



4-H News

May 2009

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Dear 4-H'ers,

Whew! This has been a very busy time for Alachua 4-H. I hope everyone is recovering from the Youth Fair and County Events. I would like to share some of the highlights from the Youth Fair:

- 102 exhibitors in Conference Judging, with over 500 exhibits entered
- Almost \$2,000 paid in non-livestock premiums
- Over 400 4-H and FFA livestock entries
- 95 youth participated in non-livestock activities

I would like to congratulate our overall Grand and Reserve Champions per age division:

Junior:	Grand Champion-	Savannah Banner
	Reserve Champion-	Sydney Honeycutt
Intermediate:	Grand Champion-	Victoria Banner
	Reserve Champion-	Chris Francis
Senior:	Grand Champion-	Kayleigh Hinson
	Reserve Champion-	Tiffany Banner

There are a lot of upcoming events to be aware of:

May 8-9 **Area B Horse Show**
May 15-16 **Camp Counselor Training (at Alachua County Extension)**
May 19 **Volunteer Leader Dinner**
May 29 **Horse Project Awards Banquet**

The 4-H Awards Program will be held on Saturday, June 13th, at Creekside Community Church. The Program will begin at 6pm. I will be sending more detailed information within the next couple weeks.

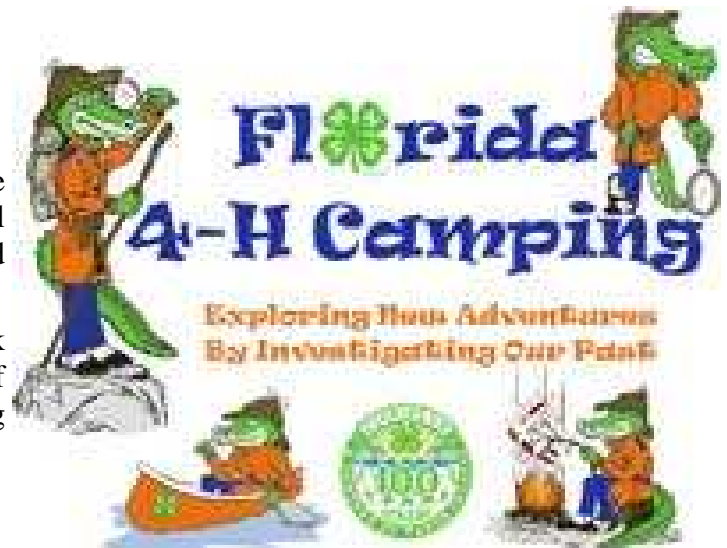
There are still exhibits, record books, and non-livestock premiums to be picked up from the Extension Office. If you have not picked up one of these items, please swing by the Extension Office to pick them up.

I am looking forward to a great 4-H Summer!

Matt Benge
4-H Youth Development Agent

Inside this issue:

Matt's Message	1
County Council Report	2
4-H Day at the Capitol	2
Calendar of Events	3
Summer Camps	4



County Council Report

Greetings, 4-H members!

Our last County Council meeting was on April 21, 2009, and it was an exciting one! Our County Council officers of the next 4-H year were voted as follows:

President: Kayleigh Hinson

Vice President: Victoria Banner

Secretary: Amber Yarbrough

Treasurer: Megan Whitehurst

Co-Recreation Officers: Laura McIntosh and Savannah Banner

Reporter/Historian: Matthew Vonesh

Our new officers will be formally installed in office at the 4-H End-of-the-year Awards Ceremony at Creekside Community Church on June 13! This will be held on June 13th, and more information will be forthcoming. The recipients of the 4-H adult awards were also voted on! These will be announced at our 4-H Volunteer Appreciation Dinner!

Some exciting upcoming events were also discussed. District V Events Day will take place this Saturday (May 2) at First Baptist Church in Starke, FL. Registration begins at 8:30am, and the Program begins at 9:00am. Come and support your fellow 4-H members as you watch them participate in various areas of competition such as Share the Fun, Fashion Revue, Project Demonstrations, and Public Speaking!

The Annual Master Gardener's Plant Sale, which will be held at the Alachua County Extension Office, is May 16th. 4-H County Council will have a concession stand there for fundraising (beginning at 8:00am), and volunteers are needed and appreciated!

A Recycled Sewing Project camp will take place on June 8-12, from 9:00am to 12:00 noon. If you like to make art projects that are eco-friendly, then this camp is for you! More information about other interesting camps will be coming soon.

I hope to see you all at some of these wonderful upcoming events!

-Kayleigh Hinson

4-H Day at the Capitol

Tammy and Nevis Alvarez attended 4-H Day at the Capitol on April 14th. The following is a brief explanation of their experience!

