

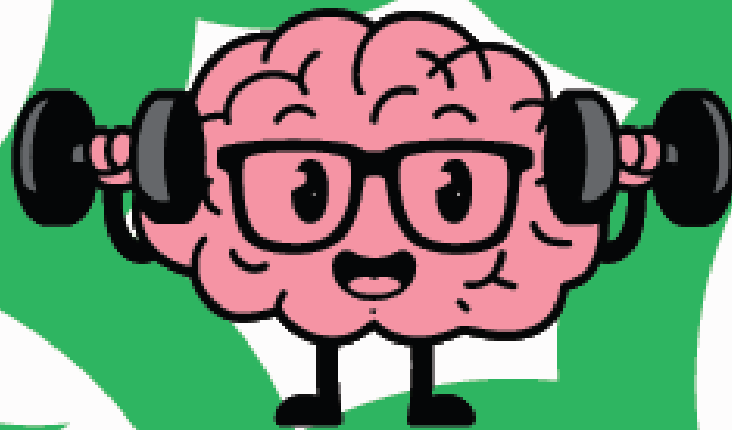
We are 4-H
Active



Leadership

Agriculture

STEM



Natural
Resources

Carter County
Yearbook
2024-2025

Family &
Community
Health



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What is 4-H?

4-H is the youth development phase of the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service.

4-H is “learning by doing.” Volunteers, teen leaders, extension educators and interested adults assist youth in acquiring knowledge, developing life skills and forming attitudes that will enable them to become self-directed, productive and contributing members of society.

4-H is “involvement.” Youth, families, peers and community actively participates in the learning process.

4-H creates a sense of belonging, of being involved, wanted and helped. 4-H allows one to share thoughts and skills with others.

4-H Motto

“To Make the Best Better”

4-H Club Colors

White symbolizes purity and high ideals. Green symbolizes youth, life, and growth.

Stay connected with us!

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CarterCountyOsuExtension>

Website: <https://extension.okstate.edu/county/carter/>



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Oklahoma State University, Ferguson College of Agriculture – Stillwater

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ENROLL NOW

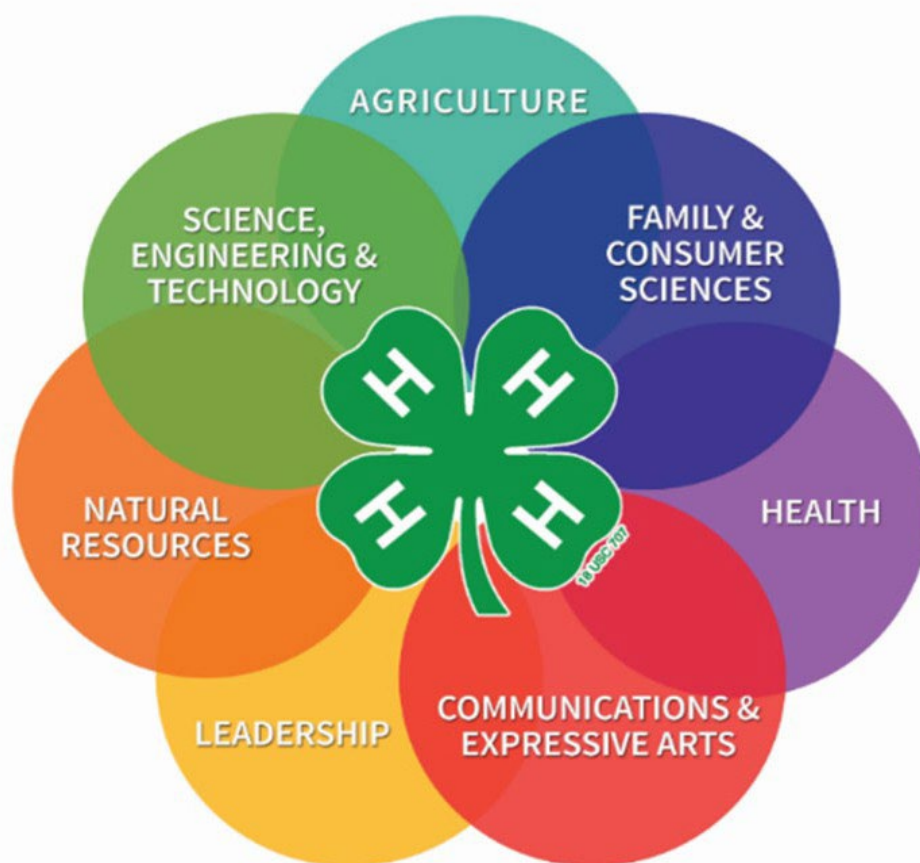


Enrollment begins August 1, 2025

Minimum age is 8 years old and 3rd grade by August 1st,
2025

The 4-H year is August 1, 2025 – July 31, 2026

Enroll through Zsuites at <https://4h.zsuite.org>



Welcome to 4-H, a Family Affair!

To help acquaint your family with 4-H, please take some time to review the following highlights.



What is 4-H?

4-H is a program for youth and their families from all segments of society. It provides educational programs for diverse audiences of youth and adults based on practical skills of learning to learn, decision making, public speaking, goal setting, job skills and more. 4-H is the youth development phase of the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, supported cooperatively by Oklahoma State University, USDA and local County Government.

youth programs, providing instructional materials and resources, training parents and volunteers and keeping families and local leadership informed through newsletters and general correspondence. 4-H parents/volunteers are essential to the county program. All county 4-H activities and events are planned, implemented, and evaluated by a committee of 4-H parents/volunteers. 4-H parents/volunteers are encouraged to participate in Parent/Volunteer Meetings, which happen regularly throughout the year.

How is 4-H Organized?

Locally - Most clubs have monthly meetings conducted by the local youth officers. Some clubs also have special project and activity meetings where members work in smaller groups to develop specific project skills. Each club has a designated Organizational Leader. Organizational leaders are the primary contact between the local club and County Extension Office. Organizational leaders depend on the assistance of parents as volunteers in a variety of roles at the local and county level.

County – The 4-H program is managed through the County Extension Office, located at the County Administrative Building in Ardmore. Primary leadership is provided by the 4-H Youth Educator. The office is responsible for setting an educational tone and direction for 4-H and

What is my Role as a Parent/Guardian?

4-H is a family affair! Members require the involvement and support of the entire family. Your role will include supporting and helping members (but not doing the activity/project *for* them); giving praise and encouragement; helping a member select appropriate projects and activities; staying informed about 4-H programs; asking questions; supporting your member in meeting deadlines and following through with responsibilities and commitments; attending meetings and functions with members; and helping members focus on what's really important, not just winning! Be a part of the 4-H team! The team is made up of volunteers, like yourself, helping to provide snacks, transportation, and a meeting place; serving as a project or activity volunteer; being a resource in your area of expertise;

asking what you can do at the local and county level; and helping when called upon. 4-H members get more from their 4-H experience when the whole family gets involved.

