

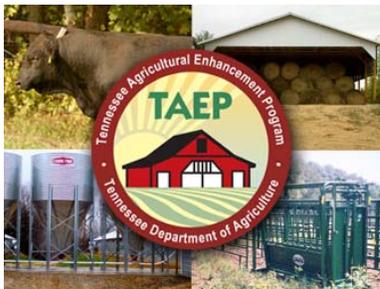
UT/Williamson County Extension — April Newsletter

Beef Field Day

The Williamson County Cattlemen's Association and the Williamson County Extension will be hosting a "Beef Day" on Saturday, April 18th at Dr. Paul Vaden's farm. The address is 4481 Long Lane, Franklin. Registration is from 7:30-8:00 am with a program lasting no more than two hours. Breakfast will be provided. Please e-mail or call the office at 615-790-5721 for more info or to RSVP.



Reminder! TN Ag Enhancement Applications are due June 1st



Master Gardener

As Williamson County continues to grow, we will see a paralleled interest in horticultural education. In the month of April alone, over fifteen requests have surfaced from different community entities, including three separate library branches. In order to begin to address this thirst for knowledge, a speaker's bureau has been formed consisting of certified, knowledgeable master gardeners, who will participate in community outreach, as a part of volunteerism.

Williamson County expects to graduate all 71 Master Gardener interns on April 28th. After graduation, these interns will join the standing association membership and begin to volunteer for WCMGA sponsored projects within the community, as well as other personal interest projects. A Tennessee Extension Master Gardener's mission is to promote environmental stewardship and to educate the general public about horticulture using research-based information available through UT Extension.

Junior Gardener Camp

Master Gardeners in Williamson County will host the 10th annual Junior Master Gardener Camps this June, geared for incoming 1st through 6th graders interested in horticulture. It appears as though it will be another successful year, with all eligible camp spots filled!



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4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
EXTENSION
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE



Central Region 4-H Livestock Judging

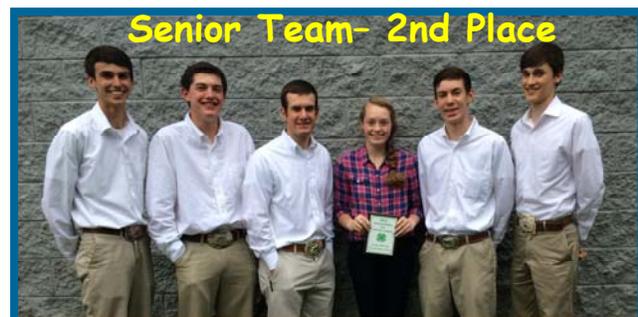
Williamson County had 13 4-H members participate at the Central Region Livestock Judging Contest. The livestock judging contest is where the 4-H members evaluate classes of four animals of cattle, sheep, hogs, and goats. They rank the animals 1-4, from best to worst. The members also have to answer questions about the classes and the seniors give oral reasons defending their placings of the class. The Junior team (4th & 5th graders) consisted of Sam Lamb, Forest Ozburn, and T.J. Williams. This team placed 1st overall and Forest Ozburn was the high individual of the Junior division. The Junior High team (6th-8th graders) consisted of Sydney Lamb, Jayme Ozburn, Kendall Warpool, and Lauren Yates. This team placed 9th overall in the contest. The Senior team (9th-12th graders) consisted of Tyler Haley, Wyatt Haley, Justin McCollum, and Collin Stanley. Dustin Goodman and Brittany Yates competed as individuals. The team placed 2nd overall and Tyler Haley, Wyatt Haley, and Collin Stanley all place in the top 10 for individuals. The Senior team will advance to the State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest in June.



Junior Team- 1st Place



Junior High Team- 9th Place



Senior Team- 2nd Place

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State 4-H Congress



The 68th annual Tennessee State 4-H Congress was held March 22–25 in Murfreesboro. Several hundred 4-H teens from across the state participated in assemblies, elections, and competitions on Capitol Hill in Nashville as well as in Murfreesboro.

Williamson County was well represented at 4-H Congress by 11 active 4-H youth. One of the activities Congress delegates participated in was mock House and Senate sessions. They debated and voted on bills and resolutions in the senate and house chambers. These teens also had the opportunity to meet their own state legislators including Senator Jack Johnson, Representative Glen Casada, and Representative Jeremy Durham.

All the 4-H'ers and volunteers wore formal attire and enjoyed an evening of celebration at the Citizenship Banquet on the last night of Congress. These eleven young people shared new experiences, made new friends, and learned first-hand about Tennessee's government.



Williamson County Horse Project

Williamson County 4-H Horse Project continues to excel! The project recently had 10 teams qualify and participate at the state hippology contest in March. Once again, the project earned the opportunity to represent Tennessee at the Southern Regional contest in Perry, GA this summer. Additionally, the senior judging team found success by qualifying for the state contest and the junior high won the regional contest.

Upcoming events:

Williamson County 4-H Horse Show,
Ag Expo Park, May 1-3

4-H Honor Club Retreat

April 17 -19 is the weekend when 26 4-H teens and six adults head to the Deer Run Conference and Retreat Center for a weekend of fun! At our annual Spring 4-H Honor Club Retreat, they will all participate in either the high ropes course or the low ropes course, while learning important lessons about teamwork and trust. The officers will facilitate leadership games and group sessions, and all will enjoy crafts and recreation as well, including a climbing and rappelling tower, nature exploration, hikes, a hayride, campfire, and smores! This retreat is a great time for youth to grow in personal confidence and to make new friends.



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FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES
EXTENSION
 INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE
 THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

Family and Consumer Science

The Family and Consumer Education clubs this month are learning about herbs and spices which together are called seasonings. FCS Agent Patsy Watkins is presenting their program this month. They are learning the many different uses of herbs and spices as well as about their uses throughout history.



Bethesda Club

The FCE Council is preparing for the Cultural Arts Program that will be held on June 9, 2015 at the Ag Expo Park. The theme is Sugar and Spice, let's be nice.



The Tennessee Family Consumer Sciences Association just completed a tremendous conference on Volunteer Vitality. The conference was held here in Franklin with the Welcome dinner being held at the Williamson County Ag Park.



Leadership Franklin held their 2015 graduation on April 8. Family Consumer Science Agent, Patsy Watkins was one of the twenty graduates from this year's class.