



MORGAN COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION



September 2025

To Make the Best Better

All 4-H families have a responsibility to read the 4-H newsletter and to understand the information and deadlines that apply to them.

Need help? Please check with your club leader or contact 4-H Agents at the Extension

Be sure to keep in touch with your club leader and remain active in club meetings this fall.

Inside this issue:

News	1
State Fair Results	2
Fair Wrap-Up Information	6
4-H Information/Activities	7
Livestock Information	9
Extension News	10
Calendar of Events	11

Morgan County Newsletter

IN THE NEWS!

County Fair - Top County Shooters

Overall shooters were announced at the 4-H Shooting Sports Awards Program. Recipients were **Saxson Keller**; Senior Grand Champion and **Soul Keller**; Senior Reserve Champion. Junior winners were **Kaine Eicher**; Junior Grand Champion and **Wyatt Johnson**; Junior Reserve Champion. **Outstanding Youth Participants**; .22 Pistol - **Katelynn Johnson**, .22 Rifle - **Layne Steinman**, Air Pistol - **Piper Neal**, Air Rifle - **Shylynn Lerrick**, Archery - **Seth Whitney**, Muzzleloading - **Arisa Eicher**, and Shotgun - **Odin Nilsen**.



The Extension Office staff wants to thank the Fair Board members, superintendents, 4-H club and project leaders, Morgan County Commissioners and many others who helped make the 2025 Morgan County Fair a fun and successful event.

THANK YOU to Women of the Moose for supporting the Morgan 4-H program through the donation of proceeds from the sales of the Chili Fritos at their concession stand again during the 2025 Morgan County Fair.

State Fair Exhibitors

We want to congratulate all the members on their hard work and dedication. While this year's exhibits faced tough competition and challenges, many still demonstrated creativity and commitment. The list of awards our youth received at the Colorado State Fair—found on the next page—highlights several notable accomplishments and moments of pride for Morgan County.

To view the full State results for the 4-H projects you can visit <https://co4h.colostate.edu/state-fair-information/>

State Fair Project Judging Results



JUNIOR GRAND CHAMPION, WILDLIFE - Luke Makings
JUNIOR RGC, GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP - Natalie Higgins
SENIOR RGC, HERITAGE ARTS - Elizabeth Whitney



RCG = Reserve Grand Champion, C=Champion; RC-Reserve Champion; Q=Qualifier

Cats	Carlson, Vivienne	5	Foods and Nutrition	Higgins, Natalie	C	Outdoor Adventures	Weiderspon, Logan	Q
	Farnik, Ella	Q		Lerrick, Lillyn	5	Shooting Sports	Higgins, Gabriel	C
Veterinary Science	Schwindt, Addyson	RC	Heritage Arts	Whitney, Elizabeth	C		Eicher, Kaine	RC
	Covelli-Carter, Thea	5		Strauch, Millie Anne	RC		Johnson, Wyatt	RC
Filmmaking	Ferguson, Evan	Q		Arndt, Edward	9		Higgins, Natalie	3
Global Citizenship	Higgins, Natalie	C		Schwindt, Addyson	10		Steinman, Layne	4
Leadership	Schwindt, Addyson	RC		Ferguson, Kaylea	Q		Hess, Erica	5
	Schwindt, Addyson	RC	Home Design & Décor	Ferguson, Evan	6		Farnam, Fowler	5
	Higgins, Natalie	3	Computer Science	Higgins, Liam	6		Lerrick, Gavyn	5
Leathercraft	Baker, Jaden	9	Electricity	Higgins, Gabriel	7		Lorenzini, Axel	5
	Baker, Daxton	Q	Metalworking	Parker, Zoie	C		Nilsen, Odin	6
	Keller, Saxon	Q		Keller, Soul	3		Stevens, Rylee	6
Photography	Higgins, Gabriel	RC	Model Rocketry	Bellendir, Teegan	4		Whiney, Seth	7
	Koch, Lorin	5		King, Tobyn	4		Arndt, Edward	9
	Powell, Kaylie	5	Robotics & Engineering	Higgins, Gabriel	RC		Baker, Jaden	Q
	Waller, Kimber	10		McDonald, Ksenia	RC		Carbajal, Mckinzie	Q
Scrapbooking	Lambert, Rhylee	Q		Miles, Alivia	RC		Lucero, Damon	Q
Visual Arts	Rucker, Harlen	5	Woodworking	Bellendir, Teegan	6		Neal, Brayden	Q
	Lambert, Rhylee	Q		Higgins, Liam	6		Paris, Cora	Q
Artistic Clothing	Kral, Kaitlyn	7		Whitney, Seth	6		Steinman, Burklee	Q
	Lozier, Evy	6		Makings, Todd	10		Waller, Kylee	Q
Cake Decorating	Kauffman, Aubrey	RC	Beekeeping	Walter, Makena	RC	Sportfishing	Steinman, Layme	RC
	Kral, Kaitlyn	RC		Walter, Makena	4		Thiel, Eli	7
	Eicher, Arisa	4	Gardening	Heid, Kimber	4	Wildlife	Makings, Luke	C
	Kauffman, Julia	Q		Brown, Willow	8		Steinman, Burklee	RC
Clothing Construction	Lozier, Evy	6		Kral, Jacob	Q			
Food Preservation	Heid, Kimber	C						