We had a good day at the Capitol despite the awful weather as we were leaving Gainesville. In the morning we had our appointment with Larry Cretul's office (the House of Representative for our district). Nevis and I did NOT get to talk with Mr. Cretul who is Speaker of the House. His assistant was unable to get us in and we thought that was it. However, later on Monday, I received a call and we were given an appointment with Mr. Cretul's legislative assistant. We had a very nice appointment with her. We were able to leave with her a letter for Speaker Cretul. In the letter Nevis wrote her personal story of how all the opportunities in 4-H have helped her in four different areas - life skills, public speaking, community service and leadership. Nevis also shared how she is beginning to see that 4-H opportunities will definitely affect her future when searching for a college or a job. Nevis covered all this verbally during the meeting with the legislative assistant as well. Nevis concluded the letter by asking that Mr. Cretul remember the 4-H Youth Program even after she (Nevis) has "graduated" from 4-H.

Around noon Nevis and I attended the Press Conference and heard from several speakers including Senators, House of Representatives, the Commissioner of Agriculture, and the IFAS lobbyist, Mary Ann Gosa. We ate our lunch and joined up with Crystal (4-H agent in Putnam county) and her 4-H group. Together we went to the office of Senator Steve Oelrich. His schedule was very busy with a quick committee meeting and a legislative session beginning, so the 4-Her's did not get to say much of anything. However, Nevis had also written a letter for Senator Oelrich, so she left that letter with the office staff for him to read at his convince. The letter had the same main points that Nevis shared in the meeting with Speaker Cretul's legislative assistant.

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
MAY			
1	Alachua County Dallas Osborne Scholarship application Deadline	CEO	4:30 pm
2	District 4-H Events	1 st Baptist Church, 163 W Jefferson St, Starke	8:30 am
8 – 10	Area B (District) Horse Show	Green Cove Springs	
9	4-H Invitational Dog Show	TBA	TBA
15	4-H Photo & Poster State Contest entries due	CEO	4:00 pm
15	State 4-H Dairy Poster Contest Entries due	CEO	4:00 pm
15	Horse Public Speaking Speeches due	CEO	4:00 pm
15	All portfolios for scholarships & trips due	CEO	4:00 pm
15 – 16	Camp Counselor Training	CEO	TBA
19	County Council & Volunteer Leader Dinner	CEO	6:30 pm
25	Memorial Day – office closed		
29	Horse Committee & Horse Project Awards Banquet	UF Horse Teaching Unit	6:30 pm
JUN			
1	Entries Deadline 4-H Photo & Poster State Contest	http://florida4h.org/events/photo_contest/index.shtml	
1	Speeches Deadline General Public Speaking	4HEvents@ifas.ufl.edu	
1	Deadline State 4-H Dairy Poster Contest	RHSchmidt@mail.ifas.ufl.edu	
1	Speeches Deadline Horse Public Speaking	http://www.animal.ufl.edu/youth/horse/#demo	
1	Portfolios for scholarships/trips due	TBA	TBA
1	State 4-H Poultry Judging Contest	UF Animal Science Bldg. – Meats Lab	http://animal.ifas.ufl.edu/Youth/poultry/
5	Last day of school		
5	Registration Deadline Career Mentors	CEO	4:00 pm
5	District V 4-H Retreat		
5	Youth Horsemanship Schools	Welaka State Forest	
7 – 13	Citizenship Washington Focus	Washington, D.C.	acletzer@ufl.edu
13	Awards Banquet	Creekside Community Church 2640 NW 39 Avenue	6:00 pm
20	State 4-H Horse Events	UF Horse Teaching Unit	TBA
22 – 26	Legislature		vmullins@ufl.edu
23	Horse Committee	CEO	6:30 pm
25-27	4-H Hog & Ham	Gainesville	TBA
23	Career Mentors Orientation Dinner (potluck)	CEO	TBA
30 – 7/1	Camp Counselor Training	Hernando CEO	TBA

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Summer Camping Season!!!!

The 2009 Summer Camping Season is almost upon us! Please take note of the upcoming Summer activities. The following includes Legislature, Congress, 4-H Camp, and daycamps. The daycamps are in the final stages of planning. Registration for these camps will be later in May!

4-H Event	Dates	Registration	Ages
Legislature	June 22 - 26	Completed	14 - 18
4-H Camp Ocala	July 13 - 17	Forthcoming	8 - 13
Congress	July 27 - 31	Deadline May 18	14 - 18
Daycamps			
Sewing	Crafty Kids	City Slickers	Crafty Day
Fishing	Intergenerational Arts	Junior Master Gardener	ATF Safety Workshop

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 newsletter 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".