April 2011

Gallatin County 4-H Newsletter

4-H SUMMER CAMP

SAVE THE DATE! 4-H Summer Camp will be from June 21-24, 2011. The theme this year for camp is "The Good Old Days And Then Some." Each day will represent a different era in history with the three days being The Stone Age, The Wild West, and The Decades. Some of the activities we hope to include will be cave drawings, jousting, astronomy, roping, panning for gold, campfire cooking, dancing, tie-dye, water activities, obstacle courses, a hike, campfires and much much more. 4-H Summer Camp will be held at Hyalite and is for campers aged 9-13 years old. We hope to see you there for a fun-packed week! (signed - The 4-H Teen Leaders)

Parents Night Out

Parents Night Out will be on Saturday, April 9 at Spire Climbing Center in Bozeman from 6:30-9:30pm. This will be another fun night for 6 to 12 year olds - rock climbing, games, snacks with friends, and then crashing on the landing pad to watch a movie. 4-H Teen Leaders are organizing this event as they did last December. The cost is $30 for one youth, $40 for two siblings, and $45 for three siblings. **Please RSVP as SOOOOOOOON as possible to the 4-H Office if your kids are interested in attending.**

ANIMAL QUALITY ASSURANCE (AQA)

What is Animal Quality Assurance? – Would you like to have your name associated with an unhealthy animal that is not fit for people to eat? This program has been develop to promote Best Management Practices in the areas of herd health, livestock handling, facilities and nutrition in support of the ethical production of youth livestock projects. The program educates youth concerning their role in U.S. livestock production. Youth will learn how they fit into the food supply chain and the importance of providing a quality assured product. If you are planning to take an animal to the Livestock Market Sale at the County Fair, you must participate in the Animal Quality Assurance workshop once as a junior member (ages 9-13) and once as a senior member (ages 14-19). If you are new to this project, whether you are a junior member or a senior member, you must take AQA before you can participate in the livestock sale at the County Fair. The previous policy of taking the AQA workshop every two years no longer applies.

Workshops will be held on Tuesday, April 26th 6-8pm and Saturday, April 30th 10am-12pm. Both workshops will be held at the Belgrade Middle School Cafeteria. The two workshops will be covering the same material, so you need to choose one workshop or the other. RSVP to the 4-H Office by April 15th - 388-3213. If you are not sure if you need to attend AQA this year, we can look you up on our AQA list at the 4-H Office.

Leader Council Meeting

The Gallatin 4-H Unlimited Leaders Council will meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Mackenzie River Pizza in Belgrade. Bring a couple dollars for your meal. Next meeting is Tuesday, April 12. Everyone is welcome

Gallatin County 4-H Foundation

The next meeting for the Foundation will be held on April 28, 2011 at 6:30pm at Mackenzie River Pizza in Belgrade. Please come join us and find out how the Foundation helps support our youth, leaders and 4-H programs.

Teen Camp Planning Meetings

Monday, April 4th from 6:30-8:00pm at the Belgrade Middle School Cafeteria. We will also be meeting on Monday, April 18th from 6:30-8:00pm at the Belgrade Middle School Cafeteria. And the May meeting will be on May 2, same time and place.

Project Sign-up Deadlines

If you are in a Market Animal Project (Beef, Sheep, Swine, Goats, Rabbit, Poultry) you must be signed up for that project by the required animal possession date. Contact your project leader for those dates. Signing up after possession date? You will not be able to sell your animal at the Market Sale during Fair. Before participating in any workshops or clinics, you must be enrolled in that project. Drop/Add deadline for non-market animal projects is **May 1st**. Signing up for a project after May 1st? You will not be able to participate in the Summer Fair.

Cloverbuds — Unplug & Explore Festival

Come join us and many others as we kickoff Screen Free Week which is April 18-24. We will be participating in all of the activities being planned for the Unplug & Explore event happening on Sunday, April 17th from 1:00-3:00 at the Regional Park in Bozeman (by the Dinosaur Park). We will all meet at 12:30 and have a quick little meeting and then we will go have some fun. Events are being planned by 4-H, Museum of the Rockies, US Forest Service, City of Bozeman Recreation Department, and the Bozeman Public Library to name just a few. It should be lots of fun!!!! Everyone is invited. Even those of you that are not Cloverbuds can come.

