

April 2023 Lafayette County Extension, Ag and 4-H News Vol 5 No 4

## Up-Coming

#### **Events**

**Tuesday April 4:** 4-H Home School Club 10:00 AM Extension Classroom

**Tuesday, April 4:** 4-H Community Club 3:00 PM Extension Classroom

Tuesday, April 11: Cooking Club cancelled for Spring Break

**Tuesday, April 18:** Anglers 4-H Club Meeting, 3:00 Location TBA

**Tuesday April 25:** Archery Club Meeting, Extension Classroom 3:00 PM

Wednesday May 3, Senior Commodity pick-up, Mayo Community Center 2:00 – 4:00 PM

Strengthening Families Program: Thursday evening in April 6 & April 20 at 5:30 PM, Extension Classroom



#### Students Reap Rewards Of Work In School Garden

Shawn Jackson

Four months of gardening by Lafayette Elementary School Third Graders culminated in a day of harvesting cabbage from the school garden and enjoying different cabbage recipes. With the assistance of Lafayette County Extension Service, the third-grade students began this gardening project in December learning about how to prepare the soil for crops, irrigation, and fertilization. The class then planted cabbage plants in the garden, a tradition that is in its tenth year at the school. Throughout the four-month project, students assisted in watering, weeding, and fertilizing the garden as well as taking responsibility for other needs that occurred.

On last day of March, students harvested their cabbage from the garden. The cabbages were weighed to determine who had grown the largest cabbage with some reaching as much as five pounds!

Harvesting the cabbage was not the only fun experience the kids had with their new favorite crop, Lafayette County Extension Agents Shawn Jackson and Emily Beach prepared Steamed Cabbage, Eggroll in a bowl, slaw, and cabbage ranch tocos for the class to sample during their lunch. For the most part, the students enjoyed all the cabbage recipes, but they all agreed the cabbage ranch tacos were their favorite. The LES teachers and county extension agents are eagerly waiting to find out how the kids, with help from their parents prepared their own cabbage at home!





#### Local Youth Enjoy Experiences in Sewing Program

#### Shawn Jackson

Lafayette 4-H is wrapping up a six-week, 20 hour sewing spin club. Five intermediate 4-H members participated in the new spin club lead by Jeanette Ash and Shirley Hatfield. The youth learned to use patterns to prepare material to be sewn together, attach buttons, basic hand sewing and to use a sewing machine. Some of the projects completed by the youth include hair scrunchies, Kleenex holders, cooking mittens and aprons. Participants in the program have said they have enjoyed the experience of learning to sew and look forward to continuing to do sewing on their own and in future sewing spin clubs. The sewing machines used in this club were purchased through a donation made by First Federal Bank.













#### First Cohort Of SFP 10-14 On Their Way To Program Completion

#### Shawn Jackson

With the month of March coming to pass, so does 5 weeks of Strengthening Families Program 10-14. The 13 youth and caregivers in the program are now only two weeks from completing the program which has been celebrated for nearly 20 years for its research-based strategies that can be used to help lessen the likelihood of teens participating in risky behaviors that lead to drug use, underage drinking, and teen pregnancy. Much of the success of this program can be accredited to its teaching youth and adults to effectively communicate with each other as a family with honesty and respect. The group of families have two more session to complete before they graduate from the program.

Lafayette County Extension appreciates those in the community who have supported this program:

Marlyn Israel- SFP Team Member

Lynn Koon- SFP Team Member

Daryl Fletcher- SFP Team Member/facilitator

Beverly Fountain- SFP Team member/facilitator

Melissa Shaw- SFP Team member/facilitator

Lafayette County Rotary- Family Meal

WC and Jana Hart- Family Meal

Eddie and Leenette Fredrickson- Family Meal

Wroten and Debbie Land- Family Meal

Marion McCray- donation to the program

Above: Melissa Shaw speaks to SFP 10-14 participants.

