

VOL. 1 ISSUE 9 · JUNE 2020

HOT OFF THE PRESS

Official Newsletter of Charlotte County 4-H

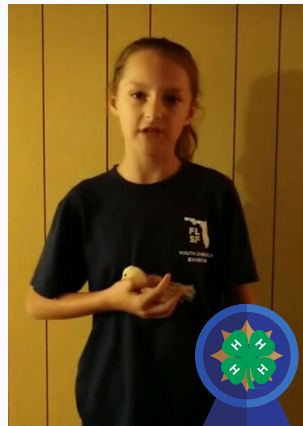


COUNTY EVENTS RESULTS

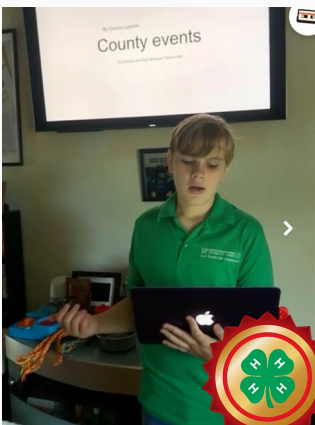
Congratulations to our 3 County Events Participants for a job well done! They each overcame the challenges of providing us presentations from home and educated the judges about topics they were passionate about! Job well done & we hope to see presentations in person again next year!



ISA BELL PEREZ
BLUE



LEAH DENDINGER
BLUE



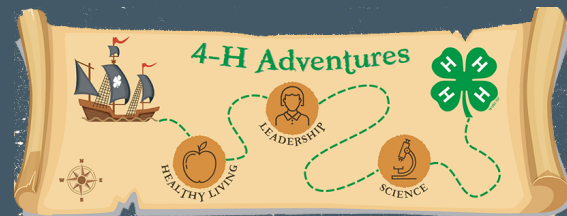
CONNOR LAWSON
RED



Virtual Summer Camps

STARTING SOON

Agents from around the state are working together to bring a wide variety of 4-H Virtual Summer Camps to you!



[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/YAZ93NXY](https://tinyurl.com/YAZ93NXY)

**SIGN UP NOW AS SPACES
IN SOME CAMPS ARE
LIMITED!**



National Gardening Week

BY: SARA WEBER - UF IFAS EXTENSION CHARLOTTE COUNTY

Did you know the first week of June is “National Gardening Week?” Gardening has many benefits: it’s good exercise, a stress reliever, and it encourages a healthier diet by being able to grow your own food. It also helps pollinators like bees and butterflies and is a fun family activity. The list goes on and on. No wonder it’s one of America’s favorite hobbies! Here are a few things you can do at home to celebrate National Gardening Week.

1. Grow an herb garden! You can start with seeds or starter plants. Both seeds and starter plant can be obtained online, at local garden centers, or check if you have a family member or friend that has extras from their garden. Basil, ginger, cumin, and rosemary are all good warm season herbs that can be planted in June. If you’d like to find out what else can be planted in June, or other months of the year, check out UF/IFAS South Florida Gardening Calendar http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ep452#SECTION_6.

2. Plant native wildflowers. Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*), blanket flower (*Gaillardia pulchella*), and tickseed (*Coreopsis* spp.) are all nice choices that have beautiful, bright blooms. They are easy to find locally and are adapted well to our weather, which makes them easy keepers also. The bees and butterflies will thank you!

3. Start a compost pile. Compost is decayed organic matter that can be used to fertilize your garden. You can use a bin or find a spot in your yard away from the house (and neighbors!) where you can pile up leaves, yard waste, kitchen scraps, and other plant material. After it breaks down you have wonderful fertilizer for your plants. To learn more about how to compost properly, see “Compost Tips for the Home Gardener” <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ep323>.

4. Learn to identify the plants that are in your yard. If you have a wide variety, maybe just start off with those in the landscape beds, or just the weeds, or trees.

