



TENNESSEE
4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

CLOVER CHRONICLES

THIRD EDITION • APRIL 2026



TENNESSEE 4-H CONGRESS



Tennessee 4-H Congress 2026 was an action-packed and unforgettable week filled with new excitement, meaningful traditions, and countless opportunities for growth. This year, delegates embraced a new challenge as they stepped into the role of legislators, creating and presenting bills on the floors of the Senate and House of Representatives. Many 9th and 10th grade 4-H’ers rose to the occasion with confidence, passion, and thoughtful ideas, making this new addition a highlight of the week.

State Congress officers had the honor of serving throughout the 79th Annual 4-H Congress, helping lead sessions, support delegates, and create an environment where every 4-H’er felt encouraged to step up and find their voice. Throughout the week, delegates connected with others from across the state, built new friendships, and strengthened existing ones, all while growing as leaders. Their enthusiasm, dedication, and willingness to get involved are what make Tennessee 4-H so impactful.

The week was also filled with memorable traditions and fun experiences, including a special evening aboard the General Jackson. Delegates enjoyed a cruise along the Cumberland River, paired with a lively country music performance that brought everyone together to celebrate the week’s accomplishments. Overall, Tennessee 4-H Congress 2026 was a week full of leadership, learning, service, and connection. From stepping into new roles to embracing long-standing traditions, delegates made the most of every opportunity. Congratulations to the newly elected Congress officers—we are excited to see how you will lead, grow, and continue to make a difference in the year ahead!

- Matthew Rochford, Jr Rep



AG DAY ON THE HILL



On March 17th, Tennessee 4-H had the opportunity to attend Agriculture Day on the Hill at the Tennessee State Capitol. There, TN 4-H State Council and Regional and State FFA Officers served breakfast to state legislators and had the opportunity to network, discuss agriculture, and most importantly, thank them for their continued support of the industry. Tennessee 4-H members from several counties also brought livestock to display, representing agriculture from across the state. Later that morning, State Council President Alex Snodgrass addressed members of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. It is always a privilege for Tennessee 4-H, as an agricultural youth organization, to come together and show appreciation for the leaders and industry that support agriculture across our state.

- Jayden Hesson, All Star Scribe

2ND STATE COUNCIL MEETING
2026 ALUMNI AND FRIENDS MEETING



State Council officers gathered for their second meeting this year, combining leadership growth with service to Tennessee 4-H. Throughout the weekend, officers worked together to plan for the upcoming months, while also supporting the annual Alumni and Friends Meeting. During the event, State Council members assisted with both the silent and live auctions, helping raise nearly \$8,000 to support 4-H programs across the state. In addition to serving, officers gained a deeper understanding of the Tennessee 4-H budget, how the program operates, and even had the opportunity to interview for National 4-H Conference. The weekend wasn't all business, though, officers also spent time bonding over dinner at Sammy B's and building stronger connections as a team.

- Hadassah Boyle, Sr Rep

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION CONVENTION



Alex Snodgrass, Ann Thomas Lowery, John Hancock, Harrison Crenshaw, and Hailey Butler had the honor to represent Tennessee 4-H at the 2026 American Farm Bureau Federation Convention in Anaheim, California. While there, they shared their 4-H stories while gaining valuable insight into agricultural industries across the United States. During the convention, these State Council members worked the National 4-H Council booth, networking with attendees and agricultural leaders throughout the trade show. They had the opportunity to connect with leaders from across the country, learning more about agriculture and building meaningful relationships. In addition to their time at the convention, they visited Huntington Beach and Disneyland in their free time, making lasting memories together. This trip to Anaheim was truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that these council members will cherish forever. Thanks to the support from Tennessee Farm Bureau, Tennessee 4-H State Council, and each council member's county extension office, this experience was made possible!

- Hailey Bulter, All-Star Cheif



FFA AND 4-H SUMMIT



In February, Tennessee 4-H and FFA state officers gathered in Greeneville, Tennessee at the Clyde Austin 4-H Center for the 4-H and FFA Leadership Summit, a weekend focused on collaboration between the two organizations. Throughout the summit, officers gained a deeper understanding of each program and worked together to explore ways to strengthen their impact, extend their reach, and promote agriculture across the state. They also learned valuable lessons in leadership and cooperation from Commissioner Andy Holt, as well as the importance of mentorship from Tennessee Farmers Cooperative’s Claire Hill. With over 120 years of both organizations making a difference, this marked a historic step as 4-H and FFA came together as separate organizations with a shared vision for the future. That vision became a reality during Tennessee 4-H Congress, when both state presidents signed a joint resolution, symbolizing their commitment to continued partnership and service. This weekend was an incredible opportunity to work alongside such inspiring leaders, and it set the stage for the impact both organizations will make together in the year ahead.

