

# SANDERS COUNTY DISPATCH

## 4-H NEWS



### December

- 2 Andrew Frank
- 7 Luke Dana
- 9 Mackenzie Tulloch
- 12 Alexis Russell
- 13 Sylvia Fairbank
- 14 Easton Deal
- 17 Rhett Silva
- 18 Adeline Havens
- 21 Giada Viviano
- 21 Samantha Hofstetter
- 26 Joshua Ekberg
- 27 Riley Keefe
- 30 Peyton Salmi

### January

- 1 Kara Christensen
- 1 Annora Myers
- 4 Jodee Smith
- 7 Solveig Feiro
- 8 Colton Sauter
- 16 Alida Feiro
- 16 Ida Berger
- 20 Wyatt Rehbein
- 22 Marina Tulloch
- 23 Cooper Spurr
- 28 Matthew Thurston
- 30 Andrew Wrobleski
- 30 Scarlet Thornton

### Take a peek at what's inside!

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## Winter Fun Sledding Party

The annual sledding party is planned for Sunday, February 2nd @ 1:30 pm with an alternate date of Sunday, February 16th @ 1:30 pm depending on how much snow we have.

Keep an eye out for upcoming news about the County-wide 4-H Sledding Party at the Naegeli Ranch in Trout Creek!!



## Extension Website!

We have been continuing to update our website and a lot of very helpful information has been added!

Check it out at

[montana.edu/extension/sanders/4h.html](http://montana.edu/extension/sanders/4h.html)

# Market Beef Tagging

Market beef tagging will take place on the following days:

**January 4th, 10:00 am - 11:00 am, Havens Arena, T. Creek**

**January 5th, 10:00 am - 11:00 am, Hot Springs Sale Yard**

Beef project members must have their market beef tagged at one of the above locations. **Please make sure your steers are halter broke.** Contact the Extension Office with any concerns or questions at 827-6934.

**Watch your email for forms**

## INTRODUCING CLOVER BY 4-H

CLOVER is an online learning platform that empowers people to find their spark!

It creates impactful learning experiences in partnership with 100+ top-tier universities, featuring 190+ online interactivities for ages 5-18, interactive content, gamification and augmented reality. For more information go to:

[4-h.org/clover/about/](https://4-h.org/clover/about/)



## MULTI-COUNTY CAMP

### Reminder!!

If you participate in Communication Days you will receive a \$45 scholarship to go towards the cost of Multi-County Camp!



## Special Notes

### 4-H Council Meetings

The 4-H Council meetings are scheduled for the first Tuesday of every other month February-December. They begin at 6:00 pm. The location of the meetings alternate between the Minnie's Café in Thompson Falls & Linda Cook's home. As always, all leaders and senior members (ages 14 & older) are encouraged to attend.

### Livestock Committee Meetings

The Livestock Committee meets frequently throughout the year. Meeting times will be listed on the dates to remember. Meetings begin at 6:30 pm at the 4-H Pavilion in Plains. As always, all livestock leaders and senior members (ages 14 & older) are encouraged to attend.



There will be a swine project meeting Monday, February 10th from 6:00 - 8:00 pm at the Clark Fork Professional Building (Extension Office) in Thompson Falls.

Resources are listed on the agenda & more are posted here [montana.edu/extension/sanders/swineresources.html](https://montana.edu/extension/sanders/swineresources.html).

Everyone is welcome! Please make sure to **RSVP** so we know how many supplies to bring. The meeting will also cover all you need to know to meet livestock quality assurance (LQA) requirements (**required for first year members and first year senior 4-H'ers age 14**).

**Are you looking to purchase a pig for your swine project?**

You can find a list of breeders here:

<https://www.montana.edu/extension/sanders/Swine%20Breeders%202023.pdf>

## State Award Applications

The Montana 4-H State Awards program is in place to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of 4-H members who have reached a standard of excellence in a project area. State Award winners have gone above and beyond regular project work with a focus on leadership, communication, and community service.

**Application Deadline to apply for a state award is (postmarked) May 1.**

**Please forward complete applications to:**

**Montana 4-H Center**

**Attn: State Award Application**

**210 Taylor Hall, PO Box 173580,**

**Bozeman, MT 59717 or**

**[bschomer@montana.edu](mailto:bschomer@montana.edu)**

State Award recipients are recognized during the Banquet at Montana 4-H Congress in July and are eligible to attend National 4-H Congress in November.

