

SHERMAN 4-H NEWS

February 2026

Sherman 4-H Year is Off to a Great Start!

We're happy to see so many new faces (20+) in the Sherman County 4-H program for this year. Welcome to a great positive youth development program that helps you develop life skills for a successful future, hang out with your friends, have fun and achieve successes along the way.



R 4-H club leaders have received their official club rosters so watch for Remind invitations from the clubs your youth have signed up for. If your family is not yet on the Remind app, make sure to do so in order to receive texts from 4-H club leaders.

Parents and families, watch for emails, texts and/or Remind app notices from your 4-H volunteer leaders, the Sherman 4-H office (OSU Sherman County Extension), and state 4-H. Most of our clubs start meeting in the early spring but some clubs have already scheduled meetings in February.



Youth for the Quality Care of Animals is a national online and in-person training. It is required by the state 4-H program for youth showing animals at their county fair. If you took YQCA last year—Sherman had 69 kids get certified—it's a 3-year cycle, so next time you'll do it will be spring/summer 2028.

However, as per state 4-H notification in January 2026, YQCA is required for new livestock members AND this year, required for dog members (if you didn't already take it in 2025). Stay tuned for details. Cindy Brown is getting recertified as an instructor to offer in-person trainings this spring.

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Sherman Youth Attend High Desert Leadership Retreat in Central Ore-

Sherman County had six teen 4-H members and one adult counselor represent our county and brave the cold weather at a regional youth event last month. Chaperone Bridget Whitaker plus teens Ruby Cook, Harper Johnson, Natalie Phillips, Jacob Sallee, Sara Tolentino and Grady Webber attended the High Desert Leadership Retreat (HDLR) at Eagle Crest outside Redmond, Oregon over Martin Luther King Jr weekend.

HDLR is an Oregon 4-H youth leadership training, held annually in Central Oregon for 7th-12 grade youth. Youth participate in wide variety of learning activities, fun, and food based get-togethers. The Sherman County 4-H Association was able to sponsor 5 participants using funds from basket raffles at fair. A big thank you to 4-H mom and rabbit club leader Kelsi Phillips who provided busing through Sherman County Community Transit for our group!



Natalie gets ready to ride!



Ruby and Sarah Jo excited to arrive at HDLR!

I'm in 4-H...now what?

Opportunities abound in the 4-H program for project learning, positive youth development, and FUN! Here is where you can start, now that you are an official 4-H member:

Accept the REMIND invitation from your club leader. Go on-line AND read the newsletters: follow the Sherman County 4-H Oregon Facebook page and check out the Extension Office website at: <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/sherman>. Read through the print newsletters sent out semi-monthly.

Visit the Extension Office in Moro: stop by and meet Office Specialist Christian Ayles and 4-H Program Coordinator Cindy Brown. They are here to serve you, whether that means answering questions, connecting you with club leaders, or getting supplies for your record books.

Attend your club meetings! This is where the action is and this is where you will learn about your project area, opportunities available, upcoming events, community service plans, and information about the fair. Leaders devote a lot of time to planning club meetings, furnishing supplies and organizing activities. So if you signed up for the project, you are required to attend the meetings.

Of course, everyone will have a conflict sometime; the mandatory and polite thing to do is call and inform your 4-H leader before the meeting. But....miss more than 1/3 of club meetings and activities, and you could be dismissed from your club. Be respectful of your leaders and your club.

Get started in your project! This might mean keeping records and recipes for what you have cooked at home; pick out your pattern and material for your sewing project; find out where and when to purchase your animal; get your pen and feeding supplies ready; make sure your horse is healthy and sound; and keep track of everything in a file and your 4-H record book.

Sherman County 4-H Volunteer Leaders

Did you know Oregon 4-H leaders and volunteers complete extensive applications, background checks, online enrollment and youth safety training in order to work with our youth? We thank our volunteers for all their dedication. Here is the list of Sherman County 4-H Leaders: with current or pending enrollments:

Sherman Beef	Beef	Austin Kaseberg, Whitney Cabral
Lucky Lambs	Sheep	Hayli Sharp Kaseberg, Grace Poirier
The Goatees	Goat	Jeremy & Kara Lanthorn, Bridget Whitaker, Molly Bird
Sherman Swine	Swine	Noah & Tawnya Williams
Country Canines	Dog Training/Care	Caitlin Blagg, Bridget Whitaker
HiRiders	Horse	Jessica Kaseberg-Ball, Mercedes Cardona
Jumpin' Jack Rabbits	Rabbit	Kelsi Phillips, Elizabeth Mills
Tiny Teaspoons	Indoor Cooking/Baking	Anna Moore, Molly Bird
Pans on Fire	Outdoor Cooking/Food Preservation	Cindy Brown (<i>2nd leader needed</i>)
Saving Nine	Sewing	Kara Lanthorn, Martha Blair
Junior Master Gardeners	Gardening and life skills	Cindy Brown, Liz Cranston

Independent Project Leaders for Photography: Jeremy Lanthorn, Erich Dorzab

A big thank you to Steve Kaseberg and Kristil Bish who serve as "at-large" members of the Sherman County 4-H Association along with all the volunteer 4-H leaders. This big group gets a lot done throughout the 4-H year!

4-H Record Books

4-H record books are a key part of the learning process—not just something to check off a list. They help members build important life skills like record keeping, goal setting, and reflection. Sherman County 4-H requires record books to be turned in by all fair participants.

By tracking goals, expenses, activities, and what you learned along the way, record books show your growth throughout the year and help you plan for future success.

As you work on closing out last year's record book, take a moment to reflect on what went well, what you learned, and how your goals evolved. These skills go far beyond 4-H and are valuable in school, careers, and everyday life. Need help getting started or finishing up? We're happy to help.



Here's a great link from state 4-H about record books, with forms you can print out to complete by hand, or fillable online then print out for your record book:

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/4h/record-books>

4-H Club Meeting Notes

The Sherman Beef Club held an introductory meeting on November 3, 2025 at 6:30pm at the Sherman Fair Grounds arena foyer. Attending were: Kyle, McKinley, Charli, Addilyn, Vivian, Creed, Kreece, and leaders Austin and Whitney. The main goal was to get everyone headed in the right direction on finding and getting their steers. Cindy Brown gave basic information on 4-H record books and the 4-H youth had many good questions for their leaders.

The Goatees 4-H club met on February 1, 2026 at 3:30pm at the Fair Grounds Arena. (This is Sherman's largest 4-H club with 28 members present and club has four leaders.) The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Paisley, the 4-H Pledge by Kayleigh. What we did during the meeting: went over meeting dates and welcome letter, code of conduct, and expectations. Presentation by Cora given about her goat pen, feed and water set up at home. Went over what we need before we get our goats: feed, water, hay, shelter, collar. Our next meeting will be March 3 at 6pm. Meeting was adjourned at 4:15pm. Submitted by Kara Lanthorn, club leader.

From Kara Lanthorn, 4-H Sewing Club leader: "With 19 sewers in 4H this year, we had to get a jump start on projects. I have at least 3 other kiddos started, just don't have pictures yet. Plus we have all the blocks done for the raffle quilt. "



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