

Brevard County 4-H Newsletter



HEAD



HEART



HANDS



HEALTH

August 2025

4-H Open Enrollment begins August 1

Summer is winding down, which can only mean one thing. 4-H enrollment for the 2025-2026 program year is underway! We can't wait to see what this new year will bring. We're looking forward to seeing familiar faces and to welcoming new ones into the Brevard County 4-H program.

As a reminder, returning youth members and adult volunteers must register at www.4honline.com each year to be considered active members.

Be sure to check out our website, <https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/brevard/4-h-and-youth/4-h-clubs/>, to view our list of clubs and meeting days/times, and come join us for our Open House to learn more.

If you need assistance with 4honline or have any questions, please contact our office at 321-633-1702.

An Equal Opportunity Institution

The University of Florida is committed to providing universal access to all of our events. For disability accommodations such as sign language interpreters and listening devices, please contact the UF/IFAS Brevard County Extension Office at brevard@ifas.ufl.edu or (321) 633-1702 at least 2 weeks in advance. Advance notice is necessary to arrange for some accessibility needs. For persons with hearing or speech impairments, use the Florida Relay Service (TDD) at 1-800-955-8771 or 711

Welcome Sarah

Please help me in welcoming our newest 4-H Program Assistant, Sarah Read! Sarah grew up here in Brevard County before going off to school for a bachelor's degree in environmental studies at the University of Central Florida. After graduating, she discovered an interest for environmental education at McDowell Environmental Center, located in Alabama. Working there and at McDowell's teaching farm taught her the importance of teaching people where our food comes from, for creating stronger interpersonal ties to our community, and our responsibility for environmental stewardship. Sarah also recently completed a year of service with Americorps in the city of Orlando's Youth Garden Program, growing her passion for fostering a sense of accountability in taking care of each other and the land around us. She is looking forward to expanding her teaching experiences with the 4-H program. In her free time, Sarah loves cooking, reading, knitting, and looking under rocks for bugs!



We'll miss you!



Miss Lily has decided to pursue her education further and will be leaving our team August 18. Lily brought so much energy and excitement to our program, and we hate to see her go. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors. Be sure to drop her a note and let her know how much you appreciate all of her work and dedication to our 4-H program.

Market Poultry Project 2025-2026



Registration for the Brevard County 4-H Market Poultry program is open for the 2025-2026 program year.

We will once again be offering classes to help prepare our youth for showmanship, skill-a-thon, record books, and the auction.

While not mandatory, they are highly encouraged, and youth attending classes will receive points toward Champion Exhibitor.

Classes are open to Market and Purebred Poultry project participants.

Birds for this year's project are...Barred Plymouth Rocks!

We can't wait for another great year with our poultry projects.

Reserve your spot at:
<https://tinyurl.com/upeceb9s>



Poultry Projects Information Night

Brevard County 4-H

Tuesday, August 5
6:00 PM
UF/IFAS Extension Office

What you'll learn

- What is a 4-H poultry project?
- What do I need to do to participate in a poultry project?
- What if I can't keep chickens at home?
- How do I get started?



Register with the QR code or go to:
<https://4HPProjectInfonight.eventbrite.com>



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BREVARD COUNTY 4-H OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, August 16

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

3695 Lake Drive, Cocoa, FL 32926



COME JOIN US FOR THIS FREE EVENT TO LEARN
ABOUT 4-H, MEET AND GREET WITH OUR CURRENT
4-H CLUBS, PARTICIPATE IN FUN ACTIVITIES, AND
SIGN UP FOR A CLUB NEAR YOU!

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For more information, call (321) 633-1702.

