

# 4-H April Newsletter



## 2025 Culinary U Camp

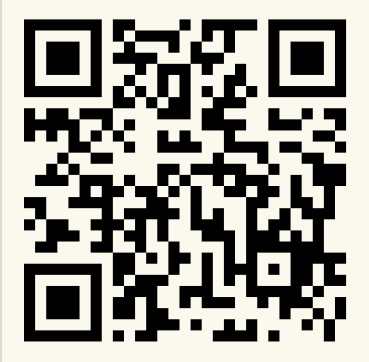


Calling all young chefs in 8th–12th grade! If you’ve got a passion for cooking, we’ve got the perfect recipe for an unforgettable experience! Join us for Culinary U Camp at UT Martin from July 9th–11th, where you’ll whip up leadership and communication skills, master safe food handling techniques, and add some professional development seasoning to your portfolio! For just \$100, this three–day adventure is fully loaded with fun, flavor, and future–ready skills. Don’t miss out—let’s turn up the heat on your culinary journey!

- Cooking Cajun & Creole Food
- Kitchen safety
- Knife skills
- The Great Culinary U Cake Bake-Off
- Fast food dupes
- 4-H Iron chef showdown
- & more!



Interested in joining us? Scan the QR code!



## Southwest Sub–regional Public Speaking Contest

The Sub Regional Public Speaking Contest was held in Jackson early last month. The contest is for youth in grades 4th–8th. Shelby County had the pleasure of having TWO youth compete. Congratulations to Agastya Rana and Ginny Morgan for doing an amazing job competing!!



# 2025 Junior Master Gardener Camp

Calling all young nature lovers! Junior Master Gardener Camp is the perfect summer adventure for boys and girls ages 8-11 who love to explore, create, and get their hands dirty! Hosted by Agricenter International, UT-TSU Extension Shelby County, and Memphis Area Master Gardeners, this exciting camp combines hands-on learning, creative crafts, music, and even a special service project to inspire the next generation of gardeners.

From planting seeds to discovering the magic of nature, campers will learn, grow, and have a blast while making new friends! Don't miss out on this one-of-a-kind experience—register today and let's get growing!

Let's dig into fun! Register on [agricenter.com/org/jmgcamp](http://agricenter.com/org/jmgcamp)

Registration begins on April 1st and end on May 31st.



## Ghost Riders 4-H Horse Club

Early in March at Shake Rag Ranch, our youth had an unforgettable evening with Ms. Kendra Moss, a local professional rider and judge, who led an exciting hands-on judging clinic! From evaluating Conformation, Horsemanship, and Western Pleasure classes to getting insider tips from Kendra, our youth sharpened their judging skills in a big way. Even Agent Kyla swapped her English riding gear for a Western saddle to join in on the fun! A HUGE thank you to Kendra Moss, Shake Rag Ranch, and Chelsea Hopper Tolbert for sharing your expertise (and your amazing horses!) to make this experience so special!

The Ghost Riders 4-H Horse Club is back in action after the State Horse Contest!



# Shelby County 4-H Shines at Tennessee 4-H Congress!



A huge congratulations to our amazing Shelby County 4-H youth who had the incredible opportunity to experience Tennessee 4-H Congress firsthand! These five outstanding young leaders stepped into the world of government, serving as State Finalists, Senators, and Representatives on Capitol Hill. From engaging in meaningful discussions to learning about the legislative process, they gained a front-row seat to democracy in action!

A special thank you to Governor Bill Lee for inspiring our delegates and to Senators Paul Rose and Brent Taylor for taking the time to meet with our youth—the future leaders of our community! We're especially proud of Sophia White (Public Speaking State Finalist) and London Christian (State Leadership Finalist) for being recognized for their incredible accomplishments! Our other delegates also made an impact, sparking meaningful conversations with state legislators. Way to go, Shelby County 4-H! The future is bright with leaders like you! ★



## Congratulations Mr. Tim!!



Our incredible Director of Education, Tim Roberts, has been honored with the Decade of Participation Award from Whitehaven Elementary STEM School at their STEM Day—a well-deserved recognition for his years of dedication and hard work!

For *many* years, Mr. Tim has poured his heart into serving children, always putting his best foot forward to make a lasting impact. His leadership, passion, and unwavering commitment to the 4-H team have shaped countless lives, and we couldn't be more grateful to have him. He's not just an amazing director—he's an outstanding mentor, leader, role model, and all-around incredible person.