State Fair 4-H Contest Results



Digital Photography

4-H in Action - Elizabeth Whitney, Champion
4-H in Action - Jacob Whitney, 6th
Landscape - Elizabeth Whitney, 3rd
Landscape - Jacob Whitney, Qualifier
Plant Life - Jacob Whitney, 5th
Plant Life - Elizabeth Whitney, Qualifier
People - Elizabeth Whitney, 6rd
Architecture - Jacob Whitney, 9th
Architecture - Elizabeth Whitney, Qualifier
Animals - Elizabeth Whitney, Qualifier

Rocket Fly Day

Teegan Bellendir - 5th

Fashion Revue

Elizabeth Whitney - Qualifier

Creative Cooks

Kaine Eicher & Bentley Lerrick - Champion
Luke Makings - Reserve Champion & Nadine Henry Award
Arisa Eicher - Reserve Champion
Gavyn Lerrick - Qualifier

DID YOU KNOW?



The 4-H Pledge and Motto were approved by Congressional Act in 1922.



The 4-H clover is pictured in a stained glass window in the National Cathedral in Washington, DC.



4-H offers more educational leadership and citizenship activities and programs than any other extracurricular youth program in the country.



Everyone benefits from 4-H experiences; youth, families, volunteers and the community.



There are over 42 4-H projects available in Morgan County.

Shooting Sports Championship Results

Air Rifle – Junior

4-P Sporter: Participants included Kaine Eicher (9th), Erica Hess, Fowler Farnam, Bentley Lerrick, Cassidy Moorhead, and Natalie Higgins.

Olympic Off-Hand: Participants Included Kaine Eicher, Erica Hess, Fowler Farnam, and Bentley Lerrick.

Precision 3-P: Participants included Kaine Eicher (6th) Erica Hess, and Bentley Lerrick.

Utility: Team award 3rd. Participants included Kaine Eicher (Reserve Champion), Erica Hess, Wyatt Johnson, Fowler Farnam, and Bentley Lerrick.



Air Rifle – Senior

4-P Sporter: Participants included Saxson Keller, Soul Keller, Katelynn Johnson, Arisa Eicher, and Shylynn Lerrick.

Olympic Off-Hand: Participants included Saxson Keller, Katelynn Johnson, Arisa Eicher, Chad Schilling, Soul Keller, and Shylynn Lerrick.

Precision 3-P: Participants included Saxson Keller, Soul Keller, Katelynn Johnson, Arisa Eicher, Shylynn Lerrick, and Elijah Butler.

Utility: Team award Reserve Champion. Participants included Saxson Keller (7th), Chad Schilling (10th), Soul Keller, Arisa Eicher, Katelynn Johnson, and Shylynn Lerrick.

Air Pistol – Junior

Participants included Kaine Eicher (7th), Wyatt Jonson, Raylan Neal, Bentley Lerrick, Fowler Farnam, and Gabriel Higgins.



Air Pistol – Senior

Air Pistol: Participants included Chad Schilling, Katelynn Johnson, Arisa Eicher, Rylan Schreiner, and Shylynn Lerrick.

