

YELLOWSTONE COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER- AUGUST 2026

406-256-2828 2320 3rd Avenue N, Billings MT 59101

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

Facebook: Yellowstone County 4-H

HIGHLIGHTS FROM RONI BAKER

Everyone attending Congress had an enjoyable time and learned more about 4-H. The results show our members worked hard this year. Congratulations.

Dept. A 4-H fair office in the Expo Center large bay: 406-869-5203 Dept.N 4-H fair office in Montana Pavilion: 406-869-5206

Roni Baker, Yellowstone County 4-H/Youth Agent

CONGRESS ATTENDEES AND RESULTS

The following members represented Yellowstone County at 4-H Congress in Bozeman. A great learning experience for all.

Member	4-H Club	Competitive Event or Committee
Ackerman, Tate	Hesper Hustlers	2 nd place Public Speaking Yellowstone County Ambassador
Bekkedahl, Wade	Hesper Hustlers	4-H State Ambassador Yellowstone County Ambassador
Britto, Isabelle	Shepherd Pioneers	1 st place Horse Judging
Cass, Naomi	City Kids	2 nd place Career Communication State Award Winner
Holberg, Jack	City Kids	Delegate
Kuhr, Brooklyn	Hesper Hustlers	State 4-H Foundation Youth Representative 3 rd place Quilt State Award Winner Yellowstone County Ambassador
Lynch, Hadleigh	Compass All Stars	Demonstration/Speech
Lynch, Samantha	Compass All Stars	Yellowstone County Ambassador
Robertson, Erin	Yellowstone Mavericks	Delegate
Russell, Hazel	City Kids	1 st place Quilt
Russell, Mae	City Kids	2 nd place Quilt
Sedlacek, Grace	Hesper Hustlers	Yellowstone County Ambassador

PLEASE PRACTICE THE 4-H PLEDGE DURING MONTANAFAIR

We remind members and leaders to embody the 4-H Pledge during this busy time at MontanaFair. I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service, and my health to better living for my club, my community, my country, and my world.

4-H EXHIBITORS PICK UP MONTANAFAIR PACKETS AUGUST 3

Remember to pick up your MontanaFair packets on Interview Judging Day, **Monday**, August 3, between 9:00 am to 7:00 pm in the **Montana Pavilion at MetraPark**. Even if you are not participating in Department N Interview Judging, you can stop by the Montana Pavilion and pick up your MontanaFair packet. Be sure to read all information carefully.

DEPARTMENT N INTERVIEWS-CLUB JUDGING SCHEDULE

Interview Judging will be held in the **Montana Pavilion** on Monday, August 3. **Judging will end at 1:00 pm for the early session and at 7:30 pm for the evening session.** **PLAN AHEAD and Check-In EARLY** to allow yourself time to wait in line if necessary. **Judges will be leaving their shifts at 1:00 pm and 7:30 pm.** Check-in will be open for members from 8:30 am until 6:45 pm.

EARLY JUDGING SESSION

9 am-1 pm. **Check-in EARLY judges leave at 1:00 pm**

<u>Club Name</u>	<u>Club Name</u>
Big Sky Thunderbolts	Lockwood Humble Bs
City Kids	Northern Lights
Compass All Stars	Shepherd Pioneers
Cool Clovers	Whips n Sticks
Huntley Eagles	Worden Riverdale
Kountry Kritters	

EVENING JUDGING SESSION

4:30-7:30 pm **Check-in EARLY as judges leave at 7:30 pm**

<u>Club Name</u>	<u>Club Name</u>
Blue Creek Jumping Bucks	Ruff Riders
Hesper Hustlers	Shepherd Tumbleweeds
Laurel Roadrunners	Shepherd Wranglers
Out of County	Yellowstone Mavericks
Pine Ridge Red Ryder	Yellowstone Silver Spurs
Project Rockin Wranglers	

Contact Dawson Seibold at 406-281-4000, prior to August 3, if you cannot make your club's scheduled time.

