

YELLOWSTONE COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER- JUNE 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

MontanaFair entries are completed online at www.montanafair.com. 4-H members are exhibitors at MontanaFair. 4-H does not manage MontanaFair's online entry process nor can 4-H access MontanaFair's online entry program. Please be certain to read all rules and policies for MontanaFair – it is your responsibility to read the handbook. Please refer to Department A and Department N Handbooks to determine what divisions and classes you should be entering.

Yellowstone County's Pine Ridge Red Ryder 4-H Club was awarded a People Partner Grant from the State 4-H Foundation. The grant will be used for members to create educational signage highlighting 4-H, agriculture, and community involvement.

Roni Baker, Yellowstone County 4-H/Youth Agent ronibaker@montana.edu

EMAILING THE 4-H OFFICE

Just a reminder that when you are emailing files to Roni Baker, Brandy or Leslie please save the attachment in a .pdf format. This increases our chances of being able to open the attachment.

Please remember to address emails to BOTH Brandy and Leslie. This way one or the other can reply in a timely matter.

Brandy.butler@montana.edu

Leslie.lstrom@montana.edu

ronibaker@montana.edu (No period between Roni's first and last name.)

The county's email server has very sensitive security. When we receive a message from you, we will respond to the message. If you do not receive a response from the person to whom you sent the email, call us to confirm. Sometimes we need to email you first before our security software will let your emails into our system.

REGISTER FOR THE 2026 CLOVERBUD CAMP

Registration for the Thursday, July 16, 2026, Cloverbud Camp "America's 250th Birthday" is now open in ZSuite under "Events". Registration and payment deadline is 11:59 pm Wednesday, July 8.

The camp fee is \$10 and covers snacks, lunch, supplies and accident insurance. You can pay online at the time of registration or make payment in the Extension office by 5:00 pm Wednesday, July 8.

Please plan to have your Cloverbud at camp by 9:30 am and pick them up by 3:00 pm. Dress in appropriate clothing for the day (sunscreen, hat, jacket, and tennis shoes). Please pack a second set of clothes – the kids will get wet! Activities are planned for both indoor and outdoor activities.

MONTANAFAIR INFORMATION NIGHT

Fair is just around the corner, and it can be overwhelming especially if you are in your first couple of years or maybe you want to try something new and are not even sure where to start. Many people do not know that there are things you can do in both departments.

There will be a fair information meeting on Tuesday, June 2 at 6:00 pm in the 4-H building. This is a great chance for new families to come and learn what opportunities there are and how to get involved. We will cover both Department N (non-livestock) and Department A (all livestock/animals) with time for questions and answers.

MONTANAFAIR ENTRIES ARE COMPLETED ONLINE- PLEASE READ

MontanaFair entries are completed online at the [MontanaFair website](https://www.montanafair.com/) or <https://www.montanafair.com/>.

Department A and Department N MontanaFair Handbooks can be found there or on the County 4-H website under the MontanaFair heading. Those without internet capabilities can make an appointment to come to the Extension office and use a computer to complete your online entry.

MontanaFair will assess a \$20 exhibitor fee when you enter online. This fee will be paid with a credit card or debit card. Cloverbuds do not pay the fee. All 2026 entries must be completed and submitted online before 11:59 pm Friday, June 26, to avoid an additional late fee of \$50 per exhibitor. Late entries must be completed and submitted online before 11:59 pm Friday, July 3.

All late fees must be paid via a check made payable to Yellowstone County 4-H Council and mailed or dropped off to the Yellowstone County Extension office by 5:00 pm Friday, July 17.

There are no exceptions to any entry deadlines.

Parents of exhibitors need to purchase gate admission tickets online at the time of entry. Tickets are \$6 each and must be paid when submitting the entry. The process will be new this year. Directions from MontanaFair will be available soon and emailed to everyone. Enrolled leaders will complete the Yellowstone County 4-H Volunteer/Project Leader Participation Requirement Form in their ZSuite profile under Events; to determine the number of tickets they will receive for gate admission at MontanaFair.

Department A and N worksheets can be printed off the [Yellowstone County 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/index.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/index.html>. You can fill these out when viewing the handbooks BEFORE you complete your online entry at www.montanafair.com. This can save you time.

Members can only enter in projects in which they are enrolled, including all livestock projects.

In Department N (non-livestock), and Department A (livestock) members may lose their premium money if they scratch more than 4 entry items. If you plan to enter a livestock showmanship class, you MUST put it on your entry - you cannot add it at fair. The divisions you can enter are beginner, junior or senior.

