



Up-Coming Events

April 5, Community Club, Extension office 3:00PM

April 19, Angler Club, Chuck Hewitt's home, 3:00PM

April 26, Homeschool 4-H Club, Extension Office 10:00AM

April 26, Archery Club Extension Office, 3:00PM

April 27, Senior Commodity Pick-Up

Photos from the SVYLSS Inside!

Lafayette Homeschool Club Grows Plants and Size

Shawn Jackson

The Lafayette County Homeschool 4-H Club continued it's learning about self-watering container gardening in March. The homeschool students had planted tomato plants in earth boxes at their February meeting. The 4-Hers were surprised at the growth the tomato plants had made with minimal care or attention. This month, the youth made self-watering pots from two-liter soda bottles. These were made by cutting off the upper portion of the bottle and turning it upside down into the bottom portion of the bottle. A strip of scrap material threaded through the bottle neck draws water into the soil from the water reservoir. *Below: Homeschool club with self-watering planters.*



Kendal Beach and Addison Byrd show their pigs at the SVYLSS

March Weather and Agriculture Report

Emily Beach

You can see that March rainfall has us going into April with a good amount of saturation in our soils. We experienced a few rain events that allowed for several inches above the average rainfall for March.

The cold snap that we had seemed to cause a 25% loss of the watermelon crop which could have a big impact on the watermelon market this year. It seemed to also have a slight impact on corn that was already in the ground but since corn is a resilient plant, it will continue to thrive.

This is the ideal time for planning bulbs like blood lily, caladium, or canna as well as heat-loving herbs like basil, oregano, sage, and rosemary. You can also continue to plant your warm season vegetable crops. Also, mid-month is an ideal time to fertilize your lawn to encourage optimum growth.

March Rainfall Totals (in)			
	2022	2021	2020
Cooks Hammock	9.18	3.74	0.83
Mallory Swamp	12.27	5.24	0.79
Midway Tower	9.43	2.44	0.6

Another successful Suwannee Valley Youth Livestock Show and Sale

Eighteen Lafayette 4-H Club members exhibited animals at the local livestock show this year. The week was very successful as the members learned the value of preparation, hard work, and gained knowledge in various areas of leadership and agriculture.

Steer Record Book			
	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Junior	Rilee Floyd Suwannee 4-H	Levi Starling Suwannee 4-H	Kenly Melland Suwannee 4-H
Intermediate	Wyatt Hillwig Lafayette 4-H	Wyatt Watson Suwannee Middle FFA	Molly Hamlin Lafayette FFA
Senior	Braxton Young Branford FFA	Delaney Fennell Branford FFA	Gracie Fletcher Suwannee FFA

Swine Record Book			
	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Junior	Reagan Hillwig Lafayette 4-H	Kenly Melland Suwannee 4-H	Malah Bass Laf.4-H
Intermediate	Courtney Taylor Suwannee Middle FFA	Wyatt Watson Suwannee Middle FFA	Berkley Roberts Suwannee Middle FFA
Senior	Delaney Fennell Branford FFA	Tana Byrd Lafayette FFA	Cambree Poole Suwannee FFA

Steer and Beef Heifer Show		
	GRAND	RESERVE
Feeder	Lafayette FFA Chapter Steer	Kiki Norton Branford 4-H
Fat	Gracie Fletcher Suwannee FFA	Kenly Melland Suwannee 4-H
Homegrown	Anna Deadwyler Lafayette FFA	Maddie Carte Suwannee FFA
Heifer	Gracie Fletcher Suwannee FFA	Kiki Norton Branford 4-H

Steer Showmanship			
	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Junior	Kenly Melland Suwannee 4-H	Rilee Brooke Floyd Suwannee 4-H	Gunnar Sorride Branford 4-H
Intermediate	Molly Hamlin Lafayette FFA	Lindsleigh Carte Suwannee Middle FFA	Wyatt Hillwig Lafayette FFA
Senior	Katie Taylor Suwannee FFA	Maddi Carte Suwannee FFA	Gracie Fletcher Suwannee FFA

Swine show	
Grand Champion	Kenly Melland, Suw. 4-H
Reserve Champion	Brayden Elliot, Suw. FFA
3rd Overall	Lafayette Middle FFA
4th Overall	Aubrey Reppert, Suw. FFA
5th Overall	Brayden Elliot, Suw. FFA

Swine Showmanship			
	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Junior	Kenly Melland Suwannee 4-H	Kerri Ditter Lafayette 4-H	Jaci Thomas Suwannee 4-H
Intermediate	Molly Hamlin Lafayette FFA	Peyton McCook Suwannee FFA	Kynadee-Lin Lee Lafayette 4-H
Senior	Peyton Ditter Lafayette Sr. FFA	Aubrey Reppert Suwannee Sr. FFA	Sidney Wimberley Lafayette FFA



Gauge Schultz, Jada Hendricks, Malah Bass, Lydia Lyons, Elly Wimberley, Kendall Beach, Carolinna McCray Kyle Harris



Clara Ward, Cameron Gaylord, Wyatt Hillwig, Addison Byrd, Nathan Boswell, Micah Bussey, Molly Putnal, Reagan Hillwig, Kinady-Lin Lee



Cameron Gaylord



Malah Bass



Gauge Schultz



Kinady-Lin Lee



Nathan Boswell



Jayda Hendricks



Kyle Harris



Reagan Hillwig



Wyatt Hillwig



Carolinna McCray



Elly Wimberley



Lydia Lyons

Community Club ready for spring gardening

Shawn Jackson

The Community 4-H Club had fun at the March meeting learning about spring gardening and how to get a jump on starting plants early. Members were able to plant tomato seedlings in recycled gallon cans that would be taken home. These plants would be easily carried indoors on nights when frost or freezing temperatures are damaging to crops. Once these temperatures are no longer a threat, the large tomato plants can be transplanted in the ground, staked and produce fruits for months to come.



Tomato plants started by community club members in late winter ready to be transplanted into ground.

2022 Summer 4-H Camps

June 7-9 Clover Bud Camp Ages 5-7

June 14-16 Journey around world

June 21-23 Chery Lake Camp

June 28-30 Camp USA

July 12-14 Natural Conservation Camp

July 12-14 Natural Conservation Camp

July 15 Natural Resources Camp *Intermed/Senior 4-H*

July 19-21 Healthy Mind and Body Camp

July 18-21 Build It Camp *Intermed/Senior 4-H*

Culinary Club enjoys making seasonal deserts

Shawn Jackson

The Lafayette 4-H Culinary Club celebrated spring a little early by making dirt cake! Each 4-H member made their own dirt cake from vanilla pudding, cream cheese, whipped cream, and crushed Oreo Cookies. Jellybean eggs and peeps were placed on top of the crushed cookie topping. Culinary club members learned about food safety, cleanliness, and food presentation.



Above: Laney McAdams, Natalie Newman and Scarlett Hamlin with their finished dirt-cake dessert .



Molly Putnal



Kerri Ditter



Clara Ward



Micah Bussey