

## 4-H CLUBS

4 Paws  
Animal Crackers  
B & S Farms  
Blazers  
4-H Caterpillars  
Clogging Clovers  
Crafty Scientists  
Eagles  
Florida Crackers  
Foxmill Kids & Colts  
GEO Gang  
Hammerheads 4-H Club  
Heart and Horses  
Herd Nerds  
Horse N Around  
Indian Creek 4-H Club  
Jr. Cattlemen 4-H Club  
Kelly Community Clovers  
Livestock Club  
Miakka Allstock  
Mini Hooves of Sarasota  
Myakka Ranchers  
Ridin' Rednecks  
Sarasota Cows & Company  
Sarasota Sharp Shooters  
Southern Spurs  
The Bridge  
The Whalers

## The 4-H Pledge

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.



# The Clover Times

## March 2014



## FROM THE AGENTS DESK— Keith Wilson

Consider what is known about **smokeless tobacco** before using it. Smokeless tobacco includes chew, spit, dip, snuff, snus and a host of new dissolvable products. Smokeless users have an **80% higher risk of oral cancer** and a 60% higher risk of pancreatic and esophageal cancer. It also increases the risk of a fatal heart attack and stroke. Your health is not only important to you but to those in your family who care about you.

The **County Fair** is approaching quickly and we look forward to seeing all of the 4-H/FFA livestock, horticulture, fine arts and many other projects that will be on display. We ask that all 4-H members, volunteers and family members attending the Fair, display polite, respectful and ethical behavior during the activities. The **Sarasota County Fair Board** has upgraded the Arts and Crafts Building this year and will be providing all of the trophies, ribbons and premium awards given to competitors. If the opportunity presents itself please take a moment to say **"thank you"** to the members of the Board who devote themselves each year to supporting 4-H youth.

It is easy to see how cell phone use and **texting can distract a driver** and increase the chance of a serious accident happening. Put some thought into resisting the urge to use the cell phone while behind the wheel.

Keith Wilson, 4-H Agent



## 2014 Area E T-Shirt Design Contest

Be creative! Design and promote the 4-H Horse Program! T-shirts (made using your signed art work) will be sold as a fundraiser for the Area E Horse Program. The winner will receive a free t-shirt and a \$50.00 Savings Bond. This contest is open to **all 4-Her's 8-18 (September 1, 2013)** and reside in the Area E Horse district. You do not have to be enrolled in a 4-H horse project to participate.

### Guidelines:

1. All designs must be original and relate to the Area E 4-H Horse Show.
2. Designs must include a 4-H Clover and the words "2014 Area E Horse Show"
3. No copyrighted materials can be used in the design.
4. Designs may be horizontal or vertical, hand-drawn or computer-generated
5. Designs must be submitted on an 8 ½ X 11 sheet of white paper.
6. Only 1 entry per member will be accepted.



Entries are due in the Sarasota County 4-H Office no later than 5:00 PM, on Friday, March 21

**Here's your chance to see your artwork on over 200 t-shirts!**

# Fair Days Ahead: Sarasota County Fair, March 14—23, 2014



Mark your Calendars!

**FAIR AWARDS**

April 22, 2014 7:00 PM

Potter Building, Sarasota County Fair Grounds



## Please note the NEW FAIR HOURS:

The fair will open Monday—Thursday at 5:00 pm—10:00 pm.

Fridays 2:00 pm—11:00 pm;

Saturdays 12:00 pm—11:00 pm

Sundays 12:00 pm—10:00 pm



## Volunteers Needed for Workday

This year **Volunteer Workday** is scheduled for Saturday, March 8, 8:00 AM at the Sarasota County Fairgrounds.

We need help setting up the barns, pens, small animal tent, decorating, and much, much more for the 2014 Sarasota County Fair.

Register your club, group, or as an individual. We need about 75 volunteers who are ready to work! Please call Christina Schook at 915-2366 or the 4-H Office 861-9810.

**You Need To Know...** All exhibitors are required to work a shift(s) in ALL buildings / barns that they are exhibiting in. Parents will be responsible for providing adult supervision during these shifts. Please review your 2014 Sarasota County Fair Rule Book for complete guidelines.

