



# Ravalli County 4-H News

February, 2007



Hello 4-H members and families -

Oh man! So many exciting new events are developing this spring and I can hardly wait for them to take place. One is the upcoming fashion show—**Dazzling Designer Showcase**—on May 15 at a location yet to be determined. As many know, I have a Textile and Merchandising background and fashion shows are my cup of tea. Amy Veltkamp and I are working hard to make this show a success and showcasing 4-H garments and quilts as well as some of my fiber art outfits. Anyone interested in modeling, putting in their works of art or helping, call the office!

The **Volunteer Appreciation Dinner** is also new and exciting!! We need to thank everyone for all the work they do, no matter how big or small. Every little bit helps our program be successful. So, the dinner arrangements are in the making but please plan to attend and get the recognition you deserve!

Also, our **New 4-H Family Fun Day** will be so wonderful for new to 4-H families. We will give you all the basics of 4-H, what to expect at fair, how to maneuver the clubs and get the information you need to make your experience with 4-H the best possible.

Of, we will still have our **4-H Carnival** (ask your org leader for your tickets to sell), the **4-H Phon-A-Thon** (see p. 9 for more information), **Montana 4-H Rec Lab** in Bozeman (see p. 4 for more info), and, of course, our summer **4-H Camp** held every July. We also have a few cool ideas up our sleeve this June. I can't wait for everything to happen this year. If you want to tell me about a new idea, call the office! We would love to help make them become a reality.

Have a great February -

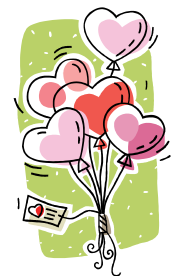
*Katelyn Andersen*

Katelyn Andersen  
MSU/Ravalli County Extension Agent

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## What's Inside

- Important Information. ....P2
- 4-H Calendar ..... P2
- VIP.....P3
- What's Happening.....p.3
- Club & Project Update....P4-5
- Committee Update.....P6
- Announcements.....P7-9
- Community Service.....P9



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## February

**Mon. Feb. 5:** Superintendent Meeting, 6:30 pm, Extension Meeting Room.

**Thurs. Feb. 8:** Leathercraft workshop, 6:30 pm, Corvallis Middle School Cafeteria, see p. 4 for more info

**Wed. Feb. 14: Happy Valentine's Day!!**

**Thurs. Feb. 15:** Website Building Workshop, 5-7pm, Kids First, Hamilton, see p. 7 for more info.

**Sat. Feb. 17:** Stir-Ups Competition, Hamilton High School, see p. 4 for more info

**Mon. Feb. 19:** Council Meeting, 6:30 pm, Extension meeting Room

**Mon. Feb. 19:** Cloverbuds + 4-H =FUN! Workshop, 5:30pm, Extension Meeting Room

**Tues. Feb. 20:** Last QA Workshop, Arts Building at Fairgrounds, see page

**Mon. Feb. 26:** JC/JCT Meeting, 6pm, Victor School Cafeteria, see p. 8 for more information.

## March

**Mar. 3:** Doggie Olympics, Day 12:45-3, see p. 5

**Mar. 4-6:** 4-H Citizenship Seminar, Helena.

**Mar. 17:** Carnival, Corvallis Gyms, 6-11pm

**Mar. 19:** Gingher Order Due, see p. 8 for more information

**Mar. 24:** Tack Swap, 8-5, Sapphire Event Center

**Mar. 26:** Rec Lab Deadline, p. 4 for info

## April

**Volunteer Appreciation Dinner**, See p. 6 for info

**New to 4-H Family Day!** See p. 6 for more info

**April 1:** Cat Get Together, See p. 4

**April 20-22:** Montana 4-H Rec Lab, Bozeman

**April 23-25:** Phon-A-Thon; get your phone numbers ready! See p. 9



## 4-H Council Meeting Highlights

Council met on Monday, January 22, 2007, in the Extension meeting room. The meeting was held one week later to accommodate guests from the state office. A "South of the Border" potluck was enjoyed by council members. Laura DeNitto reported on the Legislative Breakfast. Eleven members and four adults discussed 4-H during the early morning breakfast with four of Ravalli county's five legislators. They were later given a tour of Capital and Senate buildings. Over 50 livestock members completed the January Quality Assurance Workshop. The final workshop will be held in February. Allison Kinney reported that 12 club officers attended the Club Officer Training. Ken Loucks reported that the Archery program is going strong, while the Shooting Sports is still looking for a place to meet.

