

Williamson County Extension — March Newsletter

4215 Long Lane, Suite 200 Franklin, TN 37064

615-790-5721

Pasture Management Series



experiencing and teach owners how to maximize their pastures using environmentally sustainable methods.

Classes are on Wednesdays from 12:00-12:30 and topics can be found on the Extension website. To register, email mhorsman@utk.edu

Beef Field Day

Extension will be hosting a Beef Field Day on March, 18th. Producers will learn about up to date practices and management techniques to maximize resources.

Also being unveiled is a two year pasture demo plot for equine and beef pastures. These demo plots are to display correct and incorrect management techniques and the results that correspond.

Williamson County Extension has begun a seven part series of interactive webinars to address pasture management for landowners.

These webinars address common management issues landowners may be

Livestock Judging Team Named Champions

The Junior 4-H Livestock Judging Team captured championship honors at the recent Tennessee Beef Agribition.

Contestants had to evaluate and place six classes of beef cattle, swine, sheep and goats.

Team members were Ruth Ann Johns, Bailey Nichols, Kelcy Nichols, and Presley Noland.

Congratulations Team!



Matt Horsman • 615-790-5721 • mhorsman@utk.edu • Williamson County

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Public Speaking Area Contest Winners

Congrats to the following 4-H members for their success in the Area Public Speaking Contest. They competed against youth from ten middle Tennessee counties. The contest was held at the Wilson County Fairgrounds.

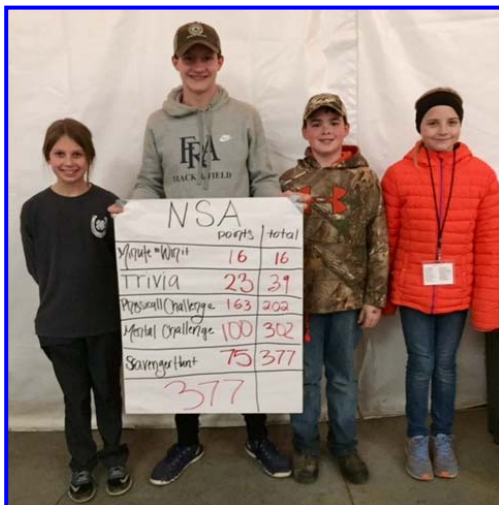
8th grade- Isaac Stickles, 2nd place, Homeschool
 9th grade- Emily Shand, 3rd place, Homeschool
 10th grade- Nelani Colletti, 4th place, Homeschool
 12th grade- Caleb Colletti, 4th place, Homeschool

- 4th grade- Emma Sharp, 1st place, Fairview
 Laura Kennedy, Participation, Fairview
- 5th grade- Avantika Pillai, 1st place, Mill Creek
 Johan Gigme, Participation, Chapman's Retreat
- 6th grade- Anjali Rao, 1st place, Brentwood
 Sanjana Sitaram, 4th place, Brentwood
- 7th grade- Leah Kennedy, 2nd place, Fairview
 Eleanor Israel, 3rd place, Homeschool



4-H Honor Club

Williamson County held our annual 4-H Honor Club retreat March 10-12th at Deer Run Camp. The theme was SPY! and 23 youth came to participate in Spy themed challenges that required lots of team work and good communication. The winning team from the weekend's challenges was the FBI who gained the most points throughout the weekend. The retreat is planned by the Honor Club Officers each year and is the highlight of our club year.



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Horticulture Programming in Williamson County

The 2017 Garden Talk series at the Franklin Location of the Williamson County Public Library is gaining popularity year by year. The Square Foot Gardening Program on March 6th received record attendance with 82 participants.



Garden Talk is a 15-week program, scheduled for various Mondays (1 to 3 pm) through the end of September that focuses on horticulture related topics and best management practices for the homeowner landscape. You may view the Garden Talk series schedule on the UT/TSU Williamson County Extension website at https://extension.tennessee.edu/Williamson/Pages/Horticulture_pages/Consumer_Horticulture.aspx.

The next program in the 2017 Garden Talk series is 'Vegetable Gardening with Organic Options' and will be held March 20th, 2017 at the Franklin location of the Williamson County Public Library. Admission is free to the public however registration is required. You may register for any of the programs within the series by accessing the WCPL website at http://wcpltn.org/services/seed_exchange or by calling 615-595-1243.

Upcoming programs include: 'From My Head ToMaToes', a workshop all about best management practices as related to growing tomatoes in Tennessee.

Additional topics within the program include: insects, diseases and disorders that affect tomatoes in Tennessee, straw bale gardening (Dr. Alan Windham) and grafting techniques (Dr. Natalie Bumgarner). Seating is limited (due to materials required) and there is a \$25 fee.

If interested, please contact the UT/TSU Williamson County Extension office at 615-790-5721, to inquire about seating. The program flyer and registration form may be located at <https://extension.tennessee.edu/Williamson/Pages/horticulture.aspx>.



As an attempt to expand the reach of the UT/TSU Williamson County Extension horticulture program, agent Amy Dismukes created a Speakers' Bureau with assistance from WCMG Sadira Ebert. Because Sadira, chair of the WCMG Speakers' Bureau, is also a certified SFG with the Square Foot Gardening Foundation, the program facilitated the beginnings of a small partnership with the Square Foot Gardening Foundation.

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Family and Consumer Science

Tasty Days samples for students at Franklin Elementary School. They were taste testers for Plums, Dried Plums and Zucchini.



fce Club Activity



Members of Green Valley fce club met with Arno, Brentwood, and Grassland Club members for their monthly club outing. They lunched and listened to a program by Rene Gould of the Better Business Bureau.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Mobile Mammography Coach will be at the Williamson County Public Library April 4, 9:00-2:00 p.m. No appointment necessary. Insurance and TN Care accepted. If no insurance, financial assistance is available. Call Patsy Watkins, 615-790-5721 for more information.



April 11, – Girls' Night Out – Poplar Grove Middle School cafeteria – free dinner, fashion show, door prizes and health information for girls 5th grade and up with a female adult chaperone.