Please visit the Yellowstone County website for the Department N and A schedules. Items may be added (e.g., club workshops).

All Yellowstone County pre-fair events must be included in your Department N (Showcase, Communication Day, County Shoot) or Department A (Cat Show, Dog Show) entry. If your pre-fair county events are not included in your entry, you will not receive premium money for those exhibits.

Be sure you have entered what you want to before submitting your entry. Write down your exact sign on information - you will need it to make changes to your MontanaFair entry. Print a copy of your completed entry form so you know what you have entered.

ARE YOU NEEDING HELP SUBMITTING YOUR MONTANAFAIR ENTRY?

If you need assistance with your MontanaFair entry, contact Stephanie Johnson at the Extension office to set up an individual appointment. **DO NOT come to the office without a scheduled appointment.** Please bring a list of projects you plan to sign up for in Department N (non-livestock) and Department A (Livestock). You can get a Handbook from the 4-H Office or print one online at [MontanaFair](https://www.montanafair.com/) or <https://www.montanafair.com/>.

MONTANAFAIR JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SALE THANK YOU NOTE POLICY

MontanaFair Junior Livestock Sale checks will not be mailed out until a thank you note to the Livestock Sale Buyer has been written, stamped, and delivered to your club's organizational leader or designated club livestock leader. Out of county participants will send or deliver a thank you to the Yellowstone County 4-H Agent.

LET'S HAVE A 4-H/FFA FAIR STICKER CONTEST

The 2026 MontanaFair theme is "Celebrate MontanaFair". Think of a creative sticker design and submit it to the Extension office as a .pdf file by 8:00 am, Monday, June 5.

Use your imagination to design a sticker for this year. Your sticker design needs to be 3" x 3". The official 4-H logo and "MontanaFair 2026" must be included in the design. Designs must be emailed as an attachment to ronibaker@montana.edu. Entries will be voted on by 4-H members and the winner receives a \$50 gift card.

DEPARTMENT N (NON-ANIMAL) JUNIOR COORDINATORS NEEDED

Are you looking for something to do at fair that is fun and allows you to learn a new skill? Signing up to be a Jr. Coordinator might be your answer! You will have the privilege of working with others to coordinate fair events like Showcase, Quiz bowl, Food Festival, Awards, and Class Judging. Plus, you will help behind the scenes setting up Department N and many more fun activities. If you have any questions, please call Dawson Seibold at 406-281-4000. List Department N Fair Entry Division 97 Class 1 on your fair entry.

DEPARTMENT N (NON-ANIMAL) FAIR CLERK APPLICATIONS

Department N is looking for fair clerks for MontanaFair 2026! Clerks play an important role in keeping the department running smoothly by assisting with a range of tasks including Interview Judging Day, setup and teardown, fair events, and engaging with 4-H members and the public throughout fair week. Applications and job descriptions are available at the Extension office. The applications must be returned to the Extension office as soon as possible. For more information, contact Dawson Seibold at 406-281-4000.

DEPARTMENT N INTERVIEWS-CLUB JUDGING SCHEDULE

Interview Judging will be held in the **Montana Pavilion** 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.

4-H ICE CREAM BOOTH CLUB SHIFTS

All clubs in Yellowstone County are required to work at the ice cream booth during fair. **Money raised in the ice cream booth go to the 4-H Council to provide funds for 4-H projects and activities.** Each club working a two-hour shift will be given gate admission tickets as needed. The schedule below indicates your club's assigned times. Each club should bring along a receipt book or pieces of paper to write orders on. Thank you for making the 4-H Ice Cream Booth a success.

2026 Ice Cream Booth Club Work Shifts

Saturday, August 8

11:30 am - 1:30 pm Big Sky Thunderbolts
 1:30 - 3:30 pm Whips & Sticks
 3:30 - 5:30 pm Huntley Eagles
 5:30 - 7:30 pm Huntley Eagles
 7:30 - 9:30 pm Shepherd Tumbleweeds

Sunday, August 9

11:30 am - 1:30 pm Worden Riverdale
 3:30 - 3:30 pm Worden Riverdale
 3:30 - 5:30 pm Shepherd Tumbleweeds
 5:30 - 7:30 pm Blue Creek Jumping Bucks
 7:30 - 9:30 pm Yellowstone Mavericks

