

District 3 MIYWW Contest

The Make it Yourself with Wool contest will be held on **November 14, 2009**, in Great Falls, at the First Congregation United Church of Christ.

Record Books

In order to be advanced to the next year and have the 4-H year credited, 4-H members must turn in their record book to organizational leaders to be checked for completion. Completion criteria is available on the Teton County website at <http://www.msueextension.org/teton/> under 4-H, then record books. In order to exhibit/sell projects at the fair, record books must be submitted to your organizational leader or the extension office. Contact your club organizational leader for information.

Club Dues

Each club will receive invoices in January based on their membership. Clubs will submit one payment to the 4-H Council for dues. These payments should be received **no later than April 15**. The grace period for payment is three months between January and April 15. There is no grace period after that date. The council maintains the policy that dues will double after April 15. Dues are then sent to the state for use in maintaining 4-H events and opportunities. The dues double after the 3-month grace period. Organizational leaders and treasurers need to pay close attention when the invoice is received.

Horse & Livestock Committee Meetings

The Horse Committee will meet at 6 p.m. on **January 25** in the Alice Gleason Room at the Teton Public Library.

The Livestock Committee meeting will be held on **January 25** in the Alice Gleason Room of the Choteau Public Library at 7 p.m.

Return Unused 4-H Materials

Please return any unused project manuals and 4-H literature to the Extension Office.

4-H Treasurer's Books Due

We have received treasurer's book from: Exchange, Livestock Committee, Old Agency, Spring Creek, Horse Committee and Challenging Champs. If you are not on the list, please turn your treasurer's books in as soon as possible. Any entity raising funds under the 4-H name and emblem is subject to review.

Greytak Calendars Available

Greytak calendars are available for purchase at the Extension Office. The calendars cost \$10 and a portion of the sales goes directly to Teton County 4-H. Clubs wishing to sell the calendars as a fundraiser call the office for details.

Budget & Audit Committee & 4-H Council to Meet

The Budget and Audit committee will meet at **5:30 p.m.** on Tuesday, **November 3, at the Choteau Baptist Church**. A light main dish will be provided, other items will be by potluck.

The council will meet at **7 p.m.** The proposed changes to the council constitution will be reviewed at the meeting. If anyone wants to have a copy of the constitution to review prior to the meeting, please contact Jane.

The Year in Pictures

The 4-H photo disc is available and includes events from the 2008-2009 4-H year. If you receive this photo disc, we ask that you use pictures for 4-H records and individual scrapbooks. Please do not post any photos to the Internet or social networking sites. As an office

practice, we occasionally use photos on our websites, but as a precautionary measure we do not identify individuals in photos. We assume your permission to use your photo, if we have not received written notification to the contrary. Photos of Teton County 4-H members and events are used in promotional materials and media throughout the county and state.

Extension Office Closed

The Teton County Extension Office will be closed for Veteran's Day on November 11 and the Thanksgiving holiday on Thursday, November 26, and Friday, November 27.

Demonstration Day

The fall demonstration day is planned for **Sunday, November 22, at 2:00 p.m.** Registration is suggested by **November 9**, so that adequate numbers of judges can be contacted. Registration forms are attached to this newsletter. You can complete and submit the registration form or contact the office with requested information. Each family is asked to bring a nutritious finger food item to be served during the event. There will be bowling afterward. If you need a list of ideas for demonstrations or a booklet of instructions in preparing a demonstration, please contact Jane. Members who are 14 and older by October 1 can use demonstration day as a way to qualify to attend State 4-H Congress. Any seniors receiving blue ratings may continue on to Congress. **The demonstration day will be held at the Choteau Baptist Church.**

Another county demonstration event will be hosted by Eager Eagles 4-H club in Fairfield during the late winter or early spring months.

Clover Connections-Local News

Old Agency Club News

On October 24, the Old Agency 4-H Club met in the back of John Henry's to welcome all new members who were present -- Daniel Asselstine, Rebekah Major, and Delaynie Beadle. On November 1, Choteau will have the Pals of the Pavilion fundraiser. The Old Agency 4-H Club is going to have a Barbie™ theme table. There will be an auction and the club is donating an iPod Nano™ and Barbie™ items.

