

September 2025 Newsletter





MSU Extension Update

We are searching for a new Administrative Assistant to join our team! Don't be shy, tell a good candidate how great we are! In the meantime, please call the office before stopping by to confirm that staff are available. The Office is only taking cash and/or checks until further notice.

As many of you may know, Shae Bruursema has moved to White Sulphur Springs and has taken a job with the Townsend Schools teaching Family & Consumer Sciences. We want to thank her for all she did for Lewis & Clark County 4-H while she was in the office. Her dedication did not go unnoticed.

September 2025 Agent Shout Out - Aiden Emmons



Aiden Emmons spent several days at the fair standing beside his black steer with the white face. When a parent stopped to visit with him. John shared that he wanted to be there so he wouldn't miss the opportunity to talk with kids who wanted to interact with the animals, as well as with people who had never been around livestock up close. What an inspiring example of 4-H leadership and dedication!

2024-2025 4-H Year Feedback Survey

We are looking for feedback on the 2024-2025 4-H year! If you would like to let us know what you liked or provide suggestions, please fill out this survey by clicking the following link! bit.ly/2024-20254-Hsurvey

4-H Website:

http://www.lccountymt.gov/4-h.html

Location:

100 West Custer, Helena, MT 59602

Phone: 406.447.8346

E-mail: lewisclark@montana.edu

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Closed everyday 12:00 -1:00 p.m.

Closed for Holidays

2025 Event dates

- 4-H Award Applications Due- Sept 30
- Start of the New 4-H Year!- Oct. 1
- National 4-H Week- Oct. 5-11
- 4-H Open House- Oct. 5
- Awards Night- Oct. 26
- Fall Leadership Training- Nov. 7-9
- Click here to view all 4-H events

FOUNDATION SPONSORSHIP REQUEST

To request a sponsorship for a 4-H project or activity, please click here. 1

Preparing for the 2025-2026 4-H Year

Enrollment: Enrollment starts October 1st - please enroll online by visiting 4h.zsuite.org. Find out more information here.

Re-enrollments and fees for members and volunteers are due to the Extension Office by **Wednesday**, **December 31st.**

Re-enrollments received after December 31st will require a \$50.00 late enrollment fee per family. New family enrollments are due by May 1st to qualify for Fair, but new families can enroll at any time.

<u>Please Note</u>: If you enroll but do not pay your fees you are <u>not</u> a full 4-H member and therefore may not participate in workshops. Be sure to complete all steps of enrollment as soon as possible to ensure you receive all the benefits of being a 4-H Member.

2025 4-H Annual Open House Sign Up

The 4-H Open House will be **Sunday, October 5th, from 1:00-3:00 p.m.** in the Bill Hamilton Building. We would love to have a wide array of Clubs and Projects from Lewis & Clark County 4-H represented in some way, providing families with the opportunity to experience the diverse range of project options and clubs they can choose from. To register your project, club, or event, please click the link: bit.ly/4-Hopenhouse. The registration deadline is **Monday, September 29^{th,} at 5:00 p.m.** Please note the number of chairs and tables you will need when signing up.

2025-2026 Project Fees

Until further notice, we will only be accepting checks/cash. There will be no option to pay online. Checks should be made out to LCC 4-H Council. Please mail to 100 W. Custer Ave., Helena, MT 59602.

General Fees

\$40.00 Youth Enrollment Fee

\$40.00 Volunteer Enrollment Fee

\$10.00 Livestock Fee (Horse, pocket pets and Dog not included)

\$75.00 Horse Fee (Horseless Horse does not pay the fees)

\$25.00 Ranch Horse Fee

\$25.00 Driving Horse Fee

\$75.00 Livestock Judging Fee

\$25.00 Cloverbud Fee

\$15.00 Air Rifle Fee

\$15.00 Air Pistol Fee

\$15.00 Archery Fee

\$65.00 Welding Fee

\$10.00 Visual Arts Fee

\$20.00 Sports Fishing

Dog Project Fees

\$40.00 Dog Obedience/Showmanship Fee

\$40.00 Dog Agility Fee

\$30.00 Volunteer Fee

\$27.00 Leather Leash Fee

Laurie gives a discount of \$20.00 per child (in the same household) after the first child is paid

National 4-H Week

National 4-H Week Window Display Contest

The National 4-H Week is always the first full week of October. We celebrate this week through the Window Display Contest, which will occur October 5th-11th. The judges award the top three winning window displays. Form and pictures are **due to the**Extension office by Monday, October 7, 2024. There will be no late entries as window displays are required to be completed the morning of Sunday, October 5th. Forms are available in the new year club packets.





