



Blaine County 4-H News

MSU Extension
Blaine County
PO Box 519
Chinook, MT 59523
(406) 357-3200

November, 2008

Dear 4-H Members, Leaders and Parents,

Welcome to a brand new 4-H year. Congratulations to all the clubs for having window displays this year. You did a great job promoting 4-H in Blaine County.

Just as a reminder, your enrollment forms are due to the Extension Office by November 14th. Please make sure you sign both the front and back page of your enrollment and the appropriate release forms. If you have any questions or need new forms, please contact the Extension Office.

With the new 4-H year underway, please remember Juli and Mike are here to assist you in any way to have a successful 4-H year. If you would like us to visit your club meeting or present a program or workshop, please let us know.

If any youth, parents or leaders have ideas of project workshops you would like to see, please contact the office with your ideas. We have many resources available to assist you with your projects.

Have a great fall season!

Michael Schuldt
Ag & 4-H
Extension Agent

Julianne Sather—Snedigar
4-H & FCS
Extension Agent

Rita Langford
Administrative
Assistant

Julianne Sather—Snedigar
4-H & FCS Extension Agent
sather@montana.edu

Michael Schuldt
Ag & 4-H Extension Agent
acxms@montana.edu

Rita Langford
Administrative Assistant
blaine@montana.edu

www.msueextension.org/blaine/
www.msueextension.org
www.montana4h.org

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Organizational and 4-H Leader Update

All 4-H organizational Leaders, Club leaders, Project Leaders and youth leaders are invited to the Blaine County Leader Update. The workshop will be November 5th at 7:00 at the Triple E Room in Chinook.

Are you new to 4-H or seeking a new 4-H challenge? Check out these 4-H activities!

4-H Shooting Sports

4-H Shooting Sports is a very exciting project full of workshops, competitions and fun. Any 4-H member may participate in the Shooting Sports project. This past year, members learned to shoot trap, air rifles, .22s, bow and arrows, watched elk and several other activities.

Livestock Judging

Livestock Judging is one of the most popular 4-H and FFA contests offered. Team members learn decision making and public speaking skills. This is a great opportunity for both younger and older 4-H members. Any 4-H members interested in joining the 4-H Livestock judging team please contact Juli Sather at the Extension Office. The next practice will be Wednesday November 19th at the Triple E Room at 6:00.

Youth Leaders

4-H members 13 years and older may join the youth leaders. This group is made up of motivated senior 4-H members. You will participate in many personal development workshops and learn teamwork, communication and other leadership skills. We also go on fun trips. The first meeting of the 2008—2009 4-H year will be Tuesday November 11th at 6:30 at the Triple E Room. We will be planning our upcoming 4-H year. Some of the activities youth leaders are involved in include Mini-Congress, ski trips, travel, Project Day, Rec Lab and Camp.

4-H Leaders ~ Get Involved!

We encourage all leaders to host a project workshop in an area you are interested in. Any leaders wishing to host a project workshop or if you have any ideas that would make a project better, please contact the Extension Office. We will pass along project workshop information as we get it.

Organizational Leaders

As we begin the new 2008 ~ 2009 4-H year, Organizational leaders are reminded to turn in your yearly calendar, lists of club officers, and a current club photo to the Extension Office. Thank You! We know this is a big job and we appreciate your efforts!

New Family Orientation

Everyone is invited to the New Family Orientation on Monday January 12th at 7:00 PM in the Triple E Room. The topics to be covered include what to expect all year in 4-H, paperwork and forms and the Blaine County Fair. This is a great workshop for new families as well as those that would like an update on Blaine County 4-H events and happenings.

Market Steer Weigh-In

Any 4-H and FFA member 12 years and older may participate in the Market Steer Project. We will be handling market steer weigh-in a little differently this year. We will not be holding a weigh day this year since it is difficult for everyone to get his or her steer weighed on the same day at the same location. All steer weights must be turned in to the Extension Office by January 1st. In order for your project to be considered for this year's Blaine County Fair market beef sale your steer's weight must be accompanied by a photo of you with your calf with a 4-H ear tag in his ear on or before January 1st. You may weigh in and tag two project animals and select the one to show prior to the fair. If club's would like to set up a market steer weigh day for your club, please feel free. You may e-mail your picture and your weight to Juli at sather@montana.edu or you may drop a hard copy off at the Extension Office. Tags will be available December 1st at the Extension Office. Only steers properly tagged, weighed, photographed and on file at the Extension Office will be allowed to sell at the 2009 fair – no exceptions – we will post those who are properly entered on the Blaine County 4-H Web site as the entries come in –it is your responsibility to ensure that your project is entered.

4-H Records

This is a great time to get started on your 4-H records. 4-H is an educational program of Montana State University and the land grant system. As an educational program, we provide “textbooks” or project manuals. You learn the important information about your project by completing activities in these project manuals.

In the same way, records are a very important part of EVERY project. Record keeping is an integral part of the 4-H learning experience.

To have a complete record book, you must have completed:

My 4-H Year Journal—This journal is where you keep track of club meeting attendance, committees, presentations, communication, awards and honors, activities, events and experiences. You will fill out one journal for the entire 4-H year.

