

# YELLOWSTONE COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 2026

406-256-2828

2320 N 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. N

Billings MT 59107-5021

[www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/index.html](http://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/index.html)

Facebook: Yellowstone County 4-H

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM RONI BAKER

Thanks to all the volunteers that helped at Beef Tagging!! It went well.

Thanks to Heather Arkell, Holly Parks, Brooklyn Kuhr, Alexa Kuhr, Jen Williams and Amy Ready for teaching classes at the January Make It and Take It. It was a great workshop day. Watch for more to come.

Thanks to everyone who helped at the Billings Ag Chamber Banquet at the Metra on Jan. 31. You represented 4-H so well while greeting guests, seating guests and selling raffle tickets.

Brooklyn Kuhr	Tyler Kennah	Alexa Kuhr	Kat Pfau
Wade Bekkedahl	Delilah Hale	Morgan Ready	Staphanie Johnson
Grace Sedlack	Drake Hale	Garrett Ready	Evan Johnson
Samantha Lynch	Kora Selle	Wesley Browning	Chantel Hale
Hadley Lynch	Kerstin Luhman	Kylie Tatman	Todd Tatman
Taytum Lynch	Alex Luhman	Amy Ready	
Aidan Lentz	Trent Gabel	Greg Gabel	

Please let me know about things you and others are doing. I want to know about the great things going on in the county.

Roni Baker, Yellowstone County 4-H/Youth Agent [ronibaker@montana.edu](mailto:ronibaker@montana.edu)

## 4-H COUNCIL MEETING

4-H Council will meet Thursday, February 5, at 6:30 pm in the 4-H Building at MetraPark. All are invited to attend.

## 4-H BUILDING USE, CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS AND CLEANING SCHEDULE

The increased use of the 4-H Building results in more upkeep, use of supplies, etc. If you use the building, you are responsible for keeping it clean. If you find the building in unacceptable condition, call the Extension office immediately.

Here are the requirements for using the building, even if only **for an hour**.

- Clean the floor (sweep & mop as needed); tables (wiped down); bathrooms (bowls & sinks clean); drinking fountain; garbage cans. Always empty garbage cans that contain food! Empty garbage cans if they are more than ½ full. Put garbage in large dumpster located outside the building.
- If kitchen dish cloths and/or towels are used, take them home to wash them and return to the 4-H Building or the Extension Office in a timely manner.
- After use, always shake out dust mops outside, clean broom brushes and rinse out mop.
- All chairs, materials and equipment must be returned to their original locations.
- Cleaning supplies are in the closet and the back room. If you notice that cleaning supplies are running low, please notify the Extension Office.

**Every club is required to complete a thorough cleaning of the 4-H Building each year. Clubs have been assigned a date and time to complete this task. As a reminder each month the clubs who are scheduled to clean are listed at the top of the newsletter calendar with their scheduled date.** Cleaning instructions and the yearly schedule can be found on [Yellowstone County 4-H website](http://Yellowstone County 4-H website) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/index.html> in “Leader Resources”.

## YOUR ZSUITE HOUSEHOLD ADDRESS

When the Extension office sends mail or emails to members/leaders, we send them to your ZSuite “Primary Household” mailing/email address. If these are not up-to-date, items will not reach your family. You can change your household mailing or email address in ZSuite by selecting your primary “Household Profile” and then click on “Household Profile” in your Dashboard (on the left of the screen) to make the changes. You will also want to make these changes in each member’s profile.

## LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

### For Members 4-H Age 12 and older (as of October 1, 2025)

Join the 2026 Montana 4-H Leadership Academy workshop series on Sunday evenings from 6 pm – 7 pm. Each month the State Ambassador Officer Team will present a different workshop topic that they have found to be important as they have developed their own leadership abilities.

The leadership academy is for Montana 4-H members interested in exploring and developing their own leadership skills while serving their county 4-H program in new ways. The workshop content is considered beginner level for emerging leaders. Members with more leadership experience may find this to be a review and should consider mentoring younger members just starting out in leadership activities before or after these workshops.