PROCEDURE FOR INTERVIEW JUDGING

1. **REGISTRATION TABLE:** Pick up your entry tags during your club's assigned time. If you did not complete all the items you originally listed on your entry, be sure to cross them off at the registration table and return those items' tags.
2. **TAGGING:** Pins, staples and tape will be available at the tagging tables. You will need to securely attach each tag to your exhibit.
3. **JUDGING:** Choose a project to be judged and stand in that specific project line (e.g., photos are judged in the Photography category. Each waiting line is identified.) until you are directed to a judge. Bring all entries for the chosen project to the judge. Once judging is done, get your next project and repeat the process until all your projects have been judged.
4. **RIBBONS:** When the judge has finished marking your entry and tag with the placing, you will take the project to the ribbon area where a ribbon will be attached.
5. **DISPLAY:** Once ribbons have been put on your projects, take them to your club's booth to be displayed.
6. **Please take all food and ceramic entries to the "Food Display Area" in Dept. N.** Food and ceramic entries will be displayed on shelves, risers, tables, in glass cases and in refrigerated cases.

PARENTS please note: The interview judging process is a wonderful learning opportunity for your member(s). It takes time to communicate with the judge the new skills learned and for the judge to evaluate and teach. Please plan 1-2 hours for your member(s) to be judged. This is a great opportunity for you to assist where needed and visit with other 4-H families.

ABSENTEE EXHIBITOR FORM FOR INTERVIEW JUDGING DAY

If you enter Department N, but cannot attend Interview Judging Day on Monday, August 3, you need to:

- Fill out an "Absentee Judging Form" listing each entry.
- Find a 4-H member who is willing to bring your entries and the Absentee Judging Form to the fair and take them to the specific project judges. They need to take the entries and form to each project judge.
- Absentee members may choose to talk to a judge via a phone call or FaceTime. Absentee member is responsible for coordinating call(s) or FaceTime with their 4-H member helper. When the helper reaches a judge, they will use their own phone to place the call or use FaceTime to reach the absentee member.
- Arrange to have your entries picked up from MontanaFair on Sunday, August 16, from 10 am to 2 pm.

You can get the Absentee Interview Judging Form(s) from the Extension office or on the county 4-H website.

CHECK OUT OF EXHIBITS

ALL exhibits must be removed from the Montana Pavilion on **Sunday, August 16 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm**. If you are unable to pick up your exhibits, please arrange for someone else to do so. Be sure to provide a list and description of each item to the person picking them up. *Items not picked up may be discarded.*

TIPS FOR BLUE RIBBON INTERVIEWING SKILLS

Read and practice these skills before your interview at MontanaFair.

Why should you develop good interviewing skills? Interview skills are a necessity of life. As you grow up you will be interviewed for scholarships, jobs, committees, etc. You will also want to interview other people you wish to hire to do jobs for you. Some examples are a babysitter for your children, or a person hired to mow your lawn or paint your house.

Tips for Making a Good First Impression. How to Introduce Yourself.

1. Dress appropriately
2. Look at the interviewer
3. Shake hands with the interviewer
4. Smile!
5. Introduce yourself. "My name is ____."

What to do after the Introduction

1. Sit down
2. Lean slightly forward
3. Look at the interviewer

The Actual Interview – At some point you will be asked about your project. This is your big chance to impress the judge! Be excited about your project. Explain why you chose this project and why it interests you. Tell the interviewer about any problems you encountered, and how you overcame them. Be prepared to talk about your project for at least 3 minutes. Make a list of things you can talk about, and practice talking about them before the actual interview.

Remember, if YOU are not excited and enthusiastic about your project, how can you expect the interviewer to get excited about it? It is okay to be nervous-most people are. The judges understand-they have been there before themselves. Don't let the nervousness ruin your chances for a good interview.

Closing of the Interview-Wait for some indication from the interviewer that the interview is finished. Thank the interviewer, smile, shake hands again, and exit.

Role Play-Practice shaking hands and introduce yourself. Practice telling someone else about your project. Practice will help you to be more comfortable at your interview.

What's Not Cool? Believe it or not, all of these have happened during the 4-H interviews:

- *Thumb sucking or fingernail biting.
- *Gum chewing.
- *Bad grooming...dirty hands or fingernails, unwashed or uncombed hair, dirty clothing.
- *Hair twirling.
- *Wimpy handshake...but a wimpy one is better than none.
- *Eating food or drinking pop.
- *Avoiding eye contact with the interviewer.
- *Holding your head up with your hand.
- *Looking bored or disinterested.
- *Not knowing why your project is neat, special, great or exciting. If it was not interesting to you, why would you bother to spend so much time doing it?

