


MONTANA
 STATE UNIVERSITY

EXTENSION

Clover Chatter

Reminders

Exec. Council Mtg

February 6th

Shooting Sports

February 17th

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JOANN Fabrics Teams up with 4-H!

JOANN Fabrics has teamed up with 4-H in a 3-year partnership. During the month of February, JOANN stores will be running a 4-H Paper Clover Campaign. Customers have the option of purchasing a \$1 or \$4 clover, with the purchase of a \$4 clover the customer will receive \$4 off their next purchase. This will not be like the Tractor Supply Clovers where only the communities that have a store benefits, ALL counties will benefit.

If you would be in the area of any of the 7 JOANN stores in Montana on February 3 from 11-2, youth will be making valentines to be delivered to nursing homes, homeless shelters, hospitals, etc. All supplies will be furnished, 4-H'ers just need to show up. Please let us know if you will be attending one of these sessions, so we can let the state office know.

Also current & lifetime 4-H members, parents of members, volunteers & 4-H staff can save 15% off in total in-store & online purchases everyday with the 4-H Rewards card. JOANN will give a minimum of 2.5% of every eligible transaction to 4-H. To get your card, either request one at the store or go online to <http://4-h.org/get-involved/partners/4-h-and-joann/>

JUST ANNOUNCED!.....JOANN is hosting a nation-wide fashion contest that is open to all 4-H'ers 14-19. Winner will get to tour JOANN Fabrics headquarters & attend Kent State Fashion show. Official Rules: <http://fourhdevsite.staging.wpengengine.com/get-involved/partners/joann/4-h-fashion-contest-official-rules/>

Massey Show Lamb & Goat Camp

JB Massey will be presenting a Lamb & Goat camp in Hardin at the Big Horn County Fairgrounds on May 19 & 20. This camp will be a wealth of hands-on information, and cover topics including washing, shearing, selection, health care, exercise, feeding, fitting and SHOWMANSHIP. Participants will fit one animal, spend hours on showmanship and attend break-out sessions covering countless topics related to the show ring. The cost of the 2-day camp is \$250; \$100 due with registration and \$150 due on arrival. Camp will run from 8-5 each day.

JB Massey and his crew are great people to work with and truly have a passion for kids and livestock. If you would like more information regarding this camp, including schedule and registration form, please contact the office.

Reminder for all Club Secretaries

A copy of monthly minutes from each club meeting are to be turned into the Extension Office. They can be emailed, mailed or dropped off. Be sure to include attendance for fair eligibility. Members must attend 50% of their club meetings to participate at fair.



Beef Stick Report

This year's beef stick sale was down from last year. There were 1248 boxes of beef sticks, 672 boxes of smokey snack sticks and 972 boxes of cheese sticks sold. A big thank you goes out to everyone that helped out with unloading and organizing and to all the families who made it a success through sales.

Top 5 individual sellers:

Beth McMillen
Bonny Krogedal
Brielle Gordor
Kendyl Wacha
Brandon Becker

Top 5 selling families:

Colgan
Williams
Waltner
Reese
Young

Richland County 4-H Stats

Total 4-H members 196

- 34 Clover Buds
 - 105 Junior members
 - 57 Senior members
- Total leaders 125

Top 5 projects

Market Beef
Market Hog
Wood working
Photography
Sewing & Quilting

Livestock Committee Meeting

The Livestock Committee Meeting will be February 5th at 6:00 p.m. at the Extension Office.

Fruit Sales & Beef and Cheese Stick Sales

We will be sending out information to all the Richland County 4-H Clubs about the upcoming Fruit Sale and Beef & Cheese Stick Sale in February. The sale will be the end of February through the first part of March with delivery the end of March. Thank you all for your participation.

Shooting Sports

Shooting Sports for the year will be held at the Richland County Fairgrounds Event Center. Pre-registration will be due the Wednesday prior to the shoot.

The remaining shooting dates are as follows:

February 17th, March 10th and April 14th.

