



4-H Clover Connection

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 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.



Major County OSU Cooperative Extension Service

Address

500 E. Broadway, Courthouse Suite 3
Fairview, Oklahoma 73737

Phone

580-227-3786

Educators Email

Dana Baldwin, FCS/4-H & CED
dana.baldwin@okstate.edu

Shelby Robertson, Ag/4-H
shelby.robertson13@okstate.edu

Website

<https://extension.okstate.edu/county/major>

Facebook

Major County OSU Extension

In this issue:

Page 2:

Countywide Meeting
Consumer Judging Contest
Summer Fieldtrips
Air Rifle & Air Pistol
Facebook
Food Showdown
MyPI Teen Camp
Archery Contest

Page 3:

4-H Healthy Living Ambassadors
Oklahoma Gardening Contest
State Service Projects
Commercial Cattle Grading Contest
Fashion Revue/Impressive Dress Contest
4-H Has Talent Contest

Page 4:

Tractor and Machinery Safety Course
Multi-County 4-H Camp
Fair Project Workshop Day
Cloverbud Day Camp
OK Parent-Volunteer Conference

Page 5:

Babysitting Workshop
Cooking Workshop
County 4-H Recodbooks
Discover Day and District Contest Day

Page 6:

4-H/Family & Consumer Sciences Workshops

Page 7:

Youth Agriculture Workshops



COUNTYWIDE 4-H MEETING

The next County-Wide Meeting of 4-H Parents, Members and Volunteers will be held on **Tuesday, May 20** (changed from April 29) **beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the county fairgrounds.** Training for certified volunteers will take place in addition to discussions and planning of upcoming events.

The Consumer Judging Contest will be held prior to, and the Fashion Revue/Impressive Contest will be held following the meeting. See more details in this newsletter.

The next County-Wide Meeting after this will be July 28.



CONSUMER JUDGING CONTEST

The county Consumer Judging Contest will be held on Tuesday, May 20 (changed from April 29) beginning at 5:15pm at the county fairgrounds. This is for any 4-H member (except Cloverbuds)- no previous practice needed as instructions will be given prior to beginning. Participants will be given a situation with items to purchase; then rank those items best to least based on the given situation. Please let Dana know by Tuesday, May 13 if you plan to participate so that materials can be prepared.

SUMMER FIELDTRIPS

We are in the process of planning some fun and educational fieldtrips for the summer. Be on the watch for information to come on those- watch your emails and our Facebook page!

If you have some ideas for fieldtrips, please let Dana or Shelby know as well.



AIR RIFLE and AIR PISTOL

We have two new certified Air Rifle and Air Pistol coaches, and they are ready to get you started in those disciplines!

If you are interested or would like more information, contact the OSU Extension office.

Check FACEBOOK for Updates!

Be sure to check our Facebook page for regular updates: Major County OSU Extension



Information is shared on this page that may miss our newsletters as well as reminders for entry deadlines, etc.

4-H FOOD SHOWDOWN

Do You Like To Cook?

Do You Like To Create Your Own Recipes?

Do You Enjoy Watching Food Shows Or Cooking Contests On TV?

If so, you might be interested in the 4-H Food Showdown Contest. Teams of 2 or 3 members have the opportunity to prepare a dish to present to a team of judges.

Junior teams (grades 3 to 5) are given a basic recipe to prepare. Grocery items from a common pantry can be used to enhance the recipe or be served with the recipe item.

Intermediate teams (grades 6 to 8) given a secret ingredient and category. Groups make up their own recipe.

Senior teams (grades 9 to 12) are given a box containing one or more secret ingredients. The secret ingredients are used along with grocery items from a common pantry to create a dish.

Our County Contest will be Thursday, May 29 at 6:00pm. Registration will be due by May 20.

Anyone is interested in this project, please contact Dana for more details.

The top two junior, intermediate, and senior teams from the county can advance to the **West District 4-H Food Showdown during Contest Day on July 1 in El Reno or Chickasha.**

MyPI Oklahoma Youth Preparedness Initiative Teen Camp

This is an exciting new opportunity for teens to participate in the **MYPI Oklahoma: Youth Preparedness Initiative Teen Camp**, an award-winning program designed to equip youth with essential leadership and emergency preparedness skills. This unique opportunity will empower teens to assist their families and communities in times of need while building confidence, teamwork, and decision-making skills. Spots are limited so don't delay registering.

