



"Clover County News" Chaffee/Lake Monthly 4-H Newsletter

January 2026



Upcoming Dates & Deadlines

Weds. 24 - Fri. 26 December - CSU/Office closed for Christmas

Weds 31 Dec. - Fri. 2 January - CSU/Office closed for New Year's

Mon. 5 January - County Council, Salida/Zoom, 7 pm

Tues. 6 January - 4-H 101 Zoom call, 5 pm

Weds. 7 January - LDC registration closes in 4HOnline (4-H age 14+)

Thurs. 8 January - 4-H enrollment deadline & \$25/member dues due for County Fair 2026

Fri. 16 January - 4-H Day at National Western Stock Show

Sat. 17 January - Tack Sale/Livestock Gear Swap at Fairgrounds, 12-3 pm

Mon. 19 January - Office Closed, MLK Day

Weds. 21 January - Quarterly Leaders Meeting, Fairgrounds Board Room, 6:15 pm

Sun. 25 January - Beef Weigh-In at Fairgrounds, 1-3 pm

Fri. 24 Jan. - Mon 26 Jan. - Leadership Development Conference in Denver for Senior 4-H'ers aged 14+

Mon. 2 February - County Council, BV/Zoom, 7 pm

Tues. 3 February - 4-H 101 Zoom Call, 5 pm

Save the Date!

The Chaffee County Fair & Rodeo will be July 24 - August 2, 2026. Mark your calendars!

Red Hot Reminders

4-H enrollment in 4HOnline, plus \$25/membership dues, are due on January 8, 2026. Payment completes your enrollment.

Volunteers must also re-enroll in 4HOnline by January 8, 2026.

Janella is retiring at the end of December. Be sure to stop in the office to say congratulations & goodbye!

Mon. 12 January County Council - 6:15 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/94668003934?](https://zoom.us/j/94668003934?pwd=baRc2qG84JvkYVxhlav569Gu5c8bqd.1)

[pwd=baRc2qG84JvkYVxhlav569Gu5c8bqd.1](https://zoom.us/j/94668003934?pwd=baRc2qG84JvkYVxhlav569Gu5c8bqd.1)

Meeting ID: 946 6800 3934

Passcode: Council

Meeting in Salida at

Fairgrounds Meeting

Room & on Zoom



Save the Date!

June 15 - 28

Moonlight Mondays
fundraising period
for 4-H!



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Updated Project Record Books

The latest copies of 4-H Record Books are available in [this Google Drive folder](#). Contact Rebecca to learn which Record Book you need to use for your project!



January Birthdays!

Dakota Mize
Michele Warner-Anderson
Glen Egbert
Alden Bellingar
Cadence Palmer
Penny Bearss
Kurt Jones
Catie Courson
Rainy Bowyer
Courtnee Palmer
Jack Parkes
Lily Inge
Ethan Schwarz
Anita Harvey
Evan Homer
Garrett Homer
Ryder Powers



New Projects!

Contact Rebecca to learn about the new **Art of Ranching** project available to 4-H'ers! This project combines local history, family ranches, & is a great indoor project that complements livestock projects.

For 2026 we will be adding **Electricity** projects to our activities. We will be doing this through combined, dual-track **Ham Radio** and Electricity project workshops. For Ham Radio, we will continue to learn about the basics of ham radio technology and operation, and do related projects such as building a radio transmitter and doing radio hunts where we hide the transmitter and try to find it using antennas we built. Adding the Electricity Projects will expand our ability to learn about how fundamental electricity/electronics work by doing various activities such as building electronic circuits. Combining these activities into a single workshop will also allow us to learn how electronics enable ham radio and many other electronic devices we use daily.

Contact volunteer **Marty Glapa** to learn more!
mjglapa@comcast.net



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Name Change!

Rebecca got married on December 13th! Her new name is Rebecca Sheriff Chrestensen. Her husband's name is John. Be watching for an updated email for Rebecca!



Ham radio event! Contact Marty to learn more: mjglapa@comcast.net

You are all invited and welcome to attend the annual amateur radio Winter Field Day event. The Chaffee-Lake Amateur Radio Association (CLARA) will be hosting and participating in this world-wide event. We will have all sorts of radio equipment there and in operation. It will be held on and at:

- January 24th - begins at 9:00 a.m.
- January 25th - ends at 3:00 p.m.
- Location: Chaffee County Emergency Operations Center (at the landfill)
- 4-H members, family and friends - welcome anytime, note that we have reserved Saturday the 24th, from noon to 4:00 p.m. for 4-H members and family to "get on the air" and talk to radio operators around the world

The event aims to enhance emergency communication skills for amateur radio operators in winter conditions. Participants set up field operations in remote or unusual locations and practice portable emergency communications. The event emphasizes preparation for disasters and allows operators to communicate world-wide using various radio modes including voice, morse code, and digital transmissions while operating on HF, VHF, or UHF.

