **Take a Little Stress Out of Getting Ready for the Fair**

*Joshua finished the display in the van on the way to the fair, Nicole stayed up most of the night to complete an exhibit, Morgan's parents had to make a mad dash to the local store for supplies, and John and his parents exchanged harsh words.*

Getting ready for the 4-H fair can cause lots of stress in a household. Of course, any event that gets this much publicity and is to be the culmination a year of learning is bound to be filled with strong emotions. And even though it's the 4-H member and his/her project that is being evaluated, parents and even leaders may at least subconsciously view the success of the 4-H'er and his/her project as a reflection on their ability.

So, how can we lower the stress level of preparing for the fair?

- ❑ First, try to **put the 4-H fair in perspective**. The county 4-H fair is only one part of the total 4-H learning experience. Serving as an officer or on a committee, giving a talk or demonstration, going to a project meeting or workshop, completing activities from a project activity guide, and going to camp are only a few of the hundreds of experiences a 4-H'er learns from throughout the year. Yes, the fair is a special part of the 4-H experience, but it is not the only part.
- ◆ The development of young people is our first consideration in 4-H work.
- ◆ We are more concerned about what the 4-H'er learns than with the exhibit.
- ◆ Project exhibits are a means to an end – not an end in themselves.
- ◆ Leaders and parents need to help each 4-H member set realistic goals for himself/herself according to his/her own age and experience.
- ❑ Probably the most obvious way to decrease stress is to **encourage club members to start early preparing their exhibit**. If it's only a couple of weeks before the fair when you read this, the suggestion may still be relevant. It may be better to stay up late a couple of nights a week before the fair, rather than the night before. Then you and your 4-H'er can at least catch up on some sleep before attending a long day at the fair.
- ❑ **Read and make sure you and the members understand all the rules, regulations, and requirements** for the exhibits. Leaders may want to review these at a club meeting where parents are present. It will be especially important that you help new members and their parents understand the "4-H'ese." Members who have taken a specific project could help those exhibiting for the first time.
- ❑ **Understand the purpose of exhibiting and judging projects**. Project exhibits are brought to a 4-H fair to recognize each 4-H member for his/her accomplishments and to give each member an opportunity to learn more about his/her project, and to gain life skills such as evaluating one's own work and communicating that information effectively with someone else.
- ❑ **Understand 4-H Interview judging**. Interview judging is the process used for all non-livestock exhibits by most counties to evaluate 4-H'ers' exhibits. During interview judging, the 4-H member talks with the judge and will be asked questions about the exhibit. He needs to be prepared to tell what he was trying to do in his project (goals). He needs to be able to describe the methods and processes used to produce the exhibit. The description may include both successes and mistakes he learned from. He may also want to tell how completing this project may affect his future. 4-H projects are evaluated independently, not compared. Judging is done according to quality standards, not a matter of personal whim. The standards are high, but attainable and appropriate to different age levels. Completed exhibits that meet the show requirements receive Purple (exceeds standards) Blue (meets standards), Red (needs improvement), or White (needs much improvement) awards.
- ❑ **Review the quality standards for each project**. Help 4-H'ers and their parents understand what the judge may be looking for. The melted marshmallows in cereal treats should be mixed thoroughly throughout the cereal, the cereal in the marshmallow treats should not taste stale, and the mixture should be spread smoothly in the pan. The judge will also be looking for evidence that the 4-H member completed the project and that he learned while completing the project. The individual who has made marshmallow treats may have learned that the marshmallows don't stick to the spatula if you grease it before starting. One of the best ways to help a 4-H member understand these standards is to provide an opportunity for the 4-H'er to practice evaluating (judging) his own project.
- ❑ **Relax and have a good time**. What do you want a 4-H member to remember about his/her experience at the fair? Winning a purple ribbon is an excellent goal to set. But it may not be the only goal a 4-H member sets. And a person may learn just as much or even more by not reaching a particular goal.