Who: 4-H and Non-4-H Members Ages 13-18 (Limited Number of Spaces Available)

When: June 17-19, 2025

Where: Sulphur, OK Lodging @ Artesian Hotel; Camp Sessions @ Artesian Hotel and Murray County Expo Center

Cost: \$70 Per Youth (Includes Lodging and Meals) Sent to Murray Co OSU Extension, Attn: Debbie Sharp, 3490 State Hwy 7 West, Sulphur, OK 73086

Registration Deadline: May 15, 2025

Learn More and Apply Here: mypioklahoma.org Click: Students Apply Now

ARCHERY CONTEST



We will be hosting a Statewide 4-H Invitational Archery Contest on May 17 at the county fairgrounds.

If you are interested in learning more about the archery discipline, come observe on this day. We will begin competition at 9:30am.

4-H HEALTHY LIVING AMBASSADORS

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 and will also be called upon to attend health related programs and events.

The cycle for the Healthy Living Ambassadors is moving to better align with the 4-H year. New Ambassadors will come on board this summer and kick off their year with the start of the new 4-H year.

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

Applications are due May 15, 2025. Applicants should be 4-H members who will be High School Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, or Seniors during the 2025-26 school year.

COMMERCIAL CATTLE GRADING SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST

Friday, May 23, 2025

The top three scoring overall students will receive the Rick Jones Memorial Scholarships. First Place \$2,000, Second Place \$1,500, and Third Place \$1,000

Midwest Shows Scholarship Programs Inc. in conjunction with Several sponsors, present the competition. This contest is open to all FFA and 4-H members. Those participating will first attend a 30-minute seminar on grading presented by Jason Harvey, Oklahoma Department of Agriculture Market Development Coordinator. Following the presentation, teams will grade up to 16 head using the criteria covered in the seminar. Scoring will be supervised by Oklahoma CareerTech Ag Education Department's Kurt Murray, who is the Southwest Area Program Specialist. A total of 33 scholarships totaling \$8,100 will be awarded to the top three FFA teams, the top three 4-H teams, and the top three individuals from FFA and the top three individuals from 4-H. There will also be an open class for individuals not participating in the scholarship competition. First place team members and First place individuals also receive a \$50.00 Gift card from Tener's Western Outfitter, 4320 West Reno, Oklahoma City, OK

For More Information Contact: Shelby Robertson at the Major County Extension Office or Ddee Haynes 580-772-4053 or E-mail ddeehpj@gmail.com

Oklahoma Gardening Contest

Who/What: While "Oklahoma Gardening" reflects on its roots, the show also focuses on the future and celebrates the next generation of green thumb gardeners. Youth ages 12-18 who are enthusiastic about gardening are encouraged to enter. Winners selected this summer will receive a prize and be featured on the show later this season.

How: Youth are invited to submit photos of last year's garden or what they are currently growing in this year's garden, along with their name, age, city, a description of the garden, and how they started gardening to oklahoma.gardening@okstate.edu.

When: The entry deadline is May 30.



STATE SERVICE PROJECTS

"Change for Change"

Change collected benefits the Oklahoma Children's Hospital Foundation for supporting specialties such as cancer, genetics, autism, and infectious diseases. Collect change at your 4-H meetings or other events and turn it into the OSU Extension Center where it will then be sent to the State 4-H Office.

"Pull for Kids"

Collect pop tabs to support the Oklahoma City Ronald McDonald House. Turn tabs into the OSU Extension Center. You are encouraged to collect the entire can and use the money to support your 4-H club, but we only want the tabs turned into us. The tabs will be sold and the money sent to the State 4-H Office for distribution to the Ronald McDonald House.

FASHION REVUE/IMPRESSIVE DRESS CONTEST

This contest will be held on Tuesday, May 20 (changed from April 29) at 7:00pm or immediately following the Countywide Meeting that begins at 6:00pm at the county fairgrounds.

Entries are due by Tuesday, May 13; entry/information forms are available at the OSU Extension Center and on the "Major County OSU Extension" Facebook page.

Fashion Revue entries must be constructed by the 4-H member; Impressive Dress entries may be purchased or constructed by the 4-H member or other individual.

Please contact Dana with any questions.



4-H Has Talent at State Roundup

Individuals or teams can submit a video of your musical talent to be reviewed for selection to perform at State 4-H Roundup in July on the OSU campus. Videos should be 3 minutes in length and are due by June 15. Contact us for full details.



TRACTOR & MACHINERY OPERATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Designed to meet labor requirements for 14-15-year-old youth **Individuals of all ages can attend**

May 19th- 9 am to 4 pm

May 20th- 9 am to 4 pm

May 21st- 9 am to 12 pm

Alfalfa County Fairgrounds – Cherokee Ok

Cost is \$40 payable to OSU Extension

Must Pre-Register by May 14th to Shelby at the Major County Office.



4-H UNDER THE SEA

Multi-County 4-H Camp

Who: 4-Her's 3rd grade and up! (campers) Youth who have completed 7th grade and up can be counselors!

