

U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

4-H Calendar

- Sept. 3- Office will be closed, Holiday
 6-8 Beaver County Fair
 6 - Leader's Council Meeting @ 8pm, Fairgrounds
 8 - 4-H Football Game Day, OSU
 13-23 - State Fair of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City
 14 - State Livestock Judging Contest @ 7am, OKC Fairgrounds
 15 - State Fair Judging Contest Day, OKC Fairgrounds
 24 - State Fair Exhibit Pickup Day, OKC Fairgrounds
 24 - Registration Fee & RAM form due in county office for NW District Leadership Conference
 27- Oct. 7 - Tulsa State Fair, Tulsa
- Oct. 8 - Office will be closed, Holiday
 13 - State Trap Shoot, El Reno
 13 - Fall Extravaganza, Beaver County Fairgrounds
 17-19 - NW District Leadership Conference, Woodward
- Nov. 8 - 4-H Foundation Board Meeting
 16 - Office will be closed, Holiday
 22-23 - Office will be closed, Holiday
 23-27 - National 4-H Congress, Atlanta, GA

National Good Neighbor Day What can you do to be a good neighbor?

September 23rd is not just the first day of Autumn, it is also the National Good Neighbor Day. There are so many different ways you can be a good neighbor, so just choose one and do it. You can help your neighbor with yard work to get them ready for the Autumn season, or help them with house work that they may not be able to do. You can even just visit with your neighbor and talk about your 4-H project. What else can you do to be a good neighbor not only on this day but everyday? Let us make everyday Good Neighbor Day! Enjoy the Autumn season and become a good neighbor.



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BEAVER COUNTY OSU COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

The Clover Connection for Beaver County



Protected under
 18 U.S.C. 707

Competing in a healthy manner



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Life is full of competitions. There is everything from campaigning for class president or student council representative to competing on the football field, soccer field or basketball court.

Some competitors will get to go home with a trophy or ribbon. Others will go home with more experience under their belt.

Involvement in the 4-H program is no different. Club members compete against one another in speech contests, officer campaigns, livestock shows and county fairs, just to name a few. Competition has long been a part of the Oklahoma 4-H program.

When it comes to competition, it is important for the whole family to keep a healthy perspective, said Charles Cox, state 4-H program leader and assistant director, Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension Service.

"In the 4-H program, we strive to create competitions that are fair and emphasize fun," Cox said. "This helps to enhance a child's performance, as well as helps them learn to make moral decisions independent of parents and adult volunteers. One perspective may be to call it 'cooperative' competition."

In a cooperative competition setting, it is the effort of the participant, not the outcome that is praised. In addition, cooperative competition involves engaging participants in discussions about their own behavior, as well as emphasizing teamwork.

As with most everything 4-H'ers will face as adults, there are "spoilers" that can zap the fun out of competition.

"We've all heard stories about how parents and even competitors themselves can be a little overbearing when it comes to competition," Cox said. "We work hard to make sure that 4-H parents

and volunteers frame the event in a manner that results in healthy competition. Our overall goal in any competition is for participants to come away with more experience in leadership skills and decision-making skills, both of which are part of life skills that will be used for years to come.

"There are situations where children drop out of sports activities or clubs because they feel they are unable to meet their own, or their parents', expectations," he continued. "In the 4-H program we try to create an environment that includes competitive events, but in a way that the participants enjoy themselves and they don't have outside pressure on their winning or losing."

The main focus of 4-H competitions is on participations and the overall benefit of learning new things while taking part.

Competition provides 4-H'ers the opportunity to learn how to work hard, set goals, make new friends, develop self discipline and time management skills and deal with adversity and success.

The Oklahoma 4-H program offers a wide variety of project areas in which club members can participate and compete.

"While there are pros and cons to nearly every situation, the big picture of competition is to help prepare young people for life down the road," he said. "Having already traveled that road, as adults we know life isn't exactly smooth sailing. That's why helping kids compete in a healthy manner can help make winners out of everyone. It's so important to have youth involved in something to help them establish a good work ethic and the desire to succeed. If we can develop this at an early age, these skills will last them a lifetime. Life itself is competitive and helping club members learn this earlier gives them a greater chance of success later on."

