



Flathead County 4-H News

October 2008
Volume 4 Issue 1

National 4-H Week

October 5th-11th is National 4-H Week! This year's National 4-H Week promotional kit will highlight 4-H's connection to environmental efforts and sciences. The theme is "Keeping it Green". We have promotional materials available in the Extension Office provided from the National 4-H Brand site. These include posters, bookmarks, and flyers. A number of clubs have created window displays in area businesses or have found other ways to promote 4-H locally in their community. Please call in advance before picking up materials for your club.



Real Colors Workshop Opportunity for Leaders

Karole Sommerfield, our 4-H Agent, will be providing a Real Colors workshop to interested 4-H leaders in Flathead County on Friday, October 24th, 2008. 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. 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.

Project Learning Tree- A Forest for Every Kid

Project Learning Tree and MSU Extension Forestry are hosting a workshop for K-8 Teachers and those who work in the outdoors with children, (scout leaders, camp counselors, 4-H leaders, etc.) on Saturday, October 25th, from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm. The event will take place at the FH Stoltze Land and Lumber Company Conference Room, near Columbia Falls. Project Learning Tree has new revised curriculum and would like to introduce it to interested leaders. The workshop will include a walk through of 4 lesson plans and demonstrations of hands-on activities. Attendees need to bring a sack lunch and appropriate clothing for spending several hours outside. Cost will be \$25 per person and will include snacks, PLT workbooks, and 96 interactive activities. Class size is limited to 20 participants. For more information or to register go to <http://www.cfc.umt.edu/hosting/extensionforestry/> If you have any questions, you can call Cindy Bertek, at 406-243-4706.



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Is High School Rodeo For You?



If you are looking for some fun, adventure and a chance to meet new people, the Montana High School Rodeo Association is out there for kids of high school age wanting to compete in many events. There is also a Junior

Wrangler Division for kids that are in the junior high age and range.

If you have any questions and/or you would like to join, please contact Michelle Wilkinson at 253-4993 or Wally Wilkinson at 253-1225.



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Flathead County Fairgrounds 1st Annual Halloween Party/Carnival



The Flathead County Fairgrounds is inviting all Flathead County youth and families to attend a Halloween bash and carnival on October 31st from 5pm to 9pm. The event will take place in either the Expo Building or the Trade Center. These are great locations for children to go that are both safe and warm. There will be a costume contest, mini contests, and many booths offering candy and other snacks for all the little ghouls and goblins. Cost will be \$5.00 per family. For more information, please contact the Fair Office at 758-5810.

Club Leaders, Teachers and Business Owners:

There is still room for businesses, schools and 4-H clubs, etc. to set up a booth at the Fairgrounds during this event. Booths may set up their own contests such as pumpkin carving/painting, cup cake walks, apple bobbing, etc. that are fun and safe. The Fairgrounds will place a full page add in the Daily Interlake listing all the booth sponsors. All Commercial participants will be asked to donate \$100 that will be used for prizes, maintenance expenses, and hot drinks and snacks. The Fairgrounds hopes to give sponsored cash awards to costume contest winners, and divisions may include all ages, even adults! This is a great opportunity to get dressed up and take part in a fun community activity. For more information or to sign up please contact Leslie Knuth at 758-5810 or 261-4560. Registration should be turned in by Monday, October 15th.



Shooting Sports Sign-up Time!

Flathead County is lucky enough to offer two shooting sports programs in the valley. We have the Young Guns 4-H Club, which is located in Columbia Falls at Canyon Archery. The other program is Flathead Shooting Sports, and is located at the Fairgrounds. Each program is set up slightly differently so read closely for sign-up information.



Young Guns: Young Guns 4-H Club is organized by Richard Miller. Young Guns program is already underway, however, he still has openings for members who are interested in joining. Richard is also looking for parents and volunteers who would be interested in helping with club business and also those who are either certified or interested in being certified as 4-H shooting sports project leader. There will be a certification here in Kalispell in December, information is included in this newsletter. For more information regarding Young Guns, please call Richard at 892-1944.

Flathead Shooting Sports: If you shot in last year's shooting sports program at the Fairgrounds, which includes archery, rifle, pistol, etc., you must come into the Extension Office and sign up for the upcoming year. Your parent must accompany you to sign release forms. You must be registered for the upcoming year no later than Friday, October 31st, 2008 at 5:00 pm. If you do not preregister by that date, you will not have a reserved slot in the program and will have to be put on the waiting list.

