



4-H CLUBS:

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4 Paws
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Clogging Clovers
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Positive Teens
Reef Rovers
Ridin' Rednecks
Sarasota AG
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Sarasota Swine
Southern Spurs
The Club
YMCA Youth
Wood Crafters



The Clover Times
OCTOBER 2006



From the Agent's Desk: Keith Wilson

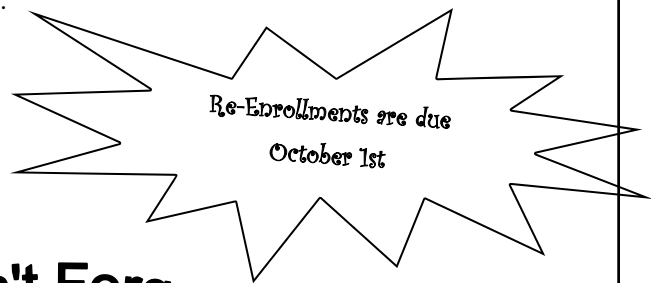
Please wear your seatbelt! Your 4-H office has a variety of educational materials to help emphasize the importance of buckling up to youth.

The Hoedown was a huge success this year! Thousands of dollars were raised to support the 4-H Program in your community as a result of this event. We wish to thank all of the donors who contributed to this annual fundraiser. Your local Sarasota County 4-H Foundation members stayed up until 1:00am supervising the activities and assisting customers. The music was fantastic and the crowd was well behaved.

CPR training is something that volunteers and teenagers should strongly consider. At any given moment in your life your response to another individuals emergency could mean the difference between life and death for them. Many lives have been saved due to trained people helping out others in need. 4-H has provided CPR training in the past for free and is willing to do so again if the interest exists. If you are from 15 years of age and up and wish to get CPR training in the future contact your 4-H Office at 861-9812.

National screening of 4-H volunteers is now a reality. At the advice of our Sarasota County 4-H Advisory Committee all new volunteers applying for a 4-H leader position will be put through a national background check. This will provide added security for the 4-H members and their families participating in 4-H. All new volunteers will be asked to pay \$3.00 for the screening and the Sarasota County 4-H Foundation will pay the remaining \$3.50 balance of the cost. The national screening provides a response in 15 seconds versus the three week average for the Police and Sheriff Departments' screening.

Keith Wilson, 4-H Agent



Don't Forget



The Annual 4-H Foundation Walk-A-Thon!
October 21st, Myakka State Park
Registration begins at 8:00AM—Walk at 9:00AM
Look For details in this newsletter.



I pledge,
My Head
to clearer thinking,
My Heart
to greater loyalty,
My Hands
to larger service,
And My Health
to better living,
For my club, my community,
My country and my world.



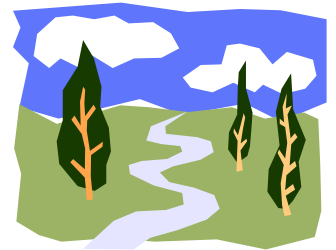
Get Ready... Get Set...WALK!

Lace up your sneakers and join us October 21st, You can make a difference!

Sarasota County 4-H Foundation is holding the annual 4-H Walk-A-Thon on Saturday October 21st in Myakka State Park. This annual fundraiser provides an opportunity for foundation members, leaders, and 4-H families to show their support for our 4-H Program. As our program grows so do our needs, with the donations received the foundation can provide scholarships for youth attending Summer Camp, Congress, Legislature, Horse Programs, Horticulture, Livestock Judging, Workshops, Project Support, Club Support, Leader Training and much, much more.

WALK-A-THON RULES **REGISTRATION AT 8:00 AM - WALK AT 9:00 AM**

- *All participants must have collected a minimum of \$20 in donations to walk (adults & 4-H members). This covers a shirt and lunch.
 - *All entry fees must be turned in the morning of the walk in order to participate.
 - *Siblings under eight years old are exempt from \$20 entry fee when walking with a paid adult.
 - *Siblings will get lunch and transportation (no shirt).
 - *All participants will be given an armband in order to receive lunch and transportation inside park.
 - *The top 10 walkers in each category (for money only) Junior and Senior will receive prizes.
 - *The top 3 in the Adult category will receive prizes.
 - *Prizes will be given out the day of the walk at 1:00 PM at the lunch pavilion.
 - *Money that is donated for advertisement on shirts must be for shirts only.
 - *Money that is for sponsorship of child goes for child only.
 - *Money cannot be used for both shirt advertisement and child.
 - *Participants must be picked up PROMPTLY BY 1:30 PM in the SUPERVISED PICK-UP area only.
- ALL YOUTH UNDER AGE 15 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT AT CHECK IN.



Lets all enjoy a Walk- In-The-Park with Great Friends for a Great Cause!

Calling All 4-Hers!

Who: Any 4-H member in Sarasota County who would like to learn more about the many opportunities in 4-H and new club officers who want to learn more about their officer roles.

What: **Officer Training Workshop** and presentations on the many opportunities available to 4-Hers at club, county, district, state, and national levels!

Where: Sarasota County Cooperative Extension Building at Twin Lakes Park.

When: October 7th: registration is from 8:30-9:00AM and the program last from 9-Noon.

Why: You don't want to miss this opportunity to learn how to be the best 4-Her you can be! Pre-registration is not necessary. Just come to learn! For more information contact Sean Russell, at 371-8340

CELEBRATE NATIONAL 4-H WEEK OCTOBER 1st-7th

Don't forget to show your 4-H pride October 1-7, 2006! Did you know that 4-H is 6.5 million youth strong and there's over 60 million alumni?

