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4-H Information night for parents and youth Oct. 6

Learn about the exciting 4-H programs offered through Colorado State University Extension

LITTLETON, CO --- 4-H builds leaders by offering youth opportunities to learn about agriculture, robotics, photography, animals and more. Interested youth and their parents are invited to learn about Arapahoe County's 4-H program by attending an Information Night 7 p.m., Oct. 6 at the Arapahoe County CSU-Extension Office, 6934 S. Lima St., Suite B, Centennial, 80112.

The program offers more than 60 general, home economics and animal project areas for youth ages 5 to 18. A project involves learning a new skill over several weeks or months through hands-on learning.

Some of the County's most popular projects are shooting sports, cake decorating, clothing construction, rabbits and dogs. Small animals can be raised in most cities and give 4-H youth who live in urban settings the opportunity to learn about raising animals. Cats are another new animal project and the cat project caps off with a Cat Show at the County Fair.

4-H also offers numerous STEM projects, such as robotics and rocketry. At the 2016 Colorado State Fair, Sanjana Senthil, a first year 4-H member, won Grand Champion for Robotics.

Children under the age of 8 participate in the Cloverbud project, where they learn about a variety of topics and have fun in a noncompetitive setting.

At Information Night, children will be invited to participate in a National Youth Science Day experiment and other activities while parents attend an information session. Parents will have the opportunity to ask questions and learn how to enroll their children.

Arapahoe County 4-H members are invited to show their completed projects at the Arapahoe County Fair each July and top exhibitors have the opportunity to show at the Colorado State Fair. The County also hosts optional contests throughout the year, such as cake decorating, speech demonstrations, creative cooks and a talent show. 4-H youth also participate in community service projects, fundraisers, conferences and camps that help to grow their leadership skills.

Currently, there are more than 300 members in Arapahoe County's 4-H program. Youth are welcome to join one of the 14 local clubs from Littleton to Deer Trail, or start a new club with a group of friends and an adult volunteer.

For more information or to receive a list of current 4-H clubs, please call the 4-H Office at Arapahoe County CSU-Extension at 303-730-1920 or visit <http://arapahoe.extension.colostate.edu/>. The annual fee for new members is \$50, which includes any number of projects with curriculum. The fee for Cloverbuds is \$40 and the volunteer fee is \$5. Enrollment is open until April 1, 2017.

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