

## 4-H NEWSLETTER-DECEMBER 2024

MSU Extension Office Yellowstone County  
301 N 27<sup>th</sup> Street – Old Chamber Building – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Mailing address: PO Box 35021, Billings MT 59107-5021  
Phone: 406-256-2828

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

### 4-H FOLKS IN FOCUS

It was so nice to see everyone at Family Fun Night. Thank you to all of the club representatives who organized the booths. Congratulations to all the Award Winners.

Thank you to all the members who attended the Council, Livestock, Horse and Colt meetings in the past two months. Your input is very valuable. Thank you for stepping up. It is great to have you write rule changes and care about your projects. Thanks for sharing your opinions and talking in front of others to do so.

Save the Date! January 25 from 6:30-8:30 pm, the Yellowstone County Exchange members will be hosting an adult only BINGO Night Fundraiser. More information will be in the January 2025 4-H Newsletter.

Roni Baker  
Yellowstone County 4-H/Youth Agent

### 4-H COUNCIL ASSISTANT TREASURER NEEDED!

Are you looking to level-up your family's 4-H experience? Are you interested in learning more about 4-H? Are you wanting to help the 4-H community in a meaningful way? If you answered 'yes' to any of those questions, then you may be a great candidate for the next Yellowstone County 4-H Council Assistant Treasurer. This position is a 1-year learning period before you step into the 2-year position of Council Treasurer, so it is a 3-year commitment in total. This experience has been an invaluable learning experience for me, and I would encourage veteran 4-H parents OR new 4-H parents to consider serving the county in this way. If you have any interest, please contact Roni Baker at 406-256-2828 or Caroline Brito at 406-850-2211 for more information and more details about this position.

### FRUIT SALE INFORMATION

All 4-H Clubs are required to participate in the fruit sale. Each club needs to have at least one representative present at this meeting.

**When:** Thursday, January 2, 2025

**Where:** 4-H Building

**Time:** 5:30 pm

You will receive your club order forms, instructions and a sample of the delicious fruit that we will be selling.

### ENROLL ONLINE USING ZSUITE NOW

If you have not yet enrolled your family into ZSuite, this will be your last 4-H newsletter and potentially any email communication. Reenrollment instructions can be found on the [State 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/join/index.html) at

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

### INVITATIONAL OFFICER RETREAT DECEMBER 7

If you have been elected a club officer for the 2024-2025 4-H year, you are invited to join the Yellowstone County Ambassadors to learn more about officer positions and parliamentary procedure. There will be workshops, games, snacks, and prizes. Meet at the 4-H Building at 9:00 am on Saturday, December 7. RSVP to the Extension Office at 406-256-2828.

## 4-H CAMP COUNSELOR AND COUNSELOR IN TRAINING (CIT) APPLICATIONS DUE DECEMBER 13

If you are interested in becoming a Counselor or CIT, members must be 14 or older by June 17, 2025, to be a CIT (Counselor in Training). Members must be 14 or older by June 17, 2025, to be a Counselor. You must be a CIT for 1 year before you can apply to be a Counselor.

The application was emailed to members and can be printed off the [Yellowstone County 4-H webpage](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/4-hopportunitiesandevents.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/4-hopportunitiesandevents.html>. The application **must** be in the Extension Office by **Friday, December 13, 2024**. All applicants will do an interview. If you are selected to be a Counselor or CIT, you **must** attend all Camp planning meetings which are held in Yellowstone, Carbon or Stillwater counties each month. You **must** attend the training session that will be held in May. Counselors and Counselors in Training go to camp on June 16, a day before campers arrive. Camp will be held June 16-20, 2025.

## APPLY TO BECOME A 4-H AMBASSADOR BY DECEMBER 13

Do you like to help plan and run county events? If you are looking for an opportunity for leadership within 4-H, send in an Ambassador application by Friday, December 13. Applicants must be 14 by October 1, 2024, in order to apply. The application was emailed to members and can be printed off the [Yellowstone County 4-H webpage](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/4-hopportunitiesandevents.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/4-hopportunitiesandevents.html>.

## HOLIDAY PARTY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY WORKSHOP DECEMBER 15

**For 4-H Members 4-H Age (age as of October 1, 2024) 12 and older:** Save the dates of December 15, January 12, February 9, and March 16.

Join the Montana 4-H Leadership Academy workshop series on Sunday afternoons in the 2024-2025 4-H year. Each month the Ambassador Officer Team will present a different workshop topic that they have found to be important as they have developed their own leadership abilities.

The leadership academy is for Montana 4-H members interested in exploring and developing their own leadership skills while serving their county 4-H program in new ways. The workshop content is considered beginner level for emerging leaders. Members with more leadership experience may find this to be a review and should consider mentoring younger members just starting out in leadership activities before or after these workshops.

Visit the [State 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/youth_leadership/academy.html) at [https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs\\_and\\_events/youth\\_leadership/academy.html](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/youth_leadership/academy.html) to register for the workshop series and receive the Zoom link.

**For the December workshop we will meet at 2:30 pm at the 4-H Building. After the online workshop we will have snacks, play games, and have fun. You can wear your ugly holiday sweater and bring a pair of crazy socks wrapped up for a gift exchange.**

## 4-H RECORD BOOKS

4-H would not be the same without records. They're an important part of completing each project. They help set goals, keep track of attendance at meetings, record demonstrations and talks and a whole lot more.

**NOW IS THE TIME TO START YOUR RECORDS.** You should have a My 4-H Year record sheet and record sheets for each Department A (animal) and N (non-animal) project. This month be certain you have completed the goals section on each of your record sheets.

