



# 4-H NEWSLETTER

alaska4-h.org

## MATTHEW'S ROUNDUP



I want to welcome you to my first newsletter. I want to thank everyone for a great warm welcome at the barbecue potluck, fair and other events. The last few months have been exciting with Cloverbud Camp, Golden Days Parade, the Tanana

Valley State Fair and livestock auction, a visit to our in-school 4-H club in Eagle, and school starting back. I want to say thank you for all the hard work from each of you (youth and adults) for *Making the Best Better*.

As our schedules become busy with school and out-of-school activities, just remember the importance of 4-H to your development. I will be working hard to get to meet everyone ASAP. I might not be Marla, but I do have my own set of ideas and skills. If anyone needs anything or wants to chat, let me know. ~ Matthew Anderson



As part of the FNSB Noel Wien Public Library Summer Programs, Tanana District 4-H club members and volunteer leaders hosted a petting zoo for all ages on June 25. Dozens of children (and adults) attended the event at Weeks Field, behind the Noel Wien Public Library, learning about goats, sheep, chickens, rabbits and other animals from 4-H members.



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## CLUB LEADER DUTIES

We have reached another exciting end to the 4-H year. I want to thank all our 4-H club leaders who work hard to educate our youth. Thank you for your willingness to work with the youth to help develop their skills even through obstacles. We do have a few items we must do each year.

**Please make sure you get your club's financial reports to me after Oct. 1, before Nov. 1. Also, please get your yearly trainings done on time. If you need help or a place to knock out your trainings, please reach out to me.**



## Completing the Annual Summary Financial Report

1. The Annual Summary Financial Report provides an overview of your club's financial activities for the 4-H year (October 1 to September 30). At the top of the form, fill in your club name, your bank's name, and the dates covered by the report.
2. Line 1, **The Balance at Beginning of Year**, is the amount on hand on the first day of the new 4-H year, October 1.
3. Lines 2 through 6 are where you would report your club's **Income** for the year. Each line should report the income from a particular activity or event. These should include gifts, donations, sales of goods, fundraisers, dues and/or fees, and other income i.e., grants. Items can be reported all together or separately, such as candy sales and car washes can be combined for fundraisers. For donations over \$5,000, indicate the amount and name and mailing address of the individual or business.
4. Line 7, **Total Income for Year**, is lines 2 through 6 added together.
5. Line 8, **Adjusted Balance**, is your beginning balance (line 1) added to your total income for the year (line 7). This line shows how much money your club had to work with during the year.
6. Lines 9 through 14 are your club's **Expenditures** for the year, again grouped by a particular activity or event, i.e., scholarships, educational materials, activity costs/fees.
7. Line 15, **Total Expenditures for Year**, is lines 9 through 14 added together. This line will show how much money your club spent during the year.
8. Line 16, **Balance at End of Year**, is your total expenditures (line 15) subtracted from your adjusted balance (line 8). This line will show how much money your club has to start the new 4-H year.
9. Compare line 16 with your bank statement. They should be the same. If they are not the same it is probably because some checks and/or deposits have not yet cleared the bank. Use line 17 to add the total of all your checks that have not cleared the bank yet to your balance (line 16). Next, use line 18 to subtract the total of all your deposits that have not cleared the bank from your balance (right hand column in line 17). Write your new balance on line 19. The balance should now be the same as your bank statement. If it still doesn't add up, you need to go back and check all your income and expenditure amounts.
10. Finally, sign and date the report where it is indicated for the treasurer's signature. Also, have your adult leader sign the report and submit a copy to your club, a copy to your District Extension Office, and keep a copy for your records.

## CALENDAR



### September

- 01 **Labor Day** (UAF campus closed.)
- 02 **Livestock Committee**, 6:30 p.m.
- 08 **Horse Council**, 6:30 p.m.
- 09 **Leaders Council**, 6:30 p.m.
- 10 **Record books due** to 4-H leaders
- 15 **Teen Club**, 6 p.m.
- 15 Leaders: Merit award record books due to 4-H Office by 5 p.m.**
- 25 **Grillmaster Camp**, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. See flyer for more information.

