



Glacier County 4-H News

July 2020

JULY

Dear 4-H friends,

Thank you so much for the incredible kindness and grace you've shown me these past few months in my absence and transition to motherhood. I am enjoying being back part-time and getting to see and visit with our 4-H families again. A big thanks to Mandi for keeping things running solo the past three months, while at incredibly reduced hours as well. We are really hoping to get her hours increased again but the county financial situation continues to be in limbo, unfortunately. I so appreciate her flexibility, and the support of our families during these past few months.

I am back in the office afternoons (1 – 5 p.m.) for the summer while I transition back from maternity leave. There are days that I'm out in the field or on a house visit checking trees, etc. so please feel free to call, text, or email if you need something.

As we head into fair, I again want to say thank you for your understanding of the changes and challenges that we've faced and continue to face. Marias Fair 2020 will certainly look different this year, but the opportunity for youth to work hard, develop lifelong skills, and make lasting friendships will still most certainly be there. I highly, highly encourage you to read the fair informational newsletter that Mandi emailed and that will be in your fair packets. There are a tremendous number of changes for this year and it's critical that you read the newsletter and schedule to be aware of those changes.

Lastly, we continue to have so many 4-Hers doing great work. Hadley Barbie has been doing a tremendous job organizing renovations on the dog arena at the fairgrounds and raising funds. We had some excellent presentations at Communications Contest this past month, and I was so proud of our 4-Hers for taking on the challenge of doing a presentation this year! I recently put out the call on Facebook for help stuffing 100+ buyer letters, and less than 24 hours later we had quite the assembly line of Grace Rooney, Kortney Hart, Jackie Waller, Darci Littrell, Janae Roberts, and Emily Roberts, thank you, thank you! Be sure to check out their video on the Marias Fair 4-H Facebook page as well.

Thanks so much, and I'm so excited to see all your work at the fair in just two weeks!!

Kari

What's Inside

- Marias Fair Dates
- Marias Fair Livestock Info
- Communications Contest Results
- Dog Arena Improvements

Congratulations to our seniors, Jordyn Fields and Coalter Littrell!

Contact Us

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montana4h.org



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EXTENSION

Marias Fair Fun Time

2nd Fair Packet

Fair packets will be ready to be picked up at the Extension office on Wednesday, **July 8**. Your packet will include stall cards, exhibit tags, wrist bands, camper map, volunteer schedule and other important information. Be sure to pick up your packet.

Wristbands

Green wristbands are for everyone staying overnight at the fairgrounds. This includes 4-Hers, parents and family members. Green wristbands must be worn by kids under age 18 while on the fairgrounds.

Fair Clean-up

All 4-H members are needed to help in either pre or post fair cleanup.

Pre-Fair cleaning will be Saturday, July 11 at 8 a.m. The barns and Exhibit Building will be cleaned and readied for Fair. Please bring brooms, shovels, buckets, hoses, wheelbarrows, rakes, pitch forks, paper towels, window cleaner or anything that you think might be useful in helping spruce up the fairgrounds.

Post-Fair cleaning will be Saturday, July 18. Post fair cleanup includes cleaning and closing the barns and the Exhibit Building. Livestock stall checkout is 11 a.m. Litter also needs to be picked up around the fairgrounds.

What to Wear at Fair



Casual clothes are ok for working with animals, unloading, etc. but you should wear clean, neat dress clothes for interviews, demonstrations, showing your animal, the sale, etc. Don't forget

to wear your muck boots to wash animals in. Closed toe leather shoes **MUST** be worn for all livestock activities including weighing-in, washing, etc. Always bring extra clothes, as they get dirty quickly, and make sure to try them on the week of fair so you know they still fit.

MARIAS FAIR DATES

July 8—2nd fair packets ready

July 9 & 10—Marias Fair Public Presentations via WebEx

July 11—Pre Fair Clean Up 8am

July 11—Exhibit check in 11am-2pm

July 15—Livestock weigh ins 9am

July 15—Exhibit building opens 12 pm

July 17—Exhibits Released at 6:30pm

July 18—Livestock Stall Checkout deadline 11 a.m.

What to pack for fair

In addition to your supplies for animals and exhibits, these are some recommendations from a list compiled by Dena Fritz.