Herb Gardening

Photo by: Sara Weber



You can use the UF/IFAS plant databases, plant ID apps, the internet, books you may have at home, or send us photos, and we will be glad to help! These are just a few ideas to help you celebrate National Gardening Week – what else can you come up with? Although National Gardening Week is only seven days long, I hope you celebrate all year – now go get those hands dirty! Sara Weber is the Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Education & Training Specialist for UF/IFAS Extension -Charlotte County. If you’d like more information on FFL or have a gardening question, feel free to email sara.weber@ufl.edu.



HAVE YOU SEEN THE WEEKLY CHALLENGE?



Each week, Mrs. Carrie posts a weekly OUTDOOR challenge for all 4-H'ers to complete. These activities range from outdoor observations to collecting items to make outside to create a 4-H clover. A job well done by the following youth who have completed one or more weekly challenges. Be on the look-out for a new weekly challenge on Wednesdays.

Week 3

Naiara E.
Joseph & Isabella F.
Lily A
Miguel R.

Week 4

Alexander B.
Lily A

Week 5

Klayton N.
Luke B.
Alexander B.
Bruce B.

TOP CHOICE LIVESTOCK JUDGING CLUB

The Top Choice Livestock Judging club has some exciting news! The club will have a new name and a focus on veterinary science, while still incorporating livestock judging! This will be beneficial to any 4-H members that are considering a career as a veterinarian or would just like to learn a little more about helping their animals.

Check next month's newsletter for more information!

VIRTUAL COOKING CLUB HAS COME TO AN END. CHECK OUT SOME OF THE DELICIOUS RECIPES THE 4-H'ERS CREATED OVER THE PAST 6 WEEKS.





4-H Swine Show Club

SUBMITTED BY: KELLEY BAKER



When the Coronavirus shut down in person 4H events and meetings it created a dilemma for our 4H members who are showing summer pigs but, that did not stop them from showing their summer swine projects. The show must go on and it did go on, just in the virtual world. There have been many online virtual shows started up for kids across the country to participate in. Two of our members participated in a few of these online shows. Both Olivia Baker and MacKenzie Jackson showed in some of the shows through Walton Webcasting. The shows required a 60-90 second video showing all views of their pigs and they had to be dressed to show and drive their pigs just like they would at any show. The show would then place all the pigs in their respective classes for the judge to evaluate. Both Olivia and MacKenzie are showing purebred gilts so they show in their breed classes by age. The shows are then shown online live with the judge watching it and placing each class. This gave a unique opportunity for both as they were able to compete with pigs and exhibitors from all around the country and watch live along with the judge so they could hear the judge's comments. Each show had over 1,000 entries and it would take 2 days for 2 judges to get through all the pigs. It was not the same as showing in person but, it was fun and great learning opportunity. The in-person jackpot shows in Florida do start up in June and I know our members who show in the summer are excited to get back into the show ring locally. Their first show will be June 13-14 in Wachula. Also, our club has been busy doing several online activities and earning points for a prizes and an ice cream party when we finally get to resume in person meetings. We are also starting to do our regular monthly meeting through zoom. Our first Zoom meeting is June 3rd at 6:30 if anyone is interested in checking out our club.

Virtual Swine Show





CHARLOTTE COUNTY 4-H



VIRTUAL 5K @ HOME CHALLENGE

We invite youth ages 5-18 to join Charlotte County 4-H in completing a 5K while at home. It is pretty simple and can be lots of fun. Every participant who completes the 5K will receive a medal of recognition.



WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO?

- Signup via <https://tinyurl.com/y75ugqcw> by **June 15th, 2020**.
- A pedometer (if requested) will be mailed to you once you sign up.
- Run or walk 6,500 steps during the week of **June 22-28** while wearing your pedometer. You can complete your challenge in multiple parts or all at once.
- Take photos of your pedometer results showing the steps you have taken.
Keep a daily record of the steps that you have completed.
- Submit your pedometer results and daily records via email to clbaucom@ufl.edu by **Monday June 22nd**. A medal of recognition will be mailed to you once everything has been completed.

UF | **IFAS Extension**
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Foundation of the Gator Nation - An Equal Opportunity Institution

Questions?
Contact Carrie Baucom at
clbaucom@ufl.edu



HOW TO JOIN 4-H

A child's eligibility for participation in 4-H is determined by their age as of September 1, 2019. The minimum age for a 4-H'er is 5 years old as of September 1st.

