



OSU EXTENSION

January 2024

OTTAWA COUNTY 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Ottawa County 4-H Newsletter

Ottawa County Extension Office

Address: 123 E Central Ste 101, Miami, OK, 74354

Phone: 918-542-1688

Website: extension.okstate.edu/ottawa

Emails:

kathy.enyart@okstate.edu

spirit.cox@okstate.edu

donna.richard@okstate.edu

rmmccar@okstate.edu

Facebook:

OSU Ottawa County Extension

OCHC Ottawa County 4H Horse Club

Ottawa County 4 H Shooting Sports

Oklahoma

This Month's Events:

Jan. 1—Office Closed/New Year's Day

Jan. 8—4-H Leaders Meeting

Jan. 9—Fairland 4-H Meeting

Jan. 10—Wyandotte 4-H Meeting

Jan. 12—4-H Night at Science Museum

Registration Due

Jan. 13—Oklahoma Open and 4-H Judges Seminar (Horse)

Jan. 15—Office Closed/Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Jan. 16—Miami 4-H Meeting

Jan. 17—Afton 4-H Meeting

Jan. 18—Oklahoma 4-H Winter Formal Pre-Registration Due

Jan. 22—Horse Communication Contest Entries Due

Jan. 27—Oklahoma 4-H Winter Formal @ 6-9pm

Horse Communication Contest

Categories are:

- Digital Photography
- Horse Quiz Bowl
- Speech
- Illustrated Presentation - individual or team
- Team problem solving.

Contact office if you are interested.

2024
HAPPY NEW YEAR

2024 Oklahoma 4-H Winter Formal

Hosted by State 4-H Leadership Team

Logan County Fairgrounds

Benefits State Projects, Change for Change and Children's Hospital.

Introducing your 2023-2024 Youth Officer Team!

President- Cooper Ellison

Vice President- Taylor Fry

Secretary/Reporter- Gracie Smith

Recreation Leader- Dillon Foster

Jr. Vice Presidents- Josiah Dorey, Case Ellison, Kaylyn Wise

Congratulations, 4-H'ers!

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, age, 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>.

Future 4-H Events

Feb. 2-3—4-H Night at Science Museum @ 7pm-7am

Feb. 3—Horse Communication Contest @ 9am

Feb. 12—4-H Leaders Meeting

Feb. 13—Fairland 4-H Meeting

Feb. 14—Wyandotte 4-H Meeting

Feb. 19—Office Closed/President's Day

Feb. 20—Miami 4-H Meeting

Feb. 21—Afton 4-H Meeting

Feb. 23—OYE Entries Due

Mar. 1—**Registration for Contest Day Due**

Mar. 9—Contest Day & **County Challenges Due** @ 9:30am

Mar. 11-22—Oklahoma Youth Expo

Mar. 11—4-H Leaders Meeting

Mar. 12—Fairland 4-H Meeting

Mar. 13—Afton 4-H Meeting

Mar. 13—Wyandotte 4-H Meeting

Mar. 19—Miami 4-H Meeting

Mar. 23-24—Shooting Sports Coach Training

Mar. 29—Office Closed/Good Friday



For more info on any of these please contact the office!

Be Sure to Collect Pop Tabs and Change Year Round!

This will be due March 9th at the county contest!

County Contest Day

March 9th, Registration @ 9:30am, Start @ 10am. Enter by March 1st.

The contest will be held at the Ottawa County Extension Office and Community Room.

Awards will be announced in the Community Room after the contest. Any 4-Her who attends can do a skill-a-thon, they do not have to be entered in the contest.

Sign up through the Extension Office or by email! Check the ZSuites website for the guidelines packet!

Categories:

- Public Speaking
- Photography
- Graphic Design
- Educational Posters
- Impressive Dress
- Design & Construction
- Skill-a-thons

*Most entries can be saved and entered in this year's Ottawa County Fair!

Active Project Clubs:



Shooting Sports:

- **Shotgun** meets Sundays @ 2 pm @ Shawnee Skies

-Coaches are Dale Smith and Mike Williams

-Contact office for more info!

- **Archery**

-We have new archery coaches! We are in the process of planning practice dates and times!

-If you know someone who may be interested in leading any 4-H shooting sports activity please let office know! There is a training coming up in March 2024.