Who and What is the Role of the 4-H Youth Development Educator?

This individual is an Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service professional. This professional has two primary roles: educator and educational manager. As an educator the extension professional is responsible for providing guidance and opportunities in educating volunteers, parents, teachers and other youth servicing volunteers and professionals. The educational manager's role is to serve as a mentor, counselor, liaison and resource to local and county 4-H clubs, county 4-H committees, 4-H adult and youth councils, the county 4-H Foundation, schools, community committees and other youth servicing agencies.

What Can 4-H Teach My Child?

4-H teaches members to set and accomplish goals for themselves through project work. A member's project manual will assist them in learning to set goals, keep records, and evaluate what they did or did not accomplish. 4-H encourages members to record their goals and how they completed the goals. This is called record keeping. There are several ways for members to keep up with what they do in 4-H. They can:

1. Use a county record book or medal form to record what is done in the project.

2. Keep a diary (write in it each day).
3. Write on a calendar (write down each day what was done).

A key to successful record keeping is to wait no longer than one week to record project work. The important details and/or simple things are forgotten quickly. The things that need to be written down include:

1. What you did (number of times, number of items made, number of animals, number of acres planted and harvested, hours spent working in project or project work done, etc.).
2. What you learned (what new knowledge and skills were learned, what funny or sad things happened, etc.).
3. Learning experiences participated in (demonstrations, speeches, tours, exhibits, judging, workshops attended, lessons at local club meetings, day camps, etc.).
4. Leadership experiences you participated in (volunteer leadership: teaching or assisting with teaching, committee work, officer, etc.).
5. Citizenship activities participated in (helping others, providing a service, etc.).
6. Awards and recognition received. The result of keeping good records is that a member has learned to set goals and see how goals were accomplished.

The 4-H Philosophy

"It is better to build a boy than to mend a man."

To "learn by doing" is fundamental in any sound educational program and characteristics of the 4-H program. Some other commonly accepted beliefs are: 4-H youth are more important than the 4-H project. Learning how to do the project is more important than the project itself. A blue ribbon 4-Her with a red ribbon project is more desirable than a red ribbon 4-Her with a blue ribbon project. Every 4-H member needs to be noticed, to feel important, to win, and to be praised. Our job is to teach 4-H members how to think, not what to think.

What is a 4-H Project?

At the beginning of each year a member will complete enrollment. They will choose 4-H projects that they are interested in learning about. Some projects have a project manual which will guide the family in learning fundamentals and opening doors to other opportunities. Each manual is developed with age-appropriate materials and projects. The activities and projects outlined in the manual can then be entered into the county fair and other activities throughout the year. Some projects are self-directed, meaning you can use creative ways to learn about a particular subject. The county fair is considered the end of the 4-H year. This is the time to show the project work completed between July of the previous year until September of the current year. 4-H project work can be accomplished very easily by developing a simple plan to accomplish one project/ activity each month during the year.

How to Know What's Going On

Read your yearbook! Use the calendar in the back of the yearbook! All county activities and events are planned one year in advance. Write them on your family calendar. Please note and comply with deadlines. Email and Facebook are used to supplement the yearbook and keep you updated as to times and locations. Check out the county website. It has the most current information.

How will my family get the most from this experience?

- Attend local club meetings. Ask questions of the local club leader and call the Extension Office (580-223-6570).
- Read the yearbook. Keep it in a handy location at home.
- Set goals and work at completing the goals in a timely manner.
- Keep records of your project work. Do a talk or demonstration at the local club.
- Participate in local club citizenship projects.
- Participate in county activities and events.
- Attend club meetings! Local club leaders will make announcements regarding updated information, remind you of upcoming deadlines, and provide registration forms so you won't have to make a last-minute dash to the Extension Office.
- Each family is responsible for meeting deadlines and turning in forms. Most registration is done online so make sure to look for the

links in emails, social media or the yearbook.

What Things Will My Local Club Do?

Each 4-H Club is encouraged to select a project or issue to focus on during the year. Suggested projects are:

Natural Resources and Environmental Education - Water conservation (use of water in homes), soil conservation, and environment (keeping the air we breathe and our surroundings clean). Conserving natural resources today and for the future.

Youth Issues - Education, Depression, Child Abuse, Health, Teenage Pregnancy, Substance Abuse, Career Selection, and Suicide.

Health and Wellness - Maintaining and improving physical, intellectual, emotional and social health. Learn about community health resources and environmental issues.

Safety - Learn how to reduce accidents and injuries, recognize and correct hazards, and think and practice safety. Encourage families, clubs and communities to become safety conscious.

Family Strengths - Preparing responsible youth by promoting family communication, leadership development and positive self-esteem. This will enhance the youth's parenting skills.

Science and Technology - Focusing on the "why" of all 4-H projects (the way it is put together -the way it functions, etc.).

4-H Clubs who have a project to focus upon have more involvement of members and parents, and in turn achieve and learn more.

What is the 4-H Philosophy about Recognition?

Creating an environment that nurtures growth and development includes the careful, creative and balanced use of recognition. Recognition is the acknowledgment and affirmation of an individual or group and any personal growth they have experienced. In 4-H, recognition is the encouragement and support for learning that is part of participation in the wide array of educational experiences the program provides. Recognition in 4-H may be public or private. It can be within the individual or provided by others. Whatever its form, recognition in 4-H is a strategy for helping young people become more capable and more competent. Through the acknowledgment, affirmation and positive reinforcement of each person's effort, feelings of competence and capability increase, and participation continues. The purpose of recognition is to encourage and support the efforts of young people in learning to improve their knowledge and develop their life skills. Using a comprehensive recognition process can create a broad array of experiential learning environments. These learning environments must respect individual differences as related to the form of recognition that is most effective in encouraging and supporting development.

4-H Recognition Model

The recognition model is part of a comprehensive plan that rewards positive learning behaviors in youth. In all aspects of the model, recognition should be based on the young person's involvement, participation, and/or efforts and should be designed to meet the needs, interests, and aspirations of young people with different backgrounds and experiences. Recognition should be focused on individual learning and not influenced by factors such as monetary resources to purchase high-quality project materials, top grade animals, or use of equipment. The recognition model can be used to design a recognition system to meet the needs of all youth.

The five parts of the 4-H Recognition Model include recognition for:

- *Participation* -The first step toward building a positive self concept in the participant is acknowledging his/her involvement.
- *Progress toward personal goals* - This enables youth to gain experience in goal setting and realistic self-assessment.
- *Standards of excellence* - These give young people an external predetermined set of criteria for their learning experiences against which they can assess their progress and gain insights into their own interests, efforts, and abilities.