It is important to work on records all year long. It is easier to write down what you have accomplished as soon as you do it. This also means less work at the end of the year. Remember to record both "What I did AND what I learned" each time you make an entry in your journal.

An easy way to continuously add to your records is to do them electronically in ZSuite or on the [Yellowstone County 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/recordsheets.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/recordsheets.html>

You will need to download and save the file and then you can type information into the records each time you have something to add.

## RECORD BOOK WORKSHOP HELPERS NEEDED

We are looking for organizational/project leaders, and parents to come and help us run stations for this workshop on January 25, 2025, from 10 am-12 pm, at the 4-H Building. Please let Roni know by January 3 if you would like to help.

## SIGN UP FOR SERVICE LEARNING VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION NOW

4-H Service Learning is...a volunteer service that you provide with no monetary compensation. It is hands-on involvement with community projects.

Examples of community service:

- Volunteering at your church as an usher, teaching Sunday School, directing the Children's church.
- Volunteering at a nursing home helping the residents.
- Volunteering at the local hospital as a Candy Striper.
- Volunteering at the Rescue Mission serving food, stocking the food pantry, cleaning tables, etc.
- Volunteering in your school, picking up garbage around the campus, helping with school functions like PTA events.
- Volunteering in the community cleaning up and beautifying parks, picking up garbage in ditches, cleaning graffiti off buildings.
- Organizing and implementing work crews for various projects around your community, painting a house, mowing a yard, or shoveling a sidewalk for a neighbor needing help.
- Relay for Life volunteering.
- Ringing the Salvation Army bells during the holidays.
- Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and 4-H community service activities but if you are a member of the specific group/organization, hours spent fundraising do not count. (car wash fundraiser, selling cookies, popcorn, fruit, etc.)

Participating members will be recognized at Family Fun Night and prizes will be given out based on the number of hours you volunteered during the 2024-2025 4-H year - September 1 to October 31. Sign up on in your ZSuite account under Events.

Please turn in your complete Service Learning application to the Extension Office by January 3, 2025.

## 4-H PROGRAM POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A complete copy of this document is available at the Extension Office. Below is some information from that document that we wanted to share.

**Affirmative Action Policy:** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Montana State University and the Montana State University Extension Service including the 4-H program prohibit discrimination in all their programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital and family (parental) status and participation in Montana 4-H and its programs is open to all interested youth regardless of any of the above.

Individuals needing accommodation because of a disability may request this at the County Extension office. State and county 4-H Policies can be found on the [county 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/4-hpolicies.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/4-hpolicies.html>

## 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 Friday, November 29 through Sunday, December 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.

## UNUSED 4-H MATERIALS

If you have any 4-H project books that you will not be using and **THAT HAVE NOT BEEN WRITTEN IN, PLEASE** return them to the Extension Office. We can reuse them and keep our costs down. Thank you!

## YOUTH LOANS AVAILABLE

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides financial assistance and business planning to help rural youth get a start on their futures. The Rural Youth Loan Program is designed to provide start-up funds to establish and operate income-producing projects of modest size in connection with participation in 4-H clubs, FFA and similar agriculturally focused organizations. Call Bruce Johnson at 406-657-6135 or email [bruce.johnson@usda.gov](mailto:bruce.johnson@usda.gov). Application forms can be printed off the [US Department of Agriculture website](https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/youth-loans/index) at <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/youth-loans/index>

The Montana Department of Agriculture provides financial assistance through Junior Ag Loans. For more information, brochures and application forms visit the [Montana Department of Agriculture website](https://agr.mt.gov/Topics/E-G/Grants-Pages/Junior-Agriculture-Loans) at <https://agr.mt.gov/Topics/E-G/Grants-Pages/Junior-Agriculture-Loans> or contact Walt Anseth at 406-444-5420 or email [WAnseth@mt.gov](mailto:WAnseth@mt.gov).

## PEOPLE PARTNER GRANT

The People Partner grant program offers an opportunity for clubs and individuals to make a difference in the community with projects involving 4-H members in determining a need, completing a grant application, and implementing the project. Applications are available at the Extension Office or can be printed off the [Montana 4-H Foundation website](https://www.mt4hfoundation.org/grants.html) at <https://www.mt4hfoundation.org/grants.html>. Applications are due by February 1. Applications submitted by January 10 will be reviewed and returned with suggestions for improvement to the application in order to resubmit. Up to \$500 may be awarded to individual clubs by the Montana 4-H Foundation.

## START APPLYING FOR UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

It's time for high school seniors to start applying for scholarships. MSU-Bozeman announces the Montana Premier Scholarship Program for fall 2025.

Hundreds of academic scholarships will be available to new freshmen from Montana who demonstrate academic promise based on ACT and/or SAT scores and grade point average. Leadership experience, activities, honors, and financial need may also be considered. Students must apply for admission on the [Montana State University website](http://www.montana.edu/admissions/) at <http://www.montana.edu/admissions/> and complete [the scholarship application](http://www.montana.edu/admissions/scholarships/index.html) at <http://www.montana.edu/admissions/scholarships/index.html>

Priority deadline is February 1, 2025.

Applications for the [State 4-H Foundation scholarships](http://www.mt4hfoundation.org/scholarships.html) can be found on the state 4-H website at <http://www.mt4hfoundation.org/scholarships.html> The site has detailed requirements and deadlines.

The Yellowstone County Foundation offers scholarships of varying amounts to graduating seniors. The scholarship application will be mailed directly to members and can be printed off the County website. These are due April 1.

