

# Otero County 4-H Newsletter

## September 2025



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## 4-H Meeting Schedule

4-H Club	Time/Location	Monthly Meeting	Next Meeting
<b>Alamogordo 4-H</b>	6:30pm @ Fairgrounds Exhibit Building	2nd Tuesday	September 9th
<b>Cloudcroft 4-H</b>	6pm @ Cloudcroft Middle School	Last Thursday	September 25th
<b>Heritage 4-H</b>	7pm @ Fairgrounds Exhibit Building	2nd Monday	<b>No Meeting</b>
<b>Mescalero 4-H</b>	5pm @ Empowerment Complex	1st Sunday	<b>No Meeting</b>
<b>Mustang 4-H</b>	6pm @ High Rolls Senior Center	Last Tuesday	September 30th
<b>Tularosa 4-H</b>	6pm @ Carroll Family Home	1st Tuesday	September 13th

### 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](mailto: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!



**BE BOLD. Shape the Future.**  
**College of Agricultural, Consumer  
 and Environmental Sciences**  
 Cooperative Extension Service  
 Otero County Extension Office

401 Fairgrounds Road  
 Alamogordo, NM 88310  
 (575)-437-0231

Otero County Extension Services  
[oteroextension.nmsu.edu](http://oteroextension.nmsu.edu)  
[otero@nmsu.edu](mailto:otero@nmsu.edu)

# Calendar - September 2025

DATE	TIME	County Happenings
October 16th		4-H Project Record Books Due to Otero County Extension Office
October 16th	6:30pm	October County Council Meeting @ Extension Office Classroom
November 20th		Otero County Annual 4-H Awards Ceremony @ Fairgrounds
DATE		NM State Happenings
September 6-14		NM State Fair @ ABQ
September 24-28		Southern NM State Fair @ Las Cruces SNMF
September 29 - October 4		Eastern NM State Fair @ Roswell ENMF

## 4-H Awards Nominations Wanted!

The Meritorious 4-H Award and Outstanding 4-H 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 Program.

We need 4-H members, leaders, and parents to submit nominations for these awards. Nominations are due in the Extension office by September 22, 2025, and can be obtained from the Extension Office or on the Otero County Extension Service Website.

# October 4-H County Council Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for: Thursday, October 16th, 6:30pm in the Extension Office Classroom

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

The Otero County Extension Office will be **CLOSED** September 1st for Labor Day.

The Otero County Extension Office will have intermittent closures when all agents are working out of office.



## 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 what 4-H members need to do to be in "good standing"? If not, please take a moment to look 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.

# 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.



## 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.

# How to become a volunteer!

This is a friendly reminder for adults interested in serving as a 4-H volunteer, the following requirements for volunteer enrollment must be met:

1. 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.
2. Complete and submit an [adult enrollment form](#) and adult [liability form](#) to the Otero County Extension Office.
3. Complete the **annual** NM Working with Minors course found on ZSuites. Contact the Extension Office, 575-437-0231 or [otero@nmsu.edu](mailto: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!**



# Otero County 4-H Members of the Month

September 2025

## Tularosa 4-H



Aubrey C

## Heritage 4-H



Alyssa S

## Cloudfcroft 4-H



Hartley G

## Alamogordo 4-H



Mattison M

## Mustang 4-H



## Mescalero 4-H



**How to Nominate:**  
Any 4-H member, Leader, Parent/Guardian, or Volunteer may submit a youth (from any Otero 4-H club) for a Member of the Month nomination. To nominate, submit the following info directly to Hannah at [hdw@nmsu.edu](mailto:hdw@nmsu.edu) by the 20th of each month:

- Name of the 4-H member being nominated
- A recent photo of the nominee
- A brief description of their favorite 4-H memory or project



# 2025 Achievement Day Winners



Champion Plaques are sponsored by GS Tower Services  
Reserve Champion Plaques are sponsored by Mr. Tom Simpson

**4-H Agriculture and Natural Science Winners:**  
Champion: Caleb Ramsey Reserve Champion: Charli Ramsey

**4-H Home and Family Winners:**  
Champion: Payton Moore Reserve Champion: Andres Cardiel

**4-H Creative Arts Winners:**  
Champion: Payton Moore Reserve Champion: Elias Pike

**4-H Sewing & Clothing Winners:**  
Champion: Mable Rosga Reserve Champion: Charli Ramsey

**4-H Foods Winners:**  
Champion: Charlie Seaman Reserve Champion: Charli Ramsey



**Silver Shears Winners:**  
Novice: Mable Rosga  
Junior: Charli Ramsey  
Senior: Macie Seaman

Shears sponsored by: Frank & Dori Webb



The 2025 4-H Achievement Day was held August 16th, with close to 200 indoor exhibits made by Otero County 4-H members being judged and displayed. There were over 50 people that came to viewing & awards.

In all, 42 4-H members and 13 4-H Cloverbuds entered exhibits this year. We could not be more proud of the effort and creativity our youth put into their projects! A huge thank you to all of our volunteers, from project leaders to judges, who made these projects possible

**Novice 4-H Reserve Champion Exhibitor:** Eleanor Pike  
**Junior 4-H Reserve Champion Exhibitor :** Adeline Pike  
**Senior 4-H Reserve Champion Exhibitor:** Charlie Seaman  
Duffle Bags sponsored by: Casa Creations

**Novice 4-H Champion Exhibitor:** Brinley Fleming  
Buckle Sponsored by: Ande and Becky McFarland  
**Junior 4-H Champion Exhibitor:** Charli Ramsey  
Buckle sponsored by: Misti Orr  
**Senior 4-H Champion Exhibitor:** Payton Moore  
Buckle sponsored by: Otero County Master Gardener Association



All champion and reserve champion winners received cups sponsored by La Luz Cart-Away.