Cowboy Action Shooting/Western Heritage Project Meeting

The first 4-H Cowboy/Western Heritage meeting for 2011 will be held on Saturday, April 9th at 10:00 a.m. at the Pioneer Museum on Main Street in Bozeman. The Saturday date is due to the museum schedule and consequent dates will be on week nights. We will discuss how to get started in the project, the basics of the firearms used, Old West history, and new developments and opportunities at the national level. We will also have the benefit of a tour of the museum and their frontier exhibits. Originals of many of the reproduction firearms we use in the project and have featured in the Western Heritage book are on display in the museum.

The next meeting will take place at the Logan Range and center around firearm safety, loading procedure, stage setup, and safe shooting (Date to be determined). With decent weather, we should be shooting full stages in May. Please contact Todd at 994-6816 with any questions or concerns.

Dog Care/Obedience

We will be starting our weekly classes with our dogs on April 14th from 5:30 to 6:30 at Double Diamond Vet. YOU MUST BRING A COPY OF YOUR DOG'S RABIES CERTIFICATE TO THE FIRST CLASS. Questions? Call Cara at 585-7817 or 580-4349.

Dog Agility Offering Two Instructors

Classes with Jeannie Biggers will be on Wednesday's from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Location is 70 Laden Lane Bozeman. The first class will be April 20th. NOTE: New this year…..I will be requiring that all kids and dogs have gone thru at least one year of Dog Obedience before attending my Dog Agility Class. You may contact me for a private evaluation if you want to be exempt from this. I truly believe that dogs and kids need a good foundation and relationship prior to playing agility and the Dog Obedience program is a great place to start!!

My yard is fully fenced for safety. I do have a few extra crates and do require that you either have someone that will hold your dog or your dog be placed in a crate when we are discussing sequences or walking the course, at no time may your dog be tied to anything. Please bring lots of your dogs favorite treats (preferably soft) and/or toy. Have your dog on a slip lead or buckle collar at all times. Also don't forget to have poop bags in your pocket!! Fun and safety are my priorities.

Please contact me before the first class if you plan on attending. Email me at Jeannie@bardotagility.com or 406-580-8098. I would like to know you are coming and contact info so in case the weather is not cooperating or if I need to cancel a class I know to contact you. I look forward to seeing you all again this spring…. Happy training!

Classes with Anne Dixon will continue to meet Tuesdays from 4:30-5:30pm at the Fairgrounds, Livestock Building #1. The training this year will meet continuously until the 4-H Fair Trial in July. Questions, contact Anne Dixon - The Dog Lady, themontanadoglady@gmail.com, 209-4997

Foods

This is the remaining schedule for classes:

April 6th - 6-8pm, April 7th - 6-8pm, April 8th - 4:15-6:15 pm

April 11th-15th - No classes

April 20th - 6-8pm, April 21st - 6-8pm, April 22nd - 4:15-6:15 pm

April 27th - 6-8pm, April 28th - 6-8pm, April 29th - 4:15-6:15 pm

Week of May 2nd - Finale, time to be announced

Please select ONE day a week to attend (Wednesday, Thursday or Friday). Questions, please contact Holly Hunts at 994-7993 or hhunts@montana.edu.

Goat: Questions can be directed to Dan Holland at 388-0878.

Horse

Horse Committee: Leasa Stratton - 580-9585, Deb Gee - 570-3387, Brad & Renae Cline - 579-1720, Krystal Tenneson - 920-1753, Mike & Kathy Pratt - 388-6045, Scott Reinier - 580-7681 and Mikaela Myer 581-6990

The horse committee meetings will be the 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm at Mackenzie River Pizza in Belgrade. The next meeting is Wednesday, April 6, 2011.

MSU Youth Horsemanship School will be held on June 27-July1, 2011 at Montana State University. Cost is $300 per student. The school is limited to the first 50 students who register. Registration deadline is June 1. Contact the Extension Office for more information.

4-H Working Ranch Horse Clinic: Featuring the Founder of the Project, Mr. James Keyes, State Coordinator - Utah 4-H Working Ranch Horse Program
The 4-H Working Ranch Horse Program is an exciting addition to the already popular 4-H Horse Program. It provides an opportunity for youth to be involved in western horsemanship activities beyond the traditional show ring. Participants learn the age-old techniques of handling livestock while on horseback, as well as the leadership and responsibility that comes with being engaged in 4-H.
James Keyes, the founder of the Utah 4-H Working Ranch Horse Project will be coming to Bozeman to conduct this workshop for 4-H leaders and members. Mr. Keyes will focus on horsemanship, teaching techniques, and the necessary skills involved in 4-H Working Ranch Horse.