**Large Animal Barn shifts:** beginning Saturday, February 22 through Tuesday, March 4 call Christina Schook at 915-2366 to schedule your large animal barn work shift. ALL exhibitors showing a large animal are required to work a shift. If you do not call by March 4 a work shift will be assigned to you.

**Locker Assignments:** Locker assignments will be given out by club. Christina Schook will be contacting club leaders with this information.

**Mini Building Sign-up:** If you have a project in the Mini Building you must sign up for a work shift. Two youth and one adult are needed for each shift. Please contact the 4-H Office at 861-9810 to schedule your shift beginning Wednesday, February 5.

**Small Animal Tent: Rabbit, Poultry and Cavy Barn;** Please contact Janie at her e-mail: [jbesselm@scgov.net](mailto:jbesselm@scgov.net) after February 10<sup>th</sup> or call 861-9874 on Monday, afternoon or Thursday only; 907-0011 on other days of the work week. Please leave a message.

**Plant tent:** your work shift will be on Saturday, March 22 during the Plant Show and Sale auction... you will be responsible for watering and caring for your plants during the fair.

**Dog exhibitors** will be receiving your work duties from your division coordinator.

**Miniature Horse and Llama Exhibitors** are required to work on Volunteer Work Day Saturday, March 8; at 8:00 AM.

## Small Animal Tent News - From Janie...

Hello, just a few reminders before the fair:

- 1. Work Day for the Fair - March 8<sup>th</sup> 8:00 am to noon.**  
We really need volunteers to lead in setting up the rabbit, cavy and poultry cages. We also need parents who are willing to lend, not only their expertise, but bring cordless power tools, hammers, nails and screws. Any help would be appreciated! If you feel that you can help us out, please contact:  
Janie Besselman at [jbesselm@scgov.net](mailto:jbesselm@scgov.net) or /  
Robert Kluson at [rkluson@scgov.net](mailto:rkluson@scgov.net).
- 3. Small Animal Tent Check-In: Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 5:00-7:00 pm.** Please remember to bring your record books at this time.
- 4. Cavy and Rabbit judging** (This is judging of the exhibitors animals by the rabbit judge) - **Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm.** If you wish to be present at the judging, we would welcome the help...please remember that if you are present, you must be in proper attire i.e. 4-H in white shirt and black pants; FFA in full uniform with your jacket.
- 5. Poultry judging** will be conducted on **Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am** with **Poultry Showmanship** to follow right after the animals are judged. If you are entering this contest, you must be in proper attire i.e. 4-H in white shirts and black pants/skirt; FFA in full uniform with your jacket.
- 6. Rabbit/Cavy Skill-a-thon Contest** will be held on **Sunday, March 16 at 2:00 pm at the PT Houser Show Arena**\*\*Note: this is where the 4-H or FFA student is tested on their knowledge of rabbit/cavies. If you have not picked up the Rabbit Skill-a-thon study guide, contact Janie Besselman for a copy of the guide at: [jbesselm@scgov.net](mailto:jbesselm@scgov.net)
- 7. Exhibit Removal is scheduled for Sunday, March 23 at 8:00 am.** Please bring all your cages to remove your animals from the Small Animal Tent. We will need help from exhibitors and their families to take down and stack cages at this time.



## Show Your 4-H Spirit! Wear GREEN!

Members, Leaders, Parents, and Volunteers... Whether you are working a barn shift or just having fun at the fair—wear your 4-H T-shirts (club, camp, horse, beef, walk-a-thon...) and show your 4-H SPIRIT this year at the Sarasota County Fair!

## Are You UP-TO-DATE...

Your Record Book is a very important part of your 4-H Project. Now is the time to put it all together!

Part of the criteria to determine the Superior Exhibitor Award (in every category) is **your 4-H record book score**. Superior Exhibitors receive a trophy and \$50.00.

It is also important to know where and when your record book is due. Check your fair rules, ask your leader, or call the 4-H Office 861-9810. Late books will be penalized.

## It's Show Time!

All Exhibitors must wear appropriate 4-H attire when showing or selling animals and /or plants.

