

Ashland - Boyd County 4-H



4-H Youth Development Newsletter August 2025



HEAD



HEART



HANDS



HEALTH

A Message from the Agent



Dear Friend of 4-H,

The last few months have been a frenzy of activity and excitement! In May we visited almost every school in Ashland/Boyd County and invited 1,000+ students to join us at 4-H Camp. Over 100+ of them took us up on that offer! We are ecstatic to report at least one child from every school in our community attended camp with us! We had the best time and hopefully those students brought home wonderful stories to share and memories to cherish.

Congratulations to the Class of 2025! We celebrated with our 4-H Graduates and gifted them official 4-H honor cords. It was an honor to work with these students and watch them grow into amazing young leaders. We wish them nothing but the best in their future endeavors.

We barely had time to unpack from camp before we were off to the 4-H State Communications Competition. Congratulations to the Cannonsburg Elementary students that represented Boyd County so very well! Summer Sewing Camp is keeping us busy and so is planning for the Boyd County Fair. The year is flying by quickly yet in many ways we are just getting started! In a few weeks we will be back in the schools for hands-on educational programs. Until then we are determined to soak up the last bit of Summer and encourage you to do the same!

There are multiple opportunities to connect with 4-H in the months ahead. Be sure to check out the coming events in this newsletter and get involved in all the fun! If you have questions about enrollment or 4-H clubs, please do not hesitate to contact me, at 606-739-5184 or email at rstahler@uky.edu.

We'll see you at the Fair!

Sincerely,

County Extension Agent
for 4-H Youth Development



Boyd County Cooperative Extension - 2420 Center St. - Catlettsburg, KY 41129

Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

4-H Livestock Club

The Boyd County 4-H Livestock Club meets the 3rd Thursday of the month at the Boyd County Education Center, 1758 Addington Rd., Coalton 6:30 PM

Livestock ownership is not required for participation in this club



Livestock Club Members "Spring Cleaning" at the Boyd County Fairgrounds. They planted flowers around the buildings and arena and cleaned the grounds and barns.



Boyd County Livestock Club members joined other area Livestock Clubs and attended a Showmanship Clinic at the Greenup County Fairgrounds. The clinic was put on by Daniels Showstoppers.



In April, members attended a hands-on Showmanship Clinic held at the Boyd County Education Center Fairgrounds.



**TO MAKE
THE BEST
BETTER** 

For more information about this club contact Becky Stahler at 606-739-5184 or rstahler@uky.edu

Kentucky State Fair 4-H Horse Show



Great work Horse Club! Check out their results below. Hard work pays off!

