

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

4-H NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY • COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

BY

ANNETTE BUCKMAN

COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT FOR 4-H

Union County 4-H Summer Camp Kickoff Scheduled For February 24

Summer will be here before we know it, and Union County youth have the opportunity to join an unforgettable experience at 4-H Summer Camp. The Camp Kickoff is set for Tuesday, February 24, 2026, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Union County Extension Office, where parents can register their children

for a week full of adventure, learning, and fun. 4-H Summer Camp is open to youth ages 9–14, including third graders who will be entering fourth grade next school year. This year, Union County campers will attend West Kentucky 4-H Camp in Dawson Springs, a safe and engaging environment where children can develop independence, make new friends, and try new activities.

Campers will have the chance to participate in a wide variety of activities based on their interests. These include archery, sports, swimming, canoeing, riflery, arts and crafts, fishing, and high ropes courses with zip lines. Evening activities provide even more excitement, featuring relay races, swim Olympics, camp-wide games, dances, and reflections to make each day memorable. The total cost of

# Life . . .

## One Adventure After Another

by Becky Greenwell  
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Life is an adventure. Any experience can be an adventure if you make it one.

When our children were small, and easy to entertain, we would get in the car and go for rides. We would take a drive up and down rural roads and look at the countryside. During the daylight hours we, or my husband would, scout for doves for the perfect hunting spot. As dusk fell, we watched for deer.

I enjoyed the drives, but the older kids complained about how boring it was to look for deer. Actually, their words were, “This is dumb!” The little ones asked what an adventure was. I told them an adventure was an exciting and remarkable experience to add to our memory banks. They were excited. The boys told them, “Don’t believe it.”

I have lots of adventures tucked away in my memory bank and I can pull them out anytime I want to relive them.

My husband and I still go riding in the country and look for deer. We look for beautiful sunsets and sometimes early morning sunrises. We remember homes that aren’t there anymore and think about the people who once lived there. We recall a lot of “remember when” times.

We have had adventures travelling across the country with family and just the two of us. We hiked at Audubon Park with the grandkids and had Sunday Fundays with them. It was even an adventure teaching teenagers how to drive. We camped near a pond, fished, and slept in a tent.

We went on vacations with family, swam in the Gulf of Mexico, spent days on thrill rides at Disney, and went ziplining in Punta Cana. I stayed in a haunted B & B in Bardstown, didn’t sleep out of fear though. I was too spooked.

Of all our adventures, the most adventuresome ones turned out to be because of the weather.

During the blizzard in 1977 I spent a week snowed in at the hospi-

tal with my husband. He was having surgery when the storm hit. I couldn’t get home. No overnight bag for myself. Left our seven-month-old with my mother for the day that turned into several days. I had no place to lay my head at night. The nurse wouldn’t let me stay in my husband’s room because there was another man patient in the room with him. Security would check the waiting room and send me on my way. I wandered halls and hid from security and nurses. A couple of nights a different nurse was on duty and gave me a pillow and blanket. She let me sleep on the floor next to my husband’s bed. That was an adventure.

There was a week stint of babysitting in 2025 that turned into 10 days of snow and ice. I’m sure we all remember the ice storm of 2009. That became a week spent at my sister’s house who had electricity. She was two blocks from my house where we had no power or heat.

Now we have survived the blizzard of 2026. Luckily this time we had electricity, heat, groceries, and lots of free time. My extra-curricular life was put on hold. My calendar schedules were cancelled with my purple highlighter.

My husband had a four-wheel drive truck. He was my errand runner if I needed something, which I rarely

did. I had a computer, books, TV, and a working kitchen. Mostly I did things that needed to be done but never had time to finish. I now have several bags of too much stuff ready to be taken to the thrift stores.

My house is cleaned up. I cleared out all the 17,000 unread emails on my computer. I use my email on my iPad instead of the computer. There are no unread emails on the iPad and flags on the ones I need to follow up with.

At the end of the week there is more movement on the highways. It is still freezing cold out, and our sidewalk isn’t cleared off yet. I am thankful we had electricity, heat, and food.

At this writing I am still here in my own warm house, with a fresh pot of chicken noodle soup, a book, and a remote. I am surviving the 2026 snowstorm. I’m also listening to the weather forecast hoping my friend Punxsutawney Phil has a prediction that will let me know this cold nasty stuff is going to be gone for good very soon.

Oh, look. Right this minute there are only 49 days, 17 hours, 17 minutes, and 12 seconds till spring. I have decided I am just too old for all this adventuresome weather. I need a warm sandy beach kind of adventure now. Be safe and plan for warmer days ahead.

THE STURGIS NEWS

PO/PN 423-400

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Published every Wednesday and periodical postage paid at the post office in Sturgis, Union County, Kentucky 42459. Address all mail, subscriptions, changes of address and other correspondence to: The Sturgis News, P.O. Box 218, Sturgis, KY 42469. Subscription Rates: Union and Surrounding Counties, \$30.00 Elsewhere in Kentucky, \$32.00; Out-of-State, \$36.00.

Advertising Rates and Other Paid Insertion Rates Available on Request

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camp, which covers transportation, lodging, meals, snacks, activities, and a camp t-shirt, is still being finalized. Families are encouraged to pre-register early to ensure a spot for their child.

“4-H Summer Camp is more than just a week of fun,” said a representative from the Union County Extension Office. “It’s a place where youth can learn new skills, gain confidence, and create memories that will last a lifetime.”

