



**Cottonwood
County 4-H
2014-2015
Year in Review**

*Crystal Reith, Cottonwood County 4-H
Program Coordinator*

Livestock Judging Team Competes at NAILE

Carlie Jackson, Cole Jackson, Maria Weber and Christian Netzke competed at the North American International Livestock Exhibition in Louisville in November 2014. Carlie Jackson placed 14th individually and the team placed 7th overall!



The team was coached by Christy Jackson, Todd Franz and Glen Netzke.

SW Regional Animal Science Challenge

Seventy-four youth from 10 counties participated in the 5th annual Southwest Regional 4-H Animal Science Challenge in Wabasso on February 14. Youth were challenged on their animal science knowledge through a project bowl competition and skill-a-thon. Participants were also able to attend educational, hands-on project workshops. The Challenge was a collaborative effort between staff (Trish Sheehan, Melissa Runck, Kami Schoenfeld, Karen Beranek & myself) and volunteers.

Skill-a-thon stations involved quality grading ribeyes, learning about Expected Progeny Differences (EPDs), ear notching piglets, reading slaughter data and horse equipment. Educational workshops included meat science, healthy horses, sheep semen collection, pasture management, livestock health and telling the ag story. **Thank you to Dr. Mike Curley, Christy Jackson, Dr. Phil Gill, Judy Schulte, Sam Welu, and Randy & Sarah Jacobs for presenting!**



Ice Fishing

Twenty-three participants attended the 4-H ice fishing event on February 16. All participants were able to catch fish on Mound Creek. Along with ice fishing, the group had a campfire dinner and snacks.

Thank you to Kendall & Dylan Piotter for spearheading this event!



Thanks to John Smith and Joel Derickson for helping during the event!



Horse Boot Camp

Day one of the three-day horse clinic was split between fundamentals and chiropractic care. In the morning, Roxanne Scholl taught horsemanship fundamentals. In the afternoon, Dr. Sara Graber discussed proper saddle and equipment fitting, along with chiropractic care.

Virginia Schenck taught trail, halter and showmanship on the second day. The group learned proper techniques for performing trail patterns, obedience and care in addition to halter and showmanship pointers.

The third day was all about games. Mary Fradenburgh taught the group ways to warm up and exercise their horse for running barrels and poles. Participants also received tips on how to circle barrels and use their reins to obtain maximum speed.

Ten participants from two counties participated in the three-day horse clinic.





Project Day Spotlight

Volunteers gave presentations on seven different project areas at the Project Day Spotlight on Saturday, April 25 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Windom High School. Around 40 youth, along with several parents, represented Cottonwood, Nobles, Jackson and Rock counties, had the opportunity to learn how to make child development toys, homemade pies, scratch art boards, little animal planters, decorative hangers, and learned about basic photography.

Youth could choose up to three sessions to attend throughout the morning. Youth in

grades kindergarten through third grade also had a special session where they learned about birds and read a book. Youth could choose up to three sessions to attend throughout the morning.

This event was funded by the Windom United Drive. Thank you to Jean Johnson, Juane Elston, Heather Olson, Sam DeWanz, Michelle Adrian, Juliana Pederson, Marie Dammann and Elizabeth Johnson for presenting!



Beef & Sheep Clinic

Twenty-eight 4-H youth from four counties participated in a beef and sheep clinic. The clinic was held on June 10 at J&J Hanson Hereford's near Comfrey.

Hubbard Feed representatives Clint Gehrke and Rob Zelinsky gave a presentation on the importance of proper nutrition and feeding. Nick Delaney, Jaime Hanson, Bryan Paulson, Rob Zelinsky, Emily Scholtz, Amanda Jensen and Andrea Diehn provided instruction on how to show beef and sheep. Delaney also demonstrated how to clip a calf while Paulson and Zelinsky gave instructions on clipping lambs.



This event was sponsored by the Springfield Creamery, partially funded by a Minnesota 4-H Foundation Helping Hands grant and hosted by Jim & Jeri Hanson.