Kirk Astroth and Cody Stone from the 4-H State Office in Bozeman sat in on our meeting then gave a presentation of the responsibilities of State 4-H Office, Extension and Councils. They used the 4-H tools of games and handouts to illustrate the various roles of each and how they overlap and work together. Council members enjoyed meeting with them and hearing what they had to say. Brett Schomer conducted a small informational workshop with 4-H members to help them understand the requirements for applying for a state award. Afterwards we all enjoyed ice cream with different toppings.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30. The next Council meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m., February 19th in the Extension meeting room. Everyone is welcome.

## 4-H Resource Library

The Extension Office has a selection of agriculture books available for 4-Her's use. Most of courtesy of Dr. Bill Hadlow. If you have any books you would like to donate to our library, please feel free to contact the office.



## Extension Office's Makeover

New curtains, pictures on the wall, book shelves straightened. The office is starting to recover from the move last December. Come check it out! Our office will soon have a mini computer lab for 4-Her's use. Contact the office to make an appointment.

The date, time, and location of any of these scheduled activities are subject to change. If you have any questions, please call the Extension Office for updated information (375-6611).

All items for the next months' newsletter must be submitted by the 15th of each month and be limited to one-half page. Newsletter items can be emailed to [katelyna@montana.edu](mailto:katelyna@montana.edu) or delivered to the Extension Office. Check out the Ravalli County 4-H website: <http://www.homepage.montana.edu/~ravalli/>



### *Cat Club Get Together*

The first meeting of the Ravalli County Cat Club will be held on Saturday, April 7, 2007. We will meet at the Ravalli County Animal Shelter in Hamilton at 1pm.

At our first meeting we will be handling the kittens, and we will learn how to choose a pet kitten that will fit nicely into your family. We will also be learning the purpose of the shelter, and the cat problem facing our county.

Any child who wishes to adopt a kitten at this meeting, must have a parent present.

The cat club will be meeting in April, May, June, July and August. There will be one meeting each in April and May and two meetings each in June, July and August. We are planning a visit to a vet clinic, perform a cat bath training, showmanship skills training, and we will observe an actual spay/neuter surgery. We will take a trip to a local pet shop followed by a picnic.

The first cat club member to call me with the answer to this question will win a \$5 gift certificate to the animal shelter or a local pet supply store.

*"Why is it NOT a good idea to de-claw your cat?"*

Please call me if you have any questions about this event or the cat program, or have any suggestions on what you would like to learn as a group.

Nancy Davis 777-2681  
Cat Superintendent



### **Montana 4-H Rec Lab: LOTS of FUN**

This event provides an opportunity for youth and adults to enhance their leadership, communication and team building skills in an action paced and interactive setting. Rec Lab programming is designed to provide participants with tips and tricks for being a better club, camp and community leaders.

**Who:** 4-H members 13+      **When:** April 20-22      **Where:** Bozeman  
**Cost:** \$75 \*depending on number of youth interested this will be paid for by 4-H Council\*  
**Deadline:** March 26, 2007

### **ATTENTION LEATHERCRAFTERS OF ANY LEVEL:**

Our next meeting is on February 8 at the Corvallis Middle School Cafeteria along the Eastside Highway in Corvallis. The meeting will start at 6:30 pm and end 8 pm. Bring your leather tools if you already have some or can borrow tools from a family member or friend. If you do not have your own tools, some will be available to use. The workshop has \$2 charge to help cover the cost of supplies.

If you can't make it to this workshop, there will be more in the future. To be added to the email list, call Olive Parker, 777-1067.

-Olive Parker, Leathercraft County Leader

### **Sheep and Wool Payment Information Due**

Are you interested in the federal payment for wool you sold in 2006? The deadline is here to turn in your wool receipts with the Farm Service Agency (FSA) by the end of January. The 2006 payment is 23 cents per pound but you will need to apply by January 31 which is Wednesday.



Come cheer them on!

Spice up your Life!

Stir-Ups Cooking Contest will be Saturday, February 18, 8:30-1 at Hamilton High School Family and Consumer Sciences Room.

Call Laura DeNitto for more information 273-4645

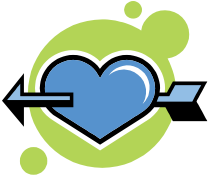


### **Rockets and Sheep help is here!**

Scott Nicholson is putting together a group that will meet a few times over the next months until fair. Contact, 961-3633, for more information.

