



Flathead County 4-H News

4-H Fall Foundation Forum Meeting

December 2008
Volume 4 Issue 3

The Flathead 4-H Foundation Fall Forum will be held at the 4-H Building on the Fairgrounds on Thursday, December 4th, 2008 at 6:30 pm. A leader from each club, and all District Representatives should attend Forum meetings. Topics of discussion will include Foods Fair Theme selection, county congress changes, a recap of the 07-08 4-H year, and programming for the upcoming year. If you have an item that you would like to see added to the agenda, please contact the Extension Office at 758-5553. District 5 will be hosting this Forum. **Remember, if you have a Foods Fair theme you'd like to be considered for this year's Foods Fair competition, please turn it into the Extension Office by December 4th at 5:00 pm.**



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Pat McGlynn Joins the Extension Office Team



Pat McGlynn joined the Extension Office staff as our new AG, Natural Resource and Community Development Agent on November 1st, 2008. She has more than 30 years of agriculture experience that includes dairy, landscape design and nursery production, equine management, agriculture education and bioenergy feedstock research and production. Pat is joining us from Cornell University and we are very excited to have her! We are encouraging everyone to stop by and welcome Pat to our Extension Team.

Area Clubs Participate in Community Service



Lasalle Boosters 4-H Club members baked cookies and delivered them to the Veteran's Home during the Halloween holiday. They also carved pumpkins with the residents and many residents even gave up bingo time because they were having so much fun carving the pumpkins with the Lasalle Booster members.

Dandy Dudes and Dolls 4-H Club participated in a roadside clean-up on Highway 206. This is an annual community service project that the members participate in. The members also baked and decorated a number of cakes for the Creston School Halloween Party cake walk.

We would also like to thank all of those who participated in the Sykes Thanksgiving Dinner community service project which was held on November 22nd at the Christian Center. Many 4-H members and leaders took part in peeling potatoes and cooking turkeys for the annual Sykes free Thanksgiving Day dinner.

If your club has participated in a community service project, please let us know so we can showcase your club in upcoming newsletters. 758-5553



Extension Office Holiday Open House



The Extension Office will be hosting a holiday open house for all of our valued clientele on Friday, December 19th, 2008 from 10:00 am– 5:00 pm.

We would love for everyone to stop by and enjoy some holiday goodies with us!

Karole Sommerfield

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Market Beef Weigh-in and Tagging



The first Market Beef Weigh-in and Tagging for all 4-H and FFA market beef project members will be held at the Fairgrounds on Saturday, December 6th, 2008 at the Fairgrounds. The weigh-in and tagging will begin at 8:30 am and last until 10:30 am. This is a **required** weigh-in for all members who are planning on being in the market beef project this year. Please be dressed appropriately to handle your animal, including proper foot wear and dress that is appropriate to the weather conditions of the day. Members should know their breeder's name and address, your animals breed, and it's birth date. You should also be currently enrolled in the Beef project, before weigh-in takes place.

Upcoming 4-H Leader Committees



AG/ Livestock Committee: The next AG/Livestock Committee meeting will be Tuesday, January 6th, 2009 at the 4-H Building on the Fairgrounds at 5:30 pm. The meeting will last approximately one hour. **Each 4-H Club's specified F.I.L.L. (first in line livestock leader) should attend this meeting.** If you would like to add an agenda item. Please call the Extension Office at 758-5333.

Horse Committee: The next horse committee meeting will be held in the Extension Office on Monday, March 9th, 2009 at 5:30 pm. If you have an item you would like to see added to the agenda, please call the Extension Office at 758-5553.

Real Colors Workshop Opportunity

Karole presented the first Real Colors Workshop in October and since then has had several request to repeat the training for those who did not have an opportunity to attend. So Karole is offering the Real Colors Training again. The program will be held at the Flathead County Fish, Wildlife and Parks Building, which is located across from the Fairgrounds on North Meridian Road, at 6:00 pm, on Thursday, January 15th, 2009. Real Colors is a program designed to help leaders gain insight into their own temperament and that of others, learning tools for interaction to reach new levels of communication with others. Those attending are asked to bring a potluck item. If you would like to attend, please contact the Extension Office at 758-5553. Class size is limited to 25 and pre-registration is required.