If you are ready to participate in Charlotte County 4-H, complete a Florida 4-H Enrollment online at 4honline.com

Be sure to choose a club prior to enrolling online as you need to select the club(s) you plan to attend.

The Florida 4-H Youth Development Program requires an annual \$20.00 membership fee for Community Club Members ages 8-18. You will need to follow the link to pay after enrolling to be considered an active 4-H member.



An Important Message from the Charlotte County Fair Livestock Chairman

Hello to all my fair friends,

I am writing this letter and enclosing it with your fair checks to inform you about some of the future and concerns for our 2021 fair.

To begin, I hope all is well with you, your family and all your friends. Due to our current situation and uncertainty about how soon or even if we will return to normal, our fair committee is already acting and thinking about the future.

Should this virus, any other form of this virus, or similar situation come up on or before our fair dates; much like most business; our fair will close and there will be no shows or sale at the fair grounds as mandated by state and local guidelines.

With this in mind, it is my sincere recommendation that you take every precaution to limit the amount of expense put forth into your projects. As of this moment our expectation is that the fair and shows will go on as usual. We are working on show dates and weigh-in/tag-in dates as we expect everything will return to normal.

Being apart of the program for so many years has me convinced that our community believes in this program and stands behind it. As these times are changing so to is our planning. We have a committee that is discussing and working with other fairs that were affected by Covid-19 and others that are going to be preparing their exhibitors for the future.

Online auctions, separate venues, and more ideas are being discussed as only a precautionary measure. As of this moment I want everyone to plan as though it will be just another year at the fair! Just be cautious about expenses in animals feed costs and the possibility of a cancelled fair.

As we move towards our steer weigh-in, our plans will begin to start to look better, this I am sure of. We will rely heavily on our fair website to keep you updated and our Facebook page. We expect rules to be published on website by the beginning of May.

I appreciate everyone's help and if there are any ideas or concerns that you may have please contact us.

Thank you, stay safe and please continue to check the website.

James Shipman, Ag Chairman/VPII



Stay Safe in the Sun

Summer is almost here and the warmer weather is calling us outside! Being outside has a tremendous amount of benefits including the opportunity for Vitamin D and exercise, but it also brings a chance for sun damage in as little as 15 minutes of exposure. Sun protection methods are extremely important throughout the year but especially when you are spending your days outside enjoying the warm air, beach, outdoor games and more. It is important to remember that **EVERYONE** is at risk for a sunburn and they are most at risk when the sun's rays are strongest between 10 am and 4pm. Sun protection oftentimes comes in the form of sunscreen but sunburns can also be avoided through the use of select clothes made of UV protective fabrics, a wide-brimmed hat, and sunglasses. Sunscreen works by absorbing, reflecting, or scattering sunlight. They contain chemicals that work with the skin to protect it from UV rays. When choosing a sunscreen, look for one with the words "broad-spectrum" on the label as these types of sunscreen protect against ultraviolet B (UVB) and ultraviolet A (UVA) rays. In addition, the sunscreen should be at least SPF 15. Do your best to apply sunscreen 30 minutes before going outdoors and consider using zinc oxide for extra protection on your nose, cheeks, or top of ears and shoulders. It is important to remember to reapply sunscreen every 2 hours or immediately after swimming or sweating. Take a second to check out the UV Index in your area to see what the recommendations are to help you protect yourself from the sun's rays. The EPA's website is: enviro.epa.gov ; all you need is your zip code for more information. Information derived from healthychildren.org and cdc.gov



PEN FRIENDS

WE ARE EXCITED TO
HAVE 13 CHARLOTTE
COUNTY 4-H YOUTH
EXCHANGING
LETTERS WITH OTHER
4-H'ERS AROUND THE
UNITED STATES
THROUGH THE 4-H
PEN FRIENDS
PROGRAM.

Contact us:

Charlotte County 4-H
514 E Grace Street
Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Kristie Popa - 4-H Agent
(941) 833-3836
kpopa@ufl.edu

Carrie Baucom
clbaucom@ufl.edu

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