

4-H NEWSLETTER-OCTOBER 2023

Yellowstone County Extension Office
301 N 27th Street – Old Chamber Building – 3rd Floor
PO Box 35021, Billings MT 59107-5021

<https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/index.html>

4-H FOLKS IN FOCUS

All the input from everyone at the Department A & N Post MontanaFair meetings is appreciated. MontanaFair handbook changes will be voted on at the 4-H Council Meeting December 7, at 6:30 pm.

Save the Date: 4-H Family Fun Night is Saturday, November 18, 2023, in the Montana Pavilion at MetraPark.

Remember to email both Brandy (brandy.butler@montana.edu) & Leslie (leslie.idstrom@montana.edu) when sending emails to the 4-H Office. Either can assist you with any question.

Roni Baker
Yellowstone County 4-H Youth Extension Agent

4-H WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGES FOR YELLOWSTONE COUNTY

Remember to check the [Yellowstone County 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/> when looking for forms and information. You will find photos of recent events and reminders of upcoming activities on the [Yellowstone County 4-H Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/yellowstonecounty4h) at <https://www.facebook.com/yellowstonecounty4h>. Visit the [Yellowstone County Ambassadors](https://www.facebook.com/yellowstonecountyambassadors/) page at <https://www.facebook.com/yellowstonecountyambassadors/> to learn about events and activities our Ambassadors will be hosting for members. If you have not visited these pages and clicked “Like”, please do so soon!

ARE YOU CHANGING CLUBS THIS YEAR? PAPERWORK IS REQUIRED.

Families changing clubs this year are **REQUIRED TO COMPLETE** the Changing 4-H Clubs Form that can be found and printed off the [Yellowstone County 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/Enrollment.html) under “How to Enroll” at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/Enrollment.html>. **It is the family’s responsibility** to have the form completed, signed off by the Organizational Leader of the club you are departing **and** the Organizational Leader of the club you are joining. It is the FAMILY’S RESPONSIBILITY to provide a copy of the completed form to the Extension Office. Your family will not be in active status until the Extension Office has received the Changing 4-H Clubs Form.

ZSUITE 4-H ENROLLMENT OPEN

This year all members and leaders will enroll themselves through the ZSuite program. Instructions for enrollment can be found on the [state 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/resources/4henrollment/index.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/resources/4henrollment/index.html>. Should you have questions, please use the ZSuite Live Chat Support found in the lower righthand portion of the screen. Remember to pay your enrollment fees to your club! (11/11/05/15)

SELF DETERMINED PROJECT ARE NOW DESIGN YOUR OWN PROJECT

Design You Own project offers an opportunity to develop and carry out a project of individual design. This means selecting a topic, deciding goals, obtaining resources and designing records. The member is responsible for developing the project with advice or direction of an adult. This project can cover any subject and may be related to any current 4-H project. Examples include ceramics, bookkeeping, and outdoor cooking. Design a project of special interest to you, as the success depends on your initiative. Those who select a worthwhile topic and become intrigued often do some of the best and most rewarding work. Members must complete a project outline to the Extension Office by March 1.

SUCCESSFUL RECORD BOOKS

Start your record book at the beginning of the 4-H year. Write goals for the year at the BEGINNING of the year. You

should try to write at least three goals for each part of the book.

My 4-H Year: The front page must be completed including three goals and leader's signature. Every section must have something listed, including promotion and communication. If nothing was done in an area or section of a record sheet, write "none". You should have a project journal for every project listed on the My 4-H Year sheet. Your picture should be attached.

Non-Animal Project/Financial Journal: Project/financial journals are needed for every project. Project sheets need to contain the name of the project and the year these records were kept. Every section needs to have something written in it. Including three goals and financial records. Transfer financial totals to back page.

Animal Record & Journal: Animal journals need to be included for every animal project, including cat, dog, and pocket pet. These are for all animal projects, not just market projects. Include animal category (i.e., beef, dog, etc.), your name and the years the records were kept, plus a leader or parent's signature. One Animal Record & Journal can be used if the same animal is used in more than one project. Each section should be complete or if noting applies, write "none".

To help organize yourself-either make a "sloppy copy" of your forms or use a calendar as you go through the year. Keep up with this and then the job of completing your record book at the end of the year is easy.

Make sure your record book is complete. This is a "record" of your 4-H story. It is fun to look back in the future to what you did while in 4-H. Make it complete enough that a person who is not familiar with your project could pick up your record book and look through it and it will make sense to that person.

