

## 4-H NEWSLETTER-APRIL 2024

Yellowstone County Extension Office  
301 N 27<sup>th</sup> Street – Old Chamber Building – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
PO Box 35021, Billings MT 59107-5021

<https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/index.html>

### 4-H FOLKS IN FOCUS

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the Fruit Sale a success. Kim Sindelar-Thompson continually does a great job organizing this huge fundraiser. Club leaders who help coordinate their club's Fruit Sales are invaluable. Thank you to everyone who helped put the sale baskets together and deliver them. Thanks for all your time and hard work!

*National Volunteer Week is April 21-27, 2024. 4-H members should acknowledge the great volunteers that work with you in 4-H.*

Montana 4-H has proudly partnered with Northern Ag Network and Northern News Network to highlight the contributions and accomplishments of 4-H members across the state. Yellowstone County 4-H member Lukas Arkell was recognized in the March member spotlight! Check out Lukas's spotlight and make a nomination on the [State 4-H website](#) at

[https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs/awards/4hers\\_of\\_the\\_month.html?fbclid=IwAR1sMq\\_wiDdo9Pmft-N6ZlgoGvoVzuCy3DnYNkh4-7zyVV7vcRW97NP-xm0](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs/awards/4hers_of_the_month.html?fbclid=IwAR1sMq_wiDdo9Pmft-N6ZlgoGvoVzuCy3DnYNkh4-7zyVV7vcRW97NP-xm0)

4-H Organization Leader for the Shepherd Pioneers Dixie Osborne was also recognized in the spotlight by Montana 4-H for her 30+ years of volunteering and leading a Yellowstone County 4-H club. You can view this post on the [Yellowstone County 4-H Facebook page](#) at <https://www.facebook.com/yellowstonecounty4h/>. Nominate a volunteer on the [state 4-H website](#) at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8BoWxO-h2dh1S5SOeFCwhbTzj-cajtJrBjDYP3g-0iCG8Qg/viewform>

Roni Baker

### MONTANAFAIR CAMPING SPACE RESERVATION REQUESTS - ONLINE ONLY

All requests for MontanaFair Camper/Trailer reservation will only be accepted electronically. We do not accept calls or emails for reservations. The electronic process can be easily accomplished on a computer, laptop or smart phone (we have tested it on all devices) - anywhere you have internet access.

Online reservation requests will open at 8:00 am on Monday, April 1st. All requests will be recorded, and date and time stamped once you have completed all questions and hit the "Submit" button.

**The link will be posted on the Yellowstone County 4-H website under the MontanaFair section. The link will not work until 8:00 am, Monday, April 1, 2024. The [link to make a reservation request](#) is:**

[https://montana.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8ADVIkJYyZ5218](https://montana.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8ADVIkJYyZ5218)

PLEASE BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE THE ACTUAL LENGTH of your camper/trailer when making the reservation. If length is not actual, and camper/trailer will not fit the assigned camper space based on the information you are providing, you may not be accommodated.

Only 4-H and FFA members exhibiting in Department A and N at MontanaFair and MontanaFair 4-H officials may request a camper space. A limited number of spaces are available on a first requested, first filled basis.

Completing a request does not guarantee a space reservation. Requestors will be notified in late June/early July of their request status via a letter, contract, and invoice.

Full hookups for the week cost \$75. Dry camping is no charge, but a reservation request and contract is required. Metra requires completed contracts and payment be delivered to the Extension Office (301 N 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 330, Billings, MT 59107 - DO NOT mail to Metra) by August 1, **BEFORE** placement of your camper. Campers/trailers can be towed for lack of contract or payment. Those not in compliance will be towed. Please be a good patron and camping neighbor while using MetraPark facilities.

## ATTENTION! ENROLLMENT DROPS & ADDS MUST BE MADE BY APRIL 30

ALL members and volunteers enrolled in 4-H have access to their records through ZSuite and will be solely responsible for adding, dropping, and verifying the accuracy of their projects include the level of the project. Members may make changes to their PROJECTS up until April 30, 2024, after which time the online program will be locked and NO changes can be made to projects. **No exceptions!**

Verifying the accuracy of projects and levels is very important as it can affect your MontanaFair entries and eligibility.

Please access your ZSuite profile and add and/or drop projects in your enrollment. To do this you will choose to “Update Enrollment” and then click on the CLUBS tab. Click on the green box “Add projects”. After selecting each project, you want to add, click on the blue “add project”. When you have finished adding all desired projects be sure to click on the pink “submit” box at the bottom to save all added projects. If you wish to drop projects, locate the Project name you want to drop. To the right of the project name, you will see an “X” to click on. A box will display asking for confirmation to delete the project. Click on the red “yes” box to confirm deletion of the project. After deleting the project(s), be sure to click on the pink “submit” box at the bottom to save all changes.

If you have questions, please ask your organizational leader, or call the Extension office for assistance at 406-256-2828.

## 4-H COUNCIL ASSISTANT TREASURER NEEDED!

Are you looking to level-up your family’s 4-H experience? Are you interested in learning more about 4-H? Do you want to help the 4-H community in a meaningful way? If you answered ‘yes’ to any of those questions, then you may be a great candidate for the next Yellowstone County 4-H Council Assistant Treasurer. This position is a 1-year learning period before you step into the 2-year position of Council Treasurer, so it is a 3-year commitment in total. This experience has been an invaluable learning experience for me, and I would encourage veteran 4-H parents OR new 4-H parents to consider serving the county in this way. If you have any interest, please contact Roni Baker at 406-256-2828 or Caroline Brito at 406-850-2211 for more information and details about this position.