In February, we will be covering muzzle loading, in March, it will be Military/Law Enforcement and April will be Mounted Shooting.

Winter Carnival Highlights



Make sure to join us next year for an evening of FUN!



Community Service Grants

Several years ago our 4-H Council established Community Service Grants for use by clubs in Richland County. Two \$100 grants and one \$300 grant is available via application process. Forms can be picked up at the Extension Office and are due back at the office by **January 31st, 2018**. Selections will be made at the February 5th Executive Council Meeting.

This is a great way for clubs to get appropriate funding to do something or some type of project to give back to the community. There have been some great projects in the past years and we look forward to seeing what great things the clubs are planning for the upcoming year.

4-H Scholarships

It is never too early to start planning for the future, all senior 4-H members who will be graduating this year are encouraged to apply for the scholarships that are available at the state level and locally. The deadline for both the State 4-H and Richland County 4-H Scholarships will be April 1, 2018. However, this being a Sunday, please have your applications in by **March 30, 2018**. To view the list of scholarships available through the Montana 4-H Foundation go to the state website at www.montana4h.org. If you would like a copy of the Richland County Scholarship please contact the office.

Montana 4-H Rec Lab 2018

Save the date... Montana 4-H Rec Lab will be in Thompson Falls March 23 - 25th. The theme this year is ***The Magic of 4-H***. Rec Lab provides an opportunity for youth and adults to enhance their leadership, communication, and team building skills. This event is packed full of fun and education. The event is open to participants ages 13 and up.

Check us out on Facebook

Richland County 4-H has a Facebook page. Be sure to check it out to keep updated. To find us look for ***Richland County 4-H***.



People Partner Grants

The People Partner Grants are available from the 4-H Foundation for clubs pursuing community service projects. The grants are awarded via an application process and the amount of money available is determined by the number and types of projects approved. Forms and examples of past projects are available at the Extension Office.

The application deadline for these grants is February 1, 2018. To apply go to the State 4-H website at www.montana4h.org.

4-H Supporters

Many businesses, organizations and individuals in our community support the 4-H program. Each month we will be listing several of the supporters in the newsletter. We would encourage you to send a thank you or to tell them thank you the next time that you see them or stop in their business. If you would like to submit names for the next Clover Chatter, please contact Josie at the Extension Office.

Stockman Bank
Wells Fargo Bank
Yellowstone Bank
Richland Federal Credit Union
Merchant's Bank
Double M Kennels
Richland County Health Department
Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture
Duane and Sherry Mitchell
Caring Corner Gift Shop
Sidney Livestock
Jim & Leann Pelvit

THANK YOU!!!

Junior Leaders Meeting

Reminder.....the February Jr Leaders Meeting will be held January 28th at 6:30 p.m. We will be making posters and decorating the boxes for the February Food Drive. If you have any large boxes that are in good shape, please bring them with you.

Hi-Line Show Pigs

Teri and Mark Horinek from Higham, MT will have 50 to 70 top quality show pigs for sale on March 25th in Havre, MT at the Bigger Better Barn. The sale will begin at 1:00 p.m. with a free lunch and preview before. They will have Yorkshire, Berkshire, Hampshire and Duroc breeds available. The sows were all shipped from Ohio and Iowa and are pure bred or crossed with pure bred or exotic boars. All 4-H members who attend the sale will be entered into a drawing for prizes. For more information please contact Teri Horineck at 406-397-3332 or 406-390-4028. Check out their Facebook page!

Feed Like a Champion Workshop

R&J Ag Supply will be holding a workshop on how to feed and care for your 4-H animal February 18th at starting at 2:30 p.m. at their store located at 510 10th Ave SE (across from the sale barn). Their schedule will be as follows:

2:30 - 3:15 Feeding & Showing Rabbits & Poultry
 3:30 - 4:15 Feeding & Showing Lambs & Goats
 4:30 - 5:00 Selecting & Feeding your Market Swine
 5:15 - 6:00 Feeding your Market Steer/Show Heifer

They will be going over animal nutrition, how to read a feedbag label and they will have different speakers for each species. There will be door prizes throughout the afternoon with rootbeer floats and an evening meal.