Additional things you may wish to include (not required) in your record book:

- Additional pictures of any of your 4-H experiences, projects, etc.
- Ribbons or pictures of ribbons.
- Certificates or awards received.
- Other items you wish to add to your book.

RETURN UNUSED 4-H PROJECT BOOKS TO EXTENSION

If you have any 4-H project books that are not being used and have not been written in, PLEASE return them to the Extension Office. We re-use them to keep costs down.

LEADERS, 4-H NEEDS YOUR INPUT!

As we begin a new 4-H year, we want to remind you that decisions are made by those who regularly attend county meetings. We encourage you to attend these meetings to participate in this process.

If you are new to 4-H, the council and committee meetings are an important resource of knowledgeable people and information about various 4-H projects and programs. So, what are you waiting for? Jump in and get your feet wet! Our meetings are posted in the newsletter calendar; we'd love to have you join us! It's also a great way to meet others involved in similar projects to share information.

4-H AWARDS BALLOT NOMINATIONS DUE OCTOBER 31

Clubs that wish to turn in their ballots nominating individuals or businesses for the 4-H Friendship Award, Friend of 4-H Award, Outstanding 4-H Teen Leader Award, Outstanding 4-H Leader, and Outstanding 4-H Alumni Award, please do so by October 31. These special awards need input from everyone. Ballots were included in club enrollment packets and were emailed to organizational leaders. We know you can think of someone. Talk to your club organizational leader.

CLUB YEAR-END FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORTS DUE OCTOBER 31

Club Organizational Leaders have received a copy of the annual Year-End Financial Summary Report. The report provides an open, public record of each club's finances and fulfills state and federal audit requirements. Completed reports are due to Extension by October 31. Clubs will not be able to receive project books until the reports are completed. ***Please remember to balance the Year-end Financial Summary to the bank account statements, not the checkbook register!**

With the IRS ruling governing 4-H funds it is imperative we have this report so your club can retain a checking account. Failure to meet the deadline may result in the loss of your club's charter and/or the closing of your club financial account(s).

NATIONAL 4-H WEEK OCTOBER 1-7, 2023

National 4-H Week is October 1-7, 2023. This week gives us a chance to highlight the remarkable 4-H youth and showcase their experiences. You can wear your 4-H t-shirt, plan an event, put up window displays, handout flyers, post about 4-H on social media, decorate 4-H member's school lockers, recognize 4-H members at a school sports game or any other ideas that would work for you.

This year's National 4-H Week theme is I <3 4-H, focusing on how 4-H provides youth a place to feel valued, heard and connected, and be a part of something bigger.

A toolkit with suggestions and resources can be found on the [state 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/resources/national4hweek/index.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/resources/national4hweek/index.html>. Be sure to click on the long list of ideas on how to celebrate National 4-H Week in our county. These tools are designed to help you leverage National 4-H Week in the media, on social media and in your community.

REGISTER FOR FALL TEEN LEADERSHIP TRAINING OCTOBER 20-22

You are invited to attend the Fall Teen Leadership Training that will be held in Billings, October 20-22, 2023, at the Billings Hotel and Convention Center. Youth participants must be 14 on October 1, 2023, to participate.

Fall Training is the annual leadership development retreat for Montana 4-H Ambassadors and Teen Leaders. The event is planned, implemented, and evaluated by the State Ambassador Officer Team. Youth will leave the weekend prepared and excited to take the knowledge and skills they have gained and apply them in their counties. It is also a great place to have youth leaders exchange ideas and create a statewide network of resources. They have planned a very exciting event this year with a great leadership speaker and some great hands on workshops for ambassadors and teen leaders to build their skills.

Registration cost is \$180, including lodging (2 - 4 people to a room) meals Saturday and Sunday Breakfast and program costs. Single rooms will be available at an additional cost of \$125. 4-H Council will pay \$155. 4-H attendees do need to pay \$25 and for your own t-shirt if you want one.

Register in ZSuite by October 5. **You can register in [ZSUITE at https://4h.zsuite.org/](https://4h.zsuite.org/) any time and your registration will roll over to the new 4-H year that begins October 1. Please be sure to enroll for the new 4-H year by updating any personal information and completing all waivers prior to the start of this event. You can complete/update your club/project enrollment after the event if needed.**

HALLOWEEN ESCAPE ROOMS, TRUNK-OR-TREAT, CARVED PUMPKINS, & COAT DRIVE

Come kick off your Halloween weekend with us and bring your extra coats for a coat drive!