Allana Oliver- 12th in junior poles

Angelyna Parks- 4th in Hunt Seat Equitation

6th in Hunter Under Saddle

8th in showmanship

10th in Senior Poles

Gianna Lucki- Red in showmanship

Blue in Jr. Hunter Walk and Trot

Blue in Jr. Equitation Walk and Trot

Rylee Moore-9th in Jr. Hunter Walk and Trot

Red in showmanship

Red in Equitation

Emmi Vanhooose- 10th in Hunter Showmanship

7th in Hunter Equitation

8th in Hunter Walk and Trot

6th in Ranch Rail

8th in Showmanship

Kaylee Green- 6th in Showmanship

6th in Equitation Saddle Seat

6th in Saddle Seat Walk and Trot Pleasure

Aliza Kendricks- 1st Place STATE WINNER in Senior Barrels

Alyssa Willis- 1st in 3D Open Barrels

7th in Open Poles

9th in Senior Barrels

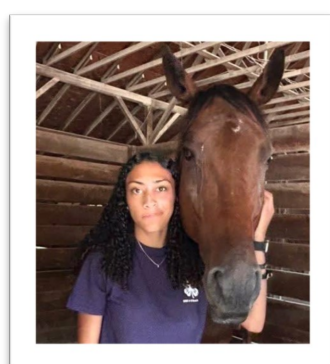
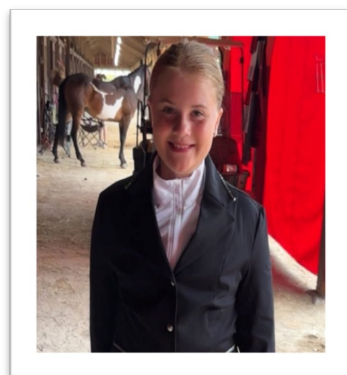
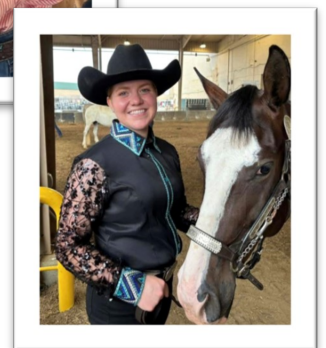
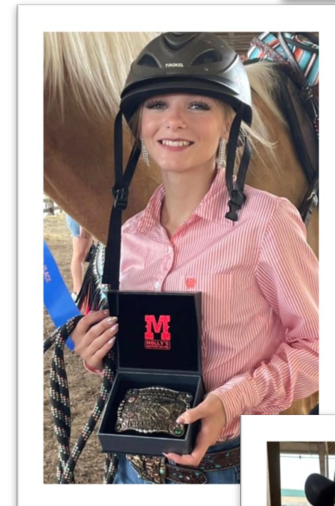
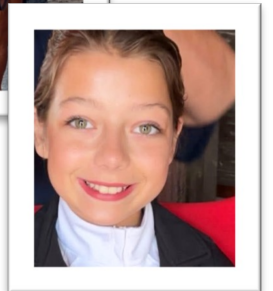
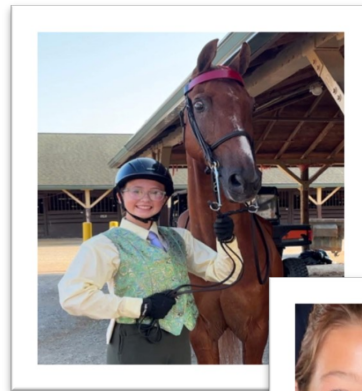
Olivia Clark- 7th in Senior Hunter Showmanship

10th in Hunter Senior

9th in Hunter Equitation

6th in Bare Back Equitation Senior

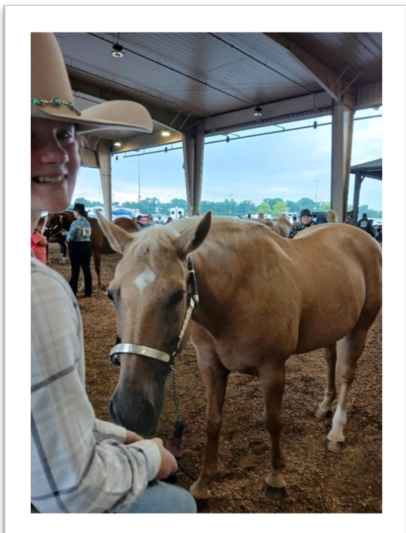
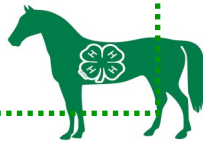
6th in Low Hunter 2"



4-H Horse Club

*The Boyd County 4-H Horse Club
meets the 1st Thursday
of the month at the
Boyd County Education Center,
1758 Addington Rd., Coalton
6:30 PM*

**Horse ownership is not required
for participation in this club**



4-H PLEDGE

I pledge my **HEAD** to clearer thinking,
my **HEART** to greater loyalty,
my **HANDS** to larger service,
and my **HEALTH** to better living,
for my club, my community,
my country, and my world.



2025 Country Ham Projects

In early June, Boyd County 4-H'ers completed Step 2 in the Country Ham Curing Process. Hams were "shucked" from their outer paper wrapping, cleaned and re-hung for further preservation. In August, Hams will be cleaned a final time and taken to the Kentucky State Fair in Louisville for competition and judging.



Country ham curing is a process of preserving pork legs using salt and time, resulting in a distinctive, shelf-stable, and flavorful product. It involves dry-curing with salt, optional ingredients, and sometimes smoking, followed by aging to develop a unique flavor.