## Otero County Fair Jr Livestock Schedule 2025

**Saturday 13th**

- Clean up Day - 8am

**Tuesday 16th**

- Check in 3 PM - 6 PM
- Mandatory exhibitor & parent meeting 6:30 PM
- Weigh/classify directly after exhibitor meeting

**Wednesday 17th**

- Pig Show - 6 PM

**Thursday 18th**

- Lamb Show - 2 PM
- Goat Show - 6 PM

**Friday 19th**

- Rabbit Show - 12 PM
- Poultry Show - 2 PM
- Beef Show - 6 PM
- Disposition forms due 1 hour following completion of the beef show

**Saturday 20th**

- Buyer's Supper - 4 PM
- Junior Livestock Sale - 6 PM

Otero County Fair Jr Livestock Rules found [here](#).



# SAVE The DATE

**Otero County Jr Livestock Sale**

**September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Buyer's Supper: 4 pm**

**Sale: 6 pm**

**Questions: [megportillo@yahoo.com](mailto:megportillo@yahoo.com)**

**or 575-921-9094**



**New Mexico State Fair**  
Albuquerque

September 6th - 14th

Jr Livestock show info found [here](#).

Jr Livestock show schedule [here](#).



**SNMSF**  
Las Cruces

September 24th - 28th

Jr Livestock show info found [here](#).

Jr Livestock show schedule [here](#).



**ENMSF**  
Roswell

Sep 29th - Oct 4th

ENMSF participant info found [here](#).

Jr Livestock show schedule [here](#)

Good luck to all of our showman, competitors, and indoor exhibitors participating at NMSF, Otero County Fair, SNMSF, & ENMSF!



### 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 before they can letter (regardless of age) 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](#).



## ATTENTION: 4-H Leaders and Adult Volunteers

**New Mexico 4-H  
Adult Retreat 2025  
Schedule**



**When: Saturday, November 8**

**Where: Albuquerque, NM**

**Theme: Smile - Adults are Beyond Ready**

**Registration Open Now!**

Registration Scholarships, Schedule, Workshop Summary and other info can be found [here](#).



# Jerry Hawkins Memorial

## Judging Contest



September 11, 2025

Thursday, 1:00 p.m.

The 2025 Jerry Hawkins Memorial Livestock Judging Contest will be on Thursday, September 11, 2025, at 1:00 P.M. Contestants will meet in the stands inside the Jr. Livestock Pavilion. Contestants will use scantrons that will be provided. There will be three divisions Novice, Junior and Senior. Each division will judge classes in swine, cattle, sheep and goats if available. The Novice, Junior and Senior divisions will be in the age groups according to the 4-H rules. Only seniors will give reasons (3 sets). The top 10 seniors, juniors and novices will receive a jacket. The high point individual in each of the youth divisions will also receive a belt buckle. The high point senior in oral reasons will also receive a belt buckle.

For more information, please contact Tracy Drummond at (575) 313-1606.

## 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 into the Extension Office by October 16th!**

**Don't wait! Work on your 4-H Record Book today!**

Kelly Knight  
County Program Director  
Family & Consumer Sciences Agent  
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575-437-0231

Hannah Wood  
County Extension 4-H Agent  
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Sid Gordon  
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## County 4-H Council Officer Elections

**What:** 2025-2026 Otero County 4-H Council Officer Elections

**When:** October 16, 2025, 6:30pm

**Where:** Otero Co. Extension Office, 401 Fairgrounds Rd, Alamogordo

**Who:** Otero County 4-H members, all 4-H clubs may have four (4) voting delegates

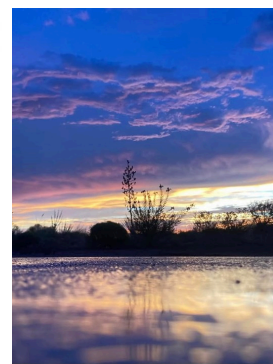
### Who can run for office:

1. Any active Otero County 4-H member who is a Novice, Junior, or Senior at the time of the elections may submit an application.
2. Candidates must turn in an application to the Extension Office by October 14, 2025. Application forms are available from the Extension Office or the Otero County Extension website. You may either mail the form, bring it by the office, or fax it into the office (fax #575-437-6134). We will not take phone applications. The form requires signatures of 4-H applicant, parent, and 4-H Club Organizational Leader.
3. The applicant may specify up to three (3) office choices he or she wishes to run for.
4. All candidates will be required to present a brief speech, no more than 3 minutes in length, prior to the election of officers during the October 16th Council Meeting. Candidate speeches should include information about why you want to become an Otero County 4-H Council Officer, experiences you have had that will make you an effective council officer, and any other information you feel is relevant.
5. If elected as an officer, you are expected to perform all office duties to the best of your ability and according to the bylaws.



## 2025 State 4-H Photo Contest Winners

**Congratulation to our Otero County member winning the Landscape category of the State 4-H Photo Contest!!**



### Landscape

1<sup>st</sup> – Golden Water Sunset - Siena Cass - Otero County

2<sup>nd</sup> – Where Light Meets Longing - Maddie Kenyon - Quay County

3<sup>rd</sup> – Nature's Quiet Moment on the Range - Jordan Schumer - Dona Ana County