## AMBASSADOR CORNER FOR APRIL

Facebook Page: Yellowstone County Ambassadors      Email: yellowstonecountymbassadors@gmail.com

We have a lot to look forward to this April. Rec Lab will be hosted in Boulder, Montana, April 19-21. You can look forward to fun and educational workshop from painting to leadership games. Register in ZSuite under Events.

We will be bringing back “Project Scholarships” again this year. \$100 scholarships will be awarded once to each age level. Beginner, Junior, and Senior for their projects. Make sure to see the application in the newsletter this month.

We are looking for monthly volunteer nomination for our Ambassador “Volunteer of the Month”. Please let us know who you would like to recognize!

## TEEN LEADER PROGRAM

There will be no Teen Leader meeting in April because we will be coming back from Rec Lab. We are hoping all Teen Leaders will be joining us! Did you know you can receive a scholarship for ½ the registration fee? Register in ZSuite and write a letter explaining why you want to attend Rec Lab and get it to the office (email is ok) by registration deadline.

There will be no Teen Leader in May due to the many graduations, but we are going to try to plan a fun activity to meet and have some fun. Watch Facebook pages and emails for more details to come.

June Teen Leader meeting will be on June 9<sup>th</sup> instead of the 16<sup>th</sup> so you can spend Father's Day with your family.

What we have in the works:

- Planning a day camp with a BBQ, guest speaker, outdoor activities, and corn hole tournament.
- Scheduling a painting class
- Another parade
- Planning a membership campaign for area schools in the fall
- Helping Ambassadors at fair

You can come to one event or all. Help with planning if you would like. We would love to have more teen leaders join us!

## 4-H AND WHAT IT STANDS FOR. *REMEMBER TO INCLUDE THE DASH BETWEEN THE 4 AND THE H!*

**We would like to remind everyone what the four H's represent. *When writing about the 4-H program don't forget to include the dash between the 4 and the H.***

The 4-H pledge represents what each member and leader stand for. Below is a break down by Michigan State University Extension of the pledge and how it relates to youth.

The first "H" in 4-H stands for Head; "Head to clearer thinking." One of the key concepts in 4-H is education; allowing youth the opportunity to learn new things through projects and programs. 4-H allows youth to be actively engaged in their own learning. In addition, 4-H makes youth participants, rather than recipients, in the learning process. One of the main goals in 4-H is for youth to develop life skills that help them succeed. Some of these life skills include leadership, responsibility, dedication, communication, and self-confidence.

The second "H" in 4-H stands for Heart; "Heart to greater loyalty." In 4-H, youth are taught to be reliable and loyal in their heart and understand what it means to take responsibility for their projects and to follow through. 4-H also gives youth positive relationships with adults and peers through leaders and teens. Caring for others and their projects is also a trait that relates to the "H" for Heart.

The next "H" in 4-H stands for Hands; "Hands for larger service." 4-H'ers are busy with their hands all year long learning new things and caring for their projects with hands-on experiences. Another way 4-H'ers use their hands is by giving back to the community. Part of 4-H is teaching youth the importance of serving the community, country, and world.

The last "H" in 4-H stands for Health; "Health to better living." Knowing how to cook and grow food, and appreciating art allows 4-H'ers to gain an understanding of how the world works and how to live healthy. Projects such as photography, canning, arts, and crafts, sewing, collections, and cooking help youth realize what it takes to have a healthy lifestyle and how to spend their leisure time. 4-H also strives to make sure youth are physically and emotionally safe.

By putting all the "H"s together, we get the 4-H pledge:

*I pledge, My **Head** to clearer thinking; My **Heart** to greater loyalty; My **Hands** to larger service; My **Health** to better living, For my club, my community, my country, and my world.*

## 4-H CAMP APPLICATIONS DUE MAY 3

The 4-H Camp application can be printed off the [county 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/index.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/index.html>

The completed registration and payment is due in the extension Office by May 3, at 5:00 pm (NOT postmarked by).

## CLOVERBUD CAMP – COUNCIL MEETINGS

- A planning meeting for the 2024 Cloverbud Camp will be held on Thursday, April 4, at 5:30 p.m. in the 4-H Building. Come and share your ideas to plan this fun event. Cloverbud Camp will be held June 18, 2024.
- 4-H Council will be meeting at 6:30.

Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings!

## DOES YOUR EMPLOYER RECOGNIZE YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS?

Check with your employer to see if they reward employees for doing volunteer work. Many businesses (i.e., Costco, Walmart, Exxon Mobil, and First Interstate Bank) will give a nonprofit organization (4-H) a donation for the number of hours their employee volunteers. One club received \$250 for their club program.

## NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK APRIL 21-27, 2024

National Volunteer Week takes place April 21-27, 2024. National Volunteer Week was established in 1974 and has grown exponentially each year, with thousands of volunteer projects and special events scheduled throughout the week. Today, as people strive to lead lives that reflect their values, the expression of civic life has evolved. Whether online, at the office, or the local food bank; whether with a vote, a voice, or a wallet – doing good comes in many forms, and we recognize and celebrate them all.

Anyone can nominate a volunteer for national recognition as a Point of Light in their community by visiting the [Points of Light website](https://www.pointsoflight.org/dailypointoflight/) at <https://www.pointsoflight.org/dailypointoflight/>.