2025 4-H Annual Open House

Join us for the 4-H Annual Open House! The open house will take place on **Sunday**, **October 5th from 1:00-3:00 p.m.** in the Bill Hamilton Building. This is a great opportunity for both old and new families to celebrate and learn about 4-H. We would love to have a wide array of Clubs and Projects from Lewis & Clark County 4-H represented in some way to provide new & interested families the opportunity to experience the wide range of project options that they can choose from, as well as the opportunity to meet with club leaders and members to help them decide which club might be a good fit for them.

Lewis & Clark County 4-H

4-H OPEN HOUSE



- Activities, fun and games
- Discover 4-H club options best for your family
- Fair, 4-H Summer camp, and many other county events

OCTOBER 5TH

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
4-H Bill Hamilton building
@Lewis & Clark County fairgrounds

Everyone Welcome! Cloverbuds: 5-7 years old General 4-H membership 8-19 years old

National 4-H Week

2025 Lewis & Clark County Farm Bureau Hay/Straw Bale Contest

Mark your calendars for **October 19th** — the deadline to enter the Farm Bureau's 2025 Hay Bale contest. The contest is a fun way for Clubs to combine their creative talent and compete to win cash prizes. Rules and entry forms can be found in the new 4-H club packets.

Hay/Straw Bale Contest

Sponsored By: Lewis & Clark County Farm Bureau 2025

Decorating needs to be done by October 19th, 2025

Prizes include:

1St Place: \$500

2nd Place: \$300

3rd Place: \$100

Honarable Mention: \$50



4-H FUNdraiser at Panda Express

Kick off National 4-H Week with a FUNdraiser! Order anytime from **9:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 8th**, either online or in person at the Helena Panda Express! Be sure to bring your flyer on your phone or paper.



Fundraiser for

Lewis and Clark Livestock

20% of event sales will be donated

Lewis and Clark 4-H is a youth empowered origination. We have over 400 children enrolled.

When

Wednesday, October 08, 2025 Time: 9:30 AM to 10:30 PM



Where

Panda Express located at: 3075 N. Sanders St. Helena MT 59601 (406) 449 - 8898

Fundraisers

Mark your calendars for these upcoming FUNdraisers! A portion of proceeds goes back to support LCC 4-H.

Please share with family & friends too!

4-H FUNdraiser atBuffalo Wild WingsOrder anytime from **4:00 to 9:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 12th** at the Buffalo Wild Wings! Be sure to bring your flyer on phone or paper.





Upcoming State Events

Fall Leadership Training- November 7-9, 2025, Butte, MT

Fall Leadership Training is the annual leadership development retreat for Montana 4-H Ambassadors and Teen Leaders. The event is planned, implemented, and evaluated by the State Ambassador Officer Team. Youth will leave the weekend prepared and excited to take the knowledge and skills they have gained and apply them in their counties. It is also a great place to have youth leaders exchange ideas and create a statewide network of resources. Registration will be through ZSuites.

Members interested must be 14 as of October 1st 2025.

Registration deadline is October 17, 2025

Click here bit.ly/FallLeadershipTraining for more information



Upcoming County Events

Fall Awards

Please join us "Under the Sea" for our 2025 Fall Awards Night on Sunday October 26th at 5pm beginning with a potluck dinner. Last names A-H - Sides/Salads; Last names I-R - Main Dish; Last names S-Z: Desserts. The awards ceremony will begin immediately following dinner at 6pm. Trunk or Treat will start at 7pm. Wear your best Halloween attire! The Ambassadors are excited to acknowledge and celebrate the hard work and achievements of the Lewis and Clark County 4-H youth at this event. We are looking forward to seeing you all there.



Teen Camp Counselors for 2026!

If you are interested in applying for and serving as a summer camp counselor next year, please check the October 4-H newsletter for details. We'll have an orientation meeting and social gathering in early November, with information on what is involved, a tentative schedule, and more. If you have questions beforehand, feel free to contact Luke Duran at

elementl@icloud.com. See you then!



Nomination & Award Information

Lewis & Clark County 4-H Awards & **Sponsorship**

It's Awards season! Get the credit you deserve and apply for 4-H awards today! Below is a list of awards and sponsorship applications. To view available awards and sponsorship, click here. The awards and Volunteer Award Nominations sponsorship are due Tuesday, September 30th.

