



40% of children who start drinking before the age of 15 will become alcoholics at some point in their lives.

“Change the Culture” preventing underage drinking...

Monday, February 2nd will be the second of a two part series focusing on underage drinking at the Seabeck’s Theatre. Free pizza will be available at 5:45 p.m., the program will begin at 6:30 p.m. Following short presentations by three panelists, participants will break into small groups and work toward solutions. Join us...everyone is welcome to attend.

Dues were Due

The deadline for clubs to turn their dues into the 4-H Council was **January 15th**. If your club hasn’t already done so, please pay your dues as soon as possible. Dues to the 4-H Council are \$5.00 per leader and \$1.00 per member.

People Partner Grants:

Note the fast approaching due date (February 1st) for People Partner Grants. If you have a special project in your community, these grants can be very helpful. The purpose of the program is to provide incentives and financial support to programs that will enhance the quality of living for people in a community. Contact the office (quickly) if you need more information.



State 4-H Rec Lab - “Take the Green Challenge!”

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the 2009 Montana 4-H Rec Lab. This state-wide event will be held in our back yard this year - at Forsyth, March 20-22. Wally Badget, cartoonist and humorist from Miles City will keep participants in stitches during his engaging presentation. Twenty different workshops are being offered over the course of five sessions, ranging from paintball and art to video production and a treasure hunt! Rec Lab provides an opportunity to meet other youth, develop leadership

skills, and learn fun recreational activities that can be used in club settings, Mini-Congress, 4-H Camp and at other unexpected moments. Rec Lab is for youth 13 years of age



Calendar

February

- 1-People Partner Grants Due
- Citizenship Washington Focus Apps. Due
- 2- “Change the Culture” 2nd Meeting on Underage Drinking
- 27-March 1st-Horse and Livestock Leaders Forum, Billings

March

- 9-Ambassador Applications Due
- 13-Teen Counselor Apps for 4-H Camp Needmore due
- 16-4-H Council Meeting, Election Room, 4:00 pm
- Ambassador Interviews, 4:00 pm
- 23-Demonstration Day Forms Due
- 20-22-Rec Lab, Forsyth

April

- 5-4-H Speaks Out and Shows the Way- Demonstration Day

Contact Us

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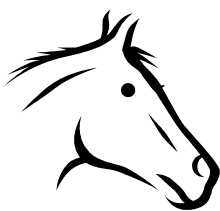
or older as of October 1, 2008. The registration fee is \$50. A Leaders College track is also being offered. T-shirts and canvas bags with the Rec Lab logo will be available for purchase at the event. Event details and the registration form will be available online at www.montana4h.org. Go to Events...Montana 4-H Rec Lab.

2009 Citizenship Washington Focus

Citizenship Washington Focus is an educational trip to tour our nation's capitol. Delegates, 15 years and older by October 1, 2008, stay at the National 4-H Center and enjoy outstanding opportunities for sightseeing as well as citizenship development. Past delegates have reported this as a highlight of their 4-H experience. The dates are set for June 7-14; the deadline to apply is February 1st. The cost is estimated at \$1,700.

4-H Horse and Livestock Leaders Forum - February 27 - March 1st

An excellent opportunity to learn more about horse and livestock projects exists at the 4-H Horse and Livestock forum which will be held in Billings at the Billings Hotel and Convention Center. Horse topics include horse nutrition, helmet safety, saddle fitting, horse careers, horse show management, bridling/bits, horse massage, equine management, horse camp, packing, judging teams, the horse leg and halters. Livestock classes include carcass merit programs, swine selection and management, livestock quality assurance, meat goats/sheep, livestock nutrition, fair organization, record sheets, and bio-security at the fair. Registration will be on-line on the Montana 4-H website.



Apply to be a 4-H Camp Needmore Teen Counselor!

Applications are available at the Extension office and due March 13th at the Prairie County Extension Office for anyone interested in

serving as a teen counselor at 4-H Camp Needmore in Ekalaka June 8th -11th. Fourteen as of October 1, 2008 is the age limit. It is an application process so not all who apply will be selected this year. Being a counselor is a wonderful leadership experience...don't let it pass!



4-H Speaks Out and Shows the Way—April 5th:

Demonstration Day is scheduled for Sunday, April 5th. It is never too early to begin planning for the event. If you need ideas or guides on giving demonstrations or speeches, contact our office. We have videos and publications to help you. Registration forms are included in this newsletter and are due back to the Extension Office by March 23rd. Remember, in order to be considered for the Achievement of Excellence Award (AEA) at the end of the 4-H year, you must have given a county demonstration, a cowboy poetry entry, speech or creative works. If you are unable to participate in the County Contest on April 5th, you may fulfill the AEA requirement by giving your presentation to the 4-H Council.

Would you like to be an Ambassador?

If you are least fourteen years old, have been a 4-H member for two years, and have experience as a Junior Leader or club officer, you are eligible to become the next Powder River County Ambassador. Only one ambassador will be chosen through an application and interview process. Applications have been sent to all eligible 4-H members. Applications are due March 9th, interviews will be on March 16th, and 4-H Council will review the recommendation at the council meeting that evening. Sis Martinez, Senior Ambassador, Jessica Lammi, Junior Ambassador, and Kerry Gardner, Key Leader, hold the positions in the county currently, and will assist in the interview process, along with executive officers from Teen 4-H and 4-H Council.

State Horse Show Logo Design

Contest:

4-H members can show off their creative and artistic skills by entering a logo design contest. The 2009 State 4-H Horse Show Committee in Fergus County is asking members to submit a logo and theme for this year's show. Entries are due May 8th and the winner's artwork and slogan will appear on the official rule books, t-shirts and promotional material for the State Horse Show. Entry forms are available in the Extension Office.

2009 is the Year of the Signs!

2009 is the year of the Sign Project fundraiser for the Powder River County 4-H Council. Every three years, businesses pay to advertise on boards hung inside the Fairbarn. Sixty percent of the proceeds go to 4-H Council, forty percent is returned to the club that sold the sign. All signs are sold at \$75. Leaders will soon be receiving a list of businesses to contact. Sign contracts must be sold, completed and returned with payment to this office by Monday, May 1st.

Happy

Valentine's Day!



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