You may be asked questions like:

- *What did you like best about this project?
- *Why did you choose this project?
- *Have you taken this project before?
- *What other things did you make or raise this year?
- *What makes this a good project?
- *What did you learn from this project?
- *How much did it cost?
- *Did you receive help making (raising) your project?
- *Do you plan to take this project again?
- *If you don't like this project, what will you try next year?

ICE CREAM BOOTH COUPONS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

How about a special treat for your 4-H leader, 4-H members, grandpa and grandma, a special neighbor, or someone who helped you with your 4-H project? You can purchase and give ice cream tickets to family and friends and let them enjoy our ice cream at the MontanaFair. The ice cream booth is in the Montana Pavilion

PRICING FOR 2026: \$4 for a cone/\$5 for a cup

"Flavor of the Day" special: \$3 for a cone/\$4 for a cup.

Discount Deal: For \$15 you may purchase five ice cream booth tickets (normal cost for five tickets would be \$20 for cones/\$25 for a cup).

Tickets will be available for purchase at Department N Interview Judging Day, August 3 and in Department N during fair.

4-H ICE CREAM BOOTH CLUB SHIFTS

All clubs in Yellowstone County are required to work at the ice cream booth during fair. **Money raised in the ice cream booth goes to the 4-H Council to provide funds for 4-H projects and activities.** Each club volunteer working a two-hour shift will be given gate admission tickets as needed. The schedule below indicates your club's assigned times. Each club should bring along a receipt book or pieces of paper to write orders on. Thank you for making the 4-H Ice Cream Booth a success.

2026 Ice Cream Booth Club Work Shifts

Saturday, August 8

11:30 am - 1:30 pm	Big Sky Thunderbolts & Shepherd Lonestars
1:30 - 3:30 pm	Whips & Sticks
3:30 - 5:30 pm	Huntley Eagles
5:30 - 7:30 pm	Huntley Eagles
7:30 - 9:30 pm	Shepherd Tumbleweeds

Sunday, August 9

11:30 am - 1:30 pm	Worden Riverdale
1:30 - 3:30 pm	Worden Riverdale
3:30 - 5:30 pm	Shepherd Tumbleweeds
5:30 - 7:30 pm	Blue Creek Jumping Bucks
7:30 - 9:30 pm	Yellowstone Mavericks

Monday, August 10

11:30 am - 1:30 pm	Laurel Roadrunners
1:30 - 3:30 pm	Laurel Roadrunners
3:30 - 5:30 pm	Northern Lights
5:30 - 7:30 pm	Project Rockin Wranglers
7:30 - 9:30 pm	Project Rockin Wranglers

Tuesday, August 11

11:30 am - 1:30 pm	Cool Clovers & Out of County
1:30 - 3:30 pm	Northern Lights
3:30 - 5:30 pm	Pine Ridge Red Ryder
5:30 - 7:30 pm	Lockwood Humble B's
7:30 - 9:30 pm	Lockwood Humble B's

Wednesday, August 12

11:30 am - 1:30 pm	Blue Creek Jumping Bucks
1:30 - 3:30 pm	Shepherd Wranglers
3:30 - 5:30 pm	Yellowstone Silver Spurs
5:30 - 7:30 pm	City Kids
7:30 - 9:30 pm	City Kids

Thursday, August 13

11:30 am - 1:30 pm	Shepherd Pioneers
1:30 - 3:30 pm	Shepherd Pioneers
3:30 - 5:30 pm	Northern Lights
5:30 - 7:30 pm	Ruff Riders
7:30 - 9:30 pm	Ruff Riders

Friday, August 14

11:30 am - 1:30 pm	Kountry Kritters
1:30 - 3:30 pm	Kountry Kritters
3:30 - 5:30 pm	Hesper Hustlers
5:30 - 7:30 pm	Hesper Hustlers
7:30 - 9:30 pm	Cool Clovers

Saturday, August 15

11:30 am - 1:30 pm	Compass All Stars
1:30 - 3:30 pm	Compass All Stars
3:30 - 5:30 pm	Yellowstone Mavericks
5:30 - 7:30 pm	Yellowstone Silver Spurs
7:30 - 9:30 pm	Big Sky Thunderbolts & Shepherd Lonestars

NEW ICE CREAM BOOTH DUTIES

Everyone working in the Ice Cream Booth must read this list of duties before working their shift(s).