Project Rockin Wranglers are hosting two days of fun, costumes, contests and Halloween Escape rooms on October 27 and 28 at the 4-H building! The Halloween and Spooky Cauldron rooms are available both days, \$10 per person with 1 hour to solve each room starting at 4:00 pm on Friday, October 27, with the last room starting at 9:00 pm. Saturday rooms start at 10:00 am with the last room being at 6:00 pm. A minimum of 5 people and a maximum of 8 people or join a group of random people! Costumes are encouraged!

On Saturday, October 28, we will have a Trunk-or-Treat in the parking lot in front of the 4-H Building. Reserve a spot by October 23, to be entered in the Best Decorated Trunk Contest and see who get the title by public vote, or you can join in the fun without being on the ballot that day. There will be a Carved Pumpkin Contest that will be \$2.00 entry with 100% pay out for first through 3rd and great prizes for the costume contest at 7:00 pm on Saturday. We will be accepting gently used coats, hats, gloves and other winter items to help with the 4th Annual Coat Drive by Cowboy

Creations. To schedule an escape room time or early register for the trunk or treat please call Heather 406-208-4463 or Kayla 307-251-4931.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT SILENT AUCTION BASKET SALES

Once again, this year the Interstate Exchange Group will have baskets for sale at Family Fun Night November 18. The money raised by each person goes into their fund to pay for their annual trip. Clubs will not have the opportunity to sell baskets as a club fundraiser.

Every year there are some awesome baskets. Be sure to check them out and bid on them in the Silent Auction. Please be prepared to pay at Family Fun Night.

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR FAMILY FUN NIGHT BINGO PRIZES

The Bingo booth gives out nearly 100 Bingo prizes throughout the night. They are asking for donations of small prizes for the adult winners that range in price from \$5 to \$10 dollars. Some ideas include: gift cards, new movies, music, coffee mugs and coffee cards, men's items, candles, etc. You can also provide cash donations that will be used to purchase items. Please coordinate getting items or cash donations to the Extension Office by October 29. Questions? Call Kat Pfau at 406-670-1944.

LOTS OF GLASSWARE NEEDED FOR FAMILY FUN NIGHT WASHER TOSS BOOTH

Shepherd Tumbleweed will be doing the Washer Toss booth at Family Fun Night. Due to the booth's popularity each year, **LOTS** of glassware is needed-they are extremely low! Please contact Kathy Peck 406-670-8756 or Kasey Shivar at 406-998-88343 (call or text) to coordinate delivery of glassware. Thank you for donating!

RECOGNIZING GOOD DEEDS AT MONTANAFAIR

The following names were placed in the "Good Deed Box" in the Expo Center during MontanaFair. These young people were kind, helpful, courteous, and friendly. We know MANY others should be recognized also! Next year take a moment to drop a name in the box!

Saphron Myers
Cheryl Myers
Grace Sedlacek
Kora Selle
Addison Vogel

Walt Lindeen
Gabe Volpe
Maci Vogel
Miranda Johnson

Blake Vogel
Stephanie Prewett
Elyse Heaton
Corbin Vogel

OUTSTANDING MEMBER NOMINATIONS DUE OCTOBER 11 BY 5:00 PM

Outstanding Member Nominations can now be completed & sent electronically on the [Yellowstone county 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/4-hopportunitiesandevents.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/4-hopportunitiesandevents.html>. Just type in the information and hit the submit button!

It is time to Nominate 2021-2022 Outstanding 4-H members! An outstanding 4-H member must have 4-H related achievements that measure above and beyond other members. To compete for county awards a member must have a gold seal on their record book. Anyone can nominate a Member (another member, a leader, a parent, or self-nomination). A nominee provides four reason specific examples regarding why the member is outstanding in a specific award area. Nomination deadline is 5:00 pm Friday, October 12 in the Extension Office (not postmarked by).

A hard copy Nomination Form can be printed off the [Yellowstone county 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/4-hopportunitiesandevents.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/4-hopportunitiesandevents.html> and faxed (406-256-2825), emailed, or mailed to the Extension Office by the deadline. Questions? Call the Extension Office at 406-256-2828.

