This year the Big Piney and Pinedale 4-H Afterschool programs underwent a minor adjustment. We combined them, into one program—Sublette 4-H Afterschool with University of Wyoming Extension staff overseeing both programs. The day to day operations remained much the same with Keyth Palmer and Logan Barlow working with students in Big Piney and Jacque Bly, Phylis Stevens, Nikki Wadsworth and Kelli Terrell in Pinedale.

I have enjoyed being able to work with students on both ends of the county while being more involved in grant writing, program planning and over seeing the administration of the program. We have focused a lot of our program on SET (Science, Engineering and Technology), Nutrition/Healthy Lifestyles, Homework and Book Clubs. We have some great activities in the works for this spring and look forward to continuing to work with your child. If you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns please feel free to call or email me. We have recently expanded our partnership with School District #9 and will help provide oversight, program recommendations and activity resources for the afterschool program and staff at La Barge Elementary School.

In Pinedale over the last year and a half we have found one of the most popular activities with the kids is anything science based.

Science Experiments have been a new introduction into the Big Piney program. In the fall of the year students launched pop bottle rockets and took part in some small experiments. Students in Big Piney and Pinedale participated in the National Youth Science Day. Students mixed bromolethymal blue with water and blew air into the liquid solution to see the effects of CO2. Then they put antacid tablets into water and saw the effects of the gases that the tablets let off.

To take it to the next level we will be working with Elaine Crumply (retired science teacher) to develop a science fair for students in Big Piney and Pinedale. Older members will conduct their own science experiments while the younger grades will be involved with science explorations; all the science fun, just not all the writing. Science projects will be based around plants and horticulture, using the greenhouses for many of them.
As we begin the 2011 year we want to thank our partners and supporters that have helped make this program a success!

Big Piney Elementary School
Pinedale Elementary School
BOCES
Chevron
Encana
Shell/Ultra/Questar
Natural Resource Conservation District
Forest Service
Wyoming Game and Fish
Town of Pinedale
Town of Big Piney
Town of Marbleton

It is our goal to make the Sublette Afterschool Program a sustainable program that will be a benefit to our communities. If you or anyone you know would like to support the program with a financial contribution or and in kind donation please contact Jennifer Anderson at 749-4223.

Some students had the opportunity to deliver the pillowcases to the Sublette Center.

CHARACTER COUNTS!
BY: LOGAN BARLOW

As a second year teacher of Character Counts, I found many fun ways to incorporate the six pillars (respect, responsibility, caring, citizenship, fairness, and trustworthiness). We have completed four of the six pillars. As part of the respect pillar, the children were taught the 7 Magic Words, those being: please, thank you, you’re welcome, yes sir, no sir, yes ma’am, and no ma’am. They completed a responsibility shield and also did an incredible project for citizenship.

(Sublette 4-H Afterschool students participate in several Character Counts! activities each month.)

ENROLLMENT FACTS:

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</table>

Homework Time!

Logan Barlow leads the kids in an activity on the Character Counts! pillar, citizenship.

GOING GREEN

In 2010 Sublette 4-H Afterschool Program was awarded a $45,000 grant from ServeWyoming to conduct a Learn and Serve Project. Year one of the project, Farm to Plate, wrapped up this fall with two high tunnel hoop houses constructed by volunteers on land donated by Matt Harbor. Within the first few days of School Pinedale Afterschool students had planted a variety of vegetables including spinach, radish, carrots, pac choy, beans and cucumbers. Students tracked air and soil temperatures into the late fall. While we were late in getting our seeds planted, we were able to harvest some items such as the spinach, pac choy and radish. After-school students enjoyed tasting the fruits (or vegetables) of their labor. Surprisingly only 1/4 of the students had eaten a vegetable fresh from the garden. Students also donated produce to the food basket.

Jennifer Jacobsen, UW Nutrition and Food Safety Educator, worked with students on food preservation. Students prepped apples for dehydration and then again enjoyed sampling the results. We are entering phase two of the Farm to Plate Project and will continue to work on the greenhouses in Pinedale and will construct a high tunnel hoop house in conjunction with School District #9. Students in both Pinedale and Big Piney will work with UW Nutrition Educators this spring.