District Leadership Conference

I hope you do not already have plans for fall break, because this is the best plan you could have. The District Leadership Conference will be held October 17-19 at the Northwest Inn in Woodward. It will be a very fun and eventful time. You must be 14 years old by January 1, 2008 to attend, the cost is \$95 which includes the hotel room for two nights, conference costs, two meals on Thursday, snacks on Wednesday and Thursday, breakfast on Thursday and Friday, and a t-shirt. The conference begins with registration from 5-7pm on Wednesday and ends at 11:30am on Friday. Dinner for Wednesday and lunch for Friday are not included in the registration, so you will need to bring a little extra money for those meals. Registration fee and RAM form are due in the office by September 24th. Clothing must be appropriate or you will be asked to change, so make sure you pack appropriate clothing. Be sure to bring can pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald Houses. If you would like to sing at the Thursday evening dinner, you need to send in a written request of what you want to sing and where you have performed before, and a CD accompaniment tape.

Oklahoma 4-H Yard Sign

Oklahoma 4-H yard signs, for National 4-H Month, are available to order. The signs are 22x28 and cost \$1.75. The deadline to order is September 6th. They will be available to pick up after September 13th.

Beaver County Fair

It is time for the Beaver County Fair and I hope everyone is excited. Make sure you get all of your exhibits entered. I am looking forward to all of the exhibits that will be entered in the fair. I know you all work hard to prepare exhibits to enter and I want to congratulate you on all of your hard work in advance. Don't forget about all of the other fun activities that will be going on during the county fair like: the Stock Car Races, the Horse Show, the Livestock Show, the Antique Tractor Show, the Parade, the Hotdog Feed, and the Ranch Rodeo. I hope everyone will come and join in on all of the fun.

Congratulations

I want to congratulate everyone on all of their awards they received at the Achievement Banquet. Special congratulations to Levi Taylor - Outstanding Sr. Boy, Tatum Hansen - Outstanding Sr. Girl, Alex Naylor - Outstanding Jr. Boy, Madison Dearmin - Outstanding Jr. Girl, Melissa Barth - Outstanding County Officer, and Balko 4-H Club - Outstanding Club. I know all of you worked hard to accomplish your goals. Congratulations to the new county officers: Carson Depew, President; Josie Blosser, Vice President; Ty Casper, Secretary; Nicole Frantz, Reporter; Trista Jackson, Song/Game Leader.

Volunteer/Leader's Meeting

There will be a Volunteer/Leader's Meeting on September 6th @ 8pm in the exhibit building at the County Fairgrounds. We will be discussing dates for our 4-H year so bring your calendars with you.

Beaver County Horse Club

It is time to start a new year with club meetings. The Beaver County Horse Club is having their first meeting on September 13th @ 6pm @ the County Fairgrounds. They are having a dinner and an orientation about Horse Club. If you plan on riding this year, you need to bring your current coggins papers for your horse with you to this meeting. The Horse Club will be giving out awards won this past year, electing officers, and much more. If you are already a member, you need to bring a dish for dinner and any pictures you have of Horse Club.

New Plaques

There is a new plaque system that the Leader's Council has agreed on. This new system will help with the plaque clutter you have around your house. This new system is designed to allow all of the 4-Her's awards to be put onto one plaque until the plaque is full. We will be able to put multiple years' achievements on one plaque and make it easier for everyone. I am sorry if this has confused anyone, but in the long run it will be better. I hope everyone will like the new plaque system. If you have any questions or concerns please let me know.

Make it With Wool Contest

The Northwest District Make it With Wool Contest will be held on Nov. 17 at the High Plains Vo-Tech Center in Woodward. There is a \$10 entry fee. All entries need to be postmarked by Oct. 26. There are three age divisions: Pre-teen (12& under), Junior (13-16), and Senior (17-24). For entry forms or questions contact your local leader or the County Office.

Fun Facts

Did you know that it is against the law to spit on the sidewalk in Oklahoma? So you better make sure you don't spit on the sidewalk.

What is the official state beverage of Oklahoma?

Milk is the state beverage, so you better drink all the milk you can get. You may even have to buy a dairy cow to get your milk.

BALKO 4-H CLUB

Balko 4-H Club is going to have a meeting on Sept. 12 and is hoping everyone can attend. They are also having their annual local Achievement Banquet on Sept. 17. If you have been active in the Balko 4-H Club you are strongly encouraged to attend and if you are wanting to be active then please attend and see what all you can do in 4-H.

4-H Quality of Standards Contest is on Thursday, September 6th from 4:00-9:30pm in the 4-H department at the Beaver County Fairgrounds.

Conservation's Power Poster, Essay, & Speech Contests

If you are interested in doing posters, essays, or speeches, you are in luck. There is a contest over Conservation's Power to be held in October. The deadline for the poster and essay contest is October 3. The deadline for the speech contest is October 10. If you have any questions or for more information just call Marilyn Newman at 625-3813.