

December 2023

Otero County 4-H

NEWSLETTER



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4-H Meeting Schedule

4-H Club	Time/Location	Monthly Meeting	Next Meeting
Alamogordo 4-H	6pm @ New Exhibit building - Fairgrounds	2nd Tuesday	Dec.12
Cloudcroft 4-H Club	6:00pm @ Cloudcroft Middle School Commons Area	Last Thursday	Dec. 28
Heritage 4-H	7pm @ Fairgrounds	2nd Monday	No Meeting
Mescalero 4-H	3pm @ first Baptist Ruidoso (Country Club Drive)	1st Sunday	Dec. 3
Mustangs 4-H	6pm @ Fairgrounds Classroom	Last Tuesday	Dec. 26
Tularosa 4-H	7pm @ Carroll Family Home	1st Tuesday	Dec. 5
Wildcats 4-H After-School	5:30pm @ Tularosa Public Schools	3rd Tuesday	Dec. 19

Please ensure the 4-H Club you are enrolled in on Zsuites matches the club you are actively attending. If you are enrolled in two ore more clubs you are expected to be in good standing for both clubs.



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College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences
 Cooperative Extension Service
 Otero County Extension Office

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4-H Age Groups for the 2023- 2024 4-H Year

	*Cloverbud	Novice	Junior	Senior
Grade as of January 1, 2024	Kinder, 1st, 2nd	3rd, 4th, and 5th	6th, 7th	8th and up
Age as of January 1, 2024	5 year olds; 6 year olds; 7 year olds; 8 year olds and in the 2nd grade	8 year olds in the 3rd grade, 9 year olds, 10 year olds, 11 year olds in the 5th grade	11 year olds in the 6th grade; 12 year olds; 13 year olds in the 7th grade	13 year olds in the 8th grade; 14 year olds; 15 year olds; 16 year olds; 17 year olds; 18 year olds; Youth who are 19 by December 31 of the current 4-H year are not eligible to enroll as a 4-H member

The current 4-H program year is October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024. Rodeo age requirements vary slightly from other 4-H programs and can be found in the NM 4-H Rodeo Rule Book on the NM 4-H Website.

*While the 4-H Cloverbuds program is a component of the overall 4-H Youth Development program and 4-H Cloverbuds members are recognized as 4-H members for the purposes of enrollment, they are considered to be in a special membership category with regard to programs and policies.

Good Standing

Members, parents and leaders, do you know exactly what 4-H members need to do to be in "good standing"? Do you know what the "good standing" requirements are? If not, please take a moment to check these out now. Don't wait until before the fair (or other events/activities) when you may not have enough time to meet the requirements.

Remember, a 4-H member in good standing is one who has met the following requirements:

--Enrolls in a 4-H Club by February 1, 2024.

--Attends at least 40% of all club meetings held between October 1, 2023 and the date of the event or activity.

Some 4-H Clubs require members to attend at least 50% of club meetings. So, be sure to check with your 4-H club leader for the minimum number of club meetings you are required to attend to be considered in "good standing".

--Follows the NM 4-H Conduct and Behavior Expectations of Youth and Adults.

4-H Project Materials

In 4-H, there are numerous projects available to members. Projects include animal science, gardening, photography, foods, clothing, public speaking, creative arts, Cloverbuds and more. A complete list of projects is available on the NM 4-H website. Project materials are available for each 4-H project which include manuals and record forms. Members receive materials by enrolling in the project and requesting materials from the Otero County Extension Service. Leaders may also request project materials to facilitate 4-H project meetings.

Many of the 4-H project materials are available as a digital file (free of charge). In Otero County, the first three printed project materials are provided free of charge to 4-H members and any additional projects cost \$4.00 each. If you would like to request digital or printed project materials, please call (575-437-0231) or email (otero@nmsu.edu) the Otero County Extension Service. There is no deadline for adding a project to your enrollment during the 4-H program year.

Enrollment Instructions

1. The enrollment deadline for all 4-H members, re-enrolling and new members, is February 1, 2024 4-H members must be enrolled on or before February 1, 2024 for 4-H members to be eligible to participate in county, district, and/or state level 4-H competitive events. All 4-H members must re-enroll every year. The Otero County Extension Service will accept enrollment forms after February 1, 2024, however members enrolling after February 1, 2024 are not eligible to participate in county, district and/or state level competitive events and will not meet the policy outlined in the Otero County 4-H Council Bylaws for 4-H members in good standing. Members enrolling after February 1, 2024 may participate in non-competitive events at the club, county, district, and/or state level at the discretion of the 4-H club.