So, come join us, have some fun - you can listen to and talk to ham operators around the world. Your next new friend may be half-way around the world!





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Ark Valley Humane Society Volunteer Opportunity

The Wertz family is coordinating a volunteer opportunity on 27 January from 6–8 pm at the FG Meeting Room. Join us & learn how to make beds for the dogs & cats at the shelter! Bring a sewing machine if you have one, but no skills needed. All supplies & education included. Complete your community service requirement for project completion!



Beyond Ready

Leadership Development Conference

2026

Youth Making Waves

"Creating the Ripple"



January 24–26, 2026

Denver, Colorado

Cloverbuds

All youth ages 5–7 are invited to join us at Cloverbuds! We meet once a month for hands-on learning activities, rotating between subjects such as STEM, animal science, culinary arts, nature activities, & more.

Upcoming Cloverbud meetings, all at the Fairgrounds Meeting Room:

- Thursday 8 January, 4:45 pm
- Thursday 12 February, 5 pm
- Thursday 12 March, 5 pm

National Western Stock Show

The office will have free passes to the National Western Stock Show in Denver in January. All passes are first come, first serve. Call us to learn more!



Ages 14+

Last day to register is January 7, 2026





Saturday
**JANUARY
17, 2026**

14TH ANNUAL CONSIGNMENT TACK SALE & LIVESTOCK GEAR SWAP

Clean out your tack room, barn, and trailer! Make some cash and support 4-H. 15% consignment fee or donate items outright to the Horse Club. Equipment for all 4-H/FFA livestock projects, ranch, farm, equine, & more accepted.



LIVESTOCK GEAR

LOCATION
Chaffee County Fairgrounds
Pine Tree Event Center
(aka Exhibit Hall)
10165 CR 120
Salida, CO 81201

TIME
Sale runs 12 - 3 pm
Items accepted at 10 am.



HORSE TACK

CONTACT
For forms and questions,
contact Kathy Rohrich
brute_swazz@yahoo.com
(719) 221-3121

ITEMS
Donations accepted
ahead of the sale, contact
Kathy to arrange a drop-
off time.



FARM & RANCH

**Proceeds benefit
Chaffee County
4-H Horse Club**

**Please have items
priced & labeled
ahead of time to
speed up check-in
process.**

New to 4-H? Feeling overwhelmed with all the info and deadlines?

Join us for our monthly “**4-H 101 Series**” Zoom webinars. We’ll be walking through the 4-H year step-by-step to help new families and interested families learn more about 4-H. Topics may include:

- 4HOnline Database tips & tricks
- Annual 4-H calendar
- Dates, deadlines, & other details
- 5 components to a 4-H project
- What is a record book? How do you complete one?
- County Fair 101
- Becoming more involved
- What is County Council?
- And so much more!



Next call is on Tuesday 6 January at 5 pm!

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/96564936351?
pwd=Ly85PGRVCKnHeTFWiN5UUNQauJpQiM.1](https://zoom.us/j/96564936351?pwd=Ly85PGRVCKnHeTFWiN5UUNQauJpQiM.1)

Meeting ID: 965 6493 6351

Passcode: LEARN4H

Save the Date for Future 4-H 101 Calls, all at 5 pm:

- **3 February**
- **3 March**



2025-2026 Chaffee/Lake County 4-H Calendar

Dates subject to change – please see the monthly newsletter for updates.

This document was last updated 17 November 2025

Contact Rebecca Sheriff at (719) 539-6447

rebecca.sheriff@colostate.edu



October 2025

- 1 4-H Year Begins!
- 6-10 National 4-H Week
- 6 Office Closed - Cabrini Day
- 13 County Council, BV/Zoom, 7 pm
- 15 Quarterly Leaders Meeting, 6:15 pm
- 15 Cloverbuds, 5-6 pm
- 17 CLC Registration Deadline
- 20 4-H 101 Info Meeting, BV, 6-7:30 pm

November 2025

- 4 4-H 101 Zoom Call, 5 pm
- 7-9 Colorado Leadership Camp
- 15 Open House, FG N. Building, 10 am - noon
- 10 County Council, Salida/Zoom, 7 pm
- 11 Office Closed - Veterans Day
- 17 Cloverbuds, FG Meeting Room, 5-6 pm
- 24 LDC Registration Opens in 4HOnline
- 27-29 CSU/Office Closed - Thanksgiving