## STATE AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

May 1, 2024, is the due date for State Awards application. Members who are 14 and older as of October 1, 2023, are eligible. The Montana 4-H State Awards program is in place to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of 4-H members who have reached a standard of excellence in a variety of project and activity award areas. State Award winners have gone above and beyond regular project work with a focus on leadership, communication, and community service. 4-H members may self-nominate. Members can view sample award applications on the [state 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs/awards/state-awards.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs/awards/state-awards.html>

If a member is selected as a state winner, they are eligible to attend National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, Georgia, November 2024.

There can be more than one winner in a project, or activity area. A member can apply in any project or area; an application must be completed for each project or area in which they want to be considered. State award selection committees look for excellence in 4-H work, leadership, citizenship, and community service. All state award and scholarship winners are announced at State 4-H Congress in July.

To apply for state awards, members must use the Montana State 4-H Awards application. You can get an application off the [Montana State 4-H website](http://www.montana4h.org/programs/awards/state-awards.html) or <http://www.montana4h.org/programs/awards/state-awards.html>

## 4-H ADULT AWARDS

The Montana 4-H Foundation and 4-H Center have consolidated the award nomination for adults into one form. The awards categories are:

**Tribute to Volunteer Excellence Awards:** The 4-H Center will recognize individuals from each 4-H District in two award categories. The Outstanding Lifetime Volunteer recognizes individuals who have served as 4-H volunteers for 10 years or more. The Volunteer of the Year recognizes individuals who have served as 4-H volunteers for less than 10 years.

**Hall of Fame Award:** The 4-H Foundation honors individuals such as community leaders, alumni, former or current directors or former or current staff for their outstanding lifetime efforts to generate opportunities for 4-H youth by giving, volunteering, or community support of 4-H.

**Outstanding 4-H Alumni Award:** The 4-H Foundation recognizes 4-H alumni who have made a significant impact on 4-H by promoting, supporting, and enhancing the benefits of youth and adult involvement in the program or a specific 4-H project area.

For details regarding qualifications, requirements and forms visit the [State 4-H website](http://www.montana4h.org/programs/awards/adult-awards.html) at <http://www.montana4h.org/programs/awards/adult-awards.html>. **Nominations are due May 15.**

## OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND 4-H CONGRESS IN JULY

Were you 13 years old by October 1, 2023, and are interested in attending 4-H Congress in Bozeman this July? This statewide gathering focuses on leadership development and personal growth. The event includes competitions for state project and contest awards.

The following briefly describes the activities and events that are available to participate in at State 4-H Congress. Some have county participation requirements. Please read them carefully. 4-H State Congress will be July 9-12, 2024.

**Demonstration** - You must have received a blue ribbon at the county Communication Day contest. We may take any number of competitors.

**Career Communication** - You practice the skills of applying for a job including an application, cover letter and resume. Contact Roni if you are interested in this opportunity.

**Public Speaking** - You must have received a blue ribbon at the county Communication Day contest. We may take any number of competitors.

**Fashion Revue** – You must have participated in county Showcase event. We may take more than one participant. Selection is made at the county Showcase event.

**Horse Judging** - We may take a team of four. Contact Roni if you are interested in being part of this team.

**Livestock Judging** - We may take a team of 4 or individual members to compete in judging classes and giving reasons. Contact Roni if you are interested in this opportunity.

**Stir-Ups Contest** - This is a fun, challenging food program where members plan a meal, prepare a low-fat main dish, display the meal, and create a notebook. We can take individuals or teams. Contact Roni if you are interested in this category.

**Gavel Games** - This is a Parliamentary Procedure contest. Teams of four compete. Contact Roni if you are interested in this category.

**Quilting** - Quilts judged at the county Showcase event are eligible to attend Congress.

**Horse Skillathon** - A team of four can compete in this contest about horse knowledge. Contact Roni if you are interested in being on this team.

**Video** - Learn communication skills through creating, editing, and presenting a video. Contact Roni if you are interested in this category.

4-H members interested can attend as a delegate (a member of age wanting to attend) or by competing in Career Communications, Demonstration or Illustrated Talk, Fashion Review, Gavel Games (Parliamentary Procedure), Horse Judging, Horse Hippology (Skillathon), Livestock Judging, Public Speaking, Quilt Contest, Stir-ups, or Video. Descriptions of each contest can be found on the [State 4-H website Congress page](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs/events/mt_4h_statecontests/index.html) at

[https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs/events/mt\\_4h\\_statecontests/index.html](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs/events/mt_4h_statecontests/index.html)

Contact Roni Baker by May 10 if you are interested. Those that made eligibility at a county contest will be mailed information.

## APPLY TO HOST AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT IN YOUR HOME

Are you interested in other countries? Host families come in all shapes and sizes and reflect the diversity of the US. What they have in common is their eagerness to open their home and hearts to a young person from another culture. States' 4-H accepts applications from host families year-round for the month-long and year-long programs.

Host a delegate from Japan or Korea! Montana families have the opportunity to host the following 4-H youth:

**Summer 2024:** Delegates are hosted from July 22 - August 17.

- 16 Japanese females and males ages 12-1, and 1 adult chaperone.

**Academic Year '24-'25:** Delegates will arrive in August 2024 for a 10-month stay.

- 1 Korean youth aged 15-18.
- 1 Japanese youth aged 15-18.

Experience cultural exchange and broaden your global experience! To apply to host visit the [States' 4-H International Exchange Program website](https://www.states4hexchange.org/apply/host/) at <https://www.states4hexchange.org/apply/host/>

Please contact Christine Sommers Austin, Montana State 4-H International Programs Coordinator at [c.sommersaustine@montana.edu](mailto:c.sommersaustine@montana.edu) or 406-994-3504 for further information.