Demonstration Day will be November 22. Four Old Agency Club members went to Fall Ambassador Training in October. Old Agency members taught classes at 4-H Mini-Congress. Lexi Sullivan taught a modeling class. Alisha Breen taught a class on how to do a demonstration. Susan Heuscher taught a class on how to complete record books. Jena Sinton helped with another class on Dutch-oven cooking. Younger members took a few of the classes. Members reported that Mini Congress was fun. Next year it will be in Lewistown.

The next meeting will be held **November 11, at 3:30 , at the Trinity Lutheran Church.**

By Delaynie Beadle, age 8
Old Agency reporter

Choteau Food Drive

With about 40 volunteer 4-H members and leaders and three hours, we were able to gather 1700+ pounds of food for the Teton County Food Pantry. Thanks to the committee members Colton Stephens, Kacey Gollehon, Susan Heuscher and Connor Hodgskiss for their efforts in planning the event. The 1700 pounds of food that were gathered Saturday morning, October 24, will be used to feed those in need in our county. Many of those receiving food assistance are senior citizens. Because of the notes left on doors of those who were not home when food was being collected, there were several bags and boxes of food brought to the food pantry the following Monday. Thank you to all the 4-H families who participated in this worthwhile community service project.

Prairie Stars Club News

The Prairie Stars are meeting at Greenfield School on **Monday, November 9th at 4:00 pm** for our Service Project Meeting. We will be putting together hygiene kits for world relief, having a brief meeting, and a potluck supper. All our invited to join us. Also, if folks would like to donate items, we are looking for hand towels (15" x 25"), unbreakable combs, toothbrushes in packages, tubes of toothpaste (6-8 oz.), and full size bars of soap.

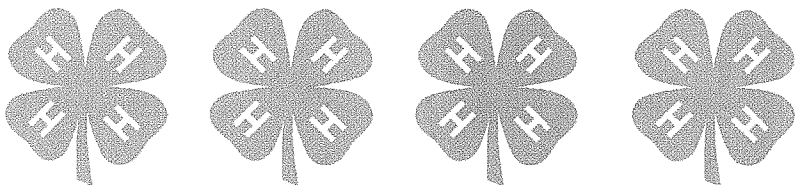
Congratulations, Colton!

Congratulations to Colton Stephens for being selected as a member of the 2010 National 4-H Conference Program Committee-Conference Operations Team. This honor includes two expense-paid trips to Washington D.C.— one this fall to plan the conference and one this spring to attend the conference.

Any 4-H member who would like to attend the conference in the spring should contact our office for application information. Colton attended two years ago and now it has worked into another opportunity.

4-H 101 – Orientation

The evening of **November 10** has been reserved for a new 4-H family orientation. We often hear from 4-H families that the 4-H program in our county can be a little daunting to figure out, particularly if you do not have any background in 4-H. We are planning an orientation that will outline the structure of 4-H, detail several opportunities in 4-H, review the program year, and, most importantly, answer your questions. The orientation will be by registration only. Members, adults, leaders, parents are all invited to attend. Experienced leaders and members are also welcome to register. To register, call 466-2491. The orientation will likely take place in the courthouse and is slated to be from 6-8 p.m. If you are unable to attend the meeting, but still feel you could benefit from an orientation, a private session with your family can be arranged by appointment.



Clover Connections-4-H Information

4-H Mini Congress

Sixty-four 4-H members from across a five-county region converged in Power to find out where they fit at 4-H Mini-Congress. The event rotates among the five counties. Teton County hosted a very well attended event. The feedback received from members and adults was very positive. The 4-H members who taught classes impressed their audience. Thanks to all who taught, cooked, cleaned, entertained and helped with the event.

Reimbursements for Mini Congress

If any of the teachers and helpers for mini-congress had expenses that they would like reimbursed, they need to turn in the reimbursement forms with receipts. The reimbursement forms were given to every instructor/helper at mini-congress. They are also available by request. The 4-H Council is in the process of preparing books for audit and changing treasurers. Please try to get your requests in soon. Thanks.

4-H Accommodations

As a youth organization, 4-H strives to meet our members at their own levels of interest, capacity and capability. All 4-Hers are encouraged to visit with the Extension Agents regarding their goals for their 4-H career, so that we may help link them to activities, events and opportunities that will be of value to them. If a 4-H member requires adjustments or accommodations – ranging from food allergies to wheel chair accessibility to sign language interpreters – we will gladly try to make those accommodations. We rely upon the members and their families to request these modifications of services. To make such a request, you may indicate in writing, or verbally, that you or your child needs accommodations. We are happy to work with you to adapt the 4-H program to fit your needs.