Horse Club:

- **Dates pending NEO approval. Will be posted on Facebook ASAP**
- **If you would like to volunteer to help with the series please contact Spirit.**
- Horse Communication Contest:



-Includes the following categories: Digital Photography, Horse Quiz Bowl, Speech, Illustrated Presentation - individual or team, team problem solving.

-If you are interested in more info or participating in any of the following please contact Spirit.

-Contact spirit.cox@okstate.edu and/or watch Facebook for more info.

If there is a club that you would like to participate in, please let the office know so we can try to get one organized!

4-H Meetings

Fairland: 2nd Tues. each month, after school-5:30, 1st Christian Church

Wyandotte: 2nd Wed. each month, after school-5:30, Commons Area

Miami: Sept. 21st, Oct. 24th, 3rd Tues each month Nov.-May, 5:00-6:00, Extension Office Conference Room

Afton: 3rd Wed. each month except Dec. 13th and Mar. 13th, after school, Mrs. Marino's class



Pottawatomie County 4-H'er has a big heart for project work

Pottawatomie County 4-H'er Grace Hobbs has a big heart and she's hoping to make a difference to nursing home residents across the state this Valentine's Day – and she's hoping Oklahoma 4-H'ers will want to help.

Hobbs, a member of the North Rock Creek 4-H Club, began creating Valentine's cards for local nursing homes in Shawnee two years ago. The first year she took cards to nine nursing homes and the project grew to 16 nursing homes the next year. In 2024, Hobbs would love to see nursing home residents in all 77 counties get Valentine cards, and she's offering free card kits to help make this project as big as possible.

Hobbs delivered 500 cards in 2022 and doubled that amount in 2023. With the help of 4-H'ers across the state, she is hoping for 2,000 or more cards to be delivered to Oklahoma nursing home residents for Valentine's Day in 2024.

"I think this is important because nursing home residents deserve to be loved and it's a great way for 4-H'ers to be involved in their communities," Hobbs said.

This project started after a conversation with her aunt who is the director of rehabilitation in a nursing home. Hobbs said her aunt told her about how the nursing home residents feel lonely a lot of the time.

"They get lots of visitors at Christmas, but the rest of the winter can be sad for them. This is one way we can help brighten their days," she said.

Hobbs is making Valentine card kits, free of charge, for any 4-H'er or 4-H club who wants them. The kit includes lacing hearts, needles, yarn, construction paper and a link to an instructional video. Use [this link](#) to place orders and this [link contains additional information](#) about Hobbs' project and what steps club members need to take in their counties.

"This project just really warms my heart. When I delivered the cards, some of the residents told me stories about when they were involved in 4-H," Hobbs said. "I hope other 4-H'ers who participate learn that helping people is important."

Hobbs said she is thankful to her family and friends who donated the supplies needed to make the card kits so she can offer them free of charge to 4-H'ers who want to participate.

Kacie Jasper, [Oklahoma State University Extension](#) 4-H educator in [Pottawatomie County](#), said she will bring the kits to OSU Extension's Biennial Conference in Stillwater that takes place Jan. 10-12 for educators to pick up. Orders must be placed by Jan. 5 to be picked up in Stillwater.

"It's exciting as an educator when a member is able to identify needs in the community and comes up with a plan to meet those needs and connect it to their 4-H project," Jasper said. "Grace is involved in the fabrics and fashions project and she has been able to connect the dots between basic sewing skills she has learned, teaching others and meeting a need in the community by bringing joy to nursing home residents."

Providing hands-on learning opportunities has been the backbone of the [4-H Youth Development](#) program since it started. These learning opportunities help youth develop skills they'll use throughout their lives. Jasper said when club members interact with the nursing home residents who often may not get the same kind of daily interaction and socialization they once had, it's beneficial to the residents, but also the club members.

"The daily lives of youth are typically busy, and having youth take time to slow down and build connections with another generation reminds us of how important it is to show others they are valued and not forgotten," she said. "We can learn from each other."

Hobbs is utilizing the skills she learned through her fabrics and fashions project, and she's now teaching those skills others. She's developing her written and verbal communication skills, as well as learning graphic design and planning skills as she develops her marketing material. In addition, she's also building her public speaking and technology skills with the development of her video tutorials.

For more information about taking part in Hobbs' Valentine project, contact Jasper at 405-273-7683 or Kacie.jasper@okstate.edu. Remember, the deadline to order card kits to be picked up at OSU Extension's Biennial Conference is Jan. 5.

###

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, age, 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>.