## MONTANA CONSERVATION CORPS PROGRAM

Montana Conservation Corps invites YOU to join them for a summer of camping, hard work, new friends, and cool adventures. You'll team up with a crew of other teens and 2 highly skilled leaders in some of Montana's wildest places. Youth programs are NO COST, for Montana residents only, and provide teens with 72+ volunteer hours, technical skills, leadership and communication competencies, and new relationships with teens from across Montana. Expedition crews work, serve, and learn in some of Montana's wildest places!

There is something for everyone at MCC, whether you're looking to jump start a conservation career, improve our public lands, grow as an individual, or simply get outside. You will walk away with valuable hands-on technical skills, applicable job skills like communication and teamwork, and interpersonal skills that will help you achieve success in a wide variety of careers.

MCC offers summer expedition programs to teens ages 14-18 and is currently in the recruitment process. Program length varies. Visit the [Montana Conservation Corps](https://mtcorps.org/positions/) website for more information: <https://mtcorps.org/positions/>

## 2024 YOUTH TRAPPER CAMP-FUN FOR THE FAMILY

Are you taking the wildlife project or just like animals? Visit the [Montana Trappers Association](http://www.montanatrappers.org/programs/yc/general-info.html) or <http://www.montanatrappers.org/programs/yc/general-info.html> for information about the 2024 Youth Trapper Camp. The camp is geared towards family participation. Campers will attend classes on trapping methods, ethics, regulations, fur handling, health, and safety. Camp instructors come from the MTA education Program and Montana FWP.

Camp will be held June 14-16, 2024, in Augusta, MT. Cost is \$50/camper. Limited scholarships are available to the first 60 youth registrants who request help prior to April 15.. Applications are accepted on a first come, first accepted basis by May 15.

## NATURAL RESOURCES YOUTH CAMP

For 38 years, the Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp has provided youth an opportunity to study in an outdoor classroom. We invite youth aged 14-18 and 13 (if graduated from eight grade) to spend one week in the rustic setting of Lubrecht Experimental Forest east of Missoula and learn about Montana's natural resources. The accommodations are comfortable, the food is great, and the instruction and friendships are the best.

Today's scientific principles, economic realities, historical heritage, and social perspectives help these future leaders in their quest to gain natural resources a perspective that is informed and progressive. Campers learn about forests, streams, soils, geology, rangeland, wildlife, and recreation and spend half-day rafting the Clark Fork River's Alberton Gorge. In between the field sessions, professionals who volunteer from various natural resources-based agencies and industries, specialty evening programs, guest speakers, hands-on learning-through-discovery and campfires provide for a lasting summer camp experience.

Camp will take place July 14-19, 2024. Registration forms are available at the [Montana Natural Resource Camp](https://www.montana.edu/extension/forestry/mnryc/index.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/forestry/mnryc/index.html>. Deadline is July 1. Scholarships are available for camp fees or transportation costs. Questions? contact Christina Oppegard, MSU Extension Forestry at 406-243-2773 or [christina.oppegard@mso.umt.edu](mailto:christina.oppegard@mso.umt.edu).

## 4-H CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2023-2024

Secretary	Club
Elena Zahn	Big Sky Thunderbolts
Will Wetzel	Blue Creek Jumping Bucks

Iris Gallagher	City Kids
Keyara Mills-Low	Compass AllStars
Keona Goodson	Cool Clovers
	Explorers
Wade Bekkedahl	Hesper Hustlers
Kerstin Luhman	Huntley Eagles
Koral Connelly	Kountry Kritters
Annabelle Fournier	Laurel Roadrunners
Jake Cesnik	Lockwood Humble B's
Connor Cantu	Northern Lights
Bradlie Joseph	Pine Ridge Red Ryder
	Project Longhorns
Lukas Arkell	Project Rockin Wranglers
Brooklyn Sims	Ruff Riders
Connor McKnight	Shepherd Firecrackers
Craig Berens	Shepherd Lonestars
Ella Dumas	Shepherd Pioneers
Emily Peck	Shepherd Tumbleweeds
Charlotte Rome	Shepherd Wranglers
Cooper Murnin	Whips and Sticks
Quinn Logan	Worden Riverdale
Sarah Robertson	Yellowstone Mavericks
Eliana Johnson	Yellowstone Silver Spurs

<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Club</b>
TJ Martin	Big Sky Thunderbolts
Clara Thompson	Blue Creek Jumping Bucks
Cale Hockhalter	City Kids
Cassidy Kragt	Compass AllStars
Keona Goodson	Cool Clovers
	Explorers
Sara Ackerman	Hesper Hustlers
Trent Gabel	Huntley Eagles
Brayden Connelly	Kountry Kritters
Rylee Fenton	Laurel Roadrunners
Ella Romeijn	Lockwood Humble B's
Westin Broadbrooks	Northern Lights
Emma Barnhart	Pine Ridge Red Ryder
	Project Longhorns
Rex Koviui	Project Rockin Wranglers
Cooper Koffler	Ruff Riders
Reagan Mord	Shepherd Firecrackers
Kase Knaff	Shepherd Lonestars
Kimber Crockett	Shepherd Pioneers
Kiarra Kennedy/Arie Custis	Shepherd Tumbleweeds
Everett Noonkester	Shepherd Wranglers
Cooper Murnin	Whips and Sticks
Bayley Becker	Worden Riverdale
Sarah Roberston	Yellowstone Mavericks
Tyler Kennah	Yellowstone Silver Spurs

## 2024 MONTANAFAIR DEPARTMENT A (animal) & N (non-animal) HANDBOOKS

MontanaFair Department handbooks and online registration will be available on the [MontanaFair website](https://www.montanafair.com/) at <https://www.montanafair.com/>. The Extension Office will print limited copies from the MontanaFair website for those of you without internet capabilities. The handbooks should be posted in May. Handbooks will also be available on the [county 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/index.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/index.html>.