4-H To Receive Proclamation!

The Board of County Commissioners will recognize 4-H in honor of National 4-H Week during their commissioners meeting on October 10th. Members of our County Council will attend this meeting to accept the proclamation. What a great opportunity for 4H youth to experience a County Commissioners meeting and our government in action.

WHIP CRACKING CONTEST

First Whip Cracking contest at the Myakka Methodist Church in Old Miakka, Saturday, October 14, 2006 Do you know what swamp cabbage is? Ever milked a cow, ridden a trail, strung fence, birthed a calf or foal? Only a very few of our children in Sarasota County have and it is not because they don't want to or because they wouldn't benefit.

My point is - how can our children build a future in a green, healthy, safe environment while still being able to feed the world - if they do not have a model?

So, the whip popping contest is just a TINY little step that while they have fun, we sneak in an object lesson connecting our agricultural past to the possibilities for the future.

For rules, where to practice or get whips or any other information, contact Mari-Jean Melissa (941)586-5576 or MJMelissa@Comcast.net

Bulletin Board ...



4-H Project Workshops Are Back!!!

October 26th: Holiday Candy Dish.

Keep your favorite candy on hand in this fabulous holiday "monster" of a dish! The cost is \$5.00, please call 861-9812 to register by October 19.

November 9th: Holiday Topiary.

Create a beautiful topiary center piece to enjoy for the holiday season. The cost is \$5.00, please call 861-9812 to register by November 2nd.

December 14th Personalized Family Sign.

You will enjoy this woodworking craft; personalize a custom holiday greeting from your family. The cost is \$5.00, please call 861-9812 to register by December 7th.

Workshops will be held at Twin Lakes Park, 4:45 PM—please don't forget to register with the 4-H office 861-9812.

Prudential Spirit of

Community Service Awards

4-Hers have an opportunity to participate in the Prudential's Spirit of Community Service Awards. This awards program recognizes the nation's top youth volunteers in grades 5-12 based on their volunteer activities.

Do you know an outstanding 4-H youth involved in community service? Here's your opportunity to nominate them for the Prudential's Spirit of Community Service Awards. This year's application deadline is October 31, 2006. Each county 4-H program can select one middle level (grades 5-8) and one high school (grades 9-12). Once the county 4-H programs have selected Local Honorees, they submit those applications to a state-level judging committee, which will pick the top youth volunteers in each state.

The state-level honorees receive special recognition, and the top high school and middle level volunteer in each state receive silver medallions, \$1,000 award and a fabulous trip to the nation's capital. In Washington, a national selection committee will name America's top 10 youth volunteers for 2007. Each will win an additional \$5,000, a gold medallion, crystal trophy and \$5,000 from The Prudential Foundation for a charitable nonprofit organization of his or her choice.

Additional information is available at

www.prudential.com/spirit.

Livestock Judging: October 17

Livestock Judging will begin Tuesday, October 17th

Time: 7:00—8:30 PM.

Place: Twin Lakes Park

We will meet every Tuesday except the 2nd Tuesday of each month October through April.

Learn to judge and evaluate Beef and Swine.

Southern Regional Teen Conference

Mark Your Calendar!

November 9-12, 2006

Rock Eagle 4-H Center, Eaton GA

Highlights: Fun Shops, Improve Leadership Skills, Enthusiastic Speakers, Learn About Other State Programs, and Make Friends From 13 Other States!

Registration Fee is \$150.00 (plus travel). Registration and payment must be in the Florida 4-H Events office by October 13, 2006.

Contact the 4-H Office, 861-9810, for more information!



Did You Know...

A dog's vision is about 20 / 75 at best. This means that in order to see what a human with normal vision could clearly see from 75 feet away, a dog would have to move up, to about 20 feet away.



Free Rabbit!

1- brown, male, about 2 years old comes with: cage, food bowl, water bottle, and any left over food. Call 497-5156 or email dbeese@comcast.net for more information!

Llama News

Joe Fletcher, a Manatee County resident wants to donate two llamas (one male and one female) to a 4-H Club or to a 4-H member. They are both about 5 years old. You can contact Mr. Fletcher at 722-3173.



2 Goats Need a Wonderful Home...

Super friendly, loving and beautiful! 1 Female, open, 5 years old, and 1 male, neutered, 4 year old. Both are Pygmy and LaMancha cross. Free to a good home, call Melinda 927-1788.

Hop To It!

Bunny needs a home... I am a 4 year old grey and white rabbit, my family is moving call 539-4523





Fair Days Ahead...

Mooooove over...

The first steer weigh-in was held Saturday, September 9th. A total of 72 steer projects were weighed, vaccinated, tagged and entered in the 2007 Sarasota County Fair. "Thank you" to all the volunteers that made this a big success!

You Need to Know... The steers were vaccinated with: 2CC SubQ CattleMaster 4+L5 and 1 shot Ultra 8 Clos-trin. They also received Ivermec for worming. (You will need to put this information in your steer record books.)

Don't Miss This! Steer Booster Shots

The 2nd steer vaccination will be administered on October 7th between 7:00 - 9:00 AM. It is mandatory that the 2nd vaccination be administered at the fairgrounds on that date.

