



# Flathead County 4-H News

December 2010  
Volume 6 Issue 3

## CAN YOU 4-H FOOD DRIVE?



Calling all Flathead County 4-H Clubs. Now's your chance to show us what you're made of with a little friendly competition between clubs. The challenge is to collect the most canned food between November 8th and December 17th, 2010. Once you've collected your donations, take the food to a Food bank of your club's choosing and make sure to get a "weight" receipt. Mail the receipt to Samantha Lake, Flathead Junior 4-H Ambassador. Please call the office for Samantha's address or a flyer outlining the details of this competition. The winning club will be notified prior to January 1st. The club that collects the most wins a pizza party for their January Club meeting. The prize is sponsored by Kevin and Inga Lake of Superior Sled and Cycle.

## Steer Market Project Weigh-in



The 4-H steer tagging and weigh-in will be held at the Fairgrounds on Saturday, December 4th, 2010 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. All animals must have a halter and lead rope. 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.

## Dandy Dudes and Doll 4-H Club Christmas Bizarre

The Dandy Dudes and Dolls 4-H Club will be hosting a Country Christmas Bizarre as a fundraiser on Saturday, December 4th at the Cayuse Prairie School from 10:00 am- 4:00 pm. There will be several business vendors such as Pampered Chef, Tupperware, Stampin' Up, and much much more. There will also be 4-H hosted booths with bake sale goodies, crafts and carnival games. Please join in the fun and share the holiday spirit.



## Flathead County Shooting Sports Leader's Training



Montana State 4-H program will be hosting a leader's training for all parents and junior leader's interested in becoming certified as a 4-H shooting sports instructor. The training will be held on Friday, December 3rd and Saturday, December 4th at the Flathead County Fairgrounds. The training is \$50 and is required for all individuals wishing to assist with shooting sports training for our members throughout the upcoming year. Individuals must pick one discipline to be trained in. Registrations forms are available on our website and in the office and must be filled out in advanced. For more information, please call the office at 758-5553.

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## Karole Sommerfield

4-H & Youth Development  
MSU Extension, Flathead County  
800 South Main Street  
Kalispell, MT 59901  
(406) 758-5553

[extension@flathead.mt.gov](mailto:extension@flathead.mt.gov)  
<http://flathead.mt.gov/extension/>  
[www.msuextension.org](http://www.msuextension.org)  
[www.montana4h.org](http://www.montana4h.org)

## Get your picture with Mini Horses & Santa's Elves!

Saturday, December 4th at CHS Farm Store, 11:00am-4:00pm the Happy Hooves 4-H Club will be offering pictures for children and pets to the public. Bake Sale items will also be available.



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STATE UNIVERSITY

**EXTENSION**

## 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 2nd, 2010 at 6:30 pm. A leader from each club, and all District Representatives should attend Forum meetings. Topics of discussion will include Foods Fair and other programs and guidelines 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.

## 4-H Rock Club Project Offered

The Rockchucks Rockhound Club of Flathead County is offering a 4-H Rock Club Project to interested members. This will be a condensed program of 10 weeks. Rockchuck Club members are excited to share many rockhounding interests with 4-H youth. Topics might include cutting and polishing, metal detecting, faceting, rocks of Montana, geology, and more! Kathy Martin, a former 4-H leader and Rockchuck member is looking for a teen leader(s) to help her design this project to include topics of interest to 4-H youth. If you are interested in helping Kathy or in attending this program, please email her at [tkmartin@montanasky.us](mailto:tkmartin@montanasky.us)

## MT 4-H Horse and Livestock Leader's Forum



The Montana 4-H Horse and Livestock Leader's Forum will be held on January 28th-30th in Helena at the Red Lion Colonial Inn. Registration cost is \$90 if postmarked by December 20th, lodging not included. Room rates range from \$90-\$110 depending on occupancy. To reserve a room please call the Red Lion Colonial Inn at 406-443-2100 and make sure to mention the Leader's Forum for this rate. To register for the Forum please go to [www.montana4h.org](http://www.montana4h.org) If you do not have online access please come into the Extension Office and we will assist you with the registration process.

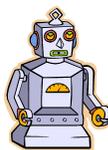
Workshop topics include Yoga on Horseback, Dog Agility and Herding, Carcass Evaluation for Market Animals, Equine Preventative Care, Forage Quality, Activities for Hog project, Assessing Horse Levels, and much, much more.

## 4-H Livestock & Horse Committees

The next 4-H Livestock Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 2nd at the 4-H Building on the Fairgrounds, at 5:30 pm and will wrap up before the Foundation Fall Forum begins. If you have an item you would like to see added to the agenda, please call the Extension Office at 758-5553.