Air Pistol Silhouettes: Participants included Arisa Eicher, Katelynn Johnson, Shylynn Lerrick, Piper Neal, and Chad Schilling.

Archery – Junior

Compound Bow Limited: Participants included Jaden Baker, Raylan Neal, and Seth Whiitney

Compound Bow Traditional: Team Award Champion. Participants included Wyatt Johnson (Reserve Champion), Erica Hess (7th), Wesson Farnik, Maura Walter, Ella Farnik, and Delaynie Piper.

Archery – Senior

Compound Bow Limited: Participants included Dillon Curtis, Cason Tow, Anna Werner, and Wyatt Gorrell.

Compound Bow Traditional: Team Award 3rd. Participants included Katelynn Johnson (Reserve Champion), Cole Koch, and Piper Neal.

Recurve Bow Traditional: Participants included Jacob Whitney and Elizabeth Whitney.



Continued on next page

Shooting Sports Championship Results

.22 Rifle – Junior

4-P Sporter: Participants included Kaine Eicher (7th), Erica Hess, Cassidy Moorhead, and Gavyn Lerrick.

International 3-P: Team award 3rd. Participants included Kaine Eicher (6th), Erica Hess, and Bentley Lerrick.

Hunt: Participants included Olivia Meusborn, Kaine Eicher, Brayton Tormohlen, Wyatt Johnson, Wesson Farnik, and Erica Hess.

Hunt Scope: Participants included Kaine Eicher (6th), Wyatt Johnson, Erica Hess, Burklee Steinman, Olivia Meusborn, and Raylan Neal.



.22 Rifle – Senior

4-P Sporter: Participants included Saxson Keller, Soul Keller, Arisa Eicher, and Elijah Butler.

International 3-P: Team award 3rd. Participants included Saxson Keller, Ben Werner, Soul Keller, Arisa Eicher, and Elijah Butler.

Hunt: Participants included Ben Werner, Saxson Keller, Katelynn Johnson, Soul Keller, Dillon Curtis, and Elijah Butler.

Hunt Scope: Participants included Ben Werner, Katelynn Johnson, Arisa Eicher, Soul Keller, and Saxson Keller.

Muzzleloader – Junior

Participants included Kaine Eicher (Reserve Champion), Wyatt Johnson, Danica Bledsoe, and Gavyn Lerrick.



Muzzleloader – Senior

Team award Reserve Champion. Participants included Chad Schilling (7th), Saxson Keller (8th), Ben Werner, Arisa Eicher, and Shylynn Lerrick.

Shooting Sports Opportunity

Colorado 4-H Shooting Sports Ambassadors

"The Colorado 4-H Ambassador Program is an excellent opportunity for veteran 4-H Shooting Sports members to further develop their leadership and citizenship skills while helping promote the 4-H Shooting Sports Program state wide."

The Colorado 4-H Shooting Sports Ambassadors represent 4-H and specifically 4-H Shooting Sports for public relations purposes at special events such as donor/supporter functions and with the general public, peer groups, 4-H groups, community service groups, schools and media contacts.

Ambassadors serve as spokespersons for the 4-H Shooting Sports program, helping to make 4-H and the 4-H Shooting Sports programs more visible. The ambassador's also use the experiences they gain to further develop their skills in leadership, public presentation, citizenship, community service, public relations and team building.

Members must be 15-18 years old as of December 31st.

Applications are anticipated to open September 5th. If you are interested in applying, reach out to Katie at Katie.seelhoff@colostate.edu. **The application is lengthy, so reach out to Katie ASAP.**



Fair Wrap-Up Information

Pick Up State Fair Exhibits

Exhibits which were taken to State Fair will be ready for pick up on **Wednesday, September 3 and Thursday, September 4, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.** The meeting room is booked so we are not able to store projects.

Livestock Record Book Contest

The record book contest will continue with only livestock record books being judged. Juniors by the Morgan County Farm Bureau and seniors by the Fort Morgan Rotary. Winners will be recognized **October 5, 2025** at Achievement Night.

General and FCS record books have already been judged at Interview Judging and those Champions again at State Fair. Record Books that received Best Record Awards during interview judging will be recognized during Achievement Night in October.



