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Greetings from the Extension Office!

The summer is off to a great start with all things growing in the garden and in 4-H! Master Gardeners have been busy sprucing up the Demonstration Garden and gathering plants for their annual plant sale fundraiser - see details on p. 6. 4-H families have traveled east and west in the northern part of the state for their competitions in Raton and Grants - see pages 2-3 for highlights. Six Senior age 4-H members are gearing up to travel south for the 103rd annual State Conference in Las Cruces this month. We are so excited to have two teams competing this year in the State 4-H Wildlife Contest. But most importantly, we are excited for new experiences with peers from around the state.

As we look ahead to our county fair(s) this year, 4-H members are busy working through projects and their polishing exhibits. Traditionally, we strong representation in the poultry and rabbit shows as well as the Homemade Delights contest at the Rio Arriba County Fair in Abiquiu and this looks just as promising. Los Alamos County Fair will showcase Open and 4-H division indoor exhibits in the second weekend of August. Be sure to review the fair rules and schedules ahead of time to prepare a timeline for entries. Information for both fairs can be found on our website at:

<https://losalamoextension.nmsu.edu/>.

Please reach out with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,
Angela



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<https://careers.nmsu.edu/jobs/administrative-assistant-associate-nmsu-satellite-location-new-mexico-united-states>





4-H Highlights

July 2026

New Mexico 4-H District and State Shooting Sports Competition

2nd place Novice Recurve Archery

Emilia Blackburn

4th place Junior Rifle Team

Luke Drake

Calise Parkinson

McKindrey Parkinson

4th Place Senior Pistol Team

Chloe Blackburn

Ben Booton

John Harris

Sylvia Stanek

Congratulations to ALL!



Attention 4-H Exhibitors

Registration form is due

Friday, July 31st

Forms & links can be found on our website

<https://losalamosextnsion.nmsu.edu/county-fair.html>

4-H indoor exhibits are due

Wednesday, August 5th

Mesa Public Library (2:00 - 6:00pm)





4-H Highlights

July 2026

It was a great time at the 2026 Northern District 4-H Contests in Grants, NM.

Congratulations to our Novice and Junior members!!

1st place Novice Poetry - Wakely Parkinson

1st place Junior Poetry - McKindrey Parkinson

1st place Junior Entomology - Calise Parkinson

2nd place Novice Public Speaking (Impromptu) - Gwen Booton

3rd place Junior Horticulture - McKindrey Parkinson

4th place Novice FCS Skill-a-thon - Gwen Booton



Good luck to our
Senior members
preparing for state
contests in July!



New Mexico Youth Ranch Management Camp

Congratulations to Nick and Sam who were part of the winning team with the best ranch plan.

They will be honored at the New Mexico Cattle Growers Association annual banquet later this year and will receive a college scholarship.

New Mexico State University is an equal opportunity employer and educator. NMSU and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating.



The Junior Master Gardener program is a nation wide effort focused on the benefit of home gardening to promote healthy eating in young people. Los Alamos Extension hosted 15 youth this summer (ages 8-12 yrs.) in a 5-week comprehensive gardening program. Participants planted tomatoes, peppers, strawberries, herbs, and three sisters crops - corn, beans, and squash - in raised garden beds at the Demonstration Garden. Hands on activities focused on soil characteristics, water conservation, wildlife and insects, food from the garden, and concluded with a garden tour at a local Master Gardener's home. Participants learned the techniques to help them get started with a home garden or to add variety to their existing gardens and they particularly enjoyed tasting new fruits and vegetables during the sessions.



New Mexico Youth Public Speaking and Ag Science Contest



New Mexico State Fair
CONTEST DATE: September 12th
Register by: August 28th



Southern New Mexico State Fair
CONTEST DATE: October 2nd
Register by: September 21st



Eastern New Mexico State Fair
CONTEST DATE: October 9th
Register by: September 21st



Contest Rules & Registration:
<https://extension.nmsu.edu/internships/competitions.html>





Rio Arriba County Fair

July 2026

2026 Rio Arriba County Fair July 27th - August 2nd



**Fair Entry Registration Opens July 1st
and Closes July 19th at 5:00 p.m.**

Registration link will be shared via e-mail.