Monday, August 10

11:30 am - 1:30 pm Laurel Roadrunners
 3:30 - 3:30 pm Laurel Roadrunners
 3:30 - 5:30 pm Northern Lights
 5:30 - 7:30 pm Project Rockin Wranglers
 7:30 - 9:30 pm Project Rockin Wranglers

Tuesday, August 11

11:30 am - 1:30 pm Cool Clovers & Out of County
 3:30 - 3:30 pm Northern Lights
 3:30 - 5:30 pm Pine Ridge Red Ryder
 5:30 - 7:30 pm Lockwood Humble B's
 7:30 - 9:30 pm Lockwood Humble B's

Wednesday, August 12

11:30 am - 1:30 pm Blue Creek Jumping Bucks
 3:30 - 3:30 pm Shepherd Wranglers
 3:30 - 5:30 pm Yellowstone Silver Spurs
 5:30 - 7:30 pm City Kids
 7:30 - 9:30 pm City Kids

Thursday, August 13

11:30 am - 1:30 pm Shepherd Pioneers
 3:30 - 3:30 pm Shepherd Pioneers
 3:30 - 5:30 pm Northern Lights
 5:30 - 7:30 pm Ruff Riders
 7:30 - 9:30 pm Ruff Riders

Friday, August 14

11:30 am - 1:30 pm Kountry Kritters
 3:30 - 3:30 pm Kountry Kritters
 3:30 - 5:30 pm Hesper Hustlers
 5:30 - 7:30 pm Hesper Hustlers
 7:30 - 9:30 pm Cool Clovers

Saturday, August 15

11:30 am - 1:30 pm Compass All Stars
 3:30 - 3:30 pm Compass All Stars
 3:30 - 5:30 pm Yellowstone Mavericks
 5:30 - 7:30 pm Yellowstone Silver Spurs
 7:30 - 9:30 pm Big Sky Thunderbolts

INTERESTED IN DOING A WORKSHOP OR INFORMATION SESSION AT MONTANAFAIR

We are looking for individuals or groups who would like to do a workshop/information session at the fair. All youth and adults are invited to do this. We want to have lots of activities happening in the building. You can select the time during the fair when you would like to do your presentation. Contact Roni at 406-256-2828 so she can get you on the schedule. (TB/9/25/09)

MONTANAFAIR CAMPER SPACE CONTRACTS AND PAYMENT

For those that have made a camper space request, an informational letter and clover to display in your camper window will be emailed to you in June. **Those who requested and paid for a spot online but due to the limited number of full hook-up and electric spots, did not secure one, will be refunded.** Please contact us immediately if you no longer need your spot.

4-H FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The following 4-H members were awarded Scholarships totaling \$11,000 from the Yellowstone County 4-H Foundation. Current 4-H seniors and former 4-H graduates may apply for a scholarship once.

4-H Member	4-H Club
Danica Albrecht	Pine Ridge Red Ryder
Wyatt Johannes	Worden Riverdale
Erin Robertson	Yellowstone Mavericks
Dawson Serock	City Kids
Sophia Wagner	Ruff Riders

MONTANA RANGE DAYS 2026

The annual Montana Range Days will be held at the Custer County Event Center in Malta, MT, June 22-24, 2026.

Range Days is designed to include the entire family, from youngsters at least 4 years of age up to and including adult competitions. There will be both individual and team competitions in a variety of range related areas.

For more information, please visit the [Montana Range Days website](https://www.montanarangedays.org/) at <https://www.montanarangedays.org/>

BLACK HILLS RECREATION LEADERS' LABORATORY

September 19-25, are the dates for the 2026 annual conference held at the Outlaw Ranch near Custer, SD. This camp is for adults and teens 16 or older. This educational organization is dedicated to teaching leadership and personal growth through recreation and the creative use of leisure time. In addition to workshops, leadership is a key focus. Information and registration forms are accessible at the [Black Hills Recreation Leaders Laboratory website](https://www.bhrll.org/) at <https://www.bhrll.org/>.

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS AVAILABLE

The purpose of the grant program is to assist funding community development projects conducted by rural youth organizations such as 4-H, by encouraging rural youth to conduct projects that will improve the quality of life in rural Montana communities, and to improve interaction between the rural and urban portions of these communities. Grant awards vary and may be awarded in any amount not to exceed \$500 per organization. Applications can be obtained by contacting Walt Anseth, Agriculture Finance Officer at 406-444-5420.