Babysitting Clinic

Twenty-four youth in grades 5+ participated in the babysitting clinic on June 2. Throughout the day, participants gained insight on proper child care techniques from **special guest presenters that included Buckwheat Johnson, Kelsey Andrews, Lisa Fest, Mallory Pagel and myself.** Youth learned valuable information regarding nutrition, safety, first aid, parent expectations, play time toys and child development. Participants also created their own baby-sitting kit. **Thank you to our special guest presenters!**



Under the Sea Day Camps



Summer intern Mallory Pagel planned, organized and led the summer day camps. Sixty-one youth participated in day camps at four locations across Cottonwood County. Participants explored the ocean by making lunch bag puff fish and their own ocean in a bottle. They also played various games and learned about clams as they used their toes to catch "clams". **Thank you to Juliana Pederson, Kelly Piotter, Dalton Piotter, Molly Piotter, Kelsey Piotter, Louise & Betty Smith for helping at day camps!**

Windom Nite to Unite

Ambassador Emma Snyder helped play games and talk with families at the Windom Nite to Unite. Prizes, bags and informational pamphlets were handed out throughout the evening.



4-H Camp

Cottonwood County was represented by four campers at our regional 4-H camp at Lake Shetek. Campers picked two tracks to participate in. Tracks included photography, STEM, animal science and performing arts. They also got to canoe, swim and play games.



Mallory Pagel (our 4-H intern) and I taught the photography sessions.

Fantastic Fridays

For the fourth year, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, University of Minnesota Extension-Cottonwood County 4-H and Prairie Ecology Bus Center sponsored four environmental adventures for youth in grades 3-6. Eighteen youth participated in this program this year.

Youth learned about the environment through hands-on activities. Topics included people and the environment, waterfowl and animals and the prairie. The last Friday was spent on a field trip to Devil's Gulch and Split Rock Creek, near Garretson, SD.



Youth made clay pots, crop art and fry bread; learned the difference between puddle ducks and diving ducks; scouted for waterfowl on a hike around Wolf Lake; learned how to track animals and identified prairie grasses.

Thank you to Molly & Kelsey Plotter for helping at Fantastic Fridays!



SW Regional Livestock Judging Contest

Forty-seven participants from nine counties participated in a SW Regional Livestock Judging Contest held at the Murray County Fairgrounds in Slayton. This contest was organized by Melissa Runck and Crystal Reith. Producers from three counties supplied the classes for the contest. **Thank you to Todd & MK Franz, Matt Surpernant, Dawn Mouw, Dave Herrig, Brandon Weidert & Melissa Runck for supplying classes!**

Participants judged nine classes - two beef, two hogs, three sheep and two goat. They also gave three sets of oral reasons and did three sets of questions.

The Cottonwood/Redwood County senior team placed third overall. Team members included Ryan Franz, Hunter Dahna and Thomas Netzke. The team was coached by Todd Franz.



Arts on the Prairie

Through a grant from the MN 4-H Helping Hands and the Remick Foundation, Cottonwood County 4-H offered a variety of arts programs throughout the summer.



Michelle Weber of Weber Custom Painting provided instruction for four **Kids & Canvas** painting sessions. Thirty-six youth participated in the painting classes the beginning of June. Michelle Weber provided step by step instructions on how to paint pale purple coneflowers on canvas. Throughout the sessions, Weber demonstrated and educated participants on how paint from background to foreground. She also shared tips on how to add highlights, shadows, texture and dimension to paintings.

Heather Olson of Red Barn Photography provided tips and techniques at an **Intermediate/Advanced Photography workshop** on June 11. With their cameras in hand, 10 youth explored Windom's Wings on the Prairie Discovery Center, seeking to capture blue ribbon-worthy pictures.



Elizabeth Johnson led a **Clothing workshop** at the Windom FACS rooms



teaching eight beginner sewers how to measure to find the correct pattern size. She also instructed youth on how to cut fabric by using pattern and provided guidance on how to use a sewing machine. Participants had their choice of sewing pajama pants or maxi skirts. **Thank you to the many parents/grandparents that stayed and helped! Juliana Pederson, Kelsey Klassen and Hilary Carlson** presented at the **Fashion Review workshop**. Topics included the differences between clothing and fashion review judging, make up, accessories and modeling/posture.