Organizational Leader Reminder: All organizational leaders should submit their clubs yearly program outline to the Extension Office no later than Wednesday, December 10th, 2008. Forms were included in your enrollment packets. Please call the Extension Office if you have any questions. 758-5553

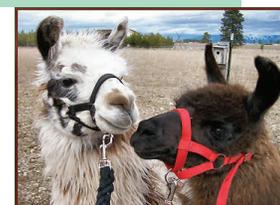
County-wide Arts & Crafts Meeting



Bill Prichard, our county-wide arts and crafts leader, is once again offering monthly arts and crafts meetings to all Flathead County 4-H members enrolled in the arts and crafts project. If you would like to participate in the county-wide arts and crafts meetings, you must attend the upcoming meeting on Monday, December 15th, 2008. The meeting will take place at the 4-H Building on the Fairgrounds at 6:30 pm. Bill will be signing up members in several projects that take multiple meetings to complete, so that each member has a unique craft item that they can enter at the 2009 Fair if they would like. These projects will begin in January. The December Arts and Crafts project is "Northern Stars" and members need to bring Elmer's Glue, if they would like to participate. If you have any questions, please contact the Extension Office at 758-5553 or Bill Prichard at 257-6209.

Join the Flathead 4-H Llama & Alpaca Club

Do you know what the difference is between a LLAMA and an ALPACA? Do you know what they do to help people??



We would like to invite you and your llama/ alpaca to join our club. Together we will learn the answers to these questions, as well as how to care for your animal and improve showmanship skills for competition at our Northwest Montana State Fair here in Kalispell next August. Llamas and Alpacas are good pets. You can take them for walks on mountain trails, lead them in parades, teach them to jump over obstacles, and they can be your best friend. If you do not already have an animal we can help you find the right one. We look forward to seeing you!! For further information please contact Angela Crenshaw at 257-4474 or Dianna Blair at 756-6767.

MSU Specialist Offers Beef Seminar



Rachel Endecott, the MSU Beef Specialist, will be traveling to Kalispell on Monday, January 5th, 2009 to offer our members, parents and leaders an informational seminar on Beef nutrition, genetics, and other important market beef topics. The meeting will take place at 6:30 pm in the Country Kitchen Building on the Fairgrounds. We are very excited that Rachel is traveling all the way from Miles City to present to our 4-H community. We strongly encourage all Beef members, parents and leaders to attend.

Flathead County Foods Fair: Theme is Yet to Be Determined!



The 2009 Foods Fair will be held on Saturday, January 24th, 2009 at the Whitefish Mountain Mall. The Foods Fair is open to any and all 4-H members wishing to participate. You **do not** have to be currently enrolled in a 4-H Foods project. The Foods Fair has been and continues to be an excellent way to allow the public a chance to see what 4-Her's can do. It also gives 4-Her's a chance to prepare some special food and display it in an attractive way in a booth with other members of their club. All booths need to display their club name and have a 4-H logo or some type of 4-H paraphernalia on their table. An adult leader or older Jr. Leader needs to be at each booth at all times. This person also needs to be responsible for seeing that entries go to judging on time. Each club needs to bring their own table, chairs, decorations, and table cover. The Whitefish Mountain Mall is open until 9:00 pm Friday night and opens at 7:00 am on Saturday morning. Clubs are welcome to bring their tables in Friday night before mall closing. **(The Mall is not responsible for items left overnight.)**

All entries must be tagged and have the following items on it: Person's Name, age (as of October 1st, 2008), division, and category entered. Entries must be in place no later than 9:45 am. Judging will start at approximately 10:00 am. We will not have preliminary judging. 4-Her's are such outstanding cooks that each will compete against all entries in their age and food category. Judges will pick a first and second place winner in each category and in each age division. Each entrant must fill out a Foods Fair application/recipe form. Recipe Forms are available in the Extension Office. Members may enter in up to 2 categories. Cloverbuds may enter only one item in their division.

Age divisions are as follows: Cloverbuds (5-7 years), Junior (8-12 years), and Senior (13-and older). Age is determined as of October 1st, 2008.

