

DECEMBER 2025



TOOLE COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER



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Hello 4-H Families!

We have made it to December!! I was so lucky to be allowed to chaperone National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, Georgia over the Thanksgiving Holiday. It was such an awesome experience with 4-Hers from 42 other states. I would love to have some Toole County 4-Hers attend congress in Bozeman this year and eventually make it to Nationals.

Project books have been ordered for those who need them, and some of them have arrived! I will send out an email when they are ready to be picked up.

We are needing a couple of Toole County Day Chairs for the Marias Fair this year. If you are interested at all, this is a paid position. If you need more information, please contact the Extension office. We cannot run the food booth without our day chairs!

I hope you all have a relaxed holiday season and ready for the new year and new 4-H goals!

Sincerely,

Kim & Jackie

TAKE A PEEK AT WHAT'S INSIDE:
UPCOMING EVENTS
GINGERBREAD HOUSES
CALENDAR



UPCOMING EVENTS

FSA Youth Ag Loans

If you are looking for a way to finance your 4-H projects for this year (or wanting to take on a larger livestock project), consider visiting with the Farm Service Agency. They recently increased the loan limit to \$10,000 and funds can be used for the purchase of animals, feed, supplies, etc. Youth between the ages of 10 and 20 are eligible. Loans are repaid annually and can be termed out for up to seven years for the purchase of breeding stock. Interest rate is 4.875%.

MRLA Free Membership

Marias River Livestock Association is now offering FREE membership to those who are members of our local 4-H & FFA!

Follow this link to join: <http://mariasriverlivestock.com/plans-pricing>

2026 Don Greytak Calendars

The Toole County Extension Office is selling Greytak Calendars. They are \$15 each! Stop by the office to pick yours up soon! They make excellent Christmas presents!!

Livestock Committee Update

Members who show multiple market animals at the fair will be able to pay \$50/each to have those additional animals shipped with the fair animals and participate in the carcass contest, have processed meat returned on the truck, etc. Details will be firmed up as time gets closer. Example- 4-Her shows a steer and lamb, and sells the steer. They can have the lamb go on the truck, participate in the carcass contest, etc. for the \$50 fee.

Montana 4-H Leadership

Academy Monthly Zoom

Meetings, 6 - 7 p.m.

December 6 - Understanding Yourself as a Leader

January 11 - Planning and Running a Project

Leadership Academy Monthly Workshops

Members 12+, 4-H Age, join the Montana 4-H Leadership Academy workshop on Sunday afternoons in 2025-2026 4-H year. The leadership academy is a network of Montana 4-H members interested in exploring and developing their own leadership skills while serving their county 4-H program in new ways. Each month the officer team members will present a different workshop topic that they have found to be important as they have grown their own leadership abilities. This workshop should be paired with a local county leadership meeting to work on county projects that serve the local 4-H program and community.

The workshops will be focused on basic leadership skills to get 4-H'ers more prepared as they move into larger and more demanding leadership roles, like camp counselors, teen leaders and county ambassadors.

Register for the link at https://montana.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1NR9vgT1Tw0c3xl.

UPCOMING EVENTS

4-H Horse Workshops

Please RSVP to LeAnne at 406-391-0154 by December 10th for the halter making workshop so they can plan for supplies. Although the deadline has passed, I'm sure they would still take anyone that wanted to come to this workshop!

SAVE THE DATE FOR 4-H HORSE WORKSHOPS

Join 4-H horse for monthly beginner horse project meetings!

All meetings will be at Glacier County Annex in Cut Bank:

Upcoming:

- December 14 - 5:30 p.m. - Halter making with Remington and Danni Campbell
- January 11 - 5:30 p.m. - Horse vaccinations and deworming with Dr. Steven Hjartarson
- February 8 - 5:30 p.m. - Horseshoeing and trimming with Remington Winkowitsch



To participate, enroll in your local 4-H program through 4h.zsuite.org and select a beginning horse project:

- Horseless Horse - Horse is not required
- Western Horsemanship - Basics of western riding
- Working Ranch Horse - General ranch work

For more information: Glacier County Extension, 873-2239, kari.lewis@montana.edu
Thanks to Beretta Winkowitsch, teen leader, for organizing!!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Montana 4-H Rec Lab - Save the Date

March 27-29, 2026- Columbus, MT

This year's Rec Lab will include a county tour and a trip to Montana Silversmith's Outlet Store. We plan to share lots of Stillwater County educational opportunities with you. More info to come!



Montana 4-H Rec Lab Workshop Proposals Needed

This year's theme: "4-H Escape: Do You Have the Skills to Unlock Your Potential?"

Bring your creativity and skills to life with a workshop that challenges participants to grow in leadership, communication, and team-building — the core of Rec Lab's mission!