Mt Paran Church in honor of Fred Moses- donation to the program

#### Lafayette 4-H Remembers Volunteer

It is with heavy hearts that Lafayette 4-H says good-bye to one of our favorite volunteers, Renee (Bennett) Berezein. Renee passed away on March 29, after a brief illness. Renee began volunteering with Lafayette 4-H in the fall of 2022. She was wonderful at assisting our 4-Hers with craft projects and her gift of photography was especially appreciated by club leaders and agents. She also liked to assist with the 4-H senior commodity program. Renee always had a smile on her face and quick to spread cheer at the extension office and at 4-H meetings. Our thoughts an prayers go out to her daughter and fellow 4-H member Rhetta during this difficult time.



#### Weather and Agriculture Report

#### **Emily Beach**

March brought us several soaking showers but not an abundance like last year. Subsoil moisture still seems to be adequate but we will start to see water running as spring crops are going into the ground. If you have-

n't planted your backyard garden, there is still time, but you should be making plans to get that done. Tomato transplants can be found easily right now as well as seeds for beans, corn, cucumbers, okra, peas, and squash.

Consider fertilizing your lawn around the middle of this month. Although it can be a bit of an expense, healthy and thriving grass allows for lower disease and weed pressure which is worth it!

March Rainfall Totals (in)					
202 2022 2021 3 2022 2021					
Cooks Hammock	3.1	9.18	3.74		
Mallory Swamp	2.48	12.27	5.24		
Midway Tower	4.73	9.43	2.44		

#### 4-Hers Use Learned Skills In Birdhouse Fundraiser

During the months of March and April, Lafayette 4-H members are putting their woodworking skills to good use. Members are in the process of building and decorating birdhouses which will be used as a 4-H Fundraiser to support 4-H programming. The bird house benefit auction will be held May 5, on Facebook. Those who are interested in bidding on a birdhouse without a Facebook account can do so by contacting the extension office and declaring a maximum bid on specific birdhouses. Those participating in that format will receive text messages with status updates on bids. These birdhouses have lots of character and reflect the personality of their designers. These birdhouses will make excellent Mother's Day gifts! More details to come but start making plants now to participate in this exciting opportunity that supports our local youth.



## Successful 2023 Suwannee Valley Youth Livestock Show and Sale

Over 140 exhibitors checked in 114 swine, 27 steers, and 18 sheep during the week of March 20-23 in order to demonstrate their showmanship skills as well as allow for their animal to be evaluated against industry standards. 14 of those exhibitors were from Lafayette 4-H and we are very proud of their accomplishments. The awards for the week are:

	Steer Record Book				
	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place		
Jr.	Gunnar Soride, Branford 4-H	Kenly Melland, Lafaette 4-H	Jayda Hendrick, Lafayette 4-H		
Int.	Rilee Brooke Floyd, Suwannee Middle FFA	Wyatt Watson, Su- wannee Middle FFA	Dallas Deadwyler, Lafayette FFA		
Sr.	Kati Taylor, Suwannee FFA	Jack Peterson, Lafayette FFA	Delaney Deadwyler, Lafayette FFA		

	Swine Record Book				
	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place		
Jr.	Colby Misinec, Suwannee	Cutter McCormick,	Regan Hillwig,		
	4-H	Branford 4-H	Lafayette 4-H		
Int.	Malah Bass,	Ava Floyd,	Logan Lamb,		
	Lafayette FFA	Branford FFA	Lafayette FFA		
Sr.	JayLee Heijkoop, Lafa-	Terra-Lyn McCormick,	Molly Hamlin,		
	yette FFA	Suwannee FFA	Lafayette FFA		

#### **Swine Show Results**

SHOWMANSHIP	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Junior	Kenly Melland	Cutter McCormick	Lexie Dasher
	Lafayette 4-H	Branford 4-H	Suwannee 4-H
Intermediate	Karlyn Bush	Kerri Ditter	Shondre Jones
	Suwannee Middle FFA	Lafayette FFA	Suwannee Middle FFA
Senior	Aubrey Reppert	Peyton Ditter	Molly Hamlin
	Suwannee FFA	Lafayette FFA	Lafayette FFA

