

DECEMBER 2009



Dear 4-H Members, Leaders and Parents,

As we come to the end of another year, the holiday season offers us a special opportunity to extend our personal thanks to you and your family for all that you do for the 4-H program. We also want to welcome all new members, leaders, and parents. We hope the 2010 4-H year will be a rewarding experience for all. Four-H is **your** organization. Four-H members learn leadership by conducting their own meetings and 4-H members and leaders determine the direction of the county 4-H program by attending 4-H Council meetings. There are many opportunities for 4-H members and leaders to gain new skills at project workshops, meetings, camps, and trips. I encourage everyone to take advantage of all that they can. We use the 4-H newsletter to keep you informed of upcoming activities and events at the county and state level. We encourage everyone to read the newsletter. If at any time you have questions or would like additional information on any material presented in the newsletter, please let us know.

A special thanks goes out to the recently elected and appointed Executive Committee. Their willingness to serve is deeply appreciated. President-Billy Teeters, Vice President-Julie Pinnow, Secretary-Sandra Devine, Treasurer-Heidi Petermann, Teen Ambassador Representatives- Abigail Miske and Teri Rogers. Please remember to thank the Executive Committee for all that they do.

The Wibaux County 4-H program functions primarily through a committee system. In Wibaux County there are 14 different 4-H Council Committees. The 4-H Council Executive Committee tries to include every family on at least one committee. Enclosed in this newsletter is a list of the 2010 4-H Council Committees and their members. It is everyone's willingness to serve and support the committee system that allows the 4-H program to be successful. If there are committees you would like to be on and are not, please notify the Extension Office. Also, if you are on a committee you really don't want to be on, we need to know that as well. All of your support is deeply appreciated.

In this newsletter you will also find information on the date to weigh and tag 4-H market and breeding beef, Livestock Judging Workshop, 4-H Council Meeting, Citizenship Washington Focus, People Partner Grants, International Programs, and more.

From the Wibaux County Extension Office, Patti and I do wish you and your family a very Joyous Holiday Season.

Sincerely,

David L. Bertelsen
County Extension Agent

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Weighing & Tagging 4-H Market & Breeding Beef

The 4-H Livestock Committee will weigh and tag 4-H market and breeding beef on **Saturday, December 26th, at 1:00 p.m. at Begger's Diamond V Ranch.** Four-H or FFA members wishing to exhibit a market steer or breeding beef at the fair must have it tagged. Each member may also tag an alternate animal. The alternate animal must be designated at weigh-in.

All NEW breeding animals must be brought to the weigh-in. If the breeding project is a continuation from last year, it does not need to be at the weigh-in, but the ear tag number does need to be turned into the Extension Office.

If a member is unable to attend the scheduled weigh-in, they need to contact the Extension Office. An alternate date of **Saturday, January 2nd**, has been set up to individually weigh and tag those animals not previously tagged. The Livestock Committee does ask that all market and breeding beef be tagged on one of those two dates. If you have any questions, please contact the Extension Office.

Member & Leader Dues

Four-H members and leaders are asked to pay their dues by January 15, 2010. Member dues are \$4.00 + \$1.00 for insurance, and leader dues are \$5.00 + \$1.00 for insurance. The insurance for members in the horse project and horse leaders is \$2.00. **Leader dues need to be sent to the State 4-H Council by January 15, 2010.**

Livestock Judging Workshop

A 4-H Livestock Judging Workshop has been scheduled for **Monday, December 28th, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. in the Wibaux County Courtroom.** All interested 4-H youth between the ages of 9-19 are encouraged to attend. Being a member of a 4-H livestock judging team can be a very fun experience.

4-H Council Meeting

January 12, 2010

The next Wibaux County 4-H Council meeting has been scheduled for **Tuesday, January 12th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wibaux County Courtroom.** Please mark the date on your calendar. The 4-H Council consists of senior 4-H members, leaders and parents. All are encouraged to attend.



Citizenship Washington Focus

June 12-19, 2010

Go to Washington, D. C. for a week in June to experience our nation's capital, meet your legislators, and meet 4-Hers from around the country. During this week-long trip, delegates have the opportunity to tour the Smithsonian and the National monuments as well as visit with Montana Senators and Representatives. Montana delegates travel as a group with two adult chaperones.

The estimated cost per person is \$1,700.00. Application forms are due by *February 1st*. Application and detailed information is available in the programs/events section of the Montana 4-H website: www.montana4h.org. The Wibaux County 4-H Council will help off-set expenses.

Delegates must be 4-H members 15 years or older by October 1, 2009. Chaperones are also needed. Please contact the Extension Office if interested.

Scholarship Available: The Susan Kay Dufner Memorial Scholarship awards \$500.00 to one delegate to attend Citizenship Washington Focus. The application and three letters of reference are due February 1, 2010 with the CWF application. Applicants must be 17 years or older by October 1, 2009.

International Programs

If you're in 4-H and have always wanted to travel abroad, you can apply to go to Australia, Costa Rica, Norway, or Japan in the summer of 2010. You'll travel with 4-Hers from around the country, accompanied by at least one chaperone, and stay with a host family during the exchange. In addition, you'll get to see some of the sights in the major cities like Sydney and Tokyo. In Costa Rica, you'll visit a rainforest. When you return to Montana, you'll get to continue the exchange by making small presentations to your schools, 4-H clubs, or other community organizations that want to hear about your cool adventure. Age ranges from 14-19 depending on the country selected.

Four-H volunteers over the age of 25 can apply to chaperone one of the trips listed above. The applications are reviewed on the national level and preference is given to those who have significant experience chaperoning youth and to those with previous International travel experience (not required).

IFYE: Applications for the IFYE Representative program are due January 15, 2010. This program is for older youth (ages 19-30) who have graduated from high school or are enrolled in or have graduated from college. This is a very unique study abroad program that is not available through any university or college. Delegates live and work with host families for the duration of their stay (3 or 6 months), truly experiencing life in another country. After returning to America, delegates are expected to report about their experiences to various clubs, schools and other community organizations. Financial support is available from the Montana 4-H Foundation.

The application deadline for all of the programs listed above is *January 15, 2010*. Applications are available online at www.montana4h.org or by contacting Stephanie Davison at (406) 994-3502 or sdavidson@montana.edu. If interested, please contact the Extension Office. The Wibaux County 4-H Council will help off-set expenses.