December 2025

- 1 County Council, BV/Zoom, 7 pm
- 9 Cloverbuds, 5-6 pm
- 24-25 Office Closed - Christmas
- 31 Office Closed - New Year's Eve

January 2026

- 1 Office Closed - New Year's Day
- 6 4-H 101 Zoom Call, 5 pm
- 7 LDC Registration Closes
- 8 4-H Enrollment & Dues Deadline
- 7-10 Western National Roundup
- 12 County Council, Salida/Zoom, 6:15 pm
- 16 4-H Day at Stock Show
- 19 Office Closed, MLK Day
- 21 Quarterly Leaders Meeting, FG, 6:15 pm
- 24-25 LDC - Denver
- 26 4-H Day at the Capitol
- 25 Beef Weigh-in, 1-3 pm
- 27 Volunteer Event at FG Meeting Room, 6 pm

February 2026

- 2 County Council, BV/Zoom, 7 pm
- 3 4-H 101 Zoom Call, 5 pm
- 16 Office Closed - Presidents Day
- 22 4-H Open Skate Social, FG North Building, time TBD

March 2026

- 2 County Council, Salida/Zoom, 7 pm
- 3 4-H 101 Zoom Call, 5 pm
- TBD Record Book Training Zoom
- TBD Cattlemen's Meat-In BBQ
- TBD District Retreat
- TBD YouthFest - Pueblo

April 2026

- 3-4 Meat Quality Assurance, tentative
- 6 County Council, BV/Zoom, 7 pm
- TBD National 4-H Volunteer Week
- Quarterly Leaders Meeting
- Record Book Training
- 26 Swine/Sheep/Goat Weigh-in 1-4 pm
- National 4-H Conference
- Cloverbuds
- CO State Fair Beef Nominations Due
- 4-H 101 Series Zoom Call

May 2026

- 1 Horse & Dog IDs due in 4HOnline
- TBD Animal Knowledge Testing
- 4 County Council, Salida/Zoom, 7 pm
- 15 Project Add/Drop Deadline
- 25 Office Closed - Memorial Day
- TBD Record Book Training

June 2026

- 1 Animal Care & Housing Forms Due
- 1 County Council, Leadville/Zoom, 7 pm
- 16-19 State 4-H Conference in Fort Collins
- 18 Office Closed - Juneteenth



2024-2025 Chaffee/Lake County 4-H Calendar

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Contact Rebecca Sheriff at (719) 539-6447

rebecca.sheriff@colostate.edu



- 15-28 Moonlight Pizza Fundraising Window
- TBD State Fair Goat/Hog/Lamb Nominations Due
- TBD Animal Knowledge Testing
- TBD Open Scales at FG
- 15-28 Moonlight Pizza Fundraising Period
- 19 Office Closed - Juneteenth
- TBD State 4-H Conference
- 25 Animal Knowledge Tests Due

July 2026

- 2 Office Closed - Independence Day
(observed)
- 6 County Council, BV/Zoom, 7 pm
- 24 County Fair Starts
- TBD Fair Pen/Stall Reservations Due
- Indoor Project Judging Sign Ups Due
- Rabbit/Poultry Rosters Due
- Horse Show Entry Forms Due
- Livestock & Horse 4-H'er Fair Packets
Available for pickup*
- Open Scales at FG
- County Shooting Sports Contest

August 2026

- 2 County Fair Ends
- Animals & Exhibits Release
- State Fair Projects Due in Office
- Perishable State Fair Projects Due in Office
- Livestock & Officer Record Books Due
- Cloverbuds
- Colorado State Fair
- (look for additional State Fair Deadlines this month)*

September 2026

- TBD CO State Fair
- 7 Office Closed - Labor Day
- Cloverbuds
- County Council
- 27 Achievement Banquet
- (look for Club Charter
deadlines this month)*

Scholarships

CSU has a number of scholarship opportunities. [Learn more here!](#)

[Arkansas River Basin Water Forum Scholarship Information](#) - deadline **January 16, 2026**





Contact Our Office



Our office is open 7:30 am - 5:30 pm, Monday-Thursday. Occasionally we are out of the office at appointments or meetings. For urgent needs, please call ahead. Documents or payments can be put in the black dropbox next to the door if you stop in and we are closed.

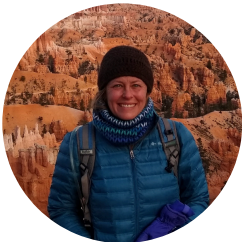
Mailing Address

10165 CR 120
Salida, CO 81201

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Meet the Team



Monica Pless | Extension Director

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