MONTANA HEREFORD ASSOCIATION HEIFER GRANT

The Montana Hereford Association (MHA) will award one individual a minimum amount of a \$1,000 grant to purchase a Hereford Heifer. Applicants must be between the ages of 9-17, as of January 1, of the current year; be a current 4-H/FFA member; and must live in Montana. For application and additional information, contact Amanda Romine at 307-629-0654 (call or text) or infomontanahereford@gmail.com or visit the [MHA website](https://montanahereford.org/heifer-grant) at <https://montanahereford.org/heifer-grant>.

URGENTLY SEEKING INTERNATIONAL HOST FAMILIES FOR JAPANESE DELEGATES

The Montana 4-H International Exchange Programs (MT4HIEP) summer inbound program needs 20-25 host families from July 22 to August 16, 2026. There are 18 youth delegates (9 girls, 9 boys), ages 12-16, and two adult chaperones.

These delegates are here for a homestay to experience American culture and family life. Special trips and tours are not required to host a delegate. These young people are here to be members of your family for a month, not tourists. Is your child going to camp this summer? Send your delegate too! Camp fees are covered by 4-H and the international partner organization. Take them to the grocery store, let them do chores like feeding the animals, take them to 4-H meetings and the Fair! Treat this young person as you treat your own child. The main requirements are that the delegate must have a host sibling of the same gender within four years of their age, their own bed, three meals a day, and adult supervision.

Applications are available online through our national program, [States' 4-H International Exchange Programs](https://states4h.org/host-a-student/summer/) (S4H), and will be accepted until all students are placed. <https://states4h.org/host-a-student/summer/>
For more information, contact Dave Brink at david.brink@montana.edu or 406-203-6675.

MONTHLY CLUB MINUTES HIGHLIGHTS

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

Compass All Stars: Club members ordered club T-shirts and are working on a club banner.

Pine Ridge Red Ryder: Members discussed where to place 4-H educational signs they will make with the funds from the People Partner Grant.

Project Rockin Wranglers: Club deposited their fruit sale profit check for 96 boxes sold.

Shepherd Pioneers: Club members will do a hike and a camp out for summer club activities.

Worden Riverdale: Member planted flowers in various locations throughout the Worden community.

Yellowstone Mavericks: The club's community service project will be cleaning the county cemetery.

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
Northwest Pipe	1725 Majestic Ln, Billings MT 59102
Pacific Steel & Recycling	3385 Coulson Rd, Billings MT 59101
Auto Auction of Montana	4432 S Frontage Rd, Billings MT 59102
Cornerstone Financial	225 N 23 rd , Billings MT 59101
Drange Apiary	2751 Alpine View Dr, Laurel MT 59044
Public Auction Yards (PAYS)	PO Box 1781, Billings MT 59107
Shipton's Big R	PO Box 30477, Billings MT 59107
SKelly's Spinal Flow	100 24 th Street W, Ste. 1-121, Billings MT 59102
Stockman Bank – Worden	PO Box 249, Worden MT 59088
Dragon Egg Games	2499 Gabel Rd #4, Billings MT 59102
Raw Machinery	4110 Bennett Ave, Billings MT 59105

CERAMICS WORKSHOPS FOR JUNE AND JULY

Members will meet Saturday, June 27 to finish projects from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm OR 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Call Sheri at 406-633-5531.

MONTANAFAIR CAT SHOW RESULTS

Senior Showmanship Winners

Grand	Rex Koivu & Kitty	Project Rockin Wranglers
Reserve	Heaven Reed & Lydia	Big Sky Thunderbolts
3 rd	Maria Murdick & Miracle	Big Sky Thunderbolts

Junior Showmanship Winners

Grand	Carlee Bomar & Sugarbutt	Shepherd Tumbleweeds
Reserve	Layla Vandersloot & Cotton	Shepherd Pioneers
3 rd	Nola Vincent & Kanga	Kountry Kritters
4 th	Amanda Parks & Doc	Compass All Stars
5 th	Ernest Leivestad & Boots	Kountry Kritters

Beginner Showmanship Winners

Grand	Ava Unruh & Tinkerbelle	Project Rockin Wranglers
Reserve	Emma Teter & Shadow	Project Rockin Wranglers
3 rd	David Reynolds & Purfect	Big Sky Thunderbolts
4 th	Maverick Sorensen & Thumbs	Project Rockin Wranglers
5 th	Owen Schlosser & Snowball	Shepherd Tumbleweeds

Cat Show Male Cat

Grand	Emma Teter & Shadow	Project Rockin Wranglers
Reserve	Maverick Sorensen & Thumbs	Project Rockin Wranglers
3 rd	Rex Koivu & Kitty	Project Rockin Wranglers
4 th	Carlee Bomar & Sugarbutt	Shepherd Tumbleweeds
5 th	Nola Vincent & Kanga	Kountry Kritters

