



Colors Workshop Opportunity for Leaders & Parents

Karole Sommerfield, our 4-H & Youth Development Agent, will be presenting the first Real Colors Workshop for the 2009/2010 4-H year on Friday, December 11th at 6:00 pm. The class will be held at the United Way Community Room, located in the old Gateway West Mall building. Class participants come away with the knowledge and understanding of the four temperament types without years of study. Each user has effective tools in understanding human behavior that is easy to incorporate in every day life. By gaining insight and perspective on what motivates people, workshop graduates recognize characteristics in themselves and others to enhance their communication skills. Most importantly it helps people recognize, accept and learn to value the differences in 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.

4-H Fall Foundation Forum Meeting



The Flathead 4-H Foundation Fall Forum will be held at the 4-H Building on the Fairgrounds on Thursday, December 3rd, 2009 at 6:30 pm. A leader from each club, and all District Representatives should attend Forum meetings. Topics of discussion will include a recap of the 08-09 4-H year, Foods Fair and other 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.

AG Livestock Committee Meeting

The next 4-H AG and Livestock Committee Meeting will be held previous to the Fall Forum meeting at the 4-H Building on the Fairgrounds, Thurs. Dec. 3rd at 5:30 pm. Further discussion regarding the upcoming livestock quality assurance trainings, weigh-in and tagging dates, and future livestock seminars are all topics of discussion. To add an item to the agenda, please call the Extension Office at 758-5553.

Extension Office Holiday Open House

The Extension Office will be hosting a holiday open house for all of our valued clientele on Monday, December 21st, 2009 from 10:00 am– 5:00 pm. We would love for everyone to stop by and enjoy some holiday goodies with us!

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FYI: The Extension Office will be closed December 24th and 25th for the Holidays.

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 three 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, 2010. 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.

LQA #1 : Wednesday, January 6th, 2010 at 6:30 pm at the Country Kitchen on the Fairgrounds.

LQA #2: Thursday, February 18th, 2010 at 6:30 pm at the Country Kitchen on the Fairgrounds.

LQA #3: Tuesday, March 23rd, 2010 at 6:30 pm at the Country Kitchen on the Fairgrounds.

Please remember to put these dates on the Calendar.

Flathead County Teen Council

If you are a 4-H member 13 years of age or older and are interested in joining the Flathead County Teen Council, please contact our Ambassadors or Key leader for more information and to be placed on a contact list for upcoming meeting times and locations. Lauren Callan, our Senior Ambassador, can be reached at 756-7927 and Jemma Morrow, our Junior Ambassador or Kelly Morrow, our Key Leader can both be reached at 756-8954. The Teen Council will be participating a variety of service projects, fundraisers, and a number of social events that will round out the year.

NEW! Beef Project Member Seminar Requirements

All 4-Hers who are either 1st or 2nd year beef project members must attend the Market Beef Seminar which will be held on Monday, December 7th, 2009 at 6:30 pm. The meeting will be held at the United Way Community Room located in the old Gateway West Mall Building. This meeting is required for participation in 2010 market sale at the NWMT Fair. Please contact the Extension Office if you have any questions. 758-5553.

Market Beef Project Members:

The 4-H steer tagging and weigh-in will be held at the Fairgrounds on Saturday, December 5th, 2009 from 8:00-10:30 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, their animals breed, and it's birth date.

County-wide Arts & Crafts Meeting

The December Arts and Crafts Meeting has been canceled.

The January meeting will be held on Monday, January 4th, at the 4-H Building on the Fairgrounds at 7:00 pm. You should be enrolled in the Arts and Crafts Project to take part in this event.

Bill Prichard, our local Arts and Crafts leader, will be accompanied by guest artist, Elaine Taylor. The project will be "India Ink on Art".

Please bring the following supplies with you to this meeting: Pencil and tracing paper. A simple image like a cartoon or comic book picture. And any size frame with glass.

For more information, contact Bill at 257-6209.



We Need Camp Counselors!

We are now accepting applications for Camp Counselors and CIT's for the Flathead County Camp. Camp will be July 19th-22nd. Anyone 14 and older by October 1st, 2009 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 Wednesday, January 20th, 2010. Please feel free to call if you have any questions. 758-5553



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



The 2010 Foods Fair will be held on Saturday, January 23rd, 2010 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, 2009), 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, 2009.

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 23rd, 2010. 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 3rd, 2009 so that we can present your theme ideas to the Fall Foundation Forum.