SERVICE LEARNING LOGS DUE OCTOBER 2

Service Learning Logs are due to the Extension Office by Monday, October 2, 2023 (must be postmarked by). The last day to enter volunteer hours is September 30. Awards will be given at Family Fun Night. Questions? Call Chris Martin at

ATTENTION ALL 4-H CLUBS: ADVICE FOR STARTING THE NEW 4-H YEAR OFF RIGHT

Plan your year (give guidance but let the kids make choices-don't forget to have fun!) Recruit help! Elect new officers!

- Community Service (Choose at least 1 project per club.) Ask the 4-H office for ideas.
- Fundraisers (decide how to raise money for 4-H camp, MontanaFair, club events, etc.) The 4-H office has materials about fundraising.
- Field Trips (learn & have fun)
- Guest speakers (informative & fun)
- Club Demonstrations (relaxed atmosphere-have each member do one; prepare for Communication Day.)

4-H CLUB OFFICERS & ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The officer and committee systems are a good way of dividing jobs and responsibilities among club members in an orderly way. The number of officers needed is determined by the size and type of club. Club officers are usually elected annually, near the beginning of the 4-H year. One of the Leaders or parents should be responsible for helping officers carry out their responsibilities. Encourage the officers to attend officer training when it is offered at the county or state level.

President: Prepares the agenda with other officers and Leaders and presides at club meetings.

Vice-President: Assumes duties of President in their absence. Has responsibility to see that committees are working on assigned tasks.

Secretary: Keeps complete and accurate records/minutes of each club meeting. Writes all club correspondence. Keeps club attendance and all other club records up to date.

Treasurer: Handles all club money. Keeps accurate and up to date financial records. All checks should be co-signed by club treasurer and an additional account signer.

Historian: Maintains and updates the club's history book to preserve information for future club members.

Reporter: Writes news stories about meetings and special events for the local newspaper.

The Extension Office has project materials for these offices. Ask your leader to pick one up or stop by the office yourself.

LEADERSHIP ACADEMY MONTHLY WORKSHOPS BEGIN NOVEMBER 12

For 4-H Members 4-H Age (age as of October 1, 2023) 12 and older: Join the Montana 4-H Leadership Academy workshop on Sunday afternoons in 2023-2024 4-H year. Save the dates of November 12, December 10, January 14, February 11, and March 10. **All workshops are Sunday afternoons from 3:00 to 4:00. Zoom links for each workshop session will be emailed to county extension offices and can be shared locally.**

The leadership academy is a network of Montana 4-H members interested in exploring and developing their own leadership skills while serving their county 4-H program in new ways.

Local county leadership groups will have an opportunity to join with groups from around the state as well as the Montana 4-H Ambassador Officer team, virtually and in person when possible, to work on skill building, planning, and mentorship. New this year: Cameo appearances from Collegiate 4-H members; action steps and follow-up activities for prizes; more active learning using online training resources.

Each month the state officer team members will present a different workshop topic that they have found to be important as they have developed their own leadership abilities. This workshop should be paired with a local county leadership meeting to work on county projects that serve the local 4-H program and community.

This time can be viewed as a leadership club meeting. County ambassadors can aid in planning and facilitating these local workshop meetings. *The meeting agendas are currently being planned.*

4-H LICENSE PLATES

Montana 4-H License Plates are still available. All application or renewal of license plates is handled by the county treasurer. Cost of the plate is \$35 which supports the 4-H program at the county and state level.

MONTANA 4-H FOUNDATION INNOVATIVE PROGRAMING GRANTS AVAILABLE

Available Funds: \$2,500 in grant money - usually ranging from \$200 to \$600.

Application Deadline: November 1 (main deadline) and April 1 (for any remaining funds).

Source of Funds: Montana 4-H Foundation in MSU-Bozeman

Grant Criteria: Innovative youth or adult volunteer leader educational programs. Program efforts currently conducted are not eligible. Programs currently being conducted in other states qualify. Project must have potential to be replicated in other Montana counties. Project can reach existing or new audiences.

Application team and teaching team (can be different) must include an Extension staff person, an adult volunteer, and a teen volunteer.

Project and evaluation must be completed within one year of submission deadline. Full grant criteria and the online application can be found on the [Montana 4-H Foundation website](#) or <https://www.mt4hfoundation.org/>. Contact Roni Baker at the Extension office to discuss ideas!