If you were not involved in the shooting sports program last year, we have a waiting list in the Extension Office. Our number is 758-5553 and email is extension@flathead.mt.gov. We will need the following information: Name of youth participant, date of birth, mailing address, parents contact name, phone number, and email address if available. You must be 9 years old by October 1st, 2008 to be able to participate in this program. **New and returning member orientation will be Monday, November 17th, 2008 at the Fairgrounds in the Grandstand Building at 6:00pm. A parent or legal guardian is required to attend.** Questions? Call 758-5553

Arts and Crafts Meetings Are Back!



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. This month's project is Masks, and will be a two meeting project. The first meeting will be held on Monday, October 20th, 2008 at the 4-H Building on the Fairgrounds at 6:00 pm. Members are only required to bring \$3.00, a medium/large mixing bowl and spatulas and/or tongue depressors. These tools will be used to create your mask. The second meeting will be held Thursday, October 23rd, at the 4-H Building on the Fairgrounds at 6:00pm. Member should bring any assortment of the following to decorate their masks: paint, brushes, beads, glue, wire etc. The skies the limit on to what you can use to decorate your mask. A list of ideas will be given out at the first meeting. If you have any questions, please contact the Extension Office at 758-5553 or Bill Prichard at 257-6209.

Members: Please remember to come into the Extension Office to pick up record forms and purchase your workbooks to get a jump start on the new 4-H year.

53rd Annual Leader's Banquet

We are happy to invite **ALL** Flathead County 4-H Leaders to the 53rd Annual Leader's Banquet. The Banquet will be held at the Stillwater Grange on Friday, November 7th, 2008 at 6:30 pm. The Stillwater Grange is located at 1810 West Reserve Drive, Kalispell. This year's theme is **4-H Leaders— Build It Up**. We will be serving dinner, dessert and entertainment and will be honoring our wonderful 4-H Leader's for the hard work that you do. We'll be dressed in our comfortable best. We are asking those that would like to attend, to please call the Extension Office by October 31st, 2008. 758-5553. We will be ordering dinner for each leader/guest. Reservations make our dinner count and expenses accurate when we place our order. We are looking forward to seeing you there!



Clinton Anderson's Wahl Walkabout Tour Comes to Kalispell



Clinton Anderson, a world famous horse trainer, will be hosting an event at the Majestic Valley Arena on Saturday November 1st, and Sunday November 2nd. The native Australian horse trainer and RFD-TV celebrity will be presenting on topics including colt starting, trailer loading, spooky horses, groundwork, safety in the saddle, advanced riding and more.

Attendees will have an opportunity to watch Anderson work with problem and untrained horses on the ground and under saddle during eight separate demonstrations over two days. Watching Anderson's step-by-step techniques and explanation of every action will allow attendees to quickly learn how to replicate the same respect and responsiveness with their own horses. On Sunday, the event ends with an advanced riding demonstration by Anderson with one of his own trained horses that allows horse owners to see the end result of Anderson's training techniques.

Ten percent of all ticket sales benefit the North American Riding for the Handicapped Association, a national non-profit organization which encourages the benefits of therapeutic riding. Advanced tickets for both days are just \$25 per person. Children under 16 get in for free. Tickets at the door are \$50 each. Tickets can be purchased at

<http://www.downunderhorsemanship.com/>

Also benefiting from this event is 4-H. There will be a ball toss event that will take place on both Saturday and Sunday. 4-H will have a booth available where the public can purchase a numbered rubber ball for \$5.00. The ball's number will be recorded under that individual's name. At a designated time, all those who have purchased a ball will "toss" it and the ball (selected at random) will be the winner of a great prize. **All** proceeds from this event will go to the Flathead 4-H program. A detailed description of this opportunity will be on display at the 4-H booth. **Janette Nostrum has been generous enough to head up this booth and is looking for 4-H members and leaders who would like to volunteer their time for this fundraiser.** Please call Janette at 752-0751.

Revived Teen Council Needs You!

Hey everyone, come and meet with other teens from the Flathead County, as well as meet this year's Flathead Ambassador Team, Chris Jellison and Lauren Callan. Our ambassadors are bringing back the Flathead Teen Council and their first meeting will be Thursday, November 21st, 2008 at the 4-H Building on the Fairgrounds from 5:00pm—7:00 pm. Members aged 13 and older should get acquainted and have a good time! Please RSVP with the Extension Office by November 14th, 2008 if you are able to attend. 758-5553

Project Award Interviews

All 4-H Members who have completed record books for the 2007-2008 4-H year are eligible for county project awards.



