Dear Flathead 4-H Members, Leaders, Friends and Families,

Welcome to the 107th year of Montana 4-H. To all of our returning members and leaders, thank you for continuing to carry the 4-H Clover. And to the new members, leaders and families we welcome you to a year of discovery, youth development, and the legacy of 4-H programs in Flathead County.

This time of year we receive numerous questions about 4-H projects, clubs, and activity. I encourage you reach out directly to our office with any questions you have. For the most up to date information on our programs and what is coming next please follow our newsletter, use our Online Calendar, read the minutes of recent Flathead 4-H Council and Flathead 4-H Foundation on our website, or follow us on Facebook.

Here at Flathead 4-H, we work to make the best better. I am honored to work with each of you.

Ben Frentsos 4-H & Youth Development Agent, MSU Extension Flathead County

COUNTY EVENTS

2018-2019 ENROLLMENT

Re-Enrollment for 2017-2018 Members and Leaders is open. New 4-H members may enroll as well. For any questions, please contact the Extension Office. Enrollment instructions are located HERE.

NILE MERIT HEIFER RECIPIENT

My name is Dillon Jewett, and I am I NILE Merit Heifer Recipient. I would like to tell you about the NILE Merit Heifer program. The program awards you a heifer if you are one of the 25 people selected out of many contestants. The recipients are from 12 to 16 years old. People from across the northwestern states donate heifers to the program, and the heifers are given to the selected group of recipients. Through the year, the recipients are required to halt break the heifer, show her at a few jackpots around the state, breed her and take care of her. They also talk to their donor every month. The donor becomes a mentor to help you learn. Then, you will show the heifer at the NILE in Billings, MT the following October to complete the program. Once you have finished the program, you get to keep your heifer and all of the calves she will have. This is to help give young people the chance to start a herd of their own. The program is really fun and I encourage all teenagers in 4-H to try it. If your club is interested, I can come and talk more in depth about the program. Please give me a call at 752-5402

BEEF CLINIC #1

October 11 Country Fair Kitchen on the NWMT Fairgrounds Katelyn May, , and Flathead 4-H Beef Committee Members will be presenting essential information to guide 4-H members in the Market Steer Project. The 2018-2019 4-H year is just around the corner and if you plan on taking a steer to market, you don’t want to miss this event. All 4-H market steer members are invited to attend.

Beef Market Livestock Training will take place in November. If this is your first year in the market project for this species you must attend the November training, and once as a Junior, and once as a Senior. So, even if you have not enrolled in 4-H yet, but plan on doing the market steer project, we will see you there.

4-H Members in Market Steer, Swine, or Lamb who received White Ribbons at the 2018 NWMT are required to attend the Market Livestock Training for their species, regardless of when they last attended training. For any questions, please contact the Extension Office.
**4-H RECORDKEEPING**

Record books were due to club leaders by September 30th. **Club leaders, please confirm with the Extension Office.**

**4-H Animal Project Record Sheets**  **Cloverbud Record Sheets**

**4-H Non-Animal Project Record Sheets**  **My 4-H Year Record Sheets**

Be sure to talk with your 4-H leader and find out what they expect to see. Your job is to have your records up-to-date and ready for your leaders to review by the date that they tell you, so be sure you’re talking with them.

At the very minimum, the following should be included. **NOTE: your 4-H leader will probably want you to do a few more things, but this will get you started…**

- at least 3 goals under “this is what I plan to do in this project”
- at least 2 items under “what I did – what I learned” – please be sure that you have listed things that you learned this past year.
- Under “value of animals/purchase/owned/possessed” you’ll want to at least have the purchase price.
- Under “feeding record” your leader will want to see records starting in December for Steers; April for Hogs; & May for Lambs.
- Under “market animal growth record” you’ll want to include starting weights
- Under “expenses other than feed” you should have at least one expense, if not more – for ex: market project fee $5; Chamber Sale fee of $35; cost of show clothing; cost of any 4-H manuals, cost of fencing, etc.

**FLATHEAD 4-H FOUNDATION AND CHICK-FIL-A**

Nomination Form. There are people in our lives who helped shape the best in who we are. Their time, their energy, passion, and commitment help us shine. The Flathead 4-H Foundation and our generous sponsor, Chick-fil-A, want to help you recognize their generosity. Please help us identify the unrecognized individuals in our community who have helped change your life and asked for nothing in return. Complete your nomination form [HERE](#) and submit it to the Flathead County Extension Office.

**2018 NWMT FAIR PHOTOS**

Photo galleries are available for hogs, lambs and beef from the 2018 NWMT Fair. Access to the galleries, with photos available for purchase from the official Fair Photographer can be access via Facebook [HERE](#).

**PROJECT INTERVIEWS**

Once you’ve completed your record books for the 2017-2018 4-H year, and your leader has signed-off on your work, you are eligible and encouraged to take part in Project Interviews.

Interviews are given by 4-H volunteer leaders who are excited to hear about your projects highlights and accomplishments. Pick-up the one-page Project Interview application in the office or print it off the website [HERE](#). Applications due Thursday, November 1st to the Extension Office. Interviews will be held in the Country Kitchen on the Fairgrounds mid November, look for more details soon.