Fair Rules can be found on our website at
<https://losalamosextension.nmsu.edu/2026-Rio-Arriba-County-Fair-Rules.pdf>

2026 Rio Arriba County Fair Schedule

Sunday, July 26, 2026		
9:00 a.m.	Mandatory Exhibitor Meeting: Orientation and Pen/RV assignment	Livestock Barn
Monday, July 27, 2026		
7:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Homemade Delight Intake	Multi-Purpose Building
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Judging in Progress – <i>Exhibit Hall Closed</i>	Multi-Purpose Building
Tuesday, July 28, 2026		
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Judging in Progress – <i>Exhibit Hall Closed</i>	Multi-Purpose Building
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Junior Livestock Check-In	Scales / Unloading Area
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Exhibitor Registration	Livestock Barn
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Horse Show	Rodeo Arena
4:00 p.m.	Poultry Classification	Livestock Barn
4:30 p.m.	Swine Classification	Livestock Barn
5:00 p.m.	Lamb Classification	Livestock Barn
NOTICE: Poultry, Swine, and Lamb areas must be cleared of all individuals during the classification.		
6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	Evening Livestock Feeding Time	Livestock Barn
Wednesday, July 29, 2026		
6:00 a.m.	Livestock Barn Open	Livestock Barn
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Indoor Exhibit Hall Open	Multi-Purpose Building
9:00 a.m.	Swine Showmanship	Barn Show Arena
10:00 a.m.	Morning Livestock Feed Time Ends	Barn must be cleared of feed
12:00 p.m.	Poultry Showmanship/Show	Barn Show Arena
3:00 p.m.	Goat Showmanship	Barn Show Arena
6:00 p.m.	<i>Salty Roping Productions:</i> Goat Roping	Rodeo Arena
6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	Evening Livestock Feeding Time	Livestock Barn



Rio Arriba County Fair Schedule

July 2026

Thursday, July 30, 2026		
6:00 a.m.	Livestock Barn Open	Livestock Barn
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Indoor Exhibit Hall Open	Multi-Purpose Building
8:00 a.m.	Swine Show	Barn Show Arena
10:00 a.m.	Morning Livestock Feed Time Ends	Barn must be cleared of feed
11:00 a.m.	Beef Showmanship	Barn Show Arena
1:00 p.m.	Pet Parade	Livestock Barn
2:00 p.m.	Goat Show	Barn Show Arena
3:00 p.m.	Goat County Bred Show	Barn Show Arena
4:00 p.m.	Lamb Showmanship	Barn Show Arena
6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	<i>Trujillo Family Hosting: Family Goat Roping Night!</i>	Rodeo Arena
6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	Evening Livestock Feed Time	Livestock Barn
Friday, July 31, 2026		
6:00 a.m.	Livestock Barn Open	Livestock Barn
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Indoor Exhibit Hall Open	Multi-Purpose Building
8:00 a.m.	Heifer Show	Barn Show Arena
9:30 a.m.	Steer Show	Barn Show Arena
10:00 a.m.	County Bred Steer & Heifer Show	Barn Show Arena
10:00 a.m.	Morning Livestock Feed Time Ends	Barn must be cleared of feed
1:00 p.m.	Lamb Show	Barn Show Arena
2:30 p.m.	Lamb County Bred Show	Barn Show Arena
3:30 p.m.	Rabbit Showmanship/Show	Barn Show Arena
Notice: Livestock Auction Pull forms due to the announcers stand 1 hour after the last livestock show		
6:00 p.m.	<i>Cebolla Mustangs Present: Rope 'Em Up Dummy Roping</i>	Rodeo Arena
6:00 p.m.	<i>Salty Roping Productions: Goat Roping</i>	Rodeo Arena
6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	Evening Livestock Feeding Time	Livestock Barn
8:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.	Boots Under the Stars: Family Dance	Vendor Tent Area
Saturday, August 1, 2026		
6:00 a.m.	Livestock Barn Open	Livestock Barn
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Indoor Exhibit Hall Open	Multi-Purpose Building
8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Pancake Breakfast: <i>Hosted by Mesa Vista FFA</i>	Multi-Purpose Building
9:00 a.m.	Tony Maez Memorial Round Robin Showmanship	Barn Show Arena
10:00 a.m.	Morning Livestock Feed Time Ends	Barn must be cleared of feed
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Awards Ceremony	Livestock Barn
2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Buyers Appreciation Dinner & Registration	
5:00 p.m.	Jr. Livestock & Homemade Delights Auction	Barn Show Arena
8:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.	Let's Dance! Family Edition	Vendor Tent Area
6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	Evening Livestock Feed Time Begins	Livestock Barn
Sunday, August 2, 2026		
6:00 a.m.	Livestock Barn Open	Livestock Barn
7:30 a.m.	Livestock Release and Mandatory Barn Clean-Up/Check-Out	Livestock Barn



