



UT/TSU Extension—Blount County
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4-H Agents

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Blount County 4-H February Newsletter



4-H Achievement Night

Plan to meet and deliver your demonstrations or interactive exhibits for our annual Achievement event in April. We are hosting it at our Extension complex at 1219 McArthur Rd on **Tuesday, April 8 5-6:30 p.m.** If you present a video at the local contest, you may present the same or a different one at the county contest. There will be a Table Top Exhibit division for middle school members. We also have plans for both a baking and photography contest opened to any 4-H member. Read and follow the guidelines for submissions.

Photographers – Shoot Away & Show Us Your Stuff

Select up to 5 photos that you have taken in the past year. Put your digital photos into a PowerPoint file and label each slide with the requested information below before submitting.

RULES:

1. Each 4-H member may enter 1 photo per category up to 5 photos in the county contest.
2. The categories are: People; Buildings; Landscapes; Animals and/or Trick.
3. Either black and white or color photos may be entered but no more than 5 in total.
4. All photos must have been taken by the 4-H member in the 24-25 school year.
5. All pictures must be submitted digitally **with a title/caption**.
6. The 4-H member should add a slide for their name, school/club and grade to identify their exhibit.
7. Send bundled files to james@utk.edu by **April 4**.

Bakers – Fire Up Your Ovens & Cook

You may submit one entry per category. Categories are Loaf Breads, Pies, Cakes/Muffins, Cornbread, Biscuits, Brownies/Cookies. No “No Bake Items” allowed.

Entry procedure:

Muffins, biscuits, brownies, and cookies- bring three on a paper plate in a plastic bag.

Cakes, loaf breads and pan breads, bring the whole item. (**Do Not Cut Them**). Bring your **RECIPE** and it must show that you used/mixed 3 or more ingredients.

4-H Clover Bowl Championships

The 4-H Clover Bowl Championships will be conducted using a single elimination contest to select county champion teams in grades 4-8. There will be a seeding round test used and each local team participating at the county level will test to determine their seed. The final four teams will vie for top placings.

Club teachers may put together a team or allow members to form teams. Name your team and submit it to the 4-H Office by **April 11** by email to Amy Berger at aberger2@utk.edu or to James McMillion at james@utk.edu. You will receive an email after your team information is confirmed and a test will be sent to each team member to be completed within a 7 day period. Based on questions answered correctly and or missed questions, your team will receive a seed ranking. Top seeded teams play bottom seeded teams and middles play each other. Members may study using questions found on the Clover Bowl website. Go here: <https://eastern.tennessee.edu/4-h-clover-bowl/>. Scroll down the page and click on your grade for sample questions. The county Clover Bowl contest date is slated for **April 22 5p.m.** at the Blount County 4-H office.

Upcoming Dates

For More information on any programs, visit our website: <https://blount.tennessee.edu/>

- Feb 6 Horse Group Meeting 6:30 p.m. at the Blount County Library
- Feb 6 Sewing Club—Dragons @ 4H Office 4-6 p.m.
- Feb 7 Tagging for 4-H Market Steer program in Knoxville 4-7 p.m.
- Feb 10 Honor Club meeting 5p.m. 4H office
- Feb 11 4H Sheep Project Group @ 4H Office 4-5 p.m.
- Feb 13 Sewing Club @ 4H Office 4-6 p.m.
- Feb 14-15 State 4H Horse Hipp/ Bowl Contest—Knoxville
- Feb 17 Congress Readiness Day for State Congress Delegates
- Feb 18 Poultry Project Group meeting @ 4H Office 5:30 p.m.
- Feb 20 Sewing Club @ 4H Office 4-6 p.m.
- Feb 22 Bee & Entomology Club @ Blount Extension Apiary 1219 McArthur Road, 1:30 p.m.
- Feb 28 Cornbread Cook-off Entry Deadline (grades 4-6 only)
- Feb 28-Mar 1 TN Volunteer Jam Lebanon
- Mar 6 Horse Group Meeting 6:30 p.m. at the Blount County Library
- Mar 9-12 State 4-H Congress, Murfreesboro/Nashville
- Mar 11 Project Portfolio Workshop via ZOOM
- Mar 10-14 County School Spring Break
- Mar 17 Honor Club Meeting 5 p.m.