4-H = Black or white pants, solid white shirt or blouse with collar. Dark, closed-toe foot ware. Optional: 4-H emblem on shirt, tie (4-H colors), 4-H jacket

Preferred: Black pants, solid white shirt or blouse with collar, 4-H jacket (zipped)

**Dairy Exhibitors:** Solid white shirt or blouse with collar, solid white pants

No hats, flip-flops, sandals, or tobacco products allowed.

**Closed-toe shoes or boots are required to be worn in the Barn Complex at all times.** - THIS RULE APPLIES TO ALL SCHEDULED WORK SHIFTS.

## Dairy Skills Contest:

The Dairy Skills Contest will be held on Saturday, March 15, 2014. Sign-in is at 8:30 in the Houser Arena area. The Dairy Skills Contest will consist of 8 timed stations where participants may be asked to demonstrate knowledge and practical hands-on skills. Contest study information will be made available at the 4-H office.

## 4-H/FFA Dance at the Fair!

**It's time to celebrate** at the annual 4-H/FFA Dance! Make your plans to attend: **Sunday, March 23** from 6-9 pm at the Fairgrounds Show Arena. All youth enrolled in 4-H and FFA programs are invited. A D.J. will be provide the music.

## Don't Forget to Say "Thank-you"

A letter of thanks must be written to your buyer and any add-on contributors. Take the time to really thank your buyer and tell them how much you appreciate their support. Then place the letter in an addressed, stamped envelope, seal it, and turn it into **the Fair Office.**

## Here's the Scoop on Fair Passes...



The 4-H Office will distribute Exhibitor Fair Passes and Photo ID's Monday, **March 3 through Tuesday, March 11,** at **Twin Lakes Park**. On Wednesday, March 12 we will have the passes at

Mini-Building check-in at the **Fairgrounds**. After that - we will return unclaimed passes to the Fair Office.

Youth exhibiting livestock will receive their "photo ID". Youth exhibiting Miniature Horses, Llama, Dog, Mini-Building, and Small Animal Barn will be receiving an "exhibitor pass".

All 4-H members, with projects entered in the fair, will be eligible to receive one exhibitor pass / or photo ID and two parent passes. Families with more than one member exhibiting projects in the fair will only receive two parent passes. The 4-H Office receives fair passes based on the number of exhibitors in the Fair. Sorry, we cannot accommodate requests for additional passes.

## Important "PASS GATE" Information...

There has been a change in the "**Pass Gate 2**" for entrance/exit during Fair public hours at the Sarasota County Fair.

Gate 2 (which is the normal entry / exist pass gate between the fair office and the Ken Clark Building) will be closed during Fair public hours. It will be open prior to fair, as normal, for exhibitors, parents and leaders. Of course - you will still need your exhibitor pass or ID card to enter.

During Fair public hours: enter thru Gate 1 (by the Potter building), Gate 3 ( by Robarts Arena) or Gate 4 (behind/east Robarts Arena).

Please make note of this important information so you are not late for work-shifts, shows, or contests.

## Mini Building questions answered!

The 4-H office will distribute Mini Building Entry Tags with Fair passes Monday, March 3 through Tuesday, March 11, at Twin Lakes Park. The 4-H office hours: 7:30 am—5:00 pm.

Mini building check-in is Wednesday, March 12, 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM. Please make sure your tags are filled out completely and attached securely to each item. This will eliminate delays at check-in. **Remember:** you must turn in your **completed recorded book** at check-in. Entries will not be accepted without your record book! Don't forget to sign-up for your work shift in the Mini-Building—call 861-9810.

### **Mandatory Removal of Mini-Building Entries:**

All exhibitors are required to pick up your items on Sunday, March 23, 8:00 am. Items are not the responsibility of the 4-H office and will not be taken to the 4-H Office. After all items and decorations are removed, we will distribute Mini-Building premiums.

# YOU Need To Know...



**Reminder**—There will not be a Leader or County Council meeting in March. The next meetings will be: **APRIL 21st**, 7:30 PM, Twin Lakes Park.

**Get Involved!** The 2014 - 2015 County Council officer nominations and elections will take place at the April 21 Council meeting. ALL clubs should send your voting delegates 1) club president and 2) council delegate to this important meeting... get out and VOTE!

