

VOL. 1 ISSUE 8 · MAY 2020

HOT OFF THE PRESS

Official Newsletter of Charlotte County 4-H



RECORD BOOKS ARE DUE MAY 15TH

RECORD BOOKS
due May 15th

RECORD BOOKS CAN BE:
SCANNED & EMAILED
OR
MAILED TO:
CHARLOTTE COUNTY 4-H
1120 O'DONNELL BLVD
PORT CHARLOTTE, FL 33953

TO SCAN AND EMAIL, DOWNLOAD A
FREE SCANNING APP ON YOUR
PHONE (SUCH AS GENIUS SCAN),
SCAN AND EMAIL TO
KPOPA@UFL.EDU

**YOU WILL NEED TO EMAIL ONE
RECORD BOOK AT A TIME.**

NAME _____
CLUB _____
STATE _____

Foundation of the Gator Nation: An Equal Opportunity Institution

We want to be able to recognize you with an award for completing your 4-H project this year. In order to do that, you need to complete your record book and/or project summary form and turn it in by May 15th. You can either mail your record book in or scan the pages and send them to Mrs. Kristie at kpopa@ufl.edu

How do you do that? If you have an iPhone, you can use the notes app and scan your book to send it. All smart phones have scanning apps such as Genius Scan where you can scan and send for free! Let us know if you need any help!



Virtual Summer Camps

COMING SOON

Agents from around the state are working together to bring a wide variety of 4-H Virtual Summer Camps to you! Be on the look out for more information soon!

TOPICS WILL INCLUDE:

- STEM
- PLANT SCIENCE
- ANIMAL SCIENCE
- FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE
- LEADERSHIP
- COMMUNICATION



Gifts from the Garden

BY: SARA WEBER - UF IFAS EXTENSION CHARLOTTE COUNTY

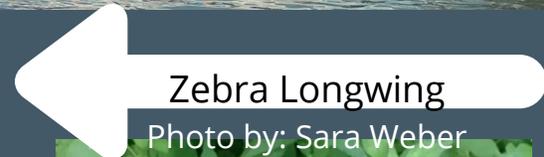
May is “Gifts from the Garden” month. One of the best gifts I receive in my home garden are butterflies, and zebra longwings are one of my favorites!

Did you know that the zebra longwing is our state butterfly? All year long in Florida, you can see these beautiful black and yellow insects fluttering around in thickets, open fields, local parks, and most importantly – your own backyard!

Adult butterflies lay their eggs on what is called a host or larval plant. This is the specific kind of plant a butterfly will lay her eggs on, and the only type of plant that her caterpillars (or larvae) will eat. For the zebra longwing, this host plant is passionflower. “Maypop” purple passionflower (*Passiflora incarnata*) and corkystem passionflower (*Passiflora suberosa*) are two of the Florida natives that these insects love. The adult female butterfly will lay her tiny yellow eggs on this vine, the eggs then hatch into little black and white caterpillars and these caterpillars eat and eat and eat until they are large enough to create a chrysalis. When the adult is developed and emerges from the chrysalis, it will find a mate, and the cycle starts all over again.

The adult zebra longwing feeds on nectar and pollen of flowers like red salvia, blue porterweed, firebush, and Spanish needle (see photo). Most butterflies feed just on nectar – but zebra longwings feed on pollen too – which gives them more nutrients and is why these butterflies live longer than most other species!

If you’d like to see more of these butterflies in your own yard, be sure to have some nectar plants for the adults to feed on. If you can, plant a passionvine (or two!) for them to lay their eggs on and you could see all four stages of the life cycle right in your own backyard – super cool, right?



4-H Swine Show Team

BY: KRISTIE LAWSON

The Swine Show Club of Charlotte County is still learning while having fun! They are currently competing in a contest consisting of fun activities to earn points and win prizes! The contest will continue until 4-Hers can meet in person again. At that point prizes will be awarded at an ice cream party. If you are interested in participating, please find us on Facebook!

4-H MEMBERS COMPLETING AN ASSIGNMENT - TELL WHAT 4-H MEANS TO YOU!



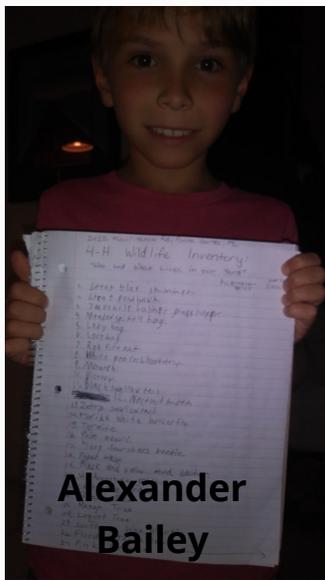


HAVE YOU SEEN THE WEEKLY CHALLENGE?