When: June 25-27

Where: Vici – Northwest Baptist Assoc. Campgrounds

Cost to attend: \$80

What: Craft Workshops, Educational Sessions, Leadership & Teamwork Activities, Recreation, and More Fun!

If you are interested in attending, please call the office and speak with Dana or Shelby for more information.

Registration Forms are Available and the Deadline is May 30th for Counselors and June 2nd for Campers!



4-H Roundup

Who: Youth who have completed 7th Grade and are at least 12 years old and are active 4-H members in ZSuite

When: July 23-25

Where: OSU Campus – Stillwater

Cost to attend: \$200

What: Educational workshops, Activities, Competitions, and more! State Roundup promotes personal growth, leadership, and skill-building for 4-H Members!

If your youth is interested in attending, please call the office and speak with Shelby for more information.

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



Cloverbud Day Camp



Spend the day with us as we explore what 4-H has to offer!

July 22, 2025

10 am to 2 pm

Major County Fairgrounds

\$20 fee - and more details to come!

Volunteers needed to help with projects

Fair Project Workshop Day

Tuesday, July 29- Major Co. Fairgrounds
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

You can take part in this workshop day by both presenting one and participating in them. These are great opportunities for leadership within your projects and a way to get some projects complete to enter in the county fair.

We will have a sign-up sheet available if you are interested in presenting a workshop; and once we have a list of workshops being offered we will share it for all members to register.

Come join us- we will provide lunch and go to the Fairview Aquatic Center following the workshops.



It's Full Steam Ahead at the OK Parent-Volunteer Conference!

June 27 & 28

OSU Campus, Stillwater

All aboard for the upcoming OK Parent-Volunteer Conference, a ride designed to empower parents, volunteers, and Extension staff in their efforts to engage and retain youth in the 4-H youth development program. The thoughtfully planned program features a diverse lineup of presenters, including out-of-state guests, state specialists, community partners, and, most importantly, our talented and experienced volunteers who will share their experiences.

Registration will be completed through ZSuite events and can be paid by credit card. Registration is now open and closes June 6th.

The OK volunteer board is excited about the selection of workshops, two pre-conference sessions, an awards luncheon for Salute to Excellence nominees, and the 4-H Market Place.



**NORTHWEST TECHNOLOGY CENTER
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OSU
EXTENSION**



Babysitting Safety with Friends and Family CPR

Are you thinking about babysitting? Come learn more about Babysitting Safety with Family & Consumer Sciences/4-H/Youth Development with Dana Baldwin, Major County OSU Extension and earn your Friends and Family CPR Certificate.




**WED., MAY 21ST
TIME 10AM-3:30PM,
COST \$20**

*STUDENTS NEED TO BRING A SACK LUNCH.

Call 580-227-3708 or visit
www.nwtech.edu to enroll







County 4-H Record Books due August 1

It's not too early to be thinking about your County 4-H Record Books! Make plans so you can meet the Friday, August 1 deadline! We hope to see an increased number in books turned in this year. Don't forget that Award Point Sheets are due at the same time as well.

If you need assistance, please contact us at the OSU Extension Center, we are happy to help. There are opportunities for assistance at workshops at the fairgrounds on June 11 from 1-4pm and/or July 11 from 9am-noon (call the office to sign up.)

Note: 4-H members submitting record books and point sheets will be eligible for awards that will be presented at the annual Awards Dinner to be scheduled for



4-H Cooking Workshop

**Friday, June 6
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
at the fairgrounds**



Come participate in a hands-on cooking workshop where we will prepare a variety of recipes. We will also discuss nutrition, food safety, kitchen safety, cooking terms, how to measure, and more.

This is for junior and senior age 4-H members and the cost is \$15. There will be a minimum and maximum number of spots, so please register at the OSU Extension office by calling 580-227-3786 no later than Monday, June 2.



Upcoming District Events



Discovery Day

*Tuesday, June 24
at Woodward*

(4-H project area workshops for members)

District Contest Day

Tuesday, July 1

at either Chickasha or El Reno

(Clover Quiz Bowl, Livestock Quiz Bowl, FCS Skillathon, Food Showdown, Cupcake Wars, Table Setting, Duds to Dazzle, Science Fair)

We will provide full details on these events through email and on our Facebook page as soon as it becomes available.



4-H/Family & Consumer Sciences Workshops



2025 Sessions & Topics

Explore 4-H through Family & Consumer Sciences related projects at these once a month workshops!