## FAIR CLERK APPLICATIONS

Applications and Job Descriptions for the 2024 Fair Clerks are available at the Extension Office. The applications must be returned to the Extension Office as soon as possible.

## 4-H NEWSLETTER

Remember you can access the 4-H Newsletter at the [Yellowstone County 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/index.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/index.html>

Be sure to save it as a favorite bookmark! Select the appropriate heading to view the newsletter, calendar, meeting notes, etc. Our goal is to have 4-H forms, events, and general information on the Yellowstone County 4-H website. So, if you have misplaced your newsletter, you can find the information online!

Contact Roni anytime at her e-mail address: [ronibaker@montana.edu](mailto:ronibaker@montana.edu)

**But remember...**if you don't receive a reply from Roni, she probably didn't get the email. Our firewall blocks out many emails. If you do not receive a response from Roni, please call us to verify.

## 4-H SUPPORTERS

Many businesses and organizations in our community support 4-H. Each month I have been listing several of those supporters in the newsletter. I would encourage you to tell them thank you and support them in return. If you would like to submit names for this article, please send them to Roni.

4-H Supporter	Mailing Address
Briess Malt	1457 Hwy 14A, Powell WY 82435
Albertson's	3137 Grand Avenue, Billings MT 59102
Cowboy Meath	PO Box 303, Forsyth MT 59327
Thomas Carnival	PO Box 92469, Austin T 78709
On the Rocks	PO Bo x166, Worden MT 59088
Loenbro Industrial Service	2155 Harnish Blvd, Suite B, Billings MT 59101
Veterans Meat Locker	Po Box 50457 Billings MT 59105

## DEPARTMENT N (NON-ANIMAL) MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 4, at 6:00 pm. We will be planning for MontanaFair. Your help and input are needed. The 4-H council meeting will follow. (JEF/8/14/08)

## SHOWCASE REGISTRATIONS DUE MARCH 29

Showcase will be held on Saturday, April 13, 2024. Members in Clothing & Textiles projects can show items they have made or purchased in their project. Participants take part in a public fashion show where they are judged. Members can enter Sewing, Shopping In Style, Quilt, Duct Tape, Costume, Display and Refashion/Repurpose/Redesign.

Registrations were mailed to all Cloverbuds, and all members enrolled in any Sewing and Textiles projects. Registrations are due in the Extension Office by Friday, March 29, by 5:00 pm (NOT postmarked by). Registration forms may also be printed off the [county 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/index.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/index.html>.

## DESIGN THE SHOWCASE PROGRAM COVER AND WIN \$15 CASH

The Showcase Committee will award \$15 to the 4-H member that designs the winning entry for this year's Showcase program cover. Entries should be approximately 8" x 5" and in **black or blue ink – pencil does not copy well**. So, show



your creativity and win \$15. Entry deadline is Friday, April 5.

## ANNUAL 4-H QUILT SHOW REGISTRATION DUE

The Annual 4-H Quilt Show will be held in conjunction with the Showcase on Saturday, April 22. Any 4-H'er or member of a 4-H family may enter the quilt show. Members do not need to be enrolled in the quilt project to enter. Any qualifying quilt entered in this show will be eligible to be shown at the state 4-H Congress. Bring your completed quilt to Showcase registration which is from 8:00 to 8:30 on April 22. Entry forms were mailed and can also be printed off the [Yellowstone County 4-H website](https://yellowstone.msuextension.org/4h/departmen.html) at <https://yellowstone.msuextension.org/4h/departmen.html> or picked up at the Extension Office.

## 4-H STATE SHOOT RESULTS

Here are the overall results from the 4-H State shoot for members that placed in the top 10 in each event. Several members from Yellowstone County placed 1<sup>st</sup> – way to go!

Name	Discipline	Event	Place	Score
Ainsley McFarland	Air Rifle	3P – Precision	1 <sup>st</sup>	298 - 25
	Air Rifle	Standing - Precision	5 <sup>th</sup>	383 - 19
	Smallbore		1 <sup>st</sup>	571 - 21
Kamdyn McFarland	Air Rifle	3P – Precision	8 <sup>th</sup>	287 - 14
	Air Rifle	Standing - Precision	1 <sup>st</sup>	386 - 19
	Smallbore		4 <sup>th</sup>	550 - 10
Ash Leonard	Air Rifle	3P – Sporter	4 <sup>th</sup>	264 - 7
	Air Rifle	Standing - Sporter	4 <sup>th</sup>	315 - 3
Soren Hultgren	Air Rifle	Standing - Precision	10 <sup>th</sup>	371 - 11
	Smallbore		9 <sup>th</sup>	522 - 8
Dawson Serock	Air Rifle	3P – Sporter	9 <sup>th</sup>	253 - 3
Deen Green	Air Rifle	3P – Sporter	10 <sup>th</sup>	252 - 2
	Air Pistol	International Standing	9 <sup>th</sup>	309 - 2
	Silhouette	Pistol	3 <sup>rd</sup>	15
Jachin Boheman	Air Pistol	Standing Supported	2 <sup>nd</sup>	295 - 2
	Silhouette	Pistol	8 <sup>th</sup>	12
Jacob Baeten	Archery 3D	Overall	1 <sup>st</sup>	200 – 13
	Archery Target	Overall	1 <sup>st</sup>	300 - 29
	Archery Barebow	Overall	3 <sup>rd</sup>	261-1
Hazel Russell	Archery 3D	Bowhunter	9 <sup>th</sup>	190 - 4

## APRIL HORSE WORKSHOP

The April educational horse workshop will focus on equine nutrition. We will have guest speakers.