Congratulations again, Mr. Tim! Your dedication doesn't go unnoticed, and we appreciate you more than words can say!!

## 2025 Electric Camp

Get ready to spark some fun—Electric Camp is charging up fast! ⚡ This electrifying 4-day adventure at UT Knoxville is designed for 6th–8th graders ready to dive into the world of energy and innovation. From electric cars and robotics to wind energy and home conservation, campers will power up their knowledge while having a blast! Plus, they'll get hands-on with electric lamps, circuits, and safety—because staying safe is just as important as staying charged.

If interested, please reach out to Khalaya at [kcoope53@utk.edu](mailto:kcoope53@utk.edu) or give us a call at 901-752-1207





# 4-H Summer Camps



Get ready for the ultimate summer adventure at Lone Oaks Farm! Whether you're casting a line while fishing, conquering the rope course, or paddling across the water in a kayak, this summer is going to be one for the books!

## Junior = SUMMER = CAMP

Join us for an unforgettable summer at Lone Oaks Farm! Junior Camp (May 26th–30th) is perfect for 6th–8th graders looking for outdoor fun, with early bird pricing at \$350 if registered by April 15th, \$375 from April 16th–25th, and \$400 starting April 26th. Junior campers will dive into thrilling activities like kayaking, archery, fishing, and ropes courses—plus plenty of surprises along the way.



## Junior High 4-H Camp

Gear up, agents! This year's Junior Summer Camp is going undercover with the thrilling theme: Mission Impossible! Your mission—should you choose to accept it—is to embark on an action-packed adventure at Lone Oaks Farm from June 30th–July 4th OR July 14th–July 18th. Designed for elite recruits in 7th–8th grade, this top-secret experience will test your skills, teamwork, and determination through exciting challenges and unforgettable memories. But beware—spaces are limited, so secure your spot before it's too late! Junior Camp fees are set to \$375.

If interested in joining either camp, please reach out to Khalaya at [kcoope53@utk.edu](mailto:kcoope53@utk.edu) or 901-752-1207

Summer  
CAMP

Junior

Junior High



# 4-H Takes on Ag Day on the Hill!



Tennessee 4-H members had an incredible opportunity to step into the spotlight at Ag Day on the Hill on March 18, 2025! Held at the Tennessee State Capitol, this exciting event celebrated the state's rich agricultural heritage with hands-on activities, inspiring discussions, and visits from key leaders—including Governor Bill Lee.

Among those representing 4-H was Malcolm Jackson from Shelby County, a dedicated member of the Tennessee 4-H State Council. Malcolm and his fellow 4-H'ers had the chance to connect with legislators, industry leaders, and community supporters, gaining firsthand insight into the impact of agriculture in Tennessee. From engaging discussions to fun, interactive experiences, the day was both educational and inspiring—a true testament to the power of youth leadership in shaping the future of agriculture!



Way to go, Malcolm and all the 4-H members who made their voices heard at the Capitol!



## Old West Special Trails

Agent Kyla had the incredible honor of visiting and teaching at Old West Special Trails!!

Thanks to Benji, youth at Old West got a hands-on lesson about equine digestion. Even Mrs. Kammie's horse, Lil Bit, was used as a model!

It was a fun filled morning with horses! Thank you, Old West Special Trails for having Agent Kyla out!



## 4-H Equine Art Contest

We're excited to see your entries of your equid artwork!! **Deadline to enter your art pieces is May 15th.** Drawings can be in pen, pencil, charcoal, markers, oil.. whatever your heart desires! Please note that artwork should not be smaller than 6x11 inches and no larger than 11x17 inches. Please mount drawings on matte board. Frames are not allowed.

### **Submit your artwork to Kyla Szemplinski**

7777 Walnut Grove Rd Building B Memphis TN, 38120  
by May 15th at 4:30pm.  
kszempli@utk.edu  
901-752-1207



### **What qualifies as an equid??**

- Horse
- Zebra
- Pony
- Pegasus
- Mule
- Unicorn
- Donkey

# CONTACT US

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## FOLLOW US!

@UT and TSU Extension Shelby County



Follow us on Facebook to get even more details and inside scoop! (And an additional discount for Junior Camp!)

## KNOW SOMEONE INTERESTED IN JOINING 4-H?



We'd love to have them join the team to learn, build confidence, make connections, and have fun!