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UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA
 IFAS Extension

Greetings,

I would first like to say **THANK YOU** to everyone who participated in our Grape Pruning Fundraiser! Over 90 people showed up to prune Grandma's Vineyard, and we finished by noon. I would also like to personally thank Lorraine Williams for planning the fundraiser as well as providing breakfast and lunch for everyone. The next time you see Lorraine make sure to thank her and give her a big hug!

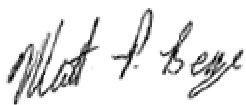
WOW! March is already here. There are a lot of activities and events going on this month, so make sure to look at the calendar. Both the Youth Fair Schedule and 4-H Calendar have been provided in this newsletter for your convenience.

There are many activities and events taking place during the Youth Fair! Be sure to look over your Non-Livestock Program Book for information about these events. Please turn in your Advance Entry Form to me at the Extension Office. This form can be found on page 21. For the Horse Show, an additional form is required which can be found online or at the Extension Office.

The BBQ Dinner is going to be a huge event this year and we would like to have as many 4-H and FFA families as possible come join us for some good ole barbeque! You must reserve your tickets for the BBQ Dinner. A **large plate is \$8.00**, and a **small plate is \$5.00**. If you would like to reserve tickets please call Ronda Banner at 352-466-0702. The BBQ Safety Course is up and running! For your convenience the Food Safety Course is now on the web. Please visit http://alachua.ifas.ufl.edu/agriculture/youth_fair/non_entry_forms.shtml to download the information.

I am also looking for clerks for Exhibit Judging. Clerks can be **teenagers** and are responsible for: greeting exhibitors, writes his/her full name, club name, exhibit description and ribbon placing on the master class list, fills in the ribbon placing on the exhibit card on the exhibit, attaches the proper ribbon securely to the exhibit, places the exhibit on the holding table for the judges' consideration for champion placings, makes sure absentee exhibits get judged, and runs errands at the judge's request. This is a great opportunity for earning some volunteer hours. Please let me know by March 12th if you are willing to be a clerk.

The Fair is a busy time, so if you have any questions please feel free to call and I will answer them in a timely manner!




Matt Bengé
 4-H Youth Development Agent

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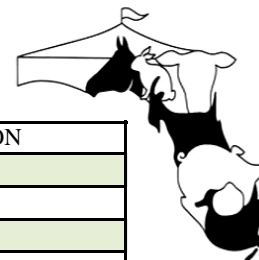
The following is a list of some important dates to remember:

3/14	Non-Livestock & Horse Record Books; Exhibit Judging
3/21	Horse Show @ Canterbury; ACYF and Barn Set-up
3/27	Livestock Record Books due
3/27 - 31	Alachua County Youth Fair

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For persons requiring special accommodations to 4-H activities contact Matt Bengé at (352)955-2402 or TDD/TYY (352)955-2406. Please call at least five working days prior to the program so that proper consideration may be given to the request. Upon request, for persons with print-related disabilities, this information is available in alternate formats. 4-H is for youth ages 5-18. Membership is open to all youth regardless of race, creed, color, sex, national origin, handicap or geographic location within Alachua County. Funding for the duplication of this publication is provided in part by the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners. 4-H Emblem "Protected Under 18 U.S.C. 707".

ALACHUA COUNTY YOUTH FAIR & LIVESTOCK SHOW
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS MARCH 27 – MARCH 31, 2009



TIME	DAILY EVENTS	LOCATION
Friday March 27		
7:30 am-9:30 am	Swine/Market Goat Weigh-In	Barn
9:30 am – 11:30 am	Market Steer Weigh-In	Barn
10:00 am – 1:00 pm	Rabbit check-in	Exhibit Hall
	Check-in all other livestock	Barn
11:30 am	Swine Sense Contest	Extension office
12:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Poultry Check-in	Exhibit Hall
2:00 pm	All Exhibitors Meeting	Barn
3:00 pm	Cattlemen's Contest	Extension office
6:30 pm	Market Swine Show	Barn
Saturday, March 28		
8:00 am	Gates open to public	
8:30 am	Livestock Judging Contest	Barn
9:00 am	Bicycle Rodeo (check in 8:30 am)	Exhibit Hall
9:00 am	Rabbit Show	Exhibit Hall
11:00 am	Dairy Quiz Bowl	Exhibit Hall
	Candy Creations Show & Design Your Own Contest	Exhibit Hall
12:00 pm	Dog Show	Exhibit Hall
	Hippology Contest	Exhibit Hall
	Entry Deadline for Scarecrow Contest	Exhibit Hall
	Creative Cash Keepers Judging	Exhibit Hall
12:30 pm	Cookie Bake-off	Exhibit Hall
12:30 pm	Feeder Steer Show followed by Fat Steer Show & Showmanship	Barn
2:00 pm	Small Pet Show	Exhibit Hall
4:00 pm	Rocket Launch	Exhibit Hall
5:00 pm	Celebrity Show with a Twist	Barn
6:00 pm	Swine Showmanship	Barn
10:00 pm	Gates Close	
Sunday, March 29		
12:00 pm	Gates Open to Public	
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Rabbit Judging Contest/Showmanship	Exhibit Hall
12:00 pm – 3:00 pm	ATV Skill-A-Thon	Exhibit Hall
1:00 pm	Poultry Showmanship	Exhibit Hall
	3 rd Annual Horse Show – Buckle Series	Grounds - west of barn
2:00 m	Dairy Heifer Show	Barn
2:00 pm	Gingerbread House Show & Extreme Makeover Contest	Exhibit Hall
2:30 pm	Horse Fun & Game Show	Grounds – west of barn
3:00 pm	Hobbies and Collections Show	Exhibit Hall
3:00 pm	Kid's Crafts	Exhibit Hall
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm	BBQ Dinner	Barn
5:00 pm	All Beef Showmanship	Barn
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Non-Livestock Awards, Guest Speaker, Social	Exhibit Hall
9:00 m	Gates Close	
Monday, March 30		
8:30 am	Gates Open to Public	
9:30 am – 12:00 pm	School Tours	
1:00 pm	Market & Breeding Goat Show	Barn
4:00 pm after Goat Show	Beef Heifer, Mature Cow & Bull Show	Barn
4:00 pm	Horse Quiz Bowl	Exhibit Hall
6:00 pm	Exhibit Hall Closes	Exhibit Hall
9:00 pm	Gates Close	
Tuesday, March 31		
8:30 am	Gates Open to Public	
11:30 am – 12:45 pm	Buyers Luncheon	Extension Office
1:00 pm	Market Animal Sale	Barn
4:00 pm	Deadline to pick up exhibits	Exhibit Hall