Please don't miss this important meeting—make your plans NOW to attend!

## DATE CHANGED TO MAY 16-18, 2014

### INTERMEDIATE STATE JOINS WITH UNITED HEALTH CARE

Who Can Come: Intermediate 4-H Members (ages 11-13)

When Is It: **May 16-18, 2014**

Where Will It Be Held: Camp Ocala 4-H Center

Cost: \$45 youth \$50 adults

Registration opens **April 22 - May 2, 2014**

United Health Care and National 4-H have joined together to create EAT4-HEALTH. Eat4-Health is a series of fun, hands on activities that teach nutrition and the importance of physical activity. Participate and learn through fun activities how to set goals, eat healthy and be active. But that's not all. Youth will also participate in FUN SHOPS such as, Obstacle Course, Mock Legislature, Scavenger Hunt, etc. They will walk away not only with knowledge on how to be healthy, but what opportunities there are when they become Senior 4-H members.



**Save the Date:  
Camp Cloverleaf  
June 23 -27, 2014**



Look for registration in next months newsletter!

### **WANTED: 4-H Camp Cloverleaf Counselors**

Would you like to be a 4-H Camp Cloverleaf Counselor? The dates for camp are June 23—27, 2014. Ages for Camp Counselors are 14-18 as of September 1, 2013, and you must have completed one summer as a Counselor-In-Training. Camp Counselor applications will be available April 4, completed applications are due by Friday, May 2. **NEW:** This year Counselors are required to have a Level 2 Background screening and fingerprinting.

We are looking forward to a FANTASTIC week at 4-H Camp! This is a great way to receive high school community service hours. Call the 4-H Office at 861-9810, for details.

### **Day at the Capitol—Registration Opens March 9**

4-H Day at the Capitol is an educational event that provides hands-on "learn by doing" experiences for youth. 4-H youth will learn about the legislative and government processes and systems as they participate in workshops, tours and observation of our government at work. This will provide youth the opportunity to develop knowledge and skills to become more informed citizens.

4-H youth from across the state will also have the chance to come together and share the positive impacts of the Florida 4-H Program. Participants will have the opportunity to meet and hear from their State Senators.

**Save the date: April 23, 2014 Tallahassee, FL**

### **Florida 4-H Legislature**

Is politics in your future? Held in Tallahassee, Florida 4-H Legislature is a five day learning laboratory in state government designed to give participants educational experiences such as: learning about the functions of state level government, becoming informed about the state system of government, serving as mock legislators, reporters or lobbyists, meeting in the committee rooms of the House of Representatives as well as the House Chambers, and touring the State Capitol, Supreme Court, Archives and/or other State Buildings.

The dates this year are June 23—27, 2014. Legislature is open to all Senior 4-H members ages 14 to 18 as of September 1, 2013. Visit the Florida 4-H Photo Gallery ([florida4h.org](http://florida4h.org)) to view photo's of last years event.

### **Florida 4-H University**

Held on the campus of the University of Florida, this is a fabulous week in which 4-H members can have fun and learn alongside other 4-H'ers from all over Florida. 4-H University is divided into competitive and non-competitive sessions. The non-competitive portion is devoted to educational workshops on a variety of subjects (from Animal Sciences to Technology) addressing the interests of Florida's youth.

The competitive portion of the event is where 4-H senior District Winners compete against other District Winners in a variety of events. (Demonstrations, Horticulture Judging, Public Speaking and Share the Fun). Community Pride winners are recognized, and interviews for State Recognition and Scholarship applicants are conducted.

The dates this year are July 28—August 1, 2014. Participants must be 14 years old prior to September 1, 2013, and have completed at least one year of 4-H work.

For more information visit the Florida 4-H website or call the 4-H Office. Visit the Florida 4-H Photo Gallery ([florida4h.org](http://florida4h.org)) to view photo's of last years event.

