



4-H Clover Connection

Engaging Others in Your Club While Social Distancing

The Oklahoma 4-H Youth Development Program has long been known for providing youth with hands-on learning opportunities. However, with the call for social distancing due to COVID-19, some might believe these learning opportunities have been put on hold.

Not so! Thanks to technology, Oklahoma State University Extension 4-H educators and club volunteers are finding creative ways to reach out and keep their club members engaged in fun, educational experiences, said Karla Knoepfli, OSU Extension state volunteer specialist in the State 4-H Office.

“We need to remain involved with our members, as well as provide opportunities for those who are just joining 4-H,” Knoepfli said. “Using technology, we’re able to provide an engaging, fun and welcoming experience with just a few adjustments in the delivery method.”

To help volunteers stay engaged with club members, a series of webinars titled “4-H Tuesday Tool-Time” will be offered at 6:30 p.m. over the next several weeks. An invitation went out to all volunteers via 4Honline.

With April being National Volunteer Month, there is no better time for a club, its families, officers and volunteers to reflect on the impression being communicated to new families, members, parents and perspective volunteers.

“Volunteering is more than a simple act. It’s an attitude and the honorable practice of concern and happiness for others,” Knoepfli said. “4-H is an organization and our clubs are an activity that provide a service that benefits and engages others. Clubs provide a way to improve lives and develop skills, all while providing a healthy social and educational environment.”

Engaging and retaining new families and volunteers begins when they enter the room and continues with consistent communication, respect and acknowledgement. According to the website [VolunteerHub](#), there are strategies for engaging and retaining volunteers.

First, understand the family’s or volunteer’s motivation. It is important to connect their interest to opportunities available in the club, which could include project groups, education, service or a place to feel respected and welcome.

Knoepfli suggests telling a story by showing pictures or a video, or having families telling personal stories about the positive impact and the caring relationships developed between club members and adults. Or, talk about activities that build important life skills and opportunities youth have to use these skills as both participants and leaders in the club and other community activities.

“You can mentor new families and volunteers by pairing them with experiences families or volunteers. Encourage them to participate in county, district and state 4-H programs,” she said. “Also, keep the lines of communication open and timely. Make sure there is plenty of time for families and volunteers to prepare and ask questions. In addition, share successes, hard work and the community impact of the club or volunteer.”

While some people may not want to be the center of attention, showing appreciation for hard work and dedication is vital. Sincere words of thanks always are welcome and valued. Those two simple words, thank you, mean a lot.

Lastly, Knoepfli said to encourage a sense of community. Club meetings and activities should provide ample time for fellowship and fun. They should be a place for making connections and providing a sense of belonging.

“I’d like to encourage clubs to use April as a time to reflect and develop a plan for the new program year. Think about the first impression your club gives to new families,” she said. “Think of ways to actively recruit new families and volunteers, and develop creative ways to keep club members, officers and volunteers engaged, happy and eager to stay involved.”

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Major County 4-H

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District 4-H Public Speaking Contest– Online Only

Even though our in-person district contest on April 18 was cancelled, you can still participate as it is being offered as an online only contest. There are Junior, Intermediate and Senior divisions for Prepared Public Speaking, Illustrated Presentation and PowerPoint. Participants will record their presentations and submit by the April 18 deadline. Contact us soon for full details.

District 4-H Job Readiness Contest–Online Only

As this in-person district contest on April 18 was cancelled as well, you can still participate as it is also being offered as an online only contest. There are Intermediate and Senior divisions in Services, Home Based Business and Retail/Office categories. Participants will submit their materials via email by the April 18 deadline. Contact us soon for full details.

West District (north region) 4-H

Horse Show/Ranch Horse Show

Anyone interested in participating in the district horse show on June 5 or the district ranch horse show on June 6 in Cherokee, please contact us for entry information and deadline dates.

Recordbook Workshops (with pizza!)

We plan to have two county 4-H recordbook workshops where you can bring your materials and work on your books, ask questions, share ideas on Monday, May 18 and Monday, June 1 both starting at 5:00 p.m. in the exhibit building at the fairgrounds. Pizza and drinks will be provided, so please RSVP to our office by 12:00 noon on both days if you plan to attend. **County recordbooks are due July 1.**

Virtual Impressive Dress Contest

See the insert with this newsletter about an opportunity to participate in our Virtual Impressive Dress Contest! Entries are due by April 27 and results will be announced on April 30 via the “Major County 4-H” Facebook page.