Fiber Project Opportunities

The fiber project in 4-H is not listed in your Clover selection guide but is available to Flathead County 4-H members. Diana Blair, a Flathead County project leader in the Leaping Llamas and Marching Alpacas club, has offered her help and expertise in the fiber project to those who are currently enrolled or those who are interested in this project opportunity. She may even be able to help members find fiber animals if they don't already own one. Please call Diana at 756-6767.

Trip Award Applications for Senior 4-H Members



If you are 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, 2009, 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 21st. For more information, please feel free to contact us.

Citizenship Seminar is held in Helena in March, 2010. Members will learn how the legislative process works, how to write a Bill, and enhance speech and debate skills. Applications will be available in the Extension Office and online when released by the State Office.

Montana State Recreation Lab 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 12th-19th, 2010. Partial scholarships are available for this program. Registration for the trip itself is due in the Extension Office no later than January 21st.



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.

Horse Helmet Opportunities

The Trauma Services department at KRMC is offering to provide children an excellent opportunity to obtain helmets for a number of sporting venues, including horse helmets. They will provide the proper fitting and helmet to a child in the horse project for the cost of \$20. Other sporting events prices vary. To make an appointment or for more information, please call Heather at 751-5727.

Please also keep in mind that the Flathead 4-H Foundation is offering to reimburse the cost of one horse helmet (up to a \$25 value) during the lifetime of a child's membership. Please bring your helmet receipt into the office for reimbursement.

New 4-H Family Orientation Meeting

Karole Sommerfield, our 4-H and Youth Development Agent, and several Flathead County Horse Leaders will be hosting a meeting for all new 4-H families at the United Way Community Room in the old Gateway West Mall Building on Thursday, January 21st, at 6:30 pm. During the first hour, Karole will be going over the in's and out's of the Flathead County 4-H program and answering questions for parents and members. Topics will include records keeping, 4-H project manuals, deadlines for enrollment, market livestock requirements, and upcoming 4-H county-wide events.

For those who would like to stay, the second hour of the meeting will be devoted to the 4-H horse project guidelines and expectations. Several area horse leaders will be providing valuable information to members and parents regarding this project. We encourage all new families as well as families who may still feel a little lost in the 4-H world to attend this informative meeting. If you have any questions, please call the Extension Office at 758-5553. We hope to see you there!

Horse Committee Meeting

Horse Committee Meeting: The next 4-H Horse Committee Meeting will be held at the Extension Office at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, January 12th, 2010. Items for the agenda will include horse camp, new 4-H curriculum and upcoming events including Fair. All clubs with horse membership should have a representative attend this meeting. If you have an item that should be added to either agenda, please call the Extension Office at 758-5553.



Attention all Horse Members: The Level 1-3 Horsemanship books are being edited and re-printed at the state level and we are currently out of the old publication here in the Extension Office. We will be posting a notice in our newsletter when the new manuals become available. We apologize for this inconvenience.

Horse Leader Assessment Certification

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, March 7th. All Flathead County Horse Leader's that would like to be able to assess their members in level requirements, must attend a certification meeting at Mooring Road Arena on March 7th. The training will begin at 2:00 pm and last till about 4:00 pm. More information regarding this requirement will be including in upcoming newsletters. Please call the Extension Office if you have any questions.

758-5553.

Horse Project Guidelines

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



Horse Cards: The Extension Office must have a picture of the member with the horse/ mini 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, 2010.

Project and Helmet Forms: Each member who wishes to participate in the 4-H horse/ mini 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 Policy & Acknowledgement of Education Form on file in the Office.

Assessments: (not applicable for mini horse members)

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. Members will compete in the highest level completed and on file in the Extension Office. You may turn in assessments to the Extension Office up until Monday, June 1st, 2010.

Clinics: To participate in the 4-H events at the Northwest Montana Fair each horse/ mini horse member must attend at least one 4-H sponsored horse/ mini horse clinic during the upcoming year. There are at least five 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.

If anyone has an idea of a location that we could use to host the Flathead County 4-H Congress Event, please let the Extension Office know. We are hoping to hold Congress on Saturday, April 10th. For more details call the Extension Office at 758-5553.

Club Treasury Reports Past Due

The following Clubs need to turn their 2008/2009 financial summaries to the Extension Office as soon as possible. Please let us know if you need another treasury book or other forms. 758-5553.