Here's how it works: Applications can be found on our website and in the Extension Office. You may select as many as **four** project areas to interview in. An example of project areas would be sheep, beef, swine, foods, sewing, woodworking, etc..... Therefore, you will not specify both market lamb and sheep breeding if you do both, you would simply list sheep as the project area. Next, fill out the form and turn it into the Extension Office by Monday, October 27th, 2008. Interview will be held on Wednesday, October 29th and Thursday, October 30th, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Bring your 4-H Books and Records to the Extension Office during the interview times designated and we will have one on one interviews on a first come first served basis. Remember to dress as if you were going to a job interview. Volunteer 4-H Leaders will be interviewing the members. This is a great chance to talk about your project accomplishments and show off your record keeping skills. If this is your first time doing project interviews, you will receive a 4-H sash, to keep your project pins on. The first time you interview in a project you will receive a project pin, then in following years you will receive a year patch signifying each additional year that you do award interviews. Remember, this is an opportunity for all 4-H members. Please call the Extension Office if you need further information, 758-5553.

Moriah Probert Reports on 4-H State Horse Show



Moriah Probert, a member of Dandy Dudes and Dolls and Flathead County Shooting Sports 4-H Clubs, attended the Montana 4-H State Horse Show and would like to tell other 4-H members about her experience:

"This year I attended the Montana 4-H State Horse Show. It was held at the Sapphire Event Center in Corvallis Montana. The show started on Friday, September 12th and ended on Sunday, September 14th. I checked in on Thursday. On Friday I had two classes. On Saturday I had three classes and Sunday I had two classes. On Friday they had a spaghetti dinner and on Saturday they had a BBQ. I had lots of fun and would like to say thank you to Heidi Diegel, Amy Sterchi, Darci Sanborn, Linda Tutvedt, Codi and Shaun Sorensen, Dr. Erfle and Lasalle Vet Clinic, and Stacia McAdams for all their help and I hope to see you next year."

Calendar Reminder: Fall Foundation Forum will be at the 4-H Building on Thursday, December 4th, 2008 at 6:30 pm. All clubs need to have a representative attend this meeting.

Upcoming Committee Meetings



Horse Committee: The next horse committee meeting will be held on Monday, November 3rd, 2008 at the Extension Office at 5:30 pm. All horse and mini-horse project leaders and interested parents are welcome to attend. To add an item to the agenda, please call the Extension Office at 758-5553 or email us at extension@flathead.mt.gov

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 Livestock Leader Representative should attend this meeting.** If you would like to add an agenda item. Please call the Extension Office at 758-5333.

Enrollment Packets for Org Leaders and Independent Members

We are at the beginning of our 4-H year, so there is lot's of business to attend to. First off, Enrollment Packets are available in the Extension Office. Independent members may come into the office and pick up their enrollments at any time. All enrollments for independent members and clubs need to be returned to the Extension Office by November 10th. Club Leaders: it is extremely helpful to receive a whole group of enrollments from each club on or before the due date, instead of individual enrollment forms over a period of months. Also, please pay close attention to the enrollment packets as there will be new information for members and leaders this year. And remember that the Clover always has new and improved information about all of the projects that 4-H has to offer. We have lots so please distribute the Clovers to anyone interested in joining our program or current members who may be interested in starting a new project.



Attention Club Leaders: End Of Year Award Packets

Most clubs plan achievement night and year end award ceremonies in November. End of year award packets will be available on Tuesday, October 28th, 2008. If your club needs your packet in place before that date, please call the Extension Office to make other arrangements. To put these packets together, we need a list of all of the members in each club that have completed their 4-H year and should receive an award. We can't put your packet together without this list. Please bring or fax your list into our office as soon as possible. Our fax number is 758-5881. If you need a list of members, please call the office and we will print one out.