When: June 4-5, 2011
Where: Circle L Arena - near Bozeman
Who's Invited: 4-H Members and Leaders from across Montana who are interested in learning more about the 4-H Working Ranch Horse Project.
Cost: $15 per person or $25 per family
Registration: Contact Todd Kesner, 994-6816 Montana 4-H Program Coordinator for Ag and Natural Resources
Bring your horse. Cattle are provided. Look for complete registration materials soon.

B-Y's Youth Rodeo May 1, 2011 at the Whitehall Rodeo Grounds

The B-Y's Youth Rodeo is the longest running youth rodeo in the state at 50+ years. Youth from our area are invited to the annual youth rodeo sponsored by the B-Y 4-H Club. This is fun for the whole family with dummy roping and a pig scramble for those who are too young to rodeo. Entry deadline is Friday, April 15, 2011. Please stop by the 4-H office to pick up your entry form.

Hunting Project: Contact Scott Francis for more information – 284-6843.

Leathercraft

We are excited to announce that Rob Brooks at R O Brooks Leather in Belgrade will be once again leading our Leathercraft Project. The first meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 13 from 4:30-6:00 pm at his shop in Belgrade. Questions, please feel free to contact Rob at 388-2361.

Photography

In April and May I plan to have us take a tour of the Chronicle and also to photograph a sporting event, preferably soccer. I am currently trying to get a tour of the Chronicle for April and the soccer game for May. I will send out an email when I have the dates in place. Thanks for your patience! If you have questions, suggestions or info call or email me. Kathy 581-8763 dokainc@bresnan.net

Robotics

The last Thursday in March we combined the first and second year classes in creating this year's robotics county fair project. This year's theme is: Robot Rodeo! This is a real rodeo complete with somewhat functional robot horses programmed to "run" barrel racing and keyhole racing. There will be crazy cows and bulls that need to be roped by a robotic cowboy and what rodeo would be complete without bull riding and a rodeo clown? Both 1st year and 2nd year will meet together on April 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th. For up-to-date progress of our robotics program and a copy of this schedule, please visit our robotics web site at www.gallatin4Hrobotics.org

Poultry and Rabbit

All Poultry and Rabbit Members will be meeting on Thursday, April 7th at the Belgrade Intermediate School Cafeteria at 6pm. Please bring your record book and your project curriculum book(s). If you have never received these from the 4-H Office, we will have copies for you to take. In poultry, we will be learning about feathers and different breeds of poultry birds and in rabbits, we will be learning about different rabbit diseases. We will also have a brief presentation on how to make a demonstration and fair poster as well as a presentation on how to fill out your record books so you can get a project award at the end of the year! See you on Thursday!

Future Poultry and Rabbit Meetings & Events:

April 17, 2011: Chick Days Event at Murdochs (time tbd) Find out more at our April 7th meeting.

May 5, 2011: Poultry and Rabbit meeting will be at 6:30pm (note time change) at the Fairgrounds Poultry/Rabbit Barn

May 10, 11, 12, 2011: Farm Fair - Bring your poultry birds and rabbits and help us with our 4-H presentation to fourth graders. Pick one of the three days to help us out. Sign up and learn more at the April 7th meeting.

June 2, 2011: Poultry and Rabbit Showmanship meeting will be at 6:30pm at the Fairgrounds Poultry/Rabbit Barn. Bring your animals.

Vet Science

April 12, Tuesday at 6:00 at the Cooper Springs Ranch. This will be a bandaging workshop. All horseless kids are welcome to come to this workshop, give Sue a phone call. If you need directions, please contact Sue at 522-9491.

Sheep Project News:

There are only 3 workshops left! Here is a rundown of our remaining workshops for 2011.