## COUNTY AWARD WINNERS FOR OUTSTANDING MEMBER

Congratulations to all the member winners and the adults and teens who checked member's record books or led discussion groups.

Adult helpers: Levi Osborne, Wendy Bekkedahl, Dale Lentz, Lauren Petersen, Dale Lentz, Heather Pfancook, Katie Curry, Kelda Gauer, Kim Ackerman, Deva Gallagher, Kayla Koivu, Jen Williams, Tammy Hockhalter, Rebekah Leonard, Sara Ackerman, Wade Bekkedahl, Kate Mortensen, Amy Ready, Jeremy Hauge, Jana Cass, Lindsay Vandersloot, Heather Beddes, Karen Kennah, Holly Parks, Leslie Cardwell, Taylor Hauge, Tenille Bomar, Angie Murdick, Heather Arkell, Carrie Schmidt, Ivy Solberg, Wendy Siemsen, Cadence Sims, Carson Adkins, Michael Brito, Sara Fenton, Jeremy Hauge, Amy Schmidt, and Tyler Kennah.

M = Medal P = Pin C = Certificate

First Name	Last Name	Club	Award	Medal/Pin/ Certificate
Sara	Ackerman	Hesper Hustlers	Treasurer	Pin
Carson	Adkins	Shepherd Tumbleweeds	Attitude	Pin
Lukas	Arkell	Project Rockin Wranglers	Sheep	Pin
Lukas	Arkell	Project Rockin Wranglers	Goat	Pin
Molly	Arnold	Shepherd Pioneers	Officer - Vice President	Pin
Traden	Beddes	Shepherd Pioneers	Robotics	Certificate
Traden	Beddes	Shepherd Pioneers	All Around 4H Member	Pin
Tristen	Beddes	Shepherd Pioneers	Small Engines	Pin
Wade	Bekkedahl	Hesper Hustlers	Welding	Pin
Carlee	Bomar	Shepherd Tumbleweeds	Poultry	Pin
Carlee	Bomar	Shepherd Tumbleweeds	Rabbit	Pin
Isabelle	Brito	Shepherd Pioneers	Photography	Pin
Isabelle	Brito	Shepherd Pioneers	Horse	Pin
Adylin	Cardwell	Ruff Riders	Attitude	Pin
Naomi	Cass	City Kids	Club Officer	Pin
Naomi	Cass	City Kids	Commitment to 4-H	Pin
Grace	Cesnik	Lockwood Humble Bs	4-H Promotion	Certificate
Jake	Cesnik	Lockwood Humble Bs	Attitude	Pin
Karlin	Clayton	Blue Creek Jumping Bucks	Dedication	Pin
Karlin	Clayton	Blue Creek Jumping Bucks	Achievement	Pin
Adeliah	Curry	Yellowstone Silver Spurs	Goat	Pin
Adeliah	Curry	Yellowstone Silver Spurs	Horse	Pin
Lauren	Duey	Hesper Hustlers	Beef	Pin
Hadlee	Fenton	Laurel Roadrunners	Attitude	Certificate
Hadlee	Fenton	Laurel Roadrunners	Cloverbud	Pin
Rylee	Fenton	Laurel Roadrunners	Treasurer	Pin
Rylee	Fenton	Laurel Roadrunners	Sheep	Pin
Iris	Gallagher	City Kids	Secretary	Pin
Iris	Gallagher	City Kids	Personal Growth	Pin
Harper	Gauer	Yellowstone Silver Spurs	Demonstration	Certificate
Hendrick	Gauer	Yellowstone Silver Spurs	Achievement	Pin
Scarlett	Hammond	Worden Riverdale	Sheep	Pin
Cale	Hauge	Worden Riverdale	Sheep	Certificate
Cale	Hauge	Worden Riverdale	Dairy goat	Pin
Paige	Hauge	Worden Riverdale	Cloverbud	Pin
Reid	Hauge	Worden Riverdale	Sheep	Certificate
Reid	Hauge	Worden Riverdale	Dairy goat	Pin