- *Peer competition* -Peer competition subjectively identifies, in a concrete time and place, the best team or individual. It is not developmentally appropriate for younger children.
- *Cooperation* -Helps younger people learn and work cooperatively, preparing them for living in today's interdependent, global society.

Underlying Principles of Developmentally Appropriate Recognition

- Recognition is a basic human need, along with security, new experiences and responses.
- Recognition should be part of all 4-H learning experiences.
- Appropriate recognition takes place.
- Respect for individual differences is essential.
- Recognition must be structured to build positive self-esteem.
- Opportunities for self-assessment and reflection allow youth to learn.
- A range of opportunities and challenges provide choices to meet individual needs.
- Adult support is essential in youth learning and recognition.
- Everyone should be recognized at some level.
- A balance between all elements of the recognition model is essential.

Assumptions About Recognition in 4-H

- Recognition can be a motivator for some young people to excel and take pro-social risks.
- Recognition can foster self-appraisal skills, providing a strong foundation for each young person to engage in self-reflection and self-praise without the need for external rewards.
- Recognition can encourage and support the efforts of young people as they engage in all forms of learning.
- Recognition, used in all its forms, can provide balance to the recognition young people receive as they move through educational programs to more increasingly difficult challenges.

Some key principles of recognizing youth for:

Participation: Through participation young people can more clearly define self concept and strengthen self image. Support and encouragement of young people in

significant roles fosters ongoing participation.

Progress toward personal goals: This form of recognition is appropriate for youth of all ages and fits many different interests. Goals should be realistic and reachable in a set time period. Goals are set by the youth with interaction with experienced persons.

Peer competition: Competition involves a high risk activity with possible stress, conflict, disagreement, and hurt feelings. Participation in competition should be optional.

Standards of excellence: Everyone can utilize standards in their life. When using standards developed by an expert, it is critical that those standards are available to all people involved.

Cooperation: Life skills develop when young people learn and work cooperatively. Through joint problem solving, young people can strengthen their own self concepts as well as understand and appreciate individual differences.



4-H Project Work Simplified

4-H Project Work has 4 Components:

- Six or more Learning Experiences of 20-60 minutes in length per year.
- Civic Engagement/Citizenship/Community Service/Service Learning
- Leadership
- Evaluation/Exhibition of Project Work



SO...what does this all mean?

LEARNING EXPERIENCES can be:

Educational Tours

Workshops

Clinics

Contests

Interviewing the Experts

Educational Presentations

Quiz Bowls

Skill-A-Thons

Judging Contests

Self-Study Exhibits

Expos/Conferences

Job Shadowing

Working Alongside anyone

that has a skill to teach

Public Speaking

Videos & Television Shows

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT: Community Engagement (Youth Voice, Social Justice), Service (Service Learning, Community Service), Civic Education (Government, History, Culture), Personal Development (Character Development, Thinking and Problem Solving)

LEADERSHIP can include (but not limited to...) Teaching/Guiding Others, Conducting A Workshop, Organize A Group Activity, Lead an Activity, Share Information with Others Through Public Speaking, Assist an Adult, Plan A Tour, Local Club Officer, Junior Ambassador, Teen Leader

EXHIBITION can include Contests, Livestock Show, Fair Exhibit, Club/Project Meeting. There is no set timeline for project work, just the 4-H project year. The only thing project work can revolve around at times are times and dates of contests. That means...CONTESTS ARE NOT THE WHOLE PROJECT!!!

PROJECT WORK SUPPORT lies with the Family, Parents, Grandparents, 4-H Volunteers, Teens, Online Resources, Curriculum, Expert Professionals, Hobbyists, Associations/Organizations, and Extension Educators.

A **RECORD BOOK** is the record of what youth did and learned doing the project work and documents goals, knowledge and skills gained, leadership experiences, awards earned, and service to the community.



How to Plan 4-H Project Work



4-H project work is more than the county activities in this book. It is participation in your local club activities, community service and beyond and it is the work that takes place at home.

The lack of quality project work is evident but can be made fantastic with a little planning. Planning means not waiting on someone else to do it for you and following through with the plans you make.

4-H members who plan are more likely to learn important life skills, find what they are passionate about and maybe even win a scholarship someday.

The end goal of 4-H is to create well-rounded individuals who can be a contributing member of society. It's not about what you've won, it's about what you've done and learned through the process.

Beginning with September, after fall enrollment, start outlining the plan month-by-month in general terms, of what you plan to do each month.

For Example:

October: Leadership Project related to a 4-H promotional event. This is a simple thing to pencil in because National 4-H Week and Oklahoma 4-H Month are held in October. There are lots of opportunities to promote 4-H through displays, posters, flyers, speeches, etc. The tour will be a tour directly related to your chosen project area.

November: Community Service Project (This should be very simple to accomplish because November and December provide many opportunities for community service.) The one project to be completed is researching and writing a speech related to your project area.

December: Present speech at local club meeting, provided you planned ahead and asked to be on the agenda.

January: Participate in a county event (i.e., healthy Living Fair) by completing 3 projects. Two of the three will be related to your main project and the third will just be for fun.

February: Participate in Public Speaking Event with speech prepared in November, as well as, doing one more project related to project area.

March: Do one Leadership Project and 1 project related to project area

April: Do one Community Service Project and 1 more projects related to project area.

May: Complete Medal Form or Record Book.

June: Attend workshop (summer day camp, livestock judging camp, etc.) and 2 more projects related to project area.

July: Participate in a County Activity – Camp. Do 2 more projects that are crafts.

August: Participate in a County Activity – Awards Program and 2 more projects.

September: Participate in County Event – County Fair exhibiting 12 items (projects) made over the past 11 months (1-2 projects at a time).

At the end of the year the member will have accomplished:

Participation in:

3 County Competitive Events – Healthy Living Fair, Public Speaking Event and County Fair
2 County Activities – Camp and Awards Program
2 Community Service Projects
2 Leadership Projects

Completed:

12 projects related to main project.
2 educational activities outside of individual study – workshop and tour.
2 public speaking opportunities – local club and county level.
A medal form or record book for project area.

Wow, look what has been accomplished without a lot of hassle and last minute pressure. The key is planning your work and work your plan!



4-H Club Ritual



Nothing represents the purpose and character of 4-H Club Work than the ritual. When correctly given, it is beautiful and impressive. Every member should commit it to memory. The entire club, in unison, at each club meeting should recite the ritual as follows:

Vice President: "Stand please."

Members: [All members rise and stand]

Vice President: "What is our 4-H Club Motto?"