Visit the [State 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/youth_leadership/academy.html) to register for the workshop series and receive the Zoom link at [https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs\\_and\\_events/youth\\_leadership/academy.html](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/youth_leadership/academy.html)

February 15 – Having a Growth Mindset

March 8 – Motivating and Inspiring Peers

April 12 – Decision Making

## YELLOWSTONE COUNTY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Each year the Yellowstone County 4-H Foundation awards several scholarships to 4-H Alumni that plan on attending an institution of higher learning. You may only be awarded the Foundation Scholarship once. You may apply for the scholarship at any time even if you’ve been out of school for a year or more. We will mail/email the scholarship application to members who will be graduating from high school in May. Application deadline is April 1, 2026. The application can be found on the [Yellowstone County 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/4-hopportunitiesandevents.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/yellowstone/4h/4-hopportunitiesandevents.html>.

## DESIGN YOUR OWN & INDEPENDENT STUDY PROJECT PLANS DUE MARCH 1

All members enrolled in any Design Your Own or Independent Study project should complete a project plan and provide the Extension office with a copy by March 1. Forms can be found on the [Yellowstone County 4-H webpage](#).

## FRUIT SALE PICK UP MARCH 14

Fruit Sale pick up day is Saturday, March 14 at the Expo Building at Metra. Each member needs to sell at least two boxes of fruit or pay \$55 to buyout of the fundraiser. This is one of Yellowstone County 4-H Council’s major fund raisers, so let’s all try hard to beat last year’s sales. And don’t forget to set a selling goal so you can win one of the cool prizes! This year if you sell 4 boxes or more you will be placed into a drawing to win a \$50 Visa Gift Card along with those listed in each prize level. In addition, if you sell 12 boxes or more, you will be entered into a drawing to win a \$100 Visa Gift Card along with the prizes chosen from those listed in the prize level.

*Remember that you are responsible for collecting and turning in money to your club for the fruit you sell. NO EXCEPTIONS. Your club must pay 4-H Council, so if you don’t pay, the money comes from your club treasury.* Check each box to verify the condition of the fruit when you pick it up. You are responsible for the fruit once you check it out from the club chairperson. Be sure you handle the fruit correctly and get it delivered quickly.

## MONTANAFAIR CLERKS NEEDED

Clerks are needed for MontanaFair in both Department N (Non-Livestock projects) and Department A (Animal projects). These are paid positions with flexible schedules where you get to work with 4-H families to make fair a success. There are many areas of focus in the positions. Job descriptions are available at the Extension Office. Give us a call at 406-256-2828.

## SAVE THE DATE \* MARCH 27-29 \* FOR REC LAB 2026 IN COLUMBUS

What is Rec Lab? Rec Lab stands for Recreation Lab and means that everything is hands-on and fun! This event gives kids the opportunity to enhance their leadership, communication, and team building skills in an action-packed and interactive setting. This event is ideal for younger senior members to attend as a first-time state event. It allows them to form relationships with 4-H peers from across the state, broaden their skills, and widen their network.

Extension Staff and volunteers: The program is conducive to meeting people from around the state and exchanging ideas. You are sure to gain some great info and bring home motivated youth leaders.

Registration will open in ZSuite in February. Youth must be 13 by October 1, 2025. The cost will be around \$110 per person. Yellowstone County 4-H Council will contribute to the registration fee. Participants will have the opportunity to pick from a list of workshops during registration. Visit the [state 4-H website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/projects/support/record_books/index.html) at [https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/projects/support/record\\_books/index.html](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/projects/support/record_books/index.html).

## 4-H RECORD KEEPING TOOLS AND VIDEOS

Here are some helpful resources to start your record books. Keeping records is a terrific way to develop your communication skills, organize your time, document events and actions, evaluate your efforts, set goals, solve problems, and keep track of expenses. **When something important happens, WRITE IT DOWN!** You're doing records for you. It is a record of your progress. Take photographs throughout the year and select a few to include in your final records. Fillable Record Book forms can be printed or downloaded on the Yellowstone County 4-H website under "Record Books/Record Sheets" or you can keep record digitally in your ZSuite account. You can find detailed information, videos and answers to your record keeping questions using at the sites listed below.

