



JULY STAKEHOLDERS REPORT



July 2024

Prepared by

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4-H & Communications

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What do we do?

Serving the people of Payne County with resources and services based in university research.

Cooperative Extension provides research-based resources (many free) you can use to improve your home, workplace and community. This office's programs and services are specifically designed to solve the problems Payne County residents face. It's a service of Oklahoma State University and functions as part of a nationwide network of university extension offices dedicated to providing trustworthy public education and service.

Services we offer:

- 4-H Youth Development
- Agriculture
- Family and Consumer Science
- Horticulture
- Rural Development

4-H Youth Development



Payne County 4-H Shines at the 103rd State 4-H Roundup!

Summer Leister, Interim CED and Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development

Our amazing 4-H members just wrapped up a fantastic week at the State 4-H Roundup, a leadership conference for members who have completed the 7th grade. Twenty Payne County 4-H members participated in educational workshops, competitive events, listened to motivational speakers, made new friends and much more!

Payne County 4-H had an exceptionally successful week, bringing home numerous plaques, ribbons and scholarship money. Here are the highlights from Honors Night:



Emma Armstrong

- State 4-H Ambassador
- Blue Award Group in the Oklahoma 4-H Hall of Fame
- Advanced Achievement State 4-H Record Book Winner
- Top 3 in Ira Holler Advanced Leadership State 4-H Record Book
- Oklahoma 4-H Key Club Scholarship
- NoBro Farms LLC Endowment Scholarship winner



Kate Wardlaw

- State 4-H Ambassador
- Key Club Inductee
- Top 10 Blue Award Group in the Oklahoma 4-H Hall of Fame
- National 4-H Congress winner
- First place Illustrated Presentation
- 2024 - 2025 Northeast District State Council Representative on the State 4-H Council



Conner Quintero

- Key Club Inductee
- State 4-H Ambassador
- Top 3 Advanced Citizenship State 4-H Record Book
- Top 10 Blue Award Group in the Oklahoma 4-H Hall of Fame
- Oklahoma State 4-H Hall of Fame Winner



Katrell Carpenter

- Key Club Inductee
- Blue Award Group in the Oklahoma 4-H Hall of Fame



Brayden Arnall

- Top 3 in Wildlife and Fisheries State Record Book
- First place Digital Presentation



Ryne Crosthwait

- Key Club Inductee
- BancFirst Scholarship Winner

Abby Logan

- BA Pratt Memorial Scholarship
- 4-H Centennial Scholarship

Not pictured:

Ava Litviak

- Key Club Inductee

Annelise Ochsner

- First place photography

Jack Litviak

- Northeast District Recreation Leader and led our Northeast District to win the District Spirit Contest Chant

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in the state service project, Change for Change and pop tabs! Payne County won the Change for Change challenge in the Northeast District, contributing to Oklahoma 4-H raising over \$14,000 for the Children’s Health Foundation!



Family and Consumer Science

OSU Alumni Association Grandparent University

Dea Rash, Extension Educator, FCS/4-H

This is the seventh year that OSU Extension Educators have partnered with the OSU Alumni Association's Grandparent University (GPU) program to offer a Cooperative Extension Major tract for OSU grandparents and legacy grandchildren.



In the FCS program area, grandparents & grandchildren learned the basics of home food preservation by participating in a hands-on strawberry jam making workshop. The STEM jam workshop used electric jam makers & hot water bath canners. These canning methods & equipment sparked new interest in the grandchildren & helped the adults renew their interest in home food preservation using STEM technology. Each family took home four jars of jam. The hands-on canning workshop gave families the opportunity to learn to preserve food, an age-old tradition, using new STEM technology & innovative equipment. The canning workshop was evaluated with the FCS home food preservation survey.

Also, in the FCS program area, grandparents & grandchildren strengthened their grandparent/grandchild relationships as they worked together to paint an OSU barn quilt. They chose the colors to use & the color they wanted to paint each square to make their own unique design. As they painted together, everyone learned the history of barn quilts & how they can be used in their homes. They were proud of & had a sense of accomplishment with their finished barn quilts.

In the Agriculture/4-H program area, kids & adults alike were intrigued & entertained as they made ice cream using liquid nitrogen. Participants learned about the programs & benefits of 4-H & they were encouraged to check it out at the Extension Office in their home county & join 4-H when they are old enough.

The OSU Alumni Association Grandparent University Extension Major program is always a popular choice for grandparents & grandchildren so we always have many families enroll; but this year, we had the most participation in the Extension major that we have ever had which was (26) participants (12 grandchildren & 14 grandparents) representing ten families which is an increase of over 40% from last year's enrollment.

Providing this educational program for grandparents & grandchildren through the Grandparent University avenue not only provides several hands-on educational programs that Extension Educators do so well but it also showcases OSU Extension & provides exposure to 4-H Youth Development & the diverse program areas within Extension. All GPU participants gained more knowledge about Extension & made several projects & everyone had a great time!

We were excited to receive the following feedback from a family who attended our GPU program this year:

“Ms. Rash, I just wanted to thank you and the other instructors for putting on this year's “Be an OSU Extension Agent” OSU GPU session. The experiential learning activities made the session both interesting and fun. Of the (3) majors we've attended with our granddaughter thus far, this is her current favorite. She is already talking about making more jam using fresh strawberries from their garden and my wife has already started exploring different layouts to paint another barn quilt. Again, thanks to all of you for making learning fun and for promoting a culture of lifelong learning!” Rick, Diane & Claire West



Payne County OHCE Member Successes & Participation at OHCE State Meeting

Dea Rash, Extension Educator, FCS/4-H

Ten Payne County OHCE members attended the recent Oklahoma Home & Community Education State Meeting held July 7-9, 2024, in Oklahoma City. The meeting theme was “Soaring to New Heights with OHCE.”