### October

- 01 Alaska 4-H Day.** Thanks to the hard work of 4-H members and state representatives, Alaska 4-H Day is the first Wednesday of October. Remember to wear your 4-H shirts!
- 01 Happy New 4-H Year!** Time to re-enroll in ZSuite!
- 01 Scholarship applications due for Ignite 2026** in Washington D.C. This is a great opportunity to meet other 4-H youth from across the country, learn about different 4-H projects, and have fun. See flyer for more information.
- 02 Annual Summary Financial Report due after Oct. 1, before Nov. 1.**
- 05 National 4-H Week is Oct. 5-11.** This week, let's plan on wearing green in support of 4-H. Also, if the clubs can send me pictures of youth doing club activities, especially helping the community, I would love to highlight those during National 4-H Week.
- 06 Teen Club**, 6 p.m.
- 07 Livestock Committee**, 6:30 p.m.

*(Calendar continues on page 4.)* 3

## CALENDAR



*(October calendar continued from page 3.)*

- 11 **Achievement Night** at Gasser Hall at the Tanana Valley State Fairgrounds. Achievement Night is where we honor everyone's hard work throughout the year. Whether your project was livestock, horses, general, etc, we want to honor your hard work. This will be a fun, family-friendly event that closes out the 4-H year. More details will be coming soon!
- 13 **Horse Council**, 6:30 p.m.
- 14 **Leaders Council**, 6:30 p.m.
- 20 **Teen Club**, 6 p.m.
- 31 **Happy Halloween! Boo!**

## MEET MATTHEW!



Meet the Anderson family (from far left): Olivia, Benjamin, Christina, Asher and Matthew.



Marla Lowder, always the comedian!

The Tanana District 4-H Leaders Council warmly welcomed Matthew Anderson and his family with a barbecue at Pioneer Park on July 8. Quite a number of 4-H families turned out to meet the incoming agent and to wish the outgoing agent all the best. An abundance of yummy dishes, hearty laughter, silly antics and fun for the kids – a good time was surely had by all.



A beautiful spread for the BBQ, provided by the leaders council and 4-H families.



Mike Wilcher commands the grill!

**Welcome, Matthew,  
we are HAPPY  
you're here!**

**And BEST of LUCK  
to you, Marla, as the  
state 4-H lead .**



\$25

# 4-H GRILL MASTER CAMP



THURSDAY SEPT 25, 2025  
9:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.

1000 University Ave  
Fairbanks, AK 99705

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

MATTHEW ANDERSON

TANANA DISTRICT 4-H COORDINATOR

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## GOLDEN DAYS PARADE



This year we had a team of six join the 4-H float and pass out candy. We gave away a lot of candy this year and showed our presence. The crowd was excited to see 4-H in the parade. Even though this might seem like a small, unimportant opportunity, this opportunity IS important. We need to promote 4-H and Extension as much as we can.

What we do and stand for is important "Youth Development." I am already thinking of how we can improve our float and do some cool things during the parade. Please be thinking of ideas as well for next year's parade.

## CLOVERBUDS

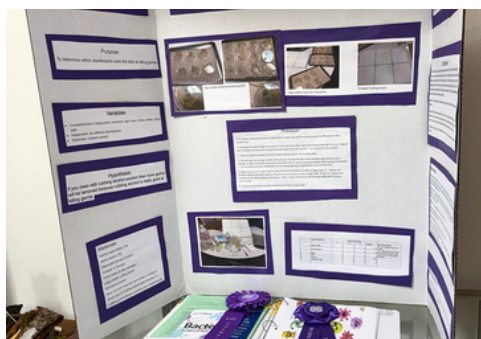
### Cloverbud Camp

This year's Clover Bud Camp was a success! We hosted 14 kids ranging in age 5 to 9. The kids learned about insects and bugs, plant parts, and made kaleidoscopes, colored unicorns and conquered the maze.

The weather stayed nice most of the time, and we ended with a nice barbecue with their families. I want to thank Elle, Mack, Avynn, Dara and Daria for being our teen leaders this year. They did a great job with the kids and worked hard. If you are interested in helping next year and/or throughout the year, please reach out to me.



# TANANA VALLEY STATE FAIR



The fair went very well this year. Even though our numbers were small, we had fun and were able to raise a large amount of money from the auction.

Let us be reminded of the purpose of the livestock project and auction. The livestock project is expensive and challenging, which limits some folks from participating. Each one of you should be proud of your hard work and accomplishments in the livestock program.