4-H Member Awards

- Canyon Creek Stock 4-H Club Livestock Project Sponsorship
- 4-H Above and Beyond Award
- 4-H Overall Senior Horse Award
- 4-H Overall Junior Horse Award
- Julie Paulson 4-H Achievement Award
- 4-H Club Secretary Award
- 4-H Club President Award
- 4-H Club Vice President Award
- 4-H Club Historian/Media Manager Award
- 4-H Club Treasurer Award

4-H Club Awards

- 4-H Club of the Year
- 4-H Club Leadership Award
- 4-H Club Community Award
- 4-H Club Involvement Award
- 4-H Club Communication Award





Nominate a volunteer who made a positive impact on your life today! Nominations are due Tuesday, September 30th. Click here to nominate a volunteer who went above and beyond!

4-H Volunteer Awards

- 4-H Appreciation Award
- 4-H Community Benefactor
- 4-H Distinguished Service Award
- 4-H Many Hats Award
- 4-H Outstanding New Volunteer Award
- 4-H Club Leader Award

Committee Position Nominations

It is that time to nominate for committee positions again! Click the committee you would like to nominate. Both nomination forms will close Friday, October 3rd, at 8:00 a.m. If you miss the deadline, you have the opportunity to nominate on the floor at the October committee meetings. The meeting dates are on the following page.

Outdoor Superintendent Nominations Indoor Superintendent Nominations

COMMITTEE MEETINGS & INFORMATION

4-H Council

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 10th 5:30 p.m. in the BHB

Council minutes available online

If you would like to join the meeting remotely, please let the office know, ahead of time.

4-H Foundation

Next Meeting: **September 10**th **immediately following the council meeting**

Foundation minutes available online

Outdoor Committee

The next Outdoor meeting is **Monday, September 8**th **at 5:30 p.m. in the BHB.** Please contact David Hamilton with a with any questions.

Outdoor minutes available online here.

Indoor Committee

The September meeting was canceled. in the BHB. Please contact Jenn Reed with any questions.

Indoor minutes available online here.

Youth Council

Youth Council's next meeting is **Sunday, October 18th at 6:00 p.m.** at the BHB.

Youth Council minutes available online

Awards Committee

Next Meeting: Monday, September 15th at 5:00p.m. in the Lower Conference Room in the Fairgrounds Office.

Please fill out the <u>volunteer interest form on this page</u> if you are interested in serving on the awards committee.



Note: The website is in the process of being updated.

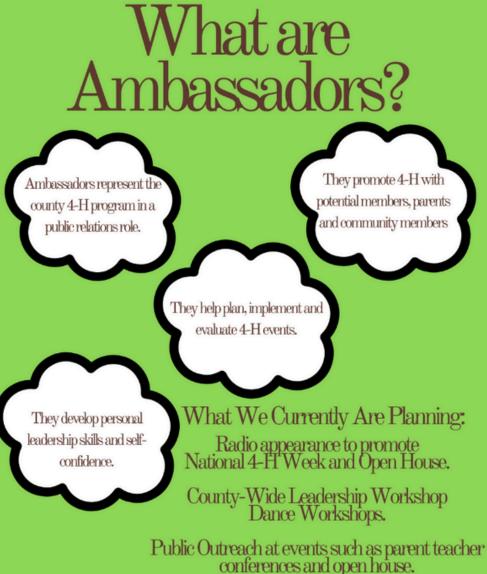


4-H County Ambassadors

Four of our Lewis & Clark County 4-H ambassadors joined Luke Duran to present to the Helena Kiwanis Club. All four of them talked about their passion for 4-H, the projects they have been successful at, and what 4-H provides to our kids and our community. After they spoke, they had a rapt crowd in the palms of their hands! The ambassadors fielded lots of questions from the audience. Luke was really impressed with their thoughtful, insightful, and excellent answers. One standout was Kiley's thorough explanation of how 4-H'ers acquire an animal to raise, and how the livestock sale works at the fair.

Excellent job Kortney McKay, Kiley Eckhart, Stella Duran, and Ayla Mundinger-Adsay





Indoor Project Updates

Ambassadors

Superintendent - Michaela Stewart Ambassadors - Charlie Snellman, Alyssa White, Sara Dearing, Kortney McKay, and Ayla Mundinger-Adsay

The Ambassadors are busy planning outreach activities and workshops for the upcoming year. Stay tuned for details on Leadership workshops, dance workshops, and more!