Chelsey Johnson was the instructor for the **Stained Glass Art Workshop** held on June 20. Thirteen youth from three counties participated in the clinic. Chelsey provided instruction on how to cut glass, grind and foil pieces, solder glass and frame pieces. **Thank you to helpers April Johnson, Michelle Adrian and Jaime Symens!**



Windom HS Art teacher **Kelli Nibbe** taught the a **Ceramics Class** on August 3. Nine participants learned about the pottery process, pottery history and glazed a bowl. Kelli later fired the greenware and youth were able to pick up their bowls during general entry judging day at the county fair.

Ambassadors

To celebrate the season and have some fun, youth in grades 6+ were invited to an Ambassador Christmas party at The Center in Windom. The group made some plans for the year and have helped as volunteers in different areas. They have also gotten together for some fun activities as well. Ten Ambies participated in a photo scavenger hunt in July. Teams had to find items on a list and have their picture taken with those 40 items within an allotted time frame. Some items included a painting, water display, tree house, merry-go-round, a 4-H clover and with someone who is 16 holding their driver's license. The winning team received \$5 Dairy Queen gift certificates. After the photo scavenger hunt, a meeting was held. **Thank you to our adult drivers: Robin Snyder, Karen Sell & Jane Imker!**



Livestock Quality Assurance & Ethics Training Level 1

Livestock Quality Assurance & Ethics Training is a requirement for all 4-H livestock exhibitors attending the state fair. A training is good for three fair seasons. Training topics include ethics, proper injection sites, proper facilities, proper nutrition, reading and following labels, proper handling and care, speaking up for animal agriculture, antibiotics, biosecurity, food safety, environmental stewardship and managing for animal care and well-being.

Eleven youth participated in the classroom level 1 training for LQA&E. Youth learned how to give a shot (in an orange), learned about proper handling and housing, balanced a ration, and discussed ethics. **Thank you Brent & Jane Imker for leading the training!**



Level 2



Melissa Runck and I worked together to organize the LQA&E Level 2 traveling trip again this year. A group of 42 youth from eight counties, along with eight chaperones traveled Northwest Iowa to visit three ag-related facilities.

The first stop the group toured was Rule Sheep Company near Akron. Rule's have two hoop barns that house 800-1000 head. They have a separate barn devoted to 4-H lambs and rams. While we were touring they were artificially inseminating ewes so groups were able to watch how they A.I. through two laparoscopic incisions.

The second stop was Sioux Preme Packing Company in Sioux Center. The plant runs one ten-hour processing shift and harvests 4,500 head of hogs a day. The group was able to see the holding facilities, CO2 stunning area, fabrication floor and storage coolers.

The final stop was Trans Ova Genetics in Sioux Center. Trans Ova's research uses industry-leading reproductive technology to help clients advance and extend their superior genetics. Trans Ova utilizes embryo transfer, in-vitro fertilization (IVF), sexed-semen, genetic preservation and cloning in their research and development. They are also doing research for Ebola and cancer.

SW Regional Consumer Judging Contest

Lisa Fest and I organized and ran the third annual SW Regional Consumer Decision Judging Contest in Slayton. Twenty-three youth from five counties participated. Contestants could compete in novice, junior or senior divisions based on their grade and experience.



Participants judged five classes focusing on finances, personal care, entertainment & leisure, clothing & textiles and foods. They also gave a set of oral reasons, did two sets of questions and teams presented a group process. After the judging contest, participants competed in a fun, educational skill-a-thon.

The Jackson County senior team edged out the Cottonwood County team by five points to earn first place. Cottonwood County team members included Jessica Wiebe, Molly Piotter and Megan Wiebe. Top individual senior was Jessica Wiebe of Cottonwood County. The team was coached by Sarah Wiebe and Jana Piotter.



Rabbit Mentorship Program

To help increase interest and participation in the rabbit project area, a mentorship program was created. In preparation for the county fair, those in the rabbit mentorship program were invited to participate in a rabbit showmanship and fitting clinic. **Thank you to Paul Huls and Lisa King for helping teach youth about rabbits!**

Elementary Days at SWROC

The Southwest Research & Outreach Center asked me to present two days worth of worm composting to elementary youth. The first day consisted of 50 second graders with 25 adult chaperones. The second day consisted of 36 youth in grades 4-6 with six teen/adult chaperones.



