



Welcome to the Hamilton County 4-H Newsletter for October!

Fall is a great time to get involved in 4-H! Check out the 4-H events and meetings listed below, and feel free to call the Extension Office with any questions (423-209-8560).

4-H is open to **all** youth in Hamilton County in grades 4th through 12th. There is no cost to join 4-H, and you can **join 4-H** at any time!

National 4-H Week is October 6-12

Governor Lee proclaimed October 6-12 as 4-H Week in Tennessee! Read his proclamation below or on the **website of the Tennessee Secretary of State**.



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
 BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, 4-H is America's largest youth development organization, having supported almost six million youth across the country thus far; and

WHEREAS, 4-H is Tennessee's largest youth development organization, having supported approximately 152,000 youth across the state annually; and

WHEREAS, 4-H has helped over one million Tennesseans to become confident, independent, resilient, and compassionate leaders; and

WHEREAS, 4-H is delivered jointly by the University of Tennessee Extension system and Tennessee State University Extension, both members of Cooperative Extension - a community of more than 100 public universities across the nation that provides experiences where young people learn by doing in hands-on projects in areas including health, science, agriculture, leadership, and citizenship; and

WHEREAS, National 4-H Week showcases the incredible experiences that 4-H offers young people, and highlights the remarkable 4-H youth in Tennessee who work each day to make a positive impact on those around them; and

WHEREAS, 4-H's network of 600,000 volunteers and 3,500 professionals provides caring and supportive mentoring to all 4-H'ers, helping them to grow into true leaders, entrepreneurs, and visionaries;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim October 6-12, 2024, as

4-H Week

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this thirtieth day of August 2024.

Bill Lee

Governor

Joe Roper

Secretary of State

During 4-H week, you can **follow the celebrations at the UT & TSU Extension - Hamilton County** Facebook page. Join us as we highlight 4-H service programs, alumni, volunteers, and why we are thankful. Don't miss Flashback Friday for some fun photos of 4-H in years past!

Help for Those Affected by Flooding in Tennessee

From UT Extension Eastern Region Director Kelli Roberson:

The Tennessee 4-H Foundation has started a fund to help 4-H families in the 7 affected counties (Johnson, Carter, Cocke, Unicoi, Washington, Greene and Hamblen). The local Extension Offices will be responsible for using the funds to best serve these families who lost everything in the floods.

There are 3 ways of giving that we are encouraging.

1. Online Giving

Online donations can be made using the 4-H Foundation website <https://tn4hfoundation.org/donate/>.

On step 1 of the form please select direct my gift to " A specific fund". Then select " Scholarships & Awards". Finally select "Flood Relief Fund", it will be the first option on the drop-down menu.

If you would like your contribution to be allocated to a specific county, please indicate that on the "Other Instructions or Comments" section of step 2 of the online donation form.

2.Checks by Mail

Checks can be made payable to the Tennessee 4-H Foundation and mailed to the address below. Please denote "Flood Relief" in the memo line.

Tennessee 4-H Foundation
2621 Morgan Circle
205 Morgan Hall
Knoxville, TN 37996

Either option will provide a tax-deductible receipt to anyone who gives.

3.Gift Cards

Gift Cards for major grocery and shopping retailers can be collected and donated. These will be distributed to the families in the affected counties. Gift cards can be dropped off at your local Extension Office or mailed to:

Tennessee 4-H Foundation
2621 Morgan Circle
205 Morgan Hall
Knoxville, TN 37996

Coming Up in October

4-H Horse Club

Monday, October 7 at 6:30 p.m. The 4-H Horse Club meets on the first Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Saddle Pals Riding Club in Soddy Daisy. This club is open to grades 4th through 12th and focuses on learning about horses and preparing for 4-H contests of horse knowledge. The 4-H Horse Bowl and Hippology Contest is coming up on January 18 at UTK! To find out more about the



click on the image to visit the UT 4-H Horse Resources page and learn more about the 4-H Horse project.

club, or to get answers to questions about the 4-H Horse Club, please text the Club's Volunteer Leader, Adam Presley at 423-595-5409.

