Lafayette 4-H Attends Cherry Lake Tri-County Day

By Shawn Jackson

Youth from Lafayette, Madison and Taylor Counties recently participated in a Tri-County 4-H Day Camp at Cherry Lake, in Madison Florida. The four-day camp was organized and implemented by seven UF-IFAS Extension Agents from the three North Florida counties. Staff from each county’s extension office as well as volunteers assisted in the day camp leading different tracks and activities. Twenty different activity tracks were available during the camp. Among those were: kayaking, air rifle, archery, yoga, line dancing, freshwater habitats, healthy living, swimming, Legos, horticulture, fishing, tie dye and a variety of arts and crafts. Along with the yoga and healthy living tracks which educated the youth on how nutrition and exercise can positively impact mental health, character education was also incorporated into each of the tracks as well.

Lunches for the week consisted of pizzas, cheeseburgers, chicken nuggets and grilled hot dogs. To help fight the heat and stay hydrated, afternoon snacks of unlimited cold watermelon, snow cones and water was available to all youth.

Weather and Agriculture Report

By Emily Beach

June has been unusually hot and dry which has created very unfavorable conditions for the agricultural industry. This abrupt change in weather caused a shorter window for watermelon harvest and has created the need for pivots to run nearly around the clock to irrigate crops that would be scorched otherwise. Whether you are a homeowner or farmer, be sure to provide enough water to keep your plants alive but not too much that it is wasted by runoff or through our sandy soils!

During July, bulbs like butterfly lily, gladiolus, and society garlic can be planted as well as palm trees. Now is the time to start your tomatoes if growing from seed as well as pumpkins for Halloween! Vegetables like cucumbers, peppers, and peas can also still be planted. Azaleas need to be pruned no later than the middle of the month to ensure blooms next spring and you could consider planting a peach or nectarine cultivar that is proven to grow well in our North Florida climate. If you are planning to plant a fall garden, now is a good time utilize this summer heat to solarize your garden plot to kill weeds, disease, and nematodes. This takes 4-6 weeks to do so start now!
Lafayette County 4-H kicked off its summer of day camps June 7, with a 3-day Clover Bud Camp. Clover Buds are our youngest 4-H’ers, ages 5-7 that are not quite ready to participate in many of the project area camps and/or activities that older children can. However, there is still plenty for these youth to do in 4-H and at day camps, starting with having fun!

Clover Buds Camp began with kids learning the fundamentals of 4-H. Campers practiced learning the 4-H pledge and the type of behaviors expected of 4-H members. Clover Buds enjoyed exploring stem activities involving marine animals and the ocean. Other activities included painting t-shirts, crafts, tossing horseshoes and feeding the 4-H chickens. Another highlight of the week was walking over to Oakridge Assisted Living in Mayo. Clover Buds gave residents their pictures they had colored and had fun singing to them as well.

Finally, Clover Buds took a fieldtrip to Suwannee County visiting the UF Ag Experiment Station and Learning Center. Ben Broughton from the center gave Clover Buds a Trolley Tour of the farm explaining the different types of crops that are grown on the center and what types of research is being done there. One of those that fascinated Clover Buds was the Urban Garden research project where plants are being grown in an indoor, climate-controlled room filled with colorful LED lights. After a morning of learning at the research center, a fun time was had at the bowling alley before having a picnic lunch at Heritage Park playground. Finally, the field trip ended at the Live Oak fire station with fire safety lessons presented by Wade Cato and Scott Anderson of the Live Oak Fire Department. Clover Buds especially enjoyed getting to look in the fire truck and wearing their fire fighter hats.

The goal of 4-H is to develop citizenship, leadership, responsibility, and life skills of youth through experiential learning programs and a positive youth development approach. This Clover Bud Camp served as a blast off for its participants as they work towards the 4-H goal.