CL^HOVERBUDS



Holy Family School Irish Cloverbuds enjoyed a “colorful” RAINBOW lesson. We discussed light and colors, crafted rainbow tambourines from paper plates, made a yummy rainbow treat and just in time for St. Patrick’s Day—Leprechaun Traps!



Boyd County 4-H Livestock Cloverbuds



The 4-H Livestock Cloverbud program offers a safe and enriching environment where young children can develop their love for animals, learn valuable life skills, and explore the agricultural world through fun, hands-on activities.

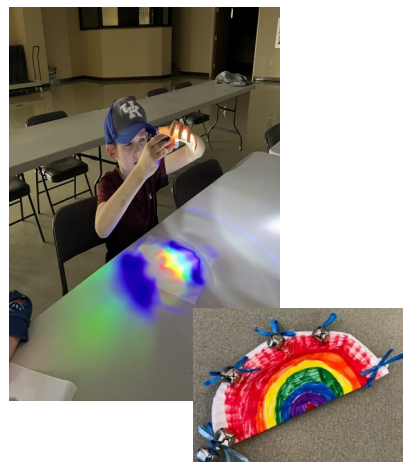
4-H School Clubs

Chasing Rainbows with 4-H



Unlocking the colors: From Rain to ROY G BIV

Students learned the Science of Rainbows and fun facts about light and color. They conducted an experiment that allowed them to “make” their own rainbow. We crafted our own colorful rainbow tambourines and finished our lesson with the perfect rainbow and cloud themed DIY snack.



4-H Teen Council News

The Boyd County 4-H Teen Council is made up of teens from the community. They are always ready to assist with events and are generous volunteers donating their time to 4-H events and programs, and of course 4-H Camp!

Thank you teens for being excellent representatives of 4-H and using your hands for larger service!



4-H Teen Council

*Teen Council meets
at 5:00 PM the second
Tuesday of each
month
at the Boyd County
Cooperative
Extension Office
2420 Center St.,
Catlettsburg*



Call Becky Stahler at 606-739-5184

4-H Teen Conference

Boyd County 4-H Teen Council representatives participated in the 101st Kentucky 4-H Teen Conference in June. Delegates stay in student housing at the University of Kentucky campus in Lexington. While there they learn new skills by enrolling in a "Major" and develop essential leadership skills by participating in a "Minor".

Students attend social and networking events with 4-H members from around the state and spend an afternoon performing various Community Service projects in and around the Lexington area.

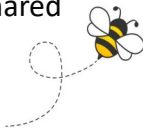
This is an excellent program for teens to gain valuable skills and experience life on a college campus.



4-H Sewing Camp

The 4-H Summer Sewing Campers have been busy bees committing their hands to larger service and seeking ways to share kindness in our community. Members made pocket prayer quilts and hand delivered them to the Boyd County Senior Center, Catlettsburg Fire and Police Departments, and Boyd County Judge Executive’s office. Additionally, they each sewed baby quilts and donated them to Two Hearts Pregnancy Care Center in Ashland. These are amazing young ladies creating, sharing and giving their best!

Most of the camp participants are members of the Quilts of Valor 4-H Under Our Wings Club at Boyd County Middle School. They are led by incredible volunteers, Becky Lynch and Geri Willis, as well as many of our talented Boyd County Homemakers. Thank you to every single one of these volunteers who have shared their time and talents with these young ladies.



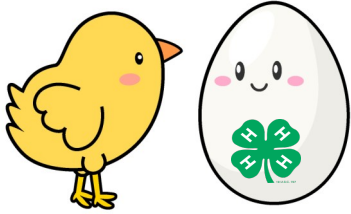
Boyd County Middle School Quilts of Valor Under Our Wings Club



"The mission of the Quilts of Valor® Foundation is to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor®."



Photo Credits: Thomas Sewing Center



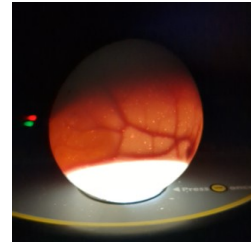
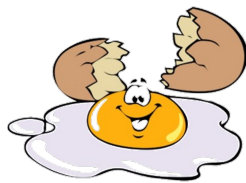
Eggstra-ordinary Lessons

In April, Boyd County 4-H celebrated the arrival of Spring with our Egg Embryology in the Classroom program as well as hands on egg lessons with our school clubs.