Cat Show Female Cat

Grand	David Reynolds & Purfect	Big Sky Thunderbolts
Reserve	Ava Unruh & Tinkerbelle	Project Rockin Wranglers
3 rd	Amanda Parks & Doc	Compass All Stars
4 th	Julia Leivestad & Black Velvet	Kountry Kritters
5 th	Maria Murdick & Ash	Big Sky Thunderbolts

Supreme Cat: David Reynolds & Purfect

MONTANAFAIR DOG SHOW RESULTS

Senior Showmanship Winners

Grand	Mae Russell & Ohmee	City Kids
Reserve	Heaven Reed & Doug	Big Sky Thunderbolts

Junior Showmanship Winners

Grand	Paisley Opp & Bella	Blue Creek Jumping Bucks
Reserve	Paige Trudnowski & Purdue	Hesper Hustlers
3 rd	Lily Watson & Copper	Shepherd Pioneers
4 th	Carlee Bomar & Tilly	Shepherd Tumbleweeds
5 th	Morgan Ready & Ellie	Hesper Hustlers

Beginner Showmanship Winners

Grand	Berklee Bacon & Pearl	Shepherd Tumbleweeds
Reserve	Remington Rau & Rip	Project Rockin Wranglers
3 rd	Braylen Bacon & Butler	Shepherd Tumbleweeds
4 th	Margaret Wittman & Dottie	Shepherd Pioneers
5 th	Austyn Knight & Luna	Huntley Eagles

Beginner Novice Obedience Winners

Grand	Paisley Opp & Bella	Blue Creek
Reserve	Carlee Bomar & Tilly	Shepherd Tumbleweeds
3 rd	Hadleigh Lynch & Rosie	Compass All Stars
4 th	Morgan Ready & Ellie	Hesper Hustlers
5 th	Austyn Knight & Luna	Huntley Eagles

Pre-Novice Obedience Winners

Grand	Mae Russell & Ohmee	City Kids
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Novice Obedience Winners

Grand	Heaven Reed & Doug	Big Sky Thunderbolts
Reserve	Lily Watson & Copper	Shepherd Pioneers
3 rd	Paige Trudnowski & Purdue	Hesper Hustlers

Overall Supreme Champion: Paisley Opp & Bella

RIMROCK SHEEP AND GOAT JACKPOT RESULTS

Goat Senior Showmanship

Grand	Abigail Robertus	OOO
Reserve	Graisen Jones	OOO

Goat Junior Showmanship

Grand	Taelynne Legg	OOO
Reserve	Reagan Nydegger	Lockwood Humble Bs

Goat Beginner Showmanship

Grand	Maizelee Richardson	Blue Creek Jumping Bucks
Reserve	Jolie Murnin	Whips and Sticks

Goat Jackpot

Grand	Reagan Nydegger	Lockwood Humble Bs
Reserve	Abigail Robertus	OOO

Goat Jackpot Class 1

1 st	Jolie Murnin	Whips and Sticks
2 nd	Keirra Birrer	OOO
3 rd	Oscar Werhman	Worden Riverdale
4 th	Jolie Murnin	Whips and Sticks
5 th	Holly Ross	Blue Creek Jumping Bucks

Goat Jackpot Class 2

1 st	Reagan Nydegger	Lockwood Humble Bs
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2 nd	Abigail Robertus	OOO
3 rd	Taelynne Legg	OOO
4 th	Garisen Jones	OOO
5 th	Colton Preble	Huntley Eagles

Goat Jackpot Class 3

1 st	Abigail Robertus	OOO
2 nd	Taelynne Legg	OOO
3 rd	Harleigh Boheman	Kountry Kritters
4 th	Maizelee Richardson	Blue Creek Jumping Bucks
5 th	Keirra Birrer	OOO

Goat Jackpot Grand Champion: Reagan Nydegger with the Lockwood Humble Bs

Goat Jackpot Reserve Champion: Abigail Robertus, OOO.