Applications and more information are at the following link:

[montana.edu/extension/4h/programs\\_and\\_events/awards/state-awards.html](http://montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/awards/state-awards.html)

## People Partner Grant

### Applications are due Feb 1st

Do you have an idea that could improve your community or help someone out? If so, consider applying for a People Partner Grant to help with the expense. Grants up to \$500 are available. If you have questions about People Partner Grants look online at: [mt4hfoundation.org/grants.html](http://mt4hfoundation.org/grants.html) or contact the Montana 4-H Foundation office at 406-994-5911 or contact the Extension Office at 406-827-6934.

2025  
*Programs*

### Officer Training/Parliamentary Procedure Competition

Each club officer will be receiving training materials via email soon, so watch for it! Many members have expressed an interest in competing at 4-H congress this summer in Parliamentary Procedure. Juli Thurston will be scheduling contest prep sessions starting in Feb. If you are a Senior 4-H member & are interested in this opportunity, let her know. Junior members may also participate as a learning experience and prep for when they are of age to compete.

## Greytak Calendars



Place your order for the 2025 Don Greytak Calendars!

Calendars are \$15 each

Online orders can be placed at: [mt4hfoundation.org](http://mt4hfoundation.org)

## Leadership Academy Monthly Workshops

**Members 12+, 4-H Age**

December 15

January 12

February 9

March 16

**All workshops are Sunday afternoons from 3:00 to 4:00**

**For more information please visit:**

[montana.edu/extension/4h/programs\\_and\\_events/youth\\_leadership/academy.html](http://montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/youth_leadership/academy.html)



## REC LAB 2025

**DATE: MARCH 28-30**

**LOCATION: WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS**

Youth 13+ and adults can learn how to enhance their leadership, communication and team building skills.

**More information can be found here:**

[montana.edu/extension/4h/programs\\_and\\_events/events/rec\\_lab/index.html](http://montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/events/rec_lab/index.html)

Watch your email!



## REMINDER TO MEMBERS IN THE SEWING AND FOOD/NUTRITION PROJECTS

Sanders County 4-H is offering a sewing machine and microwave to an outstanding junior or senior member who apply during the Sanders County Fair.

*Qualifications include:*

### **Sewing Machine**

- Enrolled in a Sewing/Quilting project.
- Enter a minimum of 4 exhibits in a Sewing project at fair or...
- Enter a minimum of 2 exhibits in a Quilting project at fair.
- Complete an interview for exhibits submitted.
- Provide an updated record book for judges at the fair to review for growth in the project.

### **Microwave**

- Enrolled in a Food/Nutrition project.
- Enter a minimum of 6 exhibits in a Food/Nutrition project at fair.
- Complete an interview for exhibits submitted.
- Provide an updated record book for judges at the fair to review for growth in the project.

### **\$100 to go towards welding gear of your choice**

- Enrolled in a Welding project at fair
- Enter a minimum of 2 exhibits in a Welding project
- Complete an interview for exhibits submitted at fair
- Provide updated record book project forms from the current and previous 4-H years for judges to review for growth in the project at fair.

*Please let the Extension Staff know when you check in your Home Ec exhibits at the fair that you would wish to be considered for this award. Contact the Extension Office if you have further questions!*

## CHRISTMAS BALL!

Public welcome

put on by 4-H ambassadors

Donations accepted

Semi-formal

Photo booth

Dec 21st 7-11pm

Pavilion at the fair grounds

Swing, waltz, polka, two step, and line dances

*Bring a finger food for more fun!*

## Communication Days

### It is that time of year to start thinking about what you want to do for Communication Days

Several options are available for you to choose from to participate in and use your communication skills! Those include Demonstration, Illustrated Talk, Prepared Speech, Impromptu Speech, Video, Commercial, Career Communication, or Promotional Package.

Go to the following link for contest guidelines and information regarding the above options

[https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/documents/projects/4h\\_communications/Montana%204-H%20Clover%20Communications.pdf](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/documents/projects/4h_communications/Montana%204-H%20Clover%20Communications.pdf). Stir-Ups or Favorite Food Show are two more options you may choose from. (See below for brief guidelines on the Stir-Ups contest and Favorite Food Show). Six of the above options will be contest opportunities at State-H Congress for members 13 and older who score high at the county level. Those six are Demonstrations, Prepared Speech, Illustrated talk, Video, Career Communication and Stir-Ups.

