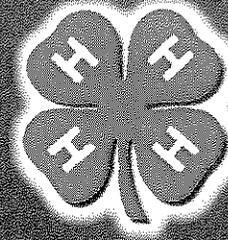


Richland County 4-H Clover Chatter



Richland County Extension Office 123 W. Main Sidney, MT 59270 433-1206

March 2005

Dates to Remember

- March 8-21.....Fruit Sale
- March 12.....Shooting Sports
- March 20.....Speech Contest - 2pm
- March 31.....Fruit Arrives-8:30 am Bob's Bldg.
- April 4.....Executive Council 7 pm
- April 4.....Livestock Committee 8 pm
- April 9.....Shooting Sports
- April 11.....Fruit Money Due
- April 18.....Jr. & Sr. Demonstrations 6 pm
- April 23.....Hog & Sheep Weigh-in 10-noon
- May 2.....Leader's Meeting 7:30 pm

Dear 4-H Families & Friends:

It's hard to believe, we are halfway through the 4-H year. It has been a great year so far. We have had some great new programs started in the county including; the Calf to Carcass class, an active livestock judging team, and the upcoming Mini Congress.

There are many great activities going on right now to keep members busy. Our fruit sale is officially in progress, there are a couple of shooting sports events yet to come, Speech and Demonstrations Days and Livestock Judging events. There should be an activity for about every member in the next few months.

As many of you know, we are in a period of transition in the Extension Office. We ask for your patience during the move. We should be moved some time in mid-April and be working toward organization of our materials. We hope that this doesn't affect any of the activities and hope we can count on you to keep supporting all 4-H activities and events.

Sincerely,

Wade Whiteman
Richland County Agent

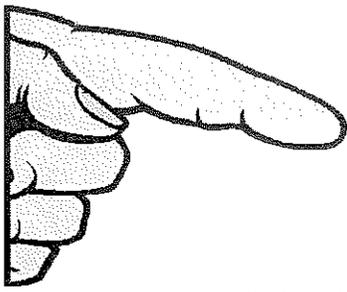
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Market Hog & Lamb Weigh-In

Hogs and sheep are to be weighed and tagged on Saturday, April 23rd from 10am to 12 noon at the Fairgrounds. The Livestock Committee has made this a prerequisite in order to sell at the fair. Members may weigh 2 hogs and up to five lambs. Members weighing in market lambs that you purchased from a producer need to have a scrapies tag from that producer with their premise ID number.

**DROP/ADD DAY IS MARCH 31ST
PLEASE DO NOT FORGET**





Important Reminders!!

Club Meeting Requirements

Just a reminder that in order to exhibit at the Fair, members must attend at least 50% of their club meetings during the year. We are at the half-way point, so you may want to check and see what your attendance record is to avoid potential problems later. As in the past years, the Council is very adamant about enforcing this requirement.

Sewing Class

The final class is scheduled for March 12th in the Library Basement, at 1 p.m.

Scholarships Available

Richland County 4-H Lost a long time leader last year. Marianne Goss was a leader for 27 years with many accomplishments in the program. She sat on the food booth committee for many years and held positions on the Council. Through 4-H, Marianne touched many members and will be missed. In memory, one scholarship of \$250 will be awarded through the Montana 4-H Foundation for the next 4 years. A scholarship application is available at the Extension Office for all graduating seniors, with the intentions of going to college. The scholarship application is due April 15th to the Extension Office.

**Dawson College is offering scholarships in form of a tuition waiver to 4-H and FFA members. An application is available at the office and is DUE March 25th.

Speech Day

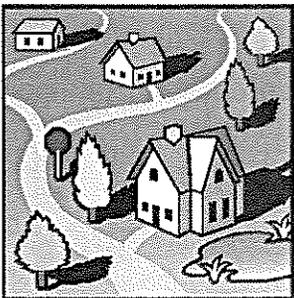
Our annual 4-H Speech Contest has been scheduled for Sunday, March 20th. Hopefully the day will be one that everyone can make. This is a busy time of year with science fairs, school trips and sports.

This event will be held at Rau School, for all members. The competition begins promptly at 2p.m. for the Jr. and Int. members. The Sr. division will start at 3 p.m. to accommodate the travel back from the Rec. Lab in Circle.

Members may choose any topic they wish. Jr. speeches must be 3-5 minutes in length and the Sr. talks are to be 5-7 minutes long. In addition, Sr.'s will also be required to present a 3 minute impromptu speech. No visual aids or gimmicks may be used, but note cards are acceptable. The deadline for pre-registration in March 16th. A complete set of guidelines are available for both contestants and judges at the Extension Office.