4-H Citizenship and 4-H Honor Club

Tuesday, October 8 at 5:00-6:30 p.m. on the 3rd floor of the Extension Office. The 4-H Citizenship Club and 4-H Honor Club meet together this year and are open to all 5th through 12th grade youth in Hamilton County. 4-H Honor Club membership is open to 4-H members who have shown leadership and have been active members in their club and community. Those considering membership are welcome to attend meetings while they work on their membership applications. At the October meeting, new members of the Hamilton County 4-H Honor Club will be initiated.



The Citizenship Club and the Honor Club focus on both developing leadership skills and on providing service in the community. At each meeting, members will learn about opportunities for service.

4-H Veterinary Science Club



Thursday, October 10 at 6:00-7:30 p.m. on the 3rd floor of the Extension Office. Interested in learning more about animals? Thinking about a career related to veterinary science or wildlife management? Join the new 4-H Veterinary Science Club as we explore the world of animals! This club is led by 4-H Volunteer Leader John Clemmons and is open to all Hamilton County youth in grades 4th through 12th. The Club meets once a month on the second Thursday of the month and also plans group trips and events on other dates.

4-H Gardening Club



Monday, October 28 at 4:30-6:00 p.m. in the first-floor conference room at the Extension Office. All 4th - 8th grade youth in Hamilton County are welcome to come to meetings of the 4-H Gardening Club, which are held year-round on the last Monday of the month at the Extension Office. This club focuses on plant science and insect science, plus a lot of crafts and games! At the September meeting, club members planted dinosaur kale in the 4-H gardening bed (while roaring like dinosaurs, in keeping with the name!) The October meeting will focus on spiders and their beneficial role in the garden and will include a Halloween party (costumes optional) and games! Questions? **Email 4-H Agent Maria Sabin.**

Congratulations!

Tennessee Valley Fair Photo Contest Winners



Tennessee Valley Fair Junior Best of Show photo by Norah Wade



Tennessee Valley Fair first place
"Animals" photo by Tori Brown



Tennessee Valley Fair first place
"Still Life" photo by Kyler
Loynd.



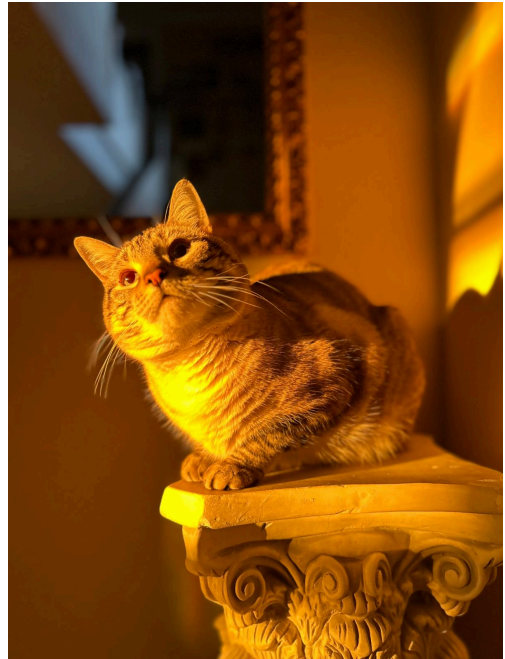
TVF third place "Animals" photo
by Kaden Bing