[https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/projects/support/record\\_books/index.html](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/projects/support/record_books/index.html) and [Frequently Asked Questions About Record Books](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/projects/support/record_books/RB_FAQ.html) at [https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/projects/support/record\\_books/RB\\_FAQ.html](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/projects/support/record_books/RB_FAQ.html)

Video Part 1: Why We do Record Books

Video Part 2: How to Make Record Books Valuable

Video Part 3: Ways to Complete a 4-H Record Book

## MONTANA FARMERS UNION SENTENCE GRANTS

Montana Farmers Union has \$10,000 to send 4-H clubs in Montana. Simply send them a sentence stating what your club wants money for, and you will receive ... \$100! Funding is open now and will be awarded through October 1.

Applications and instructions are available on [Montana Farmers Union website](https://montanafarmersunion.com/education/scholarships-grants/) at <https://montanafarmersunion.com/education/scholarships-grants/>

## NILE SCHOLARSHIP

The NILE has several scholarships available to be awarded in April 2026. Scholarships include for graduating high school seniors, a one-time grant for individuals currently enrolled in college or technical school, a rolling scholarship for graduating high school seniors which can be renewed for up to four years, and some specialty scholarships. To see details including eligibility requirements go to the [NILE website](https://www.thenile.org/p/events/youth-events/scholarships) at <https://www.thenile.org/p/events/youth-events/scholarships>. Scholarship deadline is March 1, 2026. Questions? Call the NILE office at 406-256-2495.

## JUNIOR AG LOANS AVAILABLE THROUGH MT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The Montana Junior Agriculture Loan Program was developed to assist rural youth in developing or expanding agribusiness projects. "With the average age of farmers and ranchers being nearly 60 years old, supporting the next

generation is vital to Montana's livelihood," said MDA Director Mike Foster. "The Junior Ag Loan Program plays a key role in connecting young people who are passionate about pursuing projects in agriculture with the financing they need to get started." The benefits often far exceed the actual loan value for program participants. Many youths have utilized the program as a means for establishing financing experience and advancing their project's monetary value.

Montana youth between the ages of 9 and 21 apply for loan financing up to \$8,500 through the Montana Department of Agriculture's (MDA) Junior Agriculture Loan Program. Additional information and applications are available on the [Montana Department of Agricultural website](https://agr.mt.gov/Topics/E-G/Grants-Pages/Junior-Agriculture-Loans) at <https://agr.mt.gov/Topics/E-G/Grants-Pages/Junior-Agriculture-Loans>.

## GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAYS

You don't need to wait until you grow up to change the world. Children and teens are creating change every day through service to others. On Global Youth Service Day, we come together to celebrate. Global Youth Service Days are April 24-26, 2026. This annual campaign celebrates and mobilizes the millions of children and youth who improve their communities each day of the year through service and service-learning.

Visit the [Global Youth Service Day website](https://ysa.org/campaigns/gysd/) at <https://ysa.org/campaigns/gysd/> for more information about how to participate. Small grants are available to support youth-led service activities. Plan an event in your county!

## MONTANA NATURAL RESOURCE YOUTH CAMP JULY 12-17, 2026

The Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp is now taking applications. This camp takes place July 12-17 in Greenough, MT and is for youth ages 14-18 (13 if completed 8<sup>th</sup> grade). This camp provides youth with the opportunity to study today's scientific principles, economic realities, historical heritage, and social perspectives in an outdoor classroom and gain a natural resources perspective that is informed and progressive. Campers learn about forests, streams, soils, geology, rangeland, wildlife, and recreation and spend half-day rafting the Clark Fork River's Alberton Gorge. More information can be found on the [Montana Natural Resource Youth Camp website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/forestry/mnryc/index.html) at <https://www.montana.edu/extension/forestry/mnryc/index.html>.

For questions contact Christina Oppegard, Camp Director, at MSU Extension Forestry (406) 243-2773 [christina.oppegard@mso.umt.edu](mailto:christina.oppegard@mso.umt.edu).