The next 4-H Horse Committee Meeting will be held in the Extension Office on Tuesday, January 11th at 5:30 pm. Topics of discussion will include clinic dates and times, curriculum, etc. If you'd like to add an item to the agenda, please call the Extension Office. 758-5553

## Lego Robotics Project Opportunity



Gil Parsons, Flathead County 4-H robotics leader, is once again offering the level one 4-H Lego robotics project to our members. This is open to all 4-H members interested in the robotics project, however group size is limited so please contact the Extension Office if you would like to join. Meetings will be held every Saturday for 8 weeks beginning January 15th. Meetings will be held from 10:30am to 12:30pm. Computers and robotics project materials are provided. Please call the Extension Office at 758-5553 if you are interested in joining this exciting project.

Gil is also looking for a Jr. Leader to assist him at project meetings. If you are interested in a great leadership role, please call the Extension Office. 758-5553

## Seeking Camp Counselors!

Applications are available for Camp Counselors and CIT's for the Flathead County Camp. Camp will be July 25th-28th. Anyone 14 and older by October 1st, 2010 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. **The applications are due in the Office no later than Friday, January 28th, 2011. Those applying must attend the first meeting which will be held on Thursday, February 17th at 5:30 p.m., at the United Way Conference Room in the Gateway Community Center (formerly gateway west mall).** Please feel free to call if you have any questions. 758-5553



If you would like to submit information for the January newsletter, please contact the Extension Office by December 20th.  
[extension@flathead.mt.gov](mailto:extension@flathead.mt.gov) or 758-5553

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



The 2011 Foods Fair will be held on Saturday, January 8th, 2011 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, 2010), 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, 2010.

### 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



## Flathead Teen Council Needs You!

The Flathead 4-H Teen Council is open to all 4-H members ages 13 years of age and up, and members are strongly encouraged to take part in this program. The Teen Council is lead by ambassadors Jemma Morrow and Samantha Lake and our Key Leader, Kelly Morrow. The Council participates in a variety of events and community service projects throughout the upcoming year, and have a ton of fun doing it. If this is something that interests you, please call either Jemma Morrow at 314-3403 or Samantha Lake at 253-7771. Future meeting times and dates will be announced in upcoming newsletters.



## 4-H Legislative Breakfast

The 4-H Legislative Breakfast will be held in Helena on January 18th, 2011. Members, 4-H age 10 and up, who would like to represent Flathead County at this event should contact the Extension Office at 758-5553. Those who attend will meet with Legislators to discuss activities and events that are held within our local communities. Preference will be given to those who have not previously attended.

**Invitation to New 4-H Families:** If you are new to the 4-H program in Flathead County, Karole Sommerfield, 4-H Agent would love the opportunity to meet with you. Questions often come up on how things work or what's available, please call the office at 758-5553 to schedule an appointment and eliminate some of the mystery surrounding one of the best youth opportunities in Flathead County.

## 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. These cards must be in the office no later than Wednesday, June 1st, 2011.

**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 and 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 Wednesday, June 1st, 2011.

**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 will be several clinics offered throughout our 4-H year. Watch the newsletter for details regarding these clinics. Clinic dates will be posted.

**Clinic # 1 "Tack":** The First Clinic will be held at Avila's Pro Shop (119 East Idaho St, Kalispell) in January. Details will be in the January Newsletter.

## 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. Junior Leaders who are helping present training at the LQA will receive certification for their assistance. **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. Beef Project member's contracts must be submitted no later than December 4th at Beef Weigh-in. Hog and Sheep project members need to turn in their contracts to the Extension Office no later than April 15th, 2011. Forms are available on line or in the Extension Office. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Office at 758-5553.

**LQA #1 :** Wednesday, January 19th, 2011 at 6:30 pm

**LQA #2:** Tuesday, February 22nd, 2011 at 6:30 pm

***Both meetings will be held at the Country Kitchen on the Fairgrounds.***

**Please remember to put these dates on the Calendar.**



## 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 event 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.



## 4-H International Travel Opportunities

There are several opportunities for 4-H members who are interested in international travel. Australia (June 15-July 14th), Costa Rica (June 18-July 16th), Japan (June 9-August 4th), and **new this year- Mongolia (one month)**. Details and applications are available at [www.montana4h.org](http://www.montana4h.org). Applications and deposits are due to the state office by January 1st. We are also looking for families to host 4-H members from other countries. Applications to host are also available at the website listed above and are due February 1st, 2011.

**Mark your calendar for the 2011 Girls for a Change Conference, "The World We Want", on February 26th, 2011, in Bozeman.**

## 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. Applications are available in the Extension Office and on our website. Applications must be returned to the Extension Office no later than Tuesday, January 25th, 2011.

## 4-H Rec Lab Workshop Proposals

The 2011 Montana 4-H Rec Lab will be held in Shelby, MT on April 1-3rd. Rec Lab provides an opportunity for youth and adults to enhance their leadership, communication, and team building skills in an action packed and interactive setting. Rec Lab programming is designed to provide participants with tips and tricks for being better club, camp and community leaders. Rec Lab planners are seeking workshop proposals to fill out this exciting event. The theme for this year's Rec Lab is "Become Your Own Character with 4-H", which is cartoon driven. Workshop guidelines and proposal forms are available in the Extension Office and on our website. They should be submitted to Adele Stenson at [astenson@montana.edu](mailto:astenson@montana.edu) by December 3rd.