Elyse	Heaton	Worden Riverdale	Sheep	Pin
Grant	Heaton	Worden Riverdale	Rabbit	Pin
Cale	Hockhalter	City Kids	Leadership	Pin
Cale	Hockhalter	City Kids	Photography	Pin
Michaela	Hockhalter	City Kids	Photography	Certificate
Eliana	Johnston	Yellowstone Silver Spurs	Achievement	Pin
Zane	Johnston	Yellowstone Silver Spurs	Achievement	Pin
Tyler	Kennah	Yellowstone Silver Spurs	Officer	Pin
Keegan	Kennedy	Shepherd Tumbleweeds	Horse	Pin
Kiarra	Kennedy	Shepherd Tumbleweeds	Horse	Pin
Rex	Koivu	Project Rockin Wranglers	Small Animals	Pin
Rex	Koivu	Project Rockin Wranglers	Sheep	Pin
Alexa	Kuhr	Hesper Hustlers	Quilting	Pin
Brooklyn	Kuhr	Hesper Hustlers	Textiles	Pin
Brooklyn	Kuhr	Hesper Hustlers	Leadership	Pin
Aiden	Lentz	Lockwood Humblebees	Attitude	Pin
Aiden	Lentz	Lockwood Humble B s	Leadership	Pin
Inara	Leonard	City Kids	Sewing	Pin
Lyndin	Marble	Blue Creek Jumping Bucks	Goat	Pin
Lyndin	Marble	Blue Creek Jumping Bucks	Attitude	Pin
Joy	Mortensen	Lockwood Humble Bs	Horse	Pin
Julie	Mortensen	Lockwood Humble Bs	Horse	Pin
Reagan	Nydegger	Lockwood Humble Bs	Sportsmanship	Pin
Kaidence	Osborne	Shepherd Pioneers	Robotics	Certificate
Kaidence	Osborne	Shepherd Pioneers	Horse	Pin
Amanda	Parks	Compass Allstars	Photography	Certificate
Amanda	Parks	Compass Allstars	Poultry	Pin
Matthew	Parks	Compass Allstars	Participation	Pin
Matthew	Parks	Compass Allstars	Pocket pet	Pin
Sarina	Parks	Compass Allstars	Cloverbud	Pin
Ariel	Petersen	Hesper Hustlers	Leadership	Pin
Ariel	Petersen	Hesper Hustlers	Quilting	Pin
Lauren	Petersen	Hesper Hustlers	Involvement	Pin
Torchy	Pfancook	Lockwood Humble Bs	Helpful	Pin
Torchy	Pfancook	Lockwood Humble Bs	Attitude	Pin
Colton	Preble	Huntley Eagles	Attitude	Pin
Colton	Preble	Huntley Eagles	Goat	Pin
Scarlett	Preble	Huntley Eagles	Sheep	Certificate
Scarlett	Preble	Huntley Eagles	Achievement	Pin
Garrett	Ready	Hesper Hustlers	Attitude	Certificate
Morgan	Ready	Hesper Hustlers	Crochet	Certificate
Heaven	Reed	Explorers	Leadership	Certificate
Holly	Ross	Project Rockin Wranglers	Cloverbud	Certificate
Eva	Rouse	Worden Riverdale	Cloverbud	Pin
Owen	Rouse	Worden Riverdale	Sheep	Pin
Trigg	Rouse	Worden Riverdale	Sheep	Pin
Hazel	Russell	City Kids	Attitude	Pin
Amy	Schmidt	Lockwood Humble Bs	Officer	Certificate
Jordan	Siemens	Whips & Sticks	Horse	Pin
Cadence	Sims	Ruff riders	Ambassador	Pin
Ember	Solberg	Yellowstone Silver Spurs	President	Pin
Ember	Solberg	Yellowstone Silver Spurs	Leadership	Pin

Emma	Teter	Project Rockin Wranglers	Cloverbud	Pin
Paige	Trudnowski	Hesper Hustlers	Attitude	Pin
Paige	Trudnowski	Hesper Hustlers	Horse	Pin
Lydia	Vandersloot	Shepherd Pioneers	Perseverance	Pin
Lydia	Vandersloot	Shepherd Pioneers	1st year 4H member	Pin
Joash	Vincent	Blue Creek Jumping Bucks	Achievement	Pin
Brynlee	Wiberg	Shepherd Pioneers	1st year 4H member	Pin

## FAMILY FUN NIGHT WINNERS

### Ticket Sales Winners

Placing	Member Name	Club	Number of tickets sold
1	Carlee Bomar	Shepherd Tumbleweeds	260
2	Rafe McCaffree	Shepherd Tumbleweeds	240
3	Kaiya Rosenberg	Laurel Roadrunners	140

### Door Prize Winners

Placing	Prize	Winner
1	\$50	Emma Barnhart
2	\$30	Brynlee Bucholz
3	\$20	Stephen Lauver

### Best Decorated and Run Booth Winners

Placing	Winning Club	Booth game
1	Worden Riverdale	Toilet Paper Throw
2	Lockwood Humble Bs	Balloon Darts
3	Shepherd Pioneers	Mad Money
4	Project Rockin Wranglers	Disc Golf
5	City Kids	Plinko
6	Hesper Hustlers	Pop Ring Toss

### Annual Awards

2024 Award	2024 Winner
Friend of 4-H	McDonalds
Friend of 4-H	Meagan Malchow
Friend of 4-H	Drange Apiary
Outstanding Leader	July Robertson
Outstanding Leader	Diana Spint
Outstanding Leader	Victoria Wagenaar
Outstanding Teen Leader	Ariel Petersen
4-H Alumni Award	Brandon Muessig
4-H Alumni Award	Jon Welch
Friendship Award	Lockwood Humble Bs
Friendship Award	Laurel Roadrunners

## POST FAMILY FUN NIGHT MEETING

There will be a post Family Fun Night meeting on Thursday, December 5 at 5:30 pm in the 4-H Building.

## MCDONALDS 4-H NIGHT THANK YOU

A big thank you to all the 4-H members, parents, and family that helped at each McDonalds and/or supported 4-H through a purchase on October 8. Everyone had fun working, seeing friends, and making new ones! We also thank McDonald of Montana for their statewide support of the 4-H program.

Aidan Lentz	Ruby Bekkedahl	Morgan Ready	Stevie Williams
Broc Farber-Pitts	Wyatt Duey	Garrett Ready	Tanner Bomar
Lanhna Joines	Lauren Duey	Heaven Reed	Brooklyn Dare
Tuff Joines	Naomi Cass	Kerstin Pfau	Ashley Joines
Jake Cesnik	Evan Cass	Carson Adkins	Les Huntington
Cadence Sims	Cale Hockhalter	Rhyann LaRose	Barb Huntington
Haylee Krohne	Michaela Hockhalter	Kora Selle	Dale Lentz
Addy Cardwell	Erin Robertson	Delilah Hale	Kim Sims
Kaiya Cardwell	Lauren Petersen	Carlee Bomar	Frank Krohne
Wade Bekkedahl	Ariel Petersen	Drake Hale	Wendy Bekkedahl
Jennell Duey	Tammy Hockhalter	Jana Cass	Karen Robertson
Angie Murdick	Nancy Irvine	Kat Pfau	Chantel Hale
Kristi Dare			

