



APRIL NEWSLETTER 2020

Sweet Grass County 4-H
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Marc King, Extension Agent
Kandi Schuman, Admin Asst

Message from Marc...

Dear Members, Leaders, Parents and 4-H Supporters,

A year ago, we were talking about how tough the winter weather was and how hard it was on people not only physically but mentally. Enter March 2020 and the weather is not the topic it has been for the past two years, but rather we are again faced with mentally challenging times as we all learn how to cope with shelter in place resolutions and business closures. For sure these are challenging times. I would encourage all of you to take time and find the good in the things around us, namely our families and our community. Much like last year's newsletter, newborn calves and lambs have a way of healing our souls as rural Americans. Further, we have 4-H projects and 4-H animals that we can work with during these times. Currently, we are being advised that all 4-H meetings and gatherings are cancelled or postponed for the near term. I did receive an email today that said we are currently hoping that 4-H Congress will be a go in July and county fairs are still being planned. Our office is being locked down beginning on March 24th, but we will be available by phone and email and one of us will be in the office so we can get you information or pig tags. Currently the April 4-H Council meeting is cancelled, but I am looking into maybe doing this as a WebEx meeting. I will be sure to let everyone know as soon as I can. Further, as you are all aware 4-H Communications Day did not happen, and it currently appears that this event will be cancelled for this year.

We do have tags in the office for those that are showing pigs this year. If you are getting pigs from the Breck Ranch, they have the tags and will tag them before they leave. If you are getting them from any other source you will need to pick up the tags at the office. You will need to submit a weight, breed and breeder name and address and a picture of the tagged pigs to the Extension Office by 5:00 pm on April 24th. Also, remember if you are getting your pigs from outside of Montana, please make sure that you get the correct paperwork to import those pigs into Montana. This Covid-19 pandemic and the rules that we have for social distancing and shelter in place rules are much like typical bio-security measures that we have employed in the livestock industry for decades to stop the spread of disease. It sure isn't much fun, but it sure should help, it has done good things in the livestock world.

There is still a lot of uncertainty about where we are going and how long this will last. I hope that we can get back to some sort of normalcy soon. In the meantime, keep yourselves safe. If you are looking for some things to do the State 4-H website has some online 4-H activities that you can do. I do hope that we continue to get adequate spring moisture for our crops and pastures, and I hope that you still have some humor left in your tank as we endure these challenging times. If you have questions or ideas for the year, please let us know. Further, if you need any specific information please call or email us and we will get information to you. Finally, I have heard some questioning what is going to happen this summer, we are currently planning the Sweet Grass County Fair and Champion of Champions Show. There is currently absolutely no talk of not having our Fair. I did speak to the Commissioners and they are in support of us continuing to plan for and go forward with the Fair.

A parting thought for us all to ponder. It was suggested to me by an older individual that this might be a sign that we all need to slow down just a little and prioritize our lives. We all seem to think life is like Thanksgiving and we need to heap our plates full, maybe we need to take smaller portions and really enjoy each other. Just a thought, not trying to minimize the impact of this virus or it's impact on our businesses and lives. Keep your heads up and look for the positives.

Sincerely,


Marc King

Sweet Grass County Fair:
July 23-27, 2020

Fair Book Cover Contest

Express your Creativity by participating in the
2020 Sweet Grass County 4-H FAIR BOOK COVER CONTEST!!!

The Cover MUST include the following in some form:



2019 Winner
Melodie Hayes

[2020 Sweet Grass County Fair, July 27-31, 2020, 4-H, FFA](#)

Entries can be computer generated or drawn by hand. Contest is limited to 4-H or FFA members who are 18 and under. Entries must be mailed or hand delivered to the Sweet Grass County Extension Office at PO Box 640 or 515 Hooper Street.

Entries are due by 5 pm on Friday, April 24, 2020.

Prizes will be awarded, sponsored by Denzel Schmidt and the 4-H Council.

1st: \$20.00 2nd: \$10.00 3rd: \$5.00

Pig Weights & Tagging Info

Swine members must pick up ear tags for their pigs at the Extension Office. (Some local breeders may already have them tagged—it's up to you to make sure your animal has the right tag). You must call the Extension Office with the tag number of your animal, the weight, the date it was weighed, the breed and the breeder name. You must also email or bring in a photo of the animal for identification and it must show the number of the tag in its ear. This information is due by April 24th. If we do not have the information by 5 pm that day, you will NOT be able to show your pig at the Fair. Let us know if you have any questions.