- Markers/Pens/Pencils/Hi-lighters/Scrap paper/Scissors (make sure to bring a notebook to the livestock judging contest for your reasons notes!)
- Thank-You poster for livestock buyer pre-made
- Wire ties/Wire/Wire cutter (you'll need to hang your animal's sign)
- Calculator (you'll need to calculate your animal's daily gain, etc.)
- Safety pins/Straight pins/Tacks/Staplers--big and small (you'll receive an exhibitor number that will need to be pinned on your shirt)
- Tie straps/Bungee cords
- Tape, Rubber bands, glue
- Spare batteries
- Hammer/Screw drivers/Pliers
- Extension cord/3 prong adaptors
- Ruler/Tape measurer
- Laundry bag—there'll be lots of dirty clothes!
- Water, water, water!
- Flash light
- Paperclips
- Needle/Thread/Buttons
- Memo board—to serve as a communications center for everyone in your camper to know who will be where and when.
- Bill of Sale and Travel Permits

Marias Fair Fun Time

Marketing Your Livestock Project



Livestock members – It is up to YOU to market your livestock animal. Each member should plan to invite (personally and/or with a letter and picture of their animal) at least 10 to 20 businesses or individuals. Members

should post the flyers that are in your 2nd fair packet, and there is also a tri-fold brochure that members can distribute which contains sale information. When inviting businesses, etc. think outside the box – orthodontist, eye doctor, dentist, insurance agent, grocery store, restaurant, mechanic, etc., in addition to the folks you typically see at the sale. In a research study of over 2,000 buyers at a 4-H sale who had received letters from 500 4-H youth, 80% of the buyers wanted to read about the youth's history and their project work and personal story. 80% of buyers wanted a picture of the animal and the youth. Buyers want to know what members have done in their club and projects, how members have then been active in community service projects, if they shared their knowledge with other members, and what they have learned. If you would like more tips on marketing your livestock project, please call or e-mail Kari at kari.lewis@montana.edu.

Fair Sportsmanship Tips

Good sportsmanship applies to everyone involved in the fair: 4-H members, parents, leaders, volunteers, and others.

- Say, 'Thank you!' - show judges, communications judges, exhibit building monitors, livestock weigh-in helpers, show and sale ring men... the list of volunteers goes on and on. The Fair wouldn't be possible without them. These folks give up time from their jobs and families to support 4-H, please treat them with respect and tell each one thank you!
- Congratulate the winner - Celebrate and encourage one another, and appreciate the competition they bring.
- Respect the "game," livestock, and those involved - Respecting and following the rules of the event and 4-H policy is critical.
- Look for the lesson - We may not always agree with each judge's opinion, but we can still learn from their evaluation and the process, and appreciate their feedback to make our best better!

Be sure to follow the 'Marias Fair 4-H' Facebook page and share with family and friends. All shows and the sale will be livestreamed over the page.



Tips for Minimizing Shrink in Livestock

Going to the fair is stressful, especially on the animals! When they are taken to a new environment with new people, sounds, and other animals, it's stressful. The animal can stop drinking or go off feed, which also means they'll weigh less than they did at home. Before the fair, load up your animal and take them to another location so they get experience with a trailer ride and new surroundings. At the fair, your animal may not drink the water due to the chlorination, so bring some 5-gallon bottles of water from home. This will help keep your animal drinking. You can also mix Gatorade (or any flavoring) into the water at home and at fair so the taste and smell is similar. Providing your lamb or steer long-stemmed hay a couple hours before the show will give them a full appearance and also help relax them as they can chew their cud during the show. A hand sprayer with water can be used to mist your pig off before you go in the show to keep them relaxed.

Review the Rules

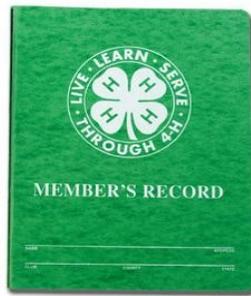
A reminder to review your division's rules in the Marias Fair Book, which is available online at <http://glacier.msuextension.org/2019FairBook.pdf>.

For example, self-waterers are required in pig pens, cattle must have a neck rope, etc.



