Achievement of 4-H members celebrated

At a special event to recognize their achievements of the 4-H year, some 200 youth and family members attended the annual Achievement Night in October. The youth and adult leaders received pins for their years of service.

Leader Julie Phillips received a Pearl Award for 15 years of service and Glenn Sanger a Diamond Award for 20 years of service. 4-H member, Bailey Konieczka received a 10 year membership award and Tanner Foreman and Wade Foreman were recognized for 13 years of membership.

Numerous other awards were presented to youth for their achievements in showing at the county and state fair. Of special note was the state County Image Award received by the 4-H Horse team to recognize their safety, good sportsmanship, comradeship, accuracy in submitting entries, cleanliness, horsemanship and stall displays.

The Penny Crosby award recognizing sportsmanship and courage in the county 4-H horse program was received by Olivia Palaschak.

Friend of 4-H Awards were presented to acknowledge those who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in making a contribution to 4-H. Nominations are made by 4-H members, leaders and staff. Friend of 4-H Awards were presented to: the Jefferson County Commissioners, Les Schwab and the Vinyard Family. All three county commissioners and County Manager, Ralph Schell, were able to attend the event, hand out awards and congratulate the youth for their accomplishments.

The 4-H Foundation presented a $500 scholarship to Bailey Konieczka and the Outstanding Leader Award to Mychele Smith. Outstanding First Year Leader Award was presented to Katie Carpenter and the Extension Leader Choice Salute to Excellence Award to Liz Rutter.

4-H Fun Shoot

An educational Fun Shoot was held in October to give youth with potential interest in 4-H Shooting Sports an opportunity to try out the various shooting sports.

4-H Open House Success

An Open House to encourage participation in 4-H by providing information at table displays from the various 4-H clubs and groups was held in October and resulted in some 100 potential members and their families attending the event.
Jefferson County Farm Tour

Knowing that farming is an interest of even those with small acreage, a Farm Tour was held in October with 30 interested participants. The tour visited two farms in Jefferson County providing information about identifying grasses, pasture management, soils, composting and raising alpacas. Evaluations were very positive showing that participants increased their knowledge about all of the topics covered.

Cottage Food Industry sparks interest

A growing interest in Cottage Foods and ensuring safety has resulted in a team effort for Jefferson, Arapahoe and Boulder counties. A series of workshops on Cottage Food safety held once in each county office attracted local residents who wanted to learn how to safely operate a food business from their home kitchen.