Everyone is busy and everyone gets more than their fair share of email. The State 4-H Office understands that dilemma and is trying to minimize the number of individual emails related to the same subject or issue. In order to do that, it is imperative that you look for this newsletter each Friday.

This newsletter is the primary communication tool we will use to reach you with changes, updates, and new information related to the Tennessee 4-H program. Please set a reminder to check each Friday afternoon for our emailed newsletter.

Dr. Richard Clark
CURRENT GRANT PROJECTS
Shelby Brawner, Extension Assistant/Grant Manager

UNION COUNTY
Implementing Health Rocks! Program
Rebecca Hughes, Union County Extension

In partnership with the local drug and alcohol coalition, ICARe, the Health Rocks! program promoted National Red Ribbon Week with a poster contest. ICARe was kind enough to provide cash prizes for the winners. The theme for this year was “YOLO: You Only Live Once.”

Students created half sheet posters to express their opinions against drug and alcohol use. This event was very successful with roughly 40 posters contributed out of the 200 kids participating in the Health Rocks! program.

The kids were able to demonstrate their creativity and the clear messages that Health Rocks! promotes, especially the consequences of using drugs and alcohol.
FARM CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

I wanted to make you aware that Farm Credit Mid-America is taking applications for scholarships from now through the end of January.

Each year, we award more than 60 $1,000 scholarships to college students who are studying agriculture or finance and attending technical or four-year colleges. The application is open to children or grandchildren of Farm Credit customers.

More information on the scholarship program and the application can be found on our website at www.e-farmcredit.com/scholarships.

I would appreciate your sharing this information with your state county staff.

Developing future leaders in agriculture is one of Farm Credit’s core beliefs. We appreciate working with partners like FFA and 4-H. You are instrumental in laying the foundation for a dynamic generation of agriculture and rural community leaders. Helping students develop skills and cultivate innovation not only benefits our society today, but for years to come. THANK YOU!!

Randy Barbee
Director Of Communications | Randy.Barbee@e-farmcredit.com
1601 UPS Drive Louisville, KY 40223
T 502-420-3756 F 502-420-3456 Internal 53756 | e-farmcredit.com
2017 4-H Camp Promotional Brochures
For County Extension Offices
Daniel Sarver, Extension Specialist

2017 4-H Camp brochures continue to be available for County use, and County Extension Offices can get them through the normal UT Extension publications request procedure. Please send an email to utia-pubs@utk.edu, request the amount of brochures you need, and specify the publication number.

The publication numbers are:

Austin 4-H Center, Greeneville - SP 770-A
Ridley 4-H Center, Columbia - SP 770-B
York 4-H Center, Crossville - SP 770-C

These brochures can be used for both Junior Camp and Jr. High Adventure Camp. To view the brochures, click on the link below:

https://4h.tennessee.edu/attach/ideas2015/Brochures.pdf

As in the past, counties are asked to be economical with the use of the brochures. The ultimate cost of these brochures comes from camp fees.

RECOGNIZE OUTSTANDING 4-H ALUMNI
Ryan Hensley, Executive Director, TN 4-H Foundation

4-H alumni can be a great asset to county 4-H programs. Do you have an active 4-H alumnus in your county you would like to recognize? The state 4-H office is now accepting nominations for the Outstanding 4-H Alumni Award, which will be presented during Tennessee 4-H Congress. To nominate a 4-H alumnus, simply go to the Form and Materials page on state 4-H Web site. You can find the Alumni Recognition Nomination Form (F841) under the heading “Volunteers.”

Nomination forms should be sent to Ryan Hensley at rhensle5@utk.edu. The deadline for submitting nominations is February 20. Let’s get those forms in and give outstanding alumni the recognition they deserve!
Communicating with Stakeholders: 2016 Statewide Economic Assessment

Joseph Donaldson, Assistant Professor

Accountability reports are helpful in communicating the value of Extension to industry leaders, advisory groups, legislators, county commissioners, and other stakeholders. Many of you produce exceptional Extension accountability reports annually, and in many cases more frequently, to communicate our results. Exemplary reports from previous years are available on the Evaluation Reports page of the ALEC website.