Swine Exhibitors—Looking Ahead

The Swine weigh-in will be held on Saturday, December 2nd at the Sarasota County Fairgrounds. You will be making some big decisions, like which pig to choose? Well, the 4-H Office has two great manuals available; *Selecting Your Show Pig* and *Nutrition For Lean Genetic Swine*. These books can help you select and feed a great show pig. Stop by the 4-H Office and pick up a book. We would like to thank Mr. Strickland for supplying us with this information

Plant Entry Forms

Plant show and sale entry **forms "A" only**, are due Friday, October 13th by 5PM at the **FAIR OFFICE**. You can turn your forms in earlier if you have completed them - they will not accept late entries! Form "B" (classes 41 & 42) are due February 2nd.

Plant Show and Sale Clinic

October 21st, bring your plants to Drymon's Nursery 9:00AM - Noon, we will repot plants at this time. Dirt, pots and fertilizer will be provided, FREE! Thanks BC! Also, assistance will be given (if needed) to correctly identify your plants. Drymon's Nursery is on the corner of Lockwoodridge Road and 47th Street. (3146 47th Street) 1-mile south of University Parkway.

Plant Screening

A Plant Screening will be conducted by members of the Florida Nursery Growers Association, on Saturday, November 11th from 9:00 AM - Noon at the Fair (Potter Building Parking lot). Plants will be checked and identified, record books **MUST BE** up-to-date. All exhibitors must be present with their plants and record book—attendance is mandatory.

Hoof Trimming Clinic

Bring your steer, beef breeding, or dairy cattle to the 4-H Hoof Trimming Clinic.

The clinic is scheduled for Sunday 2PM, October 8th at the Vann's Bee Ridge Farm, 5005 S. McIntosh Road.

Stall Talk...



Hibiscus Fundraiser!

The Horse Advisory Committee is having a Hibiscus Plant sale to raise money for youth in the 4H Horse Project. All committee members and horse project youth are asked to participate. Contact Nimie Gill 322-2006 or the 4-H Office 861-9810 for details. Also, we need sponsors for the Sarasota County Horse Show Flyer. Give us a call for details.

Horse Advisory Committee News

The Horse Committee held their first meeting on Sept. 13th. Officers were elected:

President: Nimie Gill

Treasurer: Dawn Kelley

Secretary : Samantha Althiede

Meetings will be held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM, Twin Lakes Park. All are invited to attend.

Safety First...

Would you like to learn more about the horse project? **Join us Oct. 1, 11:AM - 2:PM** at Paragon Farms. Learn new ideas and review basic safety skills, get great tips on grooming and clipping and much more!

This is your opportunity to ask questions about record books, bits, rules, or upcoming events. Remember that one safety clinic is mandatory for any Sarasota County 4Her that wishes to participate at the Sarasota County 4-H Horse Show. If you attended a previous safety clinic and your are using the same horse, you are not required to attend a second safety clinic. Please bring your health form, coggins, helmet, record book, and your horse of course!

RSVP Nimie Gill 322-2006 or the 4-H Office 861-9810.

Yard Sale: To benefit the Sarasota County 4-H Youth Horse Program. October 8th (location to be determined—contact the 4-H Office at 861-9810)

Just For Leaders...



4-H SHOOTING SPORTS INSTRUCTOR TRAINING

A weekend 4-H Shooting Sports Volunteer training has been scheduled at 4-H CAMP OCALA - November 17 - 19, 2006 for all interested 4-H Volunteers and teen leaders. The cost of the training is \$75, and covers meals, lodging, insurance, and supplies.

Participants will have the choice of being certified during the weekend training in one of the following disciplines: Archery, Hunting, Muzzle loading, Rifle, or Shotgun. The Deadline to register is Thursday November 10 at Polk County. Contact the 4-H Office at 861-9810 for registration.

Leader Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month. This is a great way to share ideas, ask questions, and stay informed. The next meeting is October 16th, Twin Lakes Park, 7:30PM—See You There!

REMINDER>>>

Club Audits: Many clubs have not turned in their 2005-06 club financial audits. These audits are mandatory and are required for your club to move forward. Review:

"4H Clubs Policies & Procedures for Sarasota County"
#29 Club Secretary and Treasurer Books are to be kept up-to-date and submitted to the 4-H office each spring when all record books are due or as requested. They also must be submitted at the end of each 4-H year for an **annual audit**, along with the **4-H Club Annual Financial Audit Report Form**. Please send in audits ASAP, Thanks!

Check It Out!

The 4-H Office has leather crafting materials, sewing machines, (yards and yards of fabric), micro-scopes, and a library of project books for you to check out for club activities.

NEW! We also received an Ellison Letter Press for poster making projects. It's fun and easy to use, but because of the size and weight this machine must stay in the 4-H office.

The 4-H Staff is here to support you and your club, just give us a call: Marcia Morris 861-9814 Keith Wilson 861-9818

Sheila Holland 861-9810 and Barbara Lechky 861-9812

Let's all make this year the Best!

Santa bearing Gifts

You're invited to a hands on workshop, by Mary Jo Oswald, on December 7th, 9:30AM-1:00PM at Twin Lakes Park conference room A. Create your own personalized Santa and receive the pattern and instructions to share with your club. The cost for materials is \$5.00, please call 861-9812 to register by November 27th.



Awards and Recognition Night Gallop into The Horizon

Over 275 youth, leaders, parents and friends attended the 2006 Awards and Recognition Night. Congratulations to all members, parents, and leaders, for an outstanding 4-H year.