**4-H SHOOTING SPORTS**

**2018-2019 Flathead 4-H Shooting Sports Sign-Up**

Returning Shooting Sports Members—(members in 2017-2018) and New Members call Kristi Davis to get sign-up. 253-4303

**Upcoming Shooting Sports Events**

Full Scholarship Available for Shooting Sports Training, transportation, and accommodation. Contact the Extension Office for details.

- Paperwork Completion—October 22 4-6PM and October 27 12PM-4PM, Grandstands.
- Orientation—November 12
- 1st Day of Shooting—November 15
- Flathead Invitational—January 26, 2019
- Club Match—February 23, 2019
- Smallbore Qualifier [Registration Form](#) Manhattan Wildlife Assoc., Logan, MT Saturday, October 13, 2018
- Stay up-to-date with the Montana Shooting Sports Calendar [HERE](#)
IN-STATE EXCHANGE

4 Spaces still available. Summer 2019 will offer youth age 11-13 the opportunity to exchange with 4-H members from Richland County, Montana (get out your maps!). In 2019 Flathead County will host and in 2020, travel. Youth and Chaperons will travel by train from a Friday to Monday near the end of June 2019. Please contact the Extension Office for more information and the registration form.

MARKET LIVESTOCK BUYER “THANK YOU”

Don’t forget to thank your buyers. The success of the Livestock Sale depends on the kindness of community businesses and individuals, and it’s important that all our 4-H members thank them for their generosity. You can pick up your photo AND W-9 for your buyer’s thank you at the Extension Office. Once a member delivers a “thank you” photo/gift to their buyer, they must return the confirmation form to the Extension Office by December 1, 2018.

4-H AWARDS

Thank you to all of the sponsors who supported awards for the 2018 NWMT Fair and the 2018 4-H & FFA Awards Banquet. Your continued support helps to recognize the achievements and hard work of our members.

SMALL ACREAGE LANDOWNER SEMINAR SERIES 2019

The MSU Flathead County Extension office will be coordinating a Small Acreage Seminar Series in 2019. The six week class will begin Feb.6 and run each Wednesday evening from 6:00-8:00pm. The topics will include soils, septic and well, pasture management, forest management and wildfire mitigation, native pollinators, living with wildlife and weeds. The class will be $125.00 and is limited to 35 participants. To register please contact Pat McGlynn at pmcglynn@montana.edu

YEAR END FINANCIAL SUMMARIES

If your group has a 4-H checking or savings account, you MUST complete a club treasury report for the IRS.

All Year-end Financial Summary reports must be filled out completely and accurately to be in compliance with MSU Internal Audit and IRS regulations. Please verify the EIN #, and make sure required signatures (directions on form) are complete. Reports that are not complete will be returned to you. If you have questions about something on the report, please call or e-mail and ask us.

This is a very important document that must be completed, signed by your treasurer and two other individuals by two different families, then turned-in to the Extension office by October 31st.

Download the form here.

STATE EVENTS & PROGRAMS

4-H STATE HORSE SHOW

Congratulations to all of the Flathead County 4-H members who participated at the 2018 Montana State Horse Show: Brandon Paine, Cassidy Norrick, Chloe Erb, Courtnee Anello, Gabriella Johnson, Kiely Ohs, and Quindy Gronley.

SAVE THE DATE: CITIZENSHIP SEMINAR

When: January 20-22, 2019

Montana Citizenship Seminar is designed to educate and inspire 4-H youth as they learn and experience the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Delegates participate in a mock trial, create and debate bills, meet with elected officials, and participate in a service learning project. Citizenship Seminar is held in Helena, the state capital, in the years when the legislature is in session. It is held in conjunction with Legislative Breakfast. For more information please click HERE.
SAVE THE DATE: LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

When: January 22, 2019

The Legislative Breakfast provides an opportunity to educate Montana legislators about the work and success of 4-H in the state. It brings together youth and adult constituents from across Montana to share stories of achievement drawn from their 4-H experiences. The breakfast also reinforces the vital role of the MSU Cooperative Extension Service budget, which supports 4-H in Montana communities.

The advocacy group, Montanans for 4-H, organizes and hosts the Legislative Breakfast with help from private donations and other support. The breakfast is held during the years when the legislature is in session.

For more information, please check HERE. Click here for arena information.

MONTANA 4-H MERCHANDISE

Browse the new Montana 4-H merchandise at the MSU Extension Store and paint our state green with 4-H T-shirts, mugs, buttons, and stickers! Click Here to start shopping!

REMINDER

The MSU Extension Office is open Monday—Friday from 8:00AM—5:00PM. There is no administrative support from 1:00PM-2:00PM M-F, so you may find the Extension office doors are locked during that time. If you need special accommodations or a meeting scheduled, please feel free to call ahead and make an appointment.

If you would like to add information or announcements to this newsletter please email bfrentsos@flathead.mt.gov

Montana State University
4-H Youth Development, Flathead County
Phone: 406-758-5553
Fax: 406-758-5881

Find Us on Facebook at Flatheadfourh
See our Google Calendar—Let us know how to make it better

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Montana State University and the Montana State University Extension prohibit discrimination in all of their programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital and family status. Issued in furtherance of cooperative extension work in agriculture and home economics, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Jeff Bader, Director of