Food Categories:

- Cookies: any kind. Please encourage 4-Her's to be creative and different with their cookie exhibits.
- Decorated Cakes/ Cupcakes: judged only on decorating ability and creativity. A cake form can be used instead of a real cake.
- Pies: any kind (if custard or cream they must be kept cool).
- Candies: any kind
- Appetizers
- Baked Cakes from Scratch
- Side Dishes
- Cloverbud Division: This is a separate category for Cloverbuds only. All entrants receive participation ribbons.
- Best theme
- Adult/ Leader Category: This category is open to all adults, leaders and parents. You may enter one item of your choosing, totally pot luck so this should be a fun category to view as well as taste!!
- Other Deserts: any kind
- Yeast Breads: from scratch
- Quick Breads: from scratch
- Salad: both hot and cold
- Main Dishes: hot or cold
- Soups, Stews, and Chowders



Do You Have a Theme for Food Fair



We want your theme for the upcoming Foods Fair that will be held Saturday, January 24th, 2008. If you have an idea for a theme, please call the Extension Office at 758-5553 or email us at extension@flathead.mt.gov We would like to have all ideas submitted by December 4th, 2008 so that we can present your theme ideas to the Fall Foundation Forum.

Teen Council Meeting

The next Teen Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 18th, 2008 at the Fairgrounds in the 4-H Building from 5:00-6:30 pm. All 4-H members, valley-wide, who are 13 years of age or older are encouraged to attend this meeting. Chris Jellison and Lauren Callan, our 4-H ambassadors will be heading up the event. If you would like to attend, please call the Extension Office at 758-5553.

People Partner Grants

People Partner Grants are provided to 4-H groups and individual members who apply for funding to provide a program or project that enhances the quality of living for people in their communities. Youth should be involved in determining, planning, conducting and evaluating the project. The project should make it possible for people to accomplish something educational and worthwhile that helps them reach a higher quality of life. Community support of the project must be evident in the application, and can include additional funding, resource persons taking part in the activity, and other agency involvement. Grants are awarded in various sizes, exceeding no more than \$500. Several clubs in our area have taken part and received these grants in the past. B&F Livestock applied and used funds to create baby blankets for the Hope Pregnancy Center, High Mountain Meadows received a grant to help with the landscaping around the Kila School, and the Kila Rangers used the grant funding to build a new storage shed at the 4-H camp on Loon Lake so that the camp had a safe location to store life jackets and other equipment. Applications are available in the Extension Office. Applications must be returned to the Extension Office no later than January 23rd, 2009.

Montanans for 4-H Legislative Breakfast in Helena

The 2009 Montanans for 4-H will be holding their Legislative Breakfast in Helena at the Red Lion Inn on Tuesday, January 20th, 2009. The theme for the breakfast is Ready, Set, Go Green and the purpose of the event is to continue contact and provide information about 4-H and our educational programming to the legislators of Montana. Flathead County will be sending a delegation to this event and we will be leaving for Helena on Monday, January 19th and coming back late on the 20th. If you would like to join our group and are 10 years old or older, please call the Extension Office at 758-5553.

International Opportunities

4-H provides senior 4-H members wonderful opportunities to travel abroad after graduating high school. Locations include Japan, Australia, Costa Rica and Finland. Trips can vary in length from 4 weeks to one year. Applications are available in the Extension Office and are due in the office no later than Tuesday, January 6th, 2009. There are also numerous opportunities for 4-H families to host an inbound international exchange member. Hosting families receive further funding for members who would like to travel themselves in the future. Hosting applications are also available in the office and are due no later than Monday, March 9th, 2009.



We need Camp Counselors!

We are now accepting applications for Camp Counselors and CIT's for the Flathead County Camp. Camp will be July 20th-24th. Anyone 14 and older by October 1st, 2008 can apply as a Counselor. Counselors have a major role in the success of Camp. If you are 13 years of age you can apply as a CIT (Counselor in Training). All Camp Counselors and CIT's will be involved with planning the Camp programs and activities. We are taking applications earlier this year so that we can spread out the training and camp planning meetings. Applications are available in the Extension Office. The apps are due in the Office no later than Friday, January 23rd, 2009. Please feel free to call if you have any questions. 758-5553



Market Livestock Project Guidelines

To participate in a Market Livestock project, a member must be enrolled in an active 4-H Club and meet certain requirements.

All 4-H members involved in a Market Livestock project must attend one Livestock Quality Assurance Clinic every two years. We will be offering two Livestock Quality Assurance Clinics this year. Dates are also listed below. **If you are taking a Hog, Beef or Sheep to the Fair, and you did not take this training last year, you are required to attend a LQA Training this year.** There are no exceptions. Young members who completed an LQA training last year are allowed to repeat their training this year if they choose. **Members must call the Extension Office at 758-5553 to sign up for a session.** Materials need to be prepared for each member who attends.