2025 Fair is not over yet!

Fair Ribbon Premiums are available through **Tuesday, September 30th**. If you won an award or sold an animal, remember to bring your thank you note (or a copy of it) to the Extension Office when you pick up your ribbon premium. All 4-H members that participated in Interview Judging and exhibited at the Fair have a premium at the Extension Office.

Fair Thank You Notes

ALL 4-H members are reminded that it is important to send a THANK YOU to Award Sponsors and Livestock Buyers who support 4-H. All youth receiving any award and/or selling a market animal MUST present a stamped, addressed, ready-to-mail thank you note OR a copy of the note (if it has already been mailed) before receiving ribbon premium money. Contact information for all awards is included on a label with the award. Premium money will be available at the Extension Office from **8 a.m. to 4 p.m. beginning Tuesday, August 12 until Tuesday, September 30**.

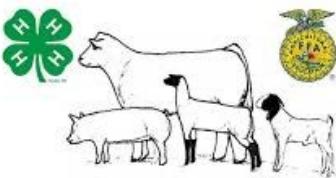


Thank you notes to sponsors and buyers are important, as we would not be able to have such a successful fair without their support!

Fair Photographs

Fair photographs including sale photographs are available through Dustin Price Photography at <https://buy.dustinpricephotography.com/gallery/27886936/home>.

Contact Dustin to purchase pictures at dustinpricephotography@gmail.com. All pictures from events, shows, and sale are free for download. **All Livestock Sale Buyers have received a picture from the Sale Committee of the animal they purchased.**



Beef Carcass & All Species Herdsman Awards

2025 Carcass and Herdsman Awards will be announced at the awards program on **Sunday, October 5, 2025 at 2 pm**, at the Morgan County Fair-grounds, Multi-Purpose Building.

4-H Activities & Enrollment

Get Involved: County/State 4-H Leadership ... A 4-H Senator serves two years, attends 4-H Council meetings and represents Morgan County at State 4-H meetings such as Leadership Development Conference (January) and State 4-H Conference (June). Elections will be held during the September County Council meeting.

4-H County Council Officer Elections

If you'd like to serve as an officer with Morgan County 4-H Council, please complete an application form and plan to attend the meeting on **Monday, September 15, 2025**. See application on website.



4-H County Achievement Program

The date and place for the County Achievement Program has been set. It will be **October 5, 2025**. Please put this on your calendar. Watch updates for more information.

Investigate 4-H Night

Investigate 4-H Night has been scheduled for **October 14, 2025** at the Morgan County Fairgrounds. Don't miss the opportunity to promote 4-H and the fun you've been having with your friends. Bring your completed projects to show youth and adults. Call Katie by **October 12th**, if you can help.

2025-2026 ENROLLMENT

It's time to think about 2025-2026 enrollment. We have been receiving calls from prospective 4-H member's families asking for referrals to clubs. **Enrollment cost for 2025-2026 will be \$20 per youth, including Cloverbuds (5-7 year olds)**. Enrollment opens **October 1, 2025** and closes **February 2, 2026**.

4-H Leaders Re-Enroll

4-H Leaders must complete an enrollment form every year. Background checks are completed for new leaders and can periodically and randomly be conducted on any leader. When a 4-H leader signs an enrollment form, they agree to abide by the 4-H Code of Conduct. Only authorized, enrolled leaders may act as leaders and only authorized, enrolled leaders are covered by CSU insurance.

2025 National 4-H Week - October 5 – 11 “Beyond Ready”

Write articles about your 4-H experiences. Articles are needed by **September 8, 2025**, emailed to katie.seelhoff@colostate.edu. Here at the Extension Office, we are writing stories about 4-H. The articles will go into the 4-H tabloid to be published by the Fort Morgan Times in October. Please let us know if you are interested.

4-H Activities and Information

Congratulations to Project Winners

Morgan County 4-Hers came home from State Fair with several Grand Champions as well as Reserves and lots and lots of Unit Champions and Reserves. Start planning for the 2026 4-H year by selecting projects in which you can learn new skills and/or show off your special talents.

Many youth participated in Project Workshops during the past year where they learned about the exhibit requirements as well as skills necessary to complete their project. We will continue to offer workshops in 2026 and will announce dates as soon as we have them scheduled.