The food was fabulous! Thank you Kim Thomas for organizing the dinner and thanks to Boots Thomas, Mike Lechky and Rory Martin for cooking.

We would like to thank all of our county council members for a wonderful job helping with this event.

Congratulation to Kathy Annis, our 2006 Leader of the Year.

Kathy Annis was nominated and selected as the 2006 Sarasota County Leader of the Year!

As the Small Animal Barn Coordinator, anyone who knows Kathy, knows she spends countless hours in the barn during fair time promoting youth and the 4-H program. Education has always been her focus while working with youth and leaders. Kathy and husband Ron have held several rabbit, cavy and poultry clinics over their 6 years as 4-H leaders.

Let's all thank Kathy for her dedication to 4-H!

Special Awards and Recognition for the evening went to:

I Dare You Award: Patricia Durso and Dalton Williams

Rookie of the Year Awards: Lisa Richards and Maxim Lowe

Achievement: Sofia Annis, Rebecca Griffin, Laura Knipper, and Danielle Padgett

Citizenship: Courtney Buckney, Kayla Hess, Krista Schrock and Jared Padgett

Leadership: Cayln Beese, David Clemons, Sean Russell, and Rosie Tuzik

Leader of the Year: Kathy Annis





4-Hers Are Moving Towards Healthy Living!

At Florida 4-H Congress in July youth from around the state engaged in discussions on healthy lifestyles. With super-sized meals, video games and an automobile-driven society, staying healthy today is a challenge. Youth are bombarded with messages encouraging them to eat fast-food, play computer games and buy snack foods.

4-H youth are taking action! The main goals of the lesson plans were:

- Increasing lifelong physical activity
- Increasing lifelong healthy eating
- Decreasing total screen time (TV, video games, etc)

Young people across the state and throughout the country are now starting grassroots campaigns to ensure that cafeterias and vending machines offer healthy food choices. Other groups are focusing on daily physical education in schools... and it works!

Healthy lifestyles is the State Project for the next two years, so start thinking now how you can make a difference!

3 Vegetables plus 2 Fruits = 5 A Day!

It's easier than you think! Fill half your plate with fruits and vegetables at every meal. Make fruits and vegetables your primary choice for snacks. Simply eating more fruits and vegetables, and eating fewer high fat, high sugar, low fiber foods can lead the way to better health for you and your family.



Is It Done Yet?

Thermometers aren't just for turkeys anymore, they are for all cuts and sizes of meat and poultry—including hamburgers, chicken breast and pork chops. Using a food thermometer when cooking meat, poultry, and even egg dishes is the only reliable way to make sure you are preparing a safe and delicious meal for your family.

Visit: www.IsItDoneYet.gov for more information

Bicycle Adventures

It's a beautiful day and a perfect time for your family to take a bike ride. But before you and the kids rush out and start pedaling, there's another factor other than the weather to consider - **safety**.

Each year in the United States, approximately 250 children die in bicycle-related accidents, and about half a million kids are injured in bicycling accidents. It's estimated that 75% of the serious injuries could have been avoided if a helmet was worn.

Bicycle helmets are a matter of life and death - wearing one should **not** be optional. A child's head should **always** be protected while biking. Today's helmets for children are very lightweight and comfortable. Pick bright colors that are clearly visible to everyone driving and riding on the road. Youth under 16 must wear a safety helmet according to Florida State Law.

A helmet should:



1. Sit level and firmly but comfortably on your child's head. It shouldn't be tilted forward or backward, and your child shouldn't wear a baseball cap underneath it
2. Have strong, wide straps that fasten snugly under the chin. No more than a finger's width should be able to fit beneath the strap when it's fastened correctly
3. Be tight enough (with straps fastened) so that no sudden pulling or twisting can move the helmet around on your child's head
4. Always be fastened while riding

The 4-H Office has Project books: *Your Bicycle & You*, *Maintaining Your Bicycle* and *Your Cycling World*. We also have a series of books "Bicycle Adventures" units 1-3 for you to learn more about your bike and safe bicycling.



Clogging Clovers by: Rebecca Griffin

Hi everyone! We have a lot of new members this year! It is going to be a fun year! We have adopted a troop of soldiers in Iraq. We are sending them a care package of goodies and things they need. It is a soldier that is a friend of one of our members. Our club is going to sell popcorn, snow cones and maybe cotton candy at the Fruitville Groves Pumpkin Festival. We need new dancing costumes and this is our fundraiser. We will be there Oct. 14 and 15, 21, 22 and 28 and 29. Please come out and support us.

We are also doing several performances there as well. On September 21 we had our first performance of the year. It was for the Cattlemen's Association at the Potter Building. Thanks for inviting us to dance.

News From Out There...



Ridin Rednecks by: Stephanie Tabar

We've held our first meeting and played a newsletter game to get acquainted. The new officers are settling into their positions. The club has a lot of new faces and our officers all have new shirts and neat magnetic name tags to be able to recognize us so we can answer their questions. We will kick off our fundraiser the Red Wheel Pie Sale at our September 21st meeting. Be on the lookout for your neighborhood members to come calling. Erin Gilliland scheduled a park clean up at our adopted park- Pinecraft Park but it had to be rescheduled. Nico Ferry, Gabby Robinson, Christina Fruehwald and Jarred Padgett all entered steers in the fair. October 14th our club will be joining the Florida House staff at the plant sale and will be selling refreshments to the patrons. We have been saving soda bottles for our recycled craft for next month. We will be making hanging planters from recycled materials.