Youth learned the basics of worm composting which included how to build a bin, about the Red Wiggler composting worms, what to feed worms and the benefits of composting. The youth were then encouraged to explore the worm bins and complete an educational workbook. The youth were enthusiastic about handling the worms and feeling them crawl on their skin.



Improving Teacher Quality - Composting with Worms

Along with teaching the two Elementary Days at the SWROC in Lamberton, they also asked that I teach the lab portion of the Improving Teacher Quality (ITQ) program that spanned ten days. The composting lab portion was held on four of those ten days and we had a troubleshooting Q&A session on another day.



Twenty-four teachers from across Minnesota participated in ITQ. The lab was specifically designed

for teachers to engage their students with hands-on, active learning experiences and observations by using a composting lab.

The group explored the differences between a landfill and compost bin to build a base of knowledge and then learned about the Red Wiggler composting worm before actually building a bin. The teachers took one worm bin home and cared for it over two weeks before bringing them back for sharing and comparing. Before the four days were over, the teachers left with three bins of roughly 4 oz. or 200 worms in each bin.



In addition to leading the lab portion, I was also responsible for developing educational handouts and worksheets, determining what supplies needed to be ordered that the teachers would get to keep and securing bedding and food scraps. It was a privilege to work with teachers on this project!

University on the Prairie

For a second year, I was selected to be an associate teacher at the Southwest Research and Outreach Center this summer for their University on the Prairie program. I was able to observe and help youth learn more about food science, health science, engineering, chemistry and environmental/animal science.



Southwest Research & Outreach Center Elementary Field Day

I served as the worm composting teacher at the 4th grade Elementary Field Day in September. I taught 756 youth from 18 schools about recycling and Red Wiggler composting worms. Each section also built their own mini worm composting bin that they could take back to their classroom.





Presentation Day

Do you have a special talent? Do you know how to set a table? Want to work on your public speaking skills? If you said yes to any of these questions, Presentation Day is just for you!

Presentation Day judging includes Performing Arts, Demonstrations, Livestock Demonstrations, Illustrated Presentations, Videos and Food Review.

We had 11 participants in performing arts, eight in food review and four in the demo/illustrated talk/video areas.



Fashion Review/Clothing Day

Whether you enjoy shopping or making your own clothes, fashion review/clothing day is the perfect display of a 4-Her's love of clothes!

Twenty-two garments were modeled in the fashion review event. Seven Cloverbud garments were also modeled in Fashion Review. Several members also competed in the conference judging clothing portion where participants could exhibit clothes you make, clothes you buy and non-garments.

Thank you Dairy Queen for donating gift certificates to our Cloverbuds! Thanks to all parents that brought bars/goodies!



Cottonwood County Fair

Gardening and crafts/fine arts were large general project areas this year. Swine continues to be a large livestock area. **This year, KSFY TV from Sioux Falls did their morning show from the fairgrounds. Thank you to the horse families that were up early to talk with the reporters!**



Thank you to Runnings for provided buckets to our livestock exhibitors and to the Cottonwood Cattle Producers for providing t-shirts for our beef exhibitors! Thanks to McDonald's for supplying ice cream sundae coupons for all Cloverbuds!

Thank you to all of the families and volunteers that helped before, during and after fair!



Cottonwood County 4-H Stars Wall

As a way to recognize individuals that have made a lasting impact in Cottonwood County 4-H, the Cottonwood County 4-H Stars Wall was created. This year, inductees included: Maurice & Hilda Mitchell, Arlyss Kramer, Maggi Harrold, Andrea Reusch and Clifford & Barb Hunter. Families of those inducted shared touching stories of their loved ones during the unveiling program on Wednesday, Aug. 19. The 4-H Stars wall will be displayed each year in the 4-H general exhibit building. If you are interested in nominating someone, applications are due June 1 of each year. A committee will gather and vote on inductees.