Above, Clover Buds are Excited to show off the shirts they painted to wear on their weekly field trip.
By Shawn Jackson

Lafayette County 4-H continued its summer of day camps the week of June 13 with a “Journey Around the World” camp allowing youth to learn about the cultures of other countries. The week began with making piñatas which are popular when celebrating holidays in Mexico. Each kid made their own piñata shaped as a blow fish that were covered in pieces of colorful tissue paper. While studying Mexico, travelers enjoyed some fried ice cream. Another country visited in the 4-H classroom was Germany. This involved making miniature Dutch windmills and Belgium waffles. One of the special guests for the week, Xin Xin, was from China. She shared her experience of growing up in China and the opportunities she has living in the USA that she did not have in China. She also explained the Chinese calendar and how to eat with chopsticks. Other activities included making Hawaiian Leis, Japanese Origami and Italian Pizza. The field trip for the week was to the Butterfly Rainforest at the Florida Museum of Natural History and then lunch at a Japanese Steakhouse.

While 4-H campers enjoyed their trip around the world, they made time for some bingo with the local residents of Oakridge Assisted Living in Mayo.
Youth Learn Civics and More At Camp USA: Becoming Active Citizens

By Shawn Jackson

Lafayette 4-H recently completed its fourth week of summer day camps with “Camp USA: Becoming Active Citizens” camp. The goal of this day camp was to empower the youth of Lafayette County to be well informed citizens, actively engaged in their community and have a better understanding of the American Governmental process. The week of activities began with a zoom meeting from their congress woman, Mrs. Cammack. The congress woman discussed her role in the three branches of government. She also discussed ways the youth could become more active in their community and ways to have their concerns known to law makers. The youth would also receive a visit from the local supervisor of elections, Travis Hart. He spoke to the campers about the election process, the work he does to ensure county elections are fair and all local citizens of voting age have an opportunity to vote in elections. Other topics discussed during his visit were citizen’s right to voice their opinions in a peaceful manner and the importance of citizens working together to overcome differences of opinions. After his visit, there was an election held by the campers to determine the groups favorite candy bar. With a field of four candy bar candidates, the original choices between Hershey bar, Kit-Kat, Milky Way and Reese were narrowed down to the two choices: Kit-Kat and Milky Way. Campers lobbied for their favorite candy prior to the run-off election where Kit-Kat was chosen as the candy of choice and enjoyed as an afternoon snack.

Youth at the camp also learned about the constitution and its importance as a guide for lawmakers and judges to protect rights of citizens. After a morning of learning about the first ten amendments to the constitution, everyone enjoyed making an authentic looking Bill of Rights document made by tinting paper with a wet tea bag and other stressing techniques.

The campers participated in several service-learning opportunities during the week. First, the youth made patriotic flower arrangements in mason jars. With the help of summer camp leader Ms. Becky Long, each camper was able to complete this task with a floral arrangement that was taken by the youth to a local assisted living facility to be enjoyed by their residents. A few games of bingo were also enjoyed by the campers and residents during the visit.

Another service-learning project included making care packages for local service men serving in the military. Campers filled their care package with crackers, nuts, and candy along with letters they had written thanking them for their service.

Youth also spent a day distributing food commodities to local senior citizens. 4-Hers teamed up with local volunteers to package and carry bagged commodities to the cars of over 200 senior citizens. They also presented each senior citizen with a small American flag in honor of the upcoming Independence Day week-end.

The Field trip for the week was a trip to the state Capitol in Tallahassee. The group was given a tour of the Senate Chambers, House Chambers gallery and made a stop the Attorney General’s office and Governor’s Office before taking a trip to the 22nd floor of the Capitol observatory. The group also were able to visit the historic capitol museum and learn lots of Florida History.

The Camp USA: Becoming Active Citizens was enjoyed by all youth in attendance. Every youth that attended said they understood more about how laws were made, the constitution and elections. Many of the youth also expressed interest in becoming more active in the community events and plan to continue to participate in the 4-H sponsored monthly senior commodity give away.
4-Hers visiting with their Congress Woman Cammack visits with 4-H via zoom.

Pam Mosley visited 4-H Camp and helped make patriotic cookies!

Supervisor of Elections Travis Colson discusses the voting process.

Trace Lawson brings patriotic flowers to a resident of Oak Ridge assist living.

Campers learn about the constitution and make a real looking Bill of Rights.

Using tea bags to discolor their Bill of Rights to make it appear authentic.

Helping senior citizens load their cars at the 4-H commodity give away.

Made it to the 22nd floor of the State Capitol on the Camp USA Field Trip.

