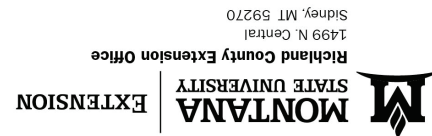




Important Reminders

- Rec Lab**
March 31 - April 2
- Fruit Delivery**
March 28th - 8:00 a.m. tentative
- Exec/Livestock Council**
April 3, 2017, 6:00/7:00
More Details, Page 2
- Shooting Sports**
March 25th
More Details, Page 2
- Fruit Money Due**
April 3, 2017
- Sheep Weigh-in**
April 27, 2017
More Details, Page 5
- Leader's Meeting**
May 1, 2017, 6:00 p.m.
More Details, Page 2
- Poultry Meeting**
March 26th, 2 p.m.
More Details, Page 2
- Speech & Demo Day**
April 6th, 5:30 p.m.
More Details, Page 3 & Insert
- Great Deal of Important Livestock Information**
Pages 5-7



**Attention:
This is your 4-H
Newsletter.**

Jr. Leaders Dinner and Dance

The Annual Dinner and Dance is scheduled for April 7, 2017, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. with a fun dance to follow until 10:00 p.m. at the Moose Lodge in Sidney. The meal will be served by the Jr. Leaders and will be a choice of Steak or Shrimp. The evening promises to be a night of excitement, especially with our auction items from our fabulous sponsors. The tickets for this event are \$30 and can be purchased by contacting any of the Jr. Leaders or the Extension Office.

Fruit Sales

The delivery of the fruit will be March 28th at the County Shop the exact time will be announced as soon as we know more. All clubs must have representatives to help sort boxes. **No** fruit will be loaded until **all** fruit is counted and sorted. All fruit will need to be gone from the County Shop by 5:00 p.m. The Club money is due to the Extension Office by April 3rd. Only one check per club will be accepted.

Thank You!

The Jr. Leaders would like to thank all clubs and community members who participated in the "Can you feel the love" food Drive. The Jr. Leaders were able to collect food 589 pounds of food and \$349 that will aid the local food bank!

Scholarships

Attention High School Seniors! All scholarships are due on or before April 1st; this includes both the Richland County Scholarships as well as the ones from the Montana 4-H Foundation. The Richland County Scholarship Applications are on the website at <http://www.msueextension.org/Richland/4-H%20Sites/Scholarships.html> Carefully read and fill out the applications and return them to the Extension Office before April 1st. For more information on the Montana 4-H Foundation scholarships check out <http://montana4h.org/#program:30>

Remember - March 31st, is the last day to add or drop projects. Please have your add/drop sheet turned into the office by 5:00 p.m. on the 31st.

Exec. Council / Livestock Meetings

The next Executive Council meeting is scheduled for April 3rd at **6:00 p.m.** at the Extension Office. The Livestock Committee will meet following the Executive Meeting at **7:00 p.m.** We will be discussing this year's fair, so don't miss this one!

Leader's Meeting May 1st

Our next scheduled Leaders Meeting will be on Monday, May 1st beginning at **6:00 p.m.** at the Extension Office. Plans for summer activities and Fair will be the main focus. Please make plans to have your club represented!

Jr. Leaders Meeting

The next Jr. Leaders meeting will be March 19th at 6:00 p.m. at the Extension Office. This will be a working meeting in preparation for the Dinner and Dance. Please plan on attending. Also, we will continue to talk about our ongoing community service projects and maybe add a new one!

Food Booth Schedule

Food Booth schedule will be decided at the May Leaders meeting on May 1st. ***Each club is required to have one representative that will sign their club up for a spot.*** The schedule will then be published in the May Clover Chatter to give everyone time to adjust their schedules.

Poultry Meeting

The next poultry meeting is scheduled for March 26th at 2:00 p.m. This will be held at Cade Verschoot's home, their address is 32701 CR 125 in Lambert.

Upcoming meeting dates:

Tuesday June 6th

Tuesday July 18th - Ali Merritt's home

Club Meeting Requirements

Just a reminder that in order to exhibit at the Fair, 4-H 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, the Council is very adamant about enforcing this requirement.

Greytak Calendars

Just a reminder, we are a few months into the New Year, but just in case you are still interested in purchasing a Greytak Calendar to support the 4-H Program we do have some left at the office, stop by if you are interested in purchasing one.

Shooting Sports

The next shooting sports day will be on March 25th at 9:00 a.m. at the Event Center. This will be the make up day so if you are in need of making up some shoots, here's your chance.

4-H Camp Save the Date!

4-H Camp this year will be June 6-8th. It will be held at the Beacon Bible Camp Facility. The camp is located 20 miles west of Wolf Point or 4 miles North East of Frazer. Make sure to mark your summer calendars with this year's date and location.

