

Rutherford County EXTENSION NEWS



May, 2026 | Issue

HELP US WELCOME!

New member of our Team



MEGAN CARTEE
ADULT AG AGENT

My name is Megan Cartee, and I am excited to serve as one of the ANR Extension Agents for Rutherford County. I earned my degree in Agricultural Business, with a concentration in Farm and Ranch Management, from the University of Tennessee at Martin. I am eager to share practical, research-based information and support the needs of producers and residents. I look forward to building relationships throughout Rutherford County and providing assistance to farmers, landowners, and residents. I am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the Extension team and to serve this community.



The Rutherford County Farmers Market is excited to announce its evening market schedule and a full lineup of family-friendly activities for the summer and fall seasons. Now open year-round, the market continues its mission of bringing the community together through fun, learning, and local flavor.

This summer, the market will host free family events including

- Movie Nights at the Market
- Bingo Night
- Glow Stick Parties
- Pajama Storytime.

Ongoing activities will include the Adventurers Toddler Class Series, a horse petting zoo, walking clubs, and visits from the Rutherford County Library Bookmobile. Monthly event calendars are available at the market. Events will take place at 315 John R. Rice Blvd. in Murfreesboro, with schedules and updates available on the following:

- market's website
<https://rutherford.tennessee.edu/farmers-market-2/>
- social media -
<https://www.facebook.com/uttsuextensionrutherfordcounty>
- Sign up for email updates regarding the market by filling out [contact form](#).
https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=-WBKtyC_4Ei2bqCGxF7GUBJjxPibC3hFtRB9JhQONVBU_NDFSMDFHQ1JUVFFPVEpNNE5VN0JFNkgyWC4u

The market recently announced that it will now be open year-round, from spring to winter each year.

For the Love of Mom

Rutherford Co. Mother's Day Market

May 2, 2026
9:30am-3:00pm

Lane Agri-Park Community Center
315 John R. Rice Blvd, Murfreesboro TN

Local Vendors, Food & Fun



STATE 4-H ARCHERY JAMBOREE RESULTS

The State 4-H Archery Jamboree was held on Saturday, April 11, in Cookeville, Tennessee. We were proud to have 15 of our 4-H youth represent our county at this statewide competition.

Jamboree Highlights

- Genesis Junior – Ival A. placed 14th out of 130 archers
- Genesis Junior High – Justin V. placed 2nd out of 116 archers
- Genesis Junior High – Isa W. placed 6th out of 116 archers
- Genesis Junior High – Reagan A. placed 9th out of 116 archers
- Genesis Senior – Barrett P. placed 8th out of 114 archers
- Genesis Senior – Ciara H. placed 15th out of 114 archers
- Skill-a-thon (Junior High) – Justin V. placed 4th out of 186 participants



We are extremely proud of all the hard work and dedication our 4-H archers have shown throughout the year. A huge thank you goes out to our volunteer archery coaches for their time, commitment, and support in helping these youth succeed!



LIVE IN CONTROL WORKSHOP

Managing Diabetes Together

Join Family & Consumer Science agents Shay Davis and Misty Layne-Watkins for “**Live in Control**,” a four-week Diabetes Self-Management Education (DSME) Workshop. This foundational program is designed to help individuals with type 2 diabetes gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to better manage their condition and achieve improved blood glucose control.

A core philosophy of the program is that a family-centered approach is necessary to better manage diabetes. Live in Control includes a family member or friend (care supporter) of the participant as a part of the intervention. This person is someone who they identify as a person closely involved in their diabetes management. This is a FREE Workshop. **Participants must bring a care supporter to all 4 classes.**

Will need a Minimum of 10 participants, or workshop will be canceled.

Tuesday Afternoons from 4pm-6pm

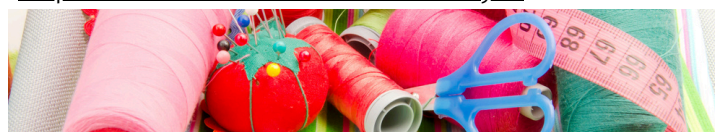
May 19th, May 26th, June 2nd & June 9th

Location: Lane Agri-Park Community Center Classroom

315 John R. Rice Blvd, Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Register by going to link below. Friday May 8th registration deadline

<https://forms.office.com/r/wPYT1ktya2>



SPRING PILLOW CLASS

Monday, May 11th at the Lane Agri Park – Auditorium
315 John R. Rice Blvd., Murfreesboro

Join us for a fun and creative spring pillow sewing class!

Perfect for Adults and High school students.

Choose Your Session:

- Afternoon: 2:00 PM – 4:30 PM
- Evening: 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Fee: \$20

Pay & Register by clicking on the appropriate link below

- Adult - tiny.utk.edu/5Ry3l
- High school student - tiny.utk.edu/k5lLs

Bring your creativity and make a beautiful spring pillow to keep or gift!

For questions, contact **Janette Walker** at jwalk143@utk.edu or call 615-898-7710.



Junior 4-H Camp is open to any youth in Rutherford County that are currently in the 4th, 5th or 6th grade. Camp will be June 8th–12th at William P. Ridley 4-H Center in Columbia.