Different Jackets, Same Mission! 🤝 🍀

- Hailey Butler, All Star Chief



STATEWIDE
PUBLIC SPEAKING
AND PORTFOLIOS



4-H members from across Tennessee were selected at the regional level to represent their areas in Public Speaking, as well as Leadership and Citizenship Portfolios. These outstanding representatives advanced to compete at the state level during 4-H Congress in March 2026. While at Congress, participants not only showcased their hard work through interviews and competitions, but also gave back through a day of service and stepped into leadership roles by helping facilitate and mentoring younger delegates. Congratulations to all of our regional representatives, state competitors, and especially our state winners for their dedication, leadership, and commitment to Tennessee 4-H!

- Hadassah Boyle, Sr Rep



STATE AND NATIONAL CONTEST HIGHLIGHTS

Congratulations to these hard-working 4-H’ers for their success on the state and national level:

National Family and Consumer Sciences Contest

- Lincoln County FCS Team – 1st Overall
- Franklin County – 2nd Overall FCS Presentations (Harrison Crenshaw)
- Franklin County – 6th Overall FCS Presentations (Mehak Patel and Elizabeth Tapp)
- Knox County – 3rd Overall Consumer Decision Making
- Madison County – 5th Overall Quiz Bowl
- Knox County – 2nd High Overall Individual (Chloe Kepper)
- Knox County – 3rd High Overall Individual (Hadassah Boyle)



Western National Roundup

- Wilson County - National Champions 4-H Honor Club Parliamentary Procedure
- Williamson County’s - Grand Champion Public Speaking (Sowmil Kumble)
- Franklin County - Reserve Champion Impromptu Public Speaking (Calli Alonso)

We are so proud of all who competed and represented Tennessee 4-H!



Congratulations to Lincoln County for winning the State 4-H Chopped Challenge!



Wilson County, National Chamions 4-H Honor Club Parliamentary Procedure

HEALTHY LIVING AMBASSADORS



Applications for the Healthy Living Ambassador program are now open, offering 4-H members an exciting opportunity to grow as leaders while promoting health and wellness in their communities. As part of the Healthy Living project, ambassadors have the chance to serve at the county, regional, and even state level, while also attending unique events and national conferences. Beyond the experiences, the program allows members to connect with others who share a passion for healthy living and after a year of service, ambassadors can even apply for the State Healthy Living Board. If you’re looking for a meaningful and fun way to get involved, this is a great opportunity to take the next step in your 4-H journey, message your 4-H agent today for information on how to apply!

- Hadassah Boyle, Sr. Rep
State Healthy Living Board Member

2026 TENNESSEE FFA STATE CONVENTION

State 4-H Officers Ann Thomas Lowery, John Hancock, Calleigh Phillips, and Jayden Hesson were honored to represent 4-H at the 98th Tennessee FFA State Convention. This opportunity highlighted the strong partnership between 4-H and FFA, emphasizing how collaboration between the two organizations helps build a stronger future for Tennessee agriculture and youth development. During the convention, Tennessee 4-H State Council President Alex Snodgrass had the opportunity to address FFA members, sharing about the impact of 4-H and the importance of continued leadership and service. In addition, Ann Thomas Lowery and John Hancock were elected to serve as State FFA Officers for the 2026–2027 year, a testament to their leadership and dedication to agricultural education. “Different Jackets, Same Mission” perfectly captures the spirit of this experience, as both organizations work together to grow the next generation of leaders. Tennessee 4-H State Council is proud to be part of this historic and meaningful partnership.

- Hadassah Boyle, Sr Rep



MEET YOUR EDITORS



COLE BURCHELL
ALL-STAR
DEPUTY CHIEF



HADASSAH BOYLE
SR. REP



HAILEY BUTLER
ALL-STAR
CHIEF



MATTHEW
ROCHFORD JR. REP



JAYDEN HESSON
ALL-STAR
SCRIBE

UPCOMING EVENTS

- * SPRING ALL STAR
CONFERENCES
MARCH-APRIL
- * NATIONAL 4-H CONFERENCE
APRIL 10TH - 15TH
- * ACADEMIC CONFERENCE
JUNE 9TH - 12TH
- * 3RD STATE COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 19TH - 21ST
- * STATE ELETRIC CAMP
- * REGIONAL JR AND JR HIGH CAMPS
JUNE - JULY
- * TENNESSEE 4-H ROUNDUP
JULY 20TH - 24TH

HAVE SOMETHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN
CLOVER CHRONICLES?

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