

August 2024

Otero County 4-H NEWSLETTER



In this Issue

- Age Groups 23-24 Year
- Good Standing
- 4-H Enrollment and Meeting Attendance
- 4-H Volunteer Requirements
- Fair Dates
- FCS Lettermen
- 4-H Award Nominations
- County Council
- Thank you NRA Foundation
- NM 4-H Food Challenge
- County Council Officer Applications
- Take 10 with 4-H
- Prepare Your Indoor Exhibits
- Achievement Day
- Record Books
- District Contest
- State 4-H Photo Contest
- State 4-H Conference

4-H Meeting Schedule

4-H Club	Time/Location	Monthly Meeting	Next Meeting
Alamogordo 4-H	6pm @ New Exhibit building - Fairgrounds	2nd Tuesday	August 13
Cloudcroft 4-H Club	6:00pm @ Cloudcroft Middle School Commons Area	Last Thursday	August 29
Heritage 4-H	7pm @ Fairgrounds	2nd Monday	August 12
Mescalero 4-H	3pm @ first Baptist Ruidoso (Country Club Drive)	1st Sunday	August 4
Mustangs 4-H	6pm @ High Rolls Senior Center	Last Tuesday	August 27
Tularosa 4-H	7pm @ Carroll Family Home	1st Tuesday	August 6

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.

4-H Enrollment Changes and Meeting Attendance

Please contact the Extension Office, 575-437-0231, if you would like to make any changes to your 4-H enrollment. After February 1, 2024, you will not be able to make any changes in the Zsuite enrollment program via the Zsuite website and therefore you will need to contact the Extension Office by phone, 575-437-0231, or email, otero@nmsu.edu, and request changes be made to your enrollment. This includes changing to a different club, adding/dropping 4-H projects, updates to your contact information, etc. Parents/guardians need to check with their organizational 4-H club volunteer leader and confirm their youth are enrolled in the 4-H club they are attending 4-H club meetings for as good standing verification will be sent to the 4-H club youth are enrolled in via the Zsuite enrollment program. 4-H members will only receive credit towards good standing for attending 4-H club meetings for which they are enrolled in via Zsuite. Also, 4-H youth enrolled in multiple 4-H clubs via Zsuite are required to meet the attendance requirements of all clubs they are enrolled in to be considered in good standing.

4-H Volunteer Requirements

To help with 4-H events, adult volunteers will need to

1. Complete a background check

2. Enroll as a Volunteer either paper copy or on Zsutes.

3. Complete the working with minors course on Zsutes:

1. Go to <https://4h.zsuite.org> For best results: Use Google Chrome, Safari or Firefox as your internet browser. Complete this training on a laptop or desktop computer. If you are using a tablet device, please note you may need to scroll to have text and interactive elements in this training to appear and/or work properly.
2. Sign-up and register a new household account. If you already have an account skip to #3. (A tip sheet for creating a new household account is available from the ZSuite website.)
3. Log in with your email and password. If you had an account and can't remember your password select "Forgot Password?" to reset.
4. If you open any window in Zsutes and you see the pink "UPDATE READY - CLICK TO RELOAD" – click on the pink update button so that you have the latest updates.
5. Select "Clover Academy" on left menu bar, then select "ENROLL" for the New Mexico – Working with Minors training. You may need to scroll to the bottom of the page to see the training and "ENROLL". Please note, there are additional trainings on this page that are optional.
6. Select "YES" for confirming your enrollment in New Mexico – Working with Minors training.

7. Select "OK" indicating that you have been successfully enrolled in the training
8. Select "LAUNCH" to open the next page of New Mexico – Working with Minors training.
9. Select "New Mexico Working with Minors" to open the next page of New Mexico – Working with Minors training.
10. Select the blue box to begin the training.
11. Select "START EXPLORING" and read each lesson. After you scroll to the end of each lesson, you will see the title of the next lesson at the bottom of the screen. Select the next lesson shown on the bottom of the screen to advance through each lesson. Click on lesson features (such as images, symbols +, etc.) as provided to expand and read additional text. There are two quizzes (knowledge checks) within the training that you must complete. If you do not score 80% or higher to pass, you will need to retake the quiz. There is a retake button at the end of each quiz.
12. Once you complete all lessons and successfully pass the quizzes, select "Completion Certificate" button in the bottom right corner of the screen.
13. You will be taken to another page where you may view a certificate of completion for successfully completing the New Mexico – Working with Minors training. No additional actions need to be taken on your part. Zsuite will notify the County Extension Office that your annual training is complete. Please contact the Extension Office if you have any questions, 575-437-0231. Thank you!

