

January 2024

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	Jan. 9
Cloudcroft 4-H Club	6:00pm @ Cloudcroft Middle School Commons Area	Last Thursday	Jan. 25
Heritage 4-H	7pm @ Fairgrounds	2nd Monday	Jan. 8
Mescalero 4-H	3pm @ first Baptist Ruidoso (Country Club Drive)	1st Sunday	Jan. 7
Mustangs 4-H	6pm @ Fairgrounds Classroom	Last Tuesday	Jan. 30
Tularosa 4-H	7pm @ Carroll Family Home	1st Tuesday	Jan. 2
Wildcats 4-H After-School	5:30pm @ Tularosa Public Schools	3rd Tuesday	Jan. 16

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.



BE BOLD. Shape the Future.
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.

Mustangs 4-H

The club Meeting scheduled for December 26th is canceled.

January County Council Meeting

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

Thursday, January 18th, 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!

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 Day at the Roundhouse
Santa Fe, NM
February 1st

FCS School
Albuquerque, NM
\$60 Registration fee
March 9-10



Youth Get Away
Glorieta, NM
April 19-21

State Shooting Sports
Championship
Raton, NM
May 2-5



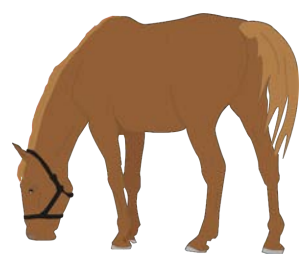
Senior Leadership Retreat Meeting

If you registered to go to Senior Leadership Retreat we will be holding a mandatory meeting Wednesday January 10th, at 6:00pm at the Extension Office and on zoom. If you are unable to attend you will need to let Kalie or Kelly know prior to the meeting and arrange a time to meet.



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, January 27th. Horse certificates must be turned in to the Otero County Extension Office by May 1st. NM 4-H Rodeo forms are due February 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.

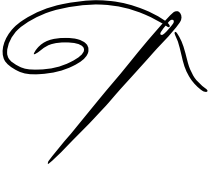
2024 Dates/Topics/Times:	
January 4, 2024 NM 4-H 101- Part 1 (12:15pm) Community Service Plan for the Year (12:30pm)	May 2, 2024 Ranch Camp (12:15pm) Food Challenge(12:30pm) Parliamentary Procedure (12:45pm)
February 1, 2024 Livestock School (12:15pm) Horse School (12:30pm)	October 3, 2024 New Family Information (12:30pm) NM 4-H Adult Forum (12:45pm)
March 7, 2024 Judging Quick Facts (12:30pm)	November 7, 2024 Range School (12:30pm)
April 4, 2024 Dog School (12:30pm)	December 5, 2024 Project Clips (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 January 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.



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:

- o Enroll Completely in 4-H
- o Provide Hunters Safety Completion
- o Signed County Plan
- o Liability Waivers (can be copies from enrollment)
- o 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. It will be \$100 for registration. Registration and payment will be due no later than January 31st. 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
January 4
January 11
January 25
Begins at 6pm

Rifle Practices :

Location: Roadrunner Trap Club
All age divisions 1pm
January 14

Shotgun Practices :

Location: Roadrunner Trap Club
RSVP with Tommie Sue 575-491-6725.
January 14
January 21



Happy Holliday's



The extension Office will be closed
from December 22nd through January 1st.

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