April 18, 6:00 - 7:30 pm at the 4-H Building at Metra Park. Workshops are open to all 4-H youth interested in learning more about horses! Contact Bonnie DeVerniero with any questions, 406-694-5234.

## RABBIT AND CAVY WORKSHOP APRIL 6

There will be a workshop on April 6, at 2:00 pm at Valley Baptist Church (corner of Hwy 312 and Road 8 N in Worden) for Rabbit and Cavy members. Bring your project books and record sheets. Animals in their cages are welcome. We will be discussing “Are you Fair Ready?” Questions? Call Ann Mills-Low at 406-208-7193.

## SWINE, SHEEP & MARKET GOATS EAR TAGGING FOR 2024 MONTANAFAIR

Any 4-H or FFA member wishing to enter a market swine, sheep, or goat in the 2024 MontanaFair must be enrolled in the project by **April 30** and ear tag their animals on **Saturday, May 4**. The tagging site will be **P.A.Y.S. from 8:00 - 11:00 am**.

## SKILLATHON – REGISTER IN ZSUITE

Skillathon will be held in conjunction with small animal judging on Saturday, May 11, 2024, in the 4-H Building at MetraPark. Large and small animal skillathon will be available to participants. We begin at 8:30 and run until Small Animal Judging (also held in the 4-H Building on May 11) is finished. An alternate date of May 9, from 3:00-6:00 pm is available for 4-H related conflicts only. Skillathon and animal judging are required if you intend on entering Dept A All Around at MontanaFair. You do not have to enter All Around to participate in the Skillathon. Registration will open April 15 in ZSuite under the “Events” section in your household account. Registration deadline is May 3

A Skillathon or "Livestock Learning Laboratory" is an excellent method of involving youth in challenging, learn-by-doing activities. The purpose of the Skillathon is to evaluate member knowledge, their skill in applying that knowledge and their attitudes and understanding of the knowledge and projects. It is designated in a series of mini-learning stations with a facilitator at each station. Members rotate from station to station, attempting to perform specific tasks. There will be an interview/scoring judge at each station. Twenty points will be available at each station. You must sign up for Skillathon on your Department A Fair entry as Division 3, Class (select) 1–6.

## SMALL ANIMAL JUDGING CONTEST — REGISTER IN ZSUITE

The Small Animal Judging Contest will be held on Saturday, May 11, 2024, in the 4-H Building at MetraPark. Check-In at 11:00 a.m. and the contest will start at 12:00 noon. Registration will open April 15 in ZSuite under the “Events” section in your household account. You must sign up for Small Animal Judging on your Department A Fair entry as Division 2, Class (select) 1-3. Registration deadline is May 3.

Remember, this contest is required for the Department A **All Around Contest for small animals at fair**. This year we will do some team and group judging. Classes may consist of, but are not limited to, poultry, rabbit, pocket pet, cat, dog, feed analysis and/or knowledge test. There will be two classes of reasons.

## CAT SHOW TO BE HELD APRIL 27 – REGISTER IN ZSUITE

The 2024 Cat show will be held in the 4-H Building on Saturday, April 27, from 9:00 am-4:00 pm. Check in at 8:30 am.

Registration will open April 1, in ZSuite under the “Events” section in your household account. Current rabies and distemper vaccinations must be uploaded in ZSuite or sent/delivered to the Extension Office by April 19 (NOT postmarked by). Claws must be clipped before cats may show. If you need assistance with clipping or have questions, call Angie Murdick at 406-208-3324.

## DOG SHOW TO BE HELD MAY 18 – REGISTER IN ZSUITE

The 2024 Dog show will be held in the 4-H Building on Saturday, May 18. Registration will open April 15, in ZSuite under the “Events” section in your household account. Current rabies, distemper, and bordetella vaccinations must be uploaded in ZSuite or sent/delivered to the Extension Office by the registration deadline of May 3.

## SADDLE UP FOR 4-H-HOURS ON HORSEBACK PROGRAM – REGISTER IN ZSUITE

It's time to join the “Hours on Horseback” program. Keep track of the hours you ride your project horse from May 1 to September 30, 2024. This is the easiest way to track just how much time you put into your project and shows your riding consistency. It can also be added into your record book next to your "What I did & What I learned" sections. You can also track your time for your 1- and 2-year old colt to maturity projects. Awards are given at Family Fun Night in November. Saddle Up registration will be done through your ZSuite household account, under “Events”. Logs for recording hours can be printed off the [Yellowstone County 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/departmenta.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/departmenta.html>

## LIVESTOCK SALES AND SHOWS

Please remember that many local 4-H members raise livestock to sell. If you are looking to purchase from a member, call the Extension Office and speak to Roni.

**Montana Prime Pick Show Lamb sale.** April 3, 2024, online. For more information or to schedule a barn visit contact Trish Hays at 406-671-7493. Exciting new AI Sires! You may also visit the [Hays Show Lambs website](https://haysshowlambs.com/) at <https://haysshowlambs.com/>.

