



Extension

Golden Plains Area 4-H Newsletter



**Colorado
State
University**

April 2009

Phillips County

Michael Fisher

Area Extension Agent

Kit Carson County

251 16th St. Suite 101

Burlington, CO 80807

(719) 346-5571

kitcarso@ext.colostate.edu

Phillips County

127 E. Denver

P.O. Box 328

Holyoke, CO 80734

(970) 854-3616

phillips@ext.colostate.edu

Sedgwick County

315 Cedar

County Courthouse

Julesburg, CO 80737

(970) 474-3479

sedgwick@ext.colostate.edu

Washington County

181 Birch Ave.

County Courthouse Annex

Akron, CO 80720

(970) 345-2287

washingt@ext.colostate.edu

Yuma County

310 Ash, County Courthouse

Suite B

Wray, CO 80758

(970) 332-4151

yuma@ext.colostate.edu

Joy Schafer

PhilCo 4-H Program Coordinator

Jamboree set for Sunday, April 5

Country Jammin' Jamboree is set for this Sunday 2-4 p.m. at the Holyoke High School auditorium, depending on the weather. Our theme is a twist on this year's fair theme, Keepin' It Country. Thanks to all who are working to keep this fun event going each year with sound, lights, goodies, entries, and serving.

County-wide fundraiser

The PhilCo 4-H Council has decided on a county-wide fundraiser to help with the annual budget that covers 4-H member and leader insurance and state dues, as well as member scholarships for clubs and conferences. We're asking each member to sell at least one \$30 reflective address sign for town or country use anywhere in Colorado, Wyoming or Nebraska. Signs may be mailed with no extra charge. We'll have prizes for the top three sellers. Leaders have packets. Return order date: Friday, May 15. Delivery to customers: On or before July 1. We'll have a work night or two to put addresses on signs, probably in June.

Washington Focus delegate named

Congrats to Ella Stewart, who has been chosen as our delegate to Citizen Washington Focus June 13-20. This trip is awarded through an application, interview, and recommendation process to one local 4-Her per year who is 14 or older. This year's cost is \$1,650 with \$550 from the Colorado 4-H Youth Fund, \$1,000 from PhilCo 4-H Council, and \$100 from our delegate. Ella plans a presentation for us at our annual achievement program.

<http://goldenplains.colostate.edu>

Colorado State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Kit Carson, Phillips, Sedgwick, Washington and Yuma Counties cooperating. Extension programs are available to all without discrimination.

Add/drop deadline coming up

Your personal 4-H info from our Blue Ribbon data system is attached to your newsletter on the pink Swine ID page. Please look it over carefully to check club name, projects, birth date, phone numbers, etc., and get corrections to us by phone or by e-mail at [<phillips@ext.colostate.edu>](mailto:phillips@ext.colostate.edu).

Wednesday, April 15, is the add/drop deadline to change projects to show at this year's fair. Forms are available from your leader, from the office or by mail or e-mail. Forms should be signed by a parent before being given to your leader.

LDC quote:

I liked meeting Governor Ritter at the banquet and talking to him while we had our picture taken together. Thanks to the Council for sending me. – Kalob Weaver, Better Beef Makers 4-H Club

Look for other Leadership Development Conference quotes from our six delegates.

Council notes

PhilCo 4-H Council met Sunday, March 22, with four clubs represented. Items decided:

- Voted for county-wide sign fundraiser
- Voted to renew member/leader accident insurance with \$1 per member/leader except in horse, \$2
- Voted to revisit purchase of popcorn machine; would like to have one to borrow for events
- Voted to give Shooting Sports/Shotgun leaders an account under the council bank account to share EIN for grants designated to that program
- Next council meeting: Making signs in June, TBA

County obligations for 4-H members

- One PR Bouncer event (2 hours)
- One major fundraiser

PR Bouncer dates

- Dandelion Daze - June 20, Holyoke – **Challengers?**
- Old Fashioned Sat Night - July 18, Haxtun, **Raising Ranchers and Holyoke Centennial**
- County Fair - Friday/Saturday, July 24-25 – Friday, **Better Beef Makers**; Saturday afternoon, **open**
- Corn Festival - Sept. 26, Haxtun, 11-4, **open**

