

UT/TSU Cheatham County

Extension is still here for YOU!!!

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4-H Youth Development

The 4-H Mentoring programming celebrated a day of family at the Nashville Zoo on April 17. The grant monies received covered transportation, entry into the zoo, lunch and special event tickets for each student and their immediately family. Emphasis of the day was developing family memories and building communication skills.



Youth Leadership Cheatham County wrapped up the 2020-2021 year with their State Government tour. As with many of our tour dates, COVID-19 required us to change things up a bit. The day began at the Hermitage Hotel with Kerry Roberts and Mary Littleton meeting with the students. Kerry Roberts got special permission to give YLCC a tour of the Capitol Building and Governor Lee posed for a picture with the group. After lunch, there was a scavenger hunt to find all the historic markers downtown. Even with COVID-19, participants were able to complete each tour, although slightly modified. The tour dates that are part of YLCC include an opening retreat, tourism, agriculture, emergency services, industry, local government, and state government. This year, Will Collier, a senior at Harpeth High School, received a \$1000 college scholarship for his participation in YLCC. Rising Juniors and Seniors may apply for the 2021-2021 class to begin in August.



Agriculture

It's been a busy but very productive Spring for our Extension Agricultural Education programs. In March, 26 beef cattle producers graduated from the 2021 Master Beef Producer Class. Some producers participated virtually, while others attended face-to-face (masked and socially distanced). The classes included topics on *Food Safety, Beef Cattle Reproduction, Forage/Grazing Management, Farm/Financial Planning, Beef Cattle Facilities Management, Herd Health, Beef Cattle Nutrition, and Weaning and Backgrounding Feeder Cattle*. In addition to this program, we also had producers who participated in the TN Master Small Ruminants Program, TN Master Farm Management Program, and the TN Master Horse Program.

During "March Extension Month", our office collaborated with the Tennessee Environmental Council to distribute 900 tree seedlings to over 70 families (along with planting instructions). In addition, we also received over 60 soil samples from local residents (at a reduced rate), which were analyzed through our UT Soil Lab. Each person received soil fertility recommendations and follow up contact by our Agents.

Another notable highlight was our Jr. High 4-H Livestock Judging, who place 2nd in the Middle Tennessee region and received a special recognition from the Cheatham County School Board for their accomplishment.



Family & Consumer Sciences

Getting healthy was the theme of Family and Consumer Sciences programming in March and April.

March 6 was a fun day partnering with the Cheatham County Literacy Council as we hosted a Book Walk in Kingston Springs. We had approximately 150 participants walk the trail and read the book, *Wacky Wednesday*. Each child received a free book and many other treats along the trail.

Promoting healthy eating was our theme on March 11 as we partnered with United Way and six other community partners for a drive-thru kitchenware giveaway. Over 75 cars participated in this exciting event. Each participant received \$50 value of kitchenware items. The first 20 participants also received a complete set of bakeware valued at \$70 each. Each community partner also offered resources and give away items. UT/TSU provided delicious recipes and water bottles to each car.

April kicked off our annual Walk Across TN challenge. Businesses, neighbors, friends and families are encouraged to put together a team and walk a total of 500 miles in an eight -week time frame. This year we have 162 participants walking for their health. Challenge ends June 4, 2021. Each participant completing the challenge will receive a t-shirts. Winning teams will receive \$50, \$200 and \$300 cash prizes.