4-H Important Dates

July 2026



4-H IMPORTANT DATES

July 3	CES Office closed - Happy 4 th of July!
July 14 - 17	State 4-H Conference - Las Cruces, NM (New Date)
July 19	Rio Arriba County Fair Entry deadline
July 26	Mandatory Exhibitor Meeting - Rio Arriba County Fairgrounds
July 27 - Aug 2	Rio Arriba County Fair
July 31	Deadline to register for Los Alamos County Fair Indoor Exhibits
Aug 5	LA County Fair exhibit drop off at Mesa Public Library (2:00 - 6:00 pm)
Aug 7 - 9	Los Alamos County Fair
Aug 28	Deadline to register for NMSF Youth Public Speaking Contest
Sept 12	NMSF Youth Public Speaking Contest
Sept 10 - 20	New Mexico State Fair
Sept 19	NMSF Food Challenge
Oct 5- 10	Easten NM State Fair - Roswell, NM



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research-based knowledge and programs to
improve their quality of life.**



The 2026 Los Alamos Master Gardeners' Plant Sale

It was one of those springs which didn't seem conducive to having a plant sale, but, we were committed. The Master Gardener volunteers are adept at starting, digging, splitting, and potting and contributed a variety of plants including garden perennials, native plants, annuals, herbs, vegetables, houseplants, shrubs and even a few trees. Three trays of Rocky Mountain penstemons were donated by a community member. Tomatoes are especially popular and included a variety of wonderful varieties, most of which are not available commercially. There were three dozen, unpotted iris rhizomes and another couple of dozen of the ever-popular, locally-hybridized African violets. Most of the plants were sold successfully.



Not only is the plant sale a good fundraiser for the Master Gardeners, it is also a great community outreach opportunity. Many of our volunteers were on site, excited to share their knowledge and personal pride in raising the plants. We spent time talking to the patrons (and each other), teaching and learning about what was on offer and broad gardening topics. Because of the sales location in the Demonstration Garden, we had the opportunity to further introduce the public to the vast variety of landscaping plants appropriate for our environment. As always, we take note of what was offered, consumer requests, and lessons learned.

Barb Mann, our event lead, mused "Even though this was, for me, exhausting, it was a lot of fun, and I hope we can do it again; if not next year, then the next!" We are ever grateful for the generosity of both our Master Gardener volunteers and the gardening public for supporting our work. The monies raised go back into the maintenance and growth of the Demonstration Garden!





YMCA YES Corps Day

Each year the county Extension Service partners with the YMCA to host middle school aged youth for a day of service in the demonstration garden. This year three Veteran Master Gardeners led teams of youngsters through projects that included transplanting Yarrow plants, removing old weed barrier cloth, and mulching the rose area and the vegetable gardens along with lots and lots of weeding! The youth were engaged and productive.



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Extension Master Gardener



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NMSU and the U.S. Department of
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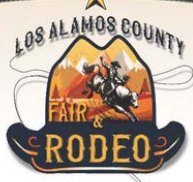


Los Alamos County Fair

July 2026

LOS ALAMOS COUNTY FAIR

AND RODEO



Grand Marshall: TBD



TBD moved to New Mexico in 1989, from Southern California to work in the field of manufacturing of medical devices, such as R&D on Teflon arteries, heart valves, and many other medical products. Cindy became interested in Farmers Markets because her residence, located in El Rito, NM has many fruit trees and she needed a place to sell the produce. During this time she began to make Pine Needle Baskets as well, eventually selling them at the Market and through the Fuller Lodge Art Center for a number of years. In 2005 the previous market manager decided she was going to move back east and was looking for a replacement, and that's when Cindy decided that it was time for a new adventure and became the new market manager.