## 4-H SUPPORTERS

Many businesses and organizations in our community support 4-H. Each month I have been listing 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
McDonalds	301 SE 4 <sup>th</sup> Street, Laurel MT 59044
McDonalds	1046 Grand Avenue, Billings 59102
McDonalds	3003 Grand Avenue, Billings MT 59102
McDonalds	910 Shilo Crossing Blvd., Billings MT 59102
McDonalds	2333 Central Avenue, Billings MT 59102
McDonalds	525 Wicks Lane, Billings MT 59105
McDonalds	4902 Southgate Drive, Billings MT 59102
McDonalds	401 Main Street, Billings MT 59105
McDonalds	2711 Frontage Road, Billings MT 59101

## PROPOSED 2025 MONTANAFAIR HANDBOOK CHANGES MEETINGS

**December 5, at 6:30 pm:** 4-H Council Meeting. All proposed handbook changes for **both Department N and Department A** committees will be voted on at this meeting.

## DECEMBER CERAMICS WORKSHOP

Save the date for a ceramics workshop on December 7. Times are 10:00 am to 1:00 pm or 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Please call Sheri Anttila at 406-633-5531 to let her know if you have any questions, need directions to her home, and which class/time you will be attending.

## MANDATORY ARCHERY MEETING FOR PARENTS & MEMBERS DECEMBER 1 OR 3

If you have enrolled in ZSuite for the Shooting Sports Archery project, the 4-H Archery workshops begin this coming Sunday, December 1: choose to attend one of three sessions at: 12 pm, 2 pm, or 4 pm. If you cannot make Sunday, there is a second chance on Tuesday, December 3, at 6 pm. Bring your equipment (we do have limited quantity of equipment that may be checked out), and cash (exact cash is requested) or checkbook (we DO NOT accept electronic payments). Both meetings will be held in the 4-H Building at MetraPark.

Shooting Sports waivers (signed by member and parent) will be completed, and payment will be made before any member can shoot – No Exceptions. Cost for archery is \$15 per member. Exact cash is requested. Checks should be payable to 4-H Council. We DO NOT accept cards.

If you are unable to make either meeting or have questions, contact Tony Neil at [tdneil8971@gmail.com](mailto:tdneil8971@gmail.com) or 406-670-9324.



## SHOOTING SPORTS LEADER TRAININGS FOR 2024-2025

To be a 4-H Shooting Sports Certified Leader in the State of Montana, the following must be satisfied:

1. Be at least 21 years of age.
2. Be enrolled as a leader in their respective County. Passed a background check and successfully completed the Montana 4-H Volunteer Training Modules.
3. **All training attendees must complete the four National 4-H Shooting Sports modules in ZSuite to be certified at the end of the practicum day. The code for ZSuite will be shared with the leaders that sign up to take the trainings.**
4. Be trained and certified in any discipline(s) that they are teaching at the county level.
5. Participants must attend the entire training and successfully complete all aspects to receive their respective discipline certification.
6. Certification is good for seven (7) years. If the discipline is not taught in the first 2 years, the course must be retaken.

Kalispell – December 6-7, 2024. They will offer Coordinator, Archery, Rifle, Pistol, Muzzleloader, Hunting Skills, and Shotgun.

Belgrade – December 13-14, 2024. They will offer Coordinator, Archery, Rifle, Pistol, and Shotgun.

Havre, Circle, and Malta. TBD. They will offer Archery, Rifle, Pistol, and Shotgun.

For class information and registration forms, please visit the [State 4-H Shooting Sports Training](http://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/events/shooting_sports/shooting_sports_training/index.html) webpage at [www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs\\_and\\_events/events/shooting\\_sports/shooting\\_sports\\_training/index.html](http://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/events/shooting_sports/shooting_sports_training/index.html)

## NEW: EVENT DAY INITIAL PLANNING MEETING

The first meeting for the spring 2025 Event Day will be held during the December Department N meeting on December 5, at 6:00 pm. Communication Day & Showcase will be held together on Saturday, April 19, 2025, in one place, on one day. **Each club needs to have a 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!

If you want to participate in the Showcase, you must be signed up for a Sewing & Textiles project. To participate in the Shopping in Style or Display categories at Showcase, you must enroll in a Sewing & Textiles project or the Shopping in Style project in ZSuite.

## NO LIVESTOCK MEETINGS IN DECEMBER

No Small Animal Committee, Sale Committee or Livestock Committee meetings will be held in December.

On January 22, 2025, the Small Animal Committee will meet at 6:00 pm. Sale Committee will meet at 6:30 pm and the Large Livestock Committee meetings will be held immediately following the Sale Committee meeting.

## CAT AND POCKET PET WORKSHOPS BEGIN DECEMBER 21

Cat and Pocket Pet Members: mark your calendar for the first county project meeting on December 21, from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm at the 4-H Building. This will be a get to know each other meeting. We will do some trivia, talk about record keeping, decorate cookies for the YVAS and Help for Homeless Pet Staff, and ourselves (of course) If anyone requires gluten free or sugar free cookies, please let me know. I will have some Cat/PP Project Books with me, and paper Record Sheets if anyone would like them. This year Cat and Pocket Pet meetings will be held concurrently. We will try a station approach this year, rotating stations every half hour. Bring any questions you might have to the meeting; I will remain after the meeting to answer questions for new families.