Grand Champion	Aubrey Reppert, Suwannee FFA
Reserve Champion	Sidney Wimberley, Lafayette FFA
3rd Overall	Karlyn Bush, Suwanee Middle FFA
4th Overall	Trace Hart, Lafayette FFA
5th Overall	Sidney Wimberley, Lafayette FFA





#### **Steer Show Results**

	GRAND	RESERVE	3rd	4th	5th
Feeder	Lafayette FFA	Landen Gar- rard, Lafayette FFA			
Fat	Luke Adams, Lafayette FFA	Gracie Fletch- er, Suwannee FFA	Rilee Brook Floyd, Suwannee FFA	Kati Taylor, Suwannee FFA	Emma Soride, Branford FFA
Homegrown	Dallas Deadw- yler, Lafayette FFA	Lindsleigh Carte, Suwannee FFA			

SHOWMANSHIP	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Junior	Kenly Melland,	Gunnar Soride,	Jayda Hendrick
	Lafayette 4-H	Branford 4-H	Lafayette 4-H
Intermediate	Rilee Brook Floyd,	Lindsleigh Carte,	Dallas Deadwyler,
	Suwannee FFA	Suwannee FFA	Lafayette FFA
Senior	Kati Taylor,	Gracie Fletcher,	Carter Higginbotham,
	Suwannee FFA	Suwannee FFA	Lafayette FFA

#### **Steer Average Daily Gain Contest**

1st: 4.23 lb/dayBrantlee Ahrens, Suwannee FFA2nd: 3.89 lb/dayLamar Jenkins, Suwannee FFA3rd: 3.6 lb/dayMcKayden Wilkerson, Branford 4-HSteer Herdsman Award:Kati Taylor, Suwannee FFA





## Sheep Show

Overall Grand Ewe Anndelyn Lundy, Suwannee FFA		
Overall Reserve Ewe	Courtney Taylor, Suwannee FFA	
Overall Grand RamBrantlee Ahrens, Suwannee FFA		
Overall Reserve Ram	Robert Robinson, Suwannee FFA	
Grand Supreme	Anndelyn Lundy, Suwannee FFA	

Division	Grand Champion	Reserve Champion
Black Face Ewe	Anndelyn Lundy, Suwannee FFA	Kati Taylor, Suwannee FFA
Black Face Ram	Brantee Ahrens, Suwannee FFA Robert Robinson, Suwa	
All Other Breeds Ewe	Courtney Taylor, Suwannee FFA	Ella Clark, Branford Middle FFA
White Ewe	Molly Hamlin, Lafayette FFA	Kiley Beach, Lafayette FFA

SHOWMANSHIP	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Junior	Kendall Beach,	Gunnar Soride,	Cutter McCormick,
	Lafayette 4-H	Branford 4-H	Branford 4-H
Intermediate	Ayden Humphries,	Katelynn Hicks,	Aiden Cannon,
	Branford FFA	Suwannee 4-H	Branford Middle
Senior	Kati Taylor,	Anndelyn Lundy,	Molly Hamlin,
	Suwannee FFA	Suwannee FFA	Lafayette FFA





# We would like to extend a HUGE "Thank You" to all of the buyers for the SVYLSS. Your support of our youth is greatly appreciated!