GENERAL SHIFT DUTIES:

- A maximum of eight people (2-3 adults and 4-5 4-H members) are needed from each club for every two-hour shift. Please do not have a new set of workers coming every half an hour. A limited number of gate passes will be

available for workers.

- Adult 1 / Older Member - Take orders and handle money
- Adult 2 / Older Member - Assign scoopers, and keep track of orders in progress, and assure each item is completed.
 - For sanitation purposes, people handling the money and the order tickets should not handle or scoop ice cream.
- Adult 3 / Older Member (Optional) - Oversee scoops and help with hard ice cream
- Members - Scoop ice cream and hand it out
- During downtime, 1-2 extra members will clean tables.
- Must be at least 12 years old to work in the booth - Organizational Leader can decide differently.
- Must be at least 16 years old to run the cash register - Organizational Leader can decide differently.
- Remember to wash your hands before starting your shift.
- You must wear one of the 4-H aprons.
- Everyone must wear the plastic gloves provided.
- Long hair must be tied back.
- No eating or drinking in the ice cream booth.
- No free ice cream for workers or customers.
- All 4-Hers on duty must stay in the ice cream booth and work until their shift is over.
- Workers are required to wear appropriate clothing.
 - No spaghetti strap tops, no stomachs showing, no sagging pants. If you are not dressed appropriately, you will be asked to put on the T-shirt that will be provided.
- Be polite and smile! Say thank you!
- Always use a napkin to pick up and serve the cone.
- Make sure the customer receives a fair amount of ice cream
 - Half a scoop inside cones, one large scoop on top
 - Two large scoops in each cup
- Always clean the scoop between servings in the scoop storage station and allow it to air dry.
- Clean scoops in the cleaning station at the end of your shift then allow them to air dry.
- Wipe off counters when not busy.
- Change scoop storage station water as needed, using COLD water from the sink.
- Restock napkins and cones as needed.
- Take out trash as needed.
- At the end of shift make sure the booth and surrounding areas are clean.
 - You may need to sweep, mop or wipe down dirty areas in the booth, etc.

FIRST SHIFT (11:30 - 1:30):

- Wipe down the outsides of all the ice cream freezers.
- Restock and uncover cones, cups, napkins, spoons, etc.
- Get scoop cleaning station set for the day (used between shifts cleaning)
- Get scoop storage station set for the day (used between scoop cleaning)
- Clean all scoops for the day
- Combine containers of ice cream if possible and throw out empty containers.

LAST SHIFT (7:30 - 9:30):

- Wipe down counters.
- Cover open ice cream tubs with lids.
- Clean out all the spilled ice cream from inside all freezers and throw it away.
- Cover cones with plastic.

- Dump out all water from both stations.
- Rinse all the cleaning buckets out with just water.
- Sweep floor in ice cream booth and surrounding area.
- Mop floor in ice cream booth and surrounding area.
- Take out trash.

After your club shift has ended and you have cleaned up, an adult in charge of your club must find a fair clerk on duty. The fair clerk will okay the cleanup, and only then will the clerk count your money and let you go.

ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXHIBITORS DURING MONTANAFAIR

In Department N (Montana Pavilion) we want to have as many activities going on as possible. If you are interested in doing a presentation, workshop, talk about the 4-H program, trips, or activities, please contact Roni at the Extension office at 406-256-2828. A list of activities being held in Department N will be posted each day in the department. Come learn about 4-H Congress, Citizenship Washington Focus in Washington D.C., National Congress in Atlanta or one of the other many opportunities available in 4-H.

DAILY SCAVENGER HUNT IN DEPARTMENT N AREA

Visit Department N each day during MontanaFair to participate in "The Hunt". There will be a list of 10 items which are hidden in various club booths. The items will be moved to different booths each day. Complete a form identifying where you located the items, and your name will be put into a daily drawing for prizes. Prizes include night show tickets, ride tickets and 4-H items.

POTENTIAL JUDGES FOR MONTANAFAIR 2027

Your input on people who are qualified to be judges at the MontanaFair is needed. Names of potential judges can be given to the Extension Office at any time, but we will discuss and recommend judges at the September meetings. Bring name, phone, address and email of potential judges to the Department A Livestock Meeting on September 2 at 6:00 pm and to the Department N meeting on September 3, 2026, at 5:30 pm. Your input is very important. These meeting dates are set early so judges can be contacted in a timely manner. We will be meeting in the 4-H Building both nights.