Non-Livestock Project Journal—This is where you keep track of all the activities you do that are related to your project. You will also keep financial information here. You will complete one project journal for each of your non-animal projects.

Livestock Project Journal—You will keep all of your animal records in a livestock project journal. You will record all of your activities as well as your financial records for all of your animal projects in the livestock project journal. You will complete one livestock project journal for each of your animal projects.

All of the record book forms are available in paper form as well as electronic. Contact the Extension Office if you have any questions.

Western Region Leaders Forum

Roundup your 4-H leaders and head to Colorado for the Western Regional 4-H Leaders Forum. Discover the trail which leads to fun and learning to take back to the herd at home.

The Western Region Leaders Forum will be in Denver, Colorado February 25th—March 1st, 2009. Please contact the Extension Office or check out the website:

<http://www.colorado4h.org/wrlf09/>

Blaine County 4-H Ambassadors

Our 4-H Ambassadors and their Key Leader recently attended Fall Ambassador Training at Fairmont Hot Springs. They reported that it was a great weekend filled with leadership development activities and fun. Those attending were JT Tilleman, Shandel Fouts, Kayla Sather, Kayla Hanson and Keri Hanson. They are also working on a great Plan of Action for the upcoming 4-H year. If you would like the Ambassadors to visit your club meeting and present a program, please contact Ambassador Key Leader Keri Hanson.

Montana 4-H Rec Lab

Mark your calendars to attend the 2009 Rec Lab in Forsyth on March 20th—22nd. Registration information will be mailed the first week of January. Rec Lab provides an opportunity for youth to enhance their leadership, communication and team building skills in an action packed and interactive setting. Rec Lab programming is designed to provide participants with tips and tricks for being a better club, county and community leader.

Recycle Project Books

As we begin our new 4-H year, please go through your old project books. Any that you are not using can be returned to the Extension Office. We will make sure they are distributed to members currently in those projects.

4-H Legislative Breakfast

The Legislative Breakfast will be January 19th & 20th in Helena at the Red Lion Inn. The Legislative Breakfast is an opportunity for our senior 4-H members to meet with our Congressmen and discuss the importance of 4-H in our County. If you are interested in attending the 2009 Legislative Breakfast, please contact the Extension Office by December 19th.

Two Blaine County Youth Compete at State 4-H Horse Show

Congratulations Madison Malsam and Clinton Hansen. They represented Blaine County at the Montana 4-H Horse Show in September! Great Job!

Club Treasurer's

Montana 4-H guidelines require each club to submit a yearly financial report. If you are the Treasurer of your club, this will be your responsibility. We will send out the necessary forms to each club so you can get started on them now.

Also, as your club begins planning for the new year, remember you must turn in the necessary paperwork before and after fundraisers. This process is necessary so that we may be certain you are meeting all the guidelines for 4-H fundraising and use of the 4-H emblem. We appreciate all of your efforts to make sure your club fundraising is legitimate.

Club Secretary's

4-H Club Secretary's are responsible for taking the minutes of each 4-H meeting and getting them to the Extension Office within the month of the meeting. There are several ways to get your minutes to the Extension Office. You may deliver them in person, mail them to us at PO Box 519 Chinook, MT 59523, or e-mail them to Juli at sather@montana.edu. If you have any questions please call us at 357-3200.

Make It With Wool

The Make It With Wool contest is a great opportunity for you to show off the wool garments you have made. If you would like to participate in the contest, please contact Make It With Wool chairperson Linda Grossman at 463-2591.

2008 Parade of Lights

The Chinook Area Chamber of Commerce is once again hosting the Parade of Lights. It will be Friday, November 28th. 4-H Clubs are welcome to sell crafts and food as well as participate in the parade. For more information, visit the chamber website at: www.chinookmontana.com



What are People Partner Grants?

These grants provide incentives and financial support to groups and individuals for programs that enhance the quality of living in their communities.

Who can apply? 4-H groups and individual members can apply. Grants are also open to non-4-H youth groups and individuals.

Applications should meet the following criteria.

- Youth should be involved in determining, planning, conducting and evaluating the project.
- Project will make it possible for people to accomplish something educational and worthwhile that helps them reach a higher quality of life.
- There is community support and acceptance of the project as evidenced by "partners" listed on the grant application, additional funding sources and resource persons and agencies involved.
- The project has lasting benefits.

How to apply? Submit a completed People Partners Grant Application (available for download on the Montana 4-H website or at the Blaine County Extension Office) postmarked by the February 1st deadline.

Applications submitted by January 10th will be reviewed and returned with suggestions for improvement to the application in order to re-submit.

Submit applications to:
Montana 4-H Foundation
111 Taylor Hall. PO Box 173580
Bozeman, MT 59717

If grant funds are not used for the program purpose, the group agrees to return them by December 31st of the grant year.

Groups are also required to submit the evaluation form by September 1st of the grant year.

Scenes from the recent Elk Viewing Trip



Blaine County Extension Office

PO Box 519
400 Ohio Street
Chinook, MT 59523-0519

4-H: The Youth Development Program of MSU Extension

The MSU Extension Service is an ADA/EO/AA/Veteran's Preference Employer and Provider of Educational Outreach.