

AUGUST 2025



TOOLE COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER



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Hello 4-H Families!

The 2025 Marias Fair 4-H Livestock auction was again phenomenal setting a new gross total and out averaging 2024 in the swine, goat, and lamb categories!

Averages included:

47 steers at \$6.81/lb.

5 goats at \$19.60/lb.

15 lambs at \$19.87/lb.

59 swine at \$18.03/lb.

Gross - \$751,971 on 126 head

The 2024 Marias Fair grossed \$693,732 on 111 head. In 2023, the sale grossed \$632,291 on 94 head. In 2024, 46 steers averaged \$7.72/lb, 43 swine averaged \$17.20/lb., 5 goats averaged \$18.20/lb., and 14 lambs averaged \$19.53/lb.

Thank you to all the bidders, buyers, and community supporters who turned out for our 4-H youth!

It was another great year and I can't wait to see how well you all did in your record books!

As always, please reach out if you have any questions at all!

Kim & Jackie

TAKE A PEEK AT WHAT'S INSIDE:

AWARDS

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARIAS FAIR 4-H PICTURES

CALENDAR



Meat Drop Off Wednesday

On August 13th we will be doing the meat pickup at the Exhibit Building at the fairgrounds around 2:30 PM and we would love some young, strong, 4-H bodies to help move some of the bags and boxes of meat! This is a great chance to thank your buyer in person. Please be there to help if you are able! Thanks!!

Shelby School Open House/Activity Fair

The Shelby Area Chamber of Commerce, MSU Toole County Extension & Shelby Public School District #14 have partnered to create a Family/Youth Activity Fair on Tuesday, August 26, 2025, starting at 5:00 PM during the School Open House, in the Shelby Elementary Gym. This is the 2nd annual time for this event. Last year was a great success and we look forward to another great year. Local groups or organizations are invited. The criteria is your organization must be family, youth or community oriented.

If you're looking for activities to do in the Shelby Area, this event will be a great opportunity for your organization to connect with local residents of Shelby, some of which may be new to the area. We encourage your attendance as an opportunity to talk about your organization to adults and children of Shelby. This will be an excellent way to connect within the community.

There is no fee to attend, and tables and chairs will be provided. We expect all organizations to arrive between 4:00-4:30 PM to set up, so everyone is ready to go at 5:00 PM.

Please contact the Toole County Extension Office with questions and/or if you would like to register for this event. All participants need to be registered by August 19, 2025. We are looking forward to your attendance

Record Books Due

Record Books and project books are due to leaders Friday August 15th. They can be turned in by hand or turned in on Z-Suite. We will be printing off hard copies in the office and you will receive your seal of completion and your end of year sticker for your certificate.

New 4-H Year

It is never too early to start thinking about the next year for 4-H. The new year starts on October 1st and you can check out the [Clover guide](https://store.msuxextension.org/Products/4-H-Clover-Montana-4-H-Project-Selection-Guide-2023-2024-5173__5173.aspx) to see what kind of projects you might be interested in taking next year!

https://store.msuxextension.org/Products/4-H-Clover-Montana-4-H-Project-Selection-Guide-2023-2024-5173__5173.aspx

How to Write a Good Thank You Note

A thoughtful thank you note goes a long way in showing appreciation. Whether someone has supported your project, given you a gift, or volunteered their time, a well-written note leaves a lasting impression. Here are a few tips for crafting one that's heartfelt and memorable:

1. Start with a warm greeting

Begin with "Dear [Name]," to make it personal. Use their correct name and spelling—attention to detail shows you care.

2. Say thank you right away

Get straight to the point. Let them know exactly what you're grateful for:

"Thank you for purchasing my 4-H livestock project..."

"Thank you for your generous donation toward our fundraiser..."

3. Share the impact

Briefly explain how their gift, time, or support made a difference. This helps them see the value of what they did.

"Your support helped me buy my first steer, and I'm learning so much about caring for cattle."

4. Add a personal touch

Include a small detail, story, or future plan that connects them to your journey.

"I can't wait to share updates from the fair this summer!"

5. Close with sincerity

End with a heartfelt sign-off such as "Sincerely," "With gratitude," or "Thanks again," followed by your name.

Example:

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Smith,

Thank you for purchasing my 4-H livestock project at the fair this year. Your support allows me to learn more about raising animals and develop important life skills. I truly appreciate your generosity and look forward to making you proud in the show ring.

Sincerely,

Kim Woodring

Final tip: Handwritten notes often feel more personal than typed ones—plus, they're more likely to be kept and remembered.

AWARDS

2025 Marias Fair Awards

Dylan Clark

Top Beef Interview
Top Swine Interview
1st Place Senior Swine Showmanship
Grand Champion Swine Showmanship
Reserve Champion Beef Breeding Animal
Reserve Champion Round Robin Showmanship

Liliana Denno

Best of Class Pre- Junior Babysitting Exhibit
Top Overall Pre-Junior Fashion Revue

Rebecca Enneberg

2nd Place Pre-Junior Rabbit Showmanship

Bridger Ergenbright

3rd place Junior Livestock Judging Individual
Top Junior Demo/Illustrated Talk- Friday
2nd place overall Demo/ Illustrated Talk
Top Junior Prepared/ Impromptu Speech
Grand Champion Hog Carcass

Hadley Ergenbright

Best of Class Poultry Exhibit
Top Poultry Interview
1st Place Pre- Junior Poultry Showmanship
Grand Champion Tom/Pullet Turkey

