

Grant County  
105 Baton Rouge Road  
Williamstown, KY 41097

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



GRANT COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE  
105 BATON ROUGE ROAD, WILLIAMSTOWN, KY 41097

## CLUB SPOTLIGHT: CLOVERBUDS

Cloverbud's is a program for 5–8-year-olds. Through the program they can gain knowledge of what 4-H offers when they turn 9 and become an official 4-H member. Through the clover bud program, they will also gain life skills like decision making, communicating, cooperation and problem solving. They will also build a sense of confidence within themselves by receiving positive reinforcement. They will learn a variety of topics from what 4-H offers to subjects such as science, nature, art, and community improvement. They will also learn our 4-H pledge and what it means. Our head, heart, hands and health are all used for the improvement of our lives and communities. This program is important for family involvement and this program is lead in a supportive environment. There is always something to learn and this program is a building block that the children will use to help them in their daily lives.

### CLUB LEADER HALI SEARS-ROSE

I stepped in as a 4-H volunteer because I saw a need in our club that needed filled and when I asked where I could help, cloverbuds was an option. I was honestly nervous because I had not been a cloverbud myself, however my son had been in 4-H for 2 years and had some amazing people leading him, so I figured I could give it a shot. Since being involved as a club leader, I have seen growth in my own child, but I have been able to watch alongside parents the growth in their children as well. I've watched as a shy child now volunteers to lead our pledge or how the children are always eager to help each other with any task. They always come in with smiling faces and are always excited to learn something new. I think they all enjoy the end of our meetings when they get to play a game of their choosing and that typically tends to be duck, duck, goose. It might seem like something so simple to us but to them it means the world. I believe these kids will all do amazing things in life. Thank you to Grant County 4-H for allowing me to have the opportunity to step into this role for the last year and thank you to the parents for always showing up for your children. They are great kids!



### Recipe of the Month: Jalapeno Poppers!

#### Ingredients:

4 ounces reduced fat cream cheese  
1 tablespoon grated Parmesan cheese  
1 teaspoon garlic powder  
3/4 cup shredded reduced fat mozzarella cheese  
8 large jalapeño peppers  
8 pieces, thinly sliced bacon, cut in half

#### Directions:

- Preheat oven to 425 degrees F.
- In a small bowl, mix together the cream cheese, Parmesan cheese, garlic powder and mozzarella cheese.

- Wash peppers and cut off stems. Cut peppers lengthwise to make 16 halves. *You may want to wear plastic gloves while handling hot peppers.*
- Scrape out the seeds and membrane of each pepper.
- Stuff each pepper half with the cream cheese mixture and wrap each stuffed pepper with a half piece of bacon.
- Lightly grease a broiler pan or pan with a rack. This will allow any grease to fall away from the poppers.
- Bake for 20 minutes or until poppers are hot and juicy and the bacon is browned.



# PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB INFORMATION:

**CLUB LEADER: MICHELLE NEIDIGH,**


**IN 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY, STUDENTS WILL EXPLORE THE FUNDAMENTALS OF PHOTOGRAPHY, AND BE EQUIPPED WITH THE SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE TO CAPTURE COMPELLING IMAGES IN VARIOUS SETTINGS. THROUGH A HANDS-ON APPROACH, THIS COURSE COMBINES CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION WITH OUTDOOR PRACTICE, OFFERING STUDENTS A COMPREHENSIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE.**

**STUDENTS WILL LEARN HOW TO OPERATE THEIR CAMERAS, AND MASTER MANUAL AND AUTOMATIC MODES WHILE UNDERSTANDING KEY SETTINGS SUCH AS APERTURE, SHUTTER SPEED, ISO, AND WHITE BALANCE. THEY WILL EXPLORE COMPOSITIONAL TECHNIQUES LIKE THE RULE OF THIRDS, LEADING LINES, FRAMING, AND SYMMETRY, AS WELL AS LEARN TO ANALYZE AND UTILIZE NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL LIGHT.**