PLEDGE:
I Pledge-
My HEAD to clearer thinking,
My HEART to greater loyalty,
My HANDS to larger service, and
My HEALTH to better living
For my club, my community,
my country, my world

MOTTO:
"To make the Best Better"

Just for Kicks and Giggles:

The girl that lives in the middle of the tennis court is named Annette.

Service Project Ideas

Ask permission if you are planning a project on public property.

- * Plant flowers or a tree on community property
- * Present a program for a group of senior citizens.
- * Set up a recycling aluminum can box and recycle!
- * Pick up trash on school grounds or clean up at the local park.
- * Make tray favors for the hospital or nursing home, such as, holiday cards, bookmarks, gift baskets, a flower, brightly wrapped candy favors, etc.
- * Collect good, used, or new preschool books for Head Start or Home Safe.
- * Tutor or read to younger students.
- * Start a HUGS program—collecting Hats, Underwear, Gloves and Socks—that can be donated to a ministry.
- * Collect grocery coupons to give to the food banks, families, etc.
- * Write letters or send cards to servicemen/

2025 4-H Poster and Art Contest Results

Congratulations go to Lexie Toney, 5th grade; Piper Winter, 8th grade; Addilee Emert, 4th grade and Makleeya Cowley, 7th grade. Their posters were selected to represent Blount County in the Eastern Region contest. The contest has two division, a digital category and a physical construction category. Good luck to them all. Visit blount.tennessee.edu/ to view winning posters and those receiving "Honorable Mention".

2025 Cornbread Cook-Off

Contest is open to all 4-H members, grades 4-6. Recipes MUST include at least one cup of corn meal or one package of corn meal mix and be cooked using Lodge Cast Iron. Judging will be based on creativity, as well as flavor, texture, and appearance. Entries must be received by Friday, February 28, 2025. Full details and contest rules can be found here: blount.tennessee.edu/

2025 4-H Dairy Poster Contest

Just when you thought it was safe to go back into the Poster waters. We introduce yet another Poster Contest. The 2025 4-H Dairy Poster theme is "**Dairy Defenders!**". Saving the world one glass at a time is the theme for this year's dairy poster contest. We hope all 4-H members taking the challenge will ***bam***, ***pow***, and ***slam*** their way to some exciting showcases of how dairy plays a heroic role in nutrition, farming, and so much more.

We will have the full information for the poster contest and the "June Dairy Month Chairpersons" to you in the March newsletter. Stay tuned and we hope to see lots of posters this year!



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*"The absence of profanity offends no one."
~ retired Maryville College football coach
Phil Wilks*

2025 4-H Academic Conference

Tennessee Junior High Academic Conference brings together 4-H members from across the state of Tennessee. The conference provides academic training related to the 4-H members' project areas, offers opportunities for career exploration in agriculture and family and consumer sciences, and allows 4-H'ers to meet other members with similar interests. There are 21 project areas, where 4-H'ers attend workshops and seminars to deepen their knowledge in their particular area of interest. The 4-H'ers also visit the Herbert College of Agriculture, the UT Gardens, and Neyland Stadium while exploring the University of Tennessee's campus. To end the week, the 4-H'ers kick back at Main Event for bowling, arcade games, laser tag, and pool party. If you wish to be the next victim of such fun, complete an application and see if you get the job! Ask Ms. Berger or Mr. McMillion for an application.



Some Camps/Conferences for Your Calendars!

Spring All Star Conference (9th-12th grades)

April 11-13, 2025

Target Smart Camp

May 26-30, 2025

Fashion and Design Conference

June 3-5, 2025

Junior 4-H Camp (4th-6th grades)

June 2-6, 2025

Junior High Academic Conference (6th-8th grades)

June 10-13, 2025

State Electric Camp (6th-8th grades)

June 24-27, 2025

Junior High Camp

July 7-11, 2025

Destination Design (9th-12th grades)

July 15-17, 2025

State 4-H Roundup (9th-12th grades)

July 21-25, 2025 (Qualify to Attend)

Amy Berger

James McMillion