Sheep Senior Showmanship

Grand	Alyssa White	OOO
Reserve	Abigail Robertus	Blue Creek Jumping Bucks

Sheep Junior Showmanship

Grand	Reagan Nydegger	Lockwood Humble Bs
Reserve	Scarlett Preble	Huntley Eagles

Sheep Beginner Showmanship

Grand	Miles Bice	OOO
Reserve	Kassidey Turner	Blue Creek Jumping Bucks

Sheep Jackpot Class 1

1 st	Scarlett Preble	Huntley Eagles
2 nd	Reid Hauge	Worden Riverdale
3 rd	Maverick Sorensen	Project Rockin Wranglers
4 th	Emma Teter	Project Rockin Wranglers
5 th	Inez Williams	Project Rockin Wranglers

Sheep Jackpot Class 2

1 st	Rex Koivu	Project Rockin Wranglers
2 nd	Eva Rouse	Worden Riverdale
3 rd	Trigg Rouse	Worden Riverdale
4 th	Addi Vogel	Worden Riverdale
5 th	Cale Hauge	Worden Riverdale

Sheep Jackpot Class 3

1 st	Miles Bice	OOO
2 nd	Jolee Dougherty	OOO
3 rd	Paige Hauge	Worden Riverdale
4 th	Josie Manolis	OOO
5 th	Nia Kibblewhite	Lockwood Humble Bs

Sheep Jackpot Class 4

1 st	Reagan Nydegger	Lockwood Humble Bs
2 nd	Reagan Nydegger	Lockwood Humble Bs
3 rd	Abigail Robertus	OOO
4 th	Raymond Robertus	OOO
5 th	Ryker Preble	Huntley Eagles

Sheep Jackpot Class 5

1 st	Reagan Nydegger	Lockwood Humble Bs
2 nd	Owen Rouse	Worden Riverdale
3 rd	Kasen Isbell	OOO
4 th	Nia Kibblewhite	Lockwood Humble Bs
5 th	Cale Hauge	Worden Riverdale

Sheep Jackpot Class 6

1 st	Winston Robertus	OOO
2 nd	Owen Rouse	Worden Riverdale
3 rd	Kasen Isbell	OOO
4 th	Walter Werhman	Worden Riverdale
5 th	Kassidy Turner	Blue Creek Jumping Bucks

Sheep Jackpot Class 7

1 st	Miles Bice	OOO
2 nd	Taelynne Legg	OOO
3 rd	Alyssa White	OOO
4 th	Alyssa White	OOO
5 th	Abigail Robertus	OOO

Sheep Jackpot Grand Champion: Miles Bice, OOO

Sheep Jackpot Reserve Champion: Reagan Nydegger with the Lockwood Humble Bs

LIVESTOCK JUDGING SUCCESS

Yellowstone County was well represented at the Black Diamond Livestock Judging Contest on May 8, in Billings. Individuals participating included: Carlee Bomar, Tanner Bomar, Karlin Clayton, Harrison Cook, Cooper Dumas, Delilah Hale, Drake Hale, Elyse Heaton, Axton Mosher, Cooper Murnin, Corbin Murnin, Jolie Murnin, Owen Schlosser and Madison Turner.

Intermediate Division

High Individual Overall: Cooper Murnin
High Individual Cattle: Cooper Murnin
High Individual Reasons: Cooper Murnin

Junior Division

High Individual: Carlee Bomar
Third Overall: Corbin Murnin
Fifth Overall: Cooper Dumas
High Individual Cattle: Cooper Dumas
High Individual Sheep: Carlee Bomar
High Individual Reasons: Carlee Bomar

Top Junior Team: Yellowstone County 1: Carlee Bomar, Harrison Cook, Cooper Dumas, and Corbin Murnin

Thank you to C Spear Angus, Hays Show Lambs, Wishbone Simmental, and Rusty Show Pigs for providing the livestock classes and to Custer County Extension for scoring. Special thanks to Laura Heaton, Claire Murnin, Melinda Oedekoven, and Meghan Turner for volunteering as group leaders and to Sam and Zane Barragree, Kevin Murnin, and Andy Rest for officiating and taking reasons.

REMEMBER TO ENTER SKILLATHON ON YOUR FAIR ENTRY

What is Skillathon? Skillathon is a “Livestock Learning Laboratory” that evaluates members’ knowledge and understanding of livestock projects. It is split into **large and small animals** and there are a series of mini-learning stations in each of (6) species. Each competitor will rotate from station to station attempting to perform specific tasks. This is hands-on fun learning and will take place **Tuesday and Wednesday of Fair week** this year so be sure to sign up for both large and small animal divisions in your fair entry. Ribbons and prizes will be awarded.

*Please note, Small Animal Skillathon is a required portion of the Small Animal All-Around score.