# Sarasota County 4-H Foundation: Working 4-YOU!

## S.C. 4-H Foundation Swine Fundraiser!

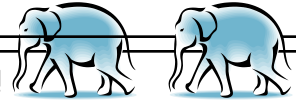
It is time once again for the Sarasota County 4-H Foundation Annual Swine Raffle Fundraiser. Tickets will be available in bundles of 25/50/100 at leader and council meetings, and the 4-H Office. This is a great fundraiser for all clubs as well as the 4-H Foundation. Once again clubs will earn .25 cents for each ticket they sell (if they sell 25 tickets or more). A 4-H Foundation member will be happy to come to your 4-H club, explain the fundraiser to you and your members, and help you check out tickets. The club that sells the most tickets will **win a pizza party!**

Profits from these tickets support youth in our Sarasota County 4-H Program. Tickets are \$2.00 each. The winning ticket will be drawn on Saturday March 22, 2014 at 6:00 PM, at the 4-H Foundation Elephant Ear Booth. The hog will be one exhibited at the Sarasota County Fair and will be standard cut and wrapped.

Questions? Give us a call.

## SC 4-H Foundation Scholarships Available...

Each year the Sarasota County 4-H Foundation awards scholarships, in varied amounts, to Sarasota County 4-H High School Seniors. Applicants must be a current 4-H member with a minimum of 3 years in 4-H, and have completed a 4-H record book for each of the 3 years. Applications are available at the 4-H office. Applications must be complete and submitted to the 4-H Office by Wednesday, April 2. Call 861-9810 for additional information.



## Elephant Ear Booth: Sign up now!

Leaders: now is the time to volunteer your club for a shift in the Elephant Ear Booth! To sign-up call the 4-H Office at 861-9810, or sign-up at the next leaders meeting. The Foundation asks again this year, that you volunteer and donate your time as "community-service".

All shifts will include 3 to 4 youth (12 or older) and 1 to 2 adult supervisors (parents / leaders / volunteers).

Shifts are Monday through Thursday: first shift 4:45–7:45 PM, second shift 7:15 to 10:15 PM. Fridays: first shift 1:45–7:00 second shift 6:45–11:00, Saturdays: first shift 11:45–4:00 PM, second shift 3:45–8:00, and third shift 7:45–11:00 and Sundays: first shift 11:45–4:00 PM, second shift 3:45–7:00, and third shift 6:45–10:00.

The Elephant Ear Booth is a great fundraiser for our Sarasota County 4-H Foundation. **Don't delay, call today!**

## Lead The Way...

### Volunteer Orientation and Training

Florida 4-H has expanded their volunteer website at [florida4h.org](http://florida4h.org) with more information, training, and resources **4-YOU**. We would like all 4-H leaders to review this information.

#### Florida 4-H Online Volunteer Orientation

Why does 4-H require volunteers to participate in this orientation? Many seasoned volunteers may ask, "Why do I have to take this orientation?" We want to provide as much training as possible so Florida's youth have the best possible 4-H experience.

- ⇒ Volunteers deserve to be well prepared
- ⇒ We value you and the work that you do for 4-H
- ⇒ Our children and youth are worth our time in training
- ⇒ Trained volunteers are essential to a quality 4-H program
- ⇒ We want to lay a foundation for success in your 4-H work with young people

Please take a moment to review the 5 videos in the Volunteer Orientation section.

After complete, move on to the Volunteer Training:

Section 1: Introduction to 4-H

Section 2: Starting Your Own 4-H Club

Section 3: Enriching the Club Experience

Section 4: Understanding Youth and Their Needs

Section 5: Volunteers and 4-H Program Management

## Have YOU taken the test?

Online UF Youth Protection Training (# YCS800) is **required for all volunteers working with youth.**

**YES, we ALL need to take the test!**

The training lasts about 20 minutes and includes a brief quiz that must be completed successfully. It is currently posted at Volunteer Resources found on the Florida 4-H website: [florida4h.org](http://florida4h.org)

Once you have completed the quiz the 4-H office will receive notification from the state office.

## Fingerprinting has begun:

To meet all state guidelines, established by the University of Florida and the FL 4-H State Office, the process of **Level 2 background screening and fingerprinting for all organizational leaders has begun.** Forms and information was sent out in the Friday Update.

Questions? Contact the 4-H Office.

The State asks that this process is completed by April 1, 2014.

