







Los Alamos County Extension Newsletter

May 2026



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Greetings from the Extension Office!


Welcome to this new edition of the Los Alamos County Extension newsletter. We are excited to share all things Extension including 4-H Youth Development, Extension Master Gardeners, Urban Horticulture, and Family & Consumer Science happenings each month. We have been busy helping 4-H members begin their projects and prepare for 4-H contests as we enter into a jam packed 4-H season. The demonstration garden is in spring overhaul and getting ready for the upcoming growing season. We are also getting ready to begin the process of hiring a second agent very soon and look forward to being fully staffed once again. With a new hire, Angela will move to the Family & Consumer Sciences program area and will support the new Horticulture agent.

Sincerely,
Angela & Monique



NOW HIRING
in Los Alamos County!
Agricultural / 4-H Agent

Join NMSU's Cooperative Extension Service as an Agricultural / 4-H Agent and help inspire youth while supporting agriculture and natural resource programs in your community.

-  Lead 4-H programs
-  Work in horticulture & agriculture
-  Engage with local partners

If you're passionate about education, agriculture, and making a difference—apply today!

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



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4-H Youth Getaway 2026



Five Novice and Junior age 4-H members spent the weekend at Glorieta Camp learning leadership and life skills led by a team of teen counselors, agents, and chaperones including two Los Alamos County senior members who served as camp Counselors in Training.

Great job Emilia, Laurel, Alina, Calise, McKindrey, Sylvia, and Chloe!!

THE GAME OF 4-H

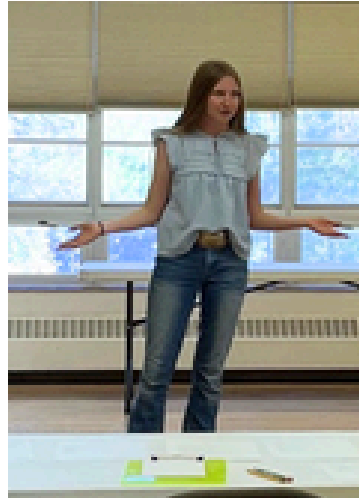


4-H Member Highlights

May 2026



Congratulations!



A huge shoutout to our 4-H members who competed at 4-H County Contests!



	Cloverbud	Novice	Junior	Senior
POETRY		Emilia Blackburn Wakely Parkinson	McKindrey Parkinson Calise Parkinson	
IMPROMPTU		Gwen Booton		Chloe Blackburn Sylvia Stanek
TALENT : Vocal		Gwen Booton		
CDM		Gemma Rodriguez Gwen Booton	Conner Hollowell	Sylvia Stanek Dylan Rodriguez
FAVORITE FOODS	Liam Hollowell	Gwen Booton	Connor Hollowell	
FCS SKILL-A-THON		Gwen Booton Julia Rodriguez (T-2) Emilia Blackburn (T-2) Gemma Rodriguez Kayleigh Hollowell		Chloe Blackburn Sylvia Stanek
ENTOMOLOGY	Liam Hollowell	Calise Parkinson	Connor Hollowell	Chloe Blackburn
HORTICULTURE	Liam Hollowell	Emilia Blackburn Kayleigh Hollowell Julia Rodriguez Gemma Rodriguez Gwen Booton	Conner Hollowell (T-1) McKindrey Parkinson (T-1)	Chloe Blackburn Sylvia Stanek Dylan Rodriguez Derek Rodriguez Nick Booton Sam Prada
LIVESTOCK SKILL-A-THON			Conner Hollowell	
WILDLIFE		Gwen Booton Kayleigh Hollowell	Conner Hollowell	Sylvia Stanek Ben Booton Derek Rodriguez Nick Booton Chloe Blackburn Dylan Rodriguez





New Mexico 4-H Community Service Scholarships

Members can apply for the New Mexico 4-H Community Service Scholarship to help cover registration costs for select state events, including Senior Leadership Retreat, Youth Get-Away, Livestock School, Horse School, State 4-H Conference, 4-H International Exchange, FCS School, and 4-H Dog School, or receive up to \$250 toward State 4-H Officer or Ambassador team fees.