### Which one will YOU do?

Though we haven't yet celebrated the New Year, 4-H Communication Days are just around the corner! It is time to begin thinking about it, because **early preparation is very wise!** Early prep may allow you more practice time, possibly in front of your 4-H club and/or family. This is a great opportunity for experienced members to present for the new members, thus allowing the new members to get a better idea of how to do a presentation.

### Demonstration DVD & Other Resources Available

For some, doing demonstrations can be an intimidating and confusing process. If you fit in this category, consider checking out a DVD showing six Sanders County finalists in previous years. It can be helpful to watch examples as you begin to put your topic together. Contact the Extension Office if you would like to check out this DVD to view at home or a club meeting. Also, if you go to the following link you can view several other demonstrations done in the past by 4-H members across the state including more Sanders County 4-H members.

(Click on the Demonstration & Illustrated Talk icon).

[montana.edu/extension/4h/projects/4h\\_communication/index.html](https://montana.edu/extension/4h/projects/4h_communication/index.html)

### Stir-Up Contest

Participants will compete individually or in teams of two. Contestants prepare a dish utilizing five of the nine listed ingredients. Additionally, contestants may use pantry ingredients and spices. They must use at least one mystery ingredient and can use up to three. The dish should be visually appealing, nutritious and show creativity. Contestants should use effective work habits and sanitary food preparation practices. Following the preparation of the meal the contestant will present an oral presentation to judges. The oral presentation should address: selection of dish; preparation process; nutritional value of dish; potential alteration and overall learning. For a complete contest description, contact the Extension Office.

### Favorite Food Show

Participants in the Favorite Food Show will gain experience in planning, preparing, serving and presenting a nutritious food as part of a meal or snack. A display including correct table setting, recipe and menu posters, a centerpiece and decorations will accompany the participants chosen Favorite Food. Any 4-H member, including Cloverbuds can participate. Members may enter as an individual or a two-person team. Categories include appetizer, bread, salad, main dish, sandwich, fruit or vegetable side dish. All food categories will compete against one another. For a complete list of contest description, contact the Extension Office. This is not a State 4-H Congress contest option.

**Pick the Day you will do your Communication Presentation.  
Choose from two dates!**

**Day 1** is scheduled for **Saturday, March 1** in Thompson Falls beginning at 10:00 am.

**Day 2** is scheduled for **Sunday, March 2** in Hot Springs beginning at 1:00 pm.

If you find it impossible to participate on either of the dates offered contact the Extension Office. If a judge is available to view your presentation on an alternate date arrangements will be made to accommodate you so you may complete your presentation prior to finals day. Top presenters from these two events will qualify to participate on **Finals Communication Day, Sunday, March 9th in Plains**. During these events anyone is welcome and encouraged to watch the presentations being given by members. A full scholarship to 4-H camp will be awarded to the top four presenters in the Junior Division if they are 12 years old or younger, juniors who are 13 years old and place in the top four will be awarded a trip to State 4-H Congress in Bozeman in July. Top presenters in the Senior Division will also be awarded a trip to State 4-H Congress in Bozeman to compete in the state communication event.

**Members must sign-up online for their presentation by February 7th at this link:** <https://forms.gle/BpGxf4zCQJwuziXF9>

A schedule with the time you will do your presentation will be emailed to you and your club leader a week before the event. Contact your leader for your time if you do not email. If you have questions regarding these events we encourage you to talk to your club leaders or call the Extension Office.

Members who participate in Communication Days will receive \$45 scholarship to go towards the cost of Multi-County Camp!!

**Sanders County 4-H Livestock  
Committee Minutes for September 23, 2024**

Juli Thurston – Agent; Alan Hafner – Vice Chair; Tara Browning – Swine Superintendent; Raelyn Cox – Sheep/Goat Superintendent; Presley Cox – Sheep/Goat Assistant Superintendent; Terry Stephens – HSW Club Leader/Beef Project Leader; Shawn Christensen – Beef Assistant Superintendent; Jen Christensen – HSW Club Leader; Richard Jackson – Beef Superintendent; Carmen Jackson – Treasurer; Carissa McNamara – Sheep/Goat Assistant Superintendent; Wendy Carr – Agent/Horse Co-Superintendent; Shannon Chojnacky – Horse Co-Superintendent; Maddy Chojnacky – 4-H Horse Member

Meeting called to order at 6:50 pm  
Minutes from August Meeting: Approved  
Treasurer’s Report: No Report