FAIR DATES

New Mexico State Fair

September 5- 15

Otero County Fair

September 18-22

Southern NM State Fair

September 25-29

State Fair

YQCA Requirement
for 2024 New Mexico
State Fair:

The NMSF livestock
office will be
supplying coupon
codes for the
exhibitors to take
their YQCA required
test this year.

Entries and YQCA will
be due August 1st.

Southern New Mexico State Fair

Southern New Mexico State Fair will be
requiring all exhibitors to complete the
YQCA. Codes will not be given for this fair.

If you are planning on attending New Mexico State Fair, Southern New Mexico State Fair, or Eastern New Mexico State Fair please contact Sid at the Extension Office at 575-437-0231 to notify him.

4-H FCS Lettermen

Any 4-H member who is active in Family and Consumer Sciences Projects may “letter” in Family and Consumer Sciences. All that is necessary to “letter” is to complete the requirements in their age level and submit the appropriate forms to the Otero County Extension Office by September 1. A member must be enrolled in 4-H for at least two years in their respective age division and FCS projects (and other related projects). The first year a member letters they receive a “clover” letter as you would see on a lettermen jacket. Bronze, Silver, and Gold pins in the shape of the letter “H” are awarded in the respective age levels. A member can “letter” at any time, even if they did not begin as a Novice, but they will receive the pin for the appropriate age level.

In addition, two platinum letters will be awarded each year. The platinum letters are based on overall achievement and may be received at any age level. Platinum awards are selected from all applications submitted in that 4-H program year. For information on how to “letter” and appropriate application forms, refer to the NM 4-H website.

4-H Awards

Nominations Wanted!

The Meritorious Award and Outstanding Leader Award will be awarded through a nomination process.

Later this year, during the annual 4-H Awards Ceremony, Otero County 4-H Council will provide the following awards: Outstanding 4-H Leader Award- an adult volunteer that is an enrolled 4-H Leader in Otero County and has demonstrated outstanding service and contribution to the Otero County 4-H Program. Meritorious 4-H Award- an Otero County group, organization, business, or individual, outside of 4-H, who throughout the years has donated significantly of their time and effort to the Otero County 4-H Program. We need 4-H members, leaders, and parents to submit nominations for these awards. Nomination forms are due in the Extension Office by September 16, 2024, and can be obtained from the Extension Office or the Otero County Extension Service website. Nominations received by the deadline will be reviewed by Otero County 4-H Council prior to the annual 4-H Awards Ceremony.

August County Council Meeting

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

Thursday, August 17th, at 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!



NM 4-H Food Challenge

The annual NM 4-H Food Challenge will be held on Saturday, September 14, 2024, in Albuquerque (location TBA). Otero County may enter up to two teams in each age division (Novice, Junior, Senior). Teams consist of at least three and no more than five members. Each team must pay a \$15 registration fee and a complete list of rules, guidelines, and resources may be downloaded from the NM 4-H website. If you have a team of 4-Hers interested in participating in the contest, please contact Kelly no later than August 9, 2024. If we have more than two teams in each age division interested in participating, we will need to have a county qualifying contest prior to the state contest.

Otero County 4-H Shooting Sports

WOULD LIKE TO THANK

FRIENDS OF **NRA** & THE **NRA** FOUNDATION
TEACH FREEDOM



\$5400

GRANTED BY THE NRA FOUNDATION

The grant funding Otero County 4-H Shooting Sports has received will help continue the shooting sports 4-H projects of archery, shotgun, and rifle. Our 4-H youth are able to shoot at practices and competitions at no cost because of the funding from the NRA grant.

HELP SUPPORT GRANTS TO THIS PROGRAM AND OTHERS LIKE IT!

Attend a Friends of NRA event to raise funds for The NRA Foundation, America's leading charitable organization in support of the shooting sports.