**We’re on Facebook:-
“Major County 4-H”**

Tri-County 4-H Camp

This year's camp dates are June 17, 18 & 19. Registration for campers (grades 3 to 7) and applications for counselors (grades 8 & up) are both due by June 1. The camp theme is “4-H Is Out of This World!” See the inserts in this newsletter for more details. Camp will be at the Northwest Baptist Campgrounds near Vici, and please remember transportation is not provided.

District 4-H Contest Day- rescheduled

Some of the contests originally planned for April 18 have been moved to May 28 in Woodward. Those include:

- Fashion Revue
- Robotics
- Photography
- Graphic Arts
- Video Story
- Poster

The entry deadline for all of these contests is May 8, so please contact us if you would like more information and we will send it out to you. These are all great opportunities!

District 4-H Cupcake Wars

This contest is scheduled for May 29 in Woodward. Age divisions include Junior, Intermediate and Senior; and each county can send 3 teams per division. Rules of Play are available so let us know if you are interested! The entry deadline is May 1 and if we have more than 3 teams per division interested, a county contest will be scheduled in early May.

District 4-H Food Showdown

This contest is also scheduled for May 29 in Woodward. Age divisions will include Junior, Intermediate and Senior; and each county can send 2 teams per division. Rules of Play are available for this as well so please let us know if you are interested! The entry deadline is May 1 and if we have more than 2 teams per division interested, a county contest will be scheduled in early May.

4-H Has Talent

Do YOU have what it takes to be a STAR? Have you always pictured yourself performing on the Roundup stage? If so, the 2020 Oklahoma 4-H Roundup 4-H Has Talent competition is for you. Get the chance to show your skills on stage in front of nearly 1,000 fellow 4-Hers, parents/volunteers, and educators. Sing a song, do a dance, tell a joke or just do something unusual. Use YOUR creativity and wow the crowd! Entries due to the State 4-H Office May 15, 2020.

Giant Pumpkin Growing Opportunity

If you are experienced and have the skills to grow giant vegetables, we have an opportunity that might be available for you with giant pumpkins. Contact us soon for details.

National 4-H Photo Contest

Now until April 30, 2020, Manna Pro is hosting a contest to build a 4-H picture mosaic online. This is a chance for 4-H members, supporters, and friends to upload pictures to Manna Pro's site. As an incentive for photo uploads, Manna Pro is providing \$6,000, \$3,000, and \$1,000 prizes to the three states that upload the most photos weighted by state population. Let us know if you want more details.

State 4-H Roundup 2020

Save the date, tell your friends and begin making plans to attend the 99th State 4-H Roundup, July 22-24 on the campus of Oklahoma State University. The cost for 2020 Roundup will be \$135. Registration materials will be released soon.

4-H Zoo Snooze

When: Friday, August 7th, 2020

Cost: \$35.00 for youth; \$20.00 for adults.

Join Oklahoma 4-H for an overnight sleepover at the OKC Zoo! Can you build the highest ant hill? Jump as far as a wallaby? Contact us for registration information.

4-H Volunteer Trainings

Be looking for an email with information about 2 upcoming volunteer trainings via Zoom video conferencing:

-Monday, April 20 at 6:00 pm on the topic of "Youth Development Philosophy"

-Monday, April 27 at 6:00 pm on the topic of "Using the 4-H Name and Emblem"

These trainings will count towards required annual trainings for certified volunteers and should not last more than 30 minutes each.

If you did not attend the "Working with Minors" and "Title VII & IX" trainings in person and you have not completed them online, please do so as soon as possible. The instructions have been sent out through emails a few times.

Also, a series of webinars titled "4-H Tuesday Tool-Time" are being offered at 6:30 pm over the next few weeks. Each session is 35 minutes with "Application Activities" which can be completed afterwards. The trainings remaining are:

April 14- Topics: Planning a Fun and Interactive Experience. Adapting teaching methods for online learning.

April 21- Topics: Experiential Learning in a "Virtual" Club Setting

The information was also sent out through 4-H Online. Look for emails with log-in information. These count towards your required annual trainings as well.

April in National Volunteer Month— and we want you to know that you are appreciated very much!!! Thank you for helping to provide opportunities for our youth.

2020 Design Institute – Interior Design and Construction

June 8-9, 2020, located on the OSU Campus hosted by the College of Human Sciences: Department of Design, Housing, and Merchandising. Audience – 7th - 12th grade, 4-H Volunteers and Extension Educators. Registration - Cost \$40, includes supplies and lunch. Registration will be completed through 4-H Online March 23 – April 30. Registration and payment due on or before April 30, 2020.

Housing and chaperones the responsibility of the family.

