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# 4-H Clover Connection

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## Reusing and recycling helps cut down on e-waste

With the holiday season just around the corner, many Oklahomans may have new electronic devices such as computers, cell phones or gaming systems on their shopping lists.

What should consumers do with their old electronics once they are finished with them? Can they be recycled or reused?

Jeff Sallee, Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service 4-H technology specialist, said it is important to help prevent waste as much as possible.

“Electronic waste, or e-waste, is one of the fastest growing segments of our nation’s waste stream,” Sallee said. “Devices such as computers, TVs, VCRs, fax machines or cell phones should not be disposed of with regular garbage. There is mercury and heavy metals that can get into the groundwater if not properly disposed. Electronics that still work but may be a bit dated can be sold or donated.”

Not only does this prolong the life of a particular piece of equipment, it also helps reduce electronic waste.

Donating computers to those who need them is a win for everyone involved. Reusing computers benefits communities and helps use valuable materials wisely.

Businesses who donate used computers are helping those who may not be able to afford the newest products on the market.

There are a couple of things to keep in mind when donating a computer. First, make sure it is reusable and meets the requirements of the donation organization.

If the equipment is too old or requires repairs, it may not be economical to fix it for reuse.

Sallee said current owners should copy and transfer any needed files or information on the computer.

“You’ll also want to remove any personal information such as tax records and financial data from the device or request that the receiving organization remove the data,” he said.

Because e-waste is quickly filling up the nation’s waste stream, consumers are urged to help reduce this trend through smart acquisition and good maintenance. Using equipment for as long as possible and recycling those components that cannot be repaired are two steps that can be taken to help slow down the accumulation of e-waste.

“There is some research that indicates as much as 75 percent of old electronics are in storage mainly because of the uncertainty of how to manage the materials,” Sallee said. “Combine this with increasing advances in technology and the wide variety of new electronic products headed toward the market and it’s clearly no wonder that e-waste is becoming such a hot topic.”

Some consumers may be wondering what to do in the event there is no appropriate recycling or disposal option readily available in their area. Patience is the best answer.

Laws and policies are rapidly evolving and may subject portions of the old equipment to hazardous waste regulation.

It is important to correctly manage these materials, and as the laws evolve, options for managing e-waste will also evolve.

“Check your local Yellow Pages under Computer Dealers – Used and Recycled; Environmental and Ecological Services; Recycling Equipment and Services, Scrap Metals; Waste Disposal – Hazardous; or Waste Disposal, Reduction and Recycling to see if services are available in your area,” Sallee said.

## Share-The-Fun

### \*\* (NOTE TIME CHANGE)

**Blaine County Share-the-Fun will be held Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at the Okeene High School Auditorium. The program will begin at 9:30 a.m. (please note the time change). County Teen Officers need to be present by 9:00 a.m. to assist with the lighting, audio, etc. Enclosed in this newsletter is an entry form with performance guidelines. These forms need to be returned to the Extension Office by Wednesday, November 12, if you wish to be listed in the program.**

A short Volunteer Leaders/Booster's meeting will be held following the program. Teens will meet following the program and plan a holiday meeting in the Student Lounge. Officers will need to plan to stay and help with cleanup and the short meeting.

## Upcoming State & District 4-H Events

All of these events have deadlines for ordering tickets and T-shirts. If you plan to attend, be sure and get your orders in on time or before. Many of these are very popular activities and the space fills up quickly!

### **Mall Day – January 10, 2009 – Enid**

Forms are due December 12<sup>th</sup>. A variety of activities are planned for a day at 4-H Mall Day. 4-H'ers are encouraged to participate in the Style/Talent Show, Mini Float Parade, assist as a Teen Leader (at least 13 years old), present a working display and parents may attend Volunteer Training sessions. Working Displays are the most popular activity during the day. Plan an interactive display and plan to stay for an hour. You must be able to relate and involve the public. If you are interested and need ideas, please stop by the Extension Office and we will be able to give you some ideas and guidance. Entry forms are available online at <http://oces.okstate.edu/nwdistrict/>. Look for Mall Day and scroll down.

### **4-H Day at Cowboy Basketball Game**

**January 3, 2009 – 2:00 p.m.**

Deadline to order is December 5<sup>th</sup>. There are only 300 tickets and will be sold on a first-come-first-serve basis. Cost is \$19. T-shirts are not included in this price; however, are available for \$11 - \$15. We have the forms at the Extension Office.