### **Montana Heritage Award 2007**

Sterling Silver belt buckle, designed by Don Rand, awarded to the boy and the girl who most exemplify rural life and the spirit of Western Montana. Don Rand is jewelry designer who believes 4-H and FFA is an important part of our valley. Awesome awards, contact the Extension Office for application information. Definitely worth the little work!!



## Donated Weanling to be given to qualified 4-H member

Jack Ward, DVM, has donated a 2006 foal to 4-H to be turned over to a qualifying 4-H member as his or her own horse. The qualifying 4-H member who receives this horse will have full ownership and responsibility for this horse. It is Dr. Ward's intentions that the horse be entered into the colt to maturity program in the Ravalli County 4-H program. The 4-H member who receives the colt will be responsible for taking care of and providing for the horse under the guidelines written in the 4-H policy.

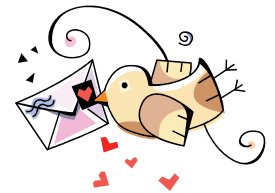
To qualify for the horse, the 4-H member must be at least 12 years of age between October 1<sup>st</sup> 2006 and September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007 and be in level 4 of their horsemanship project. Special consideration will be given to those members in level 3 and planning on testing to level 4 before April 30<sup>th</sup> 2007.

Applications may be requested from the Extension office.

## Mandatory Quality Assurance Last Training for 2007 Year!!

Ravalli County-sponsored Quality Assurance training is mandatory for all livestock members to sell at the 2007 Ravalli County Fair. The last session is scheduled for February 20, 6-9pm, at the Ravalli County Fairgrounds, Arts Building. This training is required to participate in the Livestock Show and Sale at the Fair. Questions?? Call Peg Andersen: 273-6618; Margaret Yuhas: 273-2989; or Extension: 375-6611.

**REMEMBER, QA TRAINING IS MANDATORY EACH YEAR TO BE ABLE TO SELL A MARKET ANIMAL AT THE RAVALLI COUNTY FAIR.**

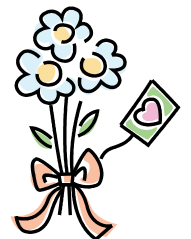


## February and March Dog Days

Check [www.geocities.com/ravallidogs](http://www.geocities.com/ravallidogs) for full information and help with your dog project. See results of the Dog Skill-a-thon online! Questions? Call Kimberly (961-6936).

Upcoming Events: Westminster Dog Show Feb. 12 & 13. Check TV listings for USA, Discovery Channel, or Animal Planet. Effective way to build breed knowledge. Take notes and add to your 4-H book work as a free choice activity.

March 3: Doggie Olympics at Daly Gym, 12:45-3:00. Learning activity with ribbons and lots of fun. No special skills necessary. Participation requires current rabies certificate. CGC visit to Valley View will follow at 3:30.



## 4-H and FFA Beef Steers Weighed-In

Fifty seven beef were weighed and tagged on a snowy and blowing day at Sutherlin Red Angus Farms. Steer are owned by 44 youth and represented just about every breed and cross. Average weight was 702 lbs with the larger group of steers 701 to 800 lbs.

Hip height, which is used to calculate finish weight, had the larger group ranging from 46 inches to 49 inches.

Our thanks to the Bob and Laurie and family for use of their scales and chute. Also a big thanks to the Stephens family, Teresa and Greg, Jackson, Ashton and Morgan and Nate Pelkey and also Mike, Lisa and Breanna Meuchel, these folks good help making this event well done and professional.

## Free Stallion Service

Randy and Coral Maxwell are offering a free Stud service to any 4-H member who enrolls in the 1<sup>st</sup> year breeding project. Their stallion Sail Win Silver (Sly) is a gray AQHA and 91% foundation bred. Members must at least be in Horsemanship 4 and have the desire to go on with the colt to maturity project. Mares being bred must have a current health certificate and be easy to handle. For more information contact Coral Maxwell @821-3413.

### 4-H Leaders Livestock Leaders Committee Meet

The Committee met on the fourth Tuesday of January with Kathleen Hood V. Chair and Dawn Potton conducting and recording the meeting.

Fair Awards are being collected and finalized with donors and donations nearly complete. The Committee is searching for a better way of handling the awards in Livestock.

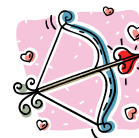
Swine, the fair judge is secured and will be Marc King again this year. A single judge system has been decided for 2007 and ultrasound will be discontinued with more emphasis on actual carcass measuring. A workshop to teach youth/families how to build hog waterers for fair was discussed as was the idea of putting a new watering system in the fair hog barn. Cost estimates are being investigated.