This five-day resident camp offers excellent youth programming. Activities include ziplining, swimming, shooting sports, group sports and recreation, nature hikes, woodworking, crafts, music and more!

Cost: \$400 (includes all meals, lodging, transportation and T-shirt) **Registration is OPEN**

To Register & Pay: tiny.utk.edu/RC.4-HJR.Camp

If you need to pay with a check, please call the office at 615-898-7710.

rutherford.tennessee.edu/4-h-camp/

Please check our website for a list of other specialty camps we have available at this time.

<https://rutherford.tennessee.edu/4-h-camp/>



LEARN TO QUILT CLASS

Location: 1700 Irby Lane, Murfreesboro

Choose your date

Date/Time: June 16th & 17th Noon-4pm

Date/Time: June 30th & July 1st 9am-1pm

Cost: \$45

- [Adult Register and pay online by Clicking Here.](#)
- [High school Register and pay online by Clicking Here.](#)

You will make a table topper or placemat about 12"x16"

Learning how to:

- sew fabric pieces together
- cut borders with rotary cutter and mat
- layer and secure the sections,
- learn to quilt with machine the layers together and finish the edges

All materials included in cost, supplies used in class will be provided. Bring your sewing machine or use ours. ***Limited Space available for all sewing classes!*** If you have questions please contact Janette Walker @ jwalk143@utk.edu



4-H HORSE SCIENCE DAY CAMP

CALLING ALL HORSE SCIENCE FANS!

June 17–18 | 10:00 AM–2:00 PM

Lane Agri-Park – Main Building/Auditorium,
315 John R. Rice Blvd, Murfreesboro, TN

This 2-day camp is open to 4th–12th graders interested in learning how horses work on the inside.

Campers will take an in-depth look at equine digestive anatomy and nutrition while learning how to care for horses from the inside out. Activities include:

- Hands-on learning experiences
- Horse “snacks” taste test
- Friendly competition and interactive challenges

Cost: \$40 per camper

Registration opens: tiny.utk.edu/k5JLs

Space is limited – register early!

Questions? Contact Tammy Chandler

tchandl9@utk.edu



SPROUTING NEW GARDENERS!

Lane Agri Park Barn | 315 John R. Rice Blvd

- June 9–12 (Grades 3–5)
- June 16–19 (Grades K–2)

8:00 AM – Noon

\$75 per camper

Hands-on gardening, crafts, games, snacks, and a pizza party on the last day!

Hosted by the Master Gardeners of Rutherford County

Go to this link to register –

<https://forms.gle/aEH5dHfqNmu8PSxX7>



LUNCH & LEARN : WHAT'S IN THE GARDEN?

Friday, May 15th from 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Lane Agri Park - Auditorium (Main Building)
Join us for an interactive tour of our vegetable demonstration garden! Learn what's growing this season, see what we've planted, and get your gardening questions answered by our Master Gardeners.
Call to register 615-898-7710 or just show up
No cost — all are welcome!



RUTHERFORD COUNTY EXTENSION AGENTS RECOGNIZED STATEWIDE

Extension Agents Recognized at Statewide Family and Consumer Sciences Conference Knoxville, Tenn. — The Tennessee Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (TEAFCS) State Conference was held last week in Knoxville and highlighted outstanding achievements by Extension professionals across the state.

Family and Consumer Sciences Agents Shay Davis and Misty Layne-Watkins were each honored with a Distinguished Service Award, recognizing their dedication, leadership, and significant contributions to Extension programming and community impact.

In addition, 4-H Agent Raquel Victor received Second Place in the Innovative Youth Development Programming Award category for her excellence in developing impactful youth-focused initiatives.

These recognitions reflect the commitment of Extension professionals to delivering high-quality educational programs and strengthening communities across Tennessee. The organization extends its congratulations to all award recipients for their well-deserved honors.



CENTRAL REGION & MTSU HORSE JUDGING COMPETITION SUCCESS

Two teams and two individuals represented our program at the Central Region/MTSU Horse Judging Competition on March 31 at Miller Coliseum in Murfreesboro, TN, and they returned with outstanding results.

4-H Competition Results

- Bethany Lancaster – 8th Place Individual
- Pearl Moore – 4th Place Individual (Senior Division)
- Senior Team – 3rd Place Overall

MTSU Competition Results

- Lyla Parker – 3rd Place Individual (Junior Division)
- Pearl Moore – 1st Place Individual (Senior Halter Division)
- 5th Place Individual Overall
- Junior Team – 1st Place, Halter Division
- Senior Team – 2nd Place, Halter Division

Team Members

- Junior Team: Lyla Parker, Valerie Rozuk, Abby Oeser
- Junior High Participants: Abby Orozco, Ella Willoughby
- Senior Team: Bethany Lancaster, Pearl Moore, Emily de Graaf

We are incredibly proud of these 4-H members for their dedication, hard work, and commitment to Horse Judging practices and competitions throughout the past year. Their achievements reflect countless hours of preparation and a true passion for excellence.

Congratulations to all participants on a job well done!



**OUR OFFICE WILL BE
CLOSED MONDAY,
MAY 25TH**