Also, let us know what project training you would like to help learn new skills. Call with your suggestions, and as always, we love to have parents and/or others volunteers assist in presenting workshops.

Make It Yourself with Wool

The 2025 Make It Yourself with Wool contest for Colorado will be Saturday, **October 25, 2025** at Waterstone Church Community Room in Littleton.

Entry deadline is **September 15, 2025**. Winners will be able to participate in the National Competition, **January 29-31, 2026** in Reno, NV.

All entry information is listed online at <https://makeitwithwool.com/welcome>, the Extension Office can help if you have questions.

This is a chance for you to show off your creativity of making (sewing, knitting, crocheting, etc.) a garment with minimum of 60% wool fabric or fiber. This does not have to be a project you did this year in 4-H.

There are categories for all ages, even adults. AND, all contestants get nice gifts and prizes with top awards being a sewing machine and trip to national contest.



Leaders Advisory Committee Meeting	Monday, September 15, 2025, 5:30 pm, Ext Office
4-H County Council Meeting/Officer Election	Monday, September 15, 2025, 6:45 pm, Ext Office



Are you looking for a way to get involved and give back to the 4-H program of Morgan County? Offer a helping hand to Morgan County 4-H! Morgan County 4-H Leaders Advisory Committee is looking for volunteers who care about 4-H and know the impact that it can have on developing youth in the way of camps, conferences, contests, trips, and workshops. L.A.C. appropriates funds for 4-H youth and 4-H volunteers to participate in a variety of activities which are local, county, state and national. If you want to help the 4-H youth of Morgan County call Katie at 970-542-3544. **Everybody can be great! Because anybody can serve!**

Successful Catch-it Participants for 2026



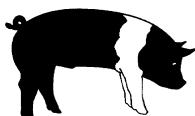
Rabbits:

Brody Bristol, Leo Brown, Delany Malone, and Savannah Malone.



Chickens:

Tate Arndt

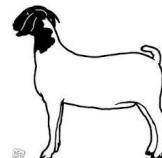


Pigs:

Eddie Arndt, Tyson Neal, Luke Norton, and Kora O'Patik.

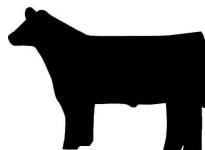
Goats:

Ike Anderson, Kenslee Blake, Ruby Boston, Erica Hess, Rebecca Hess, Lukas Kubic, Ilithyia Packer, and Presley Sandberg.



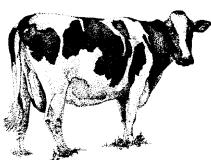
Lambs:

Addyson Neal, Brayden Neal, and Atalie Sandberg.



Beef:

Reilly Clapper



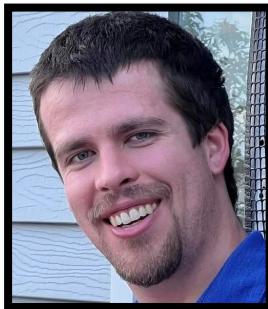
Dairy:

Peighton Arndt, Weston Clapper, Ryder Halley, Axel Lorenzini, Piper Neal, Raylan Neal, Seth O'Patik, Bristol Stolberg, Gus Vickers, and Ariana Yoder.

CATCH-IT CALF and CATCH-IT CHICKEN PROGRAMS

Since the Catch-It Calf and Chicken programs did not meet the maximum participants, the committees have chose to open it up for additional applicants. This will not be a guarantee that it will be done in the future. The applications are available at the Extension office and must be completed and returned to the Extension Office by **September 30, 2025 at 4:00 pm**. The Committees can make the final decision on applications. The participants that caught animals at the Fair contest are automatically in the program. If you have any questions, please call Marlin, 542-3543.

Extension News



Eric Lovell joined the Morgan County Extension Office on July 7th, 2025. He will serve as the Morgan County Extension Horticulture/4-H Youth Specialist. He grew up in Logan County doing 4-H and FFA, which inspired him to look into extension as a career. Eric tried lots of different projects growing up and his favorite ones were gardening, geology, and archery. Eric studied Agroecology with minors in Horticulture, Plant Protection, and Soil Science at the University of Wyoming and received his bachelor's degree in the spring of 2020. Eric is excited to be here and is looking forward to meeting everyone!