Other non-Council bouncer opportunities

- July 4th, **tentatively Shotgun members**
- Cinco de Mayo Fun Fest, open



LDC quote:

It was fun. I enjoyed going to the Capitol because, even if you don't have aspirations of being a politician, it's nice to know what's going on. Thank you, 4-H Council. –Daniel Martinez, Holyoke Centennial 4-H Club

Get E-Record, show requirements

E-Records for all projects are available online. Go to www.colorado4h.org and choose Project Resources + Record Books under the Site Navigation list on the right. Look for the orange banner that says, "What are you looking for?" Keep following through for what you need. General and FCS project records are identical.

You may choose "Save as" and put your record book on computer or disk to save info. Make a backup file to protect your work. Need help getting records? Stop by or call and we'll walk you through the process or print yours for a dollar. Leaders, you may come in and get record books for all your members.

Supplement pages are listed for some projects. State Fair guidelines are also under your project on the Web site and in the fair book.

Interview judging

Save the date of Tuesday, July 21, for our annual interview judging at the fairgrounds for all 4-H projects. We're expanding to include all livestock projects in this experience.

One more club names officers

Town & Country: President Keegan Shaw, Vice President and Secretary Brian Strong, Treasurer Cami Elliott, Reporter Jarett Woodhead. Leader: Joyce Strong.



LDC quote:

Four-H Day at the Colorado State Capitol is always my favorite day of the conference. Again we had the unique opportunity to observe the democratic process of our great state from an up-close perspective, with Representative Sonnenberg. We sat in special seats on the House floor during a House meeting! I very much appreciate the assistance of the 4-H Council that made it possible for me to attend, and I admire the patience of Joy Schafer who put up with us all weekend, including the late nights! –Briar Bergner, Challengers 4-H Club, Council Senator

More Cloverbud Blasts planned

Another set of Cloverbud Blasts is in the works with Cloverbud leader Tina Kramer for Haxtun and Holyoke in an after-school format for K-3.

Animal care and photography are our next topics. Classes are \$2 and go from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Needed: Large-size Pringles cans with lids. Dates:

- Monday, May 4, Holyoke grade school cafeteria
- Tuesday, May 5, Haxtun Community Center
Older student and adult volunteers are needed!

Our classes March 30-31 were super, with 25 students in Holyoke and 17 volunteers. Haxtun had five students and three volunteers. Cloverbuds did gardening with Horticulturist Linda Langelo, garden pudding with Tina, and games with Joy. Thank you to everyone who pulled together to make these exciting events happen.

LDC quote:

I liked talking to Rep. Jerry Sonnenberg at the Capitol. I also enjoyed getting to know other 4-Hers at the dance. —Krista Schafer, Holyoke Centennial 4-H Club, 4-H Council president and Senator

Cake project

Cake deco class offered

Karin Kramer, county leader, is offering two classes in cake decorating, both at the Extension office conference room, 127 E. Denver: Saturday, April 18, 2-4 p.m., Unit 1 members, and Saturday, April 25, 2-4 p.m., Unit 2 members. If you're in Unit 2 and want to review, you're welcome to attend both classes.



Supplies: Bring a single-layer cake out of the pan and on a cooling rack, from an 8" to 9" circle or a 9x13" pan. Frosting and utensils will be provided. Info: Karen at 854-2940.

Yuma County cake class set

The annual Yuma County cake show is scheduled for June 16, time and place TBA. The evening presentation will cover cakes and fondant flowers. Watch for more details on this event.

LDC quote:

Thanks to the 4-H Council, I was able to go to LDC where I learned a lot about teamwork. I made lasting relationships with other kids in 4-H. —Janna Smith, Paoli Hustlers 4-H Club, Council VP and Alternate Senator

2009 Phillips County Fair: July 22-26

Theme: Keepin' It Country

Dog fun match planned

Phillips County Spring Fling fun match for dogs and their trainers, both open and 4-H, is set for Saturday, April 18, at Holyoke city park at the corner of Kellogg and Interocean. Open classes in Novice, Intermediate and Senior 14 and up include Obedience, Sub-Novice A and B, Novice A and B, Rally-O Novice. Ages 5 to 7 may show in Showmanship and Obedience.