Institute Objectives:

- Discover how science, technology, engineering, art and math is part of interior design
- Gain skills needed to design and construct an interior design project for you, your family or that meets a social, economic or community need
- Understand the application of the Elements and Principles of Design as they apply to interior design projects
- Learn to coordinate construction mediums using principles of design
- Learn how to communicate your interior design "project and/or end product"
- Explore careers in the interior design industry

2020 4-H Animal Science Short Course

Are you interested in a career in veterinary medicine or animal science? Do you enjoy working with animals? Would you be excited about a career that provides a service to the livestock producers, pet owners, and people of Oklahoma? If you answered yes to some or all of these questions, we may have just the experience for you! OSU Extension, OSU Center for Veterinary Health Science and the Animal Science Department are teaming up to offer a special 4-H Animal Science Short Course on June 11-12, 2020 for high school age 4-H members. Attendee's must be entering the 9th, 10th, 11th or 12th grade in the fall of 2020 to be eligible.

If accepted as an attendee you will learn about the career options, how you can best prepare for entry requirements, and how to utilize special programs to assist rural students or students from under-served areas. If parents/guardians wish to accompany you, they will be offered a separate track of information to both college and the veterinary school. The cost of the Animal Science Short Course is \$50.00 per attendee. The group size is limited so that those who are truly interested can have the best experience possible to help them in making their career choice.

To apply, contact us soon. Acceptance will be on a first come/first serve basis, limited to the first 35 completed forms that meet all criteria. Any forms that are received after the program is full will be placed in a standby capacity.

4-H PLEDGE

I pledge my **HEAD** to clearer thinking,
my **HEART** to greater loyalty,
my **HANDS** to larger service,
and my **HEALTH** to better living,
for my club, my community,
my country, and my world.



Hello Major County 4-H families-

As you know that due to the COVID19 pandemic, the Major County OSU Extension Center is closed to public access until further notice and we will not be holding any face-to-face meetings, workshops or competitive events at least through April 30. While the possibilities that this date could extend, we will certainly keep you posted. We hope that all of you are staying well! And please know that we miss seeing you.

Staying involved in 4-H is certainly going to be different for a while, but we want to keep you engaged in the program.

--Now is a perfect time to be working on 4-H recordbooks! If you need a recordbook kit, please call and let us know and we will be glad to mail you one.

--Be thinking about and working on fair projects- following is the link to the state fair information, which is same information that we use for the 4-H division at the Major County Fair:

<http://4h.okstate.edu/events-and-activities/state-events-activities/oklahoma-state-fairs/#content>

--If you don't already have access to our "Major County 4-H" Facebook page, be sure to "Like" it as we are posting updates and ideas for projects and activities.

--Another new Facebook page, "Oklahoma 4-H Virtual Clovers" is one you will definitely want to "Like" as project information is added twice each day, Monday through Friday.

--Some other resources:

-100's of 4-H Activities for The Home: <http://4h.okstate.edu/4-h-at-home>

-Put your photography skills to the test during the April Photography Challenge! Review the challenge topic for the day and take your best photos with whatever camera is available. Keep it simple, interpret the topic however you like, or do some online research on that type of photography for inspiration. This is not a contest, but simply a personal challenge youth can complete on their own to hone their photography skills.

If you want, and with permission, share your photos on social media with the hashtags #OK4H and #OK4HPhotoChallenge

<http://4h.okstate.edu/photo-challenge>

-NASA At Home Resources: Let NASA bring the universe into your home! This website includes a repository of E-books, activities for families, virtual tours & VR, podcasts and videos.

[NASA at Home](#)

[NASA STEM @ Home for Students](#)

-Story Time From Space: Watch astronauts on the Space Station read children's books and perform science demonstrations! [Story Time From Space](#) offers a delightful combination of science, literacy, and entertainment through its library of free, family-friendly videos. Together with NASA and the [ISS U.S. National Laboratory](#), Story Time From Space arms parents, formal and informal educators with the necessary materials and knowledge to teach fun, accurate STEM lessons.

--Club leaders- if you want us to set up an online club meeting that your members can access, let us know and we can make that happen.

Please stay connected- from a distance of course- and know that we are here for you, just in a different way right now!

Dana Baldwin and Troy Gosney
Your Major County OSU Extension Educators



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

***** VIRTUAL IMPRESSIVE DRESS CONTEST *****

Since we are unable to hold our Fashion Revue & Impressive Dress Contest in person this year, we're having a *VIRTUAL* Impressive Dress contest!

All active Major County 4-H members, including CLOVERBUDS, can participate. This will be a fun and creative challenge that will enhance our members public speaking skills, video and video editing skills, as well as learning about appropriate dress for *every* occasion!

