

YELLOWSTONE COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER- JULY 2026

406-256-2828 2320 3rd Avenue N, Billings MT 59101

<https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/index.html> Facebook: Yellowstone County 4-H

HIGHLIGHTS FROM RONI BAKER

Congratulations to the following BB Gun Nationals raffle winners: Bob Davis, Al Gadson, Becky Shaw, Barry Kinsfather, Cameron Paulk, Tyler Mullaney and Quinn Isakson. Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets in support of these 4-H members!

I am excited about the upcoming Montana State 4-H Congress that will be held in Bozeman on July 7-10. Twelve Yellowstone County 4-H members will be attending.

Roni Baker, Yellowstone County 4-H/Youth Agent

MONTANAFAIR EXHIBITOR WRISTBANDS

Gate 1 (the back gate 4-Her's use) at Metra will require everyone to have a wristband or ticket to enter the fair. They will enforce entrance requirements. All 4-H and FFA members with entries in MontanaFair will receive a 9-day wristband to enter the fair every day.

Members can pick up their MontanaFair packets on Dept N judging day, August 3, between 9:00 am and 7:00 pm in the Montana Pavilion building at MetraPark. This will enable you to have your wristband ahead of time.

CLUB BOOTH SET UP IN MONTANA PAVILION

Clubs can set up booths on Monday, August 4, during Interview Judging from 9:00 am to 7:30 pm and Wednesday, August 5, from 4:00 to 8:00 pm.

*All loose hanging decorative CLOTH materials shall be flame retardant treated and marked in an inconspicuous but consistent location. **Plastic draped tablecloths do NOT meet the fire codes and are NOT acceptable for backdrops.

ICE CREAM BOOTH DUTIES

Everyone working in the Ice Cream Booth must read this list of duties before working their shift(s).

GENERAL SHIFTS DUTIES:

- A maximum of eight people (2-3 adults and 4-5 4-H members) are needed from each club for every two-hour shift. Please do not have a new set of workers coming every half an hour. A limited number of gate passes will be available for workers.
 - Adult 1 / Older Member - Take orders and handle money
 - Adult 2 / Older Member - Assign scoopers, and keep track of orders in progress, and assure each item is completed.
 - For sanitation purposes, people handling the money and the order tickets should not handle or scoop ice cream.
 - Adult 3 / Older Member (Optional) - Oversee scoops and help with hard ice cream
 - Members - Scoop ice cream and hand it out
 - During downtime, 1-2 extra members will clean tables.
- Must be at least 12 years old to work in the booth - Organizational Leader can decide differently.
- Must be at least 16 years old to run the cash register - Organizational Leader can decide differently.
- Remember to wash your hands before starting your shift.
- You must wear one of the 4-H aprons.
- Everyone must wear the plastic gloves provided.
- Long hair must be tied back.

- No eating or drinking in the ice cream booth.
- No free ice cream for workers or customers.
- All 4-Her's on duty must stay in the ice cream booth and work until their shift is over.
- Workers are required to wear appropriate clothing.
 - No spaghetti strap tops, no stomachs showing, no sagging pants. If you are not dressed appropriately, you will be asked to put on the T-shirt that will be provided.
- Be polite and smile! Say thank you!
- Always use a napkin to pick up and serve the cone.
- Make sure the customer receives a fair amount of ice cream
 - Half a scoop inside cones, one large scoop on top
 - Two large scoops in each cup
- Always clean the scoop between servings in the scoop storage station and allow it to air dry.
- Clean scoops in the cleaning station at the end of your shift then allow them to air dry.
- Wipe off counters when not busy.
- Change scoop storage station water as needed, using COLD water from the sink.
- Restock napkins and cones as needed.
- Take out trash as needed.
- At the end of shift make sure the booth and surrounding areas are clean.
 - You may need to sweep, mop or wipe down dirty areas in the booth, etc.

FIRST SHIFT (11:30 - 1:30):

- Wipe down the outsides of all the ice cream freezers.
- Restock and uncover cones, cups, napkins, spoons, etc.
- Get scoop cleaning station set for the day (used between shifts cleaning)
- Get scoop storage station set for the day (used between scoop cleaning)
- Clean all scoops for the day
- Combine containers of ice cream if possible and throw out empty containers.