The current 4-H Alumni and Friend of 4-H award recipients were also pictured and recognized as well. **Thank you to Jane Pederson, Hilary Paplow and Elizabeth Johnson for gathering details about each individual, designing the wall and hosting the unveiling! Thanks to the ADA for providing ice cream treats for all in attendance!**





Cottonwood County Fairground Improvements

For their Community Pride project, the Loyal Lakers/Carson Climbers 4-H club striped and painted the sheep/goat barn at the fairgrounds. They also removed all of the old electrical system because it will be updated thank to an AgStar grant. Phil Duerksen will be doing the electrical upgrade.

Thank you LL/CC for painting the sheep/goat barn! It looks great!



Mitchell Memorial Bench

In memory of longtime 4-H promoters Maurice & Hilda Mitchell, a bench was placed at the Cottonwood County Fairgrounds this year. **The bench was made by Jeremy Hall of Butterfield and 4-H member Andrew Pederson.** Thank you for your hard work!

AgStar Grant - Sheep/Goat Barn Update

Thank you to AgStar for the grant funds to updated the electricity in the Sheep/Goat Barn! Thank you to the Loyal Lakers/Carson Climbers 4-H Club for gutting the barn and for Phil Duerksen for doing the update!



Minnesota State Fair

Cottonwood County 4-H was represented by 38 livestock showmen, 21 general participants, 3 lama showmen, 4 consumer decision judging participants, 1 rabbit judging participant and 9 selected to participate in the auction.

Three youth earned purple ribbons on their general exhibits. Livestock honors from the Minnesota State Fair included two youth receiving GRAND champion recognition, one youth earning champion honors, two youth earning RESERVE GRAND champion honors, six youth receiving champion recognition and three youth recognized for their showmanship as either

grand or reserve. There were also 10 youth that received purple ribbons on their livestock exhibits, livestock demonstration or showmanship. Nine youth participated in the state livestock auction.

MN State Fair Scholarship Winner: Andrew Pederson

Herdsmanship - Dairy, 5th place in Division II



State Horse Show

Danae Friesen and Vonique Swenson represented Cottonwood County at the State Horse Show on September 18-21.



State Shooting Sports

Elijah Meier, Daphne Schleicher, Ethan Schleicher and Tyler Raverty represented Cottonwood County 4-H at the State Shoot in Alexandria on September 11-13. **Congratulations to Ethan Schleicher for placing third in BB!**

Thank you to our dedicated shooting sports instructors (John Reid, Linda Meier, Josh Bartosh, Chad & Missy Raverty) that practice with the shooting sports youth!

State Consumer Decision Judging

Senior Team – 1st overall, 2nd place reasons, 1st in swine judging

- Lizzie Kelly - 3rd place overall individual, 1st place senior reasons
- Megan Wiebe - 4th place overall individual, 8th place senior reasons
- **Molly Piotter - 1st place overall individual**, 3rd place senior reasons
- Jessica Wiebe - 2nd place overall individual, 2nd place senior reasons



State Rabbit Judging

- ✦ Intermediate Rabbit Judging – Damian King – first place in class placings

STEM Workshops

As part of a STEM pilot project, three STEM workshops were held throughout the year in Windom. Youth in grades 3-6 were invited to participate.

GO STEM - Seventeen youth in grades 3-6 participated in a GO STEM workshop at the Windom HS on March 9. Participants learned about acceleration, velocity, friction and speed. They constructed hovercrafts, competed in balloon thrust wards and built K'Nex cars to better understand those four key concepts. **Thank you to Elizabeth Johnson, Jana Piotter and Joan Schafer for helping!**



RACE for STEM - Nine youth in grades 3-6 participated in a RACE for STEM workshop on May 19 at the Windom Area High School. Youth were able to explore STEM activities outside of a traditional classroom setting through hands-on activities.

During the RACE for STEM workshop, youth learned about momentum, mass, gravity, mathematics, friction, velocity and speed. Youth constructed roller coasters, skimmers and balloon cars. They also raced fun buggies and measured the time it would take for one buggy to reach the other buggy. **Thank you to Kendall, Taylor & Kelsey Piotter for helping!**

NATURE STEM - Five youth spent the afternoon of August 4 exploring nature at the Wings on the Prairie Discovery Center, outside of Windom. Participants learned about the food chain, dissected owl pellets, played a habitat game, walked the trail to find wildlife and native grasses and then made rubbings from the grasses.