YOUTH LOAN PROGRAMS FROM THE MONTANA & U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The **Junior Agriculture Loan** is available to youth ages 9-11 with a maximum of \$3,500 for up to five years. Youth ages 12-21 may borrow a maximum of \$8,500 for up to five years. Application forms are available on the [Montana Department of Agriculture website](#) at <https://agr.mt.gov/Topics/E-G/Grants-Pages/Junior-Agriculture-Loans> or by calling Walt Anseth @ 406-444-5420 or WAnseth@mt.gov

The **Rural Assistance Loan Program** is available to individuals 18 years of age and above for a maximum of \$75,000; terms vary by loan type. Information about this and other rural assistance programs can be found on the [Montana Department of Agriculture website](#) at <https://agr.mt.gov/Topics/Q-Z/Rural-Assistance> or by calling 406-444-3144.

Farm Service Agency makes loans to individual young persons to start and operate income-producing projects of modest size in connection with their participation in 4-H clubs. The project being financed with an FSA Youth Loan needs to provide an opportunity for the young person to acquire experience and education in agriculture-related skills. Youth between 10-20 years old may apply for loans up to \$5,000. For more information visit the [USDA Farm Service Agency website](#) at <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/youth-loans/index>

YELLOWSTONE COUNTY MEMBER & LEADER NUMBERS FOR THE PAST 5 YEARS

The following is an update on our end of year enrollment data. Be sure to encourage your members and leaders to join again. Recruit new families to your club.

Year	Members	Leaders	Clubs
2018-19	560	254	24
2019-20	533	242	25
2020-21	473	230	25
2021-22	477	211	25
2022-23	482	201	25

RECOGNIZING OUR 2022-2023 COMMITTED 4-H VOLUNTEER LEADERS

Thank you to these committed 4-H Leaders for supporting our 4-H youth!

# of years as a 4-H Leader	Volunteer Leader Name and Club
5	Kim Ackerman – Hesper Hustlers
5	Caroline Brito – Huntley Trailblazers
5	Kasey Felder – Hesper Hustlers

5	Whitney Grice – Pine Ridge Red Ryder
5	Jennie Hansen – Worden Riverdale
5	Loran Hansen – Worden Riverdale
5	Brenda Held – City Kids
5	Jennifer Kuhr – Hesper Hustlers
5	Dale Lentz – Lockwood Humble B's
5	Sedley Marble – Blue Creek Jumping Bucks
5	Tes Mercier – Northern Lights
5	Ashley Neil – Big Sky Thunderbolts
5	Heather Pugh – Northern Lights
5	Karen Robertson – Yellowstone Mavericks
5	Kimberly Sindelar-Thompson – Huntley Eagles
5	Robin Thompson – Blue Creek Jumping Bucks
5	Teddi Vogel – Worden Riverdale
5	Elizabeth White – Shepherd Pioneers
10	Kevin Adkins – Northern Lights
10	Bill Bender – Project Longhorns
10	Bill Cook – Worden Riverdale
10	Valerie Decker – At Large
10	Briane Hofer – Compass All Stars
10	Ann Mills-Low – Compass All Stars
10	Deb Neil – Big Sky Thunderbolts
10	Christina Olstad – Huntley Eagles
10	Devin Peterson – Project Longhorns
10	Shelby Shaw – At Large
10	Lucretia Smith – Shepherd Pioneers
15	Matt Cardwell – Ruff Riders
15	Jodie Drange – At Large
20	Rita Baeten – Laurel Roadrunners
25	Juanita Bonner – Lockwood Humble Bs
25	Sherri Horsman – At Large
25	Chris Martin – Big Sky Thunderbolts
30	Mark Cardwell – Ruff Riders
30	Mary Cardwell – Ruff Riders
30	Brenda Hermanson – At Large
30	Kathy Teter – Project Rockin Wranglers

TRACTOR SUPPLY COMPANY 4-H PAPER CLOVER CAMPAIGN: IN STORE & ONLINE

For the twelfth year Tractor Supply Company stores in Billings and Laurel are again supporting local 4-H youth with the TSC Paper Clover Campaign, a national fundraising effort to benefit state and local 4-H programs where a TSC store is located. Since the fundraiser began in 2010, Tractor Supply has raised more than \$15 million for 4-H youth through this partnership, thanks to the dedicated support of Tractor Supply customers, Team Members, and 4-H students. 90% of donations directly support 4-H youth in the state it was raised, and the remaining 10% support national 4-H programming.