To qualify, members must design and lead an original community service project or collaborate with an organization to create a new program that benefits their community. Projects must be youth-led and completed within one year of approval. Applications are open to all members and must be submitted at least two months prior to the event registration deadline.



SMALL ANIMAL SCHOOL



Saturday May 16 - 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Location: Bernalillo County Extension Office
Address: 1510 Menaul Blvd NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107

\$ Registration fee \$65
School Includes:
Educational Materials
Hands on Learning
Showmanship Practice
Snacks and Lunch
First Aid Kit and Supplies
Toy making supplies

BRING YOUR ANIMAL: RABBITS AND CHICKENS ARE WELCOME

Space is limited!
Registration Deadline:
May 8, 2026
Contact Brittany Johnson
for more information at
505-867-2582

Select your track for the school:
Choose from: rabbit, poultry, or cloverbud

NEW! **New for this year:**
Beginner or intermediate level track selection

Register using the link below or QR code for the 2026 Small Animal School
<https://fs28.formsite.com/kalander/6kytr eo6ul/index>



REGISTER NOW!

Parents are encouraged to stay for the duration of the school








NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. ALL PROGRAMS ARE AVAILABLE TO EVERYONE REGARDLESS OF AGE, COLOR, DISABILITY, GENDER, NATIONAL ORIGIN, RACE, RELIGION, SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR VETERAN STATUS AND THE LACK OF COOPERATING IF YOU ARE AN INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY AND NEED AN AUXILIARY AID OR SERVICE PLEASE CONTACT



Good Luck to our members competing at the State 4-H Shoot this weekend!

Ben Booton
Nick Booton
Chloe Blackburn
Sylvia Stanek
Levi Harris
John Harris

Attention Novice and junior 4-H Shooting Sports members

Written tests for the District competition for Rifle and Archery will be offered at the Extension office on the following dates:
May 20, 21 and 22, 2026 from 1pm - 3pm



2026 New Mexico YHEC Youth Hunter Education Challenge

Open to NM 4-H members! | Scheduled for June 4th - June 7th

Step up to the challenge and grow your skills in a fun, supportive environment! Join fellow New Mexico 4-H member sat the 2026 YHEC to build confidence, practice responsibility, and experience the excitement of shooting sports. Don't wait—register and be part of an unforgettable learning adventure! Check out the links below for more information.



Please visit: <https://nm4h.nmsu.edu/events/shooting.html>
or <https://www.nmyhec.com/>



Congratulations to our 4-H members advancing to District Contests!

- Gwen Booton
- Julia Rodriguez
- Gemma Rodriguez
- Emilia Blackburn
- Kayleigh Hollowell
- Conner Hollowell
- Calise Parkinson
- Wakely Parkinson
- McKindrey Parkinson

2026 Northern District Contest Schedule

Registration deadline - May 29th

Tuesday, June 23rd

Morning Contests (10:00 - 11:30 am)

- Entomology
- Horticulture
- Wildlife
- Consumer Decision Making
- FCS Skill-A-Thon
- Livestock Skill-A-Thon
- Meats
- Hippology
- Presentation
- Public Speaking
- Horse Bowl (11:00 am to Noon)



Afternoon Contests (1:00 - 5:00 pm)

- Horse Judging
- Favorite Foods
- Fashion Revue

Tuesday evening activity

Roller Skating and Pizza (5:00 -6:30 pm)

Wednesday, June 24th

Morning Contests (8:30 - 11:30 am)

- Livestock Judging
- Talent Contest
- FCS Bowl
- All Tuesday morning contests will be open

Awards/Fashion/Talent (12:30 - 2:00 pm)



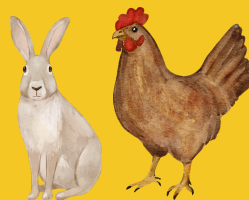
MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
THE FUN STARTS SOON!



SAVE THE DATE!