**THESE SESSIONS OFTEN INCLUDE LIVE DEMONSTRATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS TO REINFORCE THEORETICAL CONCEPTS. STUDENTS WILL BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITIES IN EVERY CLASS TO APPLY THEIR SKILLS BY EXPERIMENTING WITH DIFFERENT PHOTOGRAPHY STYLES SUCH AS LANDSCAPES, PORTRAITS, MACRO PHOTOGRAPHY, TOY PHOTOGRAPHY, TABLETOP PHOTOGRAPHY, EVENT PHOTOGRAPHY, AND ACTION SHOTS. STUDENTS WILL DEVELOP SKILLS IN ADAPTING TO CHANGING LIGHT CONDITIONS, FRAMING DYNAMIC SCENES, AND EMPLOYING CREATIVE TECHNIQUES LIKE DEPTH OF FIELD AND MOTION BLUR.**

**THIS CLASS ALSO INTRODUCES BASIC POST-PROCESSING TECHNIQUES USING PHOTO-EDITING SOFTWARE, ENABLING STUDENTS TO ENHANCE THEIR IMAGES EFFECTIVELY. INTERACTIVE ASSIGNMENTS AND CONSTRUCTIVE FEEDBACK WILL BE PART OF ALL CLASSES TO HELP PARTICIPANTS BUILD THEIR CREATIVE VISION AND TECHNICAL EXPERTISE. THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF THIS CLASS IS TO PROVIDE AN ATMOSPHERE WHERE STUDENTS WILL HAVE A SOLID FOUNDATION TO PURSUE PHOTOGRAPHY AS A REWARDING HOBBY OR A STEPPING STONE TOWARD PROFESSIONAL WORK.**

**GRANT COUNTY 4-H NEWSLETTER**



**PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW PHOTOGRAPHY LEADER**

*Michelle Neidigh*

Michelle Neidigh is the founder of No Blink Pictures and a passionate photographer specializing in portraits and sports photography. With a love for teaching, she is excited to meet everyone in Photography Class. As a self-taught photographer, Michelle knows firsthand the challenges of learning the craft and is dedicated to making complex concepts easy to comprehend. She believes in pushing boundaries and challenging her students to help them grow their photography skills. Get ready to be inspired, challenged, and supported by Michelle as you embark on your photography journey with her.

Cooperative Extension Service

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## PHOTOGRAPHY EQUIPMENT DONATIONS

**📷 CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHY ENTHUSIASTS! 📷**

DO YOU HAVE PHOTOGRAPHY GEAR YOU NO LONGER USE? WE'RE SEEKING DONATIONS FOR OUR 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS. THESE DONATIONS WOULD HELP STUDENTS WITHOUT CAMERAS FULLY PARTICIPATE AND LEARN THE REWARDING ART OF PHOTOGRAPHY. YOUR OLD CAMERAS, LENSES, TRIPODS, MEMORY CARDS, OR ANY PHOTOGRAPHY-RELATED EQUIPMENT CAN MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE BY EMPOWERING YOUNG LEARNERS TO EXPLORE THEIR CREATIVITY AND DEVELOP NEW SKILLS. BY DONATING, THESE STUDENTS WOULD BE ALLOWED TO DIVE INTO PHOTOGRAPHY AND EXPRESS THEMSELVES THROUGH THE LENS. WHETHER IT'S A DSLR, POINT-AND-SHOOT, OR EVEN ACCESSORIES YOU NO LONGER NEED, WE'D LOVE TO GIVE THEM A NEW PURPOSE IN OUR CLASSROOM.

**HOW TO DONATE:  
DROP OFF YOUR GEAR AT THE GRANT COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE**

- CONTACT MASON MALIN/MICHELLE NEIDIGH FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS**
- MASON MALIN: MASONMALIN@UKY.EDU OR (859) 824-3355
  - MICHELLE NEIDIGH: MICHELLE@NOBLINKPICTURES.COM OR 859-802-0057

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR FUTURE PHOTOGRAPHERS! TOGETHER, WE CAN INSPIRE THE NEXT GENERATION TO SEE THE WORLD THROUGH A CREATIVE LENS.**

## Agent's Corner:

“Surround yourself with people who are only going to lift you higher”.