Women's Health Summit - The Women's Health Summit is returning for a second year with a brand new slate of speakers and topics relating to women's health. This years event will be held at the Wray Hospital & Clinic. A couple highlights of the speaker list are Dr. Henry Thompson, PhD., Director of the CSU Cancer Prevention Laboratory and Kirsten Wulfsberg, LPC, one of CSU's Regional Behavior Health Specialists. More speakers will be announced in the coming weeks, so visit our website for those updates and registration information when it becomes available.



2025 Healthy Habits Before the Holidays - Health & Fitness Challenge



The six-week condensed version of the *A Healthier Weigh* challenge is set to begin with weigh-ins on October 2nd or 3rd and end with weigh outs November 17th and 18th. This program will encourage increasing activity, making wise food choices, and living a healthier lifestyle, just like the annual 12-week program. Participants can enter in a team of 4, team of 2, or as an individual. If you are interested in making yourself a priority before the holiday season, contact Katie today!

Cottage Food Safety Training - This training covers specifics of the Colorado Cottage Food Act and how to safely operate a food business from a home kitchen. Participants learn food safety guidelines and the specifics for operating a home based cottage food business from a home kitchen. Participants also learn about the most current Colorado Cottage Food Act guidelines and best practices. Cost: \$40 and the next Online class available:

Courses will be offered online on the following dates. Click each date below to register and learn more about the program.

CSU Extension Cottage Food Safety Training Online: <https://engagement.source.colostate.edu/2023-cottage-food-safety-trainings-for-selling-homemade-homecooked-food/>

9/11/25 Thu. 12 pm - 3:30 pm \$55.20 Online	9/19/25 Fri. 9 am - 12:30 pm \$55.20 Online
10/3/25 Fri. 9 am - 12:30 pm \$55.20 Online	11/7/25 Fri. 9 am - 12:30 pm \$55.20 Online

Seedling Tree Sales

The annual sale of seedling tree sales will begin in November, and many trees sell out fast. If you would like to be put on the mailing list to receive an order form when sales begin please contact Eric Lovell at eric.lovell@colostate.edu.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

1 - HOLIDAY, EXTENSION OFFICE CLOSED

3-4 - Pick up Exhibits returned from State Fair

15 - Make it Yourself with Wool entry deadline

15 - MC 4-H LAC Meeting, 5:30 pm, Ext Office

15 - 4-H County Council Meeting/Officer Elections, 6:45 pm, EO

30 - Catch-It Calf & Catch-It Chicken Applications due, 4:00 pm, EO

30 - Last day to pick up Fair Ribbon Premium Money

OCTOBER

1 - 4-H Online Enrollment Opens

5 - Sale Beef Carcass & Herdsman Awards, 2:00 pm, MCFG Multi- Purpose Bldg

5 - Morgan County 4-H Achievement Awards, 3:30 pm, MCFG, Mark Arndt Event Center

5-11 - National 4-H Week, "Beyond Ready"

10 - Cloverbuds Workshop, 5:00 - 6:00 pm, Extension Office

13 - HOLIDAY, Extension Office Closed

14 - Investigate 4-H Night, 5:30-7:00 pm, MCFG Event Center

17 - County Council Officer Retreat. 6:30 - 8:00 pm, Ext Office

NOVEMBER

7 - 9 - Colorado Leadership Camp, Glenwood Springs

11 - HOLIDAY, Extension Office Closed

27-28 -HOLIDAY, Extension Office Closed

DECEMBER

25 - HOLIDAY, Extension Office Closed

30 - Break the Boredom Event, Mark Arndt Event Center

Morgan County

CSU Extension

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Hours: Monday thru Friday

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

May be closed for lunch from 11:30-12:30.

Extension Staff:

Robin Halley - Extension Director

Jamie Dixon-Administrative Technician

Marlin Eisenach-Livestock Agent

Eric Lovell-Horticulture/4-H and Youth Specialist

Katie Seelhoff-Family Consumer Science/4-H Youth Specialist

Morgan County Fair Grounds (MCFG)

750 Ellsworth

Brush, CO 80723



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*4-H Achievement Awards
October 5, 2025*