Tennessee 4-H Congress is Here!

Dr. Richard Clark

The 70th Annual Tennessee 4-H Congress will begin this Sunday at the Sheraton Music City Hotel in Nashville. The schedule has been slightly altered this year but still contains all of the great educational experiences and competitions. We will begin this year with our Public Speaking, Leadership, and Citizenship competitions. These winners will be announced at our opening session that evening. We will also hear from our Performing Arts Troupe during the banquet.

Monday will be the time for our members to travel to the capital and participate in debating bills and practicing state government. They will also participate in several educational workshops related to leadership. Finally, they will visit with their local legislators and have dinner in downtown Nashville.

Tuesday will be the election of officers, Tennessee History Bowl contest and a history lesson on the General Jackson. That evening we will celebrate citizenship with our banquet and the installation of our new Congress officers. Finally, we will conclude the 70th Congress with an evening Gala.

Many thanks to all of our donors who make this outstanding event a lifelong memory for our members. You are truly helping to “Make the Best Better”.
Ag Day on the Hill 2017

Justin Crowe, Extension Specialist

Tennessee 4-H was well represented at the recent Ag Day on the Hill in Nashville. Leaders and supporters gathered recently at the state capitol to promote the agricultural industry and its tremendous impact within our state. On Monday night, March 13th, nine state 4-H council members and volunteers rolled up their sleeves and pitched in for the annual legislative supper for members of the House of Representatives and Senate. These 4-H members served meals and interacted with the legislators. On Tuesday morning, Luci Allen (State 4-H All Star Chief – Macon County) and Kendall Martin (Junior Representative – Lincoln County) spent the morning visiting legislators and assisting with the UT Extension booth in legislative plaza.

Luci represented 4-H at the House Ag Committee meeting where she talked about the impact that 4-H has had on her life. In addition, Haylee Ferguson, Rutherford County 4-H member, and Allison Parker, State FFA Officer and 4-H alum, talked about the impact of agriculture and the difference that youth programs like 4-H and FFA make! One of the highlights of the day was when Governor Haslam made his way down the row of booths, visiting with each organization representatives. When he reached the UT Extension booth, Kendall presented him with a 4-H lapel pin. He showed his lapel where his 4-H lapel pin was already placed. He indicated he still had his lapel pin from the previous year and wanted to be sure to wear it that day! To see photos from this great day, please visit https://tiny.utk.edu/AGOTH17
State 4-H Beekeeping Essay Winners Announced

Justin Crowe, Extension Specialist

State judging has been completed for the 2017 beekeeping essay contest conducted by The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc. Our state winner is Christiana Gilbert from Unicoi County. The second place winner is Abbey King from Greene County and third place is awarded to Samantha Bussell of Macon County. Christiana will receive $100.00 and a book about honey bees, beekeeping and/or honey as her award. Abbey will receive $75.00 as her award and Samantha will receive $50.00. The state donor is the Knox County Beekeepers Association. Christiana’s winning essay will be forwarded to the American Beekeeping Federation, Inc. for national judging. The national winners will be announced by May 1. National awards are first place ($750), second place ($500) and third place ($250).

Congratulations to Christiana, Abbey, and Samantha, and thanks to those who made this opportunity available to their 4-H members.
2017 STATE 4-H POSTER WINNERS

Carmen Burgos, Extension Specialist

Poster Judging has been completed for the State 4-H Poster Art Contest and the winners selected. The following members have state-winning entries.

Graeyn Carder – Carter Co.
Eli Hill – Benton Co.
Donny Slone – Sumner Co.
Aidan Flynn – Macon Co.
John Burnholl – Franklin Co.

Raylee Bailey – Union Co.
Hunter Willis – Weakley Co.
Ethan Hitchcock - Warren Co.
Alivia Haylett – Williamson Co.

These ten posters will be on display during Tennessee State 4-H Congress in Nashville, March 19-22. The contest is sponsored by the Former University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture Workers Association. Each state winner will receive a rosette and $25.

The winning posters may also be seen on the Congress Web site at https://4h.tennessee.edu/Pages/st cong/poster.aspx.
JUANITA H. FASOLA FOUNDATION, INC.
MINI-GRANTS AVAILABLE

Ryan Hensley, Executive Director TN 4-H Foundation

The Juanita H. Fasola Foundation has announced the availability of mini-grants for the purpose of funding educational programs for youth and young adults in basic life skills and home economics. The Fasola Foundation funds projects focusing on consumer education and nutrition; cookery; clothing; sewing; textiles; parental education and childcare; hygiene; health care management; household economics and management; household equipment; house cleaning; and housing.

The Foundation is also interested in funding projects, which offer educational training and opportunities for the learning disabled, including but not limited to dyslexia, attention deficit disorder, speech auditory disorders, and/or educational rehabilitation.

Ms. Fasola, a former Extension worker, was a strong supporter of the Tennessee 4-H program. If you are interested in applying for a mini-grant, an application is attached to the newsletter email.

If you have questions, please contact Ryan Hensley at Tn4H@utk.edu or 865-974-7436 for more information.

The 4-H Foundation merely collects and submits grant applications and has no influence on the selection process. Successful applicants will be announced in 4-H Ideas when the 4-H Foundation is notified what, if any, applications were selected. There is no maximum or minimum grant level; however most grants from the Fasola Foundation are funded at $10,000 or less.

