

Otero County 4-H Newsletter

February 2025



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4-H Meeting Schedule

4-H Club	Time/Location	Monthly Meeting	Next Meeting
Alamogordo 4-H	6pm @ Extension Office Classroom	2nd Tuesday	February 11th
Cloudcroft 4-H	6pm @ Cloudcroft Middle School	Last Thursday	February 27th
Heritage 4-H	7pm @ Fairgrounds Exhibit Building	2nd Monday	February 10th
Mescalero 4-H	5pm @ Empowerment Complex	1st Sunday	February 2nd
Mustang 4-H	6pm @ High Rolls Senior Center	Last Tuesday	February 25th
Tularosa 4-H	7pm @ Carroll Family Home	1st Tuesday	February 4th

Got Something to Share?

We'd love to include your updates, events, or stories in our next newsletter! Submissions are welcome and should be sent to Hannah Wood at hdw@nmsu.edu by the **20th of each month** to be considered for the following month's edition. Please note that all submissions are subject to review and may be edited for length, clarity, and appropriateness. Don't miss the chance to share your news with our 4-H community!

NM STATE BE BOLD. Shape the Future.
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February County 4-H Council Meeting

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

Thursday, February 20th, 6:30pm at the Extension Office

Everyone is welcome to attend, but be sure to send your club delegates!



Welcome to all of our new members, we are happy to have you!



4-H Age Group for the 2024 - 2025 4-H Year



	Cloverbud*	Novice	Junior	Senior
Grade as of January 1, 2025	Kinder, 1st, 2nd	3rd, 4th, 5th	6th, 7th	8th and up
Age as of January 1, 2025	5 year olds; 6 year olds; 7 year olds; and 8 year olds 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, 2024, through September 30, 2025. 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.

4-H Good Standing Requirements

Members, parents, and leaders, do you know exactly what 4-H members need to do to be in "good standing"? If not, please take a moment to check these out now. Don't wait until before the fair (or other event/activity) 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, 2025.
- Attends at least 40% of all club meetings held between October 1, 2024, and the date of the event or activity. Some 4-H Clubs require members to attend at least 50% of club meetings. Be sure to check with your 4-H club leader for the minimum number of meetings you are required to attend to be in "good standing".
- Follows the NM 4-H Conduct and Behavior Expectations of Youth and Adults.

Enrollment Changes and Meeting Attendance

Please contact the Extension Office, (575) 437-0231, if you would like to make a change to your 4-H enrollment. This includes changing to a different club, adding/dropping 4-H projects, updates to your contact information, etc. **4-H members will only receive credit for attending 4-H meetings via the club they're enrolled in through Zsuites.** 4-H youth enrolled in multiple 4-H clubs must meet the attendance requirements of all clubs they are enrolled in to be considered in good standing.



NM 4-H Community Service Scholarship

The NM 4-H Community Service Scholarship provides financial assistance to any Novice, Junior, or Senior 4-H members 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.



4-H Volunteer Leader Enrollment Reminder

This is a friendly reminder for adult volunteers interested in serving as 4-H volunteer leaders with Otero County 4-H, the following requirements for enrollment must be met:

- Complete volunteer background check/screening process. Forms (2) may be downloaded from the [Otero County Extension Service website](#). Submit completed forms and \$10 to the Otero County Extension Office.
- Complete and submit an [adult enrollment form](#) and adult [liability form](#) to the Otero County Extension Office.
- Complete the annual NM Working with Minors course found on ZSuites. Contact the Extension Office, 575-437-0231 or otero@nmsu.edu, for a detailed set of instructions for completing this online training course. Once you have completed the training, an email will be sent to you stating that you have completed the NM Working with Minors course. In addition, the Otero County Extension Service will be able to access your completion date of the NM Working with Minors training via Zsuite.

Please make completion of the above requirements a priority as adult volunteers may not engage in 4-H activities nor register for events until they have met the requirements. Also, adult volunteers must submit a new background check/screening process every five years.

All 4-H enrollments (Youth & Adult) require a liability waiver to be filled out and signed by hand (wet signature). No typed signatures will be accepted!

Youth Get Away (YGA) 2025

YGA is an exciting opportunity for Novice and Junior 4-H members to grow, learn, and have fun in a supportive environment! It brings together youth from across New Mexico for hands-on activities, leadership development, and new friendships. Don't miss out on this opportunity to make memories and be part of the 4-H family. Sign up today and be ready for an out of this world adventure!