From Wednesday, October 4 through Sunday, October 15, shoppers at the Billings and Laurel TSC will have the opportunity to support 4-H by purchasing paper clovers for just \$1 at checkout. You can also donate by visiting [Tractor Supply's website](https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/cms/4h) at <https://www.tractorsupply.com/tsc/cms/4h>. All money raised will stay in our communities! Be sure to thank TSC when you purchase your clovers.

Tractor Supply Company, the largest rural lifestyle retailer in the United States, has been passionate about serving its unique niche, targeting the needs of recreational farmers, ranchers and all those who enjoy living the rural lifestyle, for more than 80 years. Tractor Supply offers an extensive mix of products necessary to care for home, land, pets, and

animals with a focus on product localization, exclusive brands, and legendary customer service for the Out Here lifestyle.

4-H SUPPORTERS IN YELLOWSTONE COUNTY

Many businesses and organizations in our community support 4-H. Each month I list several of those supporters in the newsletter. I would encourage you to tell them thank you and support them in return. If you would like to submit names for this article, please send them to Roni.

4-H Supporter	Mailing Address
Five Heirs Real Estate	2093 North 8 th Road, Huntley MT 59037
Aldrich Lumber	4110 Neibauer Road, Billings MT 59106
Schatz Trucking	1222 Chipper Lane, Huntley MT 59037
Reisig Agency and Cattle	Box 30, Hardin MT 59034
Town & Country Supply	Box 367, Laurel MT 59044
Albertsons	511 Central Avenue, Billings MT 59102
Valley Farmers	1545 Northern Avenue, Worden MT 59088

DEPARTMENT N (NON-ANIMAL) MEETINGS FOR PROPOSED 2024 MONTANAFAIR HANDBOOK CHANGES

All meetings will be held at the 4-H Building. Watch for location changes in the 4-H newsletter.

October 13, 2023: MontanaFair rule change proposal forms due in the Extension Office by 5:00 pm (not postmarked by)

November 2, 2023: Department N Meeting at 6:00 pm

December 7, 2023:

Department N at 6:00 pm: Department N handbook changes voted on at this meeting.

Council Meeting at 6:30 pm or immediately following the Department N meeting.

All (Department A and N) handbook changes proposed by the committees will be voted on at this meeting.

All members, leaders and parents are encouraged to attend the meetings and provide input.

MONTANAFAIR DEPARTMENT N PREMIUM CHECKS AND ERRORS

Please note that checks will be mailed approximately 30 days **after** the end of fair AND checks will be **voided 120 days after issue date. MetraPark will be enforcing the 120-day cancellation notice.** Any checks not deposited or cashed will be null and void 120 days after issue date. If there is a problem with your premium dollars for the MontanaFair, call the Extension Office by **October 31**. Errors must be resolved before this date because the MontanaFair accounts are closed out for the year.

OCTOBER CERAMICS WORKSHOP OCTOBER 14

Ceramic workshop October 14 at Sheri Anttila's. Come to learn how to clean greenware and or paint bisque. A fun project and one that can be done during winter months. Lots of items to choose from. Please call 406-633-5531 to let me know if you have any questions and if you're coming to the 10:00 am to 1:00 pm or the 1:00 to 4:00 pm class.

2024 SHOWCASE INITIAL PLANNING MEETING

The first meeting for the spring 2024 Showcase and Public Review will be held during the December Department N meeting on December 7, at 6:00 pm. **Each club needs to have a Showcase representative attend the Dept. N meetings to plan for this big event.**

This would be a good time to encourage a teen leader to attend along with an adult leader. With each club helping, the event is a big success!

SHOOTING SPORTS MEMBERS GET SIGNED UP EARLY IN ZSUITE

4-H members should get signed up soon after ZSuite enrollment opens on October 1, in order to participate in the 2023-2024 4-H year shooting sports weekly workshops which start in November. Weekly archery, air pistol, and BB gun

workshops teach progressive learning, so it is vital to start on time. If you are not enrolled and approved in the project in ZSuite, you cannot attend the workshops. No exceptions.

All 4-H Shooting sports curriculum is only to be used by a 4-H member enrolled in a County Shooting Sport programs lead by a 4-H certified Shooting Sports leader. No Shooting Sports projects that involve firearms, air guns, or archery equipment may be taken independently without a certified leader.