GO TO [FRIENDSOFNRA.ORG](https://www.friendsofnra.org) AND [NRAFOUNDATION.ORG](https://www.nrafoundation.org) FOR MORE INFORMATION.

24'-25' County Council Office Applications



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.

County Council Officer forms are available for pick up at the Otero County Extension Office or online at the Otero webpage. Forms will be due to Kelly no later than October 15th, 2024.

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)

4-H Indoor Project Exhibit Update

Prepare Your Indoor 4-H Project Exhibits

All 4-H members who enrolled by February 1st of this year are eligible to enter exhibits in the Otero County 4-H Achievement Day at the Otero County Fairgrounds. As you prepare your 4-H exhibits for the Otero County 4-H Achievement Day be sure to follow the standards outlined in your 4-H project books and the Indoor 4-H Project Exhibits Rules and Class Descriptions. The rules and class descriptions are available from the Extension Office or can be downloaded from the website.

4-H members entering indoor 4-H project exhibits at the Otero County 4-H Achievement Day are eligible to win many awards including ribbons, rosettes, and plaques. In addition, a belt buckle and duffle bag will be awarded to the Champion and Reserve Champion exhibitors in each age division, Novice, Junior, and Senior.

Remember: posters, display boards, vertical displays, project specific boards, and photography exhibits all have specific size rules that can be found in the Indoor 4-H Project Exhibits Rules and Class Descriptions. A 4-H member must be in good standing with their 4-H Club to be eligible to enter indoor 4-H exhibits. Also, 4-Hers must be enrolled in the respective projects for exhibits entered. All exhibits must be the work of the exhibitor and completed during the current 4-H year ('23-'24).

4-H members are strongly encouraged to pre-register their exhibits and a registration form is now posted on the Otero County Extension Service website. 4-H members not pre-registering exhibits will be responsible for completing their entry tags upon delivery of exhibits to the Extension Office. If you have any questions regarding indoor 4-H exhibits contact Kelly in the Extension Office, 575-437-0231.

Volunteers are needed on Thursday, August 15th to arrange displays of 4-H exhibits. 4-H adult volunteers, parents, and/or youth (preferably older youth) are welcome to assist on August 15th with set up of 4-H exhibit displays. If you are available and would like to help, please contact Kelly at the Extension Office, 575-437-0231.

Delivery Days for Otero County 4-H Achievement Day

Indoor 4-H project exhibits are to be delivered to the Extension Office on Monday, August 12, 2024, 8am-7pm, except nutrition/baking exhibits. Nutrition/baking exhibits are to be delivered to the Extension Office on Thursday, August 15th, 8am-7pm, or Friday, August 16th, 7:30am-10am. If the scheduled delivery days do not work for you, please contact Kelly in the Extension Office, to make other arrangements for early delivery of your 4-H project exhibits.

Viewing of Exhibits and 4-H Family Night

Viewing of exhibits and an awards program will be held on Saturday, August 17th. Viewing will start at 5:00pm, awards will be held at 6:00pm, pizza, tasting of baked good exhibits, and a dance will follow.

4-H Achievement Day Schedule:

Friday, August 9, 2024, 8am – 5pm

-Submit Completed Registration form to the Otero County Extension Office (4-Her's not submitting registration form by August 9th will be responsible for completing their entry tags upon delivery of exhibits to the Extension Office.)

Monday, August 12, 2024, 8am – 7pm

-Deliver 4-H exhibits (except nutrition/baking, classes #1217-#1407) to the Otero County Extension Office

Thursday, August 15, 2024, 8am – 7pm or

Friday, August 16, 2024, 7:30am – 10am

-Deliver Nutrition/Baking 4-H Exhibits (classes #1205-#1407) to the Otero County Extension Office

Saturday, August 17, 2024

4-H Family Night @ Fairgrounds

5pm Building Opens for Viewing of Exhibits
6pm – 8pm Awards Program, Pizza, Tasting of Nutrition/Baking Exhibits, and Dance

Record Books

Otero County 4-H Record Books Record keeping is an important life skill and all 4-H members are encouraged to keep written records of their 4-H club year. These records are turned into the Extension Office each year and evaluated. Each member receives helpful feedback and may receive an award for their effort and achievement. Record Book judges will select 4-H members for the following awards: Outstanding Novice 4-H Member Outstanding Junior 4-H Member Outstanding Senior 4-H Member Leadership Award (Senior 4-H Members Eligible) Novice 4-H Member Project Awards Junior 4-H Member Project Awards Senior 4-H Member Project Awards County 4-H Record Book forms and guidelines may be downloaded from the Otero County Extension website. The website has everything you need to know about assembling your 4-H Record Book and submitting it for judging. Be sure you are working on your record book in order to have it ready to turn in to the Extension Office by the October 17th deadline. Don't wait! Work on your 4-H Record Book today!