Leaders' Forum Save the Date

The 2017 Leaders' Forum will be September 29-October 1 in Glendive, MT. The forum provides a weekend retreat for all 4-H volunteers and youth leaders to come together for networking, education, relaxation and fun. Participants will return home with a deeper understanding of the 4-H mission, a stronger sense of how to accomplish it and an expanded toolbox to make it happen.

Import Requirements for Swine

With the breakout of the Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED) virus in the state of Montana, here are the guidelines required by the State of Montana for bringing in swine that are under 12 months of age. You will need a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI), issued by an accredited veterinarian within 30 days prior to importation into Montana. The CVI must include:

- Consignor and address of origin
- Consignee and final destination address
- Accurate description and identification of each animal (see species specific requirements)
- Purpose for which they are shipped, method of transportation, identification and address of the transporter
- The health status of the animals involved, including dates and results of inspections, tests and vaccinations required by the state of Montana per species
- A signature by the issuing veterinarian who is certifying that the animals shown thereon are free from evidence of any infectious, contagious, or communicable disease or known exposure thereto.

Then, a copy of the CVI must be mailed immediately to the state veterinarian of Montana, P.O. Box 202001, Helena, Montana 59620-2001.

Along with the CVI, you will also need an Import Permit, which is a unique number issued by the Montana Department of Livestock prior to entry into Montana and after all import requirements have been met.

Permits can be obtained by calling the import line at (406) 444 - 2976. While the permit line is available to veterinarians 24 hours a day, seven days a week, not all permit types are available during non-business hours (8 AM - 4:45 PM MST, Monday - Friday). Permits are good for 10 days from date of issuance. So if you are going to a pig sale on that day, you can call the number the same day, or if you are going to a producer's farm to pick up your pig, you can call a few days ahead of time. You can visit with your local veterinarian about the process as well.

Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus

The Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus or PED was found in Montana in February 2014. PED – which poses no threat to human health, food safety or other livestock – causes diarrhea, vomiting and severe dehydration, and can have mortality rates of up to 100 percent in suckling pigs. It was first found in the U.S. in April of 2013 and has already spread to 24 states. It is spread by fecal-oral transmission; directly pig-to-pig and indirectly on people, boots, tires, trucks and trailers. Thus, sound biosecurity practices can dramatically reduce the potential for outbreaks.

Those biosecurity measures include:

- Limiting traffic (people and equipment) onto the farm and more specifically, limit access to the swine portion of your facility.
- Thoroughly cleaning and disinfecting any thing coming onto the farm.
- Establishing designated routes and parking areas for service vehicles.
- Isolating newly arriving animals and knowing the health status of the source.
- Having dedicated clothing and footwear for animal contact areas.
- Cleaning and disinfecting any supplies, tools, tack or gear that have had prior use.

*** All Youth enrolled in the Swine project will be receiving more detailed information on this virus, the protocol and any policy changes in the mail.

Scrapies Tags

All sheep and goats are required to have scrapies tags at the time of weigh in. Please ask your breeder to provide you with these tags. If the sheep or goats are missing scrapies tags at the time of weigh in they will be put in that day. If you need more information on Scrapies or tag requirements please contact the office.



Selecting a Market Hog

You may select a barrow or gilt, which may be purebred or crossbred. Gilts that are entered in breeding classes are not eligible to compete in market classes. You may show a gilt in the market class but the same gilt cannot be shown in the breeding classes. A feeder pig suitable for a project animal could weigh anywhere from 70-85 lbs. at weigh-in in April. When selecting your project, look for a healthy pig that:

- is well muscled
- has a minimal amount of back fat
- has deep, full hams
- is long, trim, and smooth
- walks free of any stiffness or lameness
- is thrifty and free of disease

Reminder

As voted on at the February Livestock Meeting last year, "any animal that comes to the fair must be judged & entered in the fair, excluding nursing young." Meaning, any animal stalled at the fairgrounds during fair must be entered as an exhibit and judged as so.

April Youth Horse Meeting

There will be a youth horse meeting on Sunday April 2nd at 4:00 p.m. at the Extension Office. This will be a fun and educational meeting for all horse members.

What is Round Robin?

Come fair time, youth members that are enrolled in animal project may have the opportunity to participate in an extra showmanship contest called Round Robin. Round Robin is a contest between the top showman of a set of species to see who can show all the species correctly. Small Animal Round Robin in Richland County consists of dog, cat, poultry and rabbit. Large Animal Round Robin consists of Beef, Horse, Dairy, Goat, Hog, Sheep and Alpaca. The members who place Grand in the above species in both the junior and senior divisions of showmanship at the fair are expected to compete in Round Robin. If you have more questions about this please contact the office.