LAST SHIFT (7:30 - 9:30):

- Wipe down counters.
- Cover open ice cream tubs with lids.
- Clean out all the spilled ice cream from inside all freezers and throw it away.
- Cover cones with plastic.
- Dump out all water from both stations.
- Rinse all the cleaning buckets out with just water.
- Sweep floor in ice cream booth and surrounding area.
- Mop floor in ice cream booth and surrounding area.
- Take out trash.

After your club shift has ended and you have cleaned up, an adult in charge of your club must find a fair clerk on duty. The fair clerk will okay the cleanup, and only then will the clerk count your money and let you go.

Presale tickets for the purchase of ice cream from the Ice Cream Booth will be available at the Extension Office. You can give them to family and friends and let them enjoy our ice cream at the Fair. Presale tickets will be available for purchase on Interview Judging Day, August 3. Questions: Call Dawson Seibold at (406) 281-4000.

4-H DANCE AT FAIR

The dance will be held at the fair on Wednesday, August 12 and runs from 8-10 pm and will be held in the Expo. Everyone (including adults) is invited to attend.

SCAVENGER HUNT AT FAIR

Visit Department N each day during fair to participate in "The Hunt". There will be a list of 10 items that are hidden in club booths. The items will be moved to different booths each day. Fill out the form indicating where you found the items and have your name put in a daily drawing for prizes. Prizes may include night show tickets, ride tickets and 4-H items.

MONTHLY CLUB MINUTES HIGHLIGHTS

The following clubs turned in club minutes by the newsletter deadline:

Compass All Stars: We took our animals to St. Johns Retirement Home to share with the residents. It was very good.

Lockwood Humble Bs: Members planned their MontanaFair educational display.

Project Rockin Wrangles: Members talked about upcoming shows, Homesteader Days and MontanaFair deadlines.

Worden Riverdale: Club will have a float in Homesteader Days parade. Community service project at Huntley Project Museum.

4-H SUPPORTERS

Many businesses and organizations in our community support 4-H. Each month I have been listing several of those supporters in the newsletter. I would encourage you to thank them and support them in return. If you would like to submit names for this article, please send them to Roni.

4-H Supporter	Mailing Address
Northern Livestock Video	2443 N Frontage Rd, Billings MT 59101
Premier Land Company	1800 Minnesota Ave, Billings MT 59101
Wanna B Ranch	5224 Chicago Rd, Billings MT 59105
Project Mercantile	PO Box 159, Worden MT 59088
Maverick Show Goats	7514 Horsemans Way, Shepherd MT 59079
Rocky Mountain Propane	2619 N 10 th Rd, Worden MT 59038
Vermilion Ranch	PO Box 30758, Billings MT 59107
Public Auction Yards	PO Box 1781, Billings MT 59107
Heenan & Cook	2224 Montana Ave, Billings MT 59101
Western Ag Reporter	PO Box 30755, Billings MT 59103

4-H CAMP

4-H Camp was a great success! Thank you to all adult chaperones, counselors and CIT's. The adult chaperones, Yellowstone County Counselors and Counselors in Training (CIT) were:

Counselor

Traden Beddes

Kaiya Cardwell

Ella Dumas

Keegan Kennedy

Mae Russell

Ember Solberg

Cayla Beeton

Wyatt Duey

Ellalayah Dykes

Haylee Krohne

Zac Sedlacek

Clay Stott

Wade Bekkedahl

Samuel Duey

Tyler Kennah

Koraline Lee

Grace Sedlacek

Blake Vogel

Counselor in Training (CIT)

Tate Ackerman

Colby Harty

Isabelle Brito

Reid Hauge

Trent Gabel

Samantha Lynch

Adult Chaperone/Camp Nurse

Amber Elliott
Sarah-Jane French
Carrie Guderjahn
Levi Osborne

Haley Barker
Dixie Osborne
Francisco Gamboa

Kim Ackerman – Nurse
Becca Sedlacek – Nurse
Devyn Hughes

DEPARTMENT N MEETING

There will NOT be a Dept N meeting in July. Department N Post Fair meeting will be Thursday, September 3, in the 4-H Building at 5:30 pm.

