



GARFIELD COUNTY



4-H CLOVER CONNECTION

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July 2026

Take Aim With Slingshots in Oklahoma 4-H Shooting Sports

Oklahoma 4-H Shooting Sports is introducing a new opportunity for youth with the addition of a slingshot discipline, launching in August. The program introduces participants to a fun and accessible shooting sport while expanding the range of disciplines offered in Oklahoma 4-H.

The slingshot discipline was developed by Mississippi 4-H, and Oklahoma is the first state to partner with Mississippi to bring the program to more 4-H'ers.

"The low cost and beginner-friendly format were an instant draw to the program," said Ruth Pratt, Oklahoma 4-H Shooting Sports coordinator.

Training for 4-H volunteers begins Aug. 1, and 4-H'ers can start participating once their county has a certified instructor. The discipline is open to youth ages 9 and older and features a woods course, speed course and a written test to build both practical skills and knowledge.

The program emphasizes affordability and accessibility. Slingshots typically range in price from \$10 to more than \$50, with most participants able to purchase a complete setup for \$50 or less. Ammunition is

made of biodegradable clay, and metal targets provide immediate feedback through audible hits and misses.

"When you say, 'shooting sports,' some people take a step back," said Reid Nevins, Mississippi 4-H Shooting Sports coordinator. "But when something like this is available, they may be more apt to give it a chance. In that way, slingshot can serve as a bridge to other disciplines."

Nevins and Winston County 4-H Agent Jim McAdory, who helped launch the program in Mississippi in 2025, were invited to Oklahoma in March 2026 to train the first group of Oklahoma instructors.

Volunteers interested in becoming a certified 4-H slingshot instructor or learning more about the program can contact their local [OSU Extension office](#) or visit the [Oklahoma 4-H Shooting Sports website](#).



A 4-H Shooting Sports instructor aims a slingshot at metal targets. (Photo by Ruth Pratt, Oklahoma 4-H)



DATES TO REMEMBER

Discovery Day	Jul 1
4-H Summer Camp	Jul 8-10
Food Preservation Class	Jul 10
Lego Challenge	Jul 13
PLO	Jul 13
Paper Quilling Workshop	Jul 14
4-H Wheat Show	Jul 15
State Roundup	Jul 21-24
Cooking Workshop	Jul 29
County Cloverbud Workshop	Jul 30
County Fair	Sep 9-12

TULSA STATE FAIR DEADLINES

July 10, 2026: Junior Livestock Show Nomination Deadline

Aug 1 - Sep 21, 2026: Livestock & Horse Show Entries Open

August 28, 2026: Livestock & Horse Show Entry Deadline

September 9, 2026: Livestock & Horse Show Late Entry Deadline

FAIR DATES: SEPT. 29 - OCT. 11

EYO at the Oklahoma State Fair

If you haven't heard already, the OYE staff will be running EYO at the Oklahoma State Fair

September 16 - 20, 2026

Entries: Online starting Aug. 1 - Aug. 22.

State Fair Dates: Sept. 17- Sept. 27



**PLO
July 13
5:30**

2026-27 COUNTY OFFICERS

- ♦ **President— Joe Sharp**
- ♦ **V. President— Bailey Nickels**
- ♦ **Secretary— Bentley Wickersham**
- ♦ **Reporter— Lindy Pitts**
- ♦ **Recreation Leader—Sydney Prince**

Oklahoma 4-H State Livestock Skillathon Payne County Fairgrounds July 21, 1pm

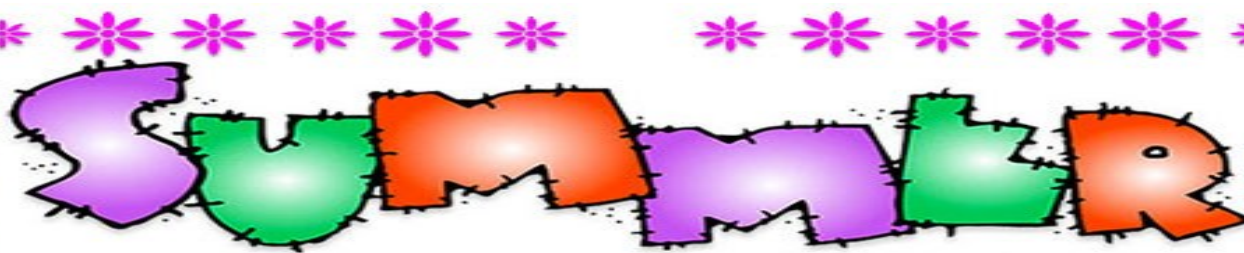
The first Oklahoma 4-H State Livestock Skillathon will be held July 21 at 1 p.m. at the Payne County Fairgrounds.

This contest gives 4-H'ers the opportunity to develop problem-solving, teamwork and critical thinking skills while demonstrating their knowledge of animal science, meat animal production and livestock management practices.

The event includes junior division for grades three through seven and senior division for grades eight through 12.

Participants must be active 4-H'ers and may compete individually or in teams of three to four.

More information and registration are available through ZSuite.



WORKSHOPS

Lego Challenge Workshop: July 13, 1-3: Do you like building with Legos? Come participate in different engineering challenges with Legos. *Must sign-up by July 3.*

Paper Quilling Workshop: July 14, 2-4: Come learn about paper quilling and make a card using the technique. *Must sign-up by July 3.*

Cooking Workshop: July 29, 2:00 – 4:00: Learn new cooking techniques. *Must sign-up by July 22.* Space is limited.