District Contest Results

Lea County hosted Southeast District Contest in Lovington and Hobbs, New Mexico. Otero County had several youth that attended to compete in many contest areas. We are so proud of them and the way they represented

Otero County. The results are:

3rd Place Novice Archery Compound Team

Isaiah Speegle

Jacob Martin

Ryatt Satathite

1st place Consumer Decision Making

Charli Ramsey

1st Place Agriculture Presentations

Charli Ramsey

1st Place FCS Skill-a-thon

Charli Ramsey

3rd Place Mix and Match

Charli Ramsey

1st Place Apron

Grant Wold



2024 State 4-H Photo Contest

**Show off your
photography skills!**

Enter your photos to have a chance of winning the 2024 State 4-H Photo Contest. Photos in either film or digital can be submitted through mail or Facebook by August 1st. (If picture is placed on Facebook, make sure to include the information below with the post). Photos submitted will then be placed on a link and voted on by the public. The information for the voting link will be made available on August 10th. The first, second and third place in each category will receive a rosette. The first place winner in each category will receive a camera case and his/her photo will automatically be entered in the contest for overall winner. The overall winner will be chosen by a set of judges and will be awarded an overall rosette and a cash prize of a \$100

Categories -

4-H—Must have either correct logo or clover

Animals - Any photo that the main subject is animals

People - Any photo that the main subject is people

Landscapes - Any photo that the main subjects are fields, mountains, sunsets, lakes/rivers etc.

Nature - Any photo that the main subject is vegetation, flowers, trees, insects etc.

Buildings - Any photo that the main subject is buildings

Other -Any photo that doesn't fall in a category, ex: - road signs, mailboxes, business signs, etc.

Entry rules:

- **Members may submit up to a total of three entries. Each entry must have the following information with it—Name, Club, County, Name of Photo, Category, Location of the photo and Contact number/email**
- **Entries can be either color or black and white. Please no edited or photoshopped pictures.**
- **Please, no matted or framed photos if mailed.**
- **Photos will not be returned! If you want to keep your photo, please retain a copy.**
- **Photographs must be the work of the 4-H member taken during the current 4-H program year.**
- **Entries must be in the State 4-H Office or uploaded to Facebook by August 1, 2024\$Send to State 4-H Office, MSC 3AE, New Mexico State University, Box 30003, Las Cruces, NM 88003-8003**

State 4-H Conference

Nine Otero County senior 4-H members attended State 4-H Conference at the NMSU Campus in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Along with their contests, the youth participated in workshops and tours, and danced the night away. We are so proud of these youth! Way to represent Otero County! Standings are listed below:



2nd Place Horse Judging Team

Alyssa Singer

Peyton Corvin

Garrett Gutierrez

Macie Seaman

4th Place Individual Horse Judging

Alyssa Singer

2nd Place Ag Presentations

Caleb Ramsey

1st Place Talent Show

Cal and Cord Wold

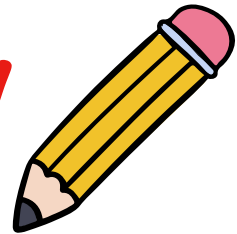
Dear 4-H Members, Parents, and Leaders,

I want to thank you all for the opportunity to be the 4-H Agent and work side by side with you. The decision to take a position outside of Extension and especially Otero County was the most difficult as I will miss working with the wonderful families we have here in Otero. While my time directly in Otero County and with New Mexico 4-H may be ending, I am confident that the connections I've forged and the relationships I've built will endure for a lifetime. I am eager for the opportunities that await me and the paths that have been opened for me by God. I send my sincerest wishes for blessings, continued success, and wonderful achievements for Otero County 4-H.

Best Wishes,
Kalie Gillespie



Happy School Year!



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