Adult classes are Showmanship and Sub-Novice A Obedience. AKC rules will be followed. Tables will be provided for small dogs.

Pre-entry and payment of \$3 per class or \$1 for 5- to 7-year-olds is due to the Extension office by April 8. You must be able to handle your dog and know how classes work, as well as being able to read and follow directions.

Info: Barb at Extension, 854-3616, or Diane Webster, 854-2950.

April 11-12: **Terry All-Kennel Club AKC Dog Show** includes conformation showmanship obedience rally, Adams County Fairgrounds, Brighton.

Shooting Sports

Air Rifle and Pistol, .22 Rifle

Air Rifle, Air Pistol and .22 Rifle safety and organization meeting is set for Sunday, April 5, 5:30-7 p.m., at the Extension office conference room, according to county leader is Ron Anderson, 854-2751. Welcome to Troy Bishop, who is joining Ron as a project leader.

Archery

Archery continues on Thursday nights, 6-8 p.m., at the fairgrounds exhibit building with county leader Jack Wieland and new leader recruit Jim Eastman.



Shotgun

Shotgun members are meeting with Glen McCallum and Todd Orcutt. Goal to reach the State Fair shoot: Red or blue ribbon on exhibit board and record book, plus five practice shoots. Call for local shooting info. First invitational shoot: April 19, Yuma. Ranae McCallum is working with leaders to secure grants to offset this fun but expensive project. Stay tuned.

Leathercraft classes in the works

Dale Atteberry, county leader, and his able assistant, Robert Jacobs, plan to start Leathercraft classes soon, tentatively toward the end of April on Wednesdays. If you're enrolled in Leathercraft, expect a postcard with information.

Horse bits

Horse IDs due

June 1 is the state deadline for filing an ID with our office for each horse you plan to show at the fair. Forms are available from Denise Smith, county horse leader, or from the office. Last year's ID is not valid for this year's fair.

Horse record book

As in livestock books, horse record books are due to your leader for pre-fair evaluation by July 15, with your final due date August. 15.

Horse classes

Horse classes are set for Thursday, April 9, Thursday, April 23, and Monday, May 1, 7-8 p.m. in the big conference room at the Extension office. Riding is set to begin at the fairgrounds Thursday, May 21. Get your Phillips County hold-harmless waiver signed so you can ride.

County leader Denise Smith has a lot of ideas from the American Youth Horse Council's 32nd Annual National Youth Horse Leader's Symposium at Lincoln, Nebraska. She attended March 27-29 courtesy of our training grant from the Heginbotham Trust.

Spring Fever riding clinic rescheduled

CSU equine science students are presenting Spring Fever, a 4-H youth riding clinic, at Akron on Saturday, May 2, 9 a.m. to noon, and have room for 30 riders. This is rescheduled from the April 4 date announced in the GPA March/April newsletter. Riders should be Level 1 or 2 and may ride English or Western. Cost: \$10 per rider, paid and reserved by April 24. Place: Burns Ranch Arena, 43510 Co. Rd. V, Akron. Info and registration: Washington County Extension, 970-345-2287; Bubs Eskey, 970-580-1860, or Gisele.jefferson@colostate.edu. We also have forms in our office.

Model horse special contest

Watch for details on a special contest at the fair to build a model horse setup with a trail ride, a race, a gymkhana.

North Platte clinic

Sherry Jarvis is presenting a natural horsemanship clinic at the Lincoln County Fair Grounds in North Platte Saturday and Sunday, May 2 and 3, 9-5 each day. Cost: \$25 for 4-H youth on Saturday; \$125 for non 4-Hers Sunday; auditors, \$25 each day (unless parents with 4-H clinic). Contact Gina, 308-534-6398. Space: 12 riders only.

Riding for Hope

Janna Smith's second gymkhana to raise money for children with diabetes is set for Sunday, May 31, at the Haxtun arena. Reg: 11 a.m. Event start: 1 p.m. Cost: \$20. Prizes: Peewee, junior, senior and adult. Events: Barrels, poles, stakes, flags, and keyhole. For more info, call Janna at 854-3901 or Denise at 580-8717. Concessions will be available.