Civil Rights Policy Statement

Montana State University Extension is committed to ensuring the civil rights of its clients, employees and volunteers. Every client, volunteer and employee must be treated fairly and equitably, with dignity and respect. This policy applies to all clients, volunteers, employees – regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, veterans status, sexual orientation, citizenship, and marital or family status.

Each Extension employee and 4-H Leader has an important role in ensuring that our programs are open and accessible to all in accordance with the goals of the program, and for maintaining a positive and equitable environment. The challenge, for each of us, is to seek out diversity. We are all responsible to recruit and retain people who are traditionally underrepresented in our programs and employee groups. **We each become more effective in teaching and learning when we are open to a diversity of ideas, cultures, experiences and backgrounds. Not only are our lives enriched, but we also build healthier communities for learning and living.**

MSU Extension and 4-H are pleased to partner with you to achieve the important goals of equity and fairness to all.

Montana 4-H Volunteer Screening Process

The safety and wellbeing of youth and adult participants in the Montana 4-H Program is paramount to the continued success of the program.

Through consultation with volunteers, agents, Extension Administration, MSU Safety and Risk Management, and MSU Legal Counsel, the Montana 4-H program will be changing volunteer screening procedures to include criminal background checks of 4-H volunteers that serve in a direct youth contact capacity with the program. These changes have been discussed and presented at the two most recent 4-H Agent Updates and Extension Annual Conferences.

The Teton County 4-H Council will pay the screening costs for leaders in Teton County. Please be advised that a break in service will necessitate re-certification. We **strongly** encourage you to remain continuously enrolled as a leader after initial screening. Implementation of the new screening procedure is the 2009 - 2010 4-H year beginning October 1, 2009. In Teton County, we encourage former leaders to complete the certification process.

Clover Connections-4-H Information

The Teton County Extension Office would like to thank all of our local 4-H leaders, volunteers and members. We had an exciting year last year and enjoyed working with the many wonderful people in the 4-H program. We look forward to a new, productive and educational year with our 4-H members, leaders and families.

If you see areas that we can improve our service to you, please contact Jane Wolery at 406-466-2491.

Western Region Leaders' Forum

Albuquerque, NM

March 11-14, 2010

The theme for the WRLF is Blazing Trails to New Mexico. All 4-H leaders and teens are invited to attend. For more information, contact the Extension Office or download the application at <http://montana4h.org/#program:45>

National 4-H Conference

The National 4-H Conference, **March 20-25, 2010**, is a working conference in which youth and adults assist in the development of recommendations to help guide 4-H Youth Development Programs nationally and in their communities.

Montana will send a delegation of up to four participants. Youth must be 15-18 years old as of January 1, 2010 and not a High School senior during the 4-H year in which they apply and attend.

The application is available from the extension office or online at <http://montana4h.org/#program:32> Applications are due **November 15, 2009**.

People Partner Grants

The People Partner grants provide incentives and financial support to groups and individuals for programs that enhance the quality of living for people in their communities. Grants can be found at the following website: <http://www.montana4h.org/#program:31>

Prudential Spirit of Community Award

If you've made a difference by volunteering in your community over the past year, you could win \$1000. For more information or to apply, visit www.prudential.com/spirit.

Steps To Become a Certified 4-H Leader

The Montana 4-H Volunteer Certification process includes completion of:

- Montana 4-H Volunteer Application
- Montana 4-H Volunteer Agreement and Standards of Behavior
- Disclosure and Consent form
- Criminal Background Check administered through HireRight
- Check against the Montana Sexual and Violent Offender Registry
- Orientation of accepted volunteers
- Annual re-enrollment of accepted volunteers

All background check information received through the volunteer certification process is confidential. Information, forms and letters will be stored in a locked safe in the Teton County Extension Office when not in direct use by the faculty or staff member. Once the social security numbers are no longer needed, they will be removed and shredded. HireRight's system encrypts the social security number, once it is in their system.

Please see the FAQ's on pages 6 and 7 of the newsletter for more information. If you have questions, please call the office.

A Direct Volunteer is an individual who volunteers in a capacity that includes face-to-face, unsupervised contact with youth. Examples include, but are not limited to: organizational leaders, project leaders, chaperones, volunteers transporting youth, exchange hosts and family members .

