Welcome New 4-H Club Members
The Toole County 4-H Program would like welcome the following new members to our program:

Anna Wedel          Emily Ballard          Juan Paolo Manda
Augustus Turner     Frank Wedel           Justice Bryers
Brenner Skeels      Grace Byers           Nikki Hartwell
Cameron Strader     Jagger Flesch         Preslee Flesch
                                      Tegan Jones

4-H is a wonderful and rewarding program for the whole family but it can seem to be overwhelming at times, especially when you’re new. There are all those project manuals and record books to deal with and at times it really seems like 4-H speaks a whole different language that is unfamiliar to a new family in the program.

So, as a new family, know that you will find wonderful support in your organizational leaders and fellow club members. When things seem difficult to understand or that form you just got in the mail just doesn’t make sense, don’t be afraid to ask for help. Please feel free to drop by the Extension office any time and ask the staff any questions you might have.

Market Quality Assurance Training:
Market Animal members are required to attend Market Quality Assurance every two years. If your name is on the list below you are required to take Quality Assurance this year. There will be a training at Project Day, February 19th.

Brittany Hanson      Lucas Fretheim       Grady Kerfoot
Cade Hanson          Josh Kearns          Bryant Mertz
Cody Hanson          Conlan Kerfoot      Shane Samsal

Save the Date
Toole County Project Day
Monday, February 19th (President Day Holiday)
9 am to 2 pm
Workshops will include: quality assurance, bear safety, a beading project led by the Blazing Saddles club, and a workshop put on by the Toole County Ambassadors.

Public Presentation Day
March TBD—Please be thinking about what you may want to present for Public Presentation Day!
Marais Fair 4-H Archery Tournament—January 28th
Pondera Shooting Sports Complex in Conrad

All 4-Her’s in archery are encouraged to participate in the Marias Fair Archery Tournament. It is a good experience and a chance to meet shooters from surrounding counties. In addition to the archery contest, participants will also have their project interviews.

All 4-H members must complete the interview to be considered for top awards. Archery interviews are completed with a judge at the tournament, rather than at the Marias Fair. Anyone who makes an exhibit for the fair needs to enter those in the July Marias Fair for judging. 4-H members who work the food booth at the fair will earn premium points for the interview and their target.

Entry fee is $10.00 per discipline (primitive, bare bow, bow hunter, limited, unlimited, Olympic). Entry form must be postmarked by January 18th. After January 18th, there will be a $15.00 per child late fee.

4-H Market Hog Giveaway Program:
Sponsored by Habets Show Pigs of Conrad.

One show quality market hog will be awarded to a 4-H member enrolled in the market swine project for the 2017-2018 4-H project year. Selection will be based upon the 4-H member’s ability to provide and care for the animal and their willingness to participate in the 4-H market swine program. To be eligible, all application forms must be completed and postmarked by February 20, 2018. Application forms must be signed by both parents/guardians to be considered. The successful applicant will be notified and must make arrangements to pick up the market hog by March 16, 2018. Requirements and applications can be obtained by contacting Habets Show Pigs at 278-9154 or 289-0054.

People Partner Grants Available

If you, your club, 4-H friends, etc. have an idea for a community project and need funds, the Montana 4-H Foundation People Grants are a great source of funding! These grants provide up to $500 per project. Applications should meet the following criteria:

• Youth should be involved in determining, planning, conducting, and evaluating the project.

• Project makes it possible for people to accomplish something educational and worthwhile that helps them reach a higher quality of life.

• There is community support and acceptance of the project, as evidenced by “partners” listed in the grant application, additional funding sources, and resource persons and agencies involved.

Information and applications are available at http://montana4h.org/programs/grants/grants.html, with a February 1 deadline. Projects could include planting flowers or trees in a community area, purchasing or creating travel bags for foster kids to use, buying materials for a community service project, etc. You may think of projects within your community or 4-H where you’ve seen a need.
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Montana Rec Lab—Thompson Falls

Youth participants must be 13+ as of October 1, 2017 and Adult chaperones must be at least 21 years of age.

This event provides an opportunity for youth and adults to enhance their leadership, communication and team building skills in an action packed and interactive setting. Rec Lab programming is designed to provide participants with tips and tricks for being a better club, camp and community leader.

By rotating around the state and hosted by a 4-H district each year, this event also provides youth and volunteers an opportunity to travel and experience locations that may be very different from their home county. The camp-like atmosphere and hands-on activity allows for a fun and laid back weekend to create lasting memories. Contact your MSU County Extension office for information how to register for this event.

Registration Details:
Registration for this event is completed in 4honline. The registration fee is $100 until February 23rd ($115 February 24 to March 9). Registration will not be accepted after March 9.

Participants will be housed at the Thompson Falls High School and should bring: sleeping bag, air mattress or sleeping pad, towel and other personal items. If you do not wish to stay at the school you will be

KMON 4-H and FFA Judging Contests
January 19-20, 2018

Sharpen your pencils and your knowledge about livestock, meats I.D. and agronomy judging. The KMON 4-H and FFA contests are coming up. Register on www.judgingcard.com by January 12, 2018, 11:00 p.m. MST. Make checks payable to Cascade FFA KMON. Submit registration fees and forms to: Cascade FFA KMON - Eric Tilleman, 321 Central Ave W, Cascade, MT 59421. Late registration (after January 12, 2018) $10 per person per contest including registrations accepted at the door.

Lunch ticket sold on or before January 12, $6. Lunch ticket sold after January 12, $8. All fees must be prepaid.

Livestock: contest may include classes of beef, sheep, wool, swine and goat, two classes of reasons, a keep/cull class and some hands on practical problems involving livestock management. Meats I.D.: contest included identifying 30 retail cuts, wholesale cuts, retail judging, two classes of reasons, yield/quality grade problems and a written test. Agronomy: general knowledge test, plant, seed and product identification, soils, crop evaluation, marketing and harvesting, range, seed analysis, fertilizer, and insects.

Marias Fair Horse Committee Decals
The Marias Fair Horse Committee is selling 4-H decals to raise money.

The decals are $6 or 2 for $10
Please call or text Bonnie Kinyon at 406-460-1452 to order!
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Upcoming Programs & Meetings:

January 15  Martin Luther King Day, courthouse closed
January 15  Marias Fair Horse Committee Meeting
            7 PM at Pizza Hut in Shelby
January 18  Marias Fair Archery Tournament Registration Deadline
            Deliver to Pondera office
January 22  Small Animal Committee Meeting
            6 PM at the Marias River Electric
January 28  Marias Fair Archery Shoot
            Pondera Shooting Sports Complex
January 24  Livestock Committee Meeting
            7 PM at Marias River Electric
January 25-28 Montana Winter Fair,
            Lewistown, MT
January 30  Marias Fair Food Booth Committee Meeting
            7 pm Location TBA

February 19  Project Day
             Presidents Day—Courthouse Closed
February 25  Marias Fair Air Gun Shoot
             Pondera Shooting Sports Complex
March TBD   Public Presentation Day

Club News Wanted: Do you have something special planned for your club meeting or special activity coming up? Let everyone in the 4-H community know what is happening with your club. You can email your story and pictures to kimberly.suta@montana.edu or mail to the Toole County Extension Office; 226 1st Street South, Shelby, MT 59474 by the last Friday of each month. We are always looking for content for the Facebook page to brag on our awesome Toole County 4-Hers!!

Toole County 4-H Club Contacts

Blazing Saddles
Barb Larsen
432-2765

Kountry Kids
Diana Adamson
432-3225

West Butte
Tawna Hanson
937-3888