1. Lamb Selection Workshop in Conjunction with Smith's Lamb Sale - April 17th at 1:30PM
   3155 Leah Drive Belgrade Directions: From the Belgrade exit, go west on Amsterdam Rd. 2.2 miles, Turn right on Royal Rd 1 mile, left on Thorpe Rd .3 mile, right on Bulltail Rd .4 mile, left on Leah Lane.
2. Slick Shearing Workshop - June 8, 2011 6:30 PM at Smith's (see above directions)
3. Pre-fair/Showmanship Workshop - 5:30 PM on June 27, 2011 at the Gallatin Co. Fairgrounds

Sheep project participants MUST attend 3 of the 8 scheduled workshops* in order to show at the fair. **THERE WILL BE NO WORKSHOP CREDIT FOR SLICK SHEARING YOUR OWN LAMB THIS YEAR!**

*Substitutions (must be approved by the sheep committee):
- Participating in one Jackpot show will count as one workshop (Limit 1)
- Attending an out-of-county lamb sale will count as one workshop (Limit 1)

Weigh-In and Tagging - May 1, 2011 from 3 - 5 PM (Hog Barn at the Gallatin Co. Fairgrounds)
Please Note: Lambs can be sheared on this date; Nancy Chesterfield will be calling you to set up a shearing and weighing appointment during that time.

Shooting Sports Leader Training

Park County will be hosting a **Shotgun – Only training** in Livingston on **Sunday, April 10th**. This will be a one-day training that will start at 8:00 a.m. and continue into the evening (a long day to replace the time missed in a two-day training). Again, please note that the only discipline offered is shotgun. Lunch will be served as part of the registration fee. Lodging, if necessary, is on your own. The registration deadline is April 5th

The next Montana 4-H Shooting Sports Leader Training will be held in **Missoula on April 29th and 30th**. The deadline for registration is April 20th. We will be offering all disciplines if there is adequate interest. Please note that leaders must be trained before they can serve as 4-H Shooting Sports key leaders in a county program. Assistants do not need training, but must work under a trained leader who is present and involved anytime shooting occurs. The registration fee is $50 for adults and $25 for teen leaders (teens may only assist a 4-H shooting sports program if under the direct supervision of a trained and certified 4-H shooting sports adult leader of the same shooting discipline). The training will begin at 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Friday night and continue from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday. There will be a free chili dinner served on Friday night courtesy of the fine folks in Missoula County and lunch is provided on Saturday as part of the registration. Missoula County will also have breakfast items at each shooting location on Saturday. Educational materials are also included. Lodging is on your own, however, some hotels are providing a special rate.

Contact the Extension Office if you are interested in either of these opportunities.

National 4-H Shooting Sports Training: The training will be held in **Madrid, Iowa May 15 – 20, 2011**. Some financial assistance is available , but amounts will depend on the number of interested persons attending. Also please note that applicants will be screened through an evaluation process and not all that apply are necessarily accepted. This intense and thorough training will qualify leaders to become a state 4-H shooting sports instructor. The state commitment would be to teach 2-3 trainings per year and attend the State 4-H Shooting Sports Advisory Board meetings twice per year. If you know of any interested persons in any shooting sports discipline, please contact me as soon as you can. The first registration deadline is April 15th. Thanks, Todd Kesner, 994-6816

State Shooting Qualifiers

This is just a reminder that the following state qualifiers are coming up which will identify team members for the national tournament in Texas June 20-24. The Muzzle Loading Qualifier is coming up soon (April 3rd) and will be cancelled if there is no interest.

Archery: May TBA
Muzzle Loading: Sunday, April 3rd. Logan Range near Bozeman
Hunting: Sunday, April 10th. Manhattan, MT area
Shotgun: Saturday, May 7th. Hosted by Lake County
Please contact the Extension office for registration forms.

4-H Music Jam Session

Tuesday, April 19th from 6:00-8:00pm at the Cuelho's barn in Manhattan. Please RSVP to Beker at bekercuelho@gmail.com or call him at 284-6043.

Swine

Pig Pool: The Pig Pool is scheduled for Saturday April 16, at 11:00 am. The **location has changed** and it will be held this year at Dykema Livestock Yards at 4393 Wooden Shoe Rd, Manhattan, MT 59741. Google directions or call Sandy at 388-6900.

Pigs from elsewhere: If you are acquiring pigs from outside the pig pool, you must have them in your possession no later than April 20, 2011. They **must be tagged with our 4-H tags at the tagging meeting** in order to come to the fair.

Tagging meeting: Saturday, April 23rd from 10am to noon at 556 Business Hub Dr, Belgrade, MT 59714 (VanDyken Drilling Parking Lot off Amsterdam RD). Google directions or call Sandy 388-6900.

If the member goes to pick out their pigs and wants to count that as a workshop the member needs to discuss the following with the producer and document the information:

-the producers set up and operation for the swine
-feed type and method
-vaccinations (pigs must be vaccinated to bring them to fair)
-any other valuable information or information for the member's fairbook

If this is a workshop the member elects to use, please bring the *documentation to the tagging meeting on the 23rd* to be signed off on.