***Ribbons and awards will fade,  
but the things young people learn last a lifetime!***  
Adapted from University of Illinois Extension Leader's Lines, Volume 6 Issue 6



August 2-4, Fall River County 4-H Achievement Days and Fair  
 August 3-5, Haakon/Jackson County 4-H Achievement Days and Fair  
 August 8-12, Bennett County 4-H Achievement Days and Fair  
 August 9-12, Custer County 4-H Achievement Days and Fair  
 August 16, Pennington County 4-H Achievement Day

August 25th Western Jr. Livestock entries due to Jackie Maude

August 30-September 3, State Fair, Huron

September 15, Western 4-H FCS Show Board Meeting, Rapid City

September 15, Western Dakota 4-H Camp Association Board Meeting, Rapid City

October 10-13, Western Jr. Livestock Show, Rapid City

October 12-13, Western 4-H Family & Consumer Science Show, Rapid City

For all listings please check with county offices to confirm dates, times, and locations.

4-H members are always welcome to participate or compete at any county event in any county with a few exceptions.

### **AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day**

Free Admission-Fun for the whole family! Bring your dog (on a leash!)

September 8, 2007 10:00 am-4:00 pm Sioux

Park Track/Jimmy Hilton Pool-Rapid City

Demonstrations-Agility, CFF Freestyle, Earth Dog, Flyball, Obedience-Basic Training, Parade of Breeds-Dog Show Lingo, Rally Style of Obedience Retrieving, Search and Rescue, Sled Dog and Mushing, and Water Rescue

Activities-Agility Introduction, Canine Good Citizen Testing, Fun Games, Microchipping Clinic, Youth Coloring Contest

Education-Dog Laws, Grooming, Health & Nutrition, Obedience Class Sign up, Pet First Aid, Spay/Neuter, Therapy & Service Dogs, AKC and 4-H Information.

For more information visit [rapidcitykennelclub.org](http://rapidcitykennelclub.org) or [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org) or contact Lois Schmoll-RDO chair at 430-7688

### **PLAY DAY SCHEDULED**

The Natural Gateway Rodeo is once again sponsoring a Play Day, September 30, 2007 at the Buffalo Gap Arena starting at 10:00 am. Events to include (subject to change): Break away roping, team roping, barrels, poles, keyhole, flag race, goat tail untying, tie down roping, and musical chairs to name a few of the events. Age divisions are in place for each event and not all events are open to all ages. Entry fee is \$1.00 per event plus a stock fee for roping events. Prizes will be awarded for events and all-arounders. For more information and entry forms please contact: Mary Alice Kritenbrink at 1-605-833-2735 or 26429 Sage Road, Buffalo Gap, SD 57722.

### **Western 4-H Family and Consumer Sciences Show**

The Western 4-H Family and Consumer Sciences Show will once again be held October 12-13, 2007 in conjunction with the Western Junior Livestock Show in Rapid City, SD.

This year the show will once again offer many different contests for 4-H members from South Dakota and surrounding states. Contests to include: Bread Baking, Public Presentation, Fashion Revue/Fashion Show, Home Living, Family Photo, Place-setting, Measuring, Meat ID, FCS Judging Contest, a FCS Jeopardy Contest, a Vegetable ID and Judging Contest and interviews for the Educational Trip will be held. A Cloverbud Place-setting and Measuring event will be held for 5-7 year olds. Napkin folding workshops will be offered on Saturday.

Awards for all contests will be presented at the Public Fashion Show on Saturday at 3:00 pm. The Premier Exhibitor Awards will be given again this year, contestants will receive points for participating in the contests offered and the top point earners will receive cash awards depending on age division. New this year the Show will be open to youth not enrolled in 4-H that are interested in competing in the different events.

Detailed information about the contest is available at your local Extension Office.

Registration materials will be available in August at your local Extension Office or visit the 4-H Website at <http://4h.sdstate.edu> and click on Western 4-H Family and Consumer Sciences Show for more information.

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Non-Profit Organization  
Custer County Extension  
US Postage PAID  
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Permit No. 7

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Sincerely:  
Vera Boje—Jackson County  
Shawn Burke—Shannon County  
LaDonna McKnight—Custer County  
Youth Development/4-H  
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Dr. Jean Berry—Pennington County  
Community Youth Development  
Coordinator

## Check Out What's Inside:



- ◇ Western Jr. Livestock Show
- ◇ Relieve your Fair Time Stress
- ◇ AKC Responsible Dog Day
- ◇ Natural Gateway Play Day
- ◇ Western 4-H Family & Consumer Science Show





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