This reporter plans on doing interviews with our members at each meeting for the newsletter so be on the lookout for my next interview. For my first interview I talked with Jaimie Tabar. This is her 3rd year in 4-H and she is the Historian for the club. When asked what she will be doing she had this to say- "I have been busy taking pictures at our meetings and other events for the scrapbook. My projects for the coming year will be pig & goats along with some crafts." I asked Jaimie what her favorite 4-H function has been and she told me "Camp Cloverleaf was the best of all." She also enjoys the demonstrations at the meetings along with the snacks. It sounds like Jaimie is really enjoying 4-H.

The Reef Rovers- By Madison Chapman

For our September meeting, the Reef Rovers met at the Selby Library to learn about coral reefs. We had originally planned to go snorkeling at Point of Rocks beach area and clean up the beach in honor of National Coastal Beach Cleanup Day, but the red tide changed our plans.

4H representative Keith Wilson attended the meeting to teach us about coral. Coral reefs make up less than 1% of the area of the oceans, but they are vital to the earth's ecosystem. Reefs are havens for juvenile creatures and hundreds of amazing sea animals. Many of these creatures live nowhere else in the world. Some of our members stood up to give fascinating presentations about coral. They explained the life cycle of a polyp (the tiny creature which lives inside a coral structure) and taught other members interesting facts about reefs. Did you know the Great Barrier Reef in Australia is larger than Great Britain?

The Reef Rovers are participating in a storm drain marking with the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program on September 22 and we have lots of other great fieldtrips coming up. Stay tuned!

Woodcrafters Club News: by Sean Russell

Hey fellow 4-Hers! My name is Sean Russell and over the course of this next year I have the exciting opportunity to tell you about a brand new 4-H club - the Woodcrafters. Even though it is early in the year, the Woodcrafters are already off to a great start!

The Woodcrafters' September meeting was held on the 7th. At this meeting we discussed 4-H activities in Sarasota County, as well as community service and fundraising ideas for the upcoming year. Also at this meeting we held elections for our club officers. The following people were elected to be officers: President: Lisa Richards / Secretary: Jacob Hollenback / Treasurer: Josh Spenard / Chaplain: Kyle Rowland / Sgt. At Arms: Caleb Rowland / Reporter: Sean Russell. All of our officers and our members are looking forward to the year to come. On October 16th, we held our first workday to make our wood projects. Six people participated in this and they have already started to make some great wood creations. Thank you to Mr. Richards for his help with these projects.

The Woodcrafters Club would also like to thank the following sponsors for donating items and materials to support our club: DixiPlywood, TiteBond Wood Glue, Ace Hardware, Alscot, Scott Paint, Klingspor, and Oakwood Veneer Company. One last thank you goes to Keenan Sultanic, for designing our Logo, Publix, for providing refreshments at our first meeting, and Long Horn Steak House, for giving complimentary Tonion cards to all of our members.

If you would like to learn more about woodworking you may want to join the Woodcrafters Club. You can contact Ken and Becky Richards at 953-7920 for more information. Well, that pretty much wraps it up. Until next time, this is Sean Russell reporting for the Woodcrafters 4-H Club.

Homegrown Explorers by: Heidi Schwartz

Welcome to a new year, 4-Hrs! Last month, our club had its first meeting of the school year. Everyone was excited about the new projects and members of our group so, we dove in and got started.

First, we had an icebreaker and got acquainted with the new members and socialized a bit. Then we discussed the important details of the up-coming 4-H year. We organized our folders, and assigned the officer's positions. We have an excellent line up of leaders this year. After we were finished with the meeting, we had refreshments and mingled a little.

It was a very successful first gathering. This year is going to be great!!!



News From Out There...

Canine Connections: by Asia Avis & Jovana Cristiani

Hi, everyone this is our first report for the Canine Connections 4-H Dog Club. My name is Jovana and my cousin's name is Asia, and we are both very excited to be doing this monthly report for our club. This has been an exciting couple of weeks for our dog club. At our first meeting we voted in our members for the following positions: **President:** Molly Miller, **Vice President:** Morgan Najm, **Secretary:** Brieannah Schwartz **Treasurer:** Rachel Cramer **Council Delegate:** Lexie Davis **Reporters:** Asia Alvis & Jovana Cristiani **Historian Committee:** Karlee McNutt, Julie Schoults and Nicole Schoults

We also have a lot of Brags about some of our members and what they did over the summer: Molly Miller and her Sheltie Brady earned their Rally Novice (RN) Title at the SOTC obedience trial in August. Brandon Ramirez and Molly Miller preformed musical freestyle (known as doggie dancing to some) routines at not 1 but 2 venues this summer; the Oak Park Special Needs summer camp in July and then on four different occasions at the Sarasota Humane Society kids camp where they were joined by Rachael Cramer.

Members of the club also had a chance to work at SOTC agility trail on September 16th and 17th. We are sure everyone that turned out had a great time working and learning about agility as we did. On September 18, members Lexie Davis, Morgan Najm and Molly Miller attended the County Council meeting at Twin Lakes Park. Molly Miller had the honor of being voted our District Delegate for Sarasota County. Our first 6 weeks of classes we will be learning obedience and agility. We are sure that we and everyone else in the club will be having a great time

Hope that you all enjoy our 1st report. Asia and I are looking forward to doing these reports throughout the year.