Rodeo scheduled

Our amateur rodeo committee, headed up by Gale Wiebers, is planning to host the Colorado Junior Rodeo Association rodeo here the weekend of May 16-17. Call the office for more info.

Triple R Saddle Club sets dates

Melinda Groshans has announced Sunday dates for Triple R Saddle Club's 2009 gymkhanas: April 19, May 24, June 21, and Sept. 20, start at 9 a.m. and again at 1 p.m., with registration at 8 a.m. and noon. July 19, Aug. 16, and Oct. 4, 9 a.m. start, registration 8 a.m. Call Melinda for more info at 774-7577 or 520-0259.

Scott Wehrmann's clinic

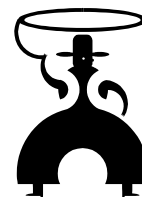
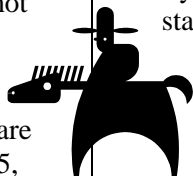
Scott's horse clinic in Julesburg at the fairgrounds on March 14 was attended by about 50 people. Our 4-H Council furnished lunch and made around \$150. Thanks to all the moms who donated cookies, horse leader Denise Smith, and friend-of-4-H Rhonda Osborne for the idea and push behind the clinic. We want to give a big thank-you to Sedgwick County fair board and commissioners for making this happen.

LDC quote:

I really enjoyed the time at LDC. "I got to see old friends and make some new ones, and had a great time talking with Representative Sonnenberg. Thank you, Council, for helping make this trip possible. –Aimee Kanode, Paoli Hustlers 4-H Club

Livestock notes

Record books



Livestock record book completions are expected on all animals weighed in, including those that go to State Fair. Seniors will be provided with a predetermined market value to have books finished at fair time, according to a new fair rule.

See info above for downloading record books from the State 4-H Web site or ask for one in our office.

Due date: All livestock record books are due to leaders by July 15 for pre-fair completion. Final due date: Aug. 15 (first business day after).

Lamb/goat weigh-in

Lamb/goat weigh-in is set for Sunday, May 3, 2-4 p.m., at the fairgrounds just north of Holyoke. All lambs and goats must be weighed in and tagged for 4-H and FFA members to show at the fair. In case of bad weather, this will move a week later. Questions may go to Jeff Plumb, Junior Livestock Committee chairman, 774-5400.

State Fair nominations due

State Fair nomination deadline for lambs, goats and swine: June 1. Forms should be available at weigh-in for lambs and goats, or in the office for swine. These must be signed by Michael Fisher, our interim agent, or by your advisor if you're in FFA. Since Michael plans to be in our office one day a week, please call to verify signature possibilities.

Swine IDs due

A swine ID form is in this newsletter (pink cover page) and may be copied to fill out for each pig you want to ID for fair. You may pick up extras. Due date: Monday, May 4, 4:30 p.m. Pigs must be in your possession by the due date.



Photos: three pictures of each pig include left side, right side, and head showing ear tag. Digital photos are okay. Ear tags will be available in the office. Taggers require a deposit of \$20.

COOL regs

For Country of Origin Labeling, make sure you have a COOL form from your seller for all livestock species so you know that where your animal originated. More on COOL later.

MQA/PQA training

We had a great turnout for Meat and Pork Quality Assurance training on April 2 at the Lions'

Den. Thanks to Mick Livingston for the great hands-on exhibits and to all who helped make this happen. If you still need MQA/PQA, here are close trainings: Logan County, Thursday, April 9, 4-7:30 p.m., De Soto Building at the fairgrounds in Sterling; Sedgwick County, Sunday, April 26, 1-3:30 p.m., Extension office, Julesburg. MQA/PQA must be completed by June 6 to show at the county fair.

Committee name changed

The Phillips County Junior Livestock Committee (PCJLC) is the new name for the former Junior Livestock Sale Committee, reflecting the responsibility of all things concerning livestock for the fair. It's made up of at least one fair superintendent of each specie.