Age Divisions

Cloverbuds	Ages 5 to 8
Juniors	Grades 3-8
Seniors	Grades 9-12

Rules are as follows:

Garments chosen for the virtual contest **MUST** come from your own closet or family members' closet. No newly purchased items are needed. Get creative!

Participants will film a short (60 second or less) video of themselves* wearing their outfits and/or accessories for **each** class they wish to enter (one entry per class) and EMAIL the video(s) to: dana.baldwin@okstate.edu by April 27th at 5:00 pm. See classes below.

For each video, participants will introduce themselves and tell what 4-H club they belong to and give a brief description of their outfit that explains the following: why they chose their outfit, why it fits the category, where they might wear it and what their favorite part of the outfit is and why.

IMPRESSIVE DRESS CATEGORIES

Reminder: outfits worn for the Impressive Dress Contest must come from your own (or a family members') closet! No newly purchased items needed. Get creative and put together outfits for the following classes:

CLASS I - CASUAL WEAR - *Garments to wear to school, fairs, rodeos, dates, movies, spectator sports, shopping., etc.*

CLASS II - ACTIVE SPORTSWEAR - *Garments to wear to play tennis, skiing, jogging, etc.* **CLASS III - DRESS**

WEAR - *Garments to wear to weddings, parties, church, job/college interviews* **CLASS IV - FORMAL WEAR -**

Garments to wear to formal events or other special occasions.

Members may have someone else film their video, as long as they are creating their own content.

Judging Information

Cloverbuds will not be judged competitively. They will receive a Participation ribbon, which will be mailed to them.

For Junior and Senior Divisions:

Each member will receive a ribbon rating for each class entered. Ribbons will be mailed from the Major County OSU Extension Office.

An **OVERALL** Champion and Reserve Champion will be chosen for each age division out of all four classes.

Results will be announced on April 30th via Facebook post on the "Major County 4-H" page .

Other Information

Major County 4-H members who participate in this virtual contest can count this the same as any other county contest for county record books.

Video content that does not meet the contest criteria (see rules) will be disqualified.

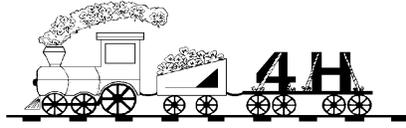
If a member is competing in multiple classes, please send each entry as an individual email.

Please make sure to include the members name, age division and what class they are competing in in the title of the email.

It is advised that you contact the Major County Extension office to make sure that the emails went through.

Videos must be saved as an mp4 format (cell phone videos preferred)

Major County 4-H Activity Calendar*



*Please note: these dates are subject to change

April 2020

18-West District (north region) 4-H Online Public Speaking Contest entries due
18-West District (north region) 4-H Online Job Readiness Contest entries due
24-State 4-H Recordbooks due to OSU Extension Center

May 2020

9-West District (north region) 4-H Spring Trap Shoot
18-County 4-H Recordbook Workshop (with pizza)
28-West District (north region) 4-H Fashion Revue
28-West District (north region) 4-H Robotics Contest
28-West District (north region) 4-H Poster, Photography, Graphic Arts & Video Story Contest
28-West District (north region) 4-H Cupcake Wars
28-West District (north region) 4-H Food Showdown

June 2020

1-County 4-H Recordbook Workshop (with pizza)
5-West District (north region) 4-H Horse Show
6-West District (north region) 4-H Ranch Horse Show
13-West District (north region) 4-H District Officer Traveling Workshop
17, 18 & 19-Tri-County 4-H Camp
22-West District (north region) 4-H District Officer Traveling Workshop

July 2020

1-County 4-H Recordbooks and Point Sheets due
22-West District (north region) 4-H District Officer Traveling Workshop
22, 23 & 24-State 4-H Roundup
27-County 4-H Meeting with Officer Elections
30-Fair Project Workshops and Swim Party

August 2020

10-County 4-H Achievement Banquet

September 2020

10, 11 & 12-Major County Fair
17 to 27- State Fair of Oklahoma
30-Countywide 4-H Fundraiser begins

October 2020

1 to 11-Tulsa State Fair
4 to 10- National 4-H Week
10-West District (north region) 4-H Fall Trap Shoot
14, 15, 16-West Action 4-H Conference
21-Countywide 4-H Fundraiser ends
26-Countywide 4-H Meeting
26-County 4-H Public Speaking Contest

November 2020

4-Countywide 4-H Fundraiser items in

December 2020

12-Major County 4-H Invitational Archery, Air Rifle & Air Pistol Contest

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 and affirmative action. Oklahoma State University is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all individuals and does not discriminate based on race, religion, sex, color, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, disability, or veteran status with regard to employment, educational programs and activities, and/or admissions. For more information, visit <https://eeo.okstate.edu>

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