To enroll in 4-H shooting sports, youth must be 9 years old on October 1 of the 2022-2023 year. The only exception is the BB Safety course which is open to those turning 8 years old by October 1 of the 2022-2023 year, and the Western Heritage Project requirements.

If you have not yet connected with a Certified Shooting Sports Leader, please do so now. Workshops start in early November. Contact the Extension Office for phone numbers.

SHOOTING SPORTS LEADER MEETINGS

Are you interested in leading a shooting sports discipline or just curious what is happening around the county regarding shooting sports? Join us on the third Thursday of the month (September-April) at 6:00 pm in the 4-H Building.

SHOOTING SPORTS LEADER TRAININGS FOR 2023-2024

- October 13-15, 2023 – Lewistown, MT. This training will give leaders the opportunity to get two certifications for the weekend. Disciplines offered: Rifle, Pistol, Archery, Shotgun, Muzzleloader, and Hunting Skills. **Forms and agenda have been emailed.**
- December 1-2, 2023 – Kalispell, MT. Disciplines offered: Rifle, Pistol, Archery, Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Hunting Skills, and Coordinator. **The registration is available in member and volunteer profile in Z-Suites.**
- December 8-9, 2023 – Miles City, MT, Disciplines offered: Rifle, Pistol, Archery, Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Hunting Skills, and Coordinator. **The registration is available in member and volunteer profile in Z-Suites.**
- December 15-16, 2023 – Belgrade, MT. This is an Advanced Training for Rifle, Pistol, and Archery. More information will be shared as this training is planned and organized.
- Basic and Advanced Trainings for Western Heritage, Muzzleloader, and Hunting Skills will be held later in the Spring of 2024.

For class information and registration forms, please visit the [State 4-h Shooting Sports Training webpage](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs/events/shooting_sports/shooting_sports_training/index.html) at https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs/events/shooting_sports/shooting_sports_training/index.html

DEPARTMENT A (ALL LIVESTOCK) MEETINGS FOR PROPOSED 2024 MONTANAFAIR HANDBOOK CHANGES

All meetings will be held at the 4-H Building. Watch for location changes in the 4-H newsletter.

October 13, 2023: MontanaFair rule change proposal forms due in the Extension Office by 5:00 pm (not postmarked by)

October 25, 2023: Horse and Colt Committee Meeting at 6:00 pm

November 1, 2023: LIVESTOCK HANDBOOK CHANGES WILL BE VOTED ON AT THESE MEETINGS:

Small Animal Committee at 6:00 pm

Sale Committee at 6:30 pm

Livestock Committee Meeting immediately following the sale committee meeting.

December 7, 2023: Council Meeting at 6:30 pm

All (Department A and N) handbook changes proposed by the committees voted on at this meeting.

The Livestock Leaders Committee will preside over the 4-H Livestock program as deemed necessary and will be comprised of the following people who will be eligible to vote at meetings (Exception: In order to vote on yearly rule and policy changes, you must have attended the discussion of the proposal at the post fair meeting and/or the September meeting.)

- 4-H members** enrolled in the Livestock Program

- B. **Junior Leaders** – a member enrolled in the 4-H Livestock Program who is 14 years of age or older and is a member in the Livestock Program.
- C. **Livestock Leaders** – Adult volunteers enrolled as leaders in a livestock project who work with members to gain knowledge. Leaders are encouraged to attend the monthly Livestock Leaders Committee meetings and should encourage their members to do the same. They should inform themselves and members of upcoming activities, decisions, and deadlines.

A quorum will consist of members eligible to vote and who were present at the discussion meetings. Discussion meetings are held 2-3 weeks after MontanaFair. Handbook changes are voted on at the November 3rd Livestock Meetings. Council will vote on changes at the December meeting.

All members, leaders and parents are encouraged to attend the meetings and provide input.

HORSE & COLT 2024 MONTANAFAIRBOOK CHANGES

Changes must be submitted on the MontanaFair Proposed Rules and Policy Change Form by October 13, 2023, to the Extension Office by 5:00 pm (not postmarked by).

Proposed Horse MontanaFair handbook changes will be voted on at the October 25, 2023, Horse and Colt meeting in the 4-H Building at 6:00 pm. Anyone who was an active 4-H member or leader during the 2022-2023 year can vote at the meeting.

2023 PATRICK K. GOGGINS JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SALE-BUYER THANK YOU

Be sure to let the individual or business who bought your animal know how much you appreciate their support. **Sale checks will be mailed 45-60 days after the sale AND after it is confirmed that your buyer thank you(s) has/have been sent** (remember to let your club livestock leader or the Extension Office know you have delivered/mailed your thank you to your buyer).