CERAMICS WORKSHOPS IN JULY

All day Ceramic Workshops 9 am to 4 pm. Learn to pour ceramics for next year's projects. While waiting to unmold ceramics, finish painting projects entered for this year's fair. Dates are July 11, July 25 and July 28th. Bring lunch and pick what day works for you. If you only want to finish this year's projects, you can come from 1 pm to 4 pm on above dates. Call Sheri at 406-633-5531 to reserve your place.

DEPARTMENT N INTERVIEW JUDGING DAY MONDAY, AUGUST 3

Everyone who enters Department N (non-livestock) for fair will need to be at Interview Judging Day, Monday, August 3. Bring all non-livestock entries to the Montana Pavilion. 4-H clubs are scheduled either for the morning or evening. **Please note** there are restrictions for check-in times.

If you come at a time other than your scheduled time, you will wait until all scheduled clubs are finished being judged - unless special arrangements have been made prior to August 3, with Roni Baker and/or the Department N Superintendent Chris Martin. **If you have more than 25 exhibits**, you ARE REQUIRED to come in the morning, even if your 4-H club is scheduled for the afternoon shift.

DEPARTMENT N INTERVIEWS-CLUB JUDGING SCHEDULE

Interview Judging will be held in the **Montana Pavilion** this year on August 3. **Judging will end at 1:00 pm for the early session and at 7:00 pm for the evening session. PLAN AHEAD and Check-In EARLY** to allow yourself time to wait in line if necessary. **Judges will be leaving their shifts at 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm.** Check-in will be open for members from 8:30 am until 6:45 pm.

EARLY JUDGING SESSION

9:00 am - 1:00 pm **Check-in EARLY judges leave at 1:00 pm**

Club Name	Club Name
Big Sky Thunderbolts	Lockwood Humble Bs
City Kids	Northern Lights
Compass All Stars	Shepherd Pioneers
Cool Clovers	Whips n Sticks
Huntley Eagles	Worden Riverdale
Kountry Kritters	

EVENING JUDGING SESSION

4:30 - 7:00 pm **Check-in EARLY judges leave at 7:00 pm**

Club Name	Club Name
Blue Creek Jumping Bucks	Ruff Riders
Hesper Hustlers	Shepherd Tumbleweeds
Laurel Roadrunners	Shepherd Wranglers
Out of County	Yellowstone Mavericks
Pine Ridge Red Ryder	Yellowstone Silver Spurs
Project Rockin Wranglers	

Contact Dawson Seibold at 406-281-4000, prior to August 3, if you cannot make your club's scheduled time.

ABSENTEE EXHIBITOR FORM FOR INTERVIEW JUDGING DAY

If you enter Department N, but cannot attend Interview Judging Day on Monday, August 3, you need to:

- Fill out one "Absentee Judging Form" per project, (not per entry).
- Find a 4-H member who is willing to bring your entries and the Absentee Judging Form(s) to the fair and take them to the specific project judge. They need to take the entries and the forms to each project judge.

- Absentee members may choose to talk to a judge via a phone call or FaceTime. Absentee member is responsible for coordinating call(s) or FaceTime with their 4-H member helper. When the helper reaches a judge, they will use their own phone to place the call or use FaceTime to reach the absentee member.
- Arrange to have your entries picked up from MontanaFair on Sunday, August 16 from 10 am to 2 pm.

You can get the Absentee Interview Judging Form(s) from the Extension Office or on the county 4-H website.

INTERVIEW JUDGING DAY INFORMATION FOR CLUB VOLUNTEERS

Department N requires each club to have one adult member assigned to work on Interview Judging Day during their club's session in one of the areas listed below. We have received the name of each club's adult volunteer.

- Directing members to the registration table, tagging, and holding area.
- Sit at tagging and ribbon tables to monitor and assist Junior Coordinators.
- Sit in foods area to monitor and assist organization of food in refrigerators.
- Take carts back and forth between the entrance and tagging area and help with loading and unloading.
- Making sure kids are not leaving the assigned area.