Save the Date: for the Swine Showmanship Workshop on Thursday, June 16, 6:00 pm at the Farrier's home in Manhattan. This class will be for both junior and senior showman. We would like ALL 4-H Swine Project Members to attend this meeting. Please RSVP to Kelly by calling 580-9736 or emailing kduncan@wildblue.net. If you cannot attend this meeting, we need to know, so please contact us as soon as possible.

Starter Flock Program

Are you interested in starting your own flock of sheep? The Montana Columbia Association is awarding a starter flock consisting of 4 ewes of various ages. If you are interested, please call Luanne Wallewein at 937-2775 or email her at wallywld@northerntel.net. This program is for youth ages 10-17 and the deadline to apply is July 15.

National Columbia Sheep Show "Flock to the Big Sky!!"

Montana Columbia Sheep Breeders Association would like to welcome everyone to the upcoming 2011 National Columbia Show and Sale in Great Falls, Montana, June 6-11. The National Show and Sale will be at the Montana Expo Park. For more information contact Anne Key at 406-788-3264

Calling All 4-H Cooks, Old and Young!

Gallatin Valley Livestock 4-H Club is looking for recipes for our upcoming cookbook fundraiser. It will be in the "Celebrating 100 years of 4-H" theme and we will be selling it this coming fall. If you have a great fair ribbon winning recipe, one you learned to cook in a 4-H workshop, if your great grandma was a 4-her and she has some great recipes, or if you are just 4-H related and want to share with us, we would love to have it. We would also love to have those old time fair photos to put in the book. We will be giving a prize to the person who submits the oldest 4-H related photo that is put in the book. If you would like to see your recipe or photo in our cookbook please submit them via email to Taryn DeBoer at taryndeboer@yahoo.com. All submitted recipes will be used along with our favorite photos you send. Please include your name and 4-H affiliation i.e. club, year you were in 4-H, volunteer position, so we can include that information. Thank you, Gallatin Valley Livestock 4-H Club

Unplug & Explore Fest - a Community Service Project for you and/or your Club

The organizers of the "Unplug & Explore Fest" on April 17th at the Dinosaur Park in Bozeman, are looking for 4-Hers who might be willing to put on a kids' activity booth(s) from 1-3pm. The idea is to unplug the TV and those wires from your ears and go outside and have a good time with other kids and all kinds of local groups! If you are interested in putting on a fun booth for kids or are already planning one, please call me (Danica) for more information at 388-3213 or email me at djamison@montana.edu.

Montana 4-H State Awards

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 variety of project and activity award areas. State Award winners have gone above and beyond regular project work with a focus on leadership, communication, and community service **Application Deadline is May 1, 2011.** For more information, go to the State 4-H website at www.montana4h.org.

Looking for a Junior Ambassador

A teen 4-H member (14 or up) with leadership qualities and abilities is being sought to fill the role of Junior 4-H Ambassador for Gallatin County. The Junior and Senior Teen Ambassadors are the official spokespersons for the county 4-H program with the duties of promoting 4-H to all non-4-H audiences. This could include presentations to schools, letters to the editor in the local paper, recruiting volunteers, or any other 4-H promotional event. Ambassadors are asked to attend ambassador training during pre-congress weekend and a conference in the fall. The term of office is two years and begins in July during 2011 Montana 4-H Congress. At the end of the first year, the Junior Ambassador becomes the Senior Ambassador and a new Junior is recruited. If interested, go to www.gallatinextension.com and you can print a PDF application or please call the Gallatin County MSU Extension Office at 388-3213 for the form. **Application deadline is May 1st.**

4-H CENTENNIAL

Montana 4-H celebrates 100 years in 2012 and is producing a 4-H centennial book. Counties are asked to send in their top stories. These may include individual or club stories, oral histories, photographs of activities with captions, etc. Please submit your entries to the Extension Office.

We Are Hosting State Leaders Forum in September

ALL are invited to the planning meeting COMING UP! We are looking forward to working together to plan an exciting State Leaders Forum! The meeting has been set for Friday, April 15th at 11:30 am at MacKenzie River Pizza (409 W Main St.) in Belgrade. We'll have lots to talk about including logo designs, schedule, workshops, speakers, special activities and so on. Please attend if you are interested in helping with this event! All are invited! Please RSVP by April 11 by calling the Extension Office at 388-3213.