**Please RSVP to Michele by August 9 at the
number above or by email mail to:
michelearoberts@ufl.edu**

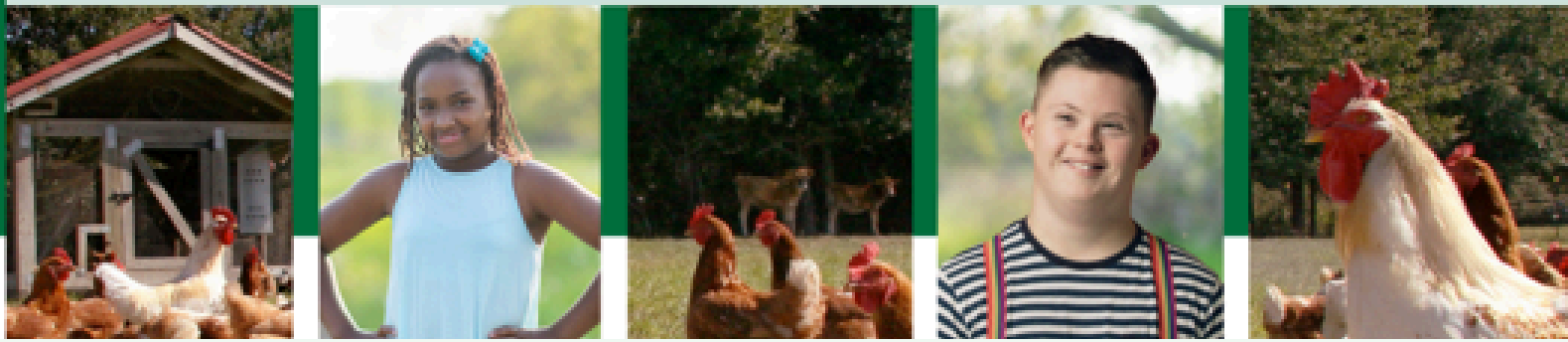


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Barnyard Challengers



Barnyard Challengers is a program open to youth ages 6 and up who have a disability and would like to participate in an animal project. Youth will be paired up with mentors to learn about poultry with the opportunity to participate in the Brevard County Fair. Youth do not need their own chicken to participate.

Two days & locations are available, both running from 6PM – 7PM:

First Monday of the Month at the
UF/IFAS Extension Office, 3695 Lake Dr., Cocoa

Last Monday of the month at the Adaptive Recreation Center in
Wickham Park,
2450 Parkway Dr, Melbourne



A mentor program is open to youth ages 13 and up who would like to assist youth enrolled in the program. The program will focus on learning and showing poultry for the 2026 Brevard County Fair. No poultry experience is necessary.

Registration in 4honline is required.

Contact Vanessa Spero, Regional 4-H Agent
vspero@ufl.edu or 321-615-7323

4-H SOCCER FOR SUCCESS

Open to youth with disabilities aged 6 and up.

Tuesdays and Thursdays

5:30-6:30pm

Start Date TBD (September-November 2025)

Space Coast Communities Sports Complex

662 Canaveral Groves Blvd

Cocoa, FL 32926

Cost: \$50.00 (includes enrollment in 4-H)

For more information or to sign up, contact:

Vanessa Spero, Regional 4-H Agent

Vspero@ufl.edu

321-615-7323

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The chicks are coming, the chicks are coming!

Chick pick up for this year's Market Poultry Program is tentatively set for Thursday September 4th from 3PM - 6PM. We are using a new company this year and are unsure of how quickly they will arrive. Back-up date will be Friday, September 5th from 3PM - 6PM. We will keep all Market Poultry Project members update on their arrival.

Have You HERD

Are you interested in animal agriculture and want to know more about the opportunities available to you? This is your opportunity to spend a day at the UF/IFAS Animal Sciences (ANS) Department! Through the Have You HERD program, you will attend classes, interact with students and faculty, and tour the UF campus. You'll even have the option to stay for a club meeting or practice with the livestock, horse, or meat judging teams.

Applicants must be a current high school student, or a student who graduated from high school within the past year, with an interest or career goals in the livestock industry, and will preferably have a strong interest in UF Animal Sciences.

Applications for both Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 are due August 15, 2025!

For more information and to register, go to:
<https://animal.ifas.ufl.edu/students/have-you-herd/>

National 4-H Volunteer Conference Thrive in 2025

Spark*Ignite*Thrive

October 2 - 5, 2025

Rock Eagle 4-H Center, Eatonton, GA

On-site and Virtual Options Available

Brevard County 4-H is offering scholarships to leaders who are interested in attending. Contact Gayle for more information.

For conference information, go to: <https://www.4hvcoss.com/>
Registration is open now



Florida 4-H wants to hear how 4-H has made you
#4HBeyondReady!

You are invited to submit a story or encourage others to do so, highlighting how 4-H has empowered you to grow, overcome challenges, and make a difference. These stories are an important way to celebrate the impact of 4-H and inspire others to get involved.

[SUBMIT YOUR STORY TODAY](https://tinyurl.com/FL4HBeyondReady)



COMING EVENTS

- **August 1** - *FL 4-H Executive Board Applications Due*
- **August 1** - *2025-2026 4-H Year Open Enrollment Begins on 4HOnline*
- **August 5** - *Poultry Projects Information Night, UF/IFAS Extension Brevard County Office*
- **August 16** - *Brevard County 4-H Open House, UF/IFAS Extension Brevard County Office*
- **August 30** - *Brevard County 4-H Volunteer Leader Training, UF/IFAS Extension Brevard County Office*
- **Sept 4 or 5** - *Market Poultry Project Chick Pick-Up, UF/IFAS Extension Brevard County Office*
- **September 15** - *Discover 4-H Club, UF/IFAS Extension Brevard County Office*