Wyatt Fix

1st Place Senior Livestock Judging Team

Brinlee Flesch

1st Place Junior Beef Showmanship
Reserve Champion Beef Showmanship
Grand Champion Market Beef

Jagger Flesch

1st Place Junior Swine Showmanship
Overall Swine Showmanship Runner up
Reserve Champion Bred Heifer Project

Lennon Flesch

3rd Place Pre-Junior Swine Showmanship

Paxton Flesch

Best Rate of Gain- Sheep
1st Place Senior Livestock Judging Team
Top Swine Interview
3rd Place Hog Carcass
3rd Place Sheep Carcass
Reserve Champion Market Lamb

Preslee Flesch

1st Place Senior Beef Showmanship
Grand Champion Beef Showmanship
Grand Champion Beef Breeding Animal
Top Breeding Heifer, Toole Co.
Overall Breeding Heifer
Grand Champion Bred Heifer Project
High % Black Angus Beef

Sam Flesch

Grand Champion Sheep Carcass

Grace Hemmer

Best of Class Junior Photography Exhibit
Overall Cat Project High Point Exhibitor
Best of Show Photography Exhibit
High Point Toole County
Grand Champion Junior Cat Showmanship
Reserve Champion Overall Cat Showmanship
1st Place Junior Poultry Showmanship
Reserve Champion Overall Poultry Showmanship

Moir Hemmer

2nd Place Longest Tail Cat Contest
3rd Place Pre- Junior Cat Showmanship
3rd Place Best Cat Costume
2nd Place Pre Junior Poultry Showmanship

AWARDS

2025 Marias Fair Awards

Annika Isakson

Best of Class Senior Sheep Fleece Exhibit
Best of Class Senior Goat Exhibit
Best of Show Large Animal Exhibit
Most Promising Beginner- Goat
Senior Livestock Judging Team 1st Place
Senior MRLA Sheep Public Speaking Contest
Senior Demo/Illustrated Talk- Friday
Demo/Illustrated Talk Overall 1st place
Top Sheep Interview
2nd Place Senior Sheep Showmanship
Reserve Champion Sheep Showmanship
2nd Place Senior Market Goat Showmanship
Reserve Champion Market Goat Showmanship

Evan Isakson

1st Place Pre-Junior Swine Showmanship
1st Place Pre-Junior Sheep Showmanship

Aaron Isakson

Swine Herdsmanship Winner

Morgan Riphenburg

Best of Class Junior Sewing Exhibit
Top Overall Junior Fashion Revue
Reserve Champion Hog Carcass

Desirae Salois

Top Junior Demo/Illustrated Talk- Friday
2nd Place Overall Demo/Illustrated Talk
Top Junior Career Communications
Overall 3rd Place All other Categories
Top Photography Interview
Top Swine Interview

Kaley Sandon

2nd Place Junior Beef Showmanship

Corin Scarborough

Best of Class Senior Aerospace, Electricity Exhibit
Top Robotics Interview
Top Electricity Interview

Jadis Scarborough

Top Beef Interview
Top Horse Interview

Orion Vetch

Best of Class Pre-Junior Veterinary Science Exhibit
Best of Class Pre-Junior Leathercraft Exhibit
Best of Class Pre-Junior Poultry Exhibit
Best of Class Pre-Junior Swine Exhibit
Top Vet Science Interview
Top Leathercraft Interview
Top Swine Interview

UPCOMING EVENTS

4-H Congress

Kim and Annika Isakson attended the 4-H Congress in Bozeman! We had a great time staying on campus and attending the workshops! Annika took in a fly tying workshop as well as some financial independence workshops. Of course she enjoyed the dances in the evening too!

Photos by Cody Cosmano @codycosmanophotos



Fall Leadership Training

4-H Fall Leadership Training for teen leaders and county Ambassadors is November 7-9, 2025 in Butte at the Copper King Hotel. Theme and schedule announced after team retreat September 12-14

More information can be found at

https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/events/fall_training/index.html

Fall Leadership Training is the annual leadership development retreat for Montana 4-H Ambassadors and Teen Leaders. The event is planned, implemented, and evaluated by the State Ambassador Officer Team. Youth will leave the weekend prepared and excited to take the knowledge and skills they have gained and apply them in their counties. It is also a great place to have youth leaders exchange ideas and create a statewide network of resources.



2025 FAIR PICTURES



AUGUST

- 5th-** Marias Fair Carcass Awards 6:30 @ Ambulance Barn
- 5th-** Toole County 4-H Council Meeting 6pm @ Ambulance Barn
- 5th-** Kountry Kids Club Meeting to follow Carcass Awards
- 5th-** Blazing Saddles Club Meeting to follow Carcass Awards
- 7th-** Market and Music 4-6pm @ City Park
- 13th-** 4-H Meat Delivery 2:30pm @ Exhibit Building
- 14th-** Market and Music 4-6pm @ City Park
- 15th-** Record Books due to Club
- 21st-** Market and Music 4-6pm @ City Park
- 22nd-** Record Books due to Office
- 28th-** Market and Music 4-6pm @ City Park

SEPTEMBER

- 1st- Labor Day- Office Closed**
- 4th-** Market and Music 4-6pm @ City Park
- 11th-** Market and Music 4-6pm @ City Park

Toole County 4-H Club Contacts

Blazing Saddles

Emilie Vetch 460-1082

Anna Hemmer 470-1239

West Butte

Crystal McAlpine 450-0108

Jessie Thompson 450-3429

Kountry Kids

Sanna Clark 450-2122

Ranching Rascals

Ashely Denno 494-6340

Cloverbuds

Barb Larsen 460-2765