



The Mayo Clover Leaf



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

Up-Coming Events

Wednesday, May 3: 4-H Home School Club 10:00 AM Extension Classroom

Tuesday, May 2: 4-H Community Club 3:00 PM Extension Classroom

Tuesday, May 9: Cooking Club, 3:00PM Extension Classroom

Tuesday, May 16: Anglers 4-H Club Meeting, 3:00 Location TBA

Tuesday May 23: Archery Club Meeting, Extension Classroom 3:00 PM

Wednesday May 31: Senior Commodity pick-up, Mayo Community Center 2:00 – 4:00 PM

SEE SUMMER DAY CAMP SCHEDULE INSIDE!

Bird house auction details and pictures inside!



4-Hers Build Bird Houses For A Cause

Shawn Jackson

This month, Lafayette 4-H will hold its first Bird House fundraiser. Local 4-H members of all ages have built and/or decorated bird houses which will be auctioned off on a Facebook auction on Wednesday May, 10. Birdhouses have been painted and decorated in a variety of themes, each one reflecting the youth's unique personality. Funds raised in this fundraiser will be used to enhance 4-H youth programs and go towards the local 4-H goal of obtaining a van for transporting youth. For those who may not wish to use the online format to bid, the bird houses will be displayed at Mayo Thriftway for the week prior to the auction and a maximum bid can be left in the "bid can". The public can also leave a maximum bid on a bird house by contacting the Lafayette County Extension Office at 386-208-1915. Make Mother's Day shopping easy while supporting our youth!

See Bird House Auction Page 5

Weather and Agriculture Report

Emily Beach

We had a few April showers that helped with soil moisture but considering the several days in between those showers- irrigation has still been a must for lawns and crops alike. Around the county you will see corn shooting up, watermelon vines elongating with those fruits on the vines, blackberries ripening for picking and spring gardens filling up fast! The cooler temperatures and overcast days have been perfect conditions for disease to creep in but our farmers are doing a great job to avoid those issues.

Although the temperatures have remained cooler, the time for planting spring gardens is over unless you want to get some okra, peas, or sweet potatoes planted. For existing gardens, be sure and keep weed pressure under control as well as scout for insects that can be detrimental to your plants.

Keeping your lawn mowed properly is one of the most efficient ways to keep healthy turf. Remember to make sure that you use sharp blades on your lawnmower and only remove 1/3 of the turf blades with each mowing.

April Rainfall Totals (in)			
	2023	2022	2021
Cooks Hammock	2.82	1.87	5.33
Mallory Swamp	3.66	0.94	5.38
Midway Tower	2.66	1.49	4.87

Local Students Learn By Doing

Shawn Jackson

LES 2nd Graders were recently able to dig the potatoes they planted a few months prior. The five classes had planted 15-20 pounds of potatoes in February and were able to harvest over 100 pounds which were divided up for the students to take home. They also harvested the remainder of the fall crops still growing in the school garden including celery, turnips, radishes and lettuce.



Second graders digging potatoes from the LES Garden.



The feel of finding your first potato!

Anglers Club Enjoys Fishing Trip

Shawn Jackson

The Lafayette 4-H Anglers had a wonderful time fishing at the home of WC and Jana Hart for their April meeting. Their pond is stocked with large channel catfish and each member present had the opportunity to catch multiple fish which were released back into the pond for catching another day. The anglers used redworms for fishing and fished on the bottom of the pond which meant removing their bobbers. For many of the 4-H anglers, this was their first time fishing without the assistance of a bobber but they quickly learned to watch and feel for tension on their line. 4-H Anglers are always looking for new areas to fish on their monthly meeting dates. If you are interested in hosting a meeting at your home pond, please contact Shawn at the Lafayette County Extension office, 386-294-1279.



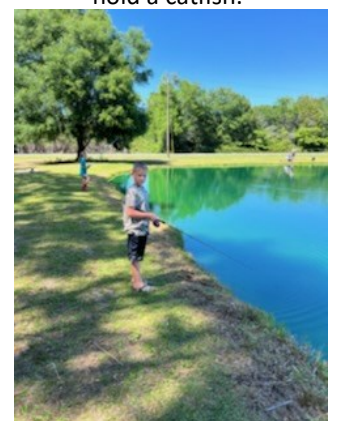
Reese Platt and his catfish.