Staying Up-to-Date with the Happenings

4-H always has so many events, activities, and meetings going on, and sometimes they are all on the same day! It can be hard to know what's going on. To stay up-to-date with the happenings of Alachua County 4-H, make sure to visit the website and the blog.

- ◆ Website---Has a lot of information, as well as the calendar and newsletter. The calendar will be updated twice a month to keep you informed. <http://alachua.ifas.ufl.edu/>
- ◆ The Blog---The Blog is a great way to stay up to speed with county council, upcoming events, and news with other 4-H clubs! Make sure that if your club has a blog on the blog-spot that you stay up-to-date with upcoming events, activities, and reports. <http://alachua4-h.blogspot.com/>

Month	Description	Location	Time
MARCH			
7	State 4-H FFA Horse Judging Contest *pre-register by 2/27/09	UF Horse Teaching Unit	Check in @ 9:00 am
14	State 4-H Hippology Contest	Orlando	
14	ACYF 4-H Conference Judging	CEO	TBA
14	4-H Record Book Deadline	CEO	TBA
14	FL 4-H Scholarship Fund Dog Show	Florida State Fairgrounds in Tampa	http://www.fl4-h-dog.com/
17	County Council	CEO	6:30 pm
18	Discount pre-entry Deadline 3/21 Horse Show	CEO	Noon
20 – 22	3 rd Executive Board –State Council (open)	Camp Cherry Lake	
21	Alachua County Open & 4-H Horse Show	Canterbury	Registration starts @ 8:00 am
21	Youth Fair Set-up VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	Alachua County Fairgrounds	8:00 am until done
24	Horse Committee	CEO	6:30
27	State 4-H & FFA Land Judging Contest	CEO	TBA
27 – 31	Alachua County Youth Fair	Alachua County Fairgrounds	
28 – 4/2	National 4-H Conference	Chevy Chase, MD	
APRIL			
3	4-H Livestock Record Book Judging	CEO	9:00 am
4	State 4-H/FFA Livestock Judging Contest	Gainesville	
6 – 10	SBAC Spring Holiday		
8	Discount Pre-entry Deadline 4/11 Horse Show	CEO	Noon
11	Alachua County Open & 4-H Horse Show	Canterbury	Registration starts @ 8:00 am
11	State 4-H/FFA Horse Judging Contest	Gainesville	
14	4-H Day at the Capitol	Tallahassee	
17-18	Junior Congress	Green Cove Springs	TBA
18	County Events	TBA	TBA
18	State 4-H Forest Ecology Judging Contest	Austin Cary Memorial Forest-Gainesville	
18	State 4-H/FFA Meats Judging Contest	Gainesville	
21	County Council	CEO	6:30 pm
24 – 26	FL 4-H Volunteer Leader Forum	Camp Ocala	
28	Horse Committee	CEO	6:30 pm

Fundraising Opportunity: Simplified Scrips

During the January County Council meeting, the Council voted to begin a fundraiser called **Simplified Scrips**. This fundraiser earns money through the purchase of gift cards! There are a variety of gift cards to choose from. The only cost to the buyer (you) is that of shipping, and the shipping cost is just postage. But, as you increase your purchase order, the shipping cost decreases!

How Does it Work?

- 1) Members of your group place orders from Simplified Scrip with five convenient ways to order.
- 2) Simplified SCRIP processes the order and tracks all donations.
- 3) Most orders are received in about 4-10 business days via home mail delivery.
- 4) Every 3 months your group receives a check for all the donations earned in the previous quarter.

How do You Buy Gift Cards?

There are many ways to buy gifts cards: direct transfer from a bank account, mail, or via phone!

Please check out the Simplified Scrips website at <http://simplifiedscrip.com/home.asp>. If you would like more information I will be glad to send you an informational packet through email or mail.

The last County Council Meeting was held on February 17th. We began with a game as usual which involved pennies. Doesn't that just make you want to be part of 4-H even more?! The minutes from the January meeting were read. After this, the Shooting Sports Club announced they will be holding a fundraiser at the Gator Skeet and Trap Club. They will be running a concessions stand during a national shooting contests where some of the shooters are training for the Olympics! The treasurer read the current balance of the County Council, which is \$2041.50. The date for the next District Council meeting was announced, and will be held on March 9th Columbia County. The exact time will be sent to those interested. Afterwards we went to our committee meetings and gave our committee reports. One discussion involved spreading the word to friends, family, and acquaintances about the Youth Fair. The Fair will be a great opportunity to let people see what 4-H is all about! Towards the end of the meeting there were a few reminders of some upcoming events. First, there will be no county council in March. The second was that this Saturday is our annual Grape Pruning fundraiser. This covers the most important announcements of the meeting, and we hope to see you at these exciting upcoming events! Have a great week.

-Jeffrey Kirby, Co-Reporter