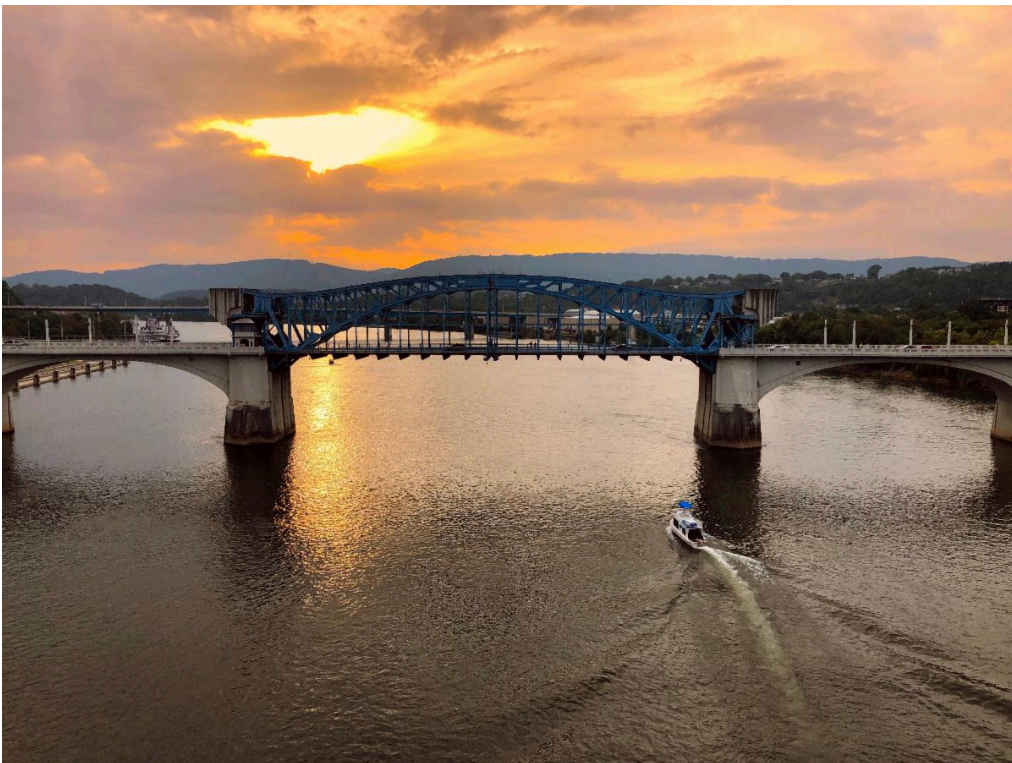
TVF second place "Plants" photo
by Jake Engel



TVF 3rd place "Close Ups"
photo by Wyatt Taylor



TVF second place "Animals"
photo by Darah Moreland



Tennessee Valley Fair first place "Tennessee" photo by Anay Srivastava

Hamilton County's 4-H'ers won in multiple categories in the photo contest at this year's Tennessee Valley Fair. Congratulations to the following students and to all of the Hamilton County 4-H photographers in the contest!

Junior/Junior High:

Norah Wade – Best of Show – entry submitted in Animals

Tori Brown – 1st place Animals

Kaden Bing – 3rd place Animals

Kyler Loynd – 1st place Still Life

Jake Engel – 2nd place Plants

Wyatt Taylor – 3rd place Close Ups

Senior High:

Darah Moreland – 2nd place Animals

Anay Srivastava – 1st place Tennessee

You can see all of the photos from the 2024 Tennessee Valley Fair photography contest at **the Tennessee Valley Fair website**.

4-H Consumer Decision Making Judging Contest



Congratulations to Hamilton County's winners in the 2024 Regional 4-H Consumer Decision Making Contest! The junior high team (Liam Cook, Kevin Lawrence, and Lillian Shank) finished 4th at the competition at UTK. The senior high team (Sophie Cook, Carter Johnson, and Carolina Shank) finished 2nd and are advancing to compete at the State CDM Contest on October 5. Carolina Shank (now a college freshman at UTC) won 2nd high individual for her awesome scores in the contest! Many thanks to 4-H Volunteer Leader Teresa Shank, who did a wonderful job coaching these teams!

Southern Region Teen Leadership Conference (SRTLTC)

SRTLTC was held at the York 4-H Center in September. Both Darah Moreland and Hayden Clements of Hamilton County attended this conference of senior high youth from Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, South Carolina, and Virginia. They participated in leadership workshops, service projects, team building, dances, state item exchange and more. Each learned more about other southern states.

Hayden shared, "It was very fun. I met a ton of new people from Tennessee and other southern states. The leadership workshops were informative and the activities were fun. Overall SRTLC was a great experience."

Darah reflected on the event, "SRTLC is an incredible way to meet fellow 4-Hers throughout the south! Even though we all came from different communities and regions with different ideas about 4-H, I still felt the close connection that binds all of us together.