## 4-H SUPPORTERS

Many businesses and organizations in our community support 4-H. We list several each month. We 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
Big Sky Irrigation	523 Roxy Ln, Billings, MT 59105
Citi Service Valcon	PO Box 30335, Billings, MT 59107
Dynneson Ranch	13102 County Rd 342, Sidney, MT 59270
First Montana Title	2737 Montana Ave, Billings MT 59101
Hinkle Farms	7830 Frey Rd, Shepherd, MT 59079
Little Shell Enterprises	PO Box 662, Arlee, MT 59821
Overtime Enterprises Inc	8604 Scandia Rd, Shepherd, MT 59079

## DEPARTMENT N MEETING FOR FEBRUARY

There will be a Department N meeting Thursday, February 5, at 6:00 pm in the 4-H Building.

## EVENTS DAY MEETING

Club Communication Day (Speech and Demonstration Day) and Showcase (Fashion Review and Quilt Show) representatives will meet on Thursday, February 5, at 5:30 pm in the 4-H Building. There will be workshops and the skillathon at the event too. We will start planning for Events Day which takes place Saturday, April 11, 2026. All club representatives must attend.

## FEBRUARY 7 CERAMICS WORKSHOP

The ceramics workshop will be held Saturday, February 7. Two options are available for time: 10 am to 1 pm or 1 pm to 4 pm. Please call Sheri Anttila at 406-633-5531 to reserve a time spot, ask questions, or get directions to her home.

## CAT WORKSHOP FEBRUARY 21

Cat members will meet on Saturday February 21, from 11:00 am to 11:45 at the 4-H Building. This is our Health and Wellness Meeting, we will discuss necessary vaccinations, and ways to enrich your cat's life through play and interaction. Please bring your cat's and any toys they enjoy interacting with. Also, remember to bring your project books and up to date record sheets for a quick check.

## POCKET PET WORKSHOP FEBRUARY 21

Pocket Pet members will meet on Saturday February 21, from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm at the 4-H Building. We will cover enriching the lives of your pets through diet. Please bring you project books and up to date record sheets for a quick review. DO NOT bring pets to the meeting.

## DOG RALLY PRACTICE

Dog Rally practice will be held on Saturday February 21. Novice members will meet from 2:30 pm to 3:15 pm followed by Intermediate members from 3:30 to 4:15 pm in the 4-H Building. This session is for Dog Project Members whose dogs were assessed for the County Dog Project in **February 2025 (the previous 4-H year)**. Proof of current rabies, distemper, and Bordetella vaccinations is required at this session. Any questions please call Angie Murdick 406-208-3324.

## DOG OBEDIENCE CLASSES BEGIN

The first mandatory meeting assessment for all members will be Wednesday, February 25, in the Montana Pavilion at MetraPark. This meeting is mandatory for participation in the Yellowstone County Dog Obedience Class. Members cannot join after February 25. Classes will run weekly on Wednesdays, March 4 through April 22 in the 4-H Building.

Registration is required through your ZSuite account. Members must be enrolled in a level of Dog and Dog Obedience projects. Additional information can be downloaded in ZSuite. The cost is \$10 per member. You can pay online (add\$1) or send payment to the Extension Office. Required vaccination records must be uploaded in the ZSuite registration or emailed to both [yellowstone1@montana.edu](mailto:yellowstone1@montana.edu) AND [yellowstone2@montana.edu](mailto:yellowstone2@montana.edu). Registration, vaccination, and payment deadline is 5:00 pm February 25. Contact the Extension office with questions.

## HORSE WORKSHOP

The February horse workshop will be held 6:00 pm on Thursday, February 19 at the 4-H Building. Equine nutrition will be covered. Everyone is welcome to all workshops listed!

March 19: Hoof Care & Farriers

April 23: Veterinary Care

May 14: Conformation Evaluation

## LIVESTOCK JUDGING

Yellowstone County Livestock judges had a great turnout at the MT Simmental Association Judging contest on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>. Thirteen members competed and we are proud of each one of them! If you are interested in livestock judging, please contact Devin Murnin at 406-696-1502 or [devin.murnin@gmail.com](mailto:devin.murnin@gmail.com).

### Junior Division Results

1<sup>st</sup> – Carlee Bomar

2<sup>nd</sup> – Harrison Cook

3<sup>rd</sup> – Jolie Murnin

### Senior Division Results

2<sup>nd</sup> – Karlin Clayton

## SHOOTING SPORTS LEADER MEETING

There will be a shooting sports leader meeting for ALL 4-H Shooting Sport leaders on Thursday, February 19, at 6:00 pm in the 4-H Building.