## 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, 2010, then you should definitely consider filling out a trip award application. Trip Award Applications are not required to participate in these events and the application itself does not register you for any of the following, 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 25th. For more information on each event please read the following and feel free to contact the Extension Office.

**Citizenship Seminar:** This program will be held February 27-March 1st, 2011 in Helena, MT. The event is designed to educate, inspire, and showcase outstanding Montana youth as they learn and experience the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Only members who have not previously attended may apply. Each county is limited to two delegates. To apply for the event itself, please call the Extension Office for applications.

**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. Times, locations and more information on this event will be in future newsletters.



**Citizenship Washington Focus** is a trip held annually where Montana 4-H members travel as a group with chaperones to the National 4-H Conference Center in Washington, DC. The week long trip includes workshops, meetings with legislators, and visits to monuments and museums. Applications are due **January 1st** to the State 4-H office. Cost is \$1700 (broken into two payments). The Susan Dufner Scholarship (also due January 1st) can defray some of the expense. Members must be 15 years old (4-H age) to attend and to apply for the scholarship you must be 17 years of age. Applications are available in the Extension Office or on our website.

**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 12th-15th) 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.

### Free to Good Home:

2 Male American Satin Guinea Pigs. Some equipment also available. Please call Brenda Oberlitner at 250-1071.

### Important Dates to Remember:

**December 1st:** All Market Livestock Thank You Forms due to the Extension Office.

**December 2nd:** Livestock Committee and Foundation Fall Forum, 4-H Building, Fairgrounds, 5:30 and 6:30 pm respectively.

**December 3-4th:** Shooting Sports Leader's Training, Fairgrounds

**December 4th:** 1st Steer Weigh-in 8:00-10:30 am. Fairgrounds.

**December 9th:** Club outlines are due in the Extension Office.

**December 20th:** Holiday Open House in Extension Office.

**December 28th:** Citizenship Washington Focus Applications due in Extension Office.

### 4-H Million Trees Project

Last year, a national large scale service learning project, 4-H Million Trees, was launched. Members in Belmont, CA launched the project with the goal of planting 1 million trees nationwide to combat global climate change. Since there are 6 million 4-H members nationwide, the hope is that 4-H will unite and the trees will be planted by 2011. So far over 268,756 trees have been planted and 34,229 youth have taken part in this event, and the numbers keep growing! To enter your club in this project, go to [www.4milliontrees.org](http://www.4milliontrees.org) 4-H has partnered with The Arbor Day Foundation so that clubs can obtain 12 small trees with a \$12 membership. Clubs may also choose to obtain donations of trees or supporting materials. More information can be obtained by contacting your club's leader or calling the Extension Office at 758-5553.



**CHALLENGE:** *The Country Cousins 4-H Club would like to challenge other Flathead County Clubs to participate in the Million Tree Project with them. The club applied for grant funding for future tree planting and have been awarded \$2000 for their project. Great Job Country Cousins!!!!*

### Herron Park Pony Club Looking for New Members

Pony Club is looking for new members. During the winter we meet once a week at Rebecca Farm, when the weather gets warm we have mounted meetings once a week. If you are interested go to their web site and check them out at [www.herronparkponyclub.org](http://www.herronparkponyclub.org), or call Sally Rohletter at 249-7852.

### Western Region Leader's Forum 2011 is in Seattle!



The 2011 4-H Western Region Leader's Forum will be held in Seattle, WA, May 7-14th. This year's theme is Cruising to 4-H Excellence. This Forum is different than those in the past. It is going to take place on M.S. Westerdam, a Holland America Line cruise ship. You will be sailing roundtrip from Seattle to Alaska in seven days. The group will depart on Saturday, May 7th and return on May 14th. While at sea (and sometimes in port) we will have exciting keynote presentations, workshops and group events. It will feature a Murder Mystery activity, Awards Ceremony and Workshops on Wheels.

### B&F Livestock Provides Blankets to Food Bank

The B&F Livestock 4-H Club worked together to make 12 blankets to be distributed by the Evergreen Food Bank to those in need during the Holiday Season. We would like to say **Way to Go** for all their hard work and community mindedness.

If your club is working on community service projects and you would like to be highlighted in upcoming newsletters, please be sure to contact the Extension Office, 758-5553 or [extension@flathead.mt.gov](mailto:extension@flathead.mt.gov)

### Club Treasury Reports Past Due

The following clubs are required to turn in their club's treasury report as soon as possible:



A Bit of Difference  
B&F Livestock  
Glacier Stars  
Kila Rangers  
LaSalle Boosters  
Smith Valley Boosters

Happy Hooves  
Lakeview Livestock  
Leaping Llamas

So many of our dreams at first seem impossible, then they seem improbable, and then, when we summon the will, they soon become inevitable.

[Christopher Reeve](#)



*Flathead County  
& H News*

Happy  
 Holidays

*December 2010*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Flathead County Extension Office  
800 South Main St.  
Kalispell, MT 59901-5400  
406-758-5553