Each club's adult volunteer must check in when they arrive. Please remember, this job is to help things run smoothly so the kids get the most out of judging day! A lot of the work will simply help the Junior Coordinators as well as the clerks. Thank you for your willingness to help.

MONTANAFAIR COMMUNICATION CONTEST

4-H members who sign up to do a demonstration at MontanaFair can hold their demonstration anytime between noon and 8:00 pm Saturday, August 8-Friday, August 14. On Saturday, August 15 your demonstration must be finished by 2:00 pm. Tell a Department N clerk when you arrive, and they will help you get set up. You must have been judged at your County Communication Day to enter the Fair Communications Contest.

ALL CLASS JUDGING

You do not need to be enrolled in a specific project to enter All Class Judging. In All Class Judging, participants will judge any Department N category. This will take place on Friday, August 14, from 12:00-2:30 pm.

QUIZ BOWL

This year the date and time for Quiz Bowl is Sunday, August 9, at 6:30 pm in Department N. Members use a buzzer to answer 4-H related questions presented by a moderator.

MONTANAFAIR SHOWCASE & AWARDS IN THE EXPO

The MontanaFair Showcase will be held on Tuesday, August 11, at 6:30 pm. We will be using the scripts from the County Showcase. Outfits to be modeled in Shopping In Style must be included in your entry and taken to Interview Judge Day. You must have been judged on the outfits at your County Showcase to enter MontanaFair Showcase.

The Annual Awards Program and refreshments will be held on Tuesday, August 11, at 6:30 pm. Showcase and the Awards Program will be held in the Expo Large Bay Arena.

4-H DEPARTMENT N BEST OF CLASS NOMINATIONS

Buy a Piece of 4-H: Anyone nominated for Best of Class during Interview Judging and who would like to sell that item can put it in the Buy a Piece of 4-H area in Department N.

Members must price their item to be sold during the week. The fair clerks will keep track of items as they sell. Each 4-H member can sell two items. Purchased items must be picked up by the buyer on Saturday or Sunday or by the 4-H member.

LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Small Animal Committee meeting will be held on July 22, at 6:00 pm in the Expo Center. We will begin stuffing the invitations at 4:00 pm. MontanaFair details will be the main topic of business. Sale Committee will meet at 6:30 pm followed by the Livestock Committee. The Department A Post MontanaFair Meeting will be Wednesday, September 2, at 6:00 pm in the 4-H Building.

POULTRY, CAVY, AND RABBIT WORKSHOPS JULY 21

We will be holding our last workshops on July 21. Meet at the front doors of the Expo Center at MetraPark. We will start with poultry at 5:30 pm. Rabbit and Cavy will be at 6:30 pm. Please call Tenille Bomar with any questions at 406-698-5683.

COSTUME ANIMAL PARADE

The Costume Animal Parade will be held on Wednesday, August 12, at 6:30 pm. All are encouraged to enter. Forms to write your narratives are available at the 4-H Junior Livestock Office. These are due at the 4-H Junior Livestock Office in the Expo by 6:00 pm on Wednesday, August 12. This year's theme is MontanaFair through the Decades.

SMALL ANIMAL EXHIBITORS

On Thursday, August 6, Poultry and Rabbit (cavy optional) check-in at the Expo from 10:00-12:00 and 3:00-4:00 pm. They may also check in on Friday, August 7, 10:00 am-12:00 pm and 3:00-4:00 pm. Cavy check-in on Saturday, August 8, from 7:00-7:45 am. Pocket Pets check-in on Friday, August 7, from 1:00-3:30 pm. You may check in your animals and decorate your club space or just decorate your club space.

Poultry and rabbits must be in their cages by 4:00 pm on the day they check in to be eligible to show. Cavy must be in their cages by 7:45 am on Saturday, August 9, to be eligible to show. Pocket Pets must be checked in and in their cages by 3:30 pm on the day of check-in to be eligible to show. Please have your animals ready to be inspected and **KNOW which animal is registered for each class**. This will make the check-in process much easier and faster for everyone. The small animal mandatory meeting is at 4:00 pm, Friday, August 8, in the Expo followed by the Pocket Pet show at 5:00 pm.