The greatest thing about the 4-H program is that everyone involved strives to make the best, better. Coming into 2025, I hope that everyone embraces the excitement, challenges, hope, and everything else that comes with the start of a new year. As we move into 2025, my hope is that the programming provided through Grant County 4-H is the best it has ever been. I want all our youth involved to set goals that may seem impossible, but still chase after those goals and see how much they are able to accomplish.

When things get challenging this year, turn to your fellow 4-Hers, parents, friends, etc. All of us involved in the 4-H program share a common goal of creating an environment within Grant County where our youth can learn, find their spark, and thrive in any situation they may find themselves in. 2025 is going to be a special year for Grant County 4-H and I am very honored to be a part of it.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mason Malin', written in a cursive style.

Mason Malin,  
Grant County 4-H Youth Development Agent

## Important Reminders!

### Livestock Exhibitors:

All youth livestock participants must have a total of 6 education hours by their species validation date! All Market Animal exhibitors must go through the Market Animal Validation Process. Validation Forms must be filled out by the Youth, Parents, and Agent prior to attending a Validation Site. Validation date information will be available in February.

**Beef Cattle Exhibitors:** Kentucky Beef Expo in March will be a Validation Site for Market Steers/Heifers, all validation paperwork must be completed before attending.

### Shooting Sports Participants:

All Shooting Sports Participants must have 6 hours of safety education before being able to participate in practices or competitions. Safety Hours can be obtained at the Monthly meetings from January-March. Youth interested in participating in Shooting Sports do not need to have their own equipment at the beginning. For those who want to try it out, you will be able to borrow club equipment.

# Council Meeting Info

## 4-H Council Meeting

January 2nd

7pm

4-H Council is open for anyone to attend. 4-H Council gives advice on decisions concerning programming, finances, and community engagement. Please consider joining us at 4-H Council Meetings and help guide Grant County 4-H to continue making the best, better!

## 4-H Livestock Council

January 9<sup>th</sup>

7pm

Livestock Council will meet after the livestock club meeting.

Livestock council acts as the advisory board for all things concerning the Grant County 4-H/FFA Youth Livestock Program. This Council helps provide an exceptional experience for all youth participants involved in exhibiting livestock projects

A graphic with a white, jagged-edged speech bubble shape on a dark blue background. The text "Snow Policy!" is written in red, bold, sans-serif font.

Please be aware that some scheduled events may be cancelled due to weather conditions. Our activities are NOT automatically cancelled if schools are closed. Please call the office (824-3355) or check our Facebook pages to see if your activity has been cancelled.

**Our office will be closed & all events canceled if Grant County is placed on a Level 2 Snow Emergency.**

## Non-discrimination Policy:

The Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment is an Equal Opportunity Organization with respect to education and employment and authorization to provide research, education information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function without regard to economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

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Equal Opportunity Office, Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, University of Kentucky, Room S-105, Agriculture Science Building, North Lexington, Kentucky 40546,

the UK Office of Equal Opportunity, 13 Main Building, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0032 or

US Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410.

# Grant County 4-H Newsletter

## January Calendar

All meetings prior to 1/18/25 will take place at the Temporary office: 1212 N. Main St., Williamstown

- 1/2 6 PM: Dog Club
- 1/2 7 PM: 4H Council
- 1/9 5 PM: Livestock Meeting
- 1/9 6 PM: Teen Leadership
- 1/9 7 PM: Livestock Council
- 1/10 5:30: Cloverbuds
- 1/15 6 PM: Photography
- 1/16 6 PM: Dog Club

**1/18 2-6 PM OPEN HOUSE** at our newly renovated facility at 105 Baton Rouge Road! Come see us! After this date, programs will be in the new office!

- 1/20 TBD: Ham Curing Day
- 1/27 6 PM: Horticulture
- 1/29 6 PM: Photography



# Summer CAMP

JUNE 9-13



*Mark your calendar and watch for registration!*

## Country Ham Project

Project Totals:  
4-Hers: 23  
Cloverbuds: 11  
Adults: 2

Ham Curing Day:  
January 20  
Times: TBD

Curing day will be at 105 Baton Rouge Road.  
Wear clothes that can get dirty!



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