Swine health

By Mick Livingston

As you consider purchasing your feeder pigs for your swine project there are a few things to keep in mind as you make your decision. It is important to know and visit with the producer to obtain pig's history of illness, worming and vaccinations. Get the vaccination and worming history in writing, if possible, so that you have it for your records and for your veterinarian if you should have health problems with your pig later. Avoid buying pigs that have been treated for illness, as this will often reduce their future performance.

Also do your best to avoid pigs which have the stress gene, Porcine Stress Syndrome (PSS), as they may not handle being hauled or shown very well. In addition, PSS pigs tend to have poor quality lean meat and may die unexpectedly when exposed to stressful conditions.

Colorado has Health regulations for the movement of pigs into Colorado. You should check with your veterinarian prior to purchasing out-of-state pigs to be sure you are in compliance with these regulations, and obtain a health certificate from the seller of the pigs.

When you bring your pigs home, it is important to remember that they may have been living in a controlled environment and may not be used to the cold nights of spring. Provide them with a clean, well-bedded, draft-free shed or barn while they become accustomed to their new environment.

If possible, get some of the same feed the producer has been feeding and slowly change to the ration you want to feed. Always provide clean fresh water.

During your feeding period, problems with internal and external parasites will likely develop. If your pigs have not been treated for parasites shortly before you purchased them, you should consider treating them immediately. This is a good time to consult your veterinarian for his recommendations.

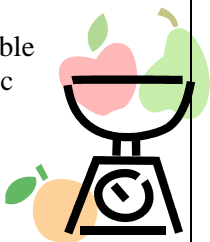
For best performance, you should treat your pigs about every 45 days, with the last treatment before the withdrawal period listed on the label of the product you are using. Often lice are a problem when you get ready to go to fair because your pig may have them but you don't notice them until you wash your pigs. Again it is good to treat for lice as close to fair time as the label on the product allows.

Through the summer, it is important to the well being and appearance at show time of the pigs that you protect them from direct sun. White pigs in particular will sunburn easily and this often happens after washing them, while they are clean.

Daily observation and good health care will help to make your project a success. As problems arise with your project, do not be afraid to ask for help. Your veterinarian, the producer of your pigs, and your Extension office are always willing to help when you need it.

Pork-ulator available

Mick has given us a pork-ulator table to project end weight for swine at a specific date, such as county fair. Examples are included to show you how to make estimates. Call us for a copy if you'd like to check out potential weights.



To beef members

By Mick Livingston

I am very happy to see that you are enrolled in the beef project and have completed the first phase of raising a 4-H market beef. There is some important information that you need to be aware of. First, all beef steers must weigh between 1000 and 1500 pounds. If you had a light calf at weigh-in, you will need to pay attention to the daily gain of your calf and see that it is gaining as much as is needed to meet the minimum weight at fair time, keeping in mind that generally cattle gain slower in the summer as they get fatter.

Be sure you are aware of the rules in the fair premium book regarding your project so you are not surprised at show time. In addition, I would invite you to attend the Livestock Camp to be held at NJC in Sterling on June 9-11. This is a great opportunity to improve your fitting and showing skills and take

advantage of the experts who will be on hand to share their knowledge with you.

If you have questions about your project during your feeding period, I will be glad to visit with you at any time. I will be visiting the Extension offices in the Golden Plains Area and be on the road quite a bit, so the easiest way to get in touch with me would be my e-mail, mick.livingston@colostate.edu, or my cell phone, 719-349-2500. Please contact me if I can be of any assistance to you with your projects.

Fairbook rule changes for livestock

The PCJLC has made some rule changes for our July 22-26 fair. General Rules remain the same.

4-H & FFA/Youth Division Livestock Rules

Addition to 4: Graduating seniors shall use a pre-determined market value for finishing their record books so that they may be turned in at County Fair time.

Change/addition to 6 at end: ...and in continuous ownership of the exhibitor prior to June 1, 2009.