For more information or to pre-register, contact the Union County Extension Office. Don’t miss the February 24

Camp Kickoff and the chance to give your child an experience they’ll treasure forever.

- 4-H Happenings**
- 2-10 Homesteading Club 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
  - 2-12 Cloverbuds Club 4:30-5:30
  - 2-19 TLA – All Day
  - 2-19 Livestock Club
  - 2-20 Country Ham Curing #1
  - 2-24 Camp Kickoff 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

**Follow Us On Facebook!**

To keep up with all the fun events happening in the Union County 4-H Program follow Union County 4H on Facebook for all the lat-

est news, events, and information about 4-H. There you will find interesting articles related to youth/4-H and much more!

*Educational programs of the Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of 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 expressions, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability.*

# Agriculture Notes

Submitted by Katie Hughes

UC 24th Annual Bull Sale: Will be Feb 7 at the UC Expo Center. Bulls and trade show will be on display at 10am, Lunch served at 12pm, CAIP educational program at 12:45pm and bulls sell at 1pm. Check out the Union County Bull Sale Facebook page for videos of bulls, or stop by the UC Extension Office to pick up a catalog of the bulls.

What’s In Ag Conference: Will be March 13 at the UC Expo Center from 8am-2pm. Cost is \$30/person. Topics will be on grain, livestock, horticulture hands on learning, farm safety, marketing, panelist for from grants/funds and BQCA chute side training. Deadline to sign up is Feb 13. For more information contact Katie at 270-389-1400 or email katie.n.hughes@uky.edu

Wildlife Management in Landscape and Food Plots: Will be March 16 at 5:30pm at the UC Extension Office. Learn about excluding deer from foodplots during establishment. We will also cover general wildlife exclusion for gardens, landscape and property. This program is free to attend. To sign

up contact the UC Extension Office at 270-389-1400 or email katie.n.hughes@uky.edu

Homesteading/ Small Farm Conference: Will be March 21, 2026 at the Hopkins Co Extension Office, Madisonville, KY. From 8AM-12pm cost is \$10/person and child care will be provided as well. Educational sessions and live demonstrations on practices for more self-sufficient and sustainable lifestyle. Topics will be extension and farm marketing information, wildlife/livestock fencing, beekeeping, sheep, goat, beef, poultry processing, gardening food preservation, soap making.

For more information or sign up contact Katie Hughes ANR agent at 270-389-1400 or stop by the UC Extension Office.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The Union County Judge/Executive's office is accepting applications for a road crew truck driver/general laborer. The road crew member must possess a current CDL license or obtain one within 6 months of hire.

This is a full-time position with benefits, including health insurance, retirement, and vacation.

Applications can be picked up and turned in at the Union County Judge/Executive's office, located at 100 W. Main St., Morganfield, KY 42437. They may be obtained by emailing jill.hunley@unioncountky.gov, or you can apply online at www.unioncountkyky.org. Applications will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on February 13, 2026.

The Union County Fiscal Court is an Equal Opportunity Employer: All applicants are considered for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status, or disability. 2/11c

Union County School District Working Budget For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2026							
	Governmental			Special Revenue		Total Proprietary Funds	Total All Funds
	General Fund	Governmental Funds	Construction Fund	Total Grant Funds	District Activity Funds		
Beginning Balance	\$ 1,922,434	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 129,119	\$ 2,125,778	\$ 4,177,331
Revenue							
Revenue from Local Sources	9,972,082	717,243	-	29,341	180	263,450	10,982,296
Revenue from State Sources	17,194,595	1,068,283	-	1,422,470	-	256,500	19,941,849
Revenue from Federal Sources	335,000	-	-	1,435,320	-	1,772,465	3,542,785
Interfund Transfers	120,796	1,215,467	-	84,375	-	-	548,934
Extraordinary Items	57,268	-	-	-	-	-	57,268
Total Receipts	27,679,741	3,000,993	-	2,971,506	180	2,292,415	35,944,835
Total Revenue	\$ 29,602,175	\$ 3,000,993	\$ -	\$ 2,971,506	\$ 129,299	\$ 4,418,193	\$ 40,122,166
Expenditures by Function							
Instructional	14,713,661	-	-	2,200,137	110,672	-	17,024,469
Student Support Services	2,190,207	-	-	79,652	-	-	2,269,859
Instructional Staff Support Services	842,026	-	-	129,161	8,329	-	979,517
District Administrative Support	1,042,331	-	-	-	-	-	1,042,331
School Administrative Support	1,583,858	-	-	-	-	-	1,583,858
Business Support Services	1,042,341	-	-	-	-	-	1,042,341
Plant Operations and Maintenance	3,022,719	196,900	-	110,096	-	-	3,329,715
Student Transportation	2,574,672	-	-	95,569	-	-	2,670,241
Community Services	9,389	-	-	315,023	4,298	-	328,711
Fund Transfers	42,508	1,215,467	-	41,867	-	-	1,299,842
Contingency	2,538,462	-	-	-	-	-	2,538,462
Debt Service	-	1,588,626	-	-	-	-	1,588,626
Daycare Operations	-	-	-	-	-	193,750	193,750
Food Service	-	-	-	-	-	4,224,443	4,224,443
Total Expenditures	\$ 29,602,175	\$ 3,000,993	\$ -	\$ 2,971,506	\$ 123,299	\$ 4,418,193	\$ 40,116,166