Members: "To make the best better."

Vice President: "We will repeat the 4-H Club Pledge."

Members: "I pledge

My head to clearer thinking,

My heart to greater loyalty,

My hands to larger service,

My health to better living, for

My club, my community, my country, and my world."

[In repeating the pledge, raise the right hand to side of head when speaking line No. 1, lower right hand over heart when speaking line No.2; extend hands, palms upward, when speaking line No.3; and stand at attention when speaking line No. 4.]

Vice President: "We will now give the Pledge to the Flag."

Members: "I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Vice President: "We will now review the meaning of the club emblem. What is the national 4-H club emblem?"

Members: "The National 4-H Club emblem is the four leaf clover with the letter "H" on each leaflet running parallel with the midrib of the leaflet."

Vice President: "What do the 4 H's on the club emblem represent?"

Members: "They represent the equal training of the head, heart, hands, and health of every member."

Vice President: "For what is the head trained?"

Members: "To think, to plan, to reason."

Vice President: "For what is the heart trained?"

Members: "To be kind, to be true, to be sympathetic."

Vice President: "For what are the hands trained?"

Members: "To be useful, to be helpful, to be skillful."

Vice President: "For what is the health trained?"

Members: "To resist disease, to enjoy life, to make for efficiency."

Vice President: "In the All-Star Emblem, what does the fifth H represent?"

Members: "The Home."

Vice President: "In what way can we be of help in our home life?"

Members: "By striving to train for a home life that represents true character, comfort, and contentment."

Vice President: "Be seated, please."

County Activities and Events General Information

- Guidelines for county activities and events are included in this section of the yearbook. Use these pages to set your goals for the 4-H year. Read the guidelines and develop your project or projects. Quality work takes time, preparation and practice.
- Members, parents and leaders will be notified of changes, corrections and updates of county activities and events through the county website, Facebook page and email.
- Updates, special programs and activities, as well as livestock updates will also be published through the county website, Facebook page and email.
- Entry information for all county events and activities is available in the Yearbook, county website
<http://extension.okstate.edu/county/carter/4-h.html> and Facebook.
- All deadlines are final. Entries or exhibits that are not received in the Extension Office by the specified deadline in the yearbook will not be considered for awards.
- Incomplete entries will not be considered “meeting the deadline” and will not be considered for awards.
- Learning responsibility in meeting deadlines is an important life skill 4-H teaches.
- Each event listed will include guidelines/restrictions. Grades listed are the member’s grade on August 1 of the current year.
- Good 4-H work can be done anytime, but GREAT 4-H work requires you to make yearly goals and plans. Plan the work and work the plan! The yearbook can help you do that.

Fall Events Schedule

August	September	October
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• '24-25 Yearbooks Due• Fall Recruitment Back to School Bash	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carter County Free Fair• Cupcake Wars	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New Officer Training• County Awards Banquet
November	December	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public Speaking Contest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Holiday Ornament & Craft Contest	

Carter County Free Fair



<https://cartercountyfair.com>

September 2nd – 7th, 2025

Hardy Murphy Coliseum, Ardmore OK



It is the mission of the Carter County Free Fair, our county's longest running event, to entertain and promote our county's traditions, talents, diversity, vision and Agricultural Heritage, safely and to promote education for the youth of Carter County through exhibits and tours free of charge. It takes real commitment from community members, like you, to make our fair a success, so plan your exhibits early and bring your best!

Visit the Free Fair's website for this year's schedule of events and the fair book. The fair book has 4-H Specific entry classes that are categorized by different divisions and some are divided into age groups. Winners receive cash prizes, ribbons, and advance to the Oklahoma State Fair. These are a great way for 4-H'ers to show off their talents and what they've learned, as well as secure their eligibility for scholarships!



Fair entries must be entered at the North Wing of the Coliseum from 4-7:30pm on Tuesday, September 2nd.

Join us at 6:30pm on Thursday, September 4th, 2025 for Opening Ceremonies and participate in the Stick Horse Rodeo, sponsored by the Carter County 4-H Teen Leadership Team!

Cupcake Wars

September Contest

Please Note: All participants must be members of Carter County 4-H who must have paid enrollment fee and completed the medical waiver online in ZSuites. This will be checked when registration is received.

Rules of Play:

- 4-H'ers may compete as individuals or in teams of 2-3 members
 - Each team will display three cupcakes.
 - Each team will bring "naked" cupcakes. The cupcakes should have no frosting and be in the paper wrappers only.
 - Each team will bring the frosting mixed in bowls. The frosting should not be tinted prior to contest. Teams will tint and place in frosting bags, if needed at the contest. Frosting can be either store bought or homemade. If store bought, can be either white or chocolate frosting.
 - If teams are using fondant, they can use either homemade or purchased fondant. Teams are allowed to purchase tinted (colored) fondant to use or may tint fondant off site.
 - Teams are allowed to use purchased edible decorating items. Only edible items can be used on the cupcakes.
1. Teams will report to the Carter County OSU Extension Office for check in. There will be three team divisions based on age and grade as of September 1, 2025:
 - Junior Division: age 8 years old and in 3rd grade, grades 3, 4 and 5
 - Intermediate Division: grades 6, 7 and 8
 - Senior Division: grades 9, 10, 11 and 12
 2. Each team will be directed to a preparation station. Each team will have thirty (30) minutes to prepare the dish and clean up the preparation area. Teams are allowed to bring their presentation scripts with them. Teams are allowed one picture no bigger than 8x10 of the item they are creating. It must not have any writing or directions on the picture.
 3. Electricity will not be available at the contest. Teams should select their recipe with this in mind.
 4. Each team must provide their own equipment. Washing facilities will not be available for teams to wash and share equipment. NO preparation dishes or serving dishes are to be cleaned at the office.

The background of the page is a collage of baking-related images. At the top left, there's a pink bowl filled with brown eggs. Next to it is a small white bowl containing colorful sprinkles. In the top right corner, three cupcakes are displayed on a white scalloped-edge plate; they have purple, blue, and green frosting with various decorations. The bottom of the page features a blurred image of a pink flower and other baking items.