Here are some tips for effective reporting:

- Use the standard introduction: “We provide education that produces solutions to societal, economic and environmental issues. We teach Tennesseans in the places they live, work and play through hundreds of programs. Our efforts are based on local needs, research and a commitment to improve the quality of life.”
- Use the standard economic impact statement: “The total economic impact of UT Extension’s statewide educational efforts in 2016 was more than $512 million. For every $1 in public funds invested in UT Extension programs, an estimated $8.03 is returned to the people of Tennessee.”
- Include the best overall outcomes.
- Tell your story with a one-page report.
- Include high-quality photos.

The UT Extension statewide economic assessment for FY 2016 is available to share with stakeholders. I hope this information is useful in communicating the value of Extension and continuing our strong public support for Tennessee Extension programs. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

Yours truly,
Joseph
Friends of Andy Seals

Dr. Richard Clark

As many of you may know, Andy Seals retired on December 31, 2016, after 35+ years at the Clyde Austin 4-H Center in Greeneville. Andy has touched thousands of young lives over the years through the 4-H camping program. He started with Extension as a summer camp staff in the early 70s, before being named the first full-time manager of the newly renovated Clyde Austin 4-H Center in 1981.

Andy has asked that in lieu of personal gifts, those friends wishing to honor him might consider a gift to the Tennessee 4-H Foundation. All donations will be placed in a designated account to fund summer camp scholarships to the Clyde Austin 4-H Center.

Checks can be made payable to the Tennessee 4-H Foundation with “Seals retirement” in the memo line and sent to:

Ryan Hensley
Tennessee 4-H Foundation
2621 Morgan Circle, Room 205,
Knoxville, TN 37996-4510.

To donate online using a credit card, go to https://www.tn4hfoundation.org/ and click on Donate Now! Select Clyde Austin 4-H Center in the drop down menu under Camps and Events. During the process, you will have the opportunity to indicate your gift is in honor of Andy in a comment section.

Andy, his wife Cheryl and daughter Amanda will be living right up the road from camp in their newly constructed home. We congratulate Andy on a legacy of service and wish him all the best in his retirement.
Membership Drive
Sign Up Today!

We are celebrating new members in the new year, and 2017 is a perfect time to reconnect with Tennessee 4-H Alumni and Friends. By filling out the online form, you will receive quarterly newsletters, event updates, and opportunities to serve your local and state 4-H program. Active alumni help to fulfill our mission statement:

We believe the country’s future depends on reaching today’s youth with the values and opportunities provided through the Tennessee 4-H program. Our mission is to serve as a catalyst to build and foster relationships among Tennesseans, support the development programs of 4-H, and connect today’s youth with 4-H alumni.

Interested in learning more?
Visit: www.tn4halumni.com
Find Us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/TN4HALumni/

Encourage Alumni to Sign up & Everyone Wins:
During the month of January, counties can encourage 4-H alumni members to sign up through the website. At the end of the month, the county signing up the most new alumni members in each Region will receive $300 for their 4-H program. Counties must sign up 10 members to be eligible for the prize. Members who share our Facebook post and new members who register will be entered into our drawing to win a $50 gift card.

Save the Date: Feb 25, 2017 Tennessee 4-H Alumni & Friends Annual Meeting
4-H 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 and my world.

Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 20-21</td>
<td>Shooting Sports Instructor Certification</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 27-28</td>
<td>State 4-H All Star High Council Meeting</td>
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<td>February 1</td>
<td>Beekeeping Essay Due</td>
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<td>Congress Minority Scholarships Due</td>
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<td>Sr. High Citizenship/Leadership Portfolios Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 13</td>
<td>State 4-H Congress Regional Essays Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 20</td>
<td>Alumni Recognition Nomination Forms Due</td>
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