**Old Business:**

*Fair Improvements:*

- Ryan and Bethany are working on the Jason Hanna sign.
- Raelyn & Carissa will look at the gates/lattice that need repaired in the sheep barn.
- Doug/Whitney hope to do some updates in the Rabbit/Poultry Barn. (Plywood walls, roof, new poultry pen supplies)
- New tin on swine barn. Taylor Construction bid \$11,000 to replace roofing and rotten boards underneath, rotten post and facing board. John Thurston bid \$10,250. Mahlon Lee bid approx. \$18,000 not to include any board replacement. Dallas Bender bid \$7500 plus \$10/8’ length boards needed. Fair board might want to use old tin on the Pavilion walls. Juli has requested grant funds for this project from AgWest.
- The fair board has aluminum bleachers above the grand stands we could use at the show arena. They would like to use the ones we have as well. The new ones would need railing installed. Juli is getting a price on the railing. Juli will check with Kristy to see if using the bleachers from the fair board is still an option.
- Outlet by announcer/clerk area in livestock arena.
- Upgrade electrical in camping area. Juli will check with Kristy to see what is there now.
- Fill in stalls needed in steer barn.
- Upgrade swine barn plumbing.
- More sand/level livestock show arena.
- Paint swine/sheep barn.
- Mats/sand under tie rail.
- Put in lower tie rail in beef wash rack area.
- New hot water heater in showers? Maybe just serviced? Fair board is looking into this.

*Awards* – Reviewed sponsors and expenses. Decided on colors for awards.

**New Business:**

*Sale/Report Review* – Reviewed fair reports. Great sale!

*Meat Raffle Report* - \$15,090 was raised. 25% of proceeds go to the Livestock committee (\$3,773). Pay Council for *Superintendent Meals* – 17 meal plans for \$935. Tara motioned to pay; Carmen seconded. Motion passed.

*Livestock Policy* – discussed possible changes. See attached draft.

*Fair Review* – Deep dive into schedule. Finalize by spring.

*2024 Judges* – keep same judges as last year with exception of livestock judge. Discussed who to ask for 2025

*Archie McDonald Award* – approved winner

*Hippology team support* - table until know more what expenses will be

**Species Reports**

Beef: Shipping season is here. Get those calves picked out.

Horse: Nothing new from discussed above

Poultry: No report Rabbit: Ready for fair.

Sheep/Goat: Great show. Youth Loan Program Presentation in the works.

Swine: Show and fair went well. Announcements: Gave copy of fair ground improvements handout.

Next Meeting: October 28th, 2024 at 6:30pm, 4-H Pavilion.

**Sanders County 4-H Council, December 3, 2024 – 6:00pm**  
**Linda Cook's Home, Plains**

**Minutes** of the October Meeting were accepted as presented.

**Treasurer's Report** shows a good bank balance due to unplanned donations/refunds this year. Budget Proposal 2024-2025 was prepared by the budget committee prior to the meeting. Some missing numbers will be added and council will discuss and vote electronically.

**Reports**

- 4-H Dining Hall name may be changed in the spring.
- Awards donations were close to expenditures for popular member choice format.

Belt buckles from 4-H mall were lost and have been re-ordered. Council will consider changes in the spring.

- National 4-H Week club activities included work on the 4-H logo on the "H" hill in Hot Springs by the Wranglers, and window painting by the Mountaineers in Thompson Falls.
- Achievement Day included almost 200 people. Suggestions to reduce the program length were no potluck or just desserts, announce club awards at the club meetings, and work on labeling the awards more clearly.
- Livestock Committee is working on a new policy that includes a stall fee charge to non-market animals, 10 for beef and horse, 6 for sheep and swine, and 2 for poultry, to offset fair expenses. The judge is being finalized, funding is sought for the swine barn roof, and the Hanna sign is coming along.
- Ambassadors' recent dance training was a success and fun. Jaden and Melodie Cook reported on Fall Leadership training in Billings. Melodie said it was the best she has attended and her favorite workshop was on "how to dress".
- Clubs' year plans & club officer lists & civil rights letters are due.
- Yearend financial reports/club dues are also due; three clubs have paid dues so far.
- Sledding Party at Naegeli Ranch will be in January. Brooke will talk to Sarah N. for dates

**Old Business**

- Fair projects reminder, no action at present (home ec building – seal wood/floor/lighting/coke machine/banners glued down/curtains)