Cupcake Wars

September Contest

5. Food safety: Teams should practice proper food safety and be prepared to discuss food safety practices used by their team in their presentation to the judge.
6. Presentation: When time is called, each team will present their dish and provide the following information:
 - a. Introduction
 - b. Creative Dish
 - c. Name Two Major Nutrients
 - d. Food Preparation Principles
 - e. Food Safety
 - i. All team members must participate in the presentation with a speaking role.
 - ii. Judging time will include four minutes for the presentation (THERE WILL BE NO TASTING) and one minute for judges to score.
 - iii. No talking or writing allowed among any team members while waiting to give the presentation.
7. Clean-up: Teams must clean up their preparation areas. Clean-up time is included in the 30-minute preparation allotment. Teams should not plan to have access to the kitchen; therefore, dirty dishes should be placed in a plastic container, bag, or box to be cleaned at home. Leftover food should be disposed of properly.
8. Placings will be based on rankings of teams by judges. Judges' decision are final. 1st, 2nd and 3rd placings will be awarded.
9. An awards program will be held at the conclusion of the judging process for each division.
10. There will be a 3-team minimum for the contest to take place.
11. *Registration for each team must be turned in on the form provided to the Carter County OSU Extension Office by the determined deadline. Check the Facebook page and 4-H Newsletter for the contest dates and registration deadlines.*



Public Speaking Contest

November Contest



4-H Public Speaking Contest Rules & Guidelines

OBJECTIVES:

4-H Public Speaking Contest is being conducted for the purpose of promoting a greater interest in public speaking and to allow all 4-H members the opportunity to develop and polish their public speaking skills.

ENTRY INFORMATION:

All entry and registration deadlines **will be shared via the Carter County 4-H Facebook page and the 4-H Newsletter**. Questions? Contact, Carter Co. Extension office, (580) 223-6570. All participants must be enrolled in 4-H and be a recognized 4-H member in Carter County. The Oklahoma State 4-H Club Program Policies Lit. No. 5 will be utilized to determine membership, age categories, and general rules.

Participants must use the Carter County 4-H Public Speaking Contest Entry Form/Score Sheet for contest entry. Forms are available at the office or can be emailed out. Please complete an entry form/score sheet for each type of presentation you will be giving. Please identify the respective age category, presentation type, and title of presentation on each form.

NUMBER AND PRESENTATION TOPICS:

Participants may enter two **(2)** presentations. The types of presentations are: Speech, Illustrated, and PowerPoint.

If the participant is entering two presentations, they must be completely different topics. Example: A participant could enter a regular speech about dogs in the small animal category and enter an illustrated presentation in the foods category.

CLOVERBUDS:

Cloverbuds are welcome to recite 4-H Pledge or any Poem. Presentations should be no longer than 3

minutes. It will be the understanding of the judges that the presentations will be much shorter due to age and inexperience.

REGISTRATION:

Contestants will check in and then report directly to their presentation rooms. The contest will start promptly. It is the responsibility of the individual or team to be at the proper place at the proper time to give the presentation or notify the door monitor where you may be located if giving more than one presentation.

CANCELLATIONS:

Any individual scheduled for a presentation who is unable to present should notify the office. No exceptions will be made for personal time conflicts.

AGE DIVISIONS:

Cloverbuds: Ages 5-7 year olds (who have not yet entered the 3rd grade)

Junior: Grades 3 (and 8 years old)-5

Intermediate: Grades 6-8

Senior: Grades 9-12

All ages are based on the grade September 1, 2025.

SUGGESTED APPROPRIATE DRESS:

Snappy casual, including a 4-H T-Shirt or attire appropriate to the theme of the presentation.

MAXIMUM TIME LIMITS:

Any presentation that goes over the maximum time limit by 2 minutes will be stopped by the judge(s). Please refer to the guidelines for each presentation for specific time limits. There is a 1-point deduction for every 30 seconds over or under the time limit.

ALL SET UP, PREPARATION AND DELIVERY OF PRESENTATION MUST BE THE WORK OF THE PARTICIPANT ONLY.

CONDUCT

Parents and/or volunteers are asked not to approach judges directly before, during or after the contest.

Judges have been asked to evaluate presentations and provide feedback by invitation of the Carter County 4-H Public Speaking Contest. Questions or comments concerning judging or any other topic should be directed to the 4-H educator. All judges' decisions are final. Protests will not be considered.

SPEECH GUIDELINES

1. Only individuals will be allowed to enter this category.
2. Props or visuals ARE NOT to be used in this type of presentation.
3. Speech Length:
Cloverbuds: 1-3 minutes

Juniors: 2-5 minutes

Intermediate: 5-7 minutes

Seniors: 5-7 minutes

ILLUSTRATED GUIDELINES

1. Illustrated presentations include both demonstrations and illustrated talks. Props and or/visuals must be used to qualify for this event. Size of props used must be appropriate for room size. Props can be no larger than 30 inches in width and 6 feet in height.
2. Presentation Length:
Juniors: 3-10 minutes
Intermediate: 5-12 minutes
Seniors: 5-12 minutes
3. Teams and individuals will not compete for the same awards. Teams are composed of only two individuals.
4. Teams with individuals of two different age categories will participate in the older age category of the participating individuals. Example: A team consisting of a 3rd grader and 8th grader will participate in the intermediate category (Intermediate: Grades 6-8th)

5. Food Demonstration Presentations: All 4-H members giving these types of presentations must bring all needed equipment with them, including items needed to clean up after presentation. No supplies will be available. Water in the room may be optional. Please keep these things in mind when compiling your materials needed for presentation. Electricity will be available. It is the responsibility of the individual/teams to clean up the demonstration table following their presentation.

POWERPOINT GUIDELINES

PowerPoint presentations will follow the general 4-H public speaking contest guidelines with the following additions:

1. Only individuals will be allowed to enter this category.
2. Participants will be required to use the equipment provided.
3. Carter County 4-H Public Speaking Contest will provide a laptop computer, digital projector and screen to use during the presentations. This contest is limited to only PowerPoint software running on Windows XP for the illustrated presentation, no other presentation programs will be provided or allowed. Presentation should be on flash drive. No Zip™ disk or zipped files should be used as it may not be compatible with equipment and are not allowed. Participants must provide a 6 slide per page printed hand-out of the presentation to the judge. These handouts will be for the contest judge's benefit (especially, in case of equipment compatibility problems or failure).
4. Presentations will be judged; 20% on the PowerPoint presentation and 80% on verbal presentation skills. See the entry/score sheet for more detailed scoring information. Participant must present the program (including slide advancing) without assistance.
5. PowerPoint Length:
Juniors: 3-5 minutes
Intermediate: 5-7 minutes
Seniors: 5-7 minutes

Reading With Children Public Speaking Contest

November Contest

Reading with Children Presentation, an *individual* event, it will recognize members for demonstrating acceptable and creative early childhood techniques while presenting a selected piece of children's literature to an imaginary group of children. Youth will select their own book, determine the appropriate age group, and use creative visuals in their presentation. Youth may participate in this contest ***in addition to*** up to two categories in the main public speaking contest.