SHEEP, GOAT, RABBIT, LLAMA AND ALPACA FIBER WORKSHOP

The first Market Sheep, Market Goat and Dairy Goat workshop of the new 4-H year will be on October 7 at 10:00 am at the 4-H Building. We will be working with fiber again! Trestin Feagler, MSU Extension Agricultural Agent is our special guest for this workshop that will help families work with fibers from start to finish and kids will leave with a Department N project ready for next Fair 2024! We encourage Rabbit, Llama, and Alpaca project families to join us. We also encourage families that may be interested in these project areas to join us. There will be more than wool and Angora goat fibers at this workshop. If you have any questions please call or text Heather (406)208-4463. All of the 2023-2024 4-H workshops about Sheep, Market Goat and Dairy Goat will be held on the first Saturday of the month at 10:00 am in the 4-H Building. Please bring paper and pencil, and project books if you have them.

NILE JUNIOR FED MARKET SHOWS

The NILE will hold Junior Fed Market steer, swine and goat shows.

Swine and steer shows are on Saturday, October 14.

Lamb and goat shows are on Sunday, October 15.

The Junior Fed Sale will take place Monday, October 16 at 4:00 pm.

For entry information and show rules, contact the Nile office at 406-256-2495. To enter online visit [the Nile website](https://thenile.org/) at <https://thenile.org/>.

RETURN YOUR SADDLE UP RIDING HOURS BY OCTOBER 6

Saddle Up forms are due to the Extension Office by October 6, 2023 (must be postmarked by). The last day to log riding hours is September 30. Awards will be given at Family Fun Night. Questions? Call Carson Kuehn at 406-861-8421.

CLUB MINUTES

Blue Creek Jumping Bucks: A member demonstrated how to make butter and ice cream. We prepared for MontanaFair.

City Kids: Members nominated next year's club officers. Members were informed of the Ambassador fundraiser at Family Fun Night and Outstanding Member nominations.

Huntley Trailblazers: Members shared how this year's project ended up and were asked what project(s) they will enroll in next year. The club is dissolving, so members will have to find new clubs for the next 4-H year.

Shepherd Pioneers: Members signed Thank You cards that will be mailed out in show of appreciation to the people who helped put on MontanaFair.

Yellowstone Silver Spurs: Member will vote on bylaw addendums including one to limit the number of missed club meetings allowed to still be active in the club. It was stressed commitment to 4-H is important.

OCTOBER 2023 4-H CALENDAR



**4-H Building
Cleaning Schedule**

Whips N Sticks: September 24-October 6
Huntley Eagles: October 21-November 3

Shepherd Pioneers: October 7-20

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 National 4-H Week October 1-7	2 Service Learning Logs due in Extension by 5pm	3	4 <i>Tractor Supply 4-H Paper Clover Campaign October 5-16</i>	5 NO Dept. N 6:30 Council 4-H Building	6 Saddle Up Forms due in Extension Office by 5pm	7 10 am Sheep, Goat, Rabbit, Llama/Alpaca Workshop <i>4-H Building</i>
8 <i>Tractor Supply 4-H Paper Clover Campaign October 4-15</i>	9 OFFICE CLOSED COLUMBUS DAY	10	11 Outstanding Member Nominations due in Extension by 5 pm	12	13 Fair rule change Proposals Due in Extension Newsletter Articles Due	14 10 am-1 pm OR 1-4 pm Ceramics at <i>Anttila's</i>
15	16 NILE Livestock Judging Contest	17 NILE Horse Judging Contest NILE Meat Judging Contest	18	19 6 pm Shooting Sports Leader Meeting <i>4-H Building</i>	20 Fall Leadership Training in Billings Oct. 20-22	21
22	23 Outstanding Member Acceptance form due in Extension by 5 pm	24	25 6:00 Horse & Colt <i>4-H Building</i>	26	27 4-9 pm Escape Rooms <i>4-H Building</i> Reservations Required.	28 7 pm Carved Pumpkin Contest, Trunk or Treat, costume parade <i>4-H Building</i>
29 Outstanding Member Award Discussion Groups <i>4-H Building</i>	30 Outstanding Member Award Discussion Groups <i>4-H Building</i>	31 Club Year-end Financial Summary Report due in Extension				