Major County Fairgrounds in Fairview

*First Quarter 2025 dates and projects:

- **Thursday, January 23: Apparel Design & Construction**
We will make fleece hats and scarves.
- **Thursday, February 20 Date Change-Monday, March 3: Food Science, Civic Engagement**
We will discuss MyPlate, make soup, cornbread, and items for a community service project.
- **Thursday, March 20: Personal Development**
We will discuss goal setting and make project-related fair entries.
- **Thursday, April 17: Consumer Education**
We will learn about the Consumer Judging Contest and more!
- **Wednesday, May 21: Safety, Child Care**
Babysitting Workshop at NW Tech Center from 10am to 3:30pm; \$20 fee, register through NW Tech Center
- **Tuesday, June 17: Apparel Design & Construction**
We will sew simple aprons from 9am to Noon; list of supplies will be provided.
- **Thursday, July 17: Food Preservation, Civic Engagement**
We will make jam, jelly, and biscuits from 1pm to 5pm; \$10 fee.
- **Thursday, August 21: Personal Development**
We will discuss goal setting, make project-related fair entries, etc.; 5:30pm to 8pm; \$5 fee.
- **Thursday, September 18: Food Science, Civic Engagement**
We will discuss MyPlate, make a meal, and items for a community service project; 5:30pm to 8pm; \$10 fee.
- **Thursday, October 23: Interior Design & Construction**
We will make holiday table runners; 5:30pm to 8pm; \$5 fee.
- **Thursday, November 20: Personal Development**
Activities to be announced; 5:30pm to 8pm; \$5 fee.
- **Thursday, December 18: Food Science, Civic Engagement**
Activities to be announced; 5:30pm to 8pm; \$5 fee.



Fees vary per workshop activities.

**Register by calling the Major County OSU Extension Center at 580-227-3786
no later than 3 days prior to the session you plan to attend.**

**Dates and topics are subject to change; there will be a minimum and maximum number of participants for each session.*

Oklahoma State University, as an equal opportunity employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding non-discrimination. Oklahoma State University is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all individuals and does not discriminate based on race, religion, age, sex, color, national origin, marital status, disability, or veteran status with regard to employment, educational programs and activities, and/or admissions.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication or program information or reasonable accommodation, please contact Dana Baldwin at 580-227-3786 at least one week prior to the workshop.



OSU EXTENSION
**MAJOR COUNTY
4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

Dana Baldwin

Extension Educator

*Family & Consumer Sciences/4-H Youth Development
and County Extension Director*

500 E. Broadway, Courthouse Suite 3
Fairview, Oklahoma 73737

dana.baldwin@okstate.edu

YOUTH AGRICULTURE WORKSHOPS

2025 Sessions & Topics!

April 21: Earth Day

May 19: Gardening

June 16: Farm-to-Table

July 21: Insects

August 18: Water

September 15: STEM

October 20: STEM

November 17: Weather

December 15: Ag Literacy



To Register, please call the Major County Extension Office at 580-227-3786 at least 4 days prior to the session(s) you plan to attend. Minimum of 4 participants to hold a session

Major County Fairgrounds

808 E Highland St. Fairview

6-8 PM

\$10/Person per Session

This covers supply cost.

Payment is required 4 days prior to each session

Join us for an exciting new series of hands-on agriculture workshops!
Learn new skills in a fun atmosphere.
Attend one, a few, or come to them all!

OSU is an Affirmative Action, Equal Employment Opportunity, E-Verify Employer.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication or program information or reasonable accommodation, please contact Shelby Robertson at 580-227-3786 at least one week prior to the workshop.



OSU EXTENSION
**MAJOR COUNTY
4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

Are you into it?

"4-H Clover Connection" is published on a regular basis at the Major County OSU Cooperative Extension Center. This newsletter is just one way of communicating educational information to the citizens of Major County. Major County OSU Cooperative Extension Service educational program and information are provided to you, in part, through the Major County sales tax. Oklahoma State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, State and Local Governments Cooperating. Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service: Oklahoma State University, as an equal opportunity employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding non-discrimination. Oklahoma State University is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all individuals and does not discriminate based on race, religion, age, sex, color, national origin, marital status, disability, or veteran status with regard to employment, educational programs and activities, and/or admissions. For more information, visit <https://eeo.okstate.edu> Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director of Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma. This publication is printed and issued by Oklahoma State University as authorized by the Vice President for Agricultural Programs and has been prepared and distributed at a cost of \$25.50.

Editors:

Dana Baldwin

Extension Educator
Family & Consumer Sciences/4-H Youth Development
and County Extension Director
e-mail: dana.baldwin@okstate.edu

Shelby Robertson

Extension Educator
Agriculture/4-H Youth Development
e-mail: shelby.robertson13@okstate.edu

Major County OSU Extension Center
500 E. Broadway, Courthouse Suite 3
Fairview, Oklahoma 73737
Phone: (580)227-3786



Major County OSU Extension Office
500 E Broadway, Courthouse Suite 3
Fairview, Oklahoma 73737