Thank You Procedure for All Large Livestock Members



We still have a few members who need to pick up their picture and thank you form for their buyer. Please pick your photos up soon so that you can thank your buyer as soon as possible. Most other members have picked up their photos but have not returned their buyer's thank you form. It is the members responsibility to have your buyer fill out and sign the form, and it is the members responsibility to return it to the Extension Office or your FFA Advisor by December 1st, 2008. Those who do not have their form returned to the Extension Office or a FFA Advisor by December 1st, will not be allowed to take an animal to the Fair during the 2008-2009 year. **"There will be no exceptions to this guideline"**. If a buyer chooses to take the form and mail it themselves, please be sure to verify that our office has received it. If you receive your payment in the mail, it is still your responsibility to take a thank you and your photo to the buyer and have your form filled out. If you have any questions, please contact the Extension Office at 758-5553. It is important that we thank those who are so supportive to our youth. The success of the Livestock Sale depends on the generosity of those businesses and individuals in our community.

Important Dates to Remember for Club Leaders:

Oct. 15th: Club Treasury Reports are due in the Extension Office. If your club does not have a treasury, please submit a letter stating such, with your EIN number attached. Reports should be a 4-H treasury book or a copy of bank statements or a combination of both.

October 28th: End of year Award Packets are ready in the Extension Office. (If a complete list of members has been submitted previously)

November 10th: 4H member enrollment forms should be turned into the Extension Office.

December 10th: Club outlines are due in the Extension Office.



Shooting Sports Leaders Training

Flathead County will be hosting a 4-H Shooting Sports Training on December 5th and 6th. Leader's can obtain certification in one discipline of shooting sports: archery, air rifle, pistol, shotgun, muzzle loading, and new this year, cowboy action. Training on Friday will be held at the Fairgrounds from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm and resume on Saturday at 8:00 am. Saturday's locations will vary depending on discipline and end around 6:00 pm at the latest. Registration fees are \$50 per person and lunch will be provided. Pre-tests are required; forms can be obtained in the Office or on the web and are due by November 21st.



MT Advanced Youth Market Beef Program

The Montana Advanced Youth Market Beef Program began in 2004 as a way for 4-H'ers interested in market beef projects to take their education to the next level. Instead of taking one steer to the county fair and selling it for a premium price, participants in the AYMBP begin feeding three animals in January and have them finished in time for a pen show at Midland Bull Test in Columbus, MT at the beginning of June.

4-H and FFA youth from ages 12-19 are eligible to participate in the AYMBP. Cattle are shipped directly from Columbus after the live pen show to the Swift and Co. processing facility in Greeley, CO. Calves are sold on a quality and yield grade basis, and participants are paid carcass value after all marketing and transportation expenses are deducted. Participants must keep detailed feed, health, and financial records, and must be current in Quality Assurance training. They receive monthly newsletters containing information on animal selection, nutrition, management, marketing, beef industry trends, and more. They also receive carcass information from their animals.

How to Enroll: Interested youth should contact Sharla Sackman at the Prairie County Extension Office prior to October 31, 2008 to indicate their interest in this program. If there appears to be enough interest from around the state, youth will be asked to formally enroll in the project and pay a transportation deposit of \$50 by November 15, 2008.

The possession date for the steers will be January 15, 2009. Each participant will receive three panel ear tags to identify their pen of 3 steers, and have them officially weighed. The live show is tentatively scheduled at Midland Bull Test in Columbus, MT on June 3, 2009. A minimum of 15 participants state-wide are needed to conduct the program.

National 4-H Conference

The National 4-H Conference will be held March 28th through April 2nd, 2009 at the National 4-H Center in Washington DC. This is a working conference in which youth and adults assist in the development of recommendations to help guide 4-H programs nationally and in their communities. Conference delegates are prepared, personally and professionally, to become more active participants within their communities and effectively develop youth-adult partnerships for community action. Youth Delegates must be 15-18 years old as of January 1, 2009 and not a High School senior during the 4-H year in which they apply and attend. Adult Chaperones must be at least 25 years old. Total cost per delegate is approximately \$1200 and partial funding is available. Applications are available in the Extension Office and are due no later than November 15th to the State Office. Montana will send a total of 4 delegates to this event.

Interstate Exchange Opportunity for One 4-H Girl

Currently there is one slot available to an interested 4-H girl on our interstate exchange delegation group, which will be traveling to Kansas this summer. The member must be in good standing in their club, be at least 14 years old, and be able to travel from June 17th-24th, 2009 on our trip to Topeka, Kansas. The member will also have to pay a \$200 fee to cover some expenses, however, a partial scholarship may be available. Those who are interested in applying for this opportunity should submit an essay to the Extension Office on the following topic: "Why do I want to join the Interstate Exchange Delegation and what can I contribute to the Delegation as a member?" Your essay should be submitted to the Extension Office no later than Monday, November 3rd, 2008 at 5:00 pm.