Intermountain Livestock Judges' Training

The Intermountain Livestock Judges' Training will be held May 11-13th in Spanish Forks, Utah. This training is designed to help improve a judges or judges:

- Livestock selection
- Livestock evaluation skills
- Current terminology
- Oral reason skills
- Proficiency in the show ring
- Positive youth interaction
- Audience communication.

This training has both a youth and adult track and will be a worthwhile training for all who attend. If you are interested, please contact the office for the registration packet.

Campers at the Fair

Camper Sales for the fair will begin on June 1, 2017. Please contact the Fair Office, 433-2801, if you are interested. Spaces are \$40/each for the 2017 Fair. This will be a first come, first serve basis. To be able to make a reservation, you must know the length of your camper. If you do not know the length or cannot provide payment, you will not be able to reserve a space.

ALL participants, livestock and horse, need to reserve their spot. Due to an increase in demand, there will only be 1 camper space per family in all locations.

Camper passes MUST be visibly posted in the window of your camper or you will be asked to leave. Along with the proper pass, you will also need an admission button OR pay the \$2 at the gate every day of fair. A proper pass consists of a barn gate pass, camper pass, camper vehicle pass or feeder pass. Therefore, you must have the proper pass AND an admission button/pay \$2 per day at the gate. They prefer these spaces be used for campers, but if you don't have a camper they could be used to park a trailer. Please specify when you call to make your reservation. If there is no camper next to yours, please do NOT park your vehicle, etc. in the space.

All campers are required to have adult supervision.

Speech and Demonstration Day

The date for this event is set for April 6th. Registration will be due March 30th by 5:00 p.m., NO LATE REGISTRATIONS will be accepted. The event will be held at Pella Lutheran Church. Dinner will be provided for all involved with this event. There are new contests this year, please look over the registration sheet included in this Clover Chatter for the new contests.

****Remember** Speech and Demonstration Day counts as a county event. If Junior members attend a county event and meet all other requirements they are eligible for the Jr. Trip in the summer. Senior members who compete and receive a blue will then travel to State Congress in July where they will represent Richland County.

Week of Service

The Montana 4-H Ambassador Team is challenging all 4-H members to participate in the second annual Montana 4-H Week of Service. This is an initiative to encourage 4-H youth to make a positive impact within their communities. So... plan a project and implement it during the week of April 21-30th.

Week of Service t-shirts can be ordered on the below website. Then report the difference you made at www.mt4hservice.org. One Week, One Community, One Big Difference.



Community Service Grants

Congratulations to the Badlands Brushpoppers, for receiving this year's Community Service Grant. The Badlands Brushpoppers will be making lap quilts for the elderly in the community to help remind them that they are a valuable part of the community and that they appreciate them. They will complete the project by the end of March.

Congratulations!

Host Families Needed

Host families needed for:

Japan- July 23-August 18
IPYA (International Programs for Young Adults) dates vary beginning July 15
Academic Year Programs- Students from Japan, Serbia, Georgia, Kazakhstan and Armenia. Starting in late July and ending in June or end of school year 2018.

If you are interested in hosting, please contact Stephanie Davison at 406-994-3502.

Robotics Training in Baker

There will be a robotics training on March 18th in Baker, MT. The training is presented by Greg Switzer and will cover 4-H Robotics and how to build and program the Lego Mindstorms EV3 robots. The training will cost \$5 and lunch will be provided. Youth must register by March 13th. Please contact the office for more information.

Montana Shooting Sports Raffle Tickets

Richland County 4-H has 15 Montana 4-H Shooting Sports Raffle Tickets. Part of the proceeds will come back to the support the Richland County Shooting Sports program. The raffle tickets are \$20 or you can get 6 for \$100. There are only 1,200 tickets being sold in the state.

There are 5 different prizes:

1. A \$2,500.00 Gift Certificate toward a Shiloh Sharps Rifle
2. SKB O/U Shotgun, .12 GA
3. SKB O/U Shotgun, .12 GA
4. Winchester semi-automatic shotgun, .12 GA
5. Winchester semi-automatic shotgun, .12 GA

Please contact the office to purchase one.



Congress 2017

Save the date, Montana 4-H Congress is set for July 12-15th in Bozeman, Montana. Registration will be available soon and will be due June 15th. There will be a mandatory meeting for all youth attending Congress as well as their parents. This meeting will be to go over the paperwork and travel plans. Other than the mandatory meeting for youth and parents, Richland County 4-H has these requirements for attending Congress, please read over them carefully and call the office if you have any questions:

- Member must be 13 years old as of October 1st of the current club year.
- Members must attend 50% of club meetings during the year.
- All blue ribbon winners in qualifying events are eligible to attend, except those where specific quotas limit participation
- Up to 3 "at large" delegates, selected by the Extension Agent will be able to attend Congress each year.
- Any member attending State 4-H Congress will be expected to report back to the 4-H Council and present a workshop or help in a county activity at the County level.
- Any costs over the amount budgeted by the 4-H Council will be pro-rated equally among members and leaders attending.
- A completed record book is required to go to State Congress.
- All eligible Richland County Ambassadors may attend State Congress in an ambassador position. They may also go in a competitive event if they so choose. If they choose to go only as an ambassador, they must compete in at least one competitive county-wide event in addition to the above guidelines. If attending congress as the Ambassador, they will be required to attend Pre Congress during their second year of being an Ambassador.
- County meetings at State Congress are mandatory. All rules and regulations will be adhered to, or participants will lose their eligibility for the next year.
- 4-H'ers attending State Congress are expected to represent Richland County to the best of their ability.