OUTSTANDING MEMBER AWARDS

A committee is beginning to work on Outstanding Member awards. Your help is needed. Contact Roni at the Extension office if you want to give input to the committee or serve on the Outstanding Member Awards Committee.

4-H 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. For more information and applications, contact the Extension Office.

- You must be at least 14 years of age by October 1, 2025.
- You must not have served as a state 4-H ambassador officer.
- You must have been involved in the Montana 4-H program for at least 3 years.
- You must be willing to serve a 2-year term if a junior, a 1-year term if a senior this fall in high school.
- You must be willing to actively participate in all meetings-both virtual and real time.
- You must have the approval of your county agent.

MONTHLY CLUB MINUTES HIGHLIGHTS

The following clubs turned in club minutes by the newsletter deadline:

Compass All Stars: Two members shared the Do's and Don'ts with poultry before fair judging.

Lockwood Humbe Bs: Members gave project reports. A potluck is scheduled for our September meeting.

Shepherd Pioneers: Members discussed ideas and costs for the club's stall decorations.

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
Donnes Construction	5807 Frey Road, Shepherd MT 59079
Farm Bureau Financial	2619 St. Johns Ave. Ste. A, Billings MT 59102
Town and Country Supply Association	800 East Main, Laurel MT 59044
Willys Bar	PO Bo x 335, Worden MT 59088
Torgerson’s LLC	5022 Laurel Rd, Billings MT 59101
Stahl Construction	7027 Appaloosa Rd, Shepherd MT 59079
Bromenshenk Farms	4715 Grand Ave, Billings MT 59106
JC Excavation	PO Box 399, Huntley MT 59037
Selle Livestock	1802 Minnesota Billings MT 59101
Yellowstone Home Inspections	6735 Pinto Dr, Shepherd MT 59079

DEPARTMENT N (non-animal) POST MONTANAFair MEETING

The Post MontanaFair meeting for Department N will be held on **Thursday, September 3, at 5:30 pm** in the 4-H Building.

DEPARTMENT N CLERKS & JUNIOR COORDINATORS

4-H has an outstanding group of clerks this year! If you have any questions, look for one of the following people:

Molly Arnold	Cassandra Brelje	Edin Brelje	Christopher Dykes	Ellaliyah Dykes
Emily Lynch	Erin Robertson	Sarah Robertson	Levi Rollins	

The following Junior Coordinators will be helping throughout fair.

Olivia Arneson	Brooklyn Berg	Rylee Fenton	Alexa Kuhr	Brooklyn Kuhr
Hadleigh Lynch	Keona Muessig	Amanda Parks	Matthew Parks	Sarina Parks
Garrett Ready	Morgan Ready	Grace Sedlacek		

Extra Volunteers: Holly Parks and Ariel Peterson.

DEPARTMENT A (livestock) POST MONTANAFair MEETING

The post-MontanaFair meeting for livestock will be held **Wednesday, September 2, 6:00 pm** in the 4-H Building.

EXHIBITING SPORTSMANSHIP AT MONTANAFair

Parents, please show good sportsmanship and respect to the judges at the MontanaFair. DO NOT argue with the judge; their word is final. Please set a good example.

ADVICE FOR HORSE MEMBERS EXHIBITING AT MONTANAFair

For MontanaFair, follow the dress code on the Yellowstone County Horse Supplement and in the Exhibitors Handbook, not the dress code in your project book. Be sure to read the rules in your packet at check-in.

WORDS OF WISDOM - *Borrowed from Dr. Doug Householder, Texas A&M University*

One family has this set of rules hung in the dressing room of their horse trailer:

When I compete, I

Have a performance goal...never a “beat someone else” goal.

Evaluate my own performance.

Respect and learn from other competitors more skilled than myself.

Don’t criticize other exhibitors, officials, or judges.

Enjoy my friends and become more skilled through today’s competition.

Do my best today.

STAY HOME IF I CAN’T FOLLOW THE RULES!

HORSE HELMETS AVAILABLE IN EXTENSION OFFICE

You can purchase white Troxel horse helmets through the Extension office for \$20.

MANDATORY HORSE MEETING AND HORSE MIXER INVITATION

A mandatory meeting for all horse members and parents participating in MontanaFair will be held in the SuperBarn at 1:30 pm on Thursday, August 6. A Horse Mixer will be held Thursday, August 7, in the SuperBarn after trail finishes. There will be food! Come help us celebrate the opening of MontanaFair. All 4-H members are invited.