Aquatic All Stars by: Danika Yoder

Our September meeting began with some experimentation: we explored displacement by making a marble rise through less dense material, in this case sand, and then we tried to defy the laws of physics by stabbing a balloon covered with tape - it didn't pop! Finally, we froze an empty bottle, then dipped the opening in bubble solution and watched the bubble grow as if by magic. We discussed our Science Fair projects, and our upcoming debate: should manatee protection laws be relaxed? We have to study both sides of the issue because we won't know which side we're on til the day we present! (I want to be on the side that says we shouldn't relax the laws AT ALL!)

Finally, Mr. Wilson brought out two, 5 gallon buckets of sea-shells for us to study and identify. The winners identified eight types of shells. We were all winners! For a prize, we got to choose a beautiful shell from Mr. Wilson's collection.

The Blazers by: Rebecca Griffin

Hi. I am the new Reporter for the Blazers. At our meeting on September 12 we had our officer elections. Here are the 2006-2007 officers. This is a new club for me and I hope I spell everyone's name right.

President - Erin Post

Vice President - Nakita Chadwick

Secretary - Dawn Lewis

Treasurer - Holly Hunt

Reporter - Rebecca Griffin

Historians - Anne Montgomery, Sierra Chadwick and Cheyenne Chadwick

Chaplins - Sammi Manley and Gavin Albritton

Parliamentarian - Kerry Desmarais

Seargent at Arms - Justin Burnett

On September 1 & 2, John Karl Albritton, Jared Albritton and Gavin Albritton attended a steer show in Bartow, FL. They did really well. John Karl placed 8th in class, Jared placed 4th in class and Gavin got called back in for junior showmanship and it was Gavin's first time.

We have placed orders for our new club t-shirts! Can't wait to get them!

On September 16th several members attended the Pork Quality Assurance program at Palmetto High School. This was a fun and informative day.

See ya later!

Green Team by: Kayla Knipper

Hi! At this meeting our club studied some of the plants that are in the Marine Ecology Event. Mrs. Russell brought in real plants so we could practice identifying them. A few of these plants were: paper bark tree, smooth cord grass, bay bean, railroad vine, sea lavender, saltwort and many more. We also discussed red tide and we talked about how the ocean on our coast is becoming more and more polluted.

We made a fun craft using bottles and plastic bowls we would usually just throw away. We sanded and painted our containers and made them into bird feeders. I think the birds will really enjoy them.

Kayleigh Likens did an excellent job sharing the County Council report. There are so many activities coming up. Officer Training Day on Oct. 7th will have many informative workshops.

We are looking forward to cleaning up Turtle Beach on September 16th. We also received our walk-a-thon envelopes and are ready to go raise money for 4-H!

News From Out There...



Myakka Rancher Reporter by: Bryan Wilson

At our last meeting we elected our new officers for our club, Thank you to the Wilson's for having the meeting at your house. This month the meeting was held at our house, and we talked about the steer weigh in and how it went. We also talked about what kind of fundraisers we would like to have this year and if we would like to participate in this years Christmas parade. Next month our meeting will be Oct. 8th at the Payne's house.

North Port Explorers by: Barbara Lechky (4-H Secretary)

The first meeting of the North Port Explorers 4-H Club was well attended on Sept. 18 by 53 youth and adults. This NEW club will meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month at Lamarque Elementary School, in North Port from 6 to 7:30 pm. Election of officers will be held in October and Mr. Don Strickland will be our guest speaker. He has been a 4-H leader for 29 years and will give specific animal project information. Hope to see you all at the next meeting. Contact information: northportexplorers4h@verizon.net

Livestock Club by: Lauren Wyka

Hey everyone! We are back into a new year. It's our second meeting and we are so excited for this up coming year. Let's see, first the steer weigh in came and all of our steer made it into the fair. Congratulations to everyone and good luck. There will be a hoof trimming at Mr. Vann's farm on October 8th at 2:00 pm and its \$25.00, for first trim. Then Mr. Jonny Walker (grandpa to Marty, Paul and Trey) came in and gave a great presentation on fishing. He told us what kind of lures were good for different types of fish. The different kinds of rods and weights of line to use too. He took questions at the end and then he had some questions for us and those who got it right received a prize. Everyone enjoyed his presentation. The club made a motion to have a Halloween party looking at the end of October. We'll know date and time at the next meeting. Mrs. Wyka announced that she will hold a leather craft workshop and those interested needed to sign up to do a belt or bracelet, be prepared to start at 5pm before our next meeting. We adjourned the meeting. Until next time, Lauren Wyka



News From County Council...

County Council News by: Laura Knipper "Your County Council Reporter"

Hi all you 4-Hers out there! Our last meeting was held on September 18th, but first I need to do a little catching up on the first County Council Meeting of this year. The first County Council Meeting was held on August 21st. We had a guest speaker come and tell us some things about the Keep Sarasota County Beautiful Program. We all appreciate her time for coming to talk to us. We learned some interesting things about this important project. Also during our business meeting, Sean Russell, the County Council President, told us about the county-wide project, Kids that Care. Then we voted that this would be a worthy project that we would take-up. The Kids That Care Project is all about reaching out to others, including things like helping out at nursing homes, or taking care of animals at the Humane Society. This will be a great project to be involved in. Sarasota is doing an excellent job with the Operation Military Kids project. Many thanks go to all the clubs and individuals helping out with OMK.

