Los Alamos County 4-H Clover Connection

March 2025



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CONGRATULATIONS to our State Record Book winners! Alex Booton and Derek Rodriguez scored in the top eight across the state and have earned a trip to the National 4-H Congress event in Atlanta, Georgia in November 2025.



Welcome spring! The weather sure has warmed up early this year. The month of March promises to brings many new 4-H adventures including FCS School and a re-scheduled Senior Leadership Retreat. We also added certification for shooting sports instructors in 2 disciplines at the February training in Roswell. Thank you to Forrest Blackburn for taking on the role of pistol instructor along with rifle, and to John Stanek for his certification as an archery instructor. Your willingness to support our county shooting sports program is very much appreciated! We will be hosting the rifle county contest at the end of March and the date for a pistol county contest will be added soon. The county council team hosted a very successful Valentine's themed Bingo night to raise money to pay for our awards program and we thank them for their efforts. Thank you to everyone who donated gift cards and supplies to help make the event a success!

As you may know, we bid farewell to Desaree Jimenez at the end of February as she retires on March 1st. We thank Desaree for her unwavering support over the past 7 years, she has been pivotal in growing our 4-H program from its initial 5 members in 2017 to more than 50 today. We are truly grateful for the countless hours spent chaperoning events, leading county council meetings, teaching project workshops, coordinating FCS contests, and all of the time spent bonding with 4-H families. We know nothing lasts forever, and we wish Desaree the very best in this next phase of her life. She has promised to come and volunteer, and we are looking forward to having her visit us! Below is a note from Desaree...

Dear 4-H Members, Families and Volunteers,

I am writing everyone today as this is the last newsletter that I will be a part of. As of March 1st I will be re-retiring. The last seven years here in Los Alamos County have been some of the best years of my 37-year career in CES. I have thoroughly enjoyed my work with our 4-Hers, the partnerships and the friendships that I have made along the way. Retirement is definitely bittersweet to say the least. Although I will hopefully cross paths with everyone from time to time, it is hard to say goodbye. It has been my absolute pleasure to have known all of you!!! I am lucky beyond belief! Los Alamos 4-Hers and families - you are awesome!!!! Thank you so much for the wonderful memories. I'm glad to have been blessed with being one of your 4-H agents. 4-H will be forever in my heart and I retire with the satisfaction of hopefully having a positive impact. Love and hugs to you all. Desaree

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COUNTY News

March 1st

Enrollment closes & last day to add or change projects in Zsuites.

COUNTY CONTEST SCHEDULE GENERAL CONTESTS

Friday, April 25th (4:00 – 7:00 pm) Horticulture FCS and Livestock Skill-a-thon Wildlife Entomology Saturday, April 26th (9:00 am – 4:00 pm) Favorite Foods Public Speaking Fashion Review Consumer Decision Making

SHOOTING SPORTS CONTESTS

RIFLE – Saturday, March 29th

ARCHERY – Saturday, April 5th

PISTOL – Date/time TBD

\$5.00/person (per discipline) REGISTER BY MARCH 15TH Checks payable to NMSU LA 4-H County Council

SHOTGUN – To be held at a practice day TBD

Open to **NOVICE, JUNIOR**, and **SENOR** members enrolled in the project and attending practices.

JUNE 24-25, 2025 TAOS, NM

Save the Date!

LOS ALAMOS COUNTY 4-H CLUBS

Boots & Bridles Club

Meets 3rd Sunday of the month at 12 p.m. St. Joe's in White Rock Contact Denise Hansel: <u>denise0188@gmail.com</u>

High Country Team 4-H

Meets the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. at the White Rock Activity Center Contact Jenna Stanek: jenna.e.stanek@gmail.com

Team LA Young Guns (Shooting Sports) Contact Mike O'Neill: shotgunoneill@gmail.com or Forest Blackburn: lillbighorn@gmail.com

SHOOTING SPORTS PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Rifle1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.Archery2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.Pistol1st & 3rd Sunday of the month at 1:00 p.m.NO PRACTICE MARCH 18THShotgunEvery Sunday at 1:00 p.m.

Participants must be enrolled in the project and have a liability form on file.

March 15th

Rio Arriba County 4-H Leader/Volunteer Bootcamp 9:00am – 4:00 pm Rio Arriba County Extension Office \$15 per person

- County Fair rules
- Animal Health with Dr. Gutierrez
- Livestock Inspector update

Call the Rio Arriba County Extension office to register by *March 7*th.