Montana 4-H Application for Youth Leadership Opportunities

The Montana 4-H Center for Youth Development is recruiting energetic, involved 4-H members to serve on three different governing bodies: (1) the Montana 4-H Council, (2) the Montana 4-H Foundation, and (3) the Montana 4-H Youth Cabinet. This single application can be used for any of these positions, and you should indicate which boards you wish to be considered by checking the appropriate boxes. Please call the Extension Office for more information.

Teton County 4-H Livestock Committee Minutes-October 8, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Doug Ulsh. Members present were Doug, Cody & Trey Ulsh, Nikki Ley, Terry Stephens, Barb Bouma and Extension Agent Mark Major. Wyatt Ulsh was also present. Nikki moved and Barb seconded that we approve the minutes. Terry reported that the Treasurer's books have been audited and approved by the Extension Office. There was no activity in the account and the balance remained at \$3704.45. Barb moved and Nikki seconded that we approve the Treasurer's Report.

Nikki was selected as the new President by proclamation, and Danelle Crary will remain the Secretary for another term. We need to appoint a new Capital Improvements committee, but with there being very few members present, it was decided to table this for another meeting.

Announcements

There will be a shooting sports training in Kalispell on Dec. 4-5. Interested leaders can certify to lead shooting sports areas. The cowboy action shooters will meet on October 24. Mark has written 2 grants for funding for this project.

Old Business

Mark had invited Cindy Peltzer to talk about an alpaca project, but she wasn't at the meeting. This will be tabled.

Improvements for 2010- Mark received an estimate for extending the electricity in the pig barn,

putting 5 outlets under the J Channel in the new addition, 2 on the north side of the barn, 2 on the west side and 2 where the scale sits. Gerald Torgerson was contacted because he has traditionally done all the wiring at the Weatherbeater. He gave an estimate of \$1750. Doug moved and Cody seconded that we accept the bid and have him get started so the project can be completed before January. Motion passed.

Nikki will contact someone about welding holding pens for the pigs during the show, so we won't have to borrow the pens from State Fair.

Market Animal Judge- Terry suggested Nico Cantalupo from Fallon County. Mark will contact him and, if he isn't available, Mark and Terry will look for someone else. Another name suggested was Mike Twillmann of Columbia Falls.

The changes with the fair schedule seemed to go very well. There was one concern about having to remove the food from the kitchen in the Weatherbeater because of the open day between the horse show and hog show, but otherwise it went great.

The issue of having insurance on the animals between the sale and the time they are supposed to be killed at the packing house was discussed. The insurance would only pay the market value of an animal, and since there is a big gap between market value and

what the members receive it was decided that it really wasn't worth it.

There was discussion about whether the members back tags at the fair should match their animal ear tag. Because this could cause a ripple effect of extra effort and/or potential errors when changes are made, the matter died for lack of motion.

Terry will get the ear tags for the animals from Walco again, as they donate the 4-H tags.

New Business

The Fair dates are June 21-26. Prairie Stars & Eager Beavers are in charge of Weatherbeater concessions; Challenging Champs & Golden Prairie have the Chuckwagon dinner; Eager Eagles & Old Agency have Pavilion Set-up; Spring Creek & Teton Wranglers have Pavilion Clean-up.

The livestock agreement letter was handed out for review. Some considerations for next year would be limiting the number of people in the pig barn during the show to members who are showing, and posting signs prominently about the dress code. Colton will probably be starting his beef club again in January for any members who are interested.

The next meeting will be on January 25th at 7:00 at the Choteau Library.

Barb moved and Cody seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

4-H Leader Certification Q&A

Why is there a certification process for 4-H leaders in Montana this year?

Montana is one of the last states to adopt some type of leaders' certification process. The reason for the change is to provide the safest possible environment for our 4-H youth members. We want to make the best efforts to ensure that 4-H members are in a safe environment, with a safe adult leader who treats them with respect and dignity.

Wasn't the old system working? Why change it?

The old MT 4-H volunteer screening process involved self-disclosure only. In today's world, self-disclosure is no longer the standard of care for 4-H programs. The new system includes a National Criminal Background Check and a check against the MT Sexual and Violent Offender's Registry. The new process is designed to help carefully select and match appropriate individuals with the 4-H program to best meet the needs of the youth and other volunteers involved.

The forms ask for my social security number, how is that going to be used?