Project/Record Book Deadlines

July 1 - All project books must be current in all projects that are being entered in the Marias Fair and checked by your project leader, organizational leader or Extension Agent. You must have 5 activities and 2 learning experiences completed in order to participate in the Marias Fair. Some books have varying requirements, please check your project book and if you have questions be sure to ask a leader or the Extension Office.



August 10 - Record books are due to the Extension Office if competing for awards, and project books need to be complete for the year (7 activities and 2 learning experiences completed).

4-H Council's Amazon Smile Account



We encourage you to always shop locally, but if you do end up on Amazon, we would appreciate your support!

The Glacier County 4-H Council now has an Amazon Smile account! This means that 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products will be donated to the Council. If you shop on Amazon and would like a portion of what you purchase to benefit the Glacier County 4-H Council, simply click the following link before you do your regular online shopping!

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/81-0538507>

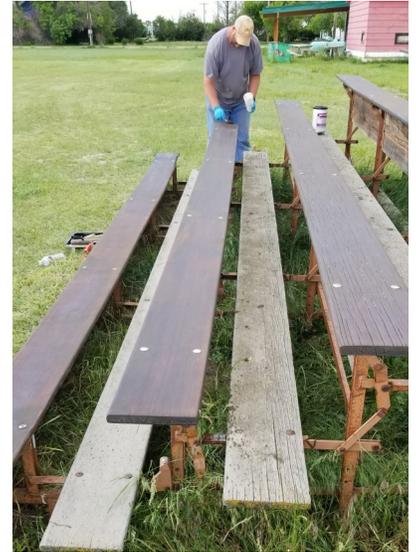
4-H Pictures wanted for Marias Fair Facebook

The Marias Fair Board is looking for pictures of 4-Hers working on their projects that they can share on their Facebook page in the upcoming weeks to help promote the fair and 4-H! Let's help them out with this project! Please e-mail photos (clear and in focus) to Lindsey Habets, Marias Fair webmaster at lindsey@hilinewebdesign.com, along with answers to any or all of the following questions:

- What is your Name, Age and County?
- What projects will you be taking to the fair?
- What is your favorite project?
- Tell us several things about your project.
- What is your favorite part about 4-H?
- What is one thing you learned this year?
- What are your goals for the future?

Dog Arena Improvements by Hadley Barbie

Hadley Barbie's dog arena renovations project is underway! Bleachers were sanded and stained this past month, and the arena rebuilding will happen on clean-up day. Thank you to all who have donated thus far, additional donations can be dropped off at the Extension Office with checks made to Clever Clovers 4-H Club.





2020 Communications Contest Results

Top Junior Demonstration - Emily Roberts
 Top Junior Illustrated Talk - Janae Roberts
 Top Junior Prepared Speech - Alec Morrisett
 Top Junior Presentation Overall - Janae Roberts
 Top Senior Demonstration - Bauer Seewald
 Top Senior Illustrated Talk - Grace Rooney
 Top Senior Presentation Overall - Grace Rooney
 Thanks to Quinn Spinler, Barb Claybourn, and Lori McCauley for judging! Thank you to the Presbyterian Church for hosting!



Virtual Congress

Montana 4-H Congress had gone virtual this year, and its free! July 7, 8, and 9 there will be workshops, speakers, and general sessions to tune in for! Members 12 and up are encouraged to participate. Check out the details at http://www.montana4h.org/programs/events/mt_4h_congress/.

Showmanship Practice

Thank you to the Chris and Lacy Roberts family for hosting a showmanship practice session. Members had the chance to practice their swine, lamb, and steer showmanship skills along with giving a practice set of livestock judging reasons.





Calendar of Events

July

- 3—Independence Day Observed (Extension Office Closed)
- 8—2nd fair packets ready
- 9 & 10—Marias Fair Public Presentations via WebEx
- 11—Pre Fair Clean Up 8am
- 11—Exhibit check in 11am-2pm
- 15—Livestock weigh ins 9am
- 15—Exhibit building opens 12 pm
- 17—Exhibits Released at 6:30pm
- 18—Livestock Stall Checkout deadline 11 a.m.

August

- 10—Record Books due to Extension Office



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4-H: The Youth Development Program of MSU Extension