CLUB News

"A Wonderful February for the High Country Team" by McKindrey Parkinson, High Country Team Reporter

The High Country Team had a wonderful February. During this month's business meeting, club members who participated in the visit to the Round House had the opportunity to share their experiences. They especially enjoyed a guided tour of the building, and how cool it was to be at the capital of New Mexico! Next, the club members voted on T-shirt designs and Calise Parkinson's design won. The design for this year sports a zia sun symbol, a vucca, and majestic mountains. Finally, Sylvia Stanek shared an interesting demonstration on "The Difference Between Silky Chicken Feathers and Normal Chicken Feathers." She even brought in her silky chicken, Quaker, and a chicken with normal feathers, Sprite. The club members had a great time meeting the chickens and petting them. The club meeting was definitely im-peckable! At our last meeting of the month, we'll be learning about our furry friends, rabbits. Everybunny in our club is looking forward to it!





COUNTY COUNCIL

Come out and play BINGO to support Boots & Bridles 4-H club!



COUNTY Highlights



Babysitting WORKSHOP!





County Highlights

4-H Day at the Roundhouse 2025

It was a beautiful day at the Capitol in Santa Fe! Los Alamos 4-H members joined members from around the state for a tour of the Capitol, a meeting with the Lieutenant Governor, a live session of the Senate, and visits from state representatives. Members learned some about the legislative process, some history of the Capitol building and the important role our leaders play in advocating for the youth of the 4-H program in New Mexico! Great job representing Los Alamos County!!

Alex Booton Benjamin Booton Gwen Booton Nick Booton Conner Hollowell Kayleigh Hollowell Liam Hollowell Calise Parkinson McKindry Parkinson Wakely Parkinson Sam Prada









STATE News

New Mexico 4-H Community Service Scholarships

Youth members who are looking for a way to assist with registration costs with state events can apply for the New Mexico 4-H Community Service Scholarship. The scholarship will cover the registration expenses for Senior Leadership Retreat, Youth Get-Away, Livestock School, Horse School, State 4-H Conference, 4-H International Exchange, FCS School, 4-H Dog School or \$250 of the team fees for serving as a State 4-H Officer or Ambassador.

Create an original community service plan or work with an organization to create a new program that will have an impact on the community. The project must be designed and organized by the youth member and implemented within one year of approval. Applications are due two months before the event registration deadline.

Senior Leadership Retreat Community Service WELCOME BAGS

Creating thoughtful bags for individuals and families staying at places like Casa Esperanza, Ronald McDonald House, or hospitals to provide support during a difficult time.

WHAT TO BRING

- Fruit Snacks
- Granola Bars
- Rice Crispy Treats
- Trail Mix
- Instant Tea/ Coffee
- Other shelf safe snacks
- Adult and youth puzzle books
- Coloring books
- Small-Sized Games
- Lip Balm
- Hand Lotion



Youth Get Away April 11-13 Glorieta, NM \$180/person Senior members can apply to serve as Counselor/CIT (FREE REGISTRATION) Application Due February 27 Novice & Junior Registration is due March 10 Submit payment to your club.

With the rising cost of eggs and limited supplies, here are a few helpful resources:

Egg Substitutes in Baking and Cooking – Community Vitality & Health (Great publication from the University of Wyoming providing egg substitutions based on the function of the egg in the recipe)

Using Egg Substitutes in Baking and Cooking -Cooperative Extension: Food & Health -University of Maine Cooperative Extension

In a Pinch Ingredient Substitution | New Mexico State University - BE BOLD. Shape the Future.

STATE News



DATES TO REMEMBER

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March 1, 2025	Enrollment Deadline for new families
March 7-9, 2025	FCS School – Albuquerque, NM
March 10, 2025	Registration Deadline YGA Participant Application
March 15, 2025	2 nd Project order due
March 15, 2025	Registration Deadline Archery & Rifle County Contests
March 21-23, 2025	SLR – Glorieta, NM
March 29, 2025	County Contest - Rifle
April 5, 2025	County Contest - Archery
April 11-13, 2025	Youth Get Away – Glorieta, NM
April 25-26, 2025	General County Contests
May 17, 2025	Small Animal School: Rabbits – Bernalillo County
May 18, 2025	Small Animal School: Poultry – Bernalillo County
June 4-6, 2025	Southern Regional Livestock School – Capitan, NM
June 20-21, 2025	Northern Livestock School – Torrence County
June 24-25, 2025	District Contests – Taos, NM



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