Lanae Colson and her dad hold a catfish.



Kurt Sanders and volunteer Wyman Clark wait for fish to bite.



Zane Hutchins waits to catch a fish.

Extension Agents Represented Lafayette County at Rural County Day

Emily Beach

On April 26, Lafayette County Extension office represented our county at Rural Counties Day at the capital. This was a very informative event as rural counties across the state showcased unique things that the county offers as related to agriculture, tourism, and/or natural resources. We created a brochure that had information specific to our county highlighting the number of springs we have for recreation, a bit of history, and of course we bragged about the diverse agricultural commodities we produce. We took peanuts donated by the Florida Peanut Federation as well as samples of blackberries provided by Tom Gardener from Gardener Farms. Everyone who visited the Lafayette County display were amazed when they learned that blackberries are farmed- not just found in the woods- and had the size and flavor that the Gardener berries have. It is safe to say that the blackberry samples were a hit as people were constantly asking to take pictures of the labels and asking questions about the production of blackberries. It was a great day sharing about our wonderful county that we are proud to live in!



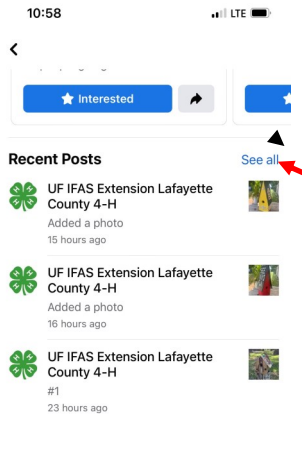
How To Place Your Bid On A 4-H Bird House



Locate the **UF IFAS Extension Lafayette County 4-H** Facebook page.



Find the posted **Lafayette 4-H Birdhouse Fundraiser** and click on it.



Scroll to the bottom and click on **See all** is about 3 bird house pictures.



Find a bird house to bid on. Place a bid in the comments. Check routinely to ensure you haven't been out

OR

Contact the Extension office and let them know the maximum amount you would like to bid on a specific bird house at 386-294-1279.





Kurt Sanders was determined to put some barbwire on this bird house...and it looks good!



Every bird needs a place to worship.
Great thinking, Miles Jackson!



Anchors away! Lets get some birds in Ella Dodson's awesome birdhouse!



Jr. Swinson loves America and fishing, but where are the arrows and shells?



Reese Platt knows what he likes, and one of those things is trucks!





Trevor Moseley insists there are bright pink dragon flies...maybe in Day Town?



Karoline Beach loves the color yellow and daisies.



Pablo Ballesteros has a big heart and wants the birds to have plenty of things for them to play with.



We know what is on Branson Lawson's mind...



Emilee-Elizabeth Jackson does dream big. Why not?



This bird house is as sweet as it's designer. Wonderful job Emerson Shaw.



Looking good Brantley Porr!



Every bird needs their own beach house! Way to go Tatum Hart!



Just a pretty birdhouse trimmed in white. It's very nice Derby Sherrell.



Rainbows and Rabbits...Love it Sara Burak.



Asher Rozewicz has the sun shining on his play house. Hope a bird doesn't find that lady bug!



Stars are shining on Parker Gaskins' birdhouse.



Birds will love hearing the rain drops on the tin roof of Tinley Jackson's birdhouse



Coke is it! (as far as Camden Creel is concerned)



Flowers, butterflies and bees. Great job Anna Dodson!



In all kinds of weather, the baby birds will be fine in Benjamin Rozewicz's house.



Sharon Sanders has made a secret garden for some birds!



Samuel Burak has quiet an imagination!



Lanae Colson loves the beach! Can you tell??



Henry Dodson calls his "the key to salvation" house. Hence the keys and cross.



Sophia Burak has built an inspiring birdhouse for sure!



Buttons, who would have thought? David Ballesteros did.



Hope this massive dragon fly doesn't carry away Kellen Day's house.



Grayson Byrd has the American spirit!



Elias Ballesteros's home is simple but awesome!



Why you should never throw anything away! Great job Kenly Melland.