EVENT AGE CATEGORIES

1. 3-5 grades
2. 6-8 grades
3. 9-10 grades

GUIDELINES

1. You will make your own book selection.
2. The oral presentation **may be up to** 15 minutes in length. A five-minute and one-minute warning will be given. Participants will be stopped at 15 minutes. Judges will consider your use of time for the age group you have selected to present to.
3. Following the presentation, evaluators will ask questions of the participant. Maximum time limit for questions is 3 minutes. Youth are judged on their reactions to question.
4. Youth must bring their own book.
5. Participants will provide all other props, materials, and equipment used. No slides, tapes, or other mechanical devices are to be used during the presentation.
6. Use the Oklahoma 4-H Manual, Child Care: Reading with Children No. 745 to learn more about preparing your Reading with Children Presentation.
7. Participants will be judged on:
 - a. Visual Presentation, your choice and design of visuals as well as the how the visuals support and complement the story selected.
 - b. Manipulation of book and visual materials
 - c. Body Language
 - d. Voice, Grammar and Diction
 - e. Appearance
 - f. How well participant applied Child Development Concepts
 - g. Response to judges' questions.

SAMPLE QUESTIONS

1. Why do you feel the technique used was appropriate for the age of child selected?
2. Using this technique, how would you control the children in your care? (Note: Assume you are the person in charge of the reading activity).
3. What would you do if a child wants to leave the story circle?
4. What would you do if a child keeps interrupting the story with many unrelated comments?

Reading with Children/Character Score Sheet

Club

_Name

Date of Birth)

Age Division: Jr. (3rd- 5th)

Intermediate (6th – 8th)

Senior (9th-12th)

Up to 15 minutes

Up to 15 minutes

Up to 15 minutes

Selected Book and age group presenting to:

Visual Presentation	Comments	Score
Creative Visuals to Enhance Presentation Meet guidelines, original, appealing, enhances presentation		15 points possible_
Content of Illustrations Support and complement story,		15 points possible_
Oral Presentation		
Manipulation of book and visuals Provide visuals, incorporate effectively and use seamlessly		10 points possible
Body Language Captures and holds attention of audience, moves seamlessly		10 points possible
Appearance Well groomed, good posture, confident, enthusiastic with no distracting habits		10 points possible
Voice Clear, audible, uses voice to enhance presentation		10 points possible
Grammar and Diction Clearly understood at all times		10 points possible
Application of Child Development Concepts Shows understanding of literature selected and age child presenting to, consideration also to use of time according to the age group and book selected		10 points possible
Response to questions Appropriate and without hesitation		10 points possible

Time:

Total Points

Judges Signature

Placing

(circle): Blue Red White

Over all placing Grand Champion Reserve Grand Champion

These are selected from the Blue category only. Judges select one Grand and one Reserve with minimum of 5 participants in each grade category

If there is only one blue the decision to select grand or reserve will be left to the judge.

Holiday Craft Contest

December Contest

Contest Rules:

1. All crafts must be made by the 4-H'er in the year of 2025 and brought to the Carter County Extension Office by 4:30pm on Monday, December 8th.
2. Youth must be current 4-H Members of Carter County. The contest is split into three age divisions:
 - a. Cloverbuds: Ages 5-7 year olds
 - b. Junior: Grades 3-6
 - c. Senior: Grades 7-12
3. Youth may enter one craft into each category.
4. Judges chosen by the 4-H Educator will assess entries. First and Second Place awards will be given for each category and age group based on the following criteria:
 - a. Creativity and Originality
 - b. Quality of Workmanship
 - c. Demonstrates Winter Holiday Theme
5. One craft will be selected as the "Overall Crowd Favorite" by way of public vote on the Carter County 4-H Youth Development Facebook page.
 - a. The Extension Office Staff will photograph each craft entered and post them to Facebook without any identifying information to keep the contest fair.
 - b. Voting will be open from Tuesday, December 9th through Friday, December 12th. The public will vote by liking the photo of their favorite craft. Unlimited votes.
 - c. Whichever craft has the most likes by 4:30pm on Friday, December 12th will be the winner of "Overall Crowd Favorite."
 - d. A special judge will be called in to break a tie.
6. Results of the contest and winners will be posted to Facebook and sent via email on Monday, December 15th.

Craft Categories

Decorated Clothing Item <i>t-shirts, shoes, hair bows, etc.</i>	Door/Wall Decoration <i>Wreaths, signs, paintings, etc.</i>	Christmas Tree Ornament <i>Salt dough, stained glass, beaded, etc.</i>
Edible Craft <i>Gingerbread house, cookies, homemade candy canes, etc.</i>	Table Decoration <i>Candle, flower arrangement, statue, centerpiece, etc.</i>	Decorations from Recycled Items <i>Soda Santa, plastic bag wreath, etc.</i>



2025-2026 Carter County 4-H Record Book



NAME	
CLUB	
4-H PROJECT AREA	
Consider for Medal and/or Award Application:	
Number of years in 4-H:	
GRADE AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2025	

CHECK LIST

4-H member will complete checklist below to make sure they have formatted their entry correctly. A penalty of 5 points per item will be assessed to the record book score if not correct!

- ☐ County Report Form ó Page 1 ó all information complete, including all signatures
 - ☐ Section Ia ó 2 pages maximum
 - ☐ Section Ib ó a page maximum
 - ☐ Section II ó 2 pages maximum
 - ☐ Section III - 2 pages maximum
 - ☐ Section IV & V ó æ page maximum for both sections, place on same page
- ☐ **4-H members 3-7th Grade** (as of August 1 of the current year): Story is no more than six (6) 8 1/2" x 11" pages double spaced. Story margins are: 0.5 inches on all sides. There is no need to list name, county, and project on the top right of the story.
- ☐ **Members 8-12th Grade** (as of August 1 of the current year): Story is no more than six (6) 8 1/2" x 11" pages double spaced. Story margins are: 0.5 inches on all sides. There is no need to list name, county, and project on the top right of the story.
- ☐ No more than 3 pages of photos. Photos should have captions. Photos page margins are: Left: 0.5 inches on all sides. PHOTOGRAPHY Project Book may have 10 additional pages of pictures which can be 8" x 10" prints or smaller to show examples of photography work.
- ☐ Font size for Carter County Report Form, Story and Photo captions must be a minimum of 12-point font. Approved fonts include Times New Roman, Arial, Cambria, or Calibri.
- ☐ No Project record sheets, newspaper clippings or correspondence have been included

I have personally prepared this report and certify that it accurately reflects my work.

Date *Signature of 4-H Member*

We have reviewed this report and believe it to be correct.