The Montana 4-H Center for Youth Development has contracted with a firm called HireRight to complete the background checks. The social security number is the only universally used unique identifier on a national level. In the Teton County Extension Office, our best efforts will be made to provide security for your personal data. As part of office procedures, when the forms with social security numbers are received, they will be stored in a locked safe. When a batch of forms (10 applications) are accumulated, they are entered onto a secure website with HireRight and background checks are completed. The turn-around is usually about 48 hours. Once the volunteer has been accepted, the office staff will cut off the portion of the application that contains the social security number and it will be shredded. The forms (sans social security numbers) will still be kept under locked storage. We are doing our best to minimize how many people, even within our office, will handle those numbers. Jamie Smith will be completing all the on-line data entry and will be the primary person handling the forms. Montana 4-H Center never sees the complete social security number. HireRight's system encrypts the social security number, once it is in their system.

Will the Extension Office know if I've had a DUI or any embarrassing information from my past?

The Montana 4-H Center for Youth Development reviews information obtained in the criminal background checks from HireRight and information received from county offices regarding the applicant. The 4-H Center makes decisions regarding volunteer acceptance. Decisions will be made on an individual basis depending on the nature of the information. The 4-H Center will notify applicants who have not been accepted or who have been accepted with imposed restrictions and will also notify the local extension office; however, the local office may not necessarily know the details of the reasons for rejection. There is a grievance process for leaders who feel they have been unfairly restricted or rejected.

Who needs to be certified?

At the local level, our county is asking all volunteers to become certified. The Teton County 4-H Council is paying \$12 for any/all volunteers who are screened. It is a little bit of time and paperwork, but worth it to verify that appropriate adults are working with our 4-H youth. Adults who are working in a direct capacity with youth need to be certified. The leaders who are considered direct volunteers are those who have direct contact with 4-H members that is not supervised by anyone else. **For example, all organizational leaders, project leaders, chaperones, volunteers transporting youth and exchange leaders and exchange host family members who live in the household who are over age 19 are required to complete screening.**

How long do I have to get certified?

Volunteers should be certified by January 2010 or they will be prohibited from working in any direct (and otherwise unsupervised) capacity with youth. Consider carefully any decision not to be certified as it may prohibit you from future opportunities – including driving any 4-H member (besides your own children) to a 4-H event, offering a project workshop/class for youth, chaperoning any 4-H event, etc.

If I have to get certified as a leader, what about the Extension staff?

Both Teton County Extension Agents have previously had background checks as condition of employment with extension work. Both administrative assistants wanted to be screened, but because HireRight is contracted to do the background checks for a reduced price for the 4-H program, we are not allowed to have extension personnel screened at the contracted rate. The administrative assistants rarely, if ever, work in an unsupervised direct capacity with youth.

How long is my certification good for?

If a certified leader maintains a continuous enrollment, with no break in service of more than 30 days, they will remain certified. **The Teton County Extension Office asks that all our adults who work with 4-H members become certified and remain continuously enrolled to avoid unnecessary reviews and additional fees.** Future changes to the current policy may require review screenings of leaders on a periodic basis.

Why should I get certified?

Your participation in the volunteer certification process demonstrates to 4-H members that you are willing to comply with a higher standard for their safety. We rely on important volunteers to educate 4-H youth. We need you to be a certified leader for the success of the mission of the 4-H program in our county.

What if I still have questions?

Contact Jane Wolery at the Teton County Extension Office. If that course of action does not satisfy you, you can contact Cody Stone at the Montana 4-H Center for Youth Development.

"Get in the Act" on Demonstration Day

Please fill out the following and return to the office. Registration is suggested by November 9, so that adequate numbers of judges can be contacted. Demonstration Day will be **November 22 at 2:00 p.m.** at the Choteau Baptist Church. This registration will help us schedule times and approximate finish time. You may call or e-mail information as well. If you have a preferred time of day to present, please indicate that, as well. All registered 4-H members will receive correspondence with tentative times. Thank you.

_____ Name	_____ Age as of October 1, 2009
_____ Address	_____ Telephone Number
_____ City, State, Zip	_____ E-mail address

Please Designate Age (as of October 1, 2009):

- Cloverbud Pre-junior (ages 8-10)
 Junior (ages 11-13) Senior (ages 14+)



Presentation Information:

Title: _____

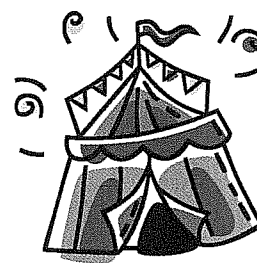
Approximate Length: _____

I will need the following audio-visual and/or other equipment:

Please Check One:

- Demonstration
 Illustrated Talk
 Speech

Are you bowling after the event? Yes No



Each participant is asked to bring nutritious finger food to share with everyone.