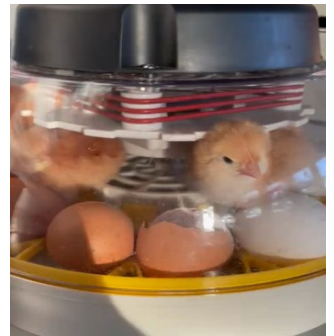
Egg Embryology in the Classroom is a program where Boyd County 4-H provides learning materials, incubators and fertilized eggs to area teachers for study in their classroom. This year we had 10 classrooms at 8 schools participate. A whopping 805 students were able to experience the **egg-citement** and anticipation of observing and hatching live chicks!



Students learning the anatomy of an egg by guided dissection.



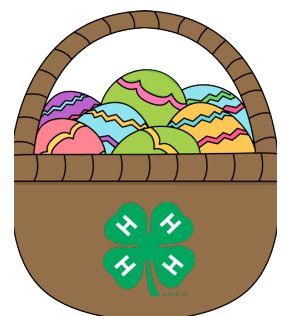
Photos depict various stages of life. The photo on the left is an image of an egg being candled for signs of viability.



All chicks were adopted by families who will provide them with excellent care.



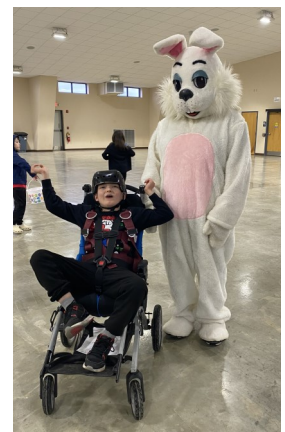
Crabbe Elementary
Tiger Time enjoyed an
Egg Hunt as part of their
4-H April Egg Lesson



Don't Worry, Be Hoppy!

These 4-Hers had an **EGG-CELLENT** time with an Egg Hunt and a very special guest paid them a visit!

So many hugs and giggles—and of course bunny photos!



4-H Horse and Livestock Club 17th Annual Spaghetti Dinner

Thank you to everyone who supported this event! Whether you donated your time, a generous door prize for the auction, or attended in support of - please know we value your kindness! It was well attended and the room was full of friends and families enjoying a delicious meal and fellowship.

Our sincere appreciation to Laura Maggard at Opell Meats in Catlettsburg for donating the ground beef used for the sauce. Not only did she donate the meat she invited our 4-Hers to come in for a behind the scenes tour of the store and its kitchen.

We would be remiss not to mention the dedicated parents and volunteers who assisted with the fundraiser. Thank you so very much! **A great big 4-H shoutout of warmest appreciation to Julie Trout for volunteering her time and amazing talents to prepare the spaghetti, sides and amazing desserts for the dinner.**



Reality Store

The 4-H Reality Store is an educational program designed to simulate real-world financial and lifestyle decisions young people will face as adults. In March, Boyd County 4-H hosted the annual Reality Store event at the Boyd County Extension Education Center. Eighth grade students from Ashland, Boyd County and Fairview schools attended - **450 students** learning to make wise choices! Thank you to the **52 volunteers** that were in attendance. We appreciate you helping make this worthwhile event a **reality!**



Hot Dogs for a cause with Rural King

In May the Ashland, Kentucky Rural King held Customer Appreciation Days. They invited Boyd County 4-H to come in and give away hotdogs and drinks. Our 4-H Staff, Club Members and their parents worked handing out food and greeting customers. Donations were accepted for Boyd County 4-H Clubs and 4-H Camp Scholarships.

**Thank you Rural King for being a friend
and supporter of 4-H!**



Rural King
America's Farm & Home Store



**4-H GROWS
HERE**



4-H Communications Contest

The Kentucky 4-H State Communications Contest encompasses both speeches, demonstrations, and written communication categories, providing diverse avenues for youth aged 9-18 (*as of January 1st of the program year*) to hone their communication skills.