MontanaFair has guidelines for everyone's safety; most are common sense and common courtesy. NO SMOKING in barns; NO PUBLIC PARKING inside the fairgrounds; keep barns clean and neat; NO DUMPING of water outside of barns or doorways. Use DRAINS provided. Use dumpsters provided for dirty sawdust.

You will have to provide your own containers. (Tuna cans work well, paper cups do not). Bring your own feed, grooming supplies, buckets, or containers for water. EACH CLUB OR FAMILY should bring a short-handled hoe, (works for cleaning cages), broom, flat shovel, and wheelbarrow for cleaning and hauling sawdust. A first aid kit for animals and humans, for those minor scrapes, bruises and headaches is also recommended. PLEASE MARK your items with a family name or club name.

The MontanaFair gates open to the public at 12:00 am. For your convenience and less interference from the public, your animals and cages need to be taken care of before 10:00 am. If possible, the animals should be checked again in the afternoon and late evening. They should always have fresh water. Not necessarily because they need it all the time, but the public think they do, and they let us know immediately when an animal is out of water, whether it needs water or not.

SMALL ANIMAL REMOVAL will be as follows:

Pocket Pets: Friday, August 7, after the show.

Cavies: Saturday, August 8, after the show.

Poultry and small animals: Sunday, August 9, after the poultry show or by 6:00 pm.

Everyone must help clean the area as they check out.

STATE WORKING RANCH HORSE FINALS

Registration is now open for the 2026 Working Ranch Horse Finals will be held September 18-20, 2026, at Cottonwood Equestrian Center in Joliet. Registration is now open on the [state 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/events/state_horse_show/index.html) at https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/events/state_horse_show/index.html.

STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW

The State 4-H Horse Show will take place September 10-13, 2026, at the Fergus County Fairgrounds in Lewistown. Registration is now open on the [state 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/events/state_horse_show/index.html) at https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/events/state_horse_show/index.html.

APPLY FOR A SHEEP STARTER FLOCK

The Montana Columbia Sheep Breeders Association has a Starter Flock program that is again available to youth interested in starting their own flock. Youth must be between the ages of 11–16 and complete an application available from the [Montana Columbia Sheep Breeders Association website](http://www.mtcolumbiasheep.org/starter-flock.html) at <http://www.mtcolumbiasheep.org/starter-flock.html>. Applications must be postmarked by August 1. Selected recipients will receive 4 registered ewes.

HORSE & COLT

Horse changes will be discussed and made at the July 15 meeting at 6:00 pm in the Expo. Club fair assignments will also be done at this time.

On Thursday, August 8, after Showmanship has finished, the arena will be open for riding horses for 15-20 minutes per rider. However, each horse and rider must be accompanied by their guardian or horse leader. It is important to know that this is for 'easy' warm-ups. Due to the potential for high traffic, there will be no patterns being run or loping.

ATTENTION HORSE LEADERS

For the MontanaFair Horse Show to run smoothly all clubs are required to help in areas including ring stewards, clerks, working the gate, ribbons, etc. Please call Gina at 406-855-9381 now, to sign up for your club duties.

HERDSMANSHIP AWARDS AT FAIR

Watch for Herdsmanship scoring information that will be sent via email to everyone prior to MontanaFair.

MONTANAFAIR JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SALE CHECKS

Sale checks will not be mailed until the Yellowstone County Extension office is notified that a Thank You Note to the Livestock Sale Buyer(s) has been given to your animal buyer, or written, stamped, and delivered to your Club Organizational Leader or your club's animal leader. Some clubs have a leader that notifies the Extension office; some clubs expect you to call the Extension office directly. Only when the Extension office has confirmation a Thank You Note has been sent will your Junior Livestock Sale check be mailed.

Out of county exhibitors will need to deliver or mail your buyer's Thank You Note and notify the Yellowstone County at 406-256-2828) to receive your sale check.

TIPS FOR THE MONTANAFAIR JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SALE

- Start working with your animal early so you can safely handle it.
- Remember to work on getting buyers for your animal for the county Livestock Sale.
- Have the dates and times for events handy.