Feel free to bring your cats to the December meeting. Exposing them to the sounds of the building and other people will be helpful to prepare for shows. We will go over the agenda and schedule for the rest of the year's meetings, which will be on the 3rd Saturday of Jan, Feb and March from 11:00 am-1:00 pm. The MontanaFair Cat Show will be in April 2025. Actual date TBD.

We have a Facebook page for anyone that would like to join: Yellowstone County 4-H Cat Project. Please send a request to join and if you are a parent, please include your child's name in the request. Meeting updates, agenda's, and other tidbits will be posted on the Facebook page.

Looking forward to learning with you all this year. Angie Murdick Yellowstone County Cat/Pocket Pet Project Leader 406-208-3324

## 2024 SADDLE UP PARTICIPANTS AND TOTAL HOURS RIDDEN

Rider Name	Horse(s) Name	Total Hours Ridden	4-H Club
Keegan Kennedy	Reno, Smooch, & Phonia	336.5	Shepherd Tumbleweeds
Kiarra Kenedy	TiVo	204.75	Shepherd Tumbleweeds
Isabelle Brito	Flash	120	Shepherd Pioneers
Julie Mortensen	Taxi	113.5	Lockwood Humble Bs
Joy Mortensen	Murphy	93	Lockwood Humble Bs
Kaidence Osborne	Cinch	91	Shepherd Pioneers
Ciara Berkman	Reba	75	Ruff Riders
Berklee Bacon	Daisy	56.25	Shepherd Tumbleweeds
Andee Heupel	Riley	47	Shepherd Tumbleweeds
Andrenna Puller	Bailey & Henry	33.05	Hesper Hustlers
Tell Puller	Henry & Bailey	14.9	Hesper Hustlers
Hazen Pearce	Quincy	9.5	Pine Ridge Red Ryder

## 2025 MONTANA WINTER FAIR

The Montana Winter Fair will be held January 17-19, 2025 in Lewistown, MT. Information can be found online at the [Montana Winter Fair website](http://montanawinterfair.com/) at <http://montanawinterfair.com/>, by calling 406-538-2200 or emailing [montanawinterfair@gmail.com](mailto:montanawinterfair@gmail.com).

## 2024 MONTANA STATE FAIR JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW

Anyone wanting to show at the 2025 Montana State Fair in Great Falls, MT should visit the [Montana ExpoPark](https://www.cascadecountymt.gov/213/2024-Montana-State-Fair) at <https://www.cascadecountymt.gov/213/2024-Montana-State-Fair> or call 406-727-8900 for entry information.

## MARKET BEEF TAGGING FOR MONTANAFAIR: SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

All market beef you are planning to enter into the MontanaFair must be tagged on this date. There are no exceptions. Each exhibitor can tag three animals in each species. Exhibitors can enter all 3 in their MontanaFair entry, but at the fair they must decide which 2 animals they will be weighing and exhibiting. Each exhibitor at the MontanaFair can only sell one animal.

The Beef tagging date for 2025 will be **Sunday, JANUARY 5** from **12:00 to 3:00 pm** at PAYS.

All exhibitors at the MontanaFair in Department A (livestock) are required to attend a MSU Extension Animal Quality Assurance Training prior to the MontanaFair entry deadline to be eligible to exhibit at the MontanaFair. Animal Quality Assurance Class will be from 1:00-2:30 pm and the Horse Helmet Class is from 3:00 am to 4:00 pm.

## 2024-2025 ANIMAL QUALITY ASSURANCE POLICY & WORKSHOP SCHEDULE \* NEW GUIDELINES

All 4-H and FFA members exhibiting any animal in Department A (Junior Livestock) at MontanaFair are required to attend an MSU Extension **ANIMAL QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAINING (AQA)** (per state guidelines) provided by the 4-H Committee or an FFA Advisor/Agriculture Educator prior to the first MontanaFair entry deadline or exhibitors do not show. Yellowstone County has two 4-H age brackets for AQA training. Exhibitors must attend AQA as Beginners/Juniors (4-H age 8-13), and as a senior member (4-H age 14-19). This age is based on the exhibitors "4-H Age" – the age as of October 1 of the current 4-H year. Exhibitors must take Animal Quality Assurance the first year they reach each age

bracket or the first year they are exhibiting in an animal project. All classes will include the same teaching materials and use the same forms and paperwork. Class content is determined by a committee and updated every two years. A parent or legal guardian must also attend the AQA Training.

There will be hands on, group activities. Please plan on arriving on time with a parent with both staying for the complete 1½ hours. If you and your parent are not in attendance for the complete training, you may be asked to attend another session. Plan on attending a session early in the year so conflicts do not occur in your family schedule. **More workshops will NOT be added after the June 3 class. It is the final opportunity for 2025.**

The sessions in January and May are face-to-face at this time at PAYS. For the virtual sessions, people will log into the Webex meeting (Webex link information will be sent out via email prior to each session) to learn the information then go to the online program, pay their own \$12 fee, and take the online class. A copy of the completion certificate must be provided to the Extension Office.

**Sunday, January 5: 1:00-2:30 pm at PAYS (Public Auction Yards)**

**Thursday, February 20: 6:00 pm Cedar Hall at MetraPark**

**Wednesday, March 5: 6:30 pm Virtual training**

**Saturday, April 19: 10:30 am at the 4-H Building**

**Saturday, May 3: 9:00-10:30 am at PAYS (Public Auction Yards)**

**Tuesday, June 3: 6:30 pm Virtual training**

## MSU EXTENSION 4-H HORSE HELMET POLICY & WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

**Participants in the 4-H Horse Project are required to attend a Horse Helmet Workshop once as a beginner/junior 4-H member (8-13) and again as a senior 4-H member (14 and up).** This age is based on the exhibitors "4-H Age" – the age as of October 1 of the current 4-H year. Exhibitors must attend a Horse Helmet Workshop the first year they reach every age bracket or the first year they are exhibiting in an animal project. A parent or legal guardian must also attend the Horse Helmet Workshop.