Afterschool Adventures - Mt. Lake, RRC, Windom, WWG

Afterschool adventures are offered to all youth in grades K-6 in Mt. Lake, Red Rock Central, Windom and Westbrook Walnut Grove.

We started the 2014-15 school year off with Rube Goldberg Machines! Participants watched the game Mouse Trap to learn about Rube Goldberg Machines and made their own from Velcro boards and various traps.

We continued with the engineering theme from September and worked on building strong structures in October.



Participants used marshmallows and spaghetti to see who could build the tallest tower. Then we used paper to build bridges and used washers to see which group built the strongest bridge.

Food always draws a crowd to after school adventures. In November we learned about baking and made different kinds of pies: double layer chocolate pie, strawberry pie, apple turnovers and pumpkin pie in a bag. There are still requests to make these again!

We worked in Santa's Workshop in December as we designed our own decorative coasters/tiles and made snowflake luminaries.

With our Game Day theme in January, we worked on our team building skills to throw footballs through hula hoops, build balloon towers and play Heads Up, Seven Up.



We learned quite a bit about metals as we used soft metals to make aluminum foil stained glass art and hard metals as we cleaned pennies and designed washer necklaces.



Each participant was able to create three different bracelets in March. We used balloons and elastic, vinyl tubing with glitter and vinyl tubing with fabric to create some fashion statements.

We hit the water as we made tested what items could float and which ones would sink. Each participant was then challenged with making their own foil boat to see how many pennies it could hold without sinking. Then we used knowledge about

buoyancy and made submarines from pop bottles.

To end the school year for after school adventures, participants learned about thrust, air resistance and drag as they made droppy-copters, paper airplanes and rockets. The adventure was highlighted by blasting off their rockets to end the program.



THANK YOU to Molly Piotter, Kelsey Piotter, Taylor Piotter, Mikaela Smith, John Smith, Hilary Paplow, Sam Dammann, Cindy Lindstrom, Karlain Erickson, Tammy Holtz, Emma Snyder & Emily Sell for helping at afterschool adventures!



NAE4-HA Conference

I attended the NAE4-HA conference that was held in Portland, OR during October 25-29. I had the opportunity to listen to a keynote speech on poverty, attend seven workshops, attend business meetings, network with other professionals from across the nation, tour Mt. Hood and the Royal Gorge and hear a capnote speaker talk "Stow it, Don't Throw it" 4-H project that has helped save countless marine animals. I also joined a couple of national committees. I was honored with a regional

award for excellence in natural resources & environmental education.

Cloverbuds



Cloverbud "Agventures" are open to all youth in grades K-3. The group meets one Saturday a month from September through May and then throughout the summer months to tend to the garden. At each "Agventure" Cloverbuds learn about ag-related topics through crafts, activities, meet and greets and snacks. Every participant receives a FREE book that is related to the ag topic.



During the 2014-15 year, the Cloverbuds learned about llamas, planes, turkeys, snow, peanuts, bananas, bees, birds, trees and worms. **Thank you to the Imker family for bringing in llamas and for Bill Fisher for teaching youth about llamas; the Windom Area Model Airplane Club for hosting and showing off your planes; Michelle Knudson for presenting on turkeys; Doug Deffenbaugh and the Robillard family for letting us check out their bee equipment and supplying us with honey; Juliana Pederson & Marie Dammann for teaching about birds; and Dave Bucklin for planting "Elmo" our Elm tree with us!!** The Cloverbuds loved guest presenters and being able to get so close to animals!

Throughout the summer the Cloverbuds got together to weed a garden the group planted behind the Extension Office.