**New Business**

- Communication Days gifts for judges will be cookie jar mixes. Linda Cook is in charge. Lunch hosts in Thompson Falls will be Whitepine Happy Workers. South Side Sparks will host in Hot Springs.
- State Scholarships deadline is approximately Feb 14th. Livestock resale funds from the fair amount to about \$2500. Jen made and Terry seconded a motion to add the funds to the council general fund. Motion carried.
- Trailer for Archery equipment is on the wish list for the Archery leaders, since the old trailer used for Archery and Rifle is not adequate storage. Council discussed funding sources. A storage area is also needed. Archery equipment will be stored in the Home Ec building for now.
- Managed Agency Account with figures from 2014 to 2024 was shared.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:36pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Dwyer, Secretary

Present were President Joanne Burk (phone), Treasurer Carmen Jackson, Vice-President Jen Avilla, TF Mountaineers – Brooke Eldridge, Heron Eagles – Taylor Etienne (phone), Ambassadors Jayden Cook and Melodie Cook, South Side Sparks - Linda Cook, Secretary Karen Dwyer, and Extension Agent Juli Thurston.

*Dates to Remember***Dec**

- 3 Council meeting, 6:00 p.m. – Linda Cook’s Home, Plains
- 3 Club year program plan & club officer list due in Extension Office
- 21 4-H Masquerade Dance, 7:00pm - 4-H Pavilion, Plains

**Jan**

- 4 Market Beef Tagging, 10:00 – 11:00am, Havens Arena, Trout Creek
- 5 Market Beef Tagging, 10:00 – 11:00am, Hot Springs Sale Yard

**TBA**

- County-wide Sledding Party, Naegeli Ranch, Trout Creek

**Feb**

- 27 Livestock Committee Meeting, 6:30pm – Plains, 4-H Pavilion
- 1 People Partner Grant applications due in State 4-H Office
- 4 Council meeting, 6:00 p.m. – Minnie’s Cafe, Thompson Falls
- 10 Swine Project Meeting, 6:00 – 8:00pm, Extension Office, Thompson Falls
- 14 State Scholarship applications due in State 4-H Office
- TBA State 4-H Rec Lab registration due
- 24 Livestock Committee Meeting, 6:30pm – Plains, 4-H Pavilion

**March**

- 1 Meat Raffle sales start
- 1-2 Communication days and Stir-ups
- 7 Sanders County Scholarship Applications Due
- 9 Communication Finals day, Plains
- TBA State 4-H Rec Lab
- 24 Livestock Committee Meeting, 6:30pm – Plains, 4-H Pavilion

**April**

- 1 Council meeting, 6:00 p.m. – Linda Cook’s Home, Plains
- 28 Livestock Committee Meeting, 6:30pm – Plains, 4-H Pavilion

**May**

- 1 State Award applications due in State 4-H Office
- 26 Livestock Committee Meeting, 6:30pm – Plains, 4-H Pavilion

**June**

- 1 Sheep/Goat/Swine Tagging, 10am – 1pm, Sanders County Fairgrounds, Plains
- 3 Council meeting, 6:00 p.m. – Minnie’s Cafe, Thompson Falls
- 17-20 Multi-County 4-H Camp
- 15 Montana State 4-H Congress registration deadline
- 23 Livestock Committee Meeting, 6:30pm – Plains, 4-H Pavilion

**July**

- 1 Project Add/Drop deadline
- 2 Online FairEntry Registration Begins
- 6-8 Pre-Congress – Bozeman
- 8-11 Montana State 4-H Congress – Bozeman
- 28 Livestock Committee Meeting, 6:30pm – Plains, 4-H Pavilion

**August**

- 5 Council meeting, 6:00 p.m. – Linda Cook’s Home, Plains
- 6 FairEntry Registration Deadline
- 6 Leader of the Year and Honorary Member Nominations Due
- 6 Junior Achievement and Little Chief Award Applications Due
- 18 Livestock Committee Meeting, 6:30pm – 4-H Pavilion, Plains
- 23 Fair Readiness Day
- 27-31 Sanders County Fair

**Sept**

- 8 Carcass Evaluation, Superior Meats
- 12 Member record books due to Club Organizational Leader
- 12 Outstanding Member county award nominations due to Club Organizational Leader
- 22 Record book results due to Extension Office from Organizational Leader
- 22 List of Outstanding Member County awards due to the Extension Office from Organizational Leaders
- 22 Livestock Committee Meeting, 6:30pm – 4-H Pavilion, Plains