Poultry/Rabbit Tagging for Rio Arriba County Fair

**Friday, June 26th at 10:00 am
Hollowell residence**





4-H Important Dates

May 2026



IMPORTANT DATES

May 8	Small Animal School registration deadline Register at: https://fs28.formsite.com/kalander/6kytreo6ul/index
May 18	Dairy Goat project meeting - White Rock
June 9	Registration deadline for State Conference - details coming soon!
May 29	District Contest Registration deadline - info coming soon!
June 9	District Shoot - Raton, NM
June 21 - 26	Youth Ranch Management Camp - Cimarron, NM
June 23 - 24	District Contests - Grants, NM
July 14 - 17	State 4-H Conference - Las Cruces, NM (New Date)
July 27 - Aug 2	Rio Arriba County Fair
Aug 7 - 9	Los Alamos County Fair
Sept 10 - 20	New Mexico State Fair
Sept 19	NMSF Food Challenge
Oct 5- 10	Easten NM State Fair - Roswell, NM



NMSU Aggies TIP OF THE MONTH **Finish strong this May!**

Finish the semester strong! Stay organized prepare for finals and ask for help when needed Take care of yourself and get plenty of rest



Master Gardener Plant Sale



Saturday, June 6, 2026

9:00 a.m. to noon

**Los Alamos Demonstration Garden
at the Corner of Oppenheimer and Central Ave.**

Vegetables, herbs, perennials, and indoor plants available.

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of an auxiliary aid or service to participate, please contact Los Alamos Cooperative Service in advance at (505) 646-2656 or losalamos@nmsu.edu.



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**Register by
May 27th**

**FOR KIDS ENTERING
3RD - 8TH GRADE**

JUNIOR master gardener CAMP

**MONDAYS IN JUNE
(June 1st - June 29th)
2025
9:00 - 11:00 AM
Los Alamos
Demonstration Garden
FREE!!**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Los Alamos Cooperative Extension Office
(505)662-2656
losalamos@nmsu.edu

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of an auxiliary aid or service to participate, please contact Los Alamos Cooperative Extension Service in advance.

NM STATE UNIVERSITY

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



Congratulations to our newest Master Gardener Interns completing the 2026 training course. Join us for a Graduation reception Thursday, June 4th at 6:00pm at WR library.



Kirsten Ford
Cathy Wise
Sammi Owens
Dylan Lyon
Amanda Coe
Monique Archbold



**GARDENING
101**

**DISCOVER!
SERIES**

**THURSDAY, MAY 21ST
6PM**

White Rock Library

FREE!
Space is limited.
Call the library to register!

April Horticulture Public Concern: Why did my tree suddenly die?

Spring frost can damage newly emerging leaves and flowers when temperatures drop below freezing. Plants that have broken dormancy have lost their winter hardiness protection and flower buds are less hardy than leaf buds. Shifting climate trends are triggering earlier spring break, which is unsuitable for this area. Symptoms of frost damage include sudden browning, blackening, jagged, or curling of foliage and drooping shoots over the entire plant and can be confused with disease symptoms. However, disease symptoms are isolated to parts of the plant and emerge over time.

The good news is, most established trees will survive and produce new leaves within weeks. Perennial plants will likely push new growth from the base of the plant or could die off until the next season. It is recommended to avoid immediate pruning to be able to accurately identify which tissues have actually died back. Provide adequate irrigation during the recovery period as well as throughout the year to boost survival and overall plant vigor long term. To minimize damage, cover small trees and shrubs with frost cloths or sheets during anticipated freeze and irrigate the day before, especially in low-lying areas where cold air tends to settle. Many White Rock residents reported significant damage to the Extension office since the overnight temperatures plummeted to the upper teens on the night of April 17th.



Conact Us

May 2026

LOS ALAMOS COUNTY 4-H CLUBS



Boots & Bridles Club

Meets 3rd Wednesday of the odd months
at 6 pm at White Rock Activity Center
Contact Jessica Booton at bootonj@gmail.com



High Country Team 4-H

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



Team LA Young Guns (Shooting Sports)

Contact Forrest Blackburn at lillbighorn@gmail.com



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Los Alamos Cooperative Extension Office

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