



News Release

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Whatever your child's interest, 4-H has an 'app' for that *Enrollment in Arapahoe County 4-H clubs is underway*

Littleton, Colo. – Are you seeking a fun, new extracurricular activity for your child or teen? With more than 270 project areas, you won't have to look further than Arapahoe County 4-H to find an activity that suits your child's unique interests and personality.

Arapahoe County 4-H is now accepting new members for the 2010-2011 4-H year. 4-H allows youth to explore their own interests through hands-on experiences in general, home economics and animal-related projects in club settings, guided by caring volunteer leaders.

Youth, ages 5 to 18, throughout the metro area can enroll in one of 16 existing clubs, or start their own club with a group of friends and an adult volunteer.

In the popular dog project, participants learn to train their own pet canine and compete as a team in dog obedience, rally and showmanship contests. In the livestock project, metro and rural kids alike can learn to raise and show rabbits, poultry, goats, sheep, hogs or cattle. Many youth who own horses enjoy learning to ride and compete in English and Western-style saddle events in the horse project.

Youth who are interested in fashion can learn to design, construct and decorate clothing. Other popular 4-H projects include cake decorating, model rocketry, gardening, woodworking, shooting sports, photography and cooking. Children under age 8 participate in the Cloverbud project, where they can learn about a variety of 4-H topics and have fun in a non-competitive setting.

"There is no better way than a 4-H club for your child to learn a new hobby, make friends with similar interests and have fun," said Arapahoe County Commissioner Jim Dyer.

4-H members are invited to show off their projects at the Arapahoe County Fair each July, where youth contests are the heart of the event.

"4-H has taught me how to speak in front of people and not to be afraid of the judges. It is really fun at the day of the Fair to see my project results. 4-H is fun for all ages," said 4-H member Joey Yousling of Aurora, age 12.

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The Arapahoe County 4-H enrollment fee is \$35 per member, which includes manuals for up to three projects. Project supplies are not included. For more information, please the 4-H Office at CSU Extension-Arapahoe County at 303-730-1920 or visit www.arapahoeextension.org.

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To download photos, click on the following link: <ftp://www.co.arapahoe.co.us/pub/CM/Photos/4-H>

Abby Hanouw and Bonnie: Abby Hanouw of Aurora, age 15, and her dog Bonnie participate in the popular 4-H Dog Project, which teaches youth about dog obedience and training, grooming, health and showmanship.

4-H Costumes: Local 4-H youth are ready for Halloween thanks to the Clothing Project, where they learn to design and sew their own costumes.