## STATE 4-H SHOOT IN BOZEMAN MARCH 6-8

The Montana State 4-H Shooting & Archery Sports Competition will be held in Bozeman on March 6 - 8, 2026. This event is open to all enrolled 4-H members ages 9-19 in the Shooting Sports Projects. Please see the [4-H State website](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/events/shooting_sports/shooting-sports-SS.html) at [https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs\\_and\\_events/events/shooting\\_sports/shooting-sports-SS.html](https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h/programs_and_events/events/shooting_sports/shooting-sports-SS.html) for registration and information regarding the State Shoot. The events held at the State Shoot are Air Rifle, Air Pistol, Smallbore Rifle, Smallbore Pistol, Target Archery, and 3D Archery. Registration closes February 27.

The State Shoot serves as the qualifier for the Air Rifle, Air Pistol, Smallbore Rifle, and Smallbore Pistol events. The top 4 individuals in each event will be invited to represent the State of Montana at the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships to be held in Grand Island, Nebraska, June 21-26, 2026. Those individuals trying out for the Sporter Air Rifle Team must compete in Sporter 3P and Sporter Standing. The top 4 finishers will be determined from the combined scores from these two events.

To attend the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships, participants must have passed their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday by January 1, 2026, and may not have passed their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday before January 1 of the current year in which the championships are held.

## 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 or 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.**

The May session is in person at PAYS. 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.

**Thursday, February 12 – 6:30 pm Virtual AQA Class**

**Monday, March 30 – 5:30 pm – 4-H Building – (focused on small animals)**

**Thursday, April 23 – 6 pm at the 4-H Building – focused on Horse)**

**Saturday, May 2 - 9:00-10:30 am at PAYS (Public Auction Yards)**

**Wednesday, June 3 - 6:30 pm Virtual training**

## MSU EXTENSION 4-H HORSE HELMET POLICY & WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Participants in 4-H Horse Projects are required to attend a Horse Helmet Workshop once as a beginner/junior 4-H member (8-13) and again as a senior 4-H member (14 and up). This age is based on the exhibitors "4-H Age" – their age



on October 1 of the current 4-H year. Exhibitors must attend the workshop the first year they reach every age bracket or the first year they are exhibiting in a horse project. A parent or legal guardian must attend with the member.

After attending a 4-H Helmet Workshop, riders may choose whether they will wear a certified helmet. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian of the 4-H member to see that the headgear worn complies with standards and is in good condition. The Montana 4-H Center for Youth Development encourages the use of ASTM certified/SEI approved safety helmets in all equine events. Protective headgear may be used in all classes and shall not be discriminated against. Helmet use is encouraged in all activities any time a 4-H member is around a horse. A certified equestrian helmet with safety harness fastened in place is required in over fence classes and gymkhana events, activities, and practice sessions. Gymkhana refers to horseback speed events (timed or un-timed) that do not use livestock. Events that may fall in this category include, but are not limited to barrel racing, pole bending, keyhole races, stake races, rescue races, pony express race, etc. Events that are not intended to be included are events such as calf roping, team roping, goat tying, and team penning that may be timed but use livestock. **NO workshops will be held after the May 2 class. It is the final opportunity for 2026.**

**Wednesday, April 15: 7:00-8:00 pm at the Extension Office – 2320 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. N**

**Saturday, May 2: 11:00 am-12:00 pm at PAYS (Public Auction Yards)**

## MONTHLY CLUB MINUTES HIGHLIGHTS

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

**Compass All Stars:** Presentation on crocheting by Becky Blankenship. Discussion about a community service project for next month. Congratulations to Sammi Lynch on becoming a Yellowstone County Ambassador.

**Pine Ridge Red Ryder:** Members gave project reports and year-end awards were handed out. Fruit Sale procedures were discussed.

**Project Rockin Wranglers:** Dept A & N reports were given. By-laws were voted on and signed. Fruit Sale and field trip ideas were discussed.

**Shepherd Pioneers:** Leader, project, and committee reports were given. Discussed the requirements for demos and speeches.