County Cloverbud Workshop: July 30, 2:00-4:00: All Cloverbuds welcome to craft and learn. *Must sign-up by July 17.*

2026 4-H Wheat Show July 15, 2026

If you are interested in more information about the state wheat show, please contact the office.

All 10 pound wheat samples will need to be delivered to Stillwater by 8:30 am on July 15, 2026.

Shipped samples must arrive before Friday, July 10, 2026,

Nature Navigators Summer Edition is Open

Summer is the perfect time to unplug, head outdoors, and create lasting memories with your family through **Nature Navigators Summer Edition!**

Register through **ZSuite** to receive all of the educational resources, activity guides, and challenges designed to help youth explore Oklahoma's great outdoors. This season's activities encourage youth to learn outdoor safety and preparedness, build a simple first aid kit, explore pollinators, participate in nature scavenger hunts, and reflect on their experiences through nature journaling.

Whether your family enjoys hiking, camping, bird watching, fishing, or simply spending time outside, Nature Navigators offers fun and meaningful ways to connect with nature while building confidence and outdoor skills.

As you embark on your summer adventures, don't forget to stay safe by drinking plenty of water, wearing sun-block, checking the weather, and bringing the essentials for a successful day outdoors.

Adventure awaits. Grab your family, lace up your shoes, and discover all that nature has to offer through Nature Navigators Summer Edition!

4-H TUESDAY TOOL TIME



2026 Quarterly Webinars

6:30 – 7:30

Registration Necessary

August 4 — Volunteer & Leadership Development—TBD

November 3 — STEM in Your Club and Project Areas

December 1 — Next Steps of Leadership



Registration Link

Opportunities from Garfield County Farm Bureau

Oklahoma Farm Bureau Capitol Camp

September 2-3 in Oklahoma City - *Deadline is July 31, 2026.*

Cost is \$50 per student, sometimes covered by Garfield Co Farm Bureau.

Must Register Online:

<https://www.okfarmbureau.org/news/applications-are-open-for-okfbs-2026-capitol-camp/>



GARFIELD COUNTY FAIR September 9-13 Chisholm Trail Expo Center, Enid



September 9: ALL 4-H entries due to Expo Center for judging by 6:00. 4-H food entries may still arrive on September 10 by 10:00.

September 9: Consumer Judging, FCS Skill-a-thon, and Livestock Skill-a-thon will be open 1-6 at the County Extension office.

September 13: Pick up items at 4:30

September 14: Premium Sale

Please call the office if you have any questions.

The newspaper will no longer be printing the 4-H portion of the county fair. The Fair book is available online at the Chisholm Trail Expo website and copies will be available mid-July at the office



Food Preservation Class

July 10, 10 - 2pm



What is the correct way to preserve your summer produce?

Attend the Food Preservation Class Friday July 10, from 10-2 pm.

We will be focusing on Water Bath technique of food preservation as we preserve a fruit product/jam and pickled item.

Class size is limited, so reserve your space by July 7.

Cost of the class is \$25, and will include the newest guide to Food Preservation handbook as well as 2 preserved items.

Classes are appropriate for all ages, but if younger than 10 years old will need an older teen or adult to supervise.

Bring a sack lunch, drinks will be provided.



Yeast Bread Class

July 17, 10 - 3pm



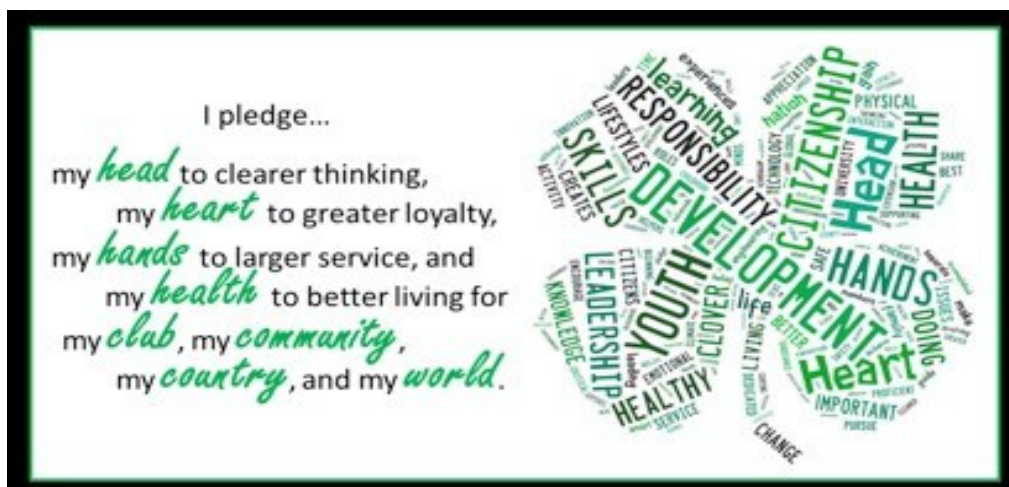
Join us as we explore the world of yeast breads. Workshop will be Friday, July 17 from 10-3 pm.

We will learn about yeast, artisan breads as well as the autolyse method of bread baking.

You will receive a list of supplies to bring at the time of registration (bowls and baking sheets).

Cost is \$25, and classes are appropriate for all ages, but if younger than 10 years, old will need an older teen or adult to supervise.

Bring a sack lunch or snack, drinks will be provided.





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Jessica Nickels



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Extension Educator 4-H & Youth Development

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"Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication or program information or reasonable accommodation need to contact (Jessica Nickels, Extension Educator, 4-H) at (580-237-1228 or jessica.nickels@okstate.edu) at least two weeks prior to the event."