At this meeting we also elected some new officers, these were: Laura Knipper as Reporter, Sarah Birkhold as Historian, and Kayla Hess as Chaplain. I'm sure these girls will do an awesome job with their positions! Next we had a door prize drawing. Congratulations to the winner, Madison Chapman! She got a cute little stuffed 4-H animal and a few other really cool things! The winner of the Spirit Award (the club dressed up the most according to the theme, this time 4-H spirit) was the Green Team. They also got the award for the most attending club members, the Spirit Stick. Super job Green Team! To end the meeting we had some animal crackers and chips for a snack.

Now for Sarasota's last meeting which was held on September 18th. We had a big turn out at this one! The theme was Hawaiian, and nearly everyone got into the spirit! But it was decided that the Open Gaits club had the most Hawaiian spirit, so they won the Spirit Award. Congratulations Open Gaits! Keep up the great work! The club with the most attending members got the Spirit Stick, this was the Green Team. Great job Green Team, keep those members coming! If your club would like to win one of these awards encourage all the members of your club to attend the County Council meetings! And for the next one on October 16th, make sure you wear something *Western* if you want to win the Spirit Award! Also at the October meeting we will be having the first ever 4-H game show! So study your 4-H facts! You can get information at Officer Training Day on October 7th, or check out www.Florida4h.com.

Well, back to the September meeting. We had a guest speaker, Kate Franklin Director of Education from the Humane Society, come and teach us about ways we can help the animals there. She brought her adorable, white poodle, Molly, which she adopted from the Humane Society. (continued on page 10)

(News From County Council: Laura Knipper continued...) Molly is a pet therapy dog who makes people happy with her cute tricks. She can jump into her owner's hands, or spin around standing on her hind legs! Molly also likes to dress up in doggie outfits. Imagine, dogs like Molly are in Humane Societies just waiting for a loving family to go home to. But, there are ways you can help an animal there without adopting one. You can donate things for the cats and dogs such as toys, blankets, towels, and food. Or you could sign up for a Fur Fun Program at the Humane Society, where you help the animals by playing with them, making them toys, and in some cases even training the dogs! If you would like more information on this go to the Humane Society web site, HSSC.org. Thank you so much Kate Franklin for coming to teach us about these wonderful opportunities, and sharing your cute, little dog with us! Madison Chapman, from the Reef Rovers club, shared with us her experience with the Humane Society. It sounds like she had lots of fun helping out there and learned a lot! Thank you Madison for sharing your experience! The club reports of this meeting were giving by Riding Red Necks, Eastside Rabbiters, Miakka Allstock, Southern Spurs, Open Gaits, Myakka Ranchers, Canine Connections, Blazers, Reef Rovers, Green Team, Sarasota Swine, Sharp Shooters, and Wood Crafters. For our new business the following up-coming events were announced, Eco Kids club blast on Sept.23, Leather Craft Workshop on Sept.28, Community Pride Proposals are due on Oct.2, Officer Training Day on Oct.7, plant forms are due on Oct.13, 4-H Walk-A-Thon on Oct.21, 4-H and FFA Dance on Nov.11, and the next County Council Meeting and Game Show is on Oct.16. After those announcements were made everyone helped decorate boxes. We will use these boxes for collecting toys and books in for the Kids That Care Project. We also had 3 more officer positions filled. Our new Treasurer is Annabelle Plush, the District Delegate is Molly Miller, and our Sergeant at Arms is Megan Knipper. Congratulations girls! By the way, the position of Parliamentarian still needs to be filled, so if you are interested in this position come to the next County Council Meeting and say so!

Congratulations go to Megan Knipper; she was the winner of this month's door prize drawing! Megan received a cute stuffed 4-H bear, a book of McDonald's gift certificates, and a beautiful calendar. If you want a chance to win great prizes like these, all you have to do is come to a County Council Meeting, that's simple! To end our meeting we had some fruit punch, snack mix, and fruit strips. (By the way, they were very tasty!) So as you can see, County Council Meetings are lots of fun! So grab some western wear and come to the next one on October 16th! You'll be glad you did! Well, that's all for this month's County Council report, so until next time, keep on making the Best, BETTER! And I'll hope to see you at our next meeting!

County Council Community Service: "The Kids that Care Project" by Sean Russell

The Kids that Care Project is the new Sarasota County 4-H Council Community Service Project for this year. It is a four part project that involves 4-H members from all of Sarasota County. If you would like to get involved in this project you can participate in one or more of the following mini-projects:

Beach Cleanups - For the past two years the Sarasota County 4-H Council has worked with Keep Sarasota County Beautiful to participate in the International Coastal Cleanup and the Great American Cleanup on Turtle Beach. The International Coastal Cleanup was held on September 16th and we had members from five 4-H clubs in Sarasota County participate. They did a great job and the beach looked really clean. If you would like to participate in the Great American Cleanup it will be held in April and you can get more information through your county council representatives.

Nursing Home Project - As part of the Kids that Care Project 4-Hers will be brightening the lives of elderly people by bringing them Christmas cards and performing a talent show at a local nursing home. You can get involved in this part of the project by coming to the November County Council Meeting (held on the third Monday of November at 7:30 at Twin Lakes Park) where we will be making the Christmas Cards to deliver to the nursing home. If you would like to help deliver the cards to the nursing home, or if you would like to sing a song, play an instrument or recite a poem at the nursing home visit, you can sign up by calling Sean Russell at 371-8340. You can also sign up at the October and November County Council Meeting.