Lamb/Goat/Pig Weigh-ins/Tagging

Lamb & goat tagging will be held on Friday, May 1st from 5-6 pm at the Fairgrounds Scale. All market sheep must attend this weigh-in to be able to participate in the Fair.

Fair Re-Sale Recipients

Any club or organization that wants to be considered as a 'Re-Sale Recipient' at the 2020 Sweet Grass County Fair Auction on Friday, July 31st will be required to attend the 4-H Council meeting scheduled for April 2020. All recipients must present their requests to the Council for a decision if the requirements are met. The criteria for being a recipient is: Must be 4-H or FFA related, benefit the participants in 4-H or FFA and orally present a proposal at the April 4-H Council meeting. Date to be determined. See below.

4-H Council Meeting

We will NOT be having the 4-H Council meeting on April 8th due to social distancing protocols. We hope to reschedule for late April if it works. Watch your email for updates on this meeting.

This is the same for **Demonstration Day** that was cancelled. We would like to reschedule it, but will see how things play out.

Sweet Grass County Fair ~ July 27-31, 2020

Livestock Sales:

Here is a list of some livestock sales in the State that we know of. Some of these we had information mailed and emailed to us at the office, but the rest were found on Facebook. Call the office for more information, phone numbers, etc, or look them up on Facebook. We will email more sale notices as we get them.

April 4: Park City Show Pigs, Preview 10, Auction at 11, Park City, 860-7718 or 6965665, NOW ONLINE SALE
****<https://montanacattleconnexion.com/Event/Details/273021/April-4th-Park-City-Show-Pig-Sale>.

April 11: Hays Show **Lambs**, Worden, 671-7493, haysshowlambs.com
Dorvall Club **Lambs**, Find on Facebook

Private Treaty **Pigs**, Miller Farm, Livingston, Mt. Call Cindy 406-220-2122.

LOCAL LAMBS:

David & Jennifer Breck: Call or stop by Yellowstone Feed for more information. 932-5132.

Harv VanWagoner: You can call Harv at 390-2740.

Trevor Halverson: 930-0919.

Dylan, Dawson and Abby Laverell: 930-0216.

Host an International Delegate

Host families needed for the 2020 summer Inbound exchange programs. The largest of these programs is the Japan program and we need 24-30 host families from approximately July 22 through August 18. There may be opportunities to host delegates from Costa Rica from June 23-July 18. Go to the State's 4-H International Exchange Programs website at www.states4hexchange.org/summer-inbound/ to complete an application (Costa Rica application deadline is March 1, 2020; Japan application deadline is rolling, but no later than June 1, 2020).

Families also needed to host IPYA (International Program for Young Adults) delegates. These are older youth from primarily European countries who would like to work/stay on a farm or ranch in Montana. Hosting periods are 2-3 weeks and begin in mid-July, after 4-H Congress.

Those interested in a longer hosting experience can host a high school student during the 2020-2021 school year. Students are from Japan, South Korea, Mexico, and Eurasian countries (former Soviet Union). Program dates and hosting lengths vary. Students must attend a public high school even if their host siblings are homeschooled. Contact your county office or Stephanie Davison at 406-994-3502.

2020 YOUTH TRAPPER CAMP

Are you taking the wildlife project or just like animals? Visit the Montana Trappers Association or www.montanatrappers.org/programs/ytic.htm#VOY3Bp3n-vE for information about the 2020 Youth Trapper Camp. It is scheduled for June 12-14, 2020 at the Beaver Creek Park south of Havre. The camp teaches ethical trapping methods, trapping rules and regulation, trap setting and fur handling. Camp is limited; some scholarships are available. Applications are accepted on a first come basis by May 15. Limited scholarships are available by contacting them before April 15.

Drop/add deadline

The Drop/Add Deadline for your 4-H projects is May 15th. You will only be allowed to enter an item in the fair in the projects in which you are enrolled. Although, you are not required to enter something in the fair in any or all of your projects, your only requirement is to complete record book pages for every project you are entered in as of May 15th, whether you took something to fair in the projects or not. I will send you a list of your current projects with your May Newsletter.