Lanae Colson passes out American Flags to Senior Citizens.
Cherry Lake  continued
This is the second-year agents from the three North Florida Counties have offered the Tri-county 4-H Day Camp at Cherry Lake. Many youth camps have had to make changes to accommodate youth campers since the COVID pandemic. The success of these camps has resulted in the three county’s UF IFAS Extension Agents: Abby Tharpe, Beth Moore, Emily Beach, Shawn Jackson, Lisa Strange, Lori Wiggins and Victor Blanco receiving an invitation to the National Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals (NAE4-HYDP) 2022 conference in Wisconsin. These agents will be sharing with 4-H Agents from all over the US how high interest camps of this quality can be replicated in communities across the nation.

Twenty-four Lafayette County Youth attended Cherry Lake Tri-County 4-H Camp. Around one hundred youth from Lafayette, Taylor and Madison Counties are in attendance.

Learning to safely use air-rifles was a new experience for Cherry Lake campers. Scarlett Hamlin and Taylor Swinson aim at targets while shooting.

Archery is even more fun and competitive when participating with campers from three other Counties.

Along with swimming and Kayaking, a game of marshmallow paint war is always a highlight at Camp Cherry Lake. Above, Lafayette 4-H show off their war paint.
CORN FIELD DAY - July 7, 2022 at North Florida REC-Suwannee Valley
Optional CORE Pesticide Training from 5:00pm-6:00pm

Main event will begin at 6:00 PM with Dinner sponsored by NK Seed

DINNER PRESENTATIONS BY NK SEED AND REGULATORY AGENCIES
FIELD TOUR PRESENTATIONS OF NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT, CORN DISEASES, AND VARIETY TRIALS

Address: 8202 CR 417 Live Oak, FL 32060

General Admission is free!! Have questions or want to register? Contact Kim Glasscock at (386)219-4276 OR go to our Facebook page and use the link.

CCAs and CEUs have been applied for!

Keep your Pesticide License Updated

If you hold a pesticide license, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Sciences requires holders to renew every four years. This can be done either by retaking the certification exams or accumulating Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and paying the licensing fees. It is very important to know when your license expires to ensure there is no lapse in being able to apply pesticides when needed. CEUs can be attained by attending production meetings and/or trainings conducted by UF IFAS Extension Agencies or by earning them through online courses. Each renewal period must have a total of 4 Core CEUs and the category CEUs depends on the license held. Common licenses held in this area are: Private Applicator Agricultural Pest Control which requires 4 CEUs, Aerial Application which requires 16 CEUs, Agricultural Row Crop Pest Control which requires 8, and Right-of-way Pest Control which requires 8 CEUs. Online classes to earn these CEUs can be found by searching the following sites online:

www.citrusindustry.net/ceu/
https://ifas-pest.catalog.instructure.com/
https://www.ceuschool.org/state/florida

If you wish to recertify by taking the exams needed, calling our office to set that up is a great place to start. If you have never held a pesticide license before but want to, you can go to https://pested.ifas.ufl.edu/ to learn everything you need to know and then call the office to set up an appointment to test.
2022 Lafayette County Farm Judging Contest

September 30, 2022
9:00 AM
Mayo Ag Complex

Adult volunteers are needed!
Contact the Lafayette County Extension Office for more information.

SVYLSS Exhibitor Checks
Youth who Exhibited and sold Hogs or Steers in the SVYLSS have checks to pick up at the Lafayette County Extension Office. Exhibitors must have a copy of the thankyou letter they sent to their buyer(s) in order to pick up their check.

“The Mayo Farm to Table” Facebook Page
Go on Facebook and like our new page “Mayo Farm to Table”. This is a site that will serve as an online Farmer’s Market for people in and around Lafayette County. The purpose of the site is to encourage the buying, selling, and/or trading of fresh produce, eggs, or other homemade goods. Please use the site as a way to explore all of the local niches that we have in our community and become ac-

The 2022 Lafayette 4-H Chick Chain Show
Tuesday, September 13 6:00 PM Mayo Ag Complex

IFAS Extension is an equal opportunity Institution. We encourage all races, religions and ethnicities to attend our summer programs. There are scholarships available for minority and underprivileged children. Please contact our office for more information.

4-H Senior Commodity Give Away
Wednesday July 27, 2022
1:30 PM to 4:00 PM
Intermediate and Senior 4-H members may volunteer to help.