Cindy has met a lot of interesting people, some life-long friends, especially her volunteers, over the years. The customers at the market have all been great and have come to know many of them over the past 20 years. It's always nice to see their families come to The Farmers Market and watch the kids grow up and become future market shoppers. The best part of Cindy's career is the relationships she has built over the years with the market vendors. Most are like family to her; therefore, watching them become thriving businesses is very gratifying. About 4 years ago, Cindy moved to Los Alamos part-time, which is a good contrast from her home in El Rito, and is the best of both worlds. Along with running the Los Alamos Farmers Market for the past 20 years last years, Cindy helped with the launch of the White Rock Farmers Market. And in her spare time, she manages the Roxanne Svenczell Gallery and has been a board member of the New Mexico Farmers Marketing Association for the past 18 years.

Northern New Mexico Royalty Court



Queen:
Jewel Jaramillo



Princess:
Annaka Preston



Sweetheart:
Jennifer Miera



Jr. Sweetheart:
Gais Jakulewicz

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, August 7

County Fair Exhibits
3:00 - 8:00pm, Mesa Public Library

Friday Night Summer Concert Series:
Hooks and Huckleberries
6:30 - 9:30pm, Ashley Pond Park

Saturday, August 8

Festival & Fairs
9:00am - 3:00pm, Ashley Pond Park

Pie Baking Contest
Entry submissions: 11:30am - 12:00pm
Judging: 12:00pm - 1:00pm
Ashley Pond Park

County Fair Parade
All ages are encouraged to register for a parade entry - which can be float, auto, walking, horse or livestock! Everyone is invited to come out, pick a spot and watch the festivities! Parade entry registration is free, but first-come.
10:00am, Central Ave.

County Fair Exhibits
10:00am - 3:00pm, Mesa Public Library

County Rodeo
Including watermelon eating contest
6:00 - 10:00pm, Brewer Arena

Cowboy Dinner & Dance
5:00 - 7:00pm - Dinner
7:00 - 9:00pm - Dance
\$25 - Prime Rib Dinner or \$10 - Hot Dog Dinner
Los Alamos Sheriff's posse Lodge

Rodeo admission prices:
2yrs & under: FREE
Youth (3 - 17) & Seniors (60+): \$5
Adults (18 - 59): \$10
Family of 4: \$25

Credit/Debit and Cash accepted

Sunday, August 9

Stroll the Stables
Enjoy a walk around the stables with your family as part of the Los Alamos County Fair and Rodeo! Learn about livestock care and safety, and participate in a virtual stock show. Afterwards, stay for day two of the Rodeo!
9:00am - 12:00pm, North Mesa Stables

Rodeo: Tough Enough to Wear Pink
Including watermelon eating contest
1:00 - 6:00pm, Brewer Arena

RODEO REGISTRATION:
Registration is Monday, August 3 & Tuesday, August 4, evenings. Registration will start at 5:30pm and run until full or close at 9:30pm, whichever comes first.
To Registration call or text (799) 580-3022.

Mutton Busting registration will be open August 4 until filled or up to 1 hour before the start of the Rodeo each day (15 kids per day). Registration takes place on-site at the announcers booth.

ORDER OF EVENTS

- Blank/Ranch Blank - \$80
- Breakaway Roping Girls & Boys - \$40
(14 yrs & Under for Boys in Breakaway)
- Muttin Buster! (6 yrs & Under) - \$20
- ** Boot Race ** (6 yrs & Under and 7 - 12 yrs Old)
- Barrel Race 8 yrs & Under - \$10
- Barrel Race 15 yrs & Under - \$30
- Open Barrel Race - \$50
- Rescue Race (Per Team) - \$30
- Novice Bull Riding - \$75
- ** Calf Scramble ** (12 yrs & Under)
- Draw-Pot Team Roping (Per Man) - \$75
- Daily Ribbon Roping (Per Team) - \$40
(One contestant must be female, or 14 years old, or younger)
- ** Sheep Chase ** (8 yrs & under)
- Open Bull Riding - \$80
- Open Team Roping (per Team) - \$100