**Lamb by private treaty:** Contact Cord Albrecht at 406-861-9575.

## 2023-2024 ANIMAL QUALITY ASSURANCE POLICY & WORKSHOP SCHEDULE \* **NEW GUIDELINES**

All 4-H and FFA members exhibiting any animal in Department A (Junior Livestock) at MontanaFair are required to attend an MSU Extension **ANIMAL QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAINING (AQA)** (per state guidelines) provided by the 4-H Committee or an FFA Advisor/Agriculture Educator prior to the first MontanaFair entry deadline or exhibitors do not show. Yellowstone County has two 4-H age brackets for AQA training. Exhibitors must attend AQA as Beginners/Juniors (4-H age 8-13), and as a senior member (4-H age 14-19). This age is based on the exhibitors "4-H Age" – the age as of October 1 of the current 4-H year. Exhibitors must take Animal Quality Assurance the first year they reach each age bracket or the first year they are exhibiting in an animal project. All classes will include the same teaching materials and use the same forms and paperwork. Class content is determined by a committee and updated every two years. A parent or legal guardian must also attend the AQA Training.

There will be hands on, group activities. Please plan on arriving on time with a parent with both staying for the complete 1½ hours. If you and your parent are not in attendance for the complete training, you may be asked to attend another session. Plan on attending a session early in the year so conflicts do not occur in your family schedule. **More workshops will NOT be added after the June 19 class. It is the final opportunity for 2024.**

The sessions in January and May are face-to-face at this time at PAYS. For the virtual sessions, people will log into the Webex meeting (Webex link information will be sent out via email prior to each session) to learn the information then go to the online program, pay their own \$12 fee, and take the online class. A copy of the completion certificate must be provided to the Extension Office.

**Saturday, May 4: 9:00-10:30 am at PAYS (Public Auction Yards)**

**Wednesday, June 19: 6:30-8:00 pm at the 4-H Building**

## MSU EXTENSION 4-H HORSE HELMET POLICY & WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

**Participants in the 4-H Horse Project are required to attend a Horse Helmet Workshop once as a beginner/junior 4-H member (8-13) and again as a senior 4-H member (14 and up).** This age is based on the exhibitors "4-H Age" – the age as of October 1 of the current 4-H year. Exhibitors must attend a Horse Helmet Workshop the first year they reach every age bracket or the first year they are exhibiting in an animal project. A parent or legal guardian must also attend the Horse Helmet Workshop.

After attending a 4-H Helmet Workshop, riders may choose whether they will wear a certified helmet. It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian of the 4-H member to see that the headgear worn complies with such standards and is in good condition. The Montana 4-H Center for Youth Development encourages the use of ASTM certified/SEI approved safety helmets in all equine events. Protective headgear may be used in all classes and shall not be discriminated against. Helmet use is encouraged in all 4-H horse activities any time a 4-H member is around a horse. A certified equestrian helmet with safety harness fastened in place is required in over fence classes and gymkhana events, activities, and practice sessions. Gymkhana refers to horseback speed events (timed or un-timed) that do not use livestock. Events that usually fall in this category include, but are not limited to: barrel racing, pole bending, keyhole races, stake races, rescue races, pony express race, etc. Events that are not intended to be included in this policy are events such as calf roping, team roping, goat tying, and team penning that may be timed but use livestock. **More workshops will NOT be added after the May 4 class. It is the final opportunity for 2024.**

**Wednesday, April 17: 7:00-8:00 pm at the 4-H Building**

**Saturday, May 4: 11:00 am-12:00 pm at PAYS (Public Auction Yards)**

## CLUB CORNER: NOTES FROM MONTHLY CLUB MINUTES

The following clubs submitted minutes this month:

**Blue Creek Jumping Bucks:** Members were reminded about the project add/drop deadline and member signed up to help with the cleaning up of the church where we meet.

**City Kids:** Members will be having a club communication day in March.

**Laurel Roadrunners:** Members were reminded to stay current on AQA and were provided with deadline for Communication Day and Showcase.

**Lockwood Humble Bs:** Members will be cleaning up at Lake Elmo for their community service in April. Several members gave their demonstrations.

**Northern Lights:** Activity committee checking on cost to go to indoor golf/arcade. The name plate will be installed on the club's donated bench in Dover Park.

**Pine Ridge Red Ryder:** Appreciation cards were signed by members and mailed to businesses who support 4-H. The club will decorate the local fire department for Valentine's Day.

**Project Rockin Wranglers:** Members are going to Pizza Ranch and then the Art Museum for the club quarterly event.

**Ruff Riders:** Members were reminded of several different scholarship opportunities.

**Shepherd Pioneers:** Club members voted and passed the donation of \$200 toward the Farmers Union Grant for Teen Tumbleweeds.

**Shepherd Tumbleweeds:** We voted in our new club Vice President.

**Worden Riverdale:** This month the club cleans the 4-H Building. We made valentines for the members of a retirement/nursing home.

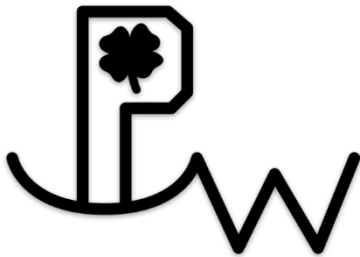
**Yellowstone Mavericks:** We welcomed two new members. Members discussed AQA, drops and adds, and a grant.

The Yellowstone County Ambassadors want to recognize **Tina Keller** for April's Yellowstone County 4-H Volunteer Spotlight! The main event you see Tina at is the MontanaFair. She is always in the mic stands as the announcer for many of the shows and several other events. She is very involved with the Costume Animal Parade as well as the Dave Keller Memorial Obstacle Course. Another aspect of Tina that makes her stand out to us as an individual is that she remembers every single kid that she talks to and checks up on them every year and makes everyone feel so appreciated. She is known to support our youth, in all their interests and fundraisers not just the 4-H events. She loves to acknowledge and celebrate the accomplishments of our current members and leaders as well as the alumni with personal messages that mean so much! We want to thank you Tina so much for your commitment to the 4-H Program and all the Yellowstone County Members!