When: April 11-13, 2025
Where: Glorieta Adventure Camp
Theme: Be Out of this World With 4-H
Registration Deadline: March 10, 2025
Registration Cost: \$180

How to register: Get in touch with your county 4-H agent, Hannah Wood, for up to date registration information at hdw@nmsu.edu or (575) 437-0231.

Tularosa 4-H Club

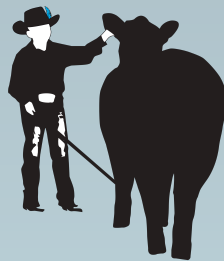


Tularosa 4-H will be having a Valentine's Theme potluck at their next meeting, held on February 4th.

Members are encouraged to bring a snack to share with the club! If you have any food allergies, please make them known to your club leader, Amber Carroll, before the potluck.

"The Dance" Livestock Jackpot Show Steers & Heifers

Location: Clayton, NM Fairgrounds
Date: February 22, 2025
Early Entry: \$35/head
Day of Show Entry: \$40/head
Showmanship: \$10



Entries open 6am-8am
Show starts at 10am
For information contact Kristina Sneed
Kristina Sneed @ 575-207-0301



Parli-Pro Workshop!



Want to have your voice heard in meetings and make sure your ideas count? Join us for a fun and interactive workshop on Parliamentary Procedure (Parli-Pro)! Learn how to run meetings like a pro, make motions, debate ideas, and vote like a leader! Don't miss out — come sharpen your skills, build teamwork, and have some fun with us!

Join us February 20th at 5:30pm, no RSVP needed.

Held at the Otero County Extension Office Classroom before February County Council meeting.

4-H Members interested in joining shooting sports:

If you are not already a part of a shooting sports discipline and want to be, now is the time! According to the Otero County Shooting Sports County Plan found on our [site](#):

- A minimum of four (4) practices must be attended prior to Otero County shooting sports contest during the current 4-H program year in that said discipline.
- 4-H members must attend at least one practice session between October 1st and March 1st in that said discipline to be eligible to participate in additional practice sessions scheduled during the 4-H program year.
- 4-H shooting sports members are responsible for signing in at each practice they attend.



FCS School
When: March 7-9, 2025
Where: Bernalillo CES Office
 ABQ, NM
Who: Novice and Junior 4-Hers
Cost: \$60

Parents / Guardians are responsible for transportation, lodging, and meals.

The New Mexico 4-H FCS School is designed for 4-H members ages 9-12. 4-H'ers choose one track per year. Track size is limited and is first come first served. New this year; youth are invited to participate in FCS Carnival night on March 7th, 2025 at 6-8PM. The members will have the opportunity to participate in FCS contests and build friendships with other 4-H youth across the State. Dinner will be provided.

This year's track offerings are

- Baking
- Quilting
- STEAM
- Babysitting 101, First Aid/CPR (Juniors Only)
- Photography
- Outdoor Cooking (Juniors Only)
- Ceramics/Painting on Canvas
- Creative Arts

Senior 4-H members may apply to serve as junior instructors. They will be under the direct supervision of the FCS School Instructors. Though they are not being paid, this should be considered as a job – junior instructors are expected to participate fully as directed by instructors and abide by all policies of the NM 4-H Program and this event. There is no registration fee if a youth is selected to serve as a junior instructor; however they are responsible for travel to and from the event. Junior Instructors will be provided more information about orientation and assigned track if selected.

Please note that this event is first come first served for the sign-up process, youth who sign up after spots have been filled will be added to a waitlist. **Sign up forms have been emailed out and are due back to the extension office no later than February 17th.**



4-H Sewing Projects

4-H sewing workshops will be held on Monday afternoons in February 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 kelknight@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 kelknight@nmsu.edu.



Youth Ranch Management Camp
 June 8-13, 2025

CS Ranch | Cimarron, New Mexico
 Youth Age 15-19 | \$400 Cost

"Educating tomorrow's leaders in ranch management, today."

The registration site will open on February 4th! A total of 30 participants will be invited to this year's camp, with three of those openings for out-of-state youth, age 15-19.

Application site will be closed April 17, 2025. Completed applications will be reviewed by the NMYRMC Committee and applicants notified of acceptance by April 22, 2025. The registration fee of \$400, or payment arrangement, is due on or before May 24, 2025. More info can be found online or by contacting Sid Gordon, sgordon@nmsu.edu, 575-437-0231, or at the Otero County Extension Office.

Otero County 4-H Members of the Month

Tularosa 4-H

This
could
be you!

Cloudcroft 4-H

This
could
be you!

Heritage 4-H

This
could
be you!



4-H Member of the Month: Nominations Now Open!