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Cloverbuds

Superintendent - Michaela Stewart Junior - Dallas Blanev

Please join us at JFK Park on Sept 15th at 6pm for the end of year/awards party. This will be a potluck so please check your emails for the signup link on what to bring. Our workshop dates for the upcoming year are

- October 20th
 - March 16th
- November 17th
- April 20th
- December 15th
- May 18th
- January 19th
- June 15th
- February 16th

Foods & Nutrition

Superintendent - Mandy Rambo

I appreciate the opportunity to be your Foods & Nutrition Superintendent for the past 3 years and the opportunity before that to assist the Superintendent. I will still be available to help the new Superintendent get up to speed and to assist members with Foods & Nutrition projects, if they need help. My email is mandy_k_rambo@hotmail.com and phone is (406) 945-3749. Thank you again and congrats on a great 4-H year!



Outdoor Adventure

Superintendent - Jennifer Van Syckle

Enjoy your September! Outdoor Adventure will be starting back up at the beginning of the 4-H year in October. We'll have our first meeting then and continue through the year.

Indoor Project Updates

Pocket Pets

Superintendent - CJ Lassila

4-H Pocket Pets celebrated our 2024-2025 year at the Lewis and Clark County Fair with showmanship presentations, educational display posters, and a homemade guinea pig shelter.

At our workshops this 4-H year, project members learned about overall care and nutrition for their Pocket Pets. We also experienced workshop visits by some wonderful Pocket Pets that included guinea pigs, mice and a pet snake.

Pocket Pet workshops for the 2025-2026 year will begin in January on the third Monday, Jan.19th at 7:00 pm in the 4-H Building.





Shooting Sports

Overall Superintendent- Vanessa Olson

Air Rifle- James Johnson

Archery- Ben Rude

Muzzleloading Superintendent - Les Gransbery

I look forward to seeing you all in October. We will start with safety briefs and equipment checks Oct 14 for Air Rifle and Oct 16 for Archery. These briefs will be at 6 pm in the BHB.

Archery – Starts Oct 23 for all returning shooters – Note the new times. We will start the new year with two sessions and add sessions as needed.

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Air Rifle/Air Pistol - Starts Oct 21 for all returning shooters

5:45 pm - 6:45 pm

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Have a great month.

Indoor Project Updates

Sport Fishing

Superintendent - Guy Rainville

Click here to view the Facebook Sport Fishing project <u>page</u>

4-H SPORT FISHING season 2025 topped off with a special day on August 23rd - a Saturday morning fishing event and family picnic.

We've had weekly Tuesday evening workshops since early Spring about how to ty flies, do fishing knots, become familiar with current Montana Fishing Regulations, and learn Fish identification. Project members also learned some maintenance methods for Rods and Reels. In July, Montana Wild FWP staff provided us a Water / Boating safety workshop. Project members enjoyed Sport Fishing workshops in several outdoor locations where experiences included pond, lake, creek and river fishing. Thank you to private property owners who gave us permission to be on their property during our workshops.

Teen Leadership

Superintendent - Michaela Stewart

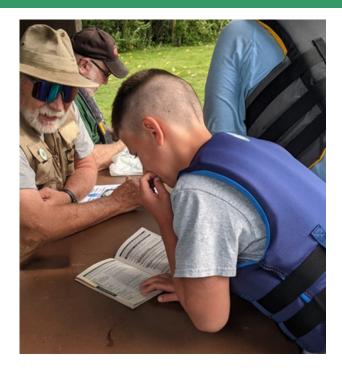
Please keep an eye on the October newsletter for important dates and information for the new year.



Don't See Your Project?



You will need to contact your project superintendent for more information. For a full list of project superintendents' contact information, please click here.



Fishing Regulations tell what fish you can keep

Outdoor Project Updates



Policy Update

The new policy passed 7 to 5 at the council meeting. Please watch for workshops and updates next year in September and/or October.

Policy Reads "Each enrolled livestock member will attend 3 workshops per a specie (Beef, Sheep, Swine, Goat, Rabbits, Poultry, Dairy) to show/sell their animal at fair. These will be completed prior to June 1st when FairEntry opens up. These workshops will be attended in person in Lewis and Clark County.",

Outdoor Project Updates

Beef

Superintendent - TBA
Juniors- Carter Petre & Sara Dearing

stay tuned/coming soon.