Grant applications will be accepted until Tuesday, April 18.
Please submit applications to:

The Tennessee 4-H Foundation
c/o: Ryan Hensley
2621 Morgan Circle
205 Morgan Hall
Knoxville, TN 37996
Tn4H@utk.edu
National Youth Summit on Healthy Living

Justin Crowe, Extension Specialist

Tennessee was well represented at the National Summit on Healthy Living, held February 17-20, 2017 at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase, MD. With 40 delegates (including 4-H members, county, regional and state 4-H staff), the Tennessee delegation presented four workshops and introduced the Tennessee 4-H healthy living plan for 2017! This group of 4-H members representing each region of the state attended using grant funding from OJJDP and National 4-H Council.

For more information on the National Youth Summit on Healthy Living, please visit http://www.nationalyouthsummit.org/healthy-living-conference.

The 2018 conference is scheduled for February 16 – 18, 2018!

CURRENT GRANT PROJECTS

Shelby Brawner, Extension Assistant/Grant Manager

BRADLEY COUNTY 4-H MEMBERS LEARN HEALTHY LIFESTYLES WITH FUNDING FROM WALMART GRANT

Lynne Middleton, Bradley County Extension Agent

Nutrition, exercise, and learning to live healthy lifestyles are becoming more important to not only adults, but to youth in today’s society. Eating balanced meals and becoming more active are important ways to have a healthy, longer life and many youth do not learn these lessons at home.

Bradley County 4-H members have an opportunity to learn about healthier living through the support of the Walmart Youth Choice: Youth Voice Grant. Between
September 2016 and August 2017, youth in seven counties in East Tennessee are learning hands-on, life lessons that will help them live healthier lives for years to come.

Specifically in Cleveland, 4-H members have participated in lessons on making healthy, fun snacks including trail mix and fruit animals, along with balancing sweets with vegetables and protein and pizza meeting needs to become a healthy meal. Lessons have been taught from a variety of resources including the “4-H Pizza Garden” curriculum from the University of Florida, the “Eat Smart” curriculum from the University of Tennessee Extension Tennessee Nutrition and Consumer Education Program (TNCEP), and the National 4-H Curriculum “Health” project.

So far, over 100 Bradley County youth have been reached with hands-on classes that began with hand-washing and “Food Safety 101.” For the remainder of the grant cycle, Lynne Middleton, Extension Agent 4-H in Bradley County, said, “I am hoping to work with a local day camp center throughout the summer months to do programming that will get the youth moving and eating a little healthier than they normally do. It’s been an exciting opportunity and I appreciate Walmart funding this awesome program!”

Sam Hood, 9th Grader at Walker Valley High School said, “I’ve loved learning about cooking. My mom and sisters cook but I guess people don’t expect boys to do it too. I’ve learned a lot and my favorite part of it is eating the stuff we get to make.”

All programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences, and UT/TSU Extension provide equal opportunities and employment.

For more information about the 4-H Healthy Lifestyles Grant from Walmart, contact Shelby Brawner at ssummare@vols.utk.edu or Lynne Middleton at LMiddle2@utk.edu.
Our Hands to Larger Service
Justin Crowe, Extension Specialist

Delegates to the 2017 Tennessee 4-H Congress have been busy collecting items for our service project! As a reminder, we are collecting items to send to military installations to benefit our service men and women. We will collect the service project items at 4-H Congress during registration on Sunday afternoon. For more information, please visit https://4h.tennessee.edu/Pages/stcong/service.aspx! Please note that we will also collect cash (or checks made payable to the TN 4-H Foundation) to help cover shipping!

Missouri Youth Civic Leaders Summit
Justin Crowe, Extension Specialist

Seven Tennessee 4-H members and two staff members were recently invited to attend the Missouri Youth Civic Leaders Summit (held March 3 – 5, 2017 at the Windermere Conference Center in Roach, Missouri). This delegation consisted of members of State 4-H Council and teens from Robertson County 4-H. The group taught two different session focused on service learned, participated in team building activities and heard dynamic speakers.

For more information on this summit, please visit http://4h.missouri.edu/YCLS/main!

Special thanks to Missouri 4-H and the Missouri Community Betterment initiative for extending the invitation.
National 4-H Day of Service

Justin Crowe, Extension Specialist

Information has been distributed to county 4-H agents concerning the National 4-H Day of Service, scheduled for April 29, 2017! Each county is asked to complete at least one service project either on that date or sometime during the month of April! Contact your 4-H agent to set up your service project for the month of April and make sure the event gets registered! More information can be found at http://4-h.org/get-involved/true-leaders-in-service/! Additionally, we are selling 4-H Day of Service t-shirts! Be sure to order yours today!

Use the order form attached to the newsletter!

Follow us on Social Media!

Want up to date information on activities and programs? Be sure to follow 4-H on social media! You can like us on:
Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/Tennessee4H/ and on
Twitter at https://twitter.com/Tennessee4H!
2017 4-H Congress T-Shirt

Short sleeve available for sale in 4-H Congress Headquarters!

Front pocket

S-XL: $14
2XL: $15
3XL/4XL: $16

Shirt color: Natural

Back

All proceeds benefit UTK Collegiate 4-H and their many service projects!
2017 Tennessee 4-H t-shirt

Short and long sleeve available for sale in 4-H Congress Headquarters!

Front pocket

Short Sleeve: $14
Long Sleeve: $16
Add $1 for 2XL
Add $2 for 3XL or 4XL
Shirt color: White

Back

Making The Best BETTER

All proceeds benefit the Tennessee 4-H Performing Arts Troupe
ALEC Graduate Program

Masters of Science in Agriculture Leadership, Education and Communications (ALEC)

Online degree available!!

For more information, please visit
https://ALEC.utk.edu
Or Call 865-974-7371

Carrie Ann Stephens
Professor, 4-H/ALEC

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

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