**Worden Riverdale:** Project reports were given. Fruit Sale was discussed. Demonstration sheets were set out. Reminder about AQA dates. Made valentines to be delivered in February.

## INTRODUCING THE YELLOWSTONE COUNTY 2026 AMBASSADOR TEAM

The team was chosen after a lengthy application process and interviews with a panel. If you see them, congratulate them!

Hello everyone! My name is Brooklyn I have been a part of Yellowstone County 4-H for what feels like forever, but it's only been 8 years. I have been a part of many projects like sewing, baking, swine, and so many more but my favorite will forever be sewing and quilting. Leadership comes in a close second, leadership has allowed me to grow as a person has let me do many community service projects. I love being a part of such a large community of talented people. I am a junior at senior high school and career center. My favorite class is AP Chemistry, I hope to do something in the medical field when I am older. In my free time I love reading, hanging out with my family, and being outside. I can't wait to serve Yellowstone County this year!

I am Tate Ackerman, an ambassador, and I am part of the Hesper Hustlers 4-H Club. I am the Student Council body vice president at Ben Steele Middle School in Billings. I am also in math club and rock band. I love playing sports and watching sports especially soccer, basketball, and running. In 4-H I do baking, sports fishing, leadership, and 2 self-determines. I do Rubik's cube self-determined and a family tree self-determined. In my free time I solve Rubik's cubes competitively, hang out with my family, adventure the outdoors, and read books.

Hey! My name is Samantha Lynch and this is my 3rd year in 4-H, though it has felt much longer! I'm 15 years old and a sophomore at Laurel High School. I have done projects in woodworking, archery, photography, and dog, but this year, I will be adding chicken to my list! In my free time, I enjoy hiking, fishing, riding horses, playing with my dogs, and doing art projects. I am in student council, western way of life club, academic olympics, and am a varsity high jumper. I can't wait to get this 4-H year started with all y'all!

Hi, my name is Wade Bekkedahl, this is my 3rd year as a county ambassador, and this is my 9th year in 4H. I am 16 years old and a junior at Billings West High School. I run cross country and do track and enjoy welding in my free time. My projects are swine, leadership, and welding. I am very excited for the upcoming year!

Hi! My name is Grace Sedlacek, and I am a 2026 Yellowstone County ambassador. I have been in 4-H as long as I can remember I am currently a member of the Hesper Hustlers where I am the treasurer. I also am the President of the Billings FFA chapter and a member of my school's student council. My projects are swine, leadership, welding, photography, and livestock judging. I also attend camp as a counselor. I can't wait for all the fun this year will bring!

Hello! I'm Ember Solberg, and this is my first year as a county Ambassador! I'm a junior in high school, and this is my 7<sup>th</sup> year in 4-H! I'm a varsity cheerleader, a two-time All-American Cheerleader, and a student council member. My 4-H projects include photography, quilting, horse, pocket pet and scrapbooking! I am so excited to see what this 4-H year brings!



## FEBRUARY 2026 4-H CALENDAR



### 4-H Building Cleaning Assignments

- Compass All Starts – February 12<sup>th</sup>
- Kountry Kritters – February 28th

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 People Partner Grants Due in Bozeman	2	3	4	5 5:30 Events Day Meeting  6:00 Dept N Meeting followed by Council. <i>4-H Building</i>	6	7 10:00 or 1:00 Ceramics Workshop <i>79 Whitehorse South Road, Laurel</i>
8	9	10	11	12 6:30 Virtual Animal Quality Assurance	13	14
15 6:00 pm Leadership Academy Workshop	16 <b>President's Day Office Closed</b>	17	18	19 6:00 Shoot Spt. Leaders Mtg  6:00 Horse Nutrition Workshop <i>Both in 4-H Building</i>	20 <b>End of Fruit Sale</b>  <b>4-H Newsletter Information Due</b>	21 County Shoot <i>at MetraPark</i>  Cat Workshop 11am  Pocket Pets Workshop 1pm  Dog Rally Practice 2:30 & 3:30
22	23 6:30 Exchange Meeting <i>4-H Building</i>	24	25 6:00 Dog Obed. Eval. Class <i>Montana Pavilion</i>  6:30 – 7:30 Make It/Take It <i>4-H Building</i>	26	27	28