Dairy

Superintendent - Marlee Johnson & Teresa Lane
Jr. Superintendents- Sara Dearing, Kiley Eckhart, and
Bethany Lane

Our upcoming workshops are:

- Nov 16- Feeding a dairy cow, BHB I will talk to Kelsey about either including Dairy or doing a half hour calss after the main workshop.
- Jan 11- 4:00 Dairy Products, BHB
- Feb 8- 4:00 Milk processing/ milk quality (open to the dairy goat and dairy sheep kids)
- March 7- Calving and newborn calf care @ Dahl Ranch
- April 6- 3:00 Milk components and fun with dairy products
- May 3- Hoof trimming and dairy cow spa day BHB
- May 17- Vet talks about metabolic issues. Augusta

If anyone has any questions, please let me know.

Horse

Superintendent - Beckie Graham **Juniors**- Addy FitzSimmons, Emily Gannott,

Horse Projects High Point Winners:

- Senior Grand- Addy FitzSimmons,
- Senior Reserve- Emily Gannott
- Junior Grand- KyLee Wilkins
- Junior Reserve-Makell Guymon and Kayden Martin
- Walk Trot Grand- Payton Patterson
- · Walt Trot Reserve- Quinn Lassu

The State Horse shows are at the 406-Arena in Vaughn. Working Ranch is Sept 12-14 and the Regular horsemanship show is Sept 26-28. Registration will be closing August 15th.

Please don't forget to sign up for the horsemanship awards. You can win one as a junior and one as a senior. I highly encourage you to submit an application. I know this says at the end of September, but do to a timeline constraint, please submit them to the office by Sept 19th. If you have any questions, please call me. The Horse award is a belt buckle.



Dog











Dog

Superintendent - Laurie & Bill Sullivan

GREAT JOB TO ALL OF THE FAIR 4-H DOG PARTICIPANTS! YOU WERE WONDERFUL!!

The 4-H Dog Project will begin its new year by having an informational meeting on OCTOBER 18TH at the Bill Hamilton Building. The FIRST year Dog Project Members will meet at 9:00 a.m. SECOND year and beyond dog members will meet at 10:30 a.m. We will be going over the enrollment forms, project fees, vaccination forms, and meeting with some of the instructors. We will also be going over the schedule for the upcoming year and changes to the program. This is an informational meeting so please do not bring your dogs.

Obedience training **WITH YOUR DOGS** will begin on **OCTOBER 25TH** with the First-year project members ages 8-10 years old starting at 8:30 a.m. and first-year project members 11 years old and older will meet at 9:30 a.m. Second year project members will meet at 10:30 a.m. Third year project members and beyond will meet at 11:30 a.m.

The schedules will be adjusted according to the number of participants in each level of the Obedience classes and being able to social distance with our Dog Project members and their dogs. Soft moist treats and a 6 ft. leash with a flat buckle collar on your dog will be needed for each training class.

Further equipment needs will be addressed at the informational meeting and throughout our dog training.

See you in OCTOBER!!

Outdoor Project Updates

Livestock Judging

Superintendent - Michelle Eckhart

We are seeking all youth interest to join our livestock judging project.

A list of this years contests:

- NILE-October
- John Deere Ag Days-November
- MAGIE-January
- Miles City-February

- Missoula-April
- Carbon County-May (Livestock Judging Camp



Cloverbud Poultry 2025 Showmanship. Photo by Gabriel Edwards.



Poultry

Superintendent - Lexie Edwards
C.J. Lassila
Juniors- Ayla Mundinger-Adsay, Kiley Eckhart,
Cassidy Holm & Gabe Volpe

Click here to view the Facebook poultry project page

The 2024-2025 4-H Poultry Project year came to an end with the Lewis and Clark County 4-H Fair Poultry Show in July. During this 4-H year there were 8 workshops with topics including winterization; nutrition, parts of an egg, bird parts, how to handle your bird, and preparing your birds and yourself for Fair. A variety of poultry was displayed at the Fair. 27 4-Her's participated in Showmanship: 3 Seniors, 11 Juniors, 8 Novice, and 5 Cloverbuds.

Poultry project workshops (in-town) for the 2025-2026 year will begin in December.Mark your calendars for Friday, December 12th (6:00 pm in the 4-H Building BHB).