Montana 4-H Center International Opportunities

Montana 4-H welcomes 34 Japanese delegates this summer from July 22-August 18. We are looking for families with kids ages 10-18 to host a Japanese youth. Families with no children or younger children may host an adult chaperone. This is a great opportunity to learn about another culture first-hand. Delegates come to experience life in a typical American family so planning special activities is not necessary. They also come with health insurance and their own spending money. To apply to host, contact your County Extension office, Beth Foster at (406) 461-3014 (gbfosterinmt@msn.com) or Stephanie Davison at (406) 994-3502 (sdavison@montana.edu).

2011 Summer Fair "A Boot Scootin' Good Time"
July 20-24, 2011

FAIR ENTIRES - VERY IMPORTANT!!!!

ENTRY DEADLINE FOR FAIR: June 30, 2011

(entries will be accepted with a late fee from July 1st to July 8th)

ABSOLUTELY NO ENTRIES AFTER JULY 8TH, NO EXCEPTIONS!!!

Entries will close 1 week before fair and **ABSOLUTELY** no one will be allowed to enter the fair after July 8th. It is difficult to plan ahead for ribbons, space needs, animal stalls and pens, etc if entries are allowed past the deadline and not fair to others who have abided by the rules. If you miss the last deadline, you WILL NOT be allowed to exhibit at the fair. Fair entry books and entry forms will not be mailed out, you can pick them up in the 4-H office or find them online. **We will have the 4-H pages of the fairbook and entry forms available mid-May in the office or online at www.gallatinextension.com.**

MSU to Host Free NanoDays Family Science Night April 11

On Monday, April 11, Montana State University will host a free family science night as part of a nationwide celebration called NanoDays.

The theme of the event is nanotechnology, an emerging field in which scientists and engineers study and manipulate matter at the atomic and molecular scale to develop disease-fighting drugs, alternative energy solutions, ultra-strong sports equipment and many other applications. The evening will help both kids and adults learn about nanoscience in a fun and easy-to-understand format, including its impacts on society. The event will take place from 6-8 p.m. in the SUB Ballrooms. Visitors can stop in at any time for activities and demonstrations, such as manipulating magnetic liquid, learning about static electricity, playing with nanosand and getting a nano tattoo. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

At MSU, researchers are using nanoscience to develop targeted vaccines, magnetic materials for electronics and catalysts for producing hydrogen. Nanoscience is an emerging field that blends chemistry, physics, engineering and other areas of science and is one of the country's top research priorities. NanoDays is sponsored by Montana NSF EPSCoR, MSU's Center for Bio-Inspired Nanomaterials, MSU Extended University and the Undergraduate Chemistry Society. For more information, visit http://eu.montana.edu/nanodays.

Expanding Your Horizons Conference April 30

Registration is now open for Montana State University's "Expanding Your Horizons" conference on Saturday, April 30. The day-long program offers creative hands-on workshops designed to motivate girls in grades 6, 7 and 8 to consider careers and studies in math and science.

Workshops are taught by MSU faculty and community members and cover such topics as astronomy, biochemistry, physics, sports medicine and more. Registration is $20 and includes lunch, materials and four hands-on sessions.

EYH is a high-demand program and space is limited. Registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. The conference is sponsored by MSU Extended University with support from the Howard Hughes Undergraduate Biology Program and other sponsors.

Conference agenda and registration forms are available online at http://eu.montana.edu/ContinuingEd/youth/ or call (406) 994-6683 to receive a brochure by mail. For more information, contact Martha Sellers at marthabsellers@gmail.com or (406) 994-6683

Leader Council Minutes - none available at press time. Copies will be available in the office.

Summer Camping Opportunities

There are lots of camping opportunities for 4-Hers and their families this year!