Banquet

Around 100 attendees were present at our recognition banquet on Saturday, Nov. 7 at the American Lutheran Church in Windom. Members were awarded photo plaques

for general and livestock exhibit championship honors, medals for overall excellence in records and various certificates for their accomplishments. Members from Loyal Lakers/Carson Climbers 4-H clubs served pulled pork sandwiches, potatoes, vegetables and dessert. **Thank you to South Central Electric for being our banquet sponsor! Thank you to the Cottonwood County ADA for donating the dairy products!**



Congratulations to **Jane Pederson** for receiving the 4-H Alumni Award. Congrats to **the area schools (Mt. Lake, Red Rock Central, Westbrook Walnut Grove & Windom)** for being honored with the Friend of 4-H Award. **Ethan Johnson and Emma Snyder** received the I Dare You Award.



National 4-H Week

National 4-H Week was celebrated October 4-10. Clubs celebrated the week by donating books to the pre-schools, putting up displays, hanging locker posters and handing out informational flyers to youth. On the county level, youth in grades K-3 were invited to participate in a 4-H-themed coloring contest. Winners were named and 4-H prizes were awarded. **Three hundred seventy-three youth at WinFair, Red Rock Central, Westbrook Walnut Grove and Mt. Lake were treated to a presentation highlighting 4-H and encouraging them to come to afterschool and Cloverbud programming.** Along with the presentations and a short afterschool teaser, students received pencils and a brochure. Displays were placed in each elementary school for the week. Approximately 250 people were reached through a 4-H booth at the Mt. Lake ECI Family Fair, held during National 4-H Week at the Fire Station in Mt. Lake.

Juliana Pederson and AJ Quade also recorded various PSAs that ran throughout the week on KDOM. They also pre-recorded the monthly kaleidoscope program that ran on KDOM.

Again this year, we placed a thank you ad to all 4-H supporters in the Shopper. A message thanking volunteers, parents and supporters ran on the Daktronics sign by BARC in Windom. Area newspapers ran an article announcing National 4-H Week and three papers printed recipes from our 4-H food & nutrition and food revue champions.

Jana Piotter was named the winner of the Facebook 4-H photo contest. Old 4-H photos were also posted and a daily trivia contest was held on Facebook throughout the week. Congrats to the trivia winners: Tammy Holtz (3x), Elizabeth Johnson (2x), Cheri Maras and Bev Hines!

2014-15 Federation Officers

THANK YOU to the 2014-15 Federation officers for their year of leadership and service!

The officer team consists of:

President - Juliana Pederson

Vice President - Emily Sell

Secretary - Spencer Wolter

Youth Treasurer - Natalie Resch

Historian - Megan Wiebe

Parliamentarian - Taylor Piotter

NW Representative - Heidi Imker

SW Representative - Wyatt Dunkelberger

NE Representative - Molly Piotter

SE Representative - Andrew Fast

Adult Advisors - Sarah Wiebe, Jana Piotter, John Smith, Jane Pederson

Adult Treasurer - Elizabeth Johnson

Livestock Improvement Assn. 4-H

Representative - Mikaela Smith

Thank you for your service to 4-H!



THANK YOU!

Cottonwood County 4-H sincerely thanks you for your time, talents, donations, support and generosity over the years. The 4-H program is a success because of the community members, businesses and 4-H volunteers.

Looking for Volunteers

From time to time, we are looking for volunteers or partners to help in specific areas.

One of these areas is for an event called Project Day Spotlight. This event is tentatively set for Saturday, April 30 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the Windom School. We're searching for volunteers that would be willing to teach youth to make a general project in one hour. In each hour long session, the participants should be able to complete a project that is ready to be exhibited at the county fair.

We're also looking for guest agricultural presenters for Cloverbuds. Please contact Crystal Reith at 507-831-4022 or mohrh002@umn.edu if you would be willing to volunteer to help or present at any 4-H activities.

Welcome, New Members!

During this past 4-H year, we had 39 new 4-H members! We held two new family nights for those families to learn more about the 4-H program and answer questions. Bi-monthly newsletter and bi-weekly emails were also distributed to new families to help them stay up-to-date on 4-H happenings. **Thank you to Emma Snyder & Taylor Piotter for helping at the first new family night! Thank you to the ADA for sponsoring ice cream! Thanks to McDonald's for donating ice cream sundae coupons that are sent out in our new member packets!**