



GARFIELD COUNTY



4-H CLOVER CONNECTION

<http://oces.okstate.edu/garfield>
<http://extension.okstate.edu/county/west-district/>
www.oklahoma4h.okstate.edu/
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NEW 4 H PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS MAN'S BEST FRIEND

A smiling child and a happy dog make a great combination. A new project in the [Oklahoma 4-H Youth Development](#) program focuses on that interaction while also reaching potential new club members.

The dog project has been part of the many opportunities offered by 4-H, but interest had waned over the years, [Kris Hiney](#), [Oklahoma State University Extension](#) equine specialist.

"We started the Oklahoma Virtual Rally Dog program last year," she said. "Modeled from the American Kennel Club Rally Dog rules, this new program allows youth and their dogs to begin training and competing at a very accessible level."

New rally courses are released every three months, which allows 4-H'ers and their dogs to train and practice before submitting a competition video. These courses can be filmed in any acceptable location, including at a club meeting, a parking lot or the club member's yard. The beginner level allows dogs to run with a harness or head halter and requires about 10 simple maneuvers or signs.

Hiney said as youth work their way through the six levels of competition, each level increases in difficulty and complexity of the maneuvers required. After successfully achieving the required number of qualifying scores, the dog and club member will receive a title certificate. Once youth reach the novice

level, the rules and courses are similar to AKC and youth are encouraged to attend open dog shows, as well.

To highlight the teamwork of kids and their dogs, the top 25 scoring runs throughout the year are invited to attend the Rally Dog Invitational. Last year this event was hosted by the Oklahoma City Obedience Training Club. Club members stepped forward and completely hosted the event, from check-in, judging, and personally assisting each participant to improve their training and handling ability. It is already evident from the quality of submissions to the 2025 Virtual Rally Dog competition that Oklahoma youth are embracing this challenge and are excited to do more with their dogs.

"While the dog project increases the bond between youth and their dogs, it also creates a spirit of philanthropy and giving back to the community," Hiney said.

"Previously, Oklahoma 4-H had partnered with Nexus Equine to create the Oklahoma 4-H Nexus Equine Makeover Challenge. This year, Oklahoma 4-H is excited to announce a brand-new partnership with Nexus Pets, the companion animal branch of Nexus Equine."

Interested youth aged 13 and over are invited to apply to this novel program. Suitable dogs will be selected from the Oklahoma City animal shelter and placed with a family for a 60-day foster period. While training and preparing the dogs to

get ready for placement in their forever home are the focus of this program, the complete 4-H experience is the cornerstone. Youth will set individual goals for their dog that align with the unique needs of the dog and the experience of the youth.

"This approach fosters an inclusive environment where every accomplishment is a triumph," Hiney said. "Additionally, youth will track their progress through journaling, meet with the program director, submit final essays, engage in philanthropy and practice public speaking. All of these activities build on the life skills that are the building blocks of 4-H."

At the end of the 60-day period, the entire project, as well as the training progress of the dog will be evaluated with the winner receiving a \$1,500 scholarship. And, any family wishing to keep their dog will be allowed to adopt them.

As interest grows, so do the opportunities to bring new families into the 4-H arena and find new volunteers who are passionate about youth and dogs. This could open the doors for new competition avenues such as agility, FAST CAT, dock diving and more in Oklahoma 4-H's future.

For more information about the Oklahoma 4-H dog project, contact the [county OSU Extension office](#).

DATES TO REMEMBER

Public Speaking Entries Due	May	2
Flower Workshop	May	8
Healthy Living Ambassador Applications due	May	15
Public Speaking Contest	May	17
Tractor & Machinery Cert.	May	19-21
County Officer Elections	May	21
Fishing Workshop	May	27
County Record Book WS	May	28

Swim Bag Workshop	June	3
Leather Workshop	June	6
4H Summer Camp	Jun	12-14
Lego Challenge Workshop	June	18
Robotics Day Workshop	June	26

Plastic Canvas Coaster WS	July	2
Beginning Sewing	July	9-10
Repurpose Workshop	July	16
4-H Tuesday Tool Time	July	22
State 4H Roundup	Jul	22-25
Lego Marble Run WS	July	29
County Cloverbud WS	July	30



2024 25 COUNTY OFFICERS

- ♦ President Bailey Nickels
- ♦ V. President Shelbi Prince
- ♦ Secretary Joe Sharp
- ♦ Reporter Brett Gainer
- ♦ Recreation Leader Josiah Benson
- ♦ Executive Jayton Zimmerman

FLOWER WORKSHOP MAY 8, 5-6

Come make a flower bouquet for your mom for Mother's Day.

Josiah Benson will show you how to arrange and choose flowers to make the perfect bouquet.