MAQA

If this is your 1st year with a market animal and/or your 1st year as a senior member with a market animal you will need to do the Market Animal Quality Assurance Training in May. I will let you all know who you are, and will put it in the May newsletter. This is required if you fit the criteria.

Just For Fun...

4-H
ARCHERY
CHAMPION
CLOTHING
COLLECTIONS
CRAFTS
DOGS
EXHIBIT
FASHIONREVUE
FOODS
FUNNELCAKE
GARDENING
GRANDSTANDS
HEART
HORSE
LEADERSHIP
MIDWAY
PHOTOGRAPHY
POSTER
QUEEN
SPORTFISHING
STATEFAIR
WILDLIFE
WORKSHOP

R E T S O P I H S R E D A E L
F F U N N E L C A K E 4 R M Q
M O A R C H E R Y H R - C K A
R O M S P O R T F I S H I N G
L D I T H W O R K S H O P A R
P S D A O I V P O Y J I R X A
P O W T T L O W E Y K D T R N
R S A E O D N N T S E R I G D
Y A Y F G L O O R N R Y B N S
M J C A R I Y G I E C O I I T
O I R I A F P N S P V U H H A
M O A R P E G H U A M U X T N
N A F B H E A R T Y O A E O D
V U T R Y Q U E E N F N H L S
K N S S N O I T C E L L O C A

State Shooting Sports Results

Congratulations to our Archers who competed in the State Shoot!!! Great Job to All of You!!

Emma Paugh, 11-12 year olds: 1st (out of 52!!) in Bowhunter
1st in Unlimited

Madison Groff, 13-14 year olds: 30th in Bowhunter
30th in 3D Bowhunter

Rory Lannen, 13-14 year olds: 7th in Unlimited
4th in Olympic Recurve
2nd in 3D Olympic Recurve

Thanks for Representing Sweet Grass County so well!





With no 4-H activities happening lately, we have no Club News for April. Demonstration Day was also cancelled, as well as shooting sports and judging. We are still social distancing and will let you know when group activities can begin again. The Council meeting for April may or may not happen, we will email updates. We will also hope to reschedule Demonstration Day if it works out, but again, cannot make any plans yet. Please watch your emails for updates. Thanks!

We are currently in the office, but the building is locked to the public. You can still stop in and pick up pig tags and such as needed. There is talk of closing our office, if that happens you can reach us by phone and email as we will be working from home and will do what we can to meet your needs.

Marc: mking@itstriangle.com, 580-2556, Kandi: sweetgrass@montana.edu, 930-1782.

Member Spotlight



Rainy Carroccia - Sophomore at SGHS— Porcupine Butte 4-H Club

Rainy is a sophomore at SGHS, and is active in volleyball, cheerleading, and various school clubs. She lives on her family ranch in Melville, so has been around agriculture her whole life. She likes spending time with friends and family and being outside. In the summers, Rainy enjoys working as a wrangler on her family's guest ranch. She has one sister and one brother, who are both in 4-H.

This year, Rainy's 4-H projects include a pig and photography. In the past she has also taken cooking and sewing projects. 4-H has given her experience with raising livestock, keeping records, doing interviews, and being responsible. Her favorite part of 4-H is participating in the Fair. Rainy plans on being in 4-H until she graduates. She feels very lucky to live in a

community that is so supportive of the youth of Sweet Grass County. 4-H has given Rainy many experiences and taught her many important things that will last her a lifetime.

Thank you Rainy for being such an Outstanding 4-H Role Model!





Office of the County Commissioners

*William Wallace
J.V. Moody
Melanie Roe*

To Sweet Grass County residents:

As we go through these unprecedented times, your commissioners want you to know that we are aware and concerned about our future.

We want to express our appreciation to those businesses who have stepped up and implemented measures to keep their stores clean and recognize social distancing as a tool to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus. We also want to encourage residents to shop locally and help out the businesses who are so generous to us throughout the year.

We share your concerns about the economic impacts of the Governor's Executive order shutting down select entities. Hopefully these pre-emptive actions will result in a reduction of the spread of the virus and a shorter recovery period. This is a very dynamic and rapidly evolving situation and there are no easy answers or short-term fixes.