The Market Livestock Record Supplement sheet which compares sale prices with resale prices will be mailed to members with their weigh-in data.

Project Resource Books discussed. These are available for Beef, Sheep, Dairy and Swine for \$15. These can be shared since they are not a work book.

### New 4-H Family Day!

Org leaders, record books, beef weigh-in, oh my! The 4-H program has so many terms and events; it can be hard to a new family to distinguish everything they have to do and all the opportunity available. We are working on setting up a few workshops to help you maneuver the 4-H program like a pro. Everyone (even if you've been in 4-H for year) is welcome to attend. Time, place, and date TBA in March newsletter.



### VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

*We love volunteers, yes we do! We love volunteers, how 'bout you!*

Volunteer Appreciate Week is in April and the 4-H Council has a huge thank you up their sleeve for all you volunteers. Look in your mailbox and the March newsletter for details. Call the Extension Office if you would like to help out.



### Horse Committee

The committee discussed changes to fair awards; possibly a plaque with picture or a medal. The committee is also looking for someone to take pictures at fair to reduce the cost. Some fun possible events: hipology class, trail judging, and a Horse Expo at the Sapphire Arena this Spring.

Ron Hallock offers his knowledge to 4-Hers who want riding lessons to com to the Sapphire Arena on Tuesday nights with their horse. Cost is \$10 per horse for arena fee.

### Small Animal Committee

The meeting was productive as they discussed many cool ideas for the upcoming fair. They are discussing a showmanship clinic, a traveling golden pitchfork, Quality Assurance for small animals, repairs to the fair buildings, changes to the fair book and premium donors. They also talked about making banners to decorate the buildings and Katelyn Andersen will put on a workshop to help 4-H members publicize their club.

Those interested in helping can go to their next meeting on Wednesday, March 14, Farmers Sate Bank in Victor, 7pm.

### Coming Soon to a 4-H Club Near You! The "Records Made Easy" Road Show.

Members of the "Record Book Education Committee" plan to visit each club in the County at their February or March Meeting. Due to a family emergency, the Road Show will not be able to come to your meetings in January. Make sure you attend your club meeting those months and that you bring your record books with you to the meeting.

This session will take the mystery out of 4-H Record Keeping and Completing 4-H Projects! Each member should have a green "My 4-H Year" sheet. For each non-animal project they are taking, a member should have a blue "Project and Financial Journal" sheet. For each animal project they need both a blue sheet and the orange "Animal Record Sheet". Unless the animal is a pet (cat, dog, horse, pocket pet, some rabbits), then they can use the white "Pet Project and Financial Journal" (you can get a copy at Extension).

Record Keeping is an integral part of 4-H. "Records Made Easy" will show you how! Don't miss it!

To fill out your records on the computer, visit our website at: <http://www.homepage.montana.edu/~ravalli/4-H.html>. The records are listed on the under forms.



### Website Building Workshop

**What:** A workshop to learn the basics of developing a website. At the end of the class, you will have a complete website with a link to your email address, a picture and some text to make it interesting! After the class, you can make a website for your club. Taught by Katelyn Andersen.

**Who:** Open to all 4-Her's and leaders

**When:** February 15, 2007, 5-7 pm at Kids First in Hamilton

**How:** RSVP by February 13 to reserve one of the 12 computers to the Extension Office.

### *Cloverbuds + 4-H = FUN!*

Cloverbuds are a part of 4-H and can be a huge asset to your club. Unsure of how to mix older kids with youngsters or need some ideas to make it fun? Come on down to the Extension Meeting Room on Monday, February 19 from 5:30-6:30.



### Superintendent Meeting

It is time to start talking about changes for the Ravalli County Fair for 2007. A meeting is scheduled for February 5, 6:30 p.m. in the Extension Meeting room across the hall from the Extension Office. All 4-H Fair Superintendents are asked to be there. Some of the topics to be covered are:

- 4-H Superintendent job descriptions
- Special premiums and due dates
- Updating fair book changes
- Question and answer session

Call the Extension Office for more information!

### 2007 Fair Photo Awards

Its time to think about collecting sponsors to pay for the Photo Awards, which go to the Champion and Reserve Champion in each class at the 4-H fair horse show. Champion photos are an 8x10 with sponsorship being \$20.00 and Reserve Champion is a 5x7 with sponsorship being \$15.00. The photos come matted. If you would like to sponsor a class contact Coral Maxwell at 821-3413 for available classes.