After attending a 4-H Helmet Workshop, riders may choose whether they will wear a certified helmet. It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian of the 4-H member to see that the headgear worn complies with such standards and is in good condition. The Montana 4-H Center for Youth Development encourages the use of ASTM certified/SEI approved safety helmets in all equine events. Protective headgear may be used in all classes and shall not be discriminated against. Helmet use is encouraged in all 4-H horse activities any time a 4-H member is around a horse. A certified equestrian helmet with safety harness fastened in place is required in over fence classes and gymkhana events, activities, and practice sessions. Gymkhana refers to horseback speed events (timed or un-timed) that do not use livestock. Events that usually fall in this category include, but are not limited to: barrel racing, pole bending, keyhole races, stake races, rescue races, pony express race, etc. Events that are not intended to be included in this policy are events such as calf roping, team roping, goat tying, and team penning that may be timed but use livestock. **More workshops will NOT be added after the May 3 class. It is the final opportunity for 2025.** (MMC/07/17/15)

**Sunday, January 5: 3:00-4:00 pm at PAYS (Public Auction Yards)**

**Wednesday, April 16: 7:00-8:00 pm at the 4-H Building**

**Saturday, May 3: 11:00 am-12:00 pm at PAYS (Public Auction Yards)**

## 2024 NILE CONTESTS PARTICIPANTS & WINNERS

The following 4-H members competed in the respective contests at NILE this year.

Horse Judging: Molly Arnold, Joy Mortensen, Katie Lunder, Isabelle Brito, Lydia Vandersloot, and Rex Koivu.

Livestock Judging: Adeliah Curry, Delilah Hale, Macy Tatman, Carlee Bomar, and Kylie Tatman.

Horse Judging Winners - Junior

1<sup>st</sup> Place Individual: Isabelle Brito

7<sup>th</sup> Place Individual: Joy Mortensen

1<sup>st</sup> Place Team: Isabelle Brito, Joy Mortensen,

Livestock Judging Winner – Junior  
7<sup>th</sup> Place Individual: Macy Tatman

## STEER, GOAT, AND LAMB OF MERIT WINNERS

The following exhibitors had a steer at the MontanaFair that qualified for the Steer of Merit Program in Montana. Ultrasound data was used to meet a set criteria to qualify.

### MT Steer of Merit Standards

Hot Carcass Weight: 700 - 1000 pounds  
Dressing Percentage: Based on 55-68%  
Back Fat: 0.20 - 0.60 inches  
Ribeye Area: 11.5 to 17.5 square inches

Yield Grade: < or = to 3.99  
Dark Cutter: no  
Quality Grade: Choice or better  
Cutability: > or = to 51%

### **MontanaFair Steer of Merit Winners:**

<b>Exhibitor</b>	<b>Breeder</b>
Samuel Duey	Line Cattle Company
Maycee Mosher	Eaton Cattley Company
Madelynn Albin	Beartooth Angus
Axton Mosher	Tad & Hillary Tipton
Everett Noonkester	Brandy Fuller

The following exhibitors had a goat at the MontanaFair that qualified for the Goat of Merit Program in Montana. Ultrasound data was used to meet a set criteria to qualify.

### MT Goat of Merit Standards

Conformation: Carcasses are thickly muscled throughout the body with a bulging outside leg, rounded back strip, and a moderately thick outside shoulder.

Cutability: > or = to 54%

### **MontanaFair Goat of Merit Winners:**

Wesley Browning	Harleigh Donnelly	Hayes Kautz
Rhyann LaRose	Burke Nowak	Robert Valenzuela

### MT Lamb of Merit Standards

Live Weight: 110 - 165 pounds  
Fat Thickness: 0.15 – 0.25 inches

Loineye: Not < 2.5 inch<sup>2</sup>  
Deduction of 10 points if suspected of being double muscled

### **MontanaFair Lamb of Merit Winners:**

<b>Exhibitor</b>	<b>Breeder</b>
Owen Rouse	Hays Show Lambs
Mabel Donnelly	Dorvall Club Lambs
Scarlett Hammond	Hays Show Lambs
Reagan Nydegger	Bergin Club Lambs
Aidan Lents	Lentz Family

## THE NIGHT CHECK: A VIDEO SERIES IN PREPARATION FOR CALVING SEASON

MSU Extension Cascade County created a series of videos to help cattle producers learn more about preparing for calving season. You can find the recorded webinars below:

Calf Care webinar with Sam Wyffels, PhD, MSU Extension Beef Cattle Specialist

Watch the webinar recording on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sc45sbHgcbw) at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sc45sbHgcbw>

Feeding Before and After Calving webinar with Megan Van Emon, PhD, MSU Extension Beef Cattle Specialist

Watch the webinar recording on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XQI6YfRG4c8) at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XQI6YfRG4c8>

Bred Heifers and Cows webinar with Rachel Endecott, PhD, Grey Horse Consulting & Goggins Ranch

Watch the webinar recording on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fb5Tvgwsry4) at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fb5Tvgwsry4>

Preparing for Calving webinar with Hannah DelCurto-Wyffels, PhD, MSU Professor and Rebekah Clark, MSU Student in Animal Science