Youth Trapper Camp - June 10th-12th. The Annual Youth Trapper Camp sponsored by the Montana Trappers Association, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks and Montana 4-H will be held June 10-12 in Beaver Creek Park south of Havre. The Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks offers a $20.00 scholarship for the first 60 youth who send in their applications and YTC, Inc. provides for the additional applicants who request help prior to April 15. The campers attend classes on trapping methods, ethics regulations, fur handling, health and safety. To request an application, visit the following site: http://www.montanatrappers.org/programs/ytc.htm

Montana Range Days - June 13-15, Deer Lodge, Montana: The three-day event will be packed with fun, hands-on workshops for all ages. More details on the web site: http://cartercd.org/MRD%20page%201.htm

Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp - July 17th-22nd, Missoula, Montana: This is a wonderful opportunity to bring the kids outside where learning and recreation come together, to foster understanding and instill appreciation for the natural amenities of Montana that provide resources like clean water, wood products, recreational opportunities, and wildlife habitat. Link to the camp website: http://www.mnryc.org . **For more information please contact Martin Twer, MSU Extension Forestry (phone 406-243-2773 or email martin.twer@cfc.umt.edu).**

Montana Youth Range Camp - June 27-July 1: Campers age 12-18 will be introduced to 25 of Montana's important range plants-grasses, forbs, and shrubs-and will learn about the interaction of soils, water, plants, wildlife and livestock in the range. Please visit the Natural Resources and Conservation website at **http://dnrc.mt.gov/cardd/camps/default.asp** for more information and applications.

Parkhaven Retirement Community Dog Show

April 16, 1-4 pm. Contestants and spectators wanted. For more information contact Leia Miller at 282-7488

Notes from the Fairgrounds Meeting about Parking, RV/Camping, and More

Sue Shockley and members of the Gallatin County Fairgrounds (GCF) staff and Fair Board met with about 25 4-H parents, youth, and leaders on March 29th to discuss plans for the 2011 Fair. As many of you know, camping and parking will be different this year. There will be no driving allowed on the Fairgrounds from 10pm on Tuesday night through 5pm on Sunday evening (with very few exceptions such as emergencies and food vendor deliveries in the early morning). There are also fewer camping spots this year with electricity - but many camping spots available in the West Annex Parking Lot off Oak where you can bring a generator. That parking lot will not be open to the general public which will really help improve parking for 4-H families, vendors, and contestants. Official notes from this meeting are available for you to pick up at the 4-H Office if you are interested. And if you have any questions or further comments about the meeting, feel free to contact Danica at djamison@montana.edu or by calling 388-3213.

State 4-H Horse Show Book Cover Art & Theme Contest

Attention all 4-H members. Help design the official 2011 State 4-H horse show book cover. Entries must be received in the Prairie County Extension Office postmarked no later than **May 13th**. Entries should include artwork and theme *(not artwork alone)*. Please include a 4-H clover and the year 2011 in your design. Contestants must be 4-H members in the State of Montana, and all entries must have a parent's signature. The winner will be notified by phone after May 31st. The winning design will also be used on official State 4-H Show t-shirts and sweatshirts. There is no limit on entries per person. If you are interested please contact the 4-H office for the entry form.

April 2011

Gallatin County 4-H
201 West Madison, Ste 300
Belgrade, MT 59714

Danica Jamison
Gallatin County 4-H Agent
Phone: 388-3213
Fax: 388-3243
E-mail: djamison@montana.edu

The MSU Extension Service is an ADA/EO/AA/Veteran's preference employer and educational outreach provider.
To request disability accommodation or to inform us of special needs, please contact the Extension Office at 406-388-3213, e-mail: gallatin1@montana.edu, or write Gallatin County Extension, 201 West Madison, Suite 300, Belgrade, MT 59714

APRIL IS: MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

April was established as the Month of the Military Child in 1986 by then Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger. He established the annual recognition because he understood and appreciated the challenges encountered by children of military service members. Throughout the month of April we make a special effort to let our military children know that we honor and appreciate their sacrifices in the same light as we do that of their parents . . . because military kids serve too!!

4-H / Operation Military Kids Art Workshops

We are offering a free series of 4-H/OMK Art Workshops for 4th-8th Graders. Workshops will be on 4/4, 4/11, 4/18 from 5-7pm at the Belgrade Library. Operation Military Kids is proud to collaborate with Gallatin County 4-H and Belgrade Community Library to bring a creative *Speak Out for Military Kids* event to the Gallatin Valley in honor of April, Month of the Military Child. Register by calling the library at 388-4346. This free event is open to military and non-military youth grades 4-8.

National Volunteer Week - April 10 – April 16, 2011
"Celebrating People in Action"

We honor all our volunteers who dedicate themselves to providing the common goal of working to make the best better. We honor the commitment given to the Extension 4-H program and our youth. Please take the time to thank your club leader, project leader, or others who freely give their time. **OUR OFFICE THANKS YOU. YOU ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED. TOGETHER WE CAN DO GREAT THINGS.**