Market Livestock Contracts: All members who are participating in a market animal project (hog, beef, or sheep) need to read and sign a Market Livestock Contract form. A parent is also required to sign the form. The contract should be turned into the Extension Office no later than April 15th, 2009. Your livestock club leader will have these forms for you soon. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Office at 758-5553.

Livestock Quality Assurance #1: Monday, February 23rd.
6:30 pm at the Country Kitchen on the Fairgrounds.

Livestock Quality Assurance #2: Thursday, March 19th.
6:30 pm at the Country Kitchen on the Fairgrounds.

Please remember to put these dates on the Calendar.

Trip Award Applications for Senior 4-H Members

If you may be interested in attending any of the following state and nationwide events in the upcoming 4-H year, and you are at least 14 years of age by October 1st, 2008, then you should definitely consider filling out a trip award application. Trip Award Applications are not required to participate in these events, however, you may receive extra funding if you apply. Trip Award applications are available in the Extension Office and on our website, and are due January 23rd. For more information, please feel free to contact us.



Citizenship Seminar is held in Helena on March 1st-3rd, 2009. Members will learn how the legislative process works, how to write a Bill, and enhance speech and debate skills. Applications are available in the Extension Office and online. The application for the trip itself is also due to the Extension Office January 23rd.

Montana State Recreation Lab will be held in Forsyth on March 20th-22nd, 2009. Recreation lab provides an opportunity for youth and adults to enhance their leadership, communication and team building skills in an action packed and interactive setting. More information on this event will be in future newsletters.



Citizenship Washington Focus is a program where 4-H members experience a six day intensive training on the democratic process and their role as citizens while enjoying our nation's capitol. Members must be 15-19 years old and will travel June 6th-13th, 2009. Partial scholarships are available for this program. Registration for the trip itself is due in the Extension Office no later than January 23rd.

Montana 4-H State Congress provides youth from across the state an opportunity to come together on the MSU campus in Bozeman for 4 days (July 7th-10th) and participate in an event which includes contests, workshops, entertainment, social events and much more. Actual applications for this event will be announced in future newsletters.

Fiber a Success at NWMT Fair

The fiber project is growing in Flathead Valley and to meet the needs of this growth the Fiber Barn will continue to offer Fiber competition to 4-H members at the 2009 Northwest Montana Fair. They would like to encourage the 4-H community to take part in this program by holding their fiber animals at the Fair throughout the week. The goals are to educate the public about fiber animals, the fiber community, and the industry. We encourage all 4-H members to look into fiber as a project. For more information, please call the Extension Office. 758-5553



Horse Project Guidelines

All 4-H Horse Project members wishing to participate in the 4-H Horse project and/or NWMT Fair 4-H horse competition, must meet the following requirements:



Horse Cards: The Extension Office must have a picture of the member with the horse they intend to ride at the Fair. A card can be picked up at any time in the Extension Office. The card has a place for you to attach the picture and list the projects you are currently enrolled in. These cards must be in the office no later than Monday, June 1st, 2009.

Project and Helmet Release: Each member who wishes to participate in the 4-H horse project (at any time during the 4-H year, including competition), must have a Horse Project Release Form on file in the Extension Office. They must also have a Horse Helmet Release Form on file in the Office, if they choose to ride or handle their horse at any time without a helmet while working on the 4-H horse project.

Assessments: Each horsemanship manual has level assessments included in them. Each member must turn in a copy of their assessment to the Extension Office if they would like to move into the next level. You must compete at the Fair in the level that the Extension Office has on file. You may turn in assessments to the Extension Office up until Monday, June 1st, 2009.

Clinics: To participate in the 4-H events at the Northwest Montana Fair each horse member must attend at least one 4-H sponsored horse clinic during the upcoming year. There are four clinics being offered this year. Watch the newsletter for details regarding these clinics. Refer to the 4-H yearly calendar, which can be picked up in office or found on our website, for the dates of these clinics.

Horse Clinic #1: The first Horse Clinic Opportunity will be held on Friday, January 9th, 2008 and the topic will be the Do's and Don'ts of Tack and Tack Fitting. Grandview Supreme and Dandy Dudes and Dolls are hosting this clinic. Time and location will be announced in the January Newsletter.