Alamogordo 4-H

Mescalero 4-H

We are excited to spotlight the incredible youth of Otero County 4-H by honoring one outstanding member per club each month! Do you know a 4-H member who has shown exceptional dedication, leadership, or enthusiasm? This is your chance to recognize their shining personalities and contributions to the 4-H community.

Mustang 4-H

How to Nominate:















4-H members may nominate themselves or others (from any Otero County 4-H club) for Member of the Month. To nominate, please submit the following information by the 20th of each month:

- The name of the 4-H member you are nominating
- A recent photo of the nominee
- A brief description of their favorite 4-H memory or project

Nominations can be sent directly to your 4-H Agent Hannah Wood at hdw@nmsu.edu

We look forward to celebrating the incredible accomplishments of our 4-H members and showcasing the positive impact they are making in our community. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to honor a dedicated 4-H member!

Calendar - February 2025

DATE	TIME	County Happenings
February 12	6pm	4-H Orientation
February 20	6:30pm	Otero County 4-H Council Meeting @ Extension Office
February 27	5:15pm	Otero County Shooting Sports Leader Meeting @ Extension Office
DATE	TIME	County Project Dates
February 2	1pm	Shotgun Practice @ Roadrunner Trap Club 
February 2	3pm	Horse Practice @ Otero County Fairgrounds 
February 3	3pm	Sewing Project @ Extension Office 
February 6	6pm	Archery Practice @ Otero County Fairgrounds Livestock Barn 
February 9	1pm	Rifle Practice @ Roadrunner Trap Club 
February 10	3pm	Sewing Project @ Extension Office 
February 13	6pm	Archery Practice @ Otero County Fairgrounds Livestock Barn 
February 16	1pm	Shotgun Practice @ Roadrunner Trap Club 
February 16	3pm	Horse Practice @ Otero County Fairgrounds 
February 17	3pm	Sewing Project @ Extension Office 
February 20	5:30pm	Parliamentary Procedure Workshop @ Extension Office 
February 23	1pm	Rifle Practice @ Roadrunner Trap Club 
February 24	3pm	Sewing Project @ Extension Office 
February 27	6pm	Archery Practice @ Otero County Fairgrounds Livestock Barn 
DATE	NM State Happenings	
February 4	4-H Day at the Roundhouse @ Santa Fe	
February 7-9	NM 4-H Shooting Sports Certification @ Roswell	
March 7-9	Family Consumer Science School @ Bernalillo	
April 11-13	Youth Get Away @ Glorieta Adventure Camp	
May 1-4	NM State Shooting Sports Championship @ Raton	
May 17-18	Small Animal School @ Bernalillo	
June 4-6	Southern 4-H Regional Livestock School @ Capitan	
July 7-10	NM State 4-H Conference	
September 6-14	NM State Fair	
September 24-28	Southern NM State Fair	

Upcoming Deadlines	Date Due
4-H Enrolment Deadline	February 1, 2025
FCS School Deadline	February 17, 2025
Otero County 4-H Member of the Month Monthly Submission Deadline	February 20, 2025
Youth Get Away Deadline	March 10, 2025

Enrollment Instructions

The enrollment good standing deadline for all 4-H members, re-enrolling and new members, is February 1st, 2025.

4-H members must be enrolled on or before February 1, 2025, 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, 2025, however members enrolling after February 1, 2025, 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, 2025, 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 youth members have the option of submitting a paper enrollment or enrolling online via the ZSuite website. Paper enrollment forms are available from the Otero County Extension Office. 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 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, 2025.** 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. If you would like to enroll via the ZSuite website, the website instructions for re-enrolling members and new members are as follows:

Re-Enrollment

1. Go to [ZSuites](#) online.
2. Log in to your account and select the primary profile.
3. Using the drop-down menu, enroll each applicable member (4-H members, adult volunteers).
4. Complete To Do list ----->
5. Click Submit

New Enrollment

1. Go to [ZSuites](#) online.
2. Click the Sign Up link.
3. Fill out the popup to create a new household. This is the Primary Parent account. Write down the pin code you create somewhere safe.
4. The email entered will be used as the family email for all members under the household account.
5. Click the "Let's Go" button when done.
6. On the Dashboard for the primary account, you can create new household accounts (4-H members, adult volunteers) through Household members.
7. Complete To Do list ----->
8. Click Submit



Annual Enrollment TO DO: New & Re-enrolled

- Review/Update personal information section.
- Upload your completed NM 4-H Youth Medical & Liability Release/Code of Conduct Contract/Media Release Form 300.A-3 or submit your completed paper form to Otero County Extension Office, hand signed.
- 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 4-H projects
- 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.)

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