Date *Signature of Parent or Guardian*

Date *Signature of Club Leader*

Section 1-A – Participation in the 4-H Project: What have you done in this project? (2 pages maximum)

Section IA – Participation in the 4-H Project: What have you done in this project? (2 pages maximum)

Section IB - What have you learned in this project? (1 page)

Section II - Leadership Experiences: Place asterisks (*) beside activities relating directly to the pro project outlined in Section 1. (2 pages maximum)

Section II - Leadership Experiences: Place asterisks (*) beside activities relating directly to the pro project outlined in Section 1. (2 pages maximum)

Section III - Civic Engagement: Place an asterisks (*) beside activities relating directly to the project outlined in Section 1. (2 pages maximum)

Section III - Civic Engagement: Place an asterisks (*) beside activities relating directly to the project outlined in Section 1. (2 pages maximum)

Section 4 - Awards in all 4-H Projects: List the most meaningful awards you have received. (1/2 page maximum)

[illegible]

Section 5 - Non-4-H Experiences: List your most meaningful non-4-H experiences. May include participation in school, church/fait h or community organizations. (1/2 page maximum)

[illegible]

Carter County 4-H Awards Information

AWARDS AVAILABLE

4-H Members 8 – 13 years

Americanism Award
Beef Award
Breads Award
Charles Grad Leadership Award
Citizenship Award
Dairy Foods Award
Enthusiasm Award
Junior Pork Award
Outstanding Horse Award
Top Junior Reporter
Top Junior Secretary
Triangle Food Award

4-H Members 14 – 19 years

Americanism Award
Beef Award
Breads Award
Carter County Past President Award
Charles Grad Leadership Award
Citizenship Award
Dairy Foods Award
Enthusiasm Award
Hall of Fame
Oklahoma Pork Council Award
Outstanding Horse Award
Top Senior Reporter
Top Senior Secretary
Triangle Food Award

SPECIAL AWARDS

Partner of 4-H

Honorary 4-H Member

4-H Alumni Award

Friends of 4-H

Leader of the Year



Carter County 4-H Awards Information

AWARD SELECTION PROCEDURE

Purpose: To honor and recognize 4-H members on a county level for work completed in a 4-H project for a 4-H year.

Age: Age is based on 4-H year (July 1, 2025 ó June 30, 2026).
Cloverbuds ó Youth five to eight years of age are eligible to participate in local and county events directed by the Extension Office. They will not compete but receive recognition of participation only.
Juniors ó 4-H members age eight & 3rd grade to age twelve & 7th grade.
Seniors ó 4-H members age thirteen & 8th grade and older who have not attained their nineteenth birthday or have not graduated high school.

Eligibility for Selection:

1. Must have submitted a Record Book with minimum of:
 - a. Completed County Project Report form
 - b. 4-H Story (must be 2 pages but no more than six)
 - c. Photographs
2. Record Book must have been submitted by the due date.

Criteria for Selection:

1. Record Book
 - a. Accomplishment in project area
 - b. Completeness of 4-H Story
 - c. Approval by local 4-H leader

Number Selected:

1. 4-H members can receive ONLY two (2) county medals each year.
2. 4-H members can receive a medal in the same project area twice, once as a junior and once as a senior.
3. There is no limit to the number of certificates awarded to any one 4-H member in other projects (besides their project area) for outstanding achievements.

Selected by: Committee comprised of at least one out-of-county Extension Staff or Volunteer and at least two Carter County Parent/Volunteer members and the county 4-H Educator

Due Date: All county Record Books are due by 4:30pm on July 31, 2026 either by paper copy submitted to the extension office or by electronic version emailed to the 4-H Educator.

Reporting Dates: 4-H members should report on events and progress made during the 4-H year of August 1, 2025 ó July 31, 2026.

Carter County 4-H Awards Information

AWARD DESCRIPTIONS AND CRITERIA

Revised: September 1996, October 2001, 2005, 2016, 2019, July 2025

Note: All awards listed are tentative and may be changed or dropped at any time subject to state or national 4-H rules, donor changes, etc.

To be considered for an award, the 4-H member MUST specify the award on their county Record Book cover page form.

Americanism Award

Donor: Dickson HCE Group
Award: Plaque
Purpose: To recognize two 4-H members who have demonstrated good understanding of citizenship and to set a good example for other Americans to follow.
Requirements:

1. Materials submitted: County or State Record Book
2. Junior or Senior 4-H member aged 8-19
3. Currently enrolled as a Carter County 4-H member

Beef Award

Donor: American Nation Bank
Award: Cash - \$100 per award
Purpose: To recognize two 4-H members, one junior and one senior, with an outstanding beef promotion project.
Requirements:

1. Currently enrolled in Carter County 4-H
2. Must present a talk or demonstration on beef at a county contest.
3. Project activities must be completed during the current 4-H year.
4. Materials submitted: County or State Record Book clearly showing project work done, animals raised, expenses, income, animals shown, other related beef project exhibits, presentations, service projects, and leadership activities within the beef project.
5. Award may be won by a 4-H'er once as a junior and once as a senior during their 4-H career.

Breads Award

Donor: Shawnee Milling Company
Award: Designated by donor
Purpose: To recognize 4-H members who gave an individual or team breads demonstration at a county contest.
Requirements:

1. Junior division may include quick breads such as muffins, biscuits, cornbread, griddle cakes, waffle, etc.
2. Senior division may include yeast breads or quick breads.
3. Must be currently enrolled as a Carter County 4-H member.
4. Award may be won by a 4-H'er only once as a junior and once as a senior during their 4-H career.

Carter County 4-H Awards Information

Carter County Past

President Award

Donor:	Carter County Leaders Association
Award:	Plaque
Purpose:	To honor the 4-H member who has served as a President of the 4-H County Officer's Council.
Requirements:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Materials submitted: State Record Book for two consecutive years2. Immediate past president3. Currently enrolled as a Carter County 4-H member

Charles Grad Leadership

Award

Donor:	Charles Grad ó 1996 ó Suzi Buck
Award:	Determined by donor
Purpose:	To recognize two 4-H members, junior or senior, who show the greatest promise and progress in leadership development.
Requirements:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Currently enrolled in Carter County 4-H2. Materials submitted: County or State Record Book

Citizenship Award

Donor:	Carter County Association for Home and Community Education
Award:	Plaque and monetary donation
Purpose:	To recognize two 4-H members, one junior and one senior, who have shown a good understanding of citizenship as it relates to their relationship with others: the way they think, act, and feel towards their families, other 4-H members, and people in their community and world.
Requirements:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Must be currently enrolled as a Carter County 4-H member2. Materials submitted: County or State Record Book3. Award may be won by a 4-H'er once as a junior and once as a senior during their 4-H career.4. Judges will look for outstanding work in citizenship, leadership, and achievement

Dairy Foods Award

Donor:	Southwest Dairy Center
Award:	Designated by donor
Purpose:	To recognize one 4-H member, junior or senior, who gave a demonstration and/or illustrated talk regarding dairy products at a county contest.
Requirements:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Currently enrolled as a Carter County 4-H member2. Award may be received only once in a member's 4-H career

Carter County 4-H Awards Information

Enthusiasm Award

Donor:	Carter County Extension Office
Award:	Designated by donor
Purpose:	To recognize two 4-H members, a junior and a senior, who are active and enthusiastic in the county 4-H program.
Requirements:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Materials submitted: County or State Record Book2. Must be a current 4-H member3. Written essay containing the following:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Why do you think you have been enthusiastic during the past year concerning 4-H projects? Give examples.b. What does 4-H mean to you?c. What role does this enthusiasm play in your life?