Workshop proposals will be submitted through Google Forms at the link here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfcMYQsAHodX-ry3QCH-U8g71JWZSvfSVSW8BS0YjvISOZIQ/viewform?usp=dialog>

Deadline to submit proposals is Monday, January 5, 2026

Both teens and adults (4-H volunteers, Extension professionals, community members & people from other organizations) are encouraged to submit workshop proposals. Please share with those who might be interested in presenting from your communities!

Montana 4-H Foundation Scholarship Applications - Seniors and College Students

The Montana 4-H Foundation is now accepting scholarship applications for secondary education. These scholarships are available to both high school graduating seniors and current undergraduate college students.

Important Dates:

An email will be sent through ZSuite on December 9, 2025.

Applications are due by February 14, 2026.

Visit: <https://www.mt4hfoundation.org/scholarships.html> and click on the "Application Platform" tab to prep materials.

Application Link:

<https://apply.mykaleidoscope.com/program/Montana4HScholarship2026>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Montana 4-H Foundation People Partner Grants

The Montana 4-H Foundation is excited to announce that People Partner Grants are now open for applications! See details below as also on our website here:

<https://www.mt4hfoundation.org/grants.html> Please share with groups and individuals that may be interested.

Grant Purpose

These grants provide incentives and financial support to groups and individuals for programs that enhance the quality of living for people in their communities.

Application Deadline: February 14, each application is eligible for up to \$500.

Eligibility

4-H groups and individual members may apply. Grants are also open to non-4-H youth groups and individuals. Applications should meet the following criteria:

Youth should be involved in determining, planning, conducting, and evaluating the project.

Project will make it possible for individuals involved to accomplish something educational and worthwhile that helps the target audience reach a higher quality of life.

There is community support and acceptance of the project, as evidence by "partners" listed in the grant application, additional funding sources, and resource persons and agencies involved.

The project has lasting benefits. See grant application for more details.

Application Process

Complete the application online here:

<https://apply.mykaleidoscope.com/program/PeoplePartnerGrant2026>

Marias Fair Stadium Cup Logo Contest 2026

We are taking submissions for this year's Marias Fair Food Booth Cup Logo Submission deadline: February 15 email, JPEG file to Lisa, lterry@montana.edu Requirements: Must include the official 4-H Logo If including county list, must include Blackfeet Reservation, Glacier, Liberty, Pondera, and Toole Counties. Youth entries only.

Glacier County Project Day

Kim will be presenting a workshop at Glacier County's project day on December 30th. If there are any Toole County kids interested in attending, they are welcome! Save the date and more information will be out soon. They will be doing a Livestock Quality Assurance workshop, many of you will be needing that training this year. I will send out the registration information when Glacier County sends it out.

Marias Fair Archery Shoot

The Marias Fair Archery Tournament/Invitational is live on Bowscore. Please see the two links below. The Tournament is Sunday, February 1st. Be sure to read all the information before signing up.

Direct Link to Marias Fair Invitational- <https://bowscore.com/tournaments/marias-fair-invitational-2026#/>

Main Tournament page search for Marias Fair Invitational- <https://bowscore.com/tournaments#/>

A late registration fee will be added for all registrations after January 28, 2026.

CLOVERBUD GINGERBREAD HOUSES

Toole County Cloverbud Gingerbread Houses

The Toole County Cloverbuds made Gingerbread houses for the Marias Museum Gingerbread Contest. The Theme was Holiday on the High-Line. The kids has a fun time building their entries with the teen leaders and adults. We followed up the extreme sugar experience with a wonderful Dental Health Presentation by the Toole County Health Department: Shiloh Neal and Jenny Schwenke.



DECEMBER

3rd- Cloverbuds after school 5pm @ Elementary Cafeteria

6th- Beef Weigh- in Deadline

6th- 4-H Leadership Academy workshop 6-7pm on Zoom

7th- Shelby Christmas Stroll

7th- West Butte Club Meeting 4pm @ The Parish Hall

11th- West Butte Cloverbud Meeting 5:30 @ Sunburst Library

14th- Kountry Kids Christmas Giving Project 2pm @ Albertsons, meeting and Christmas Party to follow at Exhibit Building

14th- Horse Project Meeting and Halter Making 5:30pm @ Glacier County Annex Building

17th- Cloverbuds after school- 5pm @ Elementary Cafeteria

24th - ½ Day Toole County Courthouse Closed

25th & 26th- Office Closed for Christmas

30th- Glacier County Project Day

JANUARY

1st- Office Closed

4th- West Butte Club Meeting

7th- Cloverbuds after school- 5pm @ Elementary Cafeteria

8th- West Butte Cloverbud meeting 5:30 @ Sunburst Library

11th- Kountry Kids Meeting 2pm @ Exhibit Building

21st- Cloverbuds after school- 5pm @ Elementary Cafeteria

Toole County 4-H Club Contacts

Kountry Kids/ Blazing Saddles Leaders

Sanna Clark 450-2122

Emilie Vetch 460-1082

Anna Hemmer 470-1239

West Butte

Crystal McAlpine 450-0108

Tasha Hartwell 450-5619

Cloverbuds

Barb Larsen 460-2765