Ideas to keep in mind when marketing your animal:

The person's time is limited so have your sales pitch ready. Call ahead and make an appointment, businesses are busy, and it is a courtesy to ask for time. Invite them to the buyer's lunch. Check with the Extension Office to see if they are

on the buyers' list. Encourage them to check out the animals. The point here is that you ask the individual for support of the sale. If you pressure the person to buy your animal, it is likely you will alienate them as a potential buyer.

You have a quality product to offer at a very good price! Be sure to list those qualities. If there is time, share a summary of your financial journal and project book to show what you have done with your animal this year. Be sure to thank potential buyers for their time and support. It would be a good idea to follow up with a written note.

If a Buyer purchases your animal, remember to give them the buyer's picture at the sale or afterwards and include a personal thank you note!

OPEN HORSE SHOW AT MONTANAFAIR

We encourage members to enter the Open Class Horse Show at MontanaFair. Open Class Horse Exhibitor handbook, and deadlines can be found on the [MontanaFair website](http://www.montanafair.com) at www.montanafair.com Questions can be directed to MontanaFair Entry office at 406-869-5200. DO NOT contact the Extension Office with Open Show questions.

BIG SKY STATE GAMES EQUESTRIAN HORSE CONTEST FOR YOUTH

The state games Equestrian Horse Show takes place July 18 (pony) and 19 (horse) and trail classes. There are youth classes for 4-H members. Youth exhibitors receive a stable blanket. High point awards in each age division. Shipton's gift cards for all Trail Class winners. Visit Big Sky State Games website to register at https://event.bigskygames.org/bssg_equestrian_horseshow/details Questions call Melody Bilden at 406-323-4353.

ROCKIN' THE PROJECT FEEDER SHOW YELLOWSTONE COUNTY 4-H & FFA RESULTS

Other Goat Showmanship

Junior Class: Grand-Lynnlee Richardson

Beginner Class: Grand-Emma Teter

Pee Wee Class: Reserve-Ryder Teter

Market Goat

Class 1: 2nd-Dillon Pitman; 4th-Oscar Wehrman; 5th-Lynnlee Richardson

Class 2: 3rd-Oscar Wehrman; 4th-Sarah Wehrman

Overall Market Goat: Reserve-Dillon Pitman; 4th-Oscar Wehrman

Goat Showmanship

Senior Showman: 1st-Dillon Pitman; 4th Sarah Wehrman

Junior Showman: 3rd-Oscar Wehrman

Beginner Showman: 1st-Maizlee Richardson

Pee Wee Showman: 1st-Isaac; 2nd-Chloe; 3rd-Maddix; 4th-Quinlee; 5th-Holly

Market Lambs

Class 1 White speckled face: 2nd-Trigg Rouse; 3rd-Eve Rouse; 5th-Emma Teter

Class 2 Black face: 1st-Dillon Pitman

Class 3 Black face: 1st-Owen Rouse; 2nd-Owne Rouse

Class 4 Black face: 2nd-Dillon Pitman

Class 5 Black face: 3rd-Eva Rouse; 4th-Sarah Wehrman; 5th-Trigg Rouse

Overall Market Lamb: Grand-Dillon Pitman; 3rd-Dillon Pitman

Market Lamb Showmanship

Senior Class: 2nd-Dillon Pitman; 3rd-Owen Rouse; 4th-Sarah Wehrman

Junior Class: 5th-Trigg Rouse

Beginner Class: 1st-Eva Rouse; 4th-Emma Teter; 5th-Inez Williams

Pee Wee Class: 1st-Chloe; 2nd-Maddix; 3rd-Isaac; 4th-Rayla

JULY 2026 4-H CALENDAR



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 OFFICE CLOSED 5:00 pm MontanaFair <u>LATE</u> Online Entry Deadline	4
5	6	7 4-H Congress in Bozeman July 7-10 ←-----→	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 6:00 Horse & Colt meeting <i>4-H Building</i>	16 Cloverbud Camp <i>4-H Building</i>	17 August Newsletter Articles Due	18
19	20	21 5:30 Poultry Workshop 6:30 Rabbit & Cavy Wkshop <i>Expo Bldg.</i>	22 6:00 Small Animal 6:30 Sale Committee followed by Large Animal <i>Expo Bldg.</i>	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	