

4-H/FFA Families,

We have **several** important announcements for the upcoming fair, please be sure to check everything out. We hope everyone has all their exhibits done are ready to display at fair and their animals all cleaned up and ready for shows ☺

- **The Pig Show has been moved to 6:30 AM** We are trying to keep the pigs as cool as possible.

- **Special 4-H Livestock Insurance**- Chet Fouts was able to get ahold of animal insurance for us. Everyone who would like to purchase insurance for their animals will need to sign up by **Wednesday at 10 AM**. It will cost \$5 per animal, and is available for Cattle, Swine, Sheep, and Goats. Although we will be doing everything we can to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the animals at fair, with this heat, it is possible for an animal to die of heat stroke. The coverage will be for current market prices/species. This might be lower than what you might have made through the Youth Livestock Sale, but it's better than not having insurance and not getting anything. Only those who have signed up through the Extension office by 10 AM on Wednesday will be covered.

- **Fair Packets**- ready to pick up NOW! These will have all of your entry tags (indoor exhibits only), Stall Cards (animals except for Dogs and Cats), and Show Numbers (Animal kids ONLY). You should have already received a Premium Book, please use this for the fair schedule, rules, info for exhibiting items, etc. Check out our website and the Blaine County Fair website for online versions.
 - Packets not picked up before Thursday will be at Indoor Interviews (Ag Building) and then at the Animal Meeting (3:30PM-Show Barn) and Weigh-in's (4-7PM- Beef Breeding Barn). It is your responsibility to get your packet at these times to ensure you have everything you need.
 - You should have received an email from **FairEntry** confirming your entries. Please let us know if you see a mistake. We entered everything the best we could based on what was written on the entry forms. Remember, you cannot enter something if you weren't enrolled in the project by May 1st. So, if you weren't enrolled in Visual Arts, for example, but you wanted to enter some sort of craft, you'll have to enter it through Open Class the following day.
 - **Entry tags** (for indoor exhibits only) have been printed and are ready for you to pick up. If you don't pick them up before Thursday, then come to your interview early enough to attach them to each entry BEFORE your interview time. (10-20 minutes early)
 - **Sign up for interviews today!!** Time slots are limited. If you don't sign up for one of the available times, you won't be able to be interviewed or allowed to display in the 4-H Building. ☹

- **Animal Meeting**- Thursday, 3:30 PM in Sale Barn. ALL animal kids (horse, small animal, livestock...) need to be present. If you cannot be there, it is YOUR responsibility to get the needed information from someone who was there. This is the best way we can get everyone together to make any necessary announcements and answer any questions. We want to have a fun, successful fair!

- It's going to be very hot this year during fair! This means it's extra important to make sure **all animals** are kept cool and that they have plenty of water. The safety and wellbeing of the animals should be your first priority. This means everyone needs to practice responsible animal stewardship from when animals are up from home and until they are either brought back home or head off to market. The trip to town can be very hot and stressful, so please make this trip as quick and cool as you can (going directly to the barns to unload, not leaving them in trailers).
 - It is advised to bring in all animals during the cooler part of the morning/early afternoon. Plan on bringing your **market animals** EARLY (during the cooler hours of the morning/early afternoon), get them moved in to their pens quickly (don't leave them in the hot trailer), and let them settle before weigh-ins. This will be important not just for their wellbeing, but for their official weigh-in's as well. The stress of coming to town and the heat is hard on them, and can drastically affect their weights, which will affect their market classes and sale weights. All of this might take some extra planning, especially if you work a shift at the Chuckwagon that day and/or have an Interview, but it is vital for the health and wellbeing of the animal.
 - **Rabbits and Poultry** can be extra sensitive to the heat and stress of fair. Consider using ice (perhaps a frozen water bottle or something) in their cages to help cool them down.

- Please sign up to work a **shift for the 4-H Building**. If there isn't anyone to work we'll have to close the building during that time. This doesn't just have to be our 4-H parents, you can recruit other responsible community members who would like to volunteer their time.

- **Barn Cleanup**- Please coordinate with the Fairground crew to make sure the building you are cleaning is ready for you to do so (that they have everything moved out). All the barns need to be ready by Wednesday so they are ready to move in animals first thing Thursday morning to beat the heat (Horse barn needs to be ready by Tuesday). Be sure to contact the Barn Superintendent or building manager to see if you could work together. Thank you!!!
 - The Ag Building needs to be cleaned by Tuesday or Wednesday morning/early afternoon so we can set it up for Interviews.

- **Pre-Sale Carnival tickets**- If you sold any All-day passes for the carnival rides, you need to turn in your packet, the money, and receipt booklet into the Extension office TODAY!! Even if you didn't sell any tickets, we would like all of the packets returned to us. Thanks!

- We are still looking for people who are willing to help with last minute things to get everything ready for all the events at fair. Tuesday and Wednesday might be good days to get some of these last minute things done. If you are available to help in any way, please let us know when you can be there so we can help find you something to help us with 😊

- **4-H/FFA Breakfast (6:30-8 AM)** - Don't forget to hit up the two FREE breakfasts on Friday and Saturday at the 4-H Chuckwagon. Turner Lion's Club will be hosting Friday's Breakfast, and CHS will be hosting Saturday's breakfast. They put in a lot of extra time preparing these wonderful

breakfasts for our 4-H and FFA kids/families, so please be sure to attend so their efforts aren't wasted...plus, they do such an amazing job making a hearty breakfast. They have been so kind to donate their time and money, so please make a point to thank them as well!

- **Show Attire- Green and Black ties-** We've had a few families contact us wondering where to find the mandatory ties for the animal shows dress code. We don't know where all they are sold, but we do know that Norman's in Havre has them for \$5.99.
 - Also, remember that we have a selection of white button up shirts and black pants if you would like to look through to see if we have your size. All of the clothes have been donated from other 4-H'ers who have outgrown them.

Thanks, everyone! Let's have a wonderful 2017 Blaine County Fair!!

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