Hey Poultry People - The Rocky Mountain Poultry Association will hold its annual Fall Show this year at the Montana State Fairgrounds in Great Falls on Saturday, October 4th, 2025. 4-H youth from across Montana are welcome to participate in the youth and open shows. For information, contact Desiree Roth 406-590-7911.



Sheep

Superintendent - Melissa Velin Juniors- Mackenzie Velin, Zach Eckart, and Bethany Converse-Lane

What an amazing fair! We are so proud of you all and look forward to another great year! Sign ups will be starting soon for the 2025/2026 year so keep a look out at your emails for more information to come

Rabbit





Superintendent - Michelle Eckhart

Next meeting will be after the new 4-H year starts! See you then!!

Swine

Superintendent - Katie Grady-Selby Brandon Dearing

Welcome to the swine project! Thank you and congratulations to all that participated in the 2024-2025 4-H Year.

We have planned some new workshops for this year. Please plan accordingly to make sure your member attends 3 workshops to sell/show a pig this year.

The tentative schedule is below and watch for more information in your e-mail box and on the Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/528703432984673

Date	Time	Subject/Presenter	Location	d
 Sunday, Oct. 12th 	12:30pm	Augusta All Species	Augusta Community Center	\smile
 Sunday, Nov. 16th 	2:00pm	Harriman Family Farm (Feeds they offer)	ВНВ	,
 Wednesday, Dec. 3rd 	5:30pm	SOE w/ Rose Maslisani (Standards & Divisions)	ВНВ	
 Monday. Dec. 8th 	6:30pm	Pigs 101	ВНВ	
 Sunday, Jan. 11th 	2:00pm	Butcher Shop Tour/Carcass Info	K&S Butcher Shop.	
 Sunday, Feb. 21st 	10:45am	DIY Swine Marketing Products	ВНВ	
 Sunday, Mar. 15th 	Noon	Marketing/Thank You Writing	ВНВ	
 Thursday, Apr. 9th 	6:30pm	Swine Health w/ Anna Forsyth	ВНВ	
Friday, Apr. 17th	5:00pm	Swine Tagging Forms Due	Online	
 Sunday, Apr. 19th 	10-11am	Swine Tagging	внв	
 Sunday, May 17th 	10:00am	Showmanship with Pigs	ВНВ	

Sweet Clovers

Sweet Clovers celebrated the 4H year by having an outing to Flying Giant Adventure Park followed by pizza and fruit in the park. Everyone was very brave at facing their fears at Flying Giant. It was great to see the younger kids keeping up with the older kids, as well as looking up to them. We have a lot of great future leaders.







Wild Roses

Wild Roses 4-H Club met for its July 2025 club meeting on Monday, July 14th, in the 4-H Building. We heard about what projects were going to be exhibited in the Fair and Fair materials were handed out. This year 50% of our club membership participated in the Fair. Our projects exhibited included Beef, Pig, Goat, Sheep, Rabbit, Poultry, Dog, Visual Arts, Photography, Small Engines, and Sport Fishing.

Also, some of our club members exhibited in the Lewis and Clark County Open Class Fair.

As our activity for this meeting, club members selected flowers for our gift basket that we donated to the Fair Silent Auction.



Silent Auction Basket donated by Wild Roses 4-H Club

September 2025

*Check the calendar on the website for additional events or changes. *BHB = Bill Hamilton 4-H Building on the Lewis and Clark Co. Fairgrounds

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
	Extension Office Closed LABOR PAY	2	3	4	5	6		
7	8 Outdoor Meeting, 5:00pm BHB	9	10 Council Meeting, BHB, 5:30pm Foundation Meeting, BHB, Canceled	11	12	13		
14	Awards Meeting, 5:00pm, Fairgrounds Lower Conference Room Indoor Meeting, Rescheduled	16	Helena Kennel Club using the BHB	18 Helena Kennel Club using the BHB	Helena Kennel Club using the BHB	Helena Kennel Club using the BHB		
21 Helena Kennel Club using the BHB	22 Ambassador Meeting, BHB 6:00pm	23	24 Department of Agriculture using BHB	25 Department of Agriculture using BHB	26	27 Karyn Hamilton using BHB		
28		30 Award and Sponsorship Forms Due, 5:00 p.m., Extension Office	Oct. 1	Oct . 2	Oct. 3 Nominations for Outdoor and Indoor Committees due at 8;00 a.m.	Oct. 4		