Hall of Fame

Donor:	County Council
Award:	Framing of 11x14 Portrait and \$250 scholarship
Purpose:	To recognize one senior 4-H member who has been outstanding in participation and activities in 4-H through local and county leadership. Preference to 11 th and 12 th grade members.
Requirements:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Currently enrolled as a 4-H member and has been a member of Carter County for at least one year.2. Senior 4-H member age 14-193. Materials submitted: State Record Book4. Completed Hall of Fame application, submitted by deadline5. If there are several applicants, interviews may be required to select the best candidate. Interviews will be conducted via panel consisting of Carter County extension educator, 4-H council representative, and a representative from First National Bank

Junior Pork Award

Donor:	Mike Steele & Wilson 4-H
Award:	Plaque
Purpose:	To recognize one junior 4-H member in the county with an outstanding pork promotion program.
Requirements:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Must be currently enrolled in Carter County 4-H and a junior member2. Materials submitted: County Record Book with completed pork form included3. Must have presented a talk or demonstration on pork at a county contest

Oklahoma Pork Council

Award

Donor:	Oklahoma Pork Council
Award:	Plaque
Purpose:	To recognize one senior 4-H member in the county with an outstanding pork promotion program.
Requirements:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Must be currently enrolled in Carter County 4-H and a senior member2. Must have submitted a Record Book with a completed OK Pork Council Form3. Must have presented a talk or demonstration on pork in a competitive county event and to non-4-H groups to promote pork as a food, not just the production of pork4. Award may only be received once in a member's 4-H career

Outstanding Horse Award

Donor:	Morgan Family
Award:	Designated by donor
Purpose:	To recognize two 4-H members who demonstrate a well-rounded 4-H horse project substantiated by the 4-H Horse Score sheet.
Requirements:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Materials submitted: County or State Record Book with horse project emphasis and completed Horse Score sheet2. Currently enrolled as a Carter County 4-H member3. Must present a talk or demonstration on horses in a county contest4. Award may be won more than once during member's 4-H career

Top Junior Reporter

Donor:	Janice Curtis
Award:	Plaque
Purpose:	To recognize the junior reporter who submits the most informative scrapbook for the 4-H year.
Requirements:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Currently enrolled as a 4-H member and serving as Reporter for their local club2. Scrapbook was submitted by the deadline of 4:30pm on Friday, July 31, 20263. Scrapbook must show that the reporter has completed their duties of reporting club news and will be judged on neatness, thoroughness, and arrangement

Top Senior Reporter

Donor:	Janice Curtis
Award:	Plaque
Purpose:	To recognize the senior reporter who submits the most informative scrapbook for the 4-H year.
Requirements:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Currently enrolled as a 4-H member and serving as Reporter for their local club2. Scrapbook was submitted by the deadline of 4:30pm on Friday, July 31, 20263. Scrapbook must show that the reporter has completed their duties of reporting club news and will be judged on neatness, thoroughness, and arrangement

Top Junior Secretary

Donor: Janice Curtis
Award: Plaque
Purpose: To recognize the junior secretary who submits the most accurate Secretary's Book for the 4-H year.
Requirements:

1. Currently enrolled as a 4-H member and serving as secretary for their local club
2. Book was submitted by the deadline of 4:30pm on Friday, July 31, 2026
3. Book will be judged on neatness and accuracy in keeping minutes and records for their 4-H club

Top Senior Secretary

Donor: Janice Curtis
Award: Plaque
Purpose: To recognize the senior secretary who submits the most accurate Secretary's Book for the 4-H year.
Requirements:

1. Currently enrolled as a 4-H member and serving as secretary for their local club
2. Book was submitted by the deadline of 4:30pm on Friday, July 31, 2026
3. Book will be judged on neatness and accuracy in keeping minutes and records for their 4-H club

Triangle Food Award

Donor: Triangle HCE Group
Award: \$25 and a cookbook
Purpose: To recognize two 4-H members, a junior and a senior, who have done the most outstanding work in the field of food preparation, nutrition, and food preservation.
Requirements:

1. Currently enrolled as a member of Carter County 4-H
2. Materials submitted: County or State Record Book
3. Must have demonstrated outstanding work in the field of food preparation, nutrition, and food preservation, as determined by Record Book contents



Special Awards Information

Partner of 4-H Award

Donor: Carter County 4-H
Award: Plaque
Purpose: To recognize an individual or business that has helped sponsor and promote Carter County 4-H through the past year(s).

Friends of 4-H Award

Donor: Carter County 4-H
Award: Plaque
Purpose: To recognize an individual or business who have deep interest and concern for the future of the Carter County 4-H program as shown by their contributions to the development of county 4-H members.

Honorary 4-H Member

Donor: Carter County 4-H
Award: Plaque
Purpose: To recognize an individual who has shown continuous interest and dedication to the county 4-H program and the development of county 4-H members.

Leader of the Year Award

Donor: Carter County 4-H
Award: Plaque
Purpose: To recognize a 4-H leader for their continuing service to the county 4-H program through their leadership and dedication to youth in teaching them to "make the best better"

Leader of the Year Award

Donor: Carter County 4-H
Award: Plaque
Purpose: To recognize a former 4-H member for their support and continued interest in the Carter County 4-H program.





Carter County 4-H Awards Banquet

Please join us to celebrate the hard work and amazing accomplishments of our 4-H members and our outstanding community partners during the 2024-2025 year.

All 4-H members, club leaders, volunteers, and family members are invited to attend. Please dress to impress. We can't wait to celebrate with you!

When: Tuesday, October 15th from 6pm – 8pm

Where: Merrick Drive Church of Christ

Who: 4-H members, families, volunteers, and leaders

RSVP: (580) 223-6570 by Friday, October 3rd





LIGHTS

CAMERA

ACTION!



PROD.	SCENE	TAKE
ROLL		
CREATV01	LEADERSHIP	YOUR FUTURE
DIRECTOR	YOU'RE THE DIRECTOR OF YOUR FUTURE WITH 4-H!	
CAMERA		
DATE	TODAY!	

JOIN THE
CAST!!

