



EXTENSION

Clover Chatter

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Cloverbud Day

Cloverbud Day is going to be held on January 28th 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Richland County Extension Office. This is a special day for Cloverbuds to learn about 4-H and explore all that 4-H has to offer. There will be special 4-H projects for all Cloverbuds. Special Invitations were mailed to all Cloverbud members so look for that in your mailbox.

Calling for Adult Volunteers

After the 4-H External Review that took place last April, we are currently working on many different aspects of the program. We are looking at 4 different areas to improve. The areas are: Committee/Council Structure, Record Books, Rules/Policy and Marketing. Committees have been formed and chairs of each committee have been selected. If you are interested in serving on any committee, please contact the office and we will get you in contact with the chair of the committee. If you have ideas for any committee, please volunteer to make these areas in the program better.



4-H Council Officers & Directors

President - Lacey Nevins; **Vice President** - Heather Nevins; **Secretary** - Cherry Colgan; **Treasurer** - Laura Schieber; **Directors** - Amy Conlin, Colleen Topp, Kelly Deming & Kristin Larson; **Livestock Chairman** - Tim Larson



2016-17 Richland County Ambassadors

Riley Kostelecky, Jordan Baxter, Jorhen Carpenter, Taylor Schepens, Sarah Helmuth, Ali Merritt, Trey Schepens, Jenna Baxter



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 1836 boxes of beef sticks, 756 boxes of smokey snack sticks and 1212 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
- Taryn Hagler
- Brielle Gorder
- Bonny Krogedal
- Lauren Kjos

Top 5 selling families:

- Larson
- Colgan
- Carlsen
- Young
- Williams

Richland County 4-H Stats

Total 4-H members 219

- 48 Clover Buds
- 114 Junior members
- 57 Senior members

Total leaders 130

Top 5 projects

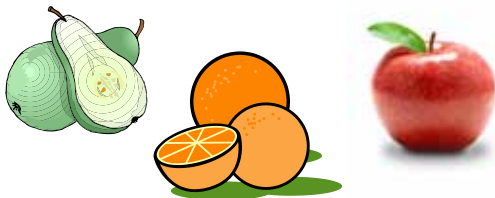
- Market Beef
- Market Hog
- Wood working
- Photography
- Arts & Crafts

Executive Council/Livestock Committee Meeting

The Executive Council Meeting will be February 6th at 6:00 p.m. at the Extension Office. The livestock committee will follow at 7:00 p.m.

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 in the end of March. Thank you all for your participation.



Shooting Sports

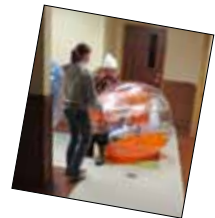
Shooting Sports for the year will be held at the Richland County Fairgrounds Event Center. Pre-registration will be due the Wednesday prior to the shoot.

The remaining shooting dates are as follows:

February 11th, March 11th and March 25th.

In February, we will be covering archery, and have many fun activities planned for March. March 25th will be a make up a day. If you have missed a month, plan on attending March 25th to make it up.

Winter Carnival Highlights



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



Feed Yard Talk

Upcoming Livestock Judging

DSU	February 4
Miles City Bull Show	February 3
Bowman, ND	February 18
Beulah, ND	February 25

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 .75lb 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.

State Horse or Livestock Committee Service Opportunities

Applications are being accepted for State 4-H Horse Committee and State 4-H Livestock Committee. There are opportunities for teen 4-H members, adult volunteer leaders, and County Agents to serve. Applications are due February 1. For more information or the application please contact the office.

Hi-Line Show Pigs

Teri and Mark Horinek from Higham, MT will have 50 to 70 top quality show pigs for sale on March 18th 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.

4-H Livestock Feeding & Care Workshop

R&J Ag Supply will be holding a workshop on how to feed and care for your 4-H animal February 7th at 6:00 p.m. at their store located at 510 10th Ave SE (across from the sale barn). They will be going over animal nutrition, how to read a feedbag label and they will have different speakers for each species. They will cover all species, including poultry and rabbit.



Save the Date

2017 Richland County Fair
August 2 - 5, 2017
Indoor Judging August 1, 2017

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, 2017. 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.

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, 2017**. Selections will be made at the February 6th 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, 2017. However, this being a Saturday please have your applications in by **March 31, 2017**. 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 2017

Save the date... Montana 4-H Rec Lab will be in Miles City March 31st-April 2nd. The theme this year is ***It's a Jungle Out There!***. 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, 2017. 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.

FCC
 C&B Construction
 Sidney Livestock
 Sidney Kiwanis
 Prairie Electric
 Dynneson Feedlot
 Stockman Bank
 Wells Fargo Bank
 Yellowstone Bank
 Richland Federal Credit Union
 Merchant's Bank
 Lone Tree Gun Show
 Richland County Health Department
 Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture
 Duane and Sherry Mitchell

THANK YOU!!!

Richland County Extension Office
1499 N Central Ave
Sidney, MT 59270



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