

January 2026



4-H members judge swine at the 4-H Livestock Judging event held on December 13, 2025 at the Weatherbeater Arena. The event was organized by Jon and Misti Redland and Susan and RT Snyder, with awesome support from other volunteers from Spring Creek 4-H Club. Twenty kids participated and gave amazing oral reasons!

On the Horizon

- Jan 4.....Market Beef Weigh-in and LQA, Sunday, 2 pm, Weatherbeater
- Jan 5.....**Council Meeting**, Fairfield Public Library, Monday, 6 pm
- Jan 11.....MT 4-H Leadership Academy online, Sunday, 6 pm see pg. 5
- Jan 13.....**Market Beef Possession Deadline:** forms, photos and fees at Extension Office, Tues, 5 pm
- Jan 15-18....Montana Winter Fair, Lewistown; Livestock Judging Friday Jan 16; deadline to register Jan 14
- Jan 20-21....KMON FFA and 4-H Contest in Great Falls; Meats, Poultry, Sales, Agronomy
- Feb 2.....**Livestock Committee Meeting**, Teton County Courthouse (2nd Floor) in Choteau, 6-7 pm
- Jan 18.....Poultry/Rabbit Project Meeting, Williams' Place, Sunday, 2-4 pm
- Feb 1.....Club Descriptions for Visual Art grant money due!
- Feb 9.....Camp Counselor application due, for Camp 2026
- Feb 14.....MT 4-H Foundation People Partner Grant application due
- Feb 24.....Camp Counselor planning meeting, 6 pm at Cascade Co. Extension Office
- Mar 14.....Save the Date: County-wide Communications Day
- Mar 27.....Boe Brothers and Anne Wiprud 4-H Scholarships due at the Extension Office



Ag Agent's Corner: *Strong Work, Beef Members!*

by Jenn Swanson



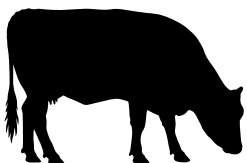
You betcha - 25 of 26 beef members attended the Beef Weigh-in and Tag Day and first LQA event on Sunday Jan 4, 2026!

A Big Thank You to Beef Superintendents

Levi Hodgskiss and Justin Paulson for coordinating the event...



...and Livestock Committee President Ashle Morris for taking initial weights and presenting educational content



Everyone pitched in,... it was moooving!

Special thanks to Katy Morris for peer teaching and Alexis Morris for secretarial support!



Club Leadership News

- Updated club bank account mailing address



- 4-H Insurance Coverage

Procedure update: Help us keep your club's information up to date by having your club's bank statements mailed to the Extension Office. This will allow us to provide better oversight as clubs transition between leaders and treasurers.

The address is: **P.O. Box 130, Choteau, MT 59422.**

Each club should let the office know if they would like the statements mailed or sent electronically each month.

4-H Insurance: What it does and does not cover.

Through American Income Life, Montana 4-H has a blanket policy that covers all enrolled 4-H members while taking part in supervised 4-H activities. This is not a liability policy and only covers accidents from minor scrapes to major injuries for youth members. The table below provides more detail about the maximum benefits based on accident. Teton County 4-H does obtain Special Event coverage for fair and camp each year that covers adult volunteers. If you have more questions about insurance coverage, please give us a call at the Extension Office.

Providing adult supervision at every meeting, practice, and 4-H gathering is an essential piece of the puzzle to keep our youth safe. Any adults that will be alone with youth must be **certified volunteers** and have passed a background check. Give our office a call if you need to find out if a volunteer has a current certification.

American Income Life Insurance Company -Special Risk Division

Annual Policy Table of Benefits	Maximum Benefits
For expenses incurred within 52 weeks of the date of Accident for Medical and Surgical Treatment, X-Ray Charges, Hospital Confinement, Ambulance Expense and Prescriptions up to....	\$5,000
For Dental Expenses incurred within 52 weeks of Accident, involving sound, natural teeth...	\$500
For losses within 100 days of Accident which result in the loss of life...	\$5,000
For losses within 100 days of Accident which cause loss of both hands or both feet, or one hand and one foot, or the total and irrecoverable loss of sight of both eyes...	\$10,000
For losses within 100 days of Accident which cause the loss of one arm, leg foot or one hand...	\$5,000
For losses within 100 days of Accident which cause the loss of sight of one eye...	\$3,000

Club Leadership News

Treasurers

Things to know...



Club treasurers, make sure that you have access to your club's bank account. You will need to go to the bank that your club uses and update the **signature card**. The signature card is used by the bank to make sure that only the treasurer and club leader can write checks and access money in your account.

At each meeting, use the **Treasurer's Meeting Report Form** to summarize the activity in your bank account and to make it easier to report at your club's business meeting. Below is an example of the form that can be accessed on the Teton County 4-H website (link below). After each report is signed by you and the club leader, put it in your Treasurer's Binder to be turned in at the end of the 4-H year to the Extension Office for review.

If you are unsure about how to fill out this form or access your club's bank account information, please contact the Extension Office and we will help you!