We have partially enacted our Emergency Operations Plan. This allows us to put together a team which constantly evaluates the county needs and allocates resources accordingly. This team meets on a regular basis and includes members of city and county government, as well as health officials.

Please reach out to us with questions or ideas. (932-5152) We will get through this by staying unified and optimistic.

William Wallace

James Moody

Melanie Roe

Hello Extension and 4-H,

Here are 10 ways you can help your family, neighbors, friends, communities, and the nation right now. If your 4-H club is meeting virtually, bring these ideas to your next meeting.

1) If you are 17 or older (and your parents give you permission), you can donate blood. There is a high need for blood right now. Go to the main Red Cross website to find a blood donation site in your area <https://www.redcrossblood.org/>

2) More people are accessing food banks right now and there are shortages. Monetary donations are the safest way to help. Go to the Montana Food Bank Network to donate or to find your local food bank <https://mfbn.org/>

3) There are shortages of protective masks for health care workers and others. You can make and donate them. Find out how below:

Follow the instructions here <https://freesewing.org/docs/patterns/fu/instructions/> or listen to a YouTube video from Joann's Fabrics <https://youtu.be/VgHrnS6n4iA>.

Then go to the deaconess website to find out how and where to donate your masks <https://deaconess.com/How-to-make-a-Face-Mask/Mask-Donations>

4) There are staffing shortages in pet shelters, but the pets still need attention. Consider volunteering at your local shelter. Pets are not contagious, but they may be scared, especially if their owners can't take care of them.

5) Nursing home residents cannot accept visitors which can be lonely and scary. Some nursing homes have started virtual pen pal exchanges. Contact your local nursing home and ask about starting one. Here is an example of one in Pittsburgh <https://www.pittsburghmagazine.com/a-pittsburgh-nursing-home-is-seeking-pen-pals-for-residents/>

6) Help deliver meals to people who can't go out of their homes. Contact your local *Meals on Wheels* chapter to find out how to volunteer. Practice safe handling and distancing.

7) Consider grocery shopping or doing other errands for your neighbors who can't leave their homes or who are fearful of leaving. Practice safe handling and distancing.

8) Buy restaurant gift cards and donate to people in need <https://www.giftly.com/>

9) Be My Eyes is an app that connects people who see with those with low or no vision. You can help people with vision problems navigate their worlds <https://www.bemyeyes.com/>

10) Go to the sites below to find out more information about how to *volunteer virtually* for specific activities.

catchafire <https://www.catchafire.org/>

Points of Light <https://www.pointsoflight.org/>

Volunteer Match <https://www.volunteermatch.org/search/opp817978.jsp>

Stephanie Davison, Ph.D

4-H Center for Youth Development



Facts About Covid-19:

Diseases can make anyone sick regardless of race or ethnicity. For most people, the immediate risk of becoming seriously ill from the virus is thought to be low. Signs & Symptoms: Fever, Cough, Shortness of Breath

Stop the Spread of Germs:

Avoid close contact with people who are sick. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care. Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Wash your hands often with soap and hot water for at least 20 seconds:

(As Dalton Belleghem taught us in his 2018 Demonstration 'Proper Handwashing', you should wash your hands the entire time of singing the 'Happy Birthday Song', so give it a try!)

For more information: [cdc.gov/COVID19](https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19) or the SG County Website: [sweetgrasscountygov.com](https://www.sweetgrasscountygov.com).

April 2020

Birthstone: Diamond, Flower: Daisy

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Livestock Judging: TO BE DETERMINED	2	3	4 Happy Birthday Evelyn Forrey Happy Birthday Casen Seitz
5	6 Happy Birthday Dylan Cowell	7	8 Council Meeting 7pm Livestock Judging: TO BE DETERMINED	9	10	11
12 Happy Easter!!	13	14	15 Livestock Judging: TO BE DETERMINED	16	17	18
19	20	21 Happy Birthday Kailey Forrey	22 Happy Birthday Rainy Carroccia Livestock Judging: TO BE DETERMINED	23	24 Pig Info Deadline Cover Contest Deadline Happy Birthday Rance Swartz	25
26	27	28 Happy Birthday Charles Seemann	29 Happy Birthday Bud Ullery Livestock Judging: TO BE DETERMINED	30 	<p><i>Words that soak into your ears are whispered, not yelled.</i></p>	