**All accepted JC/JCT  
Loon Lake 4-H Camp 2007**

**Reminder: Meeting on February 26, 2007 6pm at Victor School Cafeteria. Remember to bring you calendar, brains, and fruit for dessert!**



**GO FOR THE GREEN!**

Mark your calendars! The 4-H Carnival will be held on Saturday, March 17, 2007 in the Corvallis Gym. Tickets will be sent to your club in January 2007.

**TICKET SALES INCENTIVE**

Any child that sells 150 tickets will receive ½ campership. Any child that sells 500 tickets will receive a full campership. The club that sells the most tickets will be given first choice of which time they would like to work the Hamburger Stand during fair, and a 20% return on their sales. Children who sell over 50 tickets will be given the opportunity to participate in the Pie Toss – with Katelyn as the target! Fun!



**START YOUR ENGINES!**

Put your heads together with you club to decide on your club's carnival booth. Each club **MUST** have a booth at the carnival. Pizza party will be given to most creative game! Call Ginger with your booth idea.

**WE NEED HELP!!**

Anyone interested in helping can come to the next Carnival Committee meeting on Saturday, February 3, 2007 at 10-Noon, at Frontier Café in Stevensville. No host brunch. Questions? Katelyn Andersen, 375-6611.

*2007 Fashion Revue*

*Dazzling Designer Showcase*

Get your sewing machine ready! Enter your quilts and garments into the 2007 Fashion Revue. Competition will be held May 17, 2007 and senior 4-Hers who qualify can go to Congress 2007!! One Junior 4-Her will go to camp 1/2 off—YEAH!

Members can enter pieces created between May 2006 - May 2007.

The fashion show will also have fiber art pieces from Katelyn Andersen's college work, and quilts from

Lots of prizes, lots of fun, lots of recognition. Even if you are not a sewer, make it a family event and come to the fashion show at 7:30 pm for entertainment and refreshments.



**Improve Your Sewing Corner**

Ginger Order! In college, our textile students were given an educational discount on Ginger scissors. This discount also applies to Extension Agents. They are *amazing* scissors and cut heavy material like butter. Once you try them, you will be hooked. The discount is approximately 50% off the retail price and **FREE** shipping. Contact the office to place your order by March 19.



What if my favorite charity had a penny for every time I searched the Internet...  
Now it can!

There is a new search engine: [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and it gives a penny toward the Montana 4-H Foundation. Make sure you chose the charity before you search! Use it to help our 4-H program.



### 3rd Annual Tack Swap Barnyard Bunch 4-H Club

When: March 24, 2007, Saturday

Time: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm—drinks and food served

Where: Sapphire Event Center—Indoors, Eastside Hwy, Corvallis

Call to drop off your items prior to March 24th. The earlier the better. The items will be tagged and made ready for the sale. A consignment of 20% will be charged to consignors when your item(s) sell. No charge if your items do not sell. *Vendors Welcome.*

RAVALLI COUNTY  
4-H

4-H The Power of YOUth



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**MSU/Ravalli County Extension Agents**

*Bob Johnson*

*Katelyn Anderson*

**PHONATHON** is coming up! The dates for this year's phonathon are April 23,24,25 at the Election Room in the basement of the Ravalli County Courthouse (**NOTE:** this year phonathon will be **Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday** instead of Sun., Mon., Tues. as in previous years). This is a very important fundraiser for Ravalli County 4-H. It is also a great way for 4-H members to raise money for themselves to participate in 4-H activities. Any of you who wish to participate in this year's phonathon must call either Mary Monahan at 961-4666 or Nancy Hnizdil at 375-5040 **by March 1**. Those who have not participated previously must provide a list of names to call for donations. These names can be family, friends, or others that you think may be interested in supporting you and/or 4-H. We are also hoping that all those who have participated previously will also submit additional names to call **by Feb. 15**. Any questions call Mary or Nancy.

## Community Service Opportunities

### Youth Leaders:

If you want to help but not sure how, consider being the contact person for your projects. Some new 4-Hers need help with simple questions, you could help them by being offering your help to the Extension Office. Call us for more details.

### BITTERROOT FOREST SERVICE

The Forest Service is looking for a few members or clubs to adopt a service project that would have a lasting effort on the community and our National Forests!

**Apple Orchard:** Many years ago the Bitterroot Valley promoted an apple industry. Even today there are many ruminates of the apple orchards and one is on the Forest Service! The Forest Service has offered the orchard to a club who would like to adopt the orchard and learn to take care of apple trees! Contact the Extension Office for more information.