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. **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 is due in the Extension Office no later than January 23rd. **International Opportunities:** International travel locations include Japan, Australia, Costa Rica, 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

2009 Western Region Leader's Forum in Denver

The 2009 Western Region Leader's Forum will be held in Denver on February 25th through March 1st, 2009. Registration will be open in October, 2008. The event will take place at the Marriot Denver City Center which is located in downtown Denver. The theme of this year's forum is Roundup in the Rockies. This is a great forum to attend, as it has lots of workshops and other opportunities to get information on successful 4-H programs and projects in other states. You can also find information by going to <http://colorado4h.org/wrlf09/index.shtml>



2009 Alberta 4-H Leader's Conference



Plans are underway for the 67th Annual Alberta 4-H Leaders' Conference 2009. The conference will be held January 9th-11th. Once again, Montana 4-H has been invited to send up to 8 adult volunteer delegates to attend the conference.

Who May Apply to Attend: Applicants must be a leader enrolled in a Montana county during the prior 4-H year. Priority consideration will be given to applicants: who have not previously attended, applicants from counties who have not sent delegates in the previous two years, and those who have served as leaders for 3 or more year (including the current year). Remaining delegate positions will be selected based on information provide in the application.

If this is an opportunity you are interested in please call the Extension Office for an application or check our website. 758-5553

Lilly Diegel Challenges Members

Lilly Diegel, a 4-H member of Golden Spurs, is giving a gift of a sheep (\$120 value) to Heifer International. She is challenging other local 4-Hers to join her. She was inspired to make this donation by her buyer, Bob White and DA Davidson, who generously donated her Fair market lamb to the Samaritan House in Kalispell. Rebecca Denning of Lakeview Livestock has answered this challenge; please let us know if there is anyone else. For more information on how to make a similar donation, please contact the Extension Office or go to www.heifer.org

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. Obviously there was an editing error along the way. 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

Perspective Market Beef Members: The initial weigh-in and tagging for Market Beef is Saturday, December 6th at the Fairgrounds from 8:30 am-10:30 am.

**"The heart that gives, gathers."
Marianne Moore**

Prudential Spirit of Community Awards

If you have made a difference by volunteering in your community over the past year, you could win \$1000 and a trip to Washington, DC next May by applying for a Prudential Spirit of Community Award. To apply go to www.prudential.com/spirit When asked for an access key, type the word **spirit**. Once you've completed your application, print it out, sign it, have a parent sign it; then bring it to our office. Applications are due in our office no later than October 31st. State level honoree's will be announced in February, 2009 and National winners will be notified shortly thereafter.

Hunting, Shooting, or Outdoor Activities Video Essay Contest

Daisy Air-guns and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation are sponsoring a video essay contest where youth, ages 10-18, are asked to submit a 60-90 second essay demonstrating how safe, ethical hunting and shooting, spending time in the outdoors, or conserving and appreciating wildlife and nature has positively impacted their lives. The grand prize winner (and a parent) will win a trip to one of the great annual events for hunters and conservationists, the Elk Foundations' Elk Camp and Hunting, Fishing and Outdoor Expo, March 5-8th, 2009 in Fort Worth TX. Other prizes also available. Visit www.daisy.com for complete rules. The contest ends January 1st, 2009.

4-H Valley Recycling Account



The Flathead 4-H Foundation has an account at Valley Recycling thanks to 4-H Leader, Judy Sommers. If you have recycling materials that you'd like to donate to the Foundation this is a great opportunity. For more info call the Extension Office.

Free Rabbits: Two 1/2 Holland Lop 1/2 Rex buck bunnies available to good home. One is black and the other is white. About 9 weeks old. Please call Melissa Johnson at 387-5065.

Free Goats: 2 Milkers, 2 Doelings, Purebred Saanen. Good milkers, disease free, good quality, de-horned, and papered. For more information call Peg Hosler at 261-0545.

Free Driving Pony: Shetland driving pony, gelding with papers. Free to good 4-H home. Call Brenda Oberlitrner at 250-1071.

Free Rabbit Hutch: Call Brenda Oberlitrner at 250-1071.

Karole Sommerfield
Flathead County 4-H/ Youth Extension Agent



Shelley Smith
Flathead County Extension Support Staff

Flathead County 4-H News

October



2008

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