The following briefly describes the competitive events that are available at State 4-H Congress. Please read them carefully.

Livestock Judging – You must be a member of the county team. A team of four may compete.

Demonstration - You must have received a blue ribbon at the County Speech and Demo Day. We may take any number of competitors.

Public Speaking - You must have received a blue ribbon at the County Speech and Demo Day. We may take any number of competitors.

Fashion Revue - You must have received a blue ribbon at the County Fashion Revue. We may take more than one participant.

Horse Judging - We may take a team of four.

Stir-Ups Contest - This is a fun, challenging food program where members plan a meal, prepare a low-fat main dish, display the meal and create a notebook. One person may attend per county. If you are interested in this program, contact the Extension Office.

Gavel Games - This is a Parliamentary Procedure Contest. Teams of four compete. If you are interested in this program, contact the Extension Office.

Quilting - Quilts judged at the Fashion Revue and Quilt Contest are eligible to attend Congress.

Horse Skill-a-Thon - A team of four can compete in this contest about horse knowledge.

Video, Promotional Package and Commercial - Prepare and present videos with set guidelines

Job Interview- Complete a job application and participate in an interview.

Questions? Call the Extension Office at 433-1206

Feed Yard Talk

Livestock Paperwork

All livestock paperwork for beef, hogs, sheep and goats is due by May 1st, 2017. If all required paperwork is not in by May 1st at 5:00 p.m., the member will be unable to participate at the fair with that species. Please turn in all paperwork as soon as possible.

Spring Weigh In

Due to the PED Virus, there will be NO MARKET HOG WEIGH IN again this year. The forms that will be used in place of weigh-in will be mailed to each family that has members enrolled in the market hog project. Please fill out the form completely and turn it into the office by 5:00 p.m. on April 27th. The form must include a picture of the hog with the ear tag clearly visible. If your family plans to have extras, please fill out the form as the family extra, but this form also must include a picture. Tags will be available at the office for pick up. If you have any questions on completing the form please call the office. Market Sheep and Goats will be weighed in on April 27th at the Fairgrounds from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.. Once again, tags can be picked up at the office prior to weigh in to make the process easier on everyone.

Spring MQA

The Spring MQA will be at 6:00 p.m. at the Fairgrounds following the sheep and goat weigh in on April 27th. MQA is a requirement of all 4-H members taking livestock to the fair. MQA must be taken as a first year member and every other year following. If you need the MQA training this year, the Spring MQA will be your last opportunity to attend a training. If you miss MQA this year, you will be unable to show and sell any livestock at the Richland County Fair and Rodeo.



Deaton Show Pigs

The 5th Annual Deaton Show Pigs Auction will take place March 19th at the Lewis & Clark Fairgrounds in Helena, Montana. The viewing will begin at 10 a.m. and the sale will start at noon. Check them out on Facebook or call 406-461-9317 for more information.

Montana Show Pigs

Montana Show Pigs will be selling pigs in a private treaty selection process this year. Please contact Kimberly at 406-490-4323 for more information.

Stenberg Market Hogs

Stenberg Market Hogs will be having their sale Saturday March 25th at 11:00 a.m. in Big Timber Montana. Viewing of the market hogs will begin at 10:00 a.m. Lunch and coffee will be provided at the sale. For more information please contact Jason Stenberg at 406-930-0405 or jason_8255@yahoo.com or check them out on Facebook.

Braaten Show Pigs

The 6th Annual Braaten Show Pig sale will be April 1, 2017 in Townsend, MT. The barn will open at 9:30 and the sale will start at 11:30. Lunch will be served. For more information contact Hugh Braaten at 406-439-8873.

Hays Show Lambs

Hays Show Lambs will be having their sale April 9th at 10 a.m. in Worden, Montana. More information can be found at haysshowlambs.com or on Facebook.

Dorvall Club Lambs

Dorvall Club Lambs will be having their 9th annual Silent Auction on April 1st in Fromberg, Montana. Viewing will begin at 11:00 a.m. There will also be a Fit 2 Show Clinic this year. For more information call 406-425-3027 or 406-425-02969. You can also check them out on Facebook.