### **4-H Day at Cowgirl Basketball Game**

**January 24, 2009 – 6:00 p.m.**

Deadline to order is January 6, 2009. Cost is \$23 and includes a T-shirt. Forms are at the Extension Office.

### **4-H Night at Oklahoma City Blazers Hockey Game**

**Saturday, February 7, 2009 – 7:10 p.m.**

Tickets are \$10 each. More information will be available closer to the date.

## Shooting Sports

The most anticipated Winter Shooting Sports series has finally arrived!

To participate in any aspect of weekend shoots, you must have first completed the Oklahoma Hunter Certification course and passed the course.

### **Weekend shoots scheduled:**

12/13 -	Taloga
12/13 -	Buffalo
12/20 -	Watonga (archery only)
1/3/09 -	Alva
1/10/09 -	Woodward
1/17/09 -	Watonga

These shoots will have a 9:00 a.m. registration and to shoot air rifle and air pistol will cost \$3 each.

The Northwest District Shoot will be held in Perry on January 31, 2009. You will shoot at archery distances based only on your age, not your proficiency.

## Oklahoma Youth Expo

If you are planning to nominate swine for the 2009 Oklahoma Youth Expo, we must know by December 5<sup>th</sup> so we may order your DNA kit.

## Congratulations!!!

Congratulations are due to all of our winners from the 4-H Achievement Program. It takes a lot of discipline to complete a record book and submit it for judging. You are to be commended. A special congratulations to our 2008-09 Hall of Fame Winners: Alexa Ivins and James Syzmore. Their portraits are on display at the Courthouse.

## Centennial History Books Stores

Stories and nominations are still needed for the upcoming Centennial History Book. If you know someone with a 4-H historical story, please submit their name to Jessica Steward at 405-744-7960. Blaine County has a rich 4-H tradition and we need to be represented in this History Book.

### 4-H Day at Oakwood Mall –Enid Saturday – January 10, 2009

8 – 10 a.m. -	Set-up
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. -	Registration
9:30 a.m. -	Working Displays Begin
9:30 – 10:30 a.m. -	Mini-Floats checked in & lined up
10:30 a.m. -	Parade of Mini-Floats
10:30 a.m. -	Parent/Volunteer Training Session 1
11:00 a.m. -	4-H Style & Talent Show
1:00 p.m. -	4-H Style & Talent Show
1:00 p.m. -	Parent/Volunteer Training Session 2
2:30 p.m. -	Parent/Volunteer Training Session 3
3:00 p.m. -	4-H Style & Talent Show
5:30 p.m. -	Last Working Display Concludes Floats Removed
5:30 -6:30 p.m. -	Pick-up & Clean-up

This newsletter is one way of communicating educational information to the citizens of Blaine County in the area of 4-H & Youth Development. For free subscriptions, contact the office above.

The information given is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service is implied. This information was produced at a cost of 1 cent per page for a total of \$ 10.40.

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## Holiday Bazaar

The annual Blaine County Home & Community Education (HCE) sponsored Holiday Bazaar will be held Saturday, December 6, 2008 at the Fairgrounds, Foley Building. The Watonga 4-H Club will be working in the concession stand. Be sure and attend this bazaar and visit with Santa for all of your holiday wishes.

## Extension Closed for Holidays

The Blaine County Extension Office will be closed November 11<sup>th</sup> for Veteran's Day and November 27 & 28 in observance of Thanksgiving Day.

## Share-The-Fun (NOTE TIME CHANGE)

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**BLAINE COUNTY SHARE-THE-FUN CONTEST**

\_\_\_\_\_ Name of Act

Name(s) of Participant(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Group (2 or more participants)

\_\_\_\_\_ Individual (1 participant)

<b>Performance</b> (interpretation, Talent, Originality)	<b>Appearance</b> (costume, props atmosphere for acts)	<b>Projection</b> (ability to reach the audience)	<b>Polish</b> (Skill, grasp of material, routine etc.)	<b>Audience Appeal</b>
30 Points	20 Points	15 Points	20 Points	15 Points

**Judges Comments:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Each act has a total of 10 min. to get their act on & off the stage (including a max. of 6 minutes for the presentation). Any act that exceeds these time limits will be penalized as follows:

**SCORE** \_\_\_\_\_

Points – Anytime up to ½ minute over – 2 point penalty  
½ minute to 1 minute over – 5 point penalty  
Each additional minute over – 10 point penalty

**TIME PENALTY** \_\_\_\_\_

**FINAL SCORE** \_\_\_\_\_

**RANK OF ACT:** Blue \_\_\_\_\_ Red \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge's Signature