Cash accepted
\$10 Office fee per person per day
\$10 fee for late entries

LOS ALAMOS
where discoveries are made



2026 Los Alamos County Fair Exhibits Schedule

PRE- REGISTRATION (Online or at the Extension Office)

July 20th - July 31st (entries will close July 31st)

Entry form and class list can be found at
<https://losalamosextenstion.nmsu.edu/county-fair.html>

ALL EXHIBITS MUST BE PRE-REGISTERED

EXHIBIT DROP-OFF (ALL exhibits EXCEPT Horticulture)

Wednesday, August 5th (2:00 - 6:00 pm) at Mesa Public Library (3rd floor)

Exhibits will not be taken at the Extension Office

HORTICULTURE DROP-OFF

Friday, August 7 (8:00 am - 11:00 am) at Mesa Public Library (3rd floor)

EXHIBIT RELEASE

Saturday, August 8 (4:00 - 5:00 pm)

Exhibits will not be released before 4:00 pm



New World Screwworm (NWS)

New World screwworm is a parasitic fly whose larvae feed on living tissue of warm-blooded mammals. Infestations cause severe wounds in animals and humans. Untreated cases can kill an animal in 7-10 days. Although human cases are rare, deaths have been reported. With the recent uptick in

cases in Southwest and Central Texas, and the single case in Southeast New Mexico, animal owners must remain diligent about monitoring our livestock and pets for wounds. The New Mexico Department of Agriculture is identifying specimens received from around the state on a daily basis and reports as of June 30th, there are no new cases confirmed in New Mexico. The Lea County canine diagnosed with on June 7 has fully recovered and the case has transitioned from active to inactive. However, Lea county, NM remains an infested zone until further notice. Transport of animals into and out of Lea county requires a specific protocol. Updated information on the NWS situation can be found at <https://screwwormnm.org/>.

NMSU Ag Experiment Station Field Days

The public is invited to learn from New Mexico State University researchers about local cropping systems and sustainable agriculture in New Mexico. Field days are held from 8 a.m. to noon and feature wagon tours of the center's research plots, along with a walking tour, during which researchers will discuss crop production techniques. Events are free and lunch is provided. Registration is required.

2026 Field Days

July 15th

Corona Range and Livestock Center

August 6th

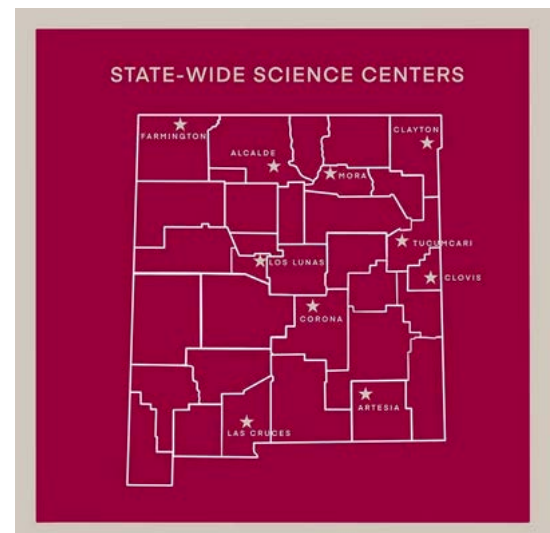
Clovis Agricultural Science Center

August 13th

Los Lunas Agricultural Science Center

August 2027

Alcade Science Center





Contact Us

July 2026

Los Alamos County 4-H Clubs

Boots & Bridles 4-H Club

Meets 3rd Wednesday of the odd months
at 6 pm at White Rock Activity Center
Contact Jessica Booton at bootonj@gmail.com
Open to youth ages 5-18 yrs.

High Country Team 4-H Club

Meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at 5:30 pm
at the White Rock Activity Center
Contact Jenna Stanek at jenna.e.stanek@gmail.com
Open to youth ages 5-18 yrs.

Young Guns 4-H Club (Shooting Sports only)

Contact Forrest Blackburn at lillbighorn@gmail.com
Open to youth ages 9-18 yrs.

Los Alamos Extension Master Gardeners

<https://www.lamgonline.org/>



Los Alamos Cooperative Extension

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