If you have any questions please call or email Hayley at 488-1953 or hayley.rjag@gmail.com.

Save the Date

2018 Richland County Fair
 August 1 - 4, 2018
 Indoor Judging July 31, 2018

Camper Spots

As we start thinking about fair, we need to remind our families of the policy and procedures of reserving the camper spots at the fairgrounds. **Below is information from the Fair Office as to this policy and procedure. Please make note of this information.** The Extension Office has nothing to do with the reservation of these spots.

Camper Sales for the fair will begin on June 1, 2018. Please contact the Fair Office, 433-2801, if you are interested. This will be a first come, first serve basis. To be able to make a reservation this year, you must know the length of your camper. If you do not know the length, 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 spot 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. 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.

Feed Yard Talk

Upcoming Livestock Judging

DSU	February 3
Miles City Bull Show	February 2
Bowman, ND	February 17
Beulah, ND	February 25
Killdeer, ND	March 10 (tent)

If anyone is interested in livestock judging, please contact judging coach, Laura Schieber, at 482-6317 asap!



Livestock Resource Materials

The office has resource material for most animal projects, including dog and rabbit. Any 4-Her is welcome to come in and make copies of any of the material we have or just want to look before purchasing your own copy, feel free. These are the \$15-\$18 manuals that are listed in the Clover.

Horse Committee Meeting

The Horse Program members are host a workshop, the 1st Sunday of every month. A hands-on workshop for youth will be held at each meeting. If you are interested in the horse program, please consider attending one of these meetings even if you don't have a horse to see what it's all about.

What should I be feeding my steer????

A steer should be receiving roughly 1.5 % of their body weight as rolled corn or barley. A 60% mixture of corn with barley will provide the safest source of concentrate. Although a barley ration is acceptable, it has a tendency of causing bloat if over consumed. Along with the grain, a steer should receive a good protein source containing a mineral package to meet the animals needs. Along with grain and a protein supplement, a steer needs to receive free choice hay of good quality. If an animal is not consuming all their grain, one may want to look at the amount of hay that is being consumed and limit it.

100 days prior to the fair the ration needs to be 2% of the body weight. One can add a source of fat such as corn oil to add a gloss to the hair coat. Below is a chart to see how much your animal should be receiving at 1.5% BW and 2.0%.

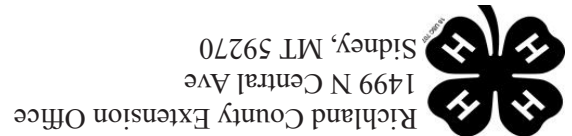
Weight	500	550	600	650	700	750	800	850	900	950	1000
LB of Grain @ 1.5%	7.5	8.25	9	9.75	10.5	11.25	12	12.75	13.5	14.25	15
LB of Grain @ 2.0%	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

Remember, your calf will need to be finished prior to fair. Between the stress of halter breaking the animal and the heat, it is safe to say a steer needs to be "finished" by early July. And always remember, small increments of adding grain to the ration. If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call.

Selecting a Market Lamb

When selecting your market lamb you want to look for a lamb that shows signs of strong muscling through its loin area (the space from the last rib to the lamb's flank). In addition to having a strong loin the ideal market lamb will also have well developed hind quarters. The most valuable cuts of meat come from the hind quarters and loin. Market lambs have to be structurally proper. At three-months-old the lamb should have a well-balanced skeletal system. Avoid lambs that have obvious conformation fault. An ideal weight for a market lamb is 125 pounds, so you can count back about .55 to .75 lb per day (depending on your feeding program) from the fair to figure out what weight of lamb you should be at weigh in. The common range of weight is mid 60# to mid 70#, depending on frame.

Selecting a Market Hog - Check the next Clover Chatter.



Attention:
This is your 4-H
Newsletter.