Treasurer's Meeting Report Form				4-H Club	
Treasurer's Report for _____ for _____ (Month/Year)					
1. Checkbook balance from last meeting report:					
Deposits (Money Received)				Receipt Written?	Deposit receipt filed?
Funds Received From	Purpose of Funds	Amount			
2.			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3.			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4.			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5.			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Total deposits (Add lines 2 thru 5)					
Expenses (Money Spent)				Receipt Received?	Club approved expense?
Funds Written To	Check No.	Purpose of Funds	Amount		
7.				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8.				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9.				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10.				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11.				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12.				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13.				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Total Monthly Expenses (Add lines 7 thru 13)					
15. Checkbook balance as of _____ (Meeting Date)					
Does the balance in your checkbook register (Line 15) match the balance on your bank statement?					
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Your account is reconciled!					
<input type="checkbox"/> No. Complete the reconciliation section below.					
Reconciliation					
16. Add all checks that were written but have not shown up on bank statements and write the total. (plus):			+		
17. First, add up all the deposits that were made but have not shown up on the bank statement. Subtract all deposits not showing up on bank statement and write the total. (minus):			-		
18. Adjusted balance should equal the ending balance on bank statement. (Line 15 + Line 16 - Line 17)					

Prepared by: _____ Date: _____
Treasurer's Signature

Accepted by: _____ Date: _____
President's or Club Leader's Signature

FOR YOUTH MEMBERS

Do you want to improve your leadership skills, but not sure where to start?

If you are at least **12 years old**, you can join the **Montana 4-H Leadership Academy online.**

On **Sunday, January 11th at 6:00 pm** log on to Zoom to join 4-Hers from across Montana to learn how to make a Community Project happen right here in Teton County. Click the link below to register!



DO you have a great idea for a community project to improve the lives of your neighbors in Teton County?



MT 4-H Foundation People Partner Grants

Do you need money to make your idea happen? Consider applying for a Montana 4-H Foundation grant. Let the Extension Office know you want to apply and we will help with your application!

People Partner Grants provide incentives and financial support to groups and individuals for programs that enhance the quality of living for people in your community. Applications due **February 14, 2026.**

Learn about how 4-Hers in Yellowstone and Glacier Counties used the People Partner Grant to help their community.



Yellowstone County 4-Hers made quilts for cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy. Glacier County 4-Her made 'birthday cake kits' for their food pantry. What is your idea?





Calling all youth counselors!



**Application Due February 9, 2026
on ZSuite**



Changes this year:

- Combining with Cascade County at Camp Rotary in Neihart
- Youth counselors are called 'Camp Junior Directors (JDs)'
- Camp will be one day longer (4 days rather than 3)
- Camp dates for Counselors/JDs June 6 - 10, 2026
- Camp dates for campers June 7 - 10, 2026

Camp Counselor/JD Requirements:

- Be 4-H age 13 or older
- Completed record book in 24-25 4-H year
- Participate in leadership activities at club level
- Attend all planning meetings and Clean Up day at Camp Rotary, unless an excused pre-planned absence

Camp Planning Dates:

February 24 6-8 pm at Cascade County Extension Office

March 31 6-8 pm location TBA

April 28th 6-8 pm at the Cascade County Extension Office

May TBD at Camp Rotary for Clean Up

**Carpooling will be available



Mark Your Calendar for Communications Day!

Communications Day will be **Saturday, March 14, 2026**. This event will include a Stir-Ups Competition and Western Heritage Persona Interviews in addition to demonstration talks. Explore the possibilities and begin making plans by clicking on the links below.

Registration will open in February.

This competition is open to all 4-H members from Cloverbuds to Seniors. 4-Hers 13 and up who win a blue ribbon will be eligible to compete at state Congress in July. For those 14 and up, Congress winners will be eligible to attend National 4-H Congress as a member of the Montana Delegation.

Learn about the different ways to compete in Communications! Click on the links below to learn more.



[Communications Contests](#)

[Stir Ups Competition](#)

[Western Heritage Persona Interview](#)



More on Montana Winter Fair ...

AG AMBASSADOR COMPETITION 2026

The Ag Ambassador competition will be happening on **Saturday, January 17, 2026.**

Registration Deadline: January 12 – [Register for the Ag Ambassador Contest](#)

There is no cost to enter.

This event is open to ANY junior high or high school student. They do not need to be a 4-H or FFA member to participate. All components of this event except the prepared speech may be completed virtually.

As part of the event, students are asked to tell the story of agriculture through a variety of methods. For 2026, participants should focus on the topic of Agriculture in Your Community

Please feel free to email Emily Standley, superintendent, at standley.emily@gmail.com with any questions!

Club Happenings

The **Challenging Champs** celebrated a holiday meeting together at the Burgmaier farm. After holding their December meeting, they ate a pot luck meal, played board games, and exchanged gifts.



Contact Info/Resources

Teton County MSU Extension

Mailing Address:

- PO Box 130, Choteau, MT 59422

Phone (voice call):

- 466-2491/2492

Text only:

- 406-530-5373

Email (send club minutes, most questions/issues):

- teton@montana.edu

Other:

- <https://www.montana.edu/extension/teton>
- <https://www.facebook.com/TetonCoExt>
- <https://www.montana.edu/extension/4h>



Fair Dates

2026 June 22-28

4-H Congress, Bozeman

2026 July 7-10

Camp Dates

2026 June 7-10

Rec Lab

2026 March 27-29

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