Watch the webinar recording on [YouTube](https://youtu.be/URibut-X_VE) at [https://youtu.be/URibut-X\\_VE](https://youtu.be/URibut-X_VE)

## CLUB SECRETARY MINUTES: IMPORTANT FORMAT REQUIRED

Each month the Extension office should receive a copy of your club meeting minutes. To have consistent reporting, we require minutes to be in the format found on page 3 of your Montana 4-H Secretary's Handbook. **This is the only format that is acceptable.** Use this format when submitting your minutes to the Extension Office each month. **In minutes use full names, indicate what financial expenditures were voted on (be specific), and if there were any changes to the previous month's minutes. Minutes are not a meeting agenda, they contain specific, detailed information so that someone who did not attend the meeting could read the minutes and know exactly what happened. Minutes are a detailed recording of a meeting.**

Should you need copies of this form we can copy them for you. Minutes may be typed on your computer, submitted in hard copy, faxed to the office (406-256-2825), or emailed to [ronibaker@montana.edu](mailto:ronibaker@montana.edu). If emailing, always include the club name in the subject line. **Remember:** If you do not receive a reply email from us, the email did not go through!

## CLUB MINUTES

**Blue Creek Jumping Bucks:** Members in shooting sports projects were encouraged to read the rule book to be ready to shoot.

**Compass All Stars:** We nominated club officers and decided to exchange white elephants gifts for the holidays.

**Lockwood Humble Bs:** The club will hold a potluck in December and do gift wrapping at Shipton's west end store.

**Pine Ridge Red Ryder:** Members signed thank you cards, included pictures, and some Greytak calendars that will be given to businesses who support the club.

**Project Rockin Wranglers:** The club members will meet to make their annual holiday cookies to give out to their community supporters.

**Shepherd Pioneers:** The club representative sheet and the club committee sheet were sent around to be completed.

**Worden Riverdale:** Members were reminded of AQA, and they must be signed up for a level in all animal projects they plan to exhibit at MontanaFair.

## END OF YEAR DONATION: SUPPORT THE YELLOWSTONE COUNTY 4-H FOUNDATION

Both the Yellowstone and Montana 4-H Foundations support 4-H educational learning experiences through scholarship. Tax deductible contributions help support today's young people. Please complete the following fields and mail with your check to: Yellowstone County 4-H Foundation, PO Box 35021, Billings, MT 59107.

### YELLOWSTONE COUNTY 4-H FOUNDATION

Enclosed is a contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

(Optional) In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

(Optional) Please send acknowledgement to:

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

From (Donor's Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Yellowstone County 4-H Foundation

**Questions to ask if you are starting a new animal project. There are many things you may not think or know to ask about your animal if you are planning on taking it to fair. Please talk with your organizational leader or project leader, see the county website for fair handbooks, and attend county workshops to help you find these answers. This information will help you have a successful project to exhibit at fair.**



1. Does it need to be born by a specific date?
2. What breeds etc. are shown at our fair?
3. Is it OK to take animals that are intact?
4. Is there a date I need to own my animal by?
5. Does it need to be tagged? If so when? How/where do I get this done?
6. Have I taken a Quality Assurance class? Helmet Class for Horse?
7. Do I need to sign up for a specific project (example, breeding for market animals or obedience for dog) to be able to show it the way I want to at fair?
8. Are there weight restrictions for showing/selling this animal?
9. What will I need to know to show/sell this animal? 10.

Are certain types of feed required?

11. Are all medicines OK to use?
12. What kind of housing will they require?
13. What could they require in extreme cold weather? Extreme hot weather? 14.

What kind of exercise will my animal require?

15. What kind of time commitment will I have to make to ensure I am doing everything this animal needs? (Just filling a self-feeder once a week or feeding twice a day and cleaning pen every other day?)
16. Will I need any special equipment to get my animal ready to show? (clippers, fitting stand, etc.)

As we get closer to fair you will need to know:

1. How do I fill out my registration to show this animal? What classes can I put them in?
2. When do I take my animal?
3. If it is a market animal, what are the requirements to sell?
4. What do I need to provide for my animal's stay at the barn? (feed pans, halter, wood chips, etc.)
5. What am I required to wear to show this animal?
6. If I am NOT selling my animal, when can I take them home?

# DECEMBER 2024 4-H CALENDAR



**4-H Building**

Shepherd Tumbleweeds: November 30-December 13

**Cleaning Schedule**

Huntley Eagles: December 14-27

Northern Lights: December 28-January 10

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 5:00 Showcase Meeting 5:30 Post FFN Meeting 6:00 Dept. N 6:30 Council to follow <i>4-H Building</i>	6	7 9-11:30 Club Officer Event <i>4-H Building</i> 10:00 or 1:00 Ceramics workshop <i>79 Whitehorse South Road, Laurel</i>
8	9	10	11	12	13 <b>Counselor/CIT &amp; Ambassador Applications Due in Extension Office by 5:00</b>	14
15 2:30 Leadership Academy Workshop & Holiday Party <i>4-H Building</i>	16	17 Citizenship Application & Bill Due in the Extension Office by 5:00 pm	18	19 6:00 Shooting Sports Leader Meeting <i>4-H Building</i>	20 <b>Newsletter Articles Due</b>	21 11:00 Cat & Pocket Pet Workshop <i>4-H Building</i>
22	23	24	25 <b>Holiday Office Closed</b>	26	27	28
29	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	<b>Jan. 1 Holiday Office Closed</b>	<b>Jan. 2</b> 5:30 Fruit Sale Coordinators Meeting <i>4-H Building</i>				