Even though the animals brought a large amount of money, let us remember that this is about learning, growing, and making relationships with our community. Do not let the money cloud our purpose.



## FAIR RESULTS

### 2025 Department 1 4-H Clubwork Grand Champions

| Department               | Exhibitor      | Exhibit                             |
|--------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1A Foods                 | Elle Gifford   | Freeze Dried Ice Cream Bar          |
| 1B Sewing Challenge      | Elle Gifford   | Pin Cushion/Scrap Bag               |
| 1C Sewing                | Elle Gifford   | Quilt                               |
| 1D Crafts                | Liliana Harlow | Felted Goose                        |
| 1 E Fine Arts            | Liliana Harlow | Take a Hop on the Wild Side Drawing |
| 1F 4-H Science           | Shilo Nelson   | Germ Extermination                  |
| 1G Personal Growth       | None           |                                     |
| 1H Plant Science         | Elle Gifford   | Raspberries                         |
| 1I Communications        | Liliana Harlow | Book of Drawings/                   |
| 1J Favorite Foods        | Elle Gifford   | Coffee Cake                         |
| 1K Bake-Off              | Mack Gifford   | Lemon Meringue Pie                  |
| 1L Preforming Arts       | Mack Gifford   | Juggling                            |
| 1M Fashion Presentations | NONE           |                                     |
| 1N Garden Tour           | NONE           |                                     |
| Peoples Choice           | Elle Gifford   | Quilt                               |



## RECORD BOOKS

Last year's club enrollment list will be mailed to the main leader of the club to look over. Please pay attention and make sure everyone is on it, and the correct years are listed. If someone isn't on it that should be, and you know they paid and have their receipt, then we can help with that.

If they aren't, then they never got registered and need to this year. You will need to make any changes on the form and then return it to the office, or your youth will not be receiving their awards ... or perhaps not even the correct ones. This is part of your responsibility as a leader.

**Merit award record books are due Sept. 15.**

**Market Livestock Record Books must be turned in, no exceptions!**

A key factor in the livestock program and any of the 4-H programs is the record books. These books are not just a requirement, but are a reflection on the hard work that has been done. The 4-H leaders and I will be reviewing different aspects of the record books, but just remember that this is an important step in developing who you are becoming.

Please remember that all youths who sold an animal at the Market Livestock Auction need to submit their record books to their leader by their designated date. The leader will then judge them and pick out the ones they think are merit-worthy to be submitted for the final judging.

The leader also needs to bring in all the other record books for verification to the Extension office. If a youth does not complete this step, they will be ineligible to participate in the Market Livestock Project next year.

If you have any questions, please contact Matthew at 907-474-2427 or [mranderson@alaska.edu](mailto:mranderson@alaska.edu)



## CONTACT US

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Matthew Anderson, Tanana District 4-H Agent — [mranderson@alaska.edu](mailto:mranderson@alaska.edu) | 907-474-2427  
Ronda Boswell, Tanana District Admin. — [rlboswell@alaska.edu](mailto:rlboswell@alaska.edu) | 907-474-2450

March 25-29, 2026

Washington D.C.



### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Ages 13 to 19

For four days, teens from all over the country come to Washington D.C to collaborate, connect, and cultivate a passion for expanding their minds and their world – becoming resilient and ready for everything life has to offer. Teens will immerse themselves in hands-on workshops, experiences, activities in their key programming areas. With the addition of public speaking, career and life readiness, and presentation workshops, teens will be able to apply what they learn to their own lives and take a step forward to become Beyond Ready for the future. <https://ignite.4-h.org>

Early Bird Teen Price  
\$1200 Admission and Room & Board

Scholarships

Scholarship applications  
available for room and board:

<http://bit.ly/4migJfW>

Due by October 1st

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Agriscience

Animal Science

Healthy Living

STEM

Community Accelerators



For more information contact Matthew Anderson  
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## PARTING SHOT



### Fun(gi) and foraging in Eagle

We got to visit our easternmost 4-H Club in the Tanana District: Eagle. This club is a school based club that incorporates "Learning by Doing" in and out of the classroom.

Thank you Heidi Rader with UAF Cooperative Extension Service for teaching the kids about foraging in Alaska. We look forward to coming back to Eagle Community School soon for more great learning opportunities.

Thank you Eagle Community Schools for hosting us!

## REGULATIONS AND POLICIES

This work is supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

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