Build it Up at the 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 November 3rd, 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!

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.

Don Greytak 4-H Calendars Available

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 wonderful 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.

Sykes Thanksgiving Service Opportunity for 4-H

The new owners of Sykes are going to continue their tradition of offering of free Thanksgiving dinner to community members on Thanksgiving day, and they are asking 4-H for help. Previous to the dinner, twenty two turkey’s weighing 20-25lbs will need to be cooked and 400 lbs of potatoes will need to be peeled. Bill Prichard and Cheryl Kirchner have arranged for the use of the Christian Center on Saturday, November 22nd, 2008 and are asking all 4-H members and clubs to come and help. Volunteers will start cooking and peeling at 9:00 am and continue throughout the day and all help is greatly appreciated. Members should bring a peeler or a paring knife with them if they would like to help. St. Matthews Church and Sykes have donated all of the roasters needed to cook the turkeys. If you have any questions, please call Bill Prichard at 257-6209. If you, or your club would like to take part in this great community service project, please call the Extension Office at 758-5553.
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. The November meeting will be held at the 4-H Building on the Fairgrounds at 6:00 pm on Monday, November 17th, 2008. This month’s project is Origami. Sarah Smith, a Kila Rangers 4-H member, will be our guest artist. Members who would like to attend and participate in this craft project are required to bring good scissors and paper. Your paper should have a typing-paper consistency and can be any color you like. If you have any questions, please contact the Extension Office at 758-5553 or Bill Prichard at 257-6209.

**Upcoming 4-H Leader Committees**

**Horse Committee:** The next horse committee meeting will be held in the Extension Office on Monday, November 3rd, 2008 at 5:30 pm. This meeting’s agenda will include the scheduling for all upcoming horse clinics and camps, fair ideas and changes, state horse committee, and numerous other areas of discussion. If you have an item you would like to see added to the agenda, please call the Extension Office at 758-5553.

**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.

**Robotics Program:** After some adjustments, the robotics program has been opened up to all 4-H members, with or without military affiliation. We would like to know how many members may be interested in this project on a county level. If this project interests you, please call the Extension Office at 758-5553.

**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 4th, 2008 at 6:30 pm. A leader from each club, and all District Representatives should attend Forum meetings. Topics of discussion will include 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.

**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.

**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. 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. 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/

**4-H Fundraiser:** 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.
Flathead County will be hosting a 4-H Shooting Sports Training on Friday, December 5th and Saturday, the 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 to the State 4-H Office. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Extension Office.

All Flathead Shooting Sports Members (Fairgrounds Program):
The first orientation meeting will be held at the Grandstand Building on the Fairgrounds at 6:00 pm on Monday, November 17th. A parent must attend this meeting with the member. If you are on the waiting list to join this club, you will be notified previous to this meeting regarding your enrollment status. All new and returning members must attend this meeting.

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.

2008 Market Livestock Members: Thank You Forms Due Dec. 1st!
In previous newsletters, we have notified all 4-H market livestock members that sold a market animal at the 2008 NWMT Fair, that they must turn in a Buyer’s Thank You form to the Extension Office by Monday, December 1st, 2008 to be eligible to participate in the market program during the 2008-2009 4-H year. The following are 4-H members who have not returned their thank you form to the Extension Office. If you are listed below, and you gave your form to your buyer, it is your responsibility to contact your buyer and politely request that they send the form into our office by mail or fax (758-5881) as soon as possible, or ask if you can pick up the form and deliver it yourself. If they have lost the form, we can print you another one. If you are listed in error, please contact the Extension Office immediately. 758-5553. This is your only reminder to return your form by December 1st.

**Lamb:**
Berry, Dakota
Christianson-Orem, Morgan
Evans, Jack
Hanson, Karly
Sutton, R.C.

**Beef:**
Brubaker, Bailey

**Hog:**
Applet, Lane
Callan, Lauren
Cummings, Lucas
Hill, Erika
Miller, Miranda
Morrow, Julia
Schlegel, Royce
Weigum, Harris

**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
Club Treasury Reports Past Due

Club Treasury Reports were due to the Extension Office by October 15th, 2008. The following Clubs are still required to turn in treasury reports. If your club is listed in error, please call the Extension Office as soon as possible. Thank you to all the club leaders and treasurers for your hard work in putting these reports together.

- B&F Livestock
- Golden Spurs
- Smith Valley Boosters
- Dandy Dudes and Dolls
- High Mountain Meadows
- Lasalle Boosters
- Hilltop Riders
- Mountain Echo
- Rowdy Ropers
- Young Guns
- Kila Rangers
- Country Cousins
- Lakeview Livestock
- Open Horizons

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 its birth date.

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.

Murdoch’s Gift Wrapping Sign-ups

Murdoch’s Ranch and Home Supply is once again asking that 4-H Clubs come into the store on weekends preceding the Christmas holiday and offer gift wrapping to their customers. Murdoch’s supplies the clubs with all the materials to gift wrap for their customers. Several clubs found this to be a great fundraiser as all donations and tips are the club’s to keep. The following dates are available for clubs to sign up on: December 6th, 7th, 13th, 14th, 20th and 21st. Please call the Extension Office if your club would like to reserve one of these dates. 758-5553. Details will be given to those clubs who will be participating in this activity.

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.

State Horse Committee Position

Interested adults and teens are encouraged to apply for a position on the Montana 4-H Horse Committee. The committee is set up with two adults and two teens from each district in the state. District one is currently seeking one adult and one teen. Teen positions have one year terms, with an option to repeat. Adult positions have an option to repeat only once, and terms can be no longer than three years. Applications are available in the Extension Office or on our website.

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
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

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 wonderful programs 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.

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

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 Marriott 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/wrff09/index.shtml
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.

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.

MT State 4-H Horse Show Results

The Montana State 4-H Horse Show was held in Corvallis, MT on September 12th and 13th, 2008. We had a wonderful delegation from Flathead County represent us, and we’d like to post their results. Congratulations to all of you that attended from Flathead County.

Lillian Diegel  1st Place Western Horsemanship Level 1
Julia Morrow  7th Place English Equitation Age 12-14
5th Place English Horsemanship Level 2
7th Place Trail Ages 12-14
8th Place Junior Barrels
8th Place Junior Poles
4th Place Freestyle Reining Ages 12-14

Moriah Probert  7th Place Bareback Equitation Age 9-11
Kayla Reed  1st Place Mini Horse Showmanship Junior
3rd Place Mini Horse Jumping Junior
Kalyn Reed  5th Place Western Horsemanship Level 5
2nd Place Mini Horse Showmanship Junior
2nd Place Mini Horse Jumping Junior
Caitlyn Sterchi  2nd Place Showmanship Age 15-18
3rd Place Western Equitation Age 15-18
2nd Place Colt to Maturity 5 year old
8th Place Trail Ages 15-18
Sarah Thompson  7th Place English Horsemanship Level 4
Andora Tutvedt  3rd Place Colt to Maturity 3 year old
7th Place Western Horsemanship Level 5
4th Place English Horsemanship Level 5
4th Place Trail Ages 12-14
6th Place Freestyle Reining Ages 15-18

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: Unsure of breed, 1 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.

“it is one of the beautiful compensations of this life that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself.”
Ralph Waldo Emerson

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 at 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.

Karole Sommerfield
Flathead County 4-H/ Youth Extension Agent

Shelley Smith
Flathead County Extension Support Staff
"He’s got a point. Nobody eats a flamingo on Thanksgiving."