Change to 18: The USDA's Scrapie Eradication Program will be enforced at the Phillips County Fair. This regulation requires sheep and goats to have scrapie identification eartags that list their flock of origin. Animals required to have scrapie tags are:

- Sheep: All breeding sheep, regardless of age, and all ewes shown as market lambs.
- Goats: All breeding goats, wethers 18 months of age and older, and all does shown as market goats. Exceptions: Registered goats may use tattoos or microchips (EIDs) with Breed Registration Numbers in place of scrapie tags. Registration papers must be provided for verification. Illegible tattoos and nonreadable EIDs must be replaced with a USDA scrapie ID tag.

A purchased animal should have the seller's scrapie tag. An animal you raised should have your scrapie tag.

Department A – Beef, Project Exhibit Rules

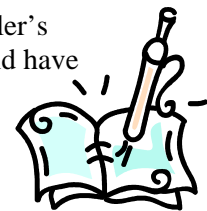
Addition to 6. Bucket Calf

Class: e. Bucket calves do not have to stay at the **Junior Livestock Sale**

Change to 2: The Junior Livestock Sale is for 4-H and FFA members only, up to and including the age of 18 as of Jan. 1 of 2009, or the fair immediately following high school graduation.

Drop from 8: No private sales allowed.

Change to 10: All sales are final; however, with the cooperation of the buyer, champion animals



may be shown at Champion of Champion-type shows where there is no chance for re-sale of the animal. (Jeff Plumb, PCJLC chairman, interprets this to include Reserve Champion in the event of a Champion declining to show further.)

Addition of Rule 13: A signed COOL (Country of Origin Labeling) affidavit must be turned in prior to the Junior Livestock Sale.

Different animals for 4-H, FFA

Remember that you may show animals in the same specie in both 4-H and FFA, providing they are different animals, with a record book completed for each.

4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl planned

Watch for upcoming info on the first Golden Plains Area 4-H Livestock Quiz Bowl planned for Tuesday, May 26, in Arickaree. Counties may field a team of four with a fifth as substitute.



Livestock sale flyers in office

Ask us for more info on these sales:

- Pig/Lamb, April 11, Casper College, Wyoming
- Lamb/Goat, April 18, Crego Livestock, CSU ARDEC Farm
- Pig/Lamb/Goat, El Paso Co., Colorado Springs, April 19
- Goat, Colorado Classic, Pueblo
- Pig/Lamb, April 26, Rocky Ford Fairgrounds, various sellers

Livestock shows available

- Weld County Goat Extravaganza, April 24-26, Island Grove Park, Greeley
- NJC Aggies Annual Prospect Show for beef and breeding heifers, swine, sheep, goats, April 26, Logan County Fairgrounds, Sterling



Lady-in-waiting & princess tryouts

Interviews and crowning for a lady-in-waiting and two princesses for this year's Phillips County Fair's queen's court are set for Friday, June 19, at 6 p.m., on the courthouse lawn, Holyoke, during Dandelion Daze. According to 2008-2009 fair queen Aimee Kanode, applications will be available soon, with a May 1 entry deadline. Requirements for lady-in-

waiting: 15-18 as of Jan. 1, application, interview and public speech. Princess: 12-14, application and interview. For more info, contact Martha Newman, 520-1424 or 774-7113.

Queen clinic offered

Queen Aimee is putting together a queen's clinic on May 23 for girls 10-18. It will be a fun-filled day with guests talking about the interview process, public speaking, as well as hair and makeup. Time will be announced later.

Camping/workshop opportunities

GPA camps

Our 4-H Council offers half-cost scholarships to members in good standing for these three GPA camps or workshops:

Livestock Camp - Watch for information soon on the NJC Livestock Camp in June in Sterling.

GPA Wild Bug Fish Camp - WBF Camp is set for June 15-18 at Granger Ranch near Victor. Cost: \$85, 4-Hers; \$100 non-4-Hers; \$60, parents and leaders. Deadline: June 1.

YHEC - Youth Hunter Education Camp days are May 2 and 3 with space for 40 shooters each day, with a registration deadline of April 24. Check out flyers on these in the March/April Golden Plains Area newsletter or online at <goldenplains.colostate.edu>.

4-H Shooting Sports Family Campout

This family-friendly camp is June 19-21, at Victor, \$12/person or \$35 max per family.