Must sign up by May 5th.

Cost is \$3.



County Record Book Workshop May 28, 5:30

Do you have questions on how to complete a county record book?

Come get them answered.

This meeting is for youth and adults.

Please sign up by May 23rd.



COUNTY OFFICER ELECTIONS May 21, 5:30

Remember, EACH club can have 5 voting delegates.

Are you interested in running for county office?

Candidates must be 13 or in the 7th grade by January 1, 2025.

You must also have held a local office and must have turned in a record book.

Current county officers must have taught a workshop or project club this year to be eligible to run.

If you are interested in running, you must CALL or COME BY IN PERSON and let the office know.

You can file for 3 offices. Each candidate will give a speech that can be no longer than 2 minutes.

You must file by 5 p.m. on May 15.



FISHING WORKSHOP May 27, 5PM

Come join Joe Sharp and learn about fishing.

We will be fishing at Government Springs. Meet at the large pavilion on the north side.

Bring your fishing pole, a chair, and sunscreen. We will also be having hot dogs.

MUST sign up by May 21.



4-H HEALTHY LIVING AMBASSADOR APPLICATION

4-H Healthy Living Ambassadors work both individually and as a team, bringing wellness awareness, programs, and initiatives to communities across Oklahoma. Oklahoma 4-H Healthy Living Ambassadors provide support and programming to local 4-H clubs, county, district, and state programs. Healthy Living Ambassadors will also be called upon to attend health related programs and events.

Oklahoma 4-H Healthy Living Ambassadors will:

- Help set and achieve goals in the 4-H Healthy Living framework
- Support the work of 4-H Healthy Living
- Participate in Oklahoma Healthy Living Summit and conference calls

Work closely with Healthy Living Ambassador Advisor at the Oklahoma State 4-H office and other team members

Applications are due May 15, 2025.

Age of applicants: 4-H members who will be High School Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, or Seniors during the 2025-26 school year.

The team will consist of up to 10 Oklahoma 4-H members.

For more information, contact the office.

104th STATE 4-H ROUNDUP JULY 22 - 25

Cost for full Roundup registration: \$180 for those that participated in the County Fundraiser and \$230 for those that did not.

Roundup registration materials are due back to the county office May 15th.

Register at: <https://4h.okstate.edu/events/state-4-h-roundup/>



4-H SUMMER CAMP JUNE 12-14

**Counselor Prep
June 11**





WORKSHOPS

Swim Bag Workshop: June 3, 2-4: Come sew a swim bag out of a yard of fabric and a beach towel. Must know how to sew to attend. *Must sign up by May 28.*

Leather Workshop: June 6, 2-4: Come make a leather luggage tag that you can enter in the fair! Cost is \$3. *Must sign-up by May 30.*

Lego Challenge Workshop: June 18, 10-3: Do you like building with Legos? Come spend a day completing different engineering challenges with Legos. *Must Bring a lunch and sign-up by June 11.*

Robotics Day Workshop: June 26, 1:00 – 5:00: Come explore the different robotics things we use and complete challenges with them. *Must sign-up by June 19.*

Plastic Canvas Coaster Workshop: July 2, 2:00-4:00: Come learn the art of plastic canvas needlepoint. You will learn to make a coaster. *Must sign-up by June 20.*

Beginner Sewing: July 9-10, 10:00-2:30: This 2 day class is for those that DO NOT know how to sew. Learn the basics and create several items. **MUST ATTEND BOTH DAYS.** Space is limited. Youth will need to bring a lunch each day. Cost is \$25 for supplies. *Must sign-up and pay by June 27.*

Repurpose Workshop: July 16, 2:00 – 4:00: Come make a small bag out of a banner. Must sign-up by July 10th. Space is limited.

Lego Marble Run Workshop: July 29, 10-2: Come work as a team to build a giant marble run in the conference room. *Must bring a lunch and sign up by July 23.*

County Cloverbud Workshop: July 30, 2:00-4:00: All Cloverbuds welcome to craft and learn with the teen leaders! *Must sign-up by July 21.*

2025 4-H Camp

Binger, Ok

Junior Camp June 12 - 14 (Counselors arrive June 11)

Registration Due May 15, 2025

Camper Name:

Camper Grade as of Aug. 1, 2024:

T-Shirt Size: S M L XL (Adult or youth size – circle one)

**Gender M F
 (circle one)**

Please list any special needs:

Dietary:

Allergies:

CHECK LIST

	Yes	No
Completed Waivers Online	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$125 Registration Fee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Updated Online Medical Form	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Deliver or Mail to: Garfield County 4-H
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Garfield County OSU Extension Center
Oklahoma State University
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Jessica Nickels
Extension Educator 4-H & Youth Development

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