4-H Members Re-enrolling via ZSuite:

1. Go to <https://4h.zsuite.org/>
2. Log in (A tip sheet for 4-H member re-enrollment is available from the ZSuite website.)
3. Select the “primary” profile
4. Click the drop down arrow for the applicable member
5. Enroll for new 4-H year
 - Review/update the requested personal information section.
 - Upload your completed NM 4-H Youth Medical & Liability Release/Code of Conduct Contract/Media Release Form 300.A-3 (see attached) or submit your completed paper form to the Otero County Extension Office.
 - Add your 4-H club (Please select only ONE 4-H club. 4-H members selecting multiple clubs will be required to meet the 4-H good standing requirements of all clubs they are enrolled in.)
 - Add your 4-H projects
6. Payment is not required in ZSuite for enrollment in the Otero County 4-H program. 4-H Club membership dues need to be submitted directly to your 4-H club treasurer or organizational club leader.
7. Click Submit

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4-H youth members have the option of submitting a paper enrollment or enrolling online via the ZSuite website: <https://4h.zsuite.org/>. Paper enrollment forms are available from the Otero County Extension Office. If you would like to enroll via the ZSuite website, above are the website instructions for re-enrolling members and new members.

For members submitting completed paper enrollment forms, they may be submitted to their 4-H Club Organizational Leader or to the Otero County Extension Office. 4-H Club Organizational Leaders receiving any completed enrollment forms from 4-H members must submit the forms to the Otero County Extension Office on or before February 1, 2024 for 4-H members to be eligible to participate in county, district, and/or state level competitive events. 4-H members submitting enrollment forms to their 4-H Club Organizational Leaders or other individual are strongly encouraged to contact the Otero County Extension Office, 575-437-0231, to confirm that the forms have been received in the Extension Office by the deadline. Leader instructions will come out at a later date. Please be on the lookout for that.

The 2023-2024 4-H Program Year enrollment deadline of February 1, 2024 is a firm deadline! NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE.

NM 4-H Community Service Scholarship

The NM 4-H Community Service Scholarship provides financial assistance to any Novice, Junior, or Senior 4-H member participating in a state 4-H event (examples: Senior Leadership Retreat or Youth Get-Away).

The scholarship will cover the registration expenses for the state 4-H event. In addition, the scholarship also provides \$250 of the team fees for Senior 4-H members serving as a State 4-H Officer or Ambassador. A complete description of the scholarship criteria and an application form can be obtained from the NM 4-H website. A list of scholarship application deadline dates is also included on the website.

A Message from Junior Livestock

The Junior Livestock Committee provided two pictures per sale slot. Each buyer will receive one picture unless otherwise specified on their sheet that is in their packets. It is the exhibitors responsibility to get the additional, if the buyer requested them. Buyers are required to be visited IN PERSON unless otherwise specified on their forms and return the signed proof of visit back to the extension office/fair office to receive their check WHEN THEY ARE AVAILABLE. If they are required to mail them, they must provide proof of postage in lieu of the buyer's signature. Addon contributors do not have to receive a picture nor do they have to be visited in person (unless the exhibitor wishes to, of course) BUT they do HAVE to receive a well written thank you. We do not have to have proof of these.



4-H Adult Leaders

Workshop



This workshop is highly encouraged for all club leaders and is also available to anyone looking to become a volunteer or is already enrolled as a volunteer.

Please RSVP no later than December 14th.

Otero County Extension Office
December 18th
6:00pm

- Contest Carnival- Test your knowledge on some 4-H contests!
- Knowing your role- What's your role in the program?
- Group discussion
- And more!!



If you are an individual with a disability and need an auxiliary aid or service, please contact Kalie Gillespie at 575-437-0231 2 weeks prior



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Senior Leadership Retreat

Where: Las Cruces, NM

When: January 19th-21st, 2024



The event is a three-day, two-night event filled with great workshops and neat opportunities. During the weekend, Senior 4-H'ers will be involved in hands-on activities while learning about careers, leadership skills, community service, and much more! There will also be time to show their dancing skills! 2 youth to a room is \$150.00 and 4 to a room is \$75.00. Registration will be due December 5th, by 5pm.

Dance Themes:

Friday Night: Under the sea

Saturday Night: Luau night

Horse Project

Sid Gordon the

Agriculture Agent for

Otero County works with

4-H youth and their

equine to ensure better and safe riding practices.

Youth attending must

wear a helmet and bring their own horse. The first

riding practice will take

place at the Otero

County Fairgrounds at

10:00am on Saturday,

December 9th.

Horse certificates must

be turned in to the

Otero County Extension

Office by May 1st.



What:

Idea/Information Sharing for 4-H Volunteer Leaders via Zoom

An extension agent or 4-H volunteer will present about 5-7 minutes on a topic and open up for sharing from participants for remainder of the 10 minutes. Sessions will be recorded and shared on the State 4-H website. Since the scheduled Take 10 sessions will only focus on one small part of a larger topic, additional resources will also be found on the State 4-H website under the selected Take 10 topic.



When:

1st Thursday of the month on the dates below during the lunch hour.

The topics held during the same lunch hour will be separate presentations.

2023 Dates/Topics/Times:	
January 5, 2023 Community Service Scholarships (12:30pm) FCS School (12:45pm)	May 4, 2023 State 4-H Conference (12:15pm) Livestock Schools (12:30pm) District Contests (12:45pm)
February 2, 2023 4-H Day at the Capitol (12:30pm)	October 5, 2023 Build Club Membership/Involvement (12:30pm) Community Service Ideas for Clubs (12:45pm)
March 2, 2023 YGA (12:30pm)	November 2, 2023 State Portfolios (12:30pm)
April 6, 2023 State 4-H Leadership Team (12:30pm)	December 7, 2023 Role of Club Leader (12:30pm)

Rocketry

Rocketry will be starting back up in the 2024 year. If you are interested in participating in the rocketry workshop please RSVP with Christine Martin at alamogordo4H@gmail.com. Members must attend at least 3 of the 4 workshops offered.