**Please return to Teton County Extension: P.O. Box 130, Choteau, MT 59422
tetonext@3rivers.net or 466-2491**

Teton County 4-H 2009-2010 Calendar

November 2009

- 3 4-H Council Meeting
Budget & Audit committee
- 10 New 4-H Family orientation
- 11 Office closed-Veteran's Day
- 14 Make it Yourself with Wool
- 22 Demonstration Day-Choteau
- 26 Office Closed-Thanksgiving
- 27 Office Closed-Thanksgiving

December 2009

***Invite agents to your club meeting during the year**

January 2010

- 1 Invoices sent for club dues
- 1 Beef in possession
- 4 Beef project paperwork due
- 11 Beef photo due
- 25 Horse Committee meeting
- 25 Livestock Committee meeting
- TBA Camp counselor applications due
- TBA 4-H Council meeting

February 2010

- TBA Demonstration Day-Fairfield

March 2010

- TBA Horse leader assessment
- TBA Livestock Committee meeting
- TBA Horse Committee meeting

April 2010

- 15 Club dues deadline
- 19 Lamb/swine in possession
- 29 Lamb/swine photos due
- 30 Fair entries due
- TBA Livestock Quality Assurance
- TBA 4-H Council meeting
- TBA Fairfield Food Drive

May 2010

June 2010

- 21-27 Teton County 4-H Fair
- TBA Horse Showcase
- TBA Style Show judging

July 2010

- 6-9 4-H Congress
- 13 Camp counselors to camp
- 14-16 4-H Camp
- TBA Carcass Evaluation
- TBA Carcass Event

August 2010

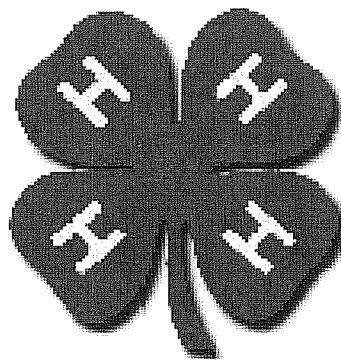
- 3rd Tues. Record books due for quality judging
- TBA Livestock Committee meeting
- TBA Horse Committee meeting
- TBA Montana State Fair

September 2010

- TBA 4-H Council meeting

If you have dates for the calendar, please notify the extension office.

This calendar provided as a guideline only. Deadlines will be printed on forms in the county newsletter and online.





MSU/Teton County Extension

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Choteau, MT 59422

Phone: 406-466-2491

Jane: Ext. 251

Mark: Ext. 252

Jamie: Ext. 253

Rhea: Ext. 254

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Web: www.msuextension.org/teton

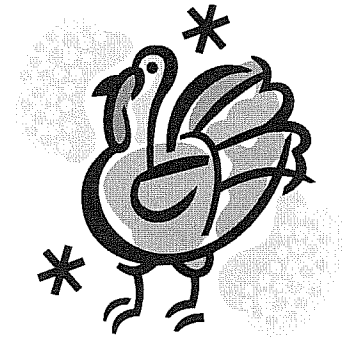
Agents: Jane Wolery: jwolery@montana.edu
Mark Major: mbmajor@montana.edu

Assistants: Rhea Brutosky & Jamie Smith
tetonext@3rivers.net

**Congratulations to Carolyn & Mark Major
on the birth of their son,
Andrew Thomas on September 25.**

Dates to Remember

- Nov 3 4-H Council meeting
Budget & Audit committee
- Nov 10 4-H Family Orientation
- Nov 11 Veteran's Day-office closed
- Nov 14 Make it Yourself With Wool-Great Falls
- Nov 22 Demonstration Day-Choteau
- Nov 26-27 Thanksgiving holiday-office closed
- Dec 1 State 4-H Congress Planning applications due
- Jan 6-10 Western 4-H Roundup
- Jan 8-10 Alberta Leaders Forum
- Jan 25 Livestock Committee Meeting
- Feb 1 People Partner Grant applications postmarked



Jane A. Wolery Mark B. Major
MSU Teton County Extension Agents

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