## INFORMATION

- Entry Fee \$10 per Animal
- Age is ON October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023
- PeeWee 6-7 Beginner 8-10
- Junior 11-13 Senior 14 – 18
- Show order SR, JR, BEG., PW
- Top two in each age division will qualify to show in Round Robin
- Must have button down long sleeve collared shirt and pants
- Shot records showing Rabies, Parvo and Distemper for Dog must be provided at check-in



## ENTRY

All entries need to include:

- Name, Address, Phone
- 4-H Club and County
- Age Division and Childs DOB
- Animals to be shown, limit one per species
- Payments made at show
- Cash or Check

Please email all entries to:  
[Koivu\\_kennels@yahoo.com](mailto:Koivu_kennels@yahoo.com)

Questions:  
Kayla Koivu @ 307-251-4931  
Heather Arkell @ 406-208-4463

May enter the day of the show.

# Rockin' The Project

A graphic of a musical instrument, possibly a guitar or keyboard, with a treble clef and musical notes floating around it. The instrument is stylized and colorful.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Small Animal Showmanship Jackpot

Date: April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023

Time: Check In @ 12 PM : Show @ 1 PM

Location: Metra Park Expo Large Bay

### POULTRY, CAVY, POCKET PET, RABBIT, DOG AND CAT PROJECTS

- Pee Wee, Beginner, Junior, Senior Divisions
- Round Robin for each Division
- Banners and plaques will be given

All animals must be kenneled or caged!  
Bring your own cages. Dogs/Cats must be leashed when not kenneled

Judges are VOLUNTEERS... BE KIND!

# Yellowstone County 4-H Ambassador Project Scholarship

The Yellowstone County Ambassadors designed this scholarship to promote 4-H involvement and motivate members through the successes in their projects. This scholarship is to be used towards anything project related: supplies, materials, animals, etc. Each member awarded can use this scholarship money towards any 4-H project. Along with the application there will also be an interview held to discuss your project plans and involvement in 4-H. There will be \$100 scholarships awarded to three Yellowstone County 4-H members: one to a member from the senior age division (4-H age 14+), junior age division (4-H age 11-13), and beginner age division (4-H age 8-10). 4-H age is the member's age on October 1, of the current 4-H year. This is open to all Yellowstone County 4-H members.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Age on Oct. 1, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Active Personal E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_ Years in 4-H \_\_\_\_\_

Current Projects Taken \_\_\_\_\_

1.) If given the scholarship, what would you use the money for?

2.) Why do you think you deserve this scholarship?

3.) How has 4-H impacted you?

Please send your completed application and one letter of recommendation (from a 4-H leader or adult who you are not related to) by **5:00 pm Friday April 19, 2024 (not postmarked by)** to:

Roni Baker, Yellowstone County Extension Office, P.O. Box 35021, Billings, MT 59107

**OR**

Email to [yellowstonecountyambassadors@gmail.com](mailto:yellowstonecountyambassadors@gmail.com)

Organizational Leader or Project Leader Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Member Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



# APRIL 2024 4-H CALENDAR



**4-H Building Cleaning Schedule:**  
Call Extension Office to Schedule.

Worden Riverdale: March 23-April 5  
 Hesper Hustlers: April 20-May 3

Explorers: April 6-19  
 City Kids: May 4-17

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 MontanaFair Camper Space Reservations <b>ONLINE ONLY</b>  Yellowstone County Foundation Scholarship Deadline	2 6 pm Dog <i>4-H Building</i>	3	4 5:30 Cloverbud Camp Meeting 6:00 Dept. N with Council to follow. <i>4-H Building</i>	5	6 8:00 Communication Day  2:00 Rabbit & Cavy Workshop  <i>Both events at Valley Baptist Church in Huntley</i>
7	8	9 6 pm Dog <i>4-H Building</i>	10	11	12	13 8:30 Showcase <i>Laurel United Methodist Church</i>
14	15	16 6 pm Dog <i>4-H Building</i>	17 6:00 Horse & Colt Meeting  7:00 Horse Helmet Workshop <i>4-H Building</i>	18 6:00 Horse Workshop <i>4-H Building</i>  6:00 Shooting Sports Leader Meeting <i>4-H Building</i>	19 Project Scholarship application Due  <b>Newsletter Articles Due</b> ←	20   Rec Lab in Boulder April 19-21
21 12 pm Small Animal Showmanship Jackpot <i>MetraPark Expo Large Bay</i>	22 6:00 Interstate Exchange <i>4-H Building</i>	23 6 pm Dog <i>4-H Building</i>	24	25 6:00 Poultry Workshop <i>4-H Building</i>	26	27 8:30 Cat Show <i>4-H Building</i>
National Volunteer Week April 21-27 ←—————→						
28	29	30 Member's Project Add & Drop Deadline in ZSuite  6 pm Dog <i>4-H Building</i>	May 1 State Award Applications Due	2 5:30 Post Communication Day/Showcase Mtg 6:00 Dept. N with Council to follow. <i>4-H Building</i>	3 4-H Camper Application Deadline	4 8:00 Swine, Sheep & Goat tagging 9:00 Animal Quality Assurance 11:00 Horse Helmet <i>All at PAYS</i>