BEGINNER CATTLE CLINIC JUNE 14

Learn the basics of feeding washing, hair care, clipping and showing. DO NOT bring your steers. There will be steers on site for demonstrations.

When: Sunday, June 14, 2026, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

Where: Cook’s barn at 1980 North 5th Road, Huntley

Questions? Call Bill Cook at 406-670-0689

POULTRY, RABBIT AND CAVY WORKSHOPS JUNE 16

Poultry meet 5:30 – 6: 30 pm. Bring your show birds. We will cover breeds, standards, and showmanship.

Rabbit and Cavy meet 6:30 – 7:30 pm. Bring your rabbits. We will cover breeds, standards, and showmanship.
Rabbit Agility meet 7:30 – 8:00 pm. We will cover the course stations and how to fit/put on a harness.

At the July 21 workshop we will cover animal conditioning. We will clean glands, ears and check feathers. We will check animals for mites and if they do have them, we can treat them at the meeting. We are offering to treat all your show birds and flock (20 birds total maximum) for \$10 (cash or check only) to cover the cost of the treatment product. Questions? Call Tenille Bomar at 406-698-5683.

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION NEEDED FOR ONLINE AQA TRAINING

If you attended a Virtual Webex Animal Quality Assurance Class on June 3 at 6:30 pm, you are also required to complete the [Youth for the Quality Care of Animals online course](http://yqcaprogram.org) at <http://yqcaprogram.org>.

Upon successful completion of the quiz, the member will need to download the course certificate. The certificate is proof that the member has completed the AQA course. A copy of the certificate must be emailed, faxed, or mailed to the Yellowstone County Extension office. Certificate must be received (not postmarked by) in the office no later than 5:00 pm, June 26, 2026. No exceptions!

Reminders and instructions were mailed to households and emailed to members' household emails several times.

2025-2026 ANIMAL QUALITY ASSURANCE POLICY & WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

All 4-H and FFA members exhibiting any animal in Department A (Junior Livestock) at MontanaFair are required to attend an MSU Extension **ANIMAL QUALITY ASSURANCE TRAINING (AQA)** (per state guidelines) provided by the 4-H Committee or an FFA Advisor/Agriculture Educator prior to the first MontanaFair entry deadline or exhibitors do not show. A parent or legal guardian must also attend the AQA training with the member. Yellowstone County has two 4-H age brackets for AQA training. Exhibitors must attend AQA as a beginner/Junior member (8-13), and as a senior member (14-19). This age is based on the exhibitors "4-H Age" – their age on of October 1 of the current 4-H year. Exhibitors must take Animal Quality Assurance the first year they reach each age bracket or the first year they exhibit any animal project. Class content is determined by a committee.

There will be hands-on, group activities. Plan to arrive on time with a parent/legal guardian staying for the complete 1½ hours. If you and your parent are not in attendance for the entire session, you may be asked to attend another. Plan to attend an early session to avoid conflicts that may arise later. **NO workshops will be held after the June 3 class. It is the final opportunity for 2026.**

For virtual sessions, attendees must log into a Webex meeting (link will be sent via email prior to each session) to get instructions about how and where to go to complete the online program. The online program requires members to pay a \$12 fee to take the online class. A copy of the completion certificate must be provided to the Extension office.

Wednesday, June 3 - 6:30 pm Virtual training

OUTSTANDING EXHIBITOR CONTEST: LARGE LIVESTOCK- BEEF, SHEEP, SWINE, GOATS

Consider signing up for the Outstanding Exhibitor Contest at MontanaFair. This award is scored based on an application (written/typed in advance) about project knowledge and involvement, personal interview with a judge from business/industry, animal points and showmanship points. Rules for accumulating points toward the contest and additional information can be found in the MontanaFair Department A 4-H/FFA Junior Livestock handbook under Division 160.

To be eligible exhibitors must enter the division and class in their MontanaFair entry. This is an outstanding opportunity to showcase your skills in and out of the show ring. For questions, please contact Cheri Johannes 406-672-8137 or via email cjohannes2885@gmail.com. **Cheri needs help with this event and someone to take it over next year. Please reach out to her if you are interested.**

HORSE ID CARD REQUIREMENTS & POLICY FOR MEMBERS & LEADERS

All MontanaFair 4-H horse exhibitors must turn in a completed Horse ID card with proof of current 4 in 1 vaccination (influenza, tetanus, and eastern and western sleeping sickness) attached to the card. Cards must be turned into exhibitor's horse leader who will verify that the ID card is complete and deliver it to the Extension office with Assessment Result Sheets by June 15. Horse ID cards must be signed by the member, parent, leader and include a picture of the horse and rider. Cards received after the June 15 deadline will not be accepted and horses without completed cards on file will not be allowed to show at MontanaFair. Only one ID card per Horse Project will be accepted. (English and Western Horsemanship are different projects, and two different horses may be used.) The Family Horse ID card is also due on June 15.

