

FEBRUARY

RUTHERFORD COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER



What we do

Tennessee 4-H encourages diverse groups of youth to develop their unique skills and talents to their fullest potential. 4-H helps youth prepare for success in the workforce and to be leaders in civic engagement.

Young people participate in 4-H through clubs, special interest groups, after-school programs, camps, and many other activities. "Learning by doing" through hands-on activities and community involvement empowers 4-H'ers to develop and strengthen life skills. Opportunities for 4th-12th grade students.

Upcoming Events

2026 FEBRUARY						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

www.calendar-to-print.com

Reminder: If Rutherford Co. Schools are closed for inclement weather, we will not have afterschool or evening 4-H programs that day. Please stay safe!

- 3rd Yoga in the Community Center, pre-registration required
- 5th Homeschool club 4th-12th grade, 3:45-4:30 pm CCC
- 5th Teen club open to 6-12th graders, 5:30 pm CCC
- 6th Hippology & Horse Bowl, 4 pm CCC
- 9th Livestock Club meeting AND Horse Club Meeting
- 10th Poultry Club meeting
- 13th Hippology & Horse Bowl, 4 pm CCC
- 20th Hippology & Horse Bowl, 4 pm CCC
- 23rd Horse Judging, CCC 6 pm CCC
- 24th High School Life Skills Class 5:30 pm pre-registration required.
- 30th Hippology & Horse Bowl, 4 pm CCC

CCC=Community Center Classroom, 315 John R Rice Blvd. Murfreesboro. Come Learn Something New with 4-H!

Coming up soon:

- March 21 Rutherford County Horse Show
- March 21 Sewing with Raquel

This month In School Clubs: Students are doing a demonstration.



CONTACTS

Agents

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CLUBS

Sewing
Cooking
Archery
Horse Club
Judging Teams
Teen Club/ Honor Club
Photography Group
Poultry
Livestock
Homeschool
Yoga
Nutrition

OFFICE

Rutherford County
Extension Office Phone
615-898-7710

Website
rutherford.tennessee.edu

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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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The Rutherford County 4-H Horse Program Members competed in the Central Region Hippology/Horse Bowl competition Jan. 17th

Senior Team, 1st Place Overall in the Hippology Contest

Bethany Lancaster, 2nd place Individual

Kennedy Frank, 7th place Individual

Pearl Moore

Arabella Smart

Pierce Lancaster, Alternate

Julie Simpson, Alternate



Junior High Team, 17th Place Overall in the Hippology Contest

Abigail Orozco

Lauren Thompson

Ella Willoughby



Junior Team, 4th Place Overall in Hippology

Lyla Parker, 3rd place Individual

Abigail Oeser

Valerie Rozuk

The Senior and Junior teams qualified for the State Hippology Competition and will be headed there in February.

Congratulations to all the members for their hard work and effort!



Teams are coached by Tammy Chandler. For more information, contact: tchand19@utk.edu.



Congratulations
Central Region
Area 4 winners of the
Public Speaking Contest
Aadya 1st Place in 5th
Grade (l)
Angel 1st Place in 8th
Grade (r)



It's cornbread time in Tennessee!

We invite your 4-Hers (grades 4-6) to submit a recipe for the 29th Annual National Cornbread Festival 4-H Cook-Off, sponsored by Lodge Cast Iron! Our competition is open to 4-H students nationwide. We encourage your students to get creative in the kitchen when developing their recipes. The judges will be looking for complex recipes and dishes that encompass a variety of flavors.

Recipe submissions must be received via mail or email by Feb. 27. The top ten recipes will be announced in early March. Those students selected will compete live at the National Cornbread Festival on Sunday, April 26, 2026, in South Pittsburg, TN.

Rules and registration form can be found at our web site, under deadlines.



Chick Chain

This program allows Rutherford Co. 4th-12th graders to receive pullet chicks to care for and begin their own flock of chickens. Participants will attend monthly meetings to help raise their chicks. Each participant will receive the chicks the week of April 13 and will care for them until the Show and Sale on September 19, 2026.

Each participant is required to complete a one-page essay about raising their chicks, complete a record book, and bring back 3 of their birds to the Show and Sale.

Red Star Chicks: 25 for \$100 or 12 for \$50. Contact annlgaff@utk.edu

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Rutherford County 4-H members exhibited their project animals at the Central Region Swine Show held Jan. 7-8.

Breeding Gilt Show

Berkshire Class 02- Leighton Wakefield 4th place and Ty Hall 6th place

Duroc Class 01- Holden Shuler 7th

Duroc Class 02- Molli Schlick 5th, Benjamin Sledge 6th, Addie Vernon 7th

Tamworth Class 02- Holden Shuler 4th

Market Hog Show

Spotted Class 03 (250 lbs - 272 lbs)- Ashlee Zack 1st

Crossbred Class 06 (258 lbs - 262 lbs)- Tristen Hall 2nd and Baylee Davis 3rd

Crossbred Class 07 (263 lbs - 269 lbs)- Holden Shuler 3rd

Purebred Prospect Class 01 (0 lbs - 196 lbs)- William Dickson 1st

Purebred Prospect Class 02 (197 lbs - 211 lbs)- Leighton Wakefield 3rd

Commercial Prospect Class 01B (0 lbs - 195 lbs)- John Blandford 3rd and Jared Costa 6th

Commercial Prospect Class 04 (207 lbs - 213 lbs)- Gage Bergstresser 1st and Kasen Miller 4th

Skillathon

Junior High- Holden Shuler 12th

Senior Level 2- Baylee Davis 17th and Ashlee Zack 25th

Sewing Day Camp

Registration opens February 1st open to students 4th-8th grade no experience necessary! Sewing Day Camp will be March 21 from 9am-2pm, we will create 2 projects start to finish and gain confidence using a sewing machine. This camp will be held in the Extension Auditorium, and pre-registration is required to participate.

Bird Hunting Field Day & Gun Dog College

will be held Feb 28 from 1-4:30 pm at 5601 Christiana Hoovers Gap Road in Christiana. Youth and adults must register by emailing RC@utk.edu Attendance is Free. This event is co-sponsored by University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture and Bowman Kennels. Questions call 865-974-0636.

High School Juniors and Seniors

TSU has a 4 week fully funded residential summer Range Research Experience. Deadline to apply Feb. 28 Ideal for those interested in Agriculture, Environmental Science, Natural Resources Management, and STEM careers. Participants conduct hands-on research, explore fields sites, and present their work at a final research symposium under the guidance of TSU AG faculty. Email jwalk143@utk.edu for the promotional flyer with application link.

A.I. In Ag Camp for those interested in flying drones, working with robotics, programming smart devises, and how AI is used in Ag. The UT Dept. of Biosystems Engineering and Tennessee 4-H have a 4-week program, that has you home for every weekend, limited to 10 students. Visit 4h.tennessee.edu/ai-in-ag-camp for more details..

4-H is looking for host families for Inbound Exchange Students.

Host Family Requirements:
You must have a child of the same gender who is within 4 years of the hosted youth.

Families without children of the appropriate age may host an adult chaperone. No special activities need to be planned since these youth want to experience American culture, make new friends, and improve their English by staying with your family. You don't need to be involved with 4-H to host. For more information Visit: <http://www.states4hexchange.org> Email: exchange@states4h.org Call: 1-800-407-3314



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