COMMUNITY SERVICE
BY: LOGAN BARLOW

For a community service and citizenship project, the kids sewed two pillowcases. One pillowcase was a Christmas one and the other was one of a choice from a selection of material. Each child had to pick one of their pillowcases to be donated to either the Primary Children's Hospital in Salt Lake City or the Sublette Senior Center in Pinedale. After they chose one to donate, they had the choice to either take their other pillowcase to fair, take it home, or they could donate it after they had taken it to fair. My findings were incredible and I found that most of the children would rather let me keep the pillowcase until fair and then let them take it home. This was a lesson and project to see what the children chose to do from the list of their options. It was their time to make a choice.

26 pillowcases were delivered to the Sublette Center and another 13 pillowcases were given to Children's Primary Hospital in Salt Lake City.

BOOK CLUB

A new addition to the program in Pinedale this year was that of a book club. With the help of BOCES funding grades 3-5 will work with Mrs. Wills to read and discuss several books over the course of the year. Currently students are reading “Bridge to Terabithia” and will have an opportunity to discuss it with students in Mongolia. Younger students were also interested, so we started a second book club with Miss. Michelle and are reading “My Father’s Dragon”. Starting in February the afterschool program will host a coin drive to raise funds for another service learning project that will include raising funds to purchase more books to send to Mongolia. Students in the Pinedale Elementary schools noon book club will have an opportunity to develop friendships across the world as they read, discuss and expand their own collection of books.
STAFF DEVELOPMENT

This fall staff had the opportunity to attend the Wyoming Afterschool Alliance Conference. Over the two and a half-day conference staff participated in 20 workshops including; Supporting Positive Behavior, Awareness to Service Learning, Aligning the Learning Day and Creating Program Response-Ability Afterschool. Staff also participated in a Love and Logic workshop and training on the Essential Elements and Character Counts. We will also have staff attending the National Afterschool Conference as well as the National Service Learning Conference this spring. Staff have participated in over 90 hours of professional development.

The Wyoming Afterschool Alliance (WYAA), an initiative of the Wyoming Community Foundation, has received a three-year grant to conduct a research project surveying the capacity of the public and private afterschool systems and to assess their effectiveness across Wyoming. The Sublette 4-H Afterschool program is applying to participate in this project as one of the research sites. The project also involves setting up a system of Quality Advisors for afterschool programs in the state, and rolling out a program self-assessment tool that will be piloted with as many as 25 Wyoming afterschool sites.

INTERNS ARE AT THE HEART OF IT!
BY: NIKKI WADSWORTH

I have had an amazing experience as an intern in the afterschool program the last two years! The program has grown from last year, both in the number of kids attending and the activities we do. I always look forward to doing science experiments and crafts with the kids. They always surprise me with their knowledge in science and their creativity. The kids and I have also been doing Character Counts! activities. Character Counts! is a program that focuses on the six pillars of character—trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship. I have been able to take the lessons learned in these activities and apply them to my own life. I have really enjoyed watching the kids’ personalities grow and develop. I hope I have taught the kids in the program as much as they have taught me.

*Nikki and Logan have both worked with the afterschool programs for the last two years. In addition to a scholarship they are also completing 3 credits with the University of Wyoming. Kelli Terrell began working with the afterschool program in Pinedale this fall. The Sublette 4-H Afterschool program is grateful to have all three of them involved!

I hope I have taught the kids in the program as much as they have taught me.

CAPITOL CHRISTMAS TREE

Students in the Sublette 4-H Afterschool programs embraced the Capitol Christmas Tree project and together they created and donated over 100 ornaments that were placed on the tree in Washington DC. Students enjoyed a presentation from Nan Stinson and Linda Leeper, US Forest Service, on the process of selecting and harvesting the tree. Then they created their own works of art. Students in Pinedale worked with volunteers to create ornaments from old boots, animals from salt dough and rope and bandana’s with the Wyoming Cowboy. In Big Piney students spent several days making frames from old barn wood, backdrops of western fabric and dough image representations of Wyoming.