



**OKLAHOMA COUNTY
EXTENSION**

REPORT TO THE PUBLIC

March 2023

Budget Board Luncheon

OSU Extension welcomed Oklahoma County's elected officials to a special "Budget Board" Luncheon held in their honor this March.

The program started with Ann Miller, Restore Farms Director, who talked about the services and expertise that Julia Laughlin, Horticulture Educator and Joshua Campbell, Urban Ag Educator provided the farm. This past year an "OKC Urban Agriculture Youth" 6 week pilot training was conducted with youth who attend Restore OKC and positive results were seen.

Freda Davis, Reentry Affairs Coordinator spoke on the program "Inside/Out Dad, an Evidence-Based Program for Incarcerated Fathers". This program is being taught at the OKC Federal Prison by Lisa Hamblin, Family & Consumer Sciences Educator. Freda read several letters from participants who spoke highly of this program and the impact it is making on their lives.

Team OKC Robotics was highlighted by their 4-H Club Leader, Travis Smith. A couple of the robotics 4-H students were there to give live demonstrations of their robots. This team recently won at the Regional Robotics Tournament the FIRST Engineering Inspiration Award, therefore qualified to attend the World Championship competition in Houston, Texas.





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Canning Class Held at Choctaw Library

On March 28th Taylor Conner, Family & Consumer Sciences Educator, taught a free water bath canning class at the Choctaw Library. This two-hour class covered the basics of canning high acid foods such as jellies, pickled foods, and tomatoes. Those that attended learned about safe practices when canning at home including using tested recipes and which method is best for canning certain foods.

Taylor prepared a simple orange jelly recipe. Participants then got the opportunity to pack their own jars for processing. Those that attended took home a jar of jelly.



**FAMILY &
CONSUMER
SCIENCES**





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Backyard Chicken Class at Jones Library

On March 21st Josh Campbell, Urban Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator, taught a free Backyard Chickens class at the Jones Library. This two-hour class was attended by more than 40 people and covered the basics of selecting the best breeds, rules and regulations, housing, feeding, and health and safety, among other important topics to consider before getting started with backyard chickens.

Interest in backyard chickens is growing steadily and Joshua will be offering other backyard chicken programs including an April event at the Edmond Library.





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4-H SPRING HORSE SHOW

Extension Family and Consumer Sciences Educator, Lisa Hamblin, put on the 4-H Spring Horse Show. The Oklahoma County 4-H Spring Horse Show was held at a new location this year. The Boys Ranch Town in Edmond hosted the annual competition at their outdoor arena. Youth competed in English and Western classes, as well as jumping and speed events. New awards sponsored by the AQHA Racing Commission were given to the fastest riders in the barrels, stakes race, and pole bending classes. Winners in each age category received silver belt buckles. Youth representing five 4-H clubs participated in the show.

OHCE HOSTS SE DISTRICT MEETING

Oklahoma County OHCE (Oklahoma Home and Community Education) partnered with members from Cleveland, McClain, and Garvin counties to host the annual SE District OHCE meeting for over 210 volunteers. The meeting was held at the Moore First Baptist Church. Oklahoma County members taught workshops, organized a breakfast buffet, and donated goodie bags filled with many useful items. They also introduced speakers and led the morning stretch break. Twenty-two members attended the fun and educational day.



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

Spring Break Camps A Hit!

Oklahoma County 4-H offered three day camps during Spring Break this year.

At healthy living camp, participants were able to learn about a variety of ways to improve their overall health and wellbeing, introduced to time management tactics, and learned how to make some delicious recipes.

Two STEM-based camps were put on later in the week by members of the OKC Team Robotics Club. Youth gained hands on experience in a variety of STEM-based workshops, including introduction to coding. By the end of the day, they had not only built a robot, but were also dueling against one another to test their engineering and coding skills.





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Extension Staff:

LaDonna Hines - Extension Director

Lisa Hamblin - Family & Consumer
Sciences Educator

Taylor Conner - Family & Consumer
Sciences Educator

Julia Laughlin - Horticulture Educator

Josh Campbell - Urban Agriculture
& Natural Resources Educator

Cody Yount - 4-H Educator

Mindy McNeil - 4-H Educator

Lori Goodbary - CNEP Area
Coordinator

OSU Extension provides research-based resources you can use to improve your home, workplace, and community. We offer programs and services that are specifically designed to solve the problems that county residents face. Please check out our website for the calendar of events <https://calendar.okstate.edu/oces/> to learn of new workshops or programs being offered.

You can follow us on Facebook for a glimpse into how your Oklahoma County Extension Educators and staff are serving you and the community.

Contact Us:



405-713-1125



[@OKCountyExt](https://twitter.com/OKCountyExt)



**2500 NE 63rd Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73111**



facebook.com/okcountyextension



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