REEDS SKIPPA DANDY VERSATILITY AWARD

The Reeds Skippa Dandy Versatility Award will again be awarded following the MontanaFair 4-H Horse Show this year by the Taylor and Marcotte families. The traveling trophy and ribbon metal are awarded to the High Point Horse in memory of Reeds Skippa Dandy, who spent 18 years in the 4-H program with three separate 4-H'ers: Joey Lynn (Taylor) Henry, Jay Taylor and Amanda Marcotte. Dandy was the pure definition of "Versatility".

To qualify for this award, a one-horse/one-rider combination must compete in at least four different disciplines from the following: showmanship, western, english, trail, bareback, hunter hack, pleasure driving, ranch horse, reining, games, and team penning. Good luck to you all. ~ From the Taylor and Marcotte Families

REPORTING PROCEDURE FOR REPORTING EXCESSIVE ADULT INVOLVEMENT

Please use common sense in all situations. Know the whole story and do not make assumptions about what is going on in the incidents you are observing. For example, excessive adult involvement does not include a parent holding an animal for the next class when the exhibitor is in the ring showing another animal or when a parent is helping lead a steer to tie-outs. Examples of excessive adult involvement include a parent cleaning a pen or a professional fitter grooming an animal.

At the time of the incident, the **4-H/FFA member or adult** needs to:

- A) Contact the Division Chairperson and discuss the incident they observed. The Division Chairperson will then visit with Roni Baker, Extension Agent and/or the Dept. A Superintendent(s), about the incident. OR
- B) Contact Roni Baker, Extension Agent, and
- C) discuss the incident they observed. This can be done through the 4-H Fair Office in the Expo Center. Roni will then visit with the Division Chairman in that species and/or Department A Superintendent(s). OR
- D) Contact the Dept. A Superintendent(s) and discuss the incident they observed. This can be done through the 4-H Office in the Expo Center. The superintendent(s) will then visit with the Division Chairman in that species and/or Roni Baker.

First Infraction

The youth and adult need to talk to the person(s) involved in the infraction. The Division Chairperson needs to write up information about the incident as reported, time, date, species, witnesses, etc. This document will be filed in the fair Livestock Office. The incident will be investigated. The people involved (member(s), adult(s), leader(s), witnesses, Division Chair(s), Extension agent and Superintendent(s) will discuss the incident.

Second Infraction

A written warning will be given to the person(s) involved-either youth or adult. Depending on the seriousness of the infraction, the Fair Livestock Committee can determine the extent of the consequences for the second infraction. Consequences can include just a warning, no participation in the sale, loss of premiums, adults will be expelled from the barn for the remainder of the fair, etcetera. The letter from the 2nd infraction must include two signatures. One signature from the Extension Agent and one from a Livestock Committee Chairman or Superintendent.

Third Infraction

If a third infraction occurs, the consequences for the adult(s) and youth may be serious and have a lasting effect. Consequences may include expulsion, loss of sale proceeds, losing the option to sell at the fair, expulsion from future fairs or any other consequence determined by the committee.

The Fair Livestock Committee will consist of the 4-H Extension Agent, Dept. A Superintendent(s), Division Chairperson(s), Jr. Chairperson(s) and the Sale Committee President.

ROUND ROBIN TRAINING CLINICS AT MONTANAFAIR

Want to brush up on your showmanship techniques? The Small Animal Round Training Clinic will be held on Tuesday, August 11, at 4:00 pm, in the Expo (meet outside the Dept. A office). The Large Animal Round Robin Training Clinic will be held Thursday, August 13, in the Expo large arena after the goat and llama obstacle course is finished.

ENTER YOUR ANIMAL IN THE 4-H COSTUME ANIMAL PARADE

Anyone can enter the Costume Animal Parade with an animal that is entered in MontanaFair. The parade is on Wednesday, August 12 at 6:30 pm. You can get entry forms from the 4-H Office in the Expo. You did not have to enter it in your MontanaFair entry.

MARKET ANIMAL EXHIBITORS

Market Animal Alert! If **any** medication **or** medicated feed has been used, **make sure** that withdrawal times are met **before** your animals are taken to MontanaFair. If you have any questions about withdrawal times, read the label on feed sacks, bottle of medication, or consult a veterinarian. If an animal tests positive, **it may be condemned** and that could affect our livestock sale in the future.