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.

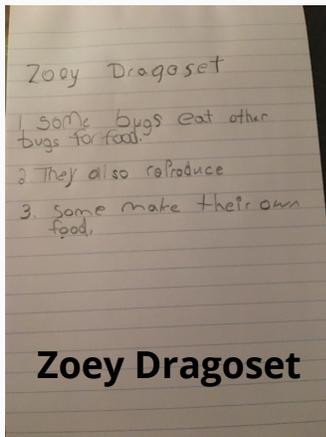
**Prizes will be sent to those who participate each week (as soon as we are able to do so).



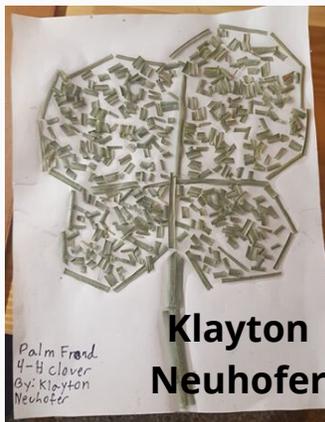
Alexander Bailey



Isa Bell Perez



Zoey Dragoset



Klayton Neuhofer

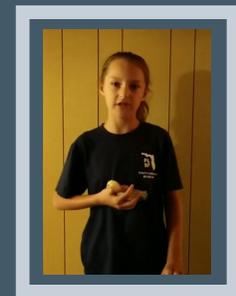


Caonnor Lawson

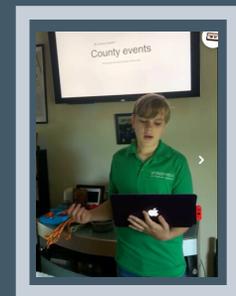


Caleb Lawson

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR VIRTUAL COUNTY EVENTS PARTICIPANTS FOR A JOB WELL DONE!



Leah Dendinger
"Chick Care"



Connor Lawson
"Pet Care"



Isa Bell Perez
"Service Dogs vs Support Dogs"



Don't Worry Journal

INFORMATION FROM 4-H.ORG



Kids feeling uncomfortable about a situation a test, a performance or a tough conversation is part of life. Encourage your child to create a worry journal to help alleviate daily anxieties. The only supplies that you will need are a notebook and pen. Follow these steps to complete the activity:

1. For one week, if you feel worried or anxious, take out your journal and write down how you feel. You can write a few sentences, draw pictures, paint or even make a collage.
2. At the end of the week, revisit your journal and reflect on what you wrote down. Try answering the following questions:
 - a. Did this worry stay in your thoughts only, or were there physical reactions as well?
 - b. Was this worry specific, such as tomorrow's math test, or about school work in general?
 - c. Did worrying about this lead to steps you could take to solve the problem?
3. Connect with your family and friends. Do they have the same worries as you? Think about how can you support one another?

Learn more at 4-h.org/dontworry

VIRTUAL COOKING CLUB

The Charlotte County 4-H Virtual Cooking Club has been busy cooking up new recipes each Friday via zoom. We have had between 9 and 16 4-H'ers participate each week. Not only are they learning basic cooking skills, they are putting their math to work learning about fractions and measurement in the kitchen!

In addition to cooking, they have learned a couple of neat napkin folds that they can use to get creative at meal time! Check out some of the photos of the foods they have cooked!

Weekly Recipes:

Week 1 - Deviled Eggs

Week 2 - Homemade Pancakes

Week 3 - Homemade Chips & Bean Salsa





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



Hurricane Preparedness - It Is Time to Plan

Hurricane season is right around the corner. We are unable to control whether or not a hurricane will come our way, but we can control whether or not we are prepared for a potential hurricane. Hurricane preparedness should start early. We should not wait until a hurricane is approaching to get prepared.

Many people do wait until last minute to prepare for a hurricane. They hear that a storm is approaching and run out to stores and panic buy. As a result, the stores are unable to keep up with the demand. The lack of supplies and the amount of people panic shopping can create a high level of unneeded stress.

Don't stress this hurricane season. Be prepared before it even arrives. Create a kit of supplies ahead of time. Some recommended items to include in your hurricane kit are:

- Non-perishable food (enough to last at least 3 days)
- Water (enough to last at least 3 days)
- First-aid kit (include any prescription medication you may need)
- Personal hygiene items and sanitation items
- Flashlights
- Battery operated radio
- Extra batteries for flashlights and radio
- Waterproof container with cash and important documents
- Manual can opener
- Lighter or matches
- Books, magazines, games for recreation
- Special needs items: pet supplies and baby supplies if applicable
- Cooler and ice packs
- A plan for evacuation and for if family members are separated



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:

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