Great advice Ellery Dykes!



Jayda Hendrick wanted to add dormers to her bird house for some imagination sunlight.



Rylie Creel has made a beautiful birdhouse with roses and butterflies.



If Truett Hart's bird house doesn't inspire you, what will?



Kyson Lisk built this awesome birdhouse that was made into a "See Mayo Fl" home.



Wyatt Creel is ready to "Play ball"! Any kind of ball.



Jakob Murphy has made a nice cathedral bird house. Great job!



Paisley Shaw has a made a first class sanctuary for birds!



Hart Folsom kept this birdhouse simple and charming!

**Thanks For
Supporting
Lafayette
County 4-H .**

First SFP 10-14 Success, Next Program Planned to Fall

Shawn Jackson

Lafayette County Extension recently completed its first Strengthening Families Program. There were 13 individuals, 5 youth and 8 parents who completed the course which lasted seven weeks. At the end of week seven, the participants were given written post surveys and gave feedback to program facilitators in an informal discussion. All those who participated were in agreement that the program had been very beneficial, interesting and that they were glad they had participated. In fact, they even said they would miss not having the weekly session. The participants who were the caregivers for other youth said they would definitely participate in the program with those youth when they reached the minimum age of 10. The Lafayette County Extension Service will be offering this program again in August. Families with youth ages 10-14 are welcome to participate and should contact the extension to be added to the future participant list.



Five families celebrated their completion of the seven week Strengthening Families Program. Contact the extension office to enroll your family in the SFP 10-14 that will be presented again in August and September.

4-H Senior Commodity Pick-up Dates

Attention: To ensure availability, your commodities should be picked up on scheduled day unless other arrangements are made.

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

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.

Like us on Facebook

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

2023 Lafayette 4-H Summer Day Camps

Clover Bud Camp (ages 6-8)

June 6-8 Youth are introduced to the fundamentals of 4-H. Kids will enjoy three days of fun including making crafts, playing games, learning basic life skills such as tying shoes, responsibility and developing relationships with other future 4-H members.

Camp Cherry Lake (ages 8-17)

June 12-15 This tri-county day camp allows youth the opportunity to enjoy some of the overnight camp experiences without the sleeping bags! All the fun activities of residential camp such as meeting new friends, kayaking, swimming, archery, air rifle and crafts packed into 3 days of camping that begin with youth leaving Mayo each morning at 8:00 and returning at 5:00.

Inventers Camp (ages 8-11)

June 20-22 Spark the imagination in your child with this fun camp where youth uses everything from Legos and clay to batteries and electronics to create whatever their mind can dream up and their hands can build. A trip to the Cade Museum in Gainesville will give youth the opportunity to see inventions that have changed the athletic industry and explore many kid friendly hands on activities growing minds.

Camp USA (ages 8-11)

June 27-29 As America prepares to celebrate her birthday, Lafayette 4-H kicks off the festivities with a camp all about her! Youth learn about the rights, responsibilities, and civic duties of Americans and what makes USA exceptional. Campers will learn the Bill of Rights, how laws are made and will be treated to a visit by state and local elected officials. A trip to the state capitol and other stops in the capitol city will make this trip a once in a lifetime opportunity. There will also be lots of patriotic crafts and plenty of time for outdoor games and activities.

Build it camp (ages 12-18)

June 26-28 and 30th This 4-H camp is designed for older youth to learn how to use wood working tools safely and properly. Small wood working projects increase in complexity as youth master the use of a tape measure, speed square, hammer, drill and circular saw. The four-day camp will culminate with participants completing a playhouse to be raffled in the fall of the year.

Healthy Mind and Body Camp (ages 8-11)

July 11-13 Many of the choices youth make while growing up can have a lifetime of impact. In this fun filled three days of day camp, participants will learn that making healthy decisions can impact how they look and feel. During the week of practicing healthy living, campers will enjoy healthy cooking, hiking, yoga, line dancing, crafts and much more. Tons of fun will be had by boys and girls attending this camp.

Grilling Camp for Teens (ages 12-18)

TBA

Space is limited for each camp. Contact the Lafayette County extension office at 386-294-1279 for registration details.