4-H/FFA MONTANAFAIR JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SALE

It is in everyone's best interest to contact buyers for the MontanaFair Junior Livestock Sale on Saturday, August 15, at 12:30 pm. This could include your relatives, doctor, dentist, veterinarian, grocery stores, gas stations, bankers, insurance agents, etc. If you know of someone you would like the Sale Committee to contact and/or send tickets for the buyer's dinner, please contact any of these committee members:

Trish Hays at 406-671-7493 Bill Cook at 406-670-0689 Yellowstone County Extension Office at 406-256-2828

DEPARTMENT A CLERKS

This year we have great team of clerks. If you have any Department A questions, ask the following people:

Coreen Cook	Lacie Crowder	Julie Fisher	Terri Gable	Gina Loose
Connie McQuire	Cathy Muessig	Shelby Shaw	Wendy Thatcher	

MONTANAFAIR PREMIUM CHECKS

Premium checks will be voided 120 days after issue date. MetraPark will be enforcing the 120-day cancellation notice. Any checks not remitted for deposit/cash will be null and void after check issue date has expired.

If there is a problem with your premium dollars for the MontanaFair, call the Extension office by **October 31**. All errors must be resolved before this date because the MontanaFair accounts are closed out until the following year.

JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SALE CHECKS

Checks from the sale of market animals will be mailed 45-60 days after MontanaFair, PROVIDED the Yellowstone County Extension office has received notification that your thank you note(s) has/have been mailed to your buyer(s). Some clubs will notify their animal volunteer who then notifies the Extension office. If a club volunteer does not gather the information collectively from members, YOU are responsible for contacting the Yellowstone County Extension Office at 406-256-2828.

SHOWMANSHIP TIPS

Tidy Up-Waiting to go into the ring? Make sure your animal is clean, and you are neat, too. Spit out the gum!

Dress Nicely-You and your clothes should be neat and presentable. Remember you are selling yourself and your skills; your appearance and salesmanship are very important to the Auction.

Smile-You will look like you are enjoying yourself. A smile is also a good tool to mask frustration if your animal is not doing what you would like it to do.

Brush-After the judge touches your animal, remember to brush the hair back. You might not think the judge is looking, but they are! Besides, why are you carrying that brush around? Use it!

Look at the judge as you enter the ring and frequently as you show; remember to smile. (RN/8/4/12)

Footwear-For safety, wear sturdy leather, hard-soled shoes. If an animal steps on your foot, your injury will be less serious.

STATE WORKING RANCH HORSE FINALS

Registration is now open for the 2026 Working Ranch Horse Finals will be held September 18-20, 2026, at Cottonwood Equestrian Center in Joliet. Registration is now open on the [state 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/events/state_horse_show/index.html) at https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/events/state_horse_show/index.html.

STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW

The State 4-H Horse Show will take place September 10-13, 2026, at the Fergus County Fairgrounds in Lewistown. Registration is now open on the [state 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/events/state_horse_show/index.html) at https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/events/state_horse_show/index.html.

MONTANA HEREFORD ASSOCIATION (MHA) HEIFER GRANT

The MHA wants to help young breeders grow their own herd, so they have set up a fund to award two applicants a chance to win a \$500 grant to purchase a Hereford heifer. This heifer must be purchased from a current MHA member.

For specific grant requirements and to download the application visit the [MHA](https://montanahereford.org/heifer-grant) at <https://montanahereford.org/heifer-grant>. Application deadline is September 1, 2026. Questions? Please reach out to informontanahereford@gmail.com

AUGUST 2026 4-H CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Interview Judging Day in the <i>Expo Center</i>	4	5	6 MontanaFair	7 MontanaFair	8 MontanaFair
9 MontanaFair	10 MontanaFair	11 MontanaFair	12 MontanaFair	13 MontanaFair	14 MontanaFair	15 MontanaFair
16 10 am-2 pm Dept. N exhibits check out	17	18	19	20	21 September Newsletter Articles Due	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	Sept. 1	Sept. 2 6:00 pm Dept. A Post Fair Meeting <i>4-H Building</i>	Sept. 3 5:30 pm Dept. N Post Fair Meeting with 4-H Council to follow. <i>4-H Building</i>	Sept. 4	Sept. 5