911 Rural Address Program

Our county is currently starting a rural emergency addressing project. This project will start sometime early summer and requires help. Many of our members live in rural areas and have knowledge of who lives where. This would be a great community service project for a club to take on for their area. If you would like more information, call Butch Renders at 433-6950 or 433-2407.





LIVESTOCK JUDGING TEAM



State Congress is slowly approaching! Have you been practicing for State Congress? You now have the chance to take in two competitions, one at Hysham and the other at Glasgow. It is strongly recommended that if you are on the team, you should attend at least one of these judging competitions. These are so much more than just a competition; the MSU Livestock Judging Team will be doing a workshop before the competition on JUDGING. This is the same group that runs the State Congress competition, so getting to at least one of these would be very helpful.

**If you are interested in one or both of these competitions, let Wade know at the office so we can get rides for everyone.



Redland Livestock Judging
District 4 Livestock Judging

March 19th at 8:30am in Hysham, MT
April 10th at 12pm in Glasgow, MT

Exec. Council/Livestock Mtg

Our next Executive Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 4th at 7pm at the Extension Office.

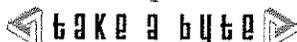
The Livestock Committee meeting will begin at 8pm in the court room. We will discuss activities and events and any modifications that might need to be made to ensure that our program meets the needs of everyone involved. We are responsible for getting the sponsors for them this year. So, if you want to have any input in this, we encourage you to attend this meeting.

"Take-a-Byte"

Mini Congress

by: Richland County Jr. Leaders
4-Her's !! Mark down Tuesday, June 7th on your calendars. Richland County Junior Leaders will be hosting a Mini Congress for all Jr. Members, 11 and older. This activity filled day will be modeled after State Congress, with competitions in the morning, workshops in the afternoon, an awards banquet, and dance. Registration information will be sent to your counties in April. If you would like more information, please call Richland County Extension Office at 433-1206, or contact a Jr. Leader.

SO, COME AND "TAKE A BYTE" OUT OF CONGRESS!!



MQA CERTIFICATION

Attention Livestock Members!!, there will be two classes offered in April to fulfill the MQA Certification required by the state. As a reminder, if you take market livestock to the fair, you are required to take this class every TWO years. This class will follow in the series of Calf to Carcass classes. It will differ from the video that was available and will include valuable information for getting you steer, lamb, or hog ready for the fair. If you enjoyed the first Calf to Carcass class, then this is a must and will also meet the MQA requirements for the upcoming year. The class will be offered April 7th and April 12th, at Rau School, at 7pm. For more details, call the Extension Office.



Fruit Sale

Our 27th Annual Fruit Sale is now underway!!! Organizational leaders have the sheets for members. Keep in mind that **ALL ORDERS MUST BE TURNED IN BY YOUR LEADERS BY MARCH 21st!!** Remember too--that there are cash awards for the top 10 sellers....\$5 for individuals and \$5 for families, plus the top 3 selling clubs. As an extra incentive again this year, 5 "MYSTERY" people have been selected, one from Savage, Lambert and Fairview, and 2 from Sidney. If you sell to one of these people, you will receive a **\$20 Bonus!** So, the more contacts you make, the better chance you have of earning one of these special awards. The mystery names will be announced following the sale.

Fruit will be **delivered at Bob's Pickup and Delivery salvage building on March 31st, and every club needs to be present to help** with unloading and to make sure all the fruit is out of the building by 6 pm that evening.

All money needs to be turned into the Extension Office by April 11th. Please submit **ONLY ONE CHECK FROM YOUR CLUB FOR PAYMENT!!!!** Any club whose check is not submitted by the due date will forfeit the club's share of the sales. Hopefully everyone will work hard to make this year's sale another **HUGE SUCCESS!!**
GOOD LUCK!

Leader's Mtg. May 2nd

Our next scheduled Leader's Mtg. will be on Monday, May 2nd beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Sidney Public Library Basement. Plans for summer activities will be the main focus. Please make plans to have your club represented!!

Fair Book Revisions

There will be a meeting on March 15th at 4:30, at the Extension Office to review the Fair Book. Please make a valiant effort to attend. We will take new ideas and change current projects to better our 4-H displays at Fair Time!!

SHOOTING SPORTS

April 9th

Our last shooting sports event is scheduled for **April 9th**. Members who are Little Buds through 10 years of age will shoot from 9am to 11am. Members who are 11 years old and up will shoot from 11am to 1pm. Please do not to forget to register by **April 6th**.

Jr Trip Reminder

This is just a reminder to all Jr. 4-H members (9-13yrs) about the Jr. Trip requirements. In order to be eligible to go on the trip, you must compete in at least one county-wide competitive event, such as Speech Contest, Demonstrations, Fashion Review or Livestock Judging. There are only a few events left to qualify you for this trip, so make sure you don't miss out!! If things go as planned, this year's trip is definitely one you won't want to miss!!