Get in T.U.N.E with nature

Pheasants Forever and Trout Unlimited, in partnership with Cal-Wood Education Center, Jamestown, are teaming up for a four-day outdoor experience July 11-14. This is geared toward youth entering grades 6-12. For more info on cost or to register, visit www.coloradopf.com or www.calwood.org.



Nebraska Range Youth Camp

Apps are due May 20 for Nebraska Range Youth Camp, June 8-12 at Halsey, Nebraska. Age: 14+. Cost: \$275 due with registration. Scholarships may be available through Haxtun Conservation District, 854-2812, ext. 3, at the USDA office in Holyoke. Get more info from this office or this Web site: www.ianr.unl.edu/srm/RangeCamp.htm.

Electronics recycling offered

GRX, Bank of Colorado, and Media Logic Radio are teaming up to offer responsible electronic recycling services on Wednesday, April 15, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Bank of Colorado, 133 N. Interocean, Holyoke. GRX will accept cash or checks for monitors smaller than 20" (\$8), monitors greater than 20" (\$15), and other small electronics (\$2), including anything with a plug except refrigerators and air conditioners.

Remember that PhilCo 4-H Council recycles used cell phones.

Soil samples requested

Professors Geoffrey Davies and Elham A. Ghabbour of Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts, are looking for local soil samples (air-dried, one pound), together with GPS location, texture and classification, for a national project. If you'd like to do this for our office, let us know.

Community garden opportunity

Join the Holyoke community garden in its 2009 season by accepting a job. Jobs: Planting a crop, preparing the soil, or weeding. Call 854-3616 to sign up with Linda Langelo, GPA horticulturist, to be a volunteer.

Progressive Ag Safety Day

Chase County, Nebraska, All-Stars 4-H Club is excited about bringing the Progressive Ag Safety Day to the Chase County Fairgrounds in Imperial on Saturday, June 13, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Check out the blue page (or white with colored ink) to register for this super event. Reg deadline: May 1.

Essay contest - PASD is sponsoring an essay contest of 75 to 300 words on Living Safe & Growing Strong. Age categories: 6-8, 9-11, and 12-14. Ask for rules and entry form at our office. Deadline: April 22.



Relay for Life wants you!

Phillips County Relay for Life is set for Aug. 21-22, from 6 p.m. Friday until noon Saturday. Youth teams are being sought. Teams of 10 raise \$100 each to participate for \$1,000, with registration \$100 (\$50 if paid by March 23). Theme: Back to the Future. You can pitch a tent in the courtyard square and catch some ZZZ's or simply stay up all night. Info: Sharon Greenman, 854-2241, or Julie Dirks, 854-2400.

Safe2Tell number provided

From The Colorado Trust: If you have info that might prevent violence, make an anonymous call to the Safe2Tell hotline: 1-877-542 SAFE (7233).

Ford continues test-drive offer

By now 2008 4-H families should have received a letter from the Colorado 4-H Foundation and Ford Motor Company offering a test drive program until April 30. New 2009 members should have a chance to participate in a similar program in July/August.

- Visit a Ford dealership, present the letter, and test drives a new car or truck. Driver must be 18+.
- The salesman gives you a code.
- Access www.fordprivateoffer.com/testdrive and enter the e-certificate number, the dealership name, sales code, sales consultant's name, current vehicle and rating of their test drive by April 30.

If data is valid: A \$25 debit MasterCard will be sent to you. The cards are like cash and can be given to your 4-H Council or anyone. A \$25 check is sent to the Colorado 4-H Foundation, which will send a \$20 check to your county 4-H program.

Second Ford 4x4 pickup donated

The Rocky Mountain Ford Stores have donated a **2009 Ford XLT F150** 4x4 pickup truck to the Colorado 4-H Foundation to help raise funds for 4-H. The 2009 F-150 has recently been named the 2009 Motor Trend Truck of the Year.

Tickets at \$5 or \$20/5 will be sold until October with a drawing held at the Colorado 4-H Gala Oct. 3, Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

Forty percent of ticket sales will come back to our county program or the project group or club that takes this on. Remaining funds will be used to fund special 4-H youth programs.

We've asked to have the pickup on display in Holyoke during the Dandelion Daze car show.

Tickets are available at the office.