Questions? Please reference the 2026 [Horse & Colt Policy](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/4-hpolicies.html) on the county website at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/4-hpolicies.html>.

HORSE FINAL ASSESSMENTS FOR MONTANAFAIR

4-H members will be assessed at the club level by a horse leader or teen horse leader. The member assessment sheets found in the members' Horsemanship project book should be completed but are not turned into the county office; they are to be kept in the member's record book. The Assessment Results Sheet signed by the horse or organizational leader showing the new levels and projects for all members will be turned into the Extension office. These sheets with all level changes are to be completed by June 15 each year. Members will show in the level above what has been completed. Leaders can decline to assess a member; however, members must be assessed to attend MontanaFair. The member can ask the Horse & Colt Committee for another registered Horse Leader to assess them.

HORSE SHOWS 2026

May 29-31	All Breed Horse Challenge	Millers Horse Palace, Laurel	montanahorseshows.com
June 4-7	Big Sky Classic	Cottonwood Arena, Joliet	montanahorseshows.com
June 26-28	Spark Some Fun	Metra, Billings	montanahorseshows.com
July 19	Big Sky State Games	Metra, Billings	bigskygames.org
July 18-19	Central Montana Fair	Fergus Co. Fairgrounds	cmtfair.com
August 1-2	MontanaFair Open Show	Metra, Billings	montanafair.com
Sept. 10-13	4-H State Horse Show	Lewistown	https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/
Sept. 18-20	4-H Working Ranch Horse Show	Cottonwood Arena, Joliet	https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/

Additional horse related website: montanaqha.com

JUNIOR LIVESTOCK FAIR APPRECIATION PLAQUES

Appreciation plaque nominations are due at the Livestock Committee Meeting to be held on Wednesday, June 24, immediately following the Sale Committee meeting or at 7:00 p.m. in the 4-H Building. Nomination forms are available on the Yellowstone County 4-H website under the MontanaFair heading.

NILE MERIT HEIFER PROGRAM

Applications for the NILE Merit Heifer program are now available for the 2026-2027 year. Please visit [the Nile's website](https://www.thenile.org/) for additional information and application at <https://www.thenile.org/>.

The NILE Merit Heifer program is a "live animal" scholarship that strives to help youth get a start in the beef cattle business by awarding heifer calves to participants chosen based on merit, future goals, and ability to care for the animal. Any youth ages 12-16 as of June 30, of the current year and are a 4-H or FFA member, may apply. Applicants must be NILE members. Applicants are not limited to Montana residents.

During the program duration, participants are responsible for raising the heifer, arranging for her to be bred, completing the record keeping procedure and bringing the animal back one year later as a bred replacement heifer for exhibit at the NILE Stock Show in October. Questions? Contact the NILE program coordinator Shelby Shaw at 406-256-2499.



JUNE 2026 4-H CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 6:00 MTFair Information Meeting <i>4-H Building</i>	3 6:30 Animal Quality Assurance Workshop Online	4 6:00 Department N meeting with 4-H Council to follow.	5	6
7	8	9 4-H Camp June 9-12	10	11	12	13 Small Animal Jackpot hosted by Carbon County 4-H <i>4-H Building</i>
14 2:00 Beginner Cattle Clinic <i>1980 North 5th Rd, Huntley</i>	15 Horse ID cards due in Extension	16 5:30 Poultry Wkshop 6:30 Rabbit & Cavy Wkshop 7:30 Rabbit Agility <i>4-H Building</i>	17 6:00 Horse & Colt Mtg <i>4-H Building</i>	18	19 Newsletter Articles Due	20 Rockin' the Project Sheep & Goat Invite <i>SuperBarn</i> at MetraPark
21 Yellowstone Classic Jackpot Show <i>Miller's Horse Palace</i>	22	23	24 6:00 Small Animal Comm. 6:30 Sale Comm. followed by Livestock Comm.- <i>4-H Building</i>	25	26 MontanaFair 4-H/FFA online entry deadline www.montana fair.com	27 10-1 OR 1-4 Ceramics at <i>Anttila's</i>
28	29	30	July 1	2	3 Extension Office Closed	4