Salvation Army Project - For the past two years County Council has been putting a smile on the faces of homeless children through our work at the Salvation Army Family Ward. At these events we distribute books and gifts to the children at the Salvation Army and we also entertain them with games, snacks, and crafts. This year we will be visiting the Salvation Army in December and April. If you would like to attend this event you can sign up at the October or November County Council Meetings or you can call Sean Russell at 371-8340. We will be collecting books and toys to distribute at the Salvation Army during the months of October and November. You can bring your books and toys to the County Council Meetings or drop them off in the 4-H office. We especially need books and toys for younger children. Also your club may have checked out a Salvation Army collection box. If you have one, make sure to bring them in by the November County Council Meeting.

Humane Society Project - Another new community service area we will be working in as part of the Kids that Care Project is with animals at the Sarasota County Humane Society. We kicked this part of the project off when Kate Franklin, the Director of Education at the Humane Society spoke at our September County Council meeting. She brought a service dog with her and got us excited about volunteer opportunities at the Humane Society. As part of the Kids that Care project we will be collecting items for the animals housed at the Humane Society. At the January County Council meeting we will have a list of items that the animals need for you to collect.

The Kids that Care project is a great way to help out many people and animals in our community. If you would like more information about any of these projects you can contact the 4-H office, come to a county council meeting, or contact Sean Russell, the County Council president at 371-8340. A special thanks to the following individuals and clubs who have already assisted with the Kids that Care Project: Members of Horse N' Around, Ridin' Rednecks, The Green Team, Myakka Allstock, and Jr. Cattlemen who participated in the International Coastal Cleanup. All the 4-H members who donated books or toys for the Salvation Army. The Woodcrafters 4-H club for donating wooden ornaments for crafts at the Salvation Army. *Thanks again and keep up the hard work!*

Make Your Plans NOW!



October 2006

- 1 4-H Re-enrollment Deadline
- 1-7 Celebrate National 4-H Week
- 2 Community Pride Proposals due
- 7 4-H Officer Training
- 8 Hoof Trimming—Vann's 2:00PM
- 9 Foundation Meeting
- 11 Horse Advisory Meeting
- 13 Plant Forms Due
- 16 Leader and Council Meeting
- 21 **4-H Foundation Walk-A-Thon!**
- 26 4-H Project Workshop



November 2006

- 8 Horse Advisory Meeting
- 9 4-H Project Workshop
- 11 Plant Screening
- County Wide 4-H Dance
- 13 4-H Foundation Meeting
- 20 Leader and Council Meeting
- 23 Happy Thanksgiving! (4-H Office Closed 23 & 24)



Attention 4-H Clubs! Opportunity for Fundraiser The Pumpkin Festival is coming!

Fruitville Groves is looking for 4-H clubs to participate with craft booths, bake sale booths, or any other fundraisers the last three weekends in October. Call Kim at 232-9128 or Nadia at 376-1020 for more information.

4-H Game Show

As a special activity at the **October 16th** County Council Meeting: the Sarasota County Council will host the first ever 4-H Game Show. 4-Hers attending the County Council meeting will be able to test their 4-H knowledge in a 4-H style quiz show. If you would like to get a head start on learning answers to the questions you can pick up a 4-H brochure, check out the Florida 4H website www.Florida4h.com or attend Officer Training Day on October 7th! This exciting County Council meeting, on October 16th, is one meeting you won't want to miss!



4-H and FFA Dance

November 11, 2006
7p.m- 11p.m.

Potter Building
Tickets \$ 5.00 Each



Guests are welcome at the same price and adult chaperones are FREE!
We will have an awesome D.J.
Pizza, Drinks, and Snacks will be sold!
Tickets will be available through County Council members beginning in September.
Contact Jared Padgett for more information at:
925-3175



Happy Birthday: Gavin Albritton, Jillian Alday, Tate Anderson, Kaitlyn Armstrong, Dane Bardroff, Jessica Beaumont, Ryan Britt, Jarrod Chapman, Raven Chapman, Miranda Comer, Chelsea Cooley, Linda Cottrell, Robert Coulombe, Helen Crisler, Rachel Culbertson, Alissa Cunningham, Tessa Cunningham, Michael Dean, Marie Durso, Kailyn Duyn, Mercedes Eisenmann, Nico Ferry, Katie Freeley, Cory Freeman, Sabrina Freeman, Alexandra Fuchs, Christopher Futch, Jessica Gainey, Taran Graber, Tayla Graber, Dylan Groshans, Elizabeth Hall, Nicole Harness, Jerid Hollenbeck, Joseph Hurst, Mark Jackson, Savannah Jacobson, Natalie Johnson, Arianne Kopacz, Dawn Lewis, Eden Lipman, Sarah Magill, Ashley Messenger, Jaimie Murphy, Chelsee Payne, Sierra Pitts, Derrick Powers, Kevyn Rametta, Matthew Raulerson, Amy Richards, Cody Richetta, Lindsay Routh, Kyle Rowland, Mellissa Schook, Bo Smith, Ariel Stutzman, Aubrey Stutzman, Natacha Stutzman, Keenan Sultanik, Stephanie Tabar, Chelsea Taylor, Kayia Tracy, Nick VanBeck, Blake Williams, Clayton Wilson, Vanessa Wittmer, Jesse Yoder, and Alexandria Youngs.

Happy Birthday
to YOU!!!