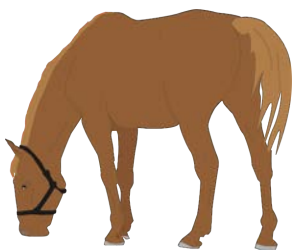
February 24th

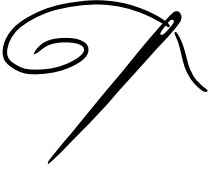
March 23rd

April 27th

May 18th

Times will be posted at a later date. All workshops will take place at the Extension Office.





Sewing

4-H sewing workshops will be held on Monday afternoons in December at the Otero County Extension Office. All Novice, Junior, and Senior 4-H members may participate in the sessions. If you are interested in participating in the sessions, please contact Kelly at the Extension Office, 575-437-0231 or kelknigh@nmsu.edu. Kelly will provide assistance to 4-H families for selecting a 4-H sewing project. Sewing options include garments, tote bags, aprons, quilts, to name a few. All sewing levels are welcome, beginners to advanced. Sewing machines will be provided for 4-H members to use or 4-H members may bring their own machines to the sessions. There is no fee for participating. However, 4-H members are responsible for purchasing some supplies such as fabric, thread, patterns, buttons, elastic, etc.

Last 4-H year we had a growing number of 4-H members participating in the sewing sessions. If the numbers continue to grow, we will need more adults to stay and assist 4-H members during the sessions.

Parents are always welcome to attend the sewing sessions and help their child(ren). Parents do not have to be experts in sewing to help, they simply need to be willing to learn and help. The agent and volunteer leaders will provide direction and assistance to 4-H members during the sessions, but we may need additional adults to attend with their youth. An adult who is an enrolled 4-H leader is welcome to assist any of the 4-H youth. Parents who are not enrolled 4-H leaders may assist their own child(ren) during the sewing sessions. We have 10 sewing machines available each week for sewing. If we have an occurrence of not having enough machines for the number of youth attending the sessions, then we may need to look at requiring 4-H families to RSVP for the sewing sessions.

The purpose of the 4-H sewing project is to provide 4-H youth with a lifetime skill. Youth will learn skills that can save them money throughout their lifetime. They can replace a lost button or sew a seam that ripped open. They will also gain self-confidence, patience, perseverance, problem-solving and they'll have an opportunity to express their creative side through sewing. 4-H'ers will enter their completed sewing items in the Otero County 4-H Achievement Day (usually scheduled in August) and may participate in 4-H Fashion revues (summer months).

Please contact Kelly at the Extension Office if you have any questions regarding 4-H sewing projects, 575-437-0231 or kelknigh@nmsu.edu.



Award Program Winners

Congratulations to the following winners:

Outstanding Novice 4-H Member- Charli Ramsey, Heritage 4-H

Outstanding Junior 4-H Member- Caleb Ramsey, Heritage 4-H

Outstanding 4-H Leader- Katie Ramsey, Heritage 4-H Leader

Meritorious Award- La Luz Cart-Away

Cloverbuds:

Brinley Fleming

Elizabeth Reuter

Jacob Reuter

Annie Seaman

Karis Speegle

Brooklyn Jensen

Chase Jensen

Jacob Martin

Kymberlee Orr



December County Council Meeting

The next County 4-H Council Meeting
is scheduled for:

Thursday, December 21st, 6:30 pm at
the Extension Office

Everyone is welcome to attend....but,
please be especially sure to send
your County 4-H Council club voting
representatives!

Shooting Sports

Hunter's Safety

All 4-H members must complete a hunter education class before they are eligible to participate in shooting sports practices and contests. 4-H members participating in practices and contests need to submit a copy of their hunter education card and signed county plan to the Extension Office if they have not already done so. The New Mexico Game and Fish website has information regarding hunter education classes including an online course. California also offers an online hunter education class with no minimum age requirement.

Practice Requirements

Before being able to participate in shooting sports, participants must:

- Enroll Completely in 4-H
- Provide Hunters Safety Completion
- Signed County Plan
- Liability Waivers (can be copies from enrollment)
- Must attend at least 1 in said discipline practice before March 1

Shooting Sports Leaders Training

The annual shooting sports coaches training will be held February 16-18th. It will be held in Albuquerque at the Albuquerque Shooting Range Park. If you want to become a shooting sports coach you must be a fully enrolled leader with complete background check and complete enrollment in the 4-H program as a volunteer leader. If you have questions on completing these steps, please contact the Extension Office. Price and schedule will come at a later time.

Archery Practices :

Location: Fair Grounds
December 7
December 14
Begins at 6pm

Rifle Practices :

Location: Roadrunner Trap Club
All age divisions 1pm
December 3



Happy Holliday's



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