Canyon Explorers	Glacier Stars	High Mountain Meadows
Hilltop Riders	Kila Rangers	Lakeview Livestock
Lasalle Boosters	Open Horizons	

Horse Project Clinics

The following Clinics are currently going to be offered to 4-H horse/ mini horse project members. For more details, please look to upcoming newsletters or call the Extension Office. 758-5553

Horse Clinic #1: January 16th at the Hilltop Stables. Topic will be Causes of Founder and Related Hoof Problems. The clinic will begin at 10:00 am.

Horse Clinic #2: February 25th at the Mooring Road Arena. Topic will be Desensitizing your Horse. The clinic will begin at 6:30 pm.

Horse Clinic #3: March 21st at the Mooring Road Arena. Topic will be Pattern Mechanics. The clinic will begin at 3:00 pm.

Horse Clinic #4: April 24th at the Flathead County Fairgrounds. Topic will be Ground Manners and 4-H Safety. The clinic will begin at 10:00 am. Vaccinations and shoeing may be available for fee.

Horse Clinic #5: May 22nd at the Lasalle Equestrian Center. Topic will be From the Judges Point of View. The clinic will begin at 12:00 pm.

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 21st, 2010.



Travel Opportunities for Senior 4-H Members

Each year the 4-H Center for Youth Development State Office works hard to include Montana 4-H'ers in National and International opportunities. This year is no exception.

International Opportunities: International travel locations include Japan, Australia, Costa Rica, Nihongo, Finland, and Norway. Trips vary in length and some locations can be combined. Japan one year internships are also available. Japan internship applications deadlines are December 1st and all other apps are due January 15th. Call the Extension Office for more information. 758-5553 More information is also available at the state website which is www.montana4h.org under Programs and then under International Programs.

MSU Scholarships Available



Montana State University is offering several scholarships for freshmen for the upcoming school year. These include the new MSU Premier Scholarship program. The new Premier Scholarships are based on ACT and/or SAT scores and

grade point average. Awards will be applied to tuition only. Scholarship applications are available at www.montana.edu/admissions/scholarships Most scholarship applications are due by the first week in January and require an application for admission to be submitted in advance.

FREE & WANTED ITEMS

Wanted: Needed one rabbit hutch for a 4-H rabbit project. Please call Jordan at 854-2234 if you are able to help.

Free Horse Lease: Bay/White (Paint colored) unregistered gelding, 10 years old, has done arena, trail, cows, needs intermediate rider. Call Cheryl Favre 270-0669 for more info.

National 4-H Shooting Sports

The National Shooting Sports Steering Committee has announced the location of the 2010 National Training Workshops. These workshops are designed to train volunteers to a level where they are qualified to train local leaders in their home state. For more information contact: Todd Kesner at (406) 994-6816

Western Region Leader's Forum

Plans are well underway for the 2010 Western Region Leaders' Forum. The Forum will take place in Albuquerque, New Mexico on March 11th - 14th, 2010. All 4-H leaders, teens and staff from the 13 western states, 2 Canadian provinces and the Pacific Territories are invited. The event is capped at 400 participants, so don't delay in registering.

The full-time registration includes Thursday evening appetizers and 4 meals, hospitality room, workshops, speakers, commercial exhibits, entertainment and activities. On Friday and Saturday there will be 64 workshops on a diverse range of topics. Some of the workshop titles are: Magic of Leadership, Sciencetriffic 4-H Projects, Are you a 4-H Pig or Chicken?, Internet Use in 4-H Activities, Introduction to Boondoggle Delights and 4-H Working. Early bird registrations must be submitted by December 15th. Online registration is available at <http://nm4h.nmsu.edu> The 2010 Forum will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Hotel registration information is located on the Forum website. Reservations can be made on-line or by calling 402-592-6464 or 888-421-1442.



Thank You for Gift Wrapping

We'd like to thank the following clubs for participating in the 4-H gift wrapping at Murdoch's during the holiday season:

B&F Livestock	L.L.A.M.A. Cub
Dandy Dudes and Dolls	Montford Egan Eagles
Golden Spurs	Open Horizons
Hilltop Riders	Swan River

We'd also like to thank Chris Scott for taking the lead on this event and organizing it so very well. We couldn't have done it without you Chris!!!

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for information to be included in January's newsletter will be December 21st. Please have all information you would like included to the Extension Office by that time.

Thank you!

Karole Sommerfield
Flathead County 4-H/ Youth Extension Agent



Shelley Smith
Flathead County Extension Support Staff

*Flathead County
& H News*

Happy
 Holidays

December 2009

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