These Cannonsburg Elementary students did fantastic presentations and competed at the school, county and area levels to make it to the State Competition. These Wildcats were wonderful representatives of Boyd County and we could not be more proud of each and every one of them!



Kaylee Salyer
State Demo
2nd Place Visual Arts



Katie Tackett
State Demo
2nd Place Health



Justin Adams
State Demo
Blue Ribbon



Isabella Dixon
State Demo
Blue Ribbon



Arabellah Swanson
State Demo
Blue Ribbon



Jaxon Felty
State Demo
Red Ribbon



Zoe Payton Huff
State Demo
Red Ribbon



The Longest Day of Play



The Boyd County 4-H Team along with dozens of community agencies set up in Ashland's Central Park to celebrate the Longest Day of Play. Staff members constructed kites with attendees. Although it was warm, it ended up being a great kite flying day, with the perfect breeze!

4-H loves the longest day of play and we look forward to this event every Summer!



Dollars and Sense



The 4-H Dollars and Sense program is a financial literacy event designed to teach young people about budgeting, saving, and making wise spending choices. It uses a hands-on, interactive approach, often simulating real-life scenarios, to help youth understand the value of money and how to manage it effectively.

The Boyd County Extension Education Center was busting at the seams with 5th grade students and staff from every Ashland Independent, Boyd County Public and Fairview Elementary Schools. Students (492!) were bussed in to the throughout the day.

We had a fantastic day and once again we could not do this without our volunteers. Thank you to the 55 volunteers that spent your day with us!



Class of 2025 Senior Salute

*Boyd County 4-H would like to recognize our
graduating Seniors*



*Kayli Cox
Boyd County High School*



*Aleyah Meador
Keevin Hepler
Boyd County High School*



*Bailey Wilson
Angel Gumm
Luke Heppler
Jake Bailey
Boyd County High School*



*Angelyna Parks
Boyd County High School*



*Georgia Wilson
Boyd County High School*

***Congratulations
Graduates!***





2nd Annual Riverside Farm to Fork Dinner

Saturday, August 30, 2025

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Port of Catlettsburg & 26th Street

\$40 Single, \$75 Couple

**Tickets available for purchase at the
Boyd County Extension Office
(Cash or Checks ONLY)**

- **Local Entertainment**
- **Featuring locally raised meat
and produce**
- **Silent Auction**



UPCOMING Events

Longaberger Basket Bingo August 7
Boyd County Fair August 12-16
Kentucky State Fair Country Ham Competition
August 14
Kentucky State Fair August 14-24
Farm to Fork August 30
Truth and Consequences TBA
Area Teen Outing TBA
Overnight Horse Camp TBA {Spring 2026}

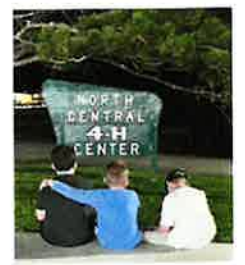


Kentucky's 4-H Program would not exist without its thousands of volunteers. 4-H volunteers coordinate 4-H community clubs, lead 4-H projects, and help plan and conduct local, regional, state, and national 4-H events.

Interested in sharing your time and talent with local youth?
Call Boyd County's 4-H Youth Development Agent, Becky Stahler at 606-739-5184 to discuss volunteer opportunities.

4-H CAMP





*We appreciate our community that supports
our 4-H Clubs and Club Members.
Thank you for believing in 4-H and
investing in the lives of children.*



*We would like to thank the following individuals, clubs and businesses
for their continued support of Boyd County 4-H Camp.*

*Due to their generosity, Boyd County sent 122 individuals to camp,
with 98% of those receiving financial assistance.*

- ♦ *Alan Osuch Tri-State Race Planners*
- ♦ *Boyd County Extension District Board*
 - ♦ *Boyd County Homemakers*
 - ♦ *Boyd County Master Gardeners*
- ♦ *Catlettsburg Community Development Club*
- ♦ *Samuel H. Hampton CPA PLLC*
- ♦ *Summit RV*

**THANK YOU
SO MUCH**
YOU ARE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED!



*To quote one first time 4-H Camper, "This was the best
four days of my life. I wish I could stay longer."*

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