Horse Clinic #2: Topic is Lameness. Dr. Erfle will be presenting. Hilltop Arena at 10:00 am on Saturday, February 21st.

An Error in the Sheep Level 1 Book

The Level 1 4-H Sheep Curriculum "Rams, Lambs, and You" lists an activity in chapter 2 entitled "Sheep Shelter". Unfortunately, the "Sheep Shelter" activity is nowhere to be found. The activity is actually in the Level 2 Book. As leader's are checking off books, we know this could cause some confusion. If you need a copy of this activity, please call the Extension Office. 758-5553

Thank You to Clubs Who Are Gift Wrapping at Murdoch's

We would like to say thank you to those clubs who have taken on the community service project of wrapping presents at Murdoch's Ranch and Home Supply this holiday season. We appreciate your hard work and dedication to the partnership 4-H has with Murdoch's.

Swan River	Nov. 29th	Golden Spurs	Nov. 30th
Smith Valley Boosters	Dec. 6th	Lakeview Livestock	Dec. 7th
B&F Livestock	Dec. 13th	Open Horizons	Dec. 14th
Montford Egan Eagles	Dec. 20th	Trail Blazer's	Dec. 21st

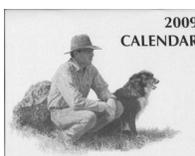
National 2009 Youth Horse Leaders Symposium in Nebraska

The 32nd Annual National Youth Horse Leader's Symposium, presented by the American Youth Horse Council will be held on March 27th-29th, 2009 in Lincoln, Nebraska. Over 2 dozen international and national presenters will be providing information on the keys to successful youth horse programming and horse management. A weekend program for teen leaders is also available, where teens learn many different horse disciplines and breed activities and develop leadership skills and effective horsemanship techniques. For more information go to www.ayhc.com or call 1-800-TRY-AYHC.

New Dog Training Opportunities

Is your family considering purchasing or adopting a dog or do you currently have a dog and wish you knew more about your four legged friend? We have a Flathead County resident with 4-H background that would offer training on choosing the right "type" of dog for your family, lives, and differences of the seven canine groups if there is an interest. Discussions may also include introducing your puppy to your home, house training, behavior and basic health. If this is something you may be interested please call the Extension Office at 758-5553. If there is enough interest expressed, trainings may be offered on a continuing basis throughout the spring and summer with hands on training for your pets, with a small fee attached.

Don Greytak 4-H Calendars



Each year, Don Greytak, a famous Montana artist, has donated his art to Montana State 4-H to create a beautiful calendar. These calendars are offered through local Extension Offices like ours for only \$10.00 each. All proceeds from the calendar sales go directly to our 4-H program. The calendars are filled with intricate sketches of Montana rural life throughout the past 100 years. If you would like a calendar, please feel free to stop by the Extension Office and pick one up for only \$10.00. Supplies are limited so please don't wait. 758-5553.

Free Rabbits: Two Rex Rabbits. Thumper is a grey buck and Blossom is a white and brown spotted doe. Cage and water-bottle included. Please call Dale at 261-5914

Free Rabbits: One neutered male who is black and white, and one caramel colored female. Both are three years old and handled daily. Hutch included. Call Shawn Schmid at 756-8692

Free Rabbits: Mini Rex Buck and Doe. Buck is Blue and Doe is a Broken Chocolate. Good 4-H showers, but not good for ARBA. Less than one year old and handled daily. Ask for Jenny at 756-1545.

Free Goats: One neutered male and one female Nubian goats. Well handled and used previously for goat tying. Free to good home. Call Michelle Petrina at 261-9386.

Long Horn Project: Christy Fix is offering an opportunity for an interested 4-H. She has a 4-5 month old Long Horn heifer that she is offering as a 4-H project. She will pay for feed if you house and care for the animal and show her at the 2009 Fair. For more information please call Christy at 755-5647.

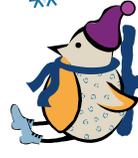
**"My great concern is not whether you have failed but whether you are content with your failure."
-Abraham Lincoln-**

Karole Sommerfield
Flathead County 4-H/ Youth Extension Agent



Shelley Smith
Flathead County Extension Support Staff

*Flathead County
& H News*

Happy
 Holidays

December 2008

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