Members attending were Dee Porter & Pat McNally from Cherokee OHCE; Misty Burk from Elm Grove OHCE; Jana Comer, Elaina Lyle, Sharon Klingaman, MJ Seals, Rita Breuninger, Cheryl Langstraat & Suzette Barta from Lunch Bunch OHCE.

Dee Porter is serving as the Leadership Development Chairman on the OHCE State Board. Pat McNally was recognized as the Northeast District Outstanding OHCE Member. Cherokee OHCE members Betty Rutledge & Judith Ford & Floral Valley OHCE member Ann Barrows were recognized as 50-year OHCE members.

Lunch Bunch OHCE received the third place Cultural Enrichment award with their group’s project, Story Walk Trail; and Cherokee OHCE received the third place Family Issues award with their group’s project, Caring for Those with Special Needs & the Elderly.

Payne County OHCE deceased members remembered at the Vespers Service were Cherokee members Rayora Moore & Margie Schwab; Cimarron Valley member Mariuse Green; & Floral Valley member Jim Choplin.

Three Payne County OHCE members taught educational workshops for attendees. Dee Porter taught “Soaring to Be the Best” teaching members how to prepare award-winning reports. Suzette Barta taught “Three Women in Home Economics” showcasing three fascinating women who pioneered the field of Home Economics and “Master Sewing Volunteers Rock the State” where she shared information about this exciting new program. Pat McNally taught “So, What’s Your OHCE Elevator Speech? Need One?” which helped members prepare a quick and informative response (elevator speech) about OHCE to share with others when asked about the organization. Dea Rash co-taught with Lesa Rauh & Trinity Brown two sessions of “The Crepe Escape” workshop.

Payne County OHCE donated two gift baskets for the silent auction to support the work of CE-FCS Ambassadors.

At the state OHCE meeting, members had the opportunity to attend a variety of fun, educational workshops, enjoy fellowship & entertainment at the Friendship Banquet, renew acquaintances and make new friends. A great time was had by all!

Horticulture & Agriculture

Homegrown News Receives State Communications Award

Laura Payne, Extension Educator, Horticulture

In an effort to get timely horticulture information out to the people of Payne County and beyond, Laura writes a weekly article, fifty-two weeks a year. She submits her article via email to three local newspapers in Payne County, one in Noble County and the article is posted on the Payne County Extension and Payne County Master Gardener Facebook page.



She started emailing the article to the Northeast District Agriculture Educators each week to extend her audience but also assist educators in other counties that may not have a horticulture educator or have knowledge in horticulture. One of the newspapers that she submits her article to, the Stillwater Newspress, has a contest called the Best of Stillwater and her Home Grown column was voted as a finalist with over 48,000 votes cast. Laura provides the readers with a wide range of information and gets inspiration for many of her articles through phone calls she receives from the public asking horticulture related questions.

News Press
Weekend, August 12, 2023

Agriculture

Updates on tree issues

I'm starting to receive a lot of calls again pertaining to tree issues. Clients are seeing lowering of the leaves and early leaf drop. Even though we can't always say for certain what I might be causing a problem with a specific tree, here's a general summary of what we are seeing and what, if anything, you need to do about it.

Our early season weather seems to be a big contributor to the symptoms we are seeing now. We started off the season with a lot of rainfall after a drought. The damp conditions along with the competition created a very humid environment. This was the perfect formula for leaf spot fungal diseases to move in on a variety of plants, not just trees.

We also experienced too much rainfall that I saw trees just sitting in water. Poor drainage and saturated soils depleted the plants roots of oxygen causing root rot.

Then we went from a lot of rainfall to no rain and really high temperatures. This combo created a type of flash drought

The leaves on my tomato plants started turning yellow and then brown. The soil around my tomatoes seemed moist one day and the next it was so dry since every year and this year will probably be no exception.

I'm not too worried about my tomatoes because it's time to cut them back by about one-third and get ready for a fall crop. Just I was a bit concerned about my Oak trees. However, I have now had three inches of rain to help my trees recover and although they will still look bad, I'm not going to worry about it. The reason I'm not worried about my trees is that the leaves were green long enough for the tree

to photosynthesize to make and store food, and fall is just around the corner.

Dutch Elm Disease continues to kill trees at a faster rate every year and this year will probably be no exception.

If you're just because an elm is turning brown don't automatically mean DED is the cause. The first sign of DED mentioned above plus the presence of leaf-eating insects can also cause the decline. If your tree leaves are gradually declining all over the plant, it is nothing to be concerned about.

If greater concern would be when one or two branches turn completely brown in a short period of time, with the adjacent branches taking on a withered appearance. DED kills trees by clogging the vascular system and chipping off large parts of the plant. If you are unsure of possible DED, always look carefully at the condition of the branches before jumping to conclusions.

I have submitted several Elm samples to the lab and not one of the samples came back positive for DED. Elm are weakened trees and are easily damaged with beehives or beehive hives.

High winds and ice storm damage on trees are a huge contributor to tree disease. When a tree limb breaks off beyond the branch collar, the tree can't close off the wound and heal as fast.

The open wound is perfect for diseases and insects to enter and start destroying the tree. It is always recommended to hire a certified arborist to remove and remove the tree damage and make a proper cut in the damaged branch so the tree can heal properly.

For more information on this or any other horticultural topic, you can contact Laura Payne, the Horticulture Educator in the Payne County Extension office. Laura can be reached via email at laura.payne@florhifes.edu, phone at 405.747.8222, or in person at the Payne County Extension office, located at 212 W. 6th in Stillwater.

Contact Us

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