Getting Ready for a New Year

I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year. I for one am getting excited for 2021 and looking forward to the many great things we will all accomplish. All of us at the Extension Office are gearing up.

When I got into the office on Monday morning Oma handed me my brand new 2021 calendar filled out with my tasks for all 365 days. Every year when she hands it to me I am thankful to work with a person with excellent organizational skills like that because I surely do not.

We have a solid roadmap for the upcoming year and I am ready to go. Without Oma and Joey watching over everything we do I would be lost so I would lie to thank them both very much for everything they do.

As we move into 2021 things may not seem like they will improve right away. With the COVID-19 vaccine beginning distribution and some much needed snow on the ground things seem to be looking up. However, we cannot let our guards down yet. The care and respect we all hold for one another will continue to be paramount as we embark on the new year. The good thing is that we have a much better handle n what to expect than we did a year ago. I think we can all be optimistic that the year ahead will not induce the level of stress this last one put on our shoulders. One has not changed and that is our collective strength and resilience.

Now looking ahead, I would like to share one for the first programs we are unrolling for 2021! We have a great program coming to the community from Colorado State University Extension on January 26th and 28th from 10 am until Noon each day. This virtual program will be available to everyone on the Western Slope. The Western Colorado Cattle and Forage Grower Update will have presenters that include Colorado State University, the Livestock Marketing Information Center, Bureau of Land Management, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Through the presentations, speakers will be able to update you with current information on a wide variety of relevant topics. On January 26hth the Drought Forecast, Leasing, Wildfire Mitigation, and Cattle Market Outlook will be discussed. The second day of presentations will be on Soil Management, Outcome-Based Grazing and Wolves. All the information can be applied to our community. This course will be free but does need to be pre-registered for at the following link: <https://zoo.us/eeting/register/tJlcusqjstSdz-nd511SpuTy>

If needed I will be more than happy to email it to you to make things easier. It will be available to everyone through Zoom, but if you are unable to access or need there viewing options contact the Dolores County Extension Office. We may be able to host a lie viewing if the pandemic conditions permit. More info will be coming soon.

We are also looking for sponsors for this event! This is a great opportunity to get your business name out to livestock producers across the Western Slope and beyond! We are offering multiple levels of sponsorships and your support will not only get recognition this year but next year as well! Once again, this is a great opportunity to gain some valuable visibility for your business. For any questions on this event or how to become a sponsor, please contact me at 970-677-2283 or at [gus.westerman@colostate.edu](mailto:gus.westerman@colostate.edu)

I would like to end my last article for 2020 by once again wishing you all a wonderful and safe Holiday Season and to say how honored I am to be a part of our wonderful community. One last thing, we are currently taking enrollments for the Dolores County 4-H Club! We hope to see you in January 2021!

4-H Project List:

Robotics – Scrapbooking – Woodworking – Cooking – Foods & Nutrition – Specialty Foods – Clothing – heritage Arts – “DC TV” live TV programming, studio work and reporting.

Dolores County is also working to establish a NEW LIVESTOCK PROGRAM FOR DOLORES COUNTY YOUTH!

For more information on this new program please give us a call at the office.

These are only a few options. If you have an interest we will find a project to foster that interest!!

Information provided by CSUCE and Dolores County.

For further information concerning these topics or any other subject, stop in or call Gus, Oma and Joey at the Colorado State University Dolores County Extension Office, 677-2283. Cooperative Extension programs are available to all without discrimination.