

UT/Williamson County Extension — April Newsletter

4215 Long Lane, Suite 200 Franklin, TN 37064

615-790-5721

Agriculture in the County

Spring Beef Field Day



Triple L Ranch (Lee Family Farm) in Fernvale hosted the annual Spring Beef Field Day for producers across the county. The event provides producers the opportunity to receive continuing education about marketing, sustainable production, nutrition, environmental pasture management, and much more.

Topics covered at this year's meeting included facility and equipment design to promote safe handling for producers and animals, locally

raised marketing, and importance of using hay sample analysis to maximize production.

Hands on continuing education events are offered throughout the year.

Thompson's Station Farmer's Market

The Thompson's Station Farmer's Market will be in a new location and under new management for the 2016 season. The market has moved to the Homestead Manor on Wednesday's from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Williamson County Extension will be hosting a variety of adult and youth education programs throughout the season. Opening day will be Wednesday, May 11th with the Extension office offering a variety of demos and organizing a "Trash to Treasure" contest for youth and adult divisions. The contest is open to the general public and there will be prizes.

Horticulture Programming in Williamson County

The first advanced Master Gardener training workshop was held at the Extension office and was a huge success. 'From my Head TO-MA - Toes' was designed to teach master gardeners the difference between the many diseases and disorders of tomatoes so that they may in turn educate others.

Consumers tend to depend heavily on 'perfect' fruits, however those with imperfections are still acceptable and edible. The course covered the history and best management practices for tomatoes in Tennessee, the differences between disease and disorder, insect identification via fruit damage, AND grafting tomatoes.



Additionally, the garden series at the Franklin WCPL continues to succeed. This month, thirty-three homeowners learned about pollinators and the plants that attract. With bee populations declining, it has become a very important topic with a definite draw from Williamson County residents. A pollinator garden is not only beneficial but can also be considered an outdoor classroom, right in the back yard.



Williamson County Extension — April Newsletter



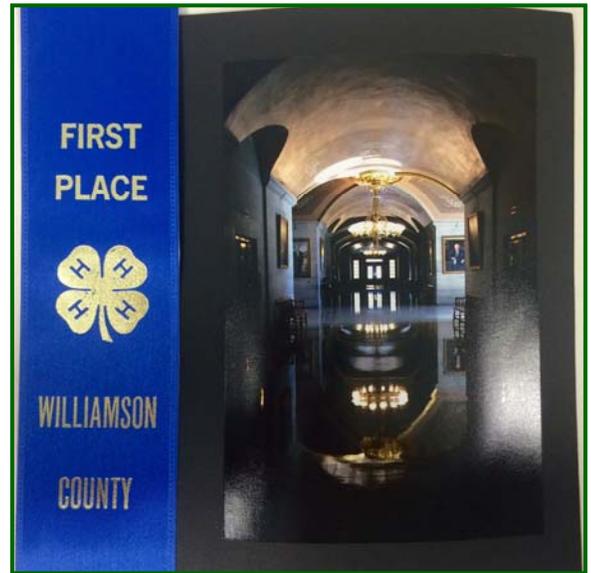
4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
U-EXTENSION
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE



4-H Photography Contest

This month the 4-H Franklin Community Club hosted the annual Williamson County 4-H Photography Contest. The contest was a huge success with 330 photos entered! Congratulations to Dawn Nieman from Brentwood High School for winning Best of Show with her Category 17: Historic Site photo (photo at right). Dawn's photo was taken while she was attending State 4-H Congress in March at the TN State Capitol, great job Dawn!

We are very excited about the Fairview 4-H Photography Club, this group contributed to our entries, as well as 4-H members across the county. 4-H members are encouraged to enter these photos in the Williamson County Fair this summer. The 4-H Photography Contest is a great opportunity to encourage youth to explore their talents and abilities, to think creatively, and to communicate in different ways.



Williamson County Extension — April Newsletter



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



HUGE Success at Regional Livestock Judging

Williamson County was well represented at the regional livestock judging contest held at MTSU. Sixteen youth from across Williamson County put their livestock evaluation skills to the test. These 4-H members evaluated cattle, sheep, hogs, and goats. The Junior team (consisting of 4th & 5th grades) placed second along with the Senior B team placing second. Sydney Lamb placed 6th in the Jr. High division. These kids are well prepared in starting their own herd of livestock!



Junior Team- 4th & 5th Grades
L to R: Ruth Ann Johns, Kelcy Nichols,
Sam Lamb



Jr. High Team- 6th-8th Grades
L to R: Briar Roberson, Lauren Yates, Sydney Lamb,
Garren Hamby



Senior Teams- 9th-12th Grades
Front L to R: Senior A Team
Anna Cesnik, Brittany Yates, Ashley Haylett,
Christine McCollum
Back L to R: Senior B Team
Tyler Haley, Dustin Goodman, Collin Stanley,
Justin McCollum, Wyatt Haley,

Williamson County Extension — April Newsletter



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



4-H Shooting Sports



4-H Shooting Sports members practice before the State BB Competition this weekend.

4-H Piggy Bank Contest

The Annual 4-H Piggy Bank Pageant is underway and the county winners have been chosen to represent Williamson County at the State Piggy Bank Contest.

Piggy Banks need to have a way to deposit money and then to get it out from “savings” without “breaking the bank.” This contest helps youth learn to be creative, recycle materials to make something new, and to save money. We had quite a few entries this year!

2016 Piggy Bank Winners

4th Grade— Nila Kondee, 4-H Franklin Community Club. Nila made a cute nature themed box with a pink butterfly and a purple flower. .

5th Grade— Anjali Rao, 4-H Franklin Community Club won. Anjali made a Monkey and it's “Banana's for you!”

6-8th Grade—Laina Scott, 4-H Eagle Homeschool Club. Laina decorated a cute teal house with a pink door, complete with flowers by the front door!

Congratulations to all our Piggy Bank Participants! The county winners will participate in a State Wide contest.



Williamson County Extension — April Newsletter

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

Family and Consumer Science Info

Family and Consumer Science Agent Patsy Watkins was honored at the Mid-Cumberland Region Tennessee Department of Health Appreciation Lunch with an excellence in partnership award.

This award was given for her dedication and commitment as a partner with the Williamson County Health Department. The citizens of Williamson County are the beneficiaries of better education and opportunities for better health as a result of this partnership.



Pictured left to right – Cathy Montgomery – Health Department Director, Patsy Watkins, - FCS Agent, Alex Windings – Williamson County Anti-Drug Coalition, Breanna Robbe – health educator.



During the month of April, Patsy will be presenting the program 'Pass it On' to all the FCE clubs. This program targets the problem of fraud and deceit that is rampant in our communities—trying to steal our money and/or our personal information.

This program not only makes us aware of many of these scams but also how to answer the calls and remind us of the actions we should never take.

People are also encouraged to share information and start conversations so others are aware when some of these scammers are more active in their community and to try to make their neighbors aware so that others will not fall victim to these thieves.

Report scams to
the Federal Trade
Commission

1-877-382-4357



ftc.gov/PassItOn

Programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences, and resource development.
University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating.
UT Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