"Some main highlights for me are the workshops, the foam party, and the dances! You had to pick two from a giant list of workshops that you wanted to attend. I chose making dog toys and creating a service project to bring back to my county. The foam party was amazing! It felt like you were walking through water, but on land. And finally, the dances were different from each region, and each region had dances to a song that others did not. I had a lot of fun learning the new dances!

"Overall, I met so many new friends that I hope to keep up with, and I will definitely be attending next year!"



Darah with cabin mates at the 2024 SRTLC



Beach Volleyball was one of the many activities to choose from



Dance time at SRTLCL



The Foam Party was a lot of fun!

4-H Shooting Sports - New Shotgun Discipline



We are seeking youth in 8th – 12th grade who are interested in the shotgun discipline. You need to have your own shotgun to participate in this discipline. There will be a fee to participate (fee is not known at this time). There are a couple of adults who plan to attend the state training in November. If you are interested in this shooting sports discipline, contact Nancy Rucker by October 31, 2024. Extension Office phone: 423-209-8560.

More Fun Events Coming Up!



4-H Fall All-Star Conference

November 22-24 in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Youth will stay at the Edgewater Hotel. This conference is open to all 9th – 12th graders (you do NOT have to be an All Star to attend). The cost is \$165. To register, complete the conference sign up form on the brochure and return it to the Extension Office with payment by October 25.

This year's theme is Jive Junction – Let's go to the Hop! The weekend will be filled with fun from the 50's. 4-H youth will enjoy games and mingling, scavenger hunt, service projects, banquet, Sock Hop, All Star initiation and more. There will be space for about 225 to attend this conference.

The registration deadline is October 25 by 4:30 p.m. for Hamilton County. No refunds after the deadline. The conference brochure and video are available online at the **Eastern Region All Stars site**.



2024 Little Debbie Hamilton County Fair

November 8-10 at the McDonald Farm in Sale Creek, Tennessee. Don't miss your chance to enter some of the MANY Fair competitions! **Registration deadline for home-centered, agriculture and livestock and poultry contests is October 23 (for mailed) or October 30 (for online registrations)!** Enter your cookies, cake, quilt, photo, pickles, pumpkin, etc. etc. today at <https://hamiltontnfair.com/fair-competitions/>!

The Fair will include 4-H events, as well as a rodeo, singers, a lumberjack show, and rides. Find out more at **the Little Debbie Hamilton County Fair website**.

2025 4-H Camp and Conference Dates



We know some of our 4-H Camp dates for 2025. Take a look at the dates and put them on your calendar. If you are interested in attending, contact us or call the Extension office and your information will be added to our interest list. More information about many of the camps below is available at the **Extension Office website's "Camps" page**.

Junior 4-H Camp (4th – 6th graders), Austin 4-H Center, June 9-13

4-H Academic Conference (6th – 8th graders) UT-Knoxville, June 10-13

Eastern Region 4-H Quilt Camp, June 24-26

4-H Electric Camp (6th – 8th graders), June 25-28

Junior High 4-H Camp (6th – 8th graders) Austin 4-H Center, July 7-11

4-H Roundup and All Star Conference (9th – 12th graders), UT-Knoxville, July 21-25

Move Around the Region

October 7 - November 17. Register by October 6. Ages 8 and up, including adults, can participate in this fun, free fitness program. This is a 6-week, self-paced program for all fitness levels! Set your own goal and pace, and choose your physical activities. Report weekly on your physical activities to be entered in a drawing for prizes. First, second, and third place in the "miles" reported categories also win prizes. **Register online by October 6.** For more information, visit the Extension Office website's **Move Around the**



UT-TSU Extension Hamilton County

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(423) 209-8560

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Office hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

4-H Staff:

Nancy Rucker, Extension Agent and County Director

Maria Sabin, Extension Agent

**UT-TSU Extension Hamilton
County Newsletter Sign-Up**



Are you receiving this newsletter from a friend? Sign up for the 4-H monthly newsletter or other Extension newsletters today! To sign up,

use the QR code above or **fill out the form online.**

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.



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