L&W Venison	Frank Darabi	North Central FL Dog Hunters	Triple P Trucking
83 Farms	Gator Chevy	North Florida Prof. Services	United Country
A New Dawn, A New Day	Gator Crop	Palms Medical Group	Van Aernam Farms
ABS Global	Gaylord Farm	Perry Precast	Vulcan
Acentria Insurance	Hatcher Realty	Pilgrims	Walter & Deborah Brown
All American Scales & Cal.	Hendrick Hay & Cattle	Precision Auto & Muffler	Walts Chrysler
Anderson Columbia	HF and Wanda Jones	Precision Chemicals	WB Howland
Ash Grove Cement	Ironwood Homes of Perry	Preferred Pinestraw	Wes Haney Chevrolet
	J&J Gas	Prevatt Law Firm	Wolfe Plumbing
Barnes Hay Farm			
BBI Produce	J&W Auto Supply	Publix Supermarkets	
Billy Black	J. Sherman Frier	Putnals Premium Pinestraw	
Birdsong Peanuts	Jiffy Food	Ray Long	
Bit Cattle & Horses	Jim Hinton Oil	Ricky Gamble	
Blake Adams	Jim Prevatt	Riverbend Products	
Branford FFA Steer Group	JRP Pinestraw	Robert Law	
Branford Youth Livestock	K&H Dairy Inc	Rountree Moore Chevy	
Bryant Tree Service	Kathi's Krab Shack	Rountree Moore Ford	
Bryson Tractor	Knights BBQ & Catering	San River Farms	
Busy Bee	Kyle and Kristen Dasher	Sanchez Farms	
Byrd's Logging	Lafayette Farm Bureau	Seacost Bank	
C&C Excavating	Lafayette School Board & Sup.	Sessions Peanut	
C&C Land Services	Lafayette State Bank	Shade Timber	
Camp Anderson	Lamar Jenkins	Shade Tree Nursery	
Central Florida Lands & Timber	Land Brokerage Realtor	Sherms Auto Repair	
Chan Perry	Langdale Farms	Singletary Trucking	
City Electric Supply	Larry Sessions	Skywalker Realty	
Clemens Rutherford & Ass.	Laura Goss	Southeast Ag Equipment	
Clifton Seed Company	Legacy Brown Acres Farm	Southeast Seed	
Coleta Mathis	Live Oak Pest Control	Southern Heritage Farm	
Cory Brown	Liz Brown	Southland Hunting Adv.	
Cushmans	Lorenzo Jones	Starling Family Farm	
D&A Farms	Louis Shiver	Suw Co Farm Bureau Fed.	
Dales Excavation	LT Pro	Suw Co Farm Bureau Ins.	
Dasher Farms	Lyons Poultry	Suw. Co. Elected Officials	
Deep South BBQ	Maddox Construction	Suwannee Co Merchants	
Demott Tractor Company	Magnolia Pediatrics	Suwannee Ironwork & Fence	
DeWitt Show Cattle	Mayo Ag Services	Tech West 107	
Double G Hayfarm	Mayo Truss Company	Terri & Dottie Cranford	
Durden Farms	McMillan Law Office	Tim and Pam Clayton	
Eubanks Farms	Michelle Thomas		
		Tim Taylor Air Conditioning	
Everlizer	Mid State Ind. Maintenance	Triangle Chemical	
Extra Attic	Milk-A-Way Dairy Inc	Tri-County Irrigation	
Farm Credit of Florida	Mirror Images Salon	Trinity Timber	
Favorite Farms	Mobley's Custom Cuts	Triple L Cattle	
Floyd Family	Nettles	Triple L Logistics	1

### Lafayette 4-H Gets Trashy For Good Cause

Shawn Jackson

Lafayette 4-H spent the afternoon of Friday, March 24 participating in the Lafayette County Trash Bash. Eight Lafayette 4-Hers cheerfully gathered litter that had been left along the roadside from the Extension Office to the Mayo Park and around Community Circle Road. Lafayette 4-H members were glad to be able to able to be a part of an effort to beatify our local community.







## 24-H Senior Commodity Pick-up Dates

Attention: Due to scheduling conflict, April commodities will be dispersed the first Wednesday in

May.

Wednesday, May 3, 2023

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

Commodities can be picked-up at the Mayo Community Center on scheduled dates between 2:00-4:00 PM. Failure to pick-up commodities for three consecutive months without contacting extension office may result in being removed from commodity recipient list.



For daily updates on local IFAS, 4-H News and events, visit and "like" our FB Page UF IFAS Extension Lafayette County 4-H.