## MARCH is National Nutrition Month

### Best Food Forward: Plan, Shop, Cook, Enjoy!

March is National Nutrition Month...a whole month dedicated to eating healthy and well. Healthy eating begins at the grocery store, it's where most consumers purchase their food. Yet this is also where they are faced with a multitude of choices.

During the month of March try to keep a food journal. A food journal can help track the food you eat, as well as see the connections between "feelings and food". Are you eating enough fruits and veggies? Can you improve in some areas? You will be surprised at the results!

### Make the Change!

- ⇒ Encourage the whole family to decrease screen time to 2 hours a day or less.
- ⇒ Enjoy meal time as family time. Turn off the TV during mealtime and no phone calls and texting.
- ⇒ Keep the TV, computers and videos out of the kids' bedrooms.
- ⇒ Make one day a week a "Turn Off the TV Day" in your home and do something else with the kids -read a book or take a walk.



## News From Out There...

### Livestock Club: by Clayton Woods

The February meeting was held on Feb 11<sup>th</sup>. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by President Megan Stoll. Mrs. Chapman spoke on behalf of the 4-H Foundation and explained all of the things that the Foundation does for our local 4-H'ers and encouraged to us sell the swine raffle tickets to help the Foundation.

All of the Club members told about the projects for the fair. A reminder to call and sign up for your work shifts for the fair and also members and parents are encouraged to help at the fair workday on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Make sure that you are familiar with all of the fair rules and the changes to the fair opening times. Justin Woods gave a demonstration on the things you need to know and items that you need at the fair for showing a Steer, Clayton Woods followed with everything that you need to show a Swine and Morgan Perry finished up by explained all of the things that you need to know to show Dairy.

Wishing all of the 4-H Exhibitors a great Fair week. Refreshments were provided by the York Family and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15.

### Mini Hooves Reporter: by Savannah Jacobson

Our last Mini Hooves meeting was February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014. We began an exciting presentation of the 2013 AMHR All Star Awards. Many of our members placed top 10 in the Nation. Our club collected clothing contributions to be donated to a local nursing home in need.

This is our busiest show season. Therefore, we had a lot to discuss. On January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014 our members participated in the Sarasota County 4-H show. Classes included halter, showmanship, jumping in hand, & halter obstacle. Our more experienced members placed in the top 5. It was a wonderful learning experience for our newer members. Thank you to Samantha Johnson for judging our show. February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014 some of our members competed at the State Fair Miniature Horse Show in Tampa. All competitors enjoyed a fantastic show! February 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> Mini Hooves members, as well as miniature horse lovers from around the state competed in the AMHR Just for Miniatures Show at Triple J Arena. It was an exhilarating fast paced show that resulted in the majority of our Mini Hooves members placing in the top 5 in each category. We are looking forward to our next show at the Sarasota County Fair on Monday evening March 17<sup>th</sup>!

**Southern Spurs** The Southern Spurs had a wonderful February. Our bake sale was a big success as the club enjoyed their time together selling their homemade items, talking with customers about 4-H, and reconnecting with former Southern Spur members. We continued to spread our love through the community and delivered seventeen homemade fleece blankets to the Gulf Winds Senior Center in Venice along with Valentine Day cards we had made. The residents and staff were very touched. We are now selling our Hog Tickets and getting ready for the Sarasota County Fair!

**Jr. Cattlemen: by Tommy Jackson** Our February meeting was down to business. With the fair just around the corner we went over all the important fair dates, information and what to expect during the month of March. We have been having a lot of fun with our demonstrations and this month members spoke about proper ways to give shots and what to have at the fair for showing a steer. We also discussed an exciting fundraiser opportunity for April. One last thing this month, we have a fun mourning planned on the 22<sup>nd</sup> to make name plaques for our animals at the fair.

Our meeting was called to order. We had a lot of information for the fair to go over at our meeting. We went over due dates for fair, record books, and buyers letters. We had three of our Cloverbuds get their rabbits entered into the fair. We are very proud of everyone's effort for the fair projects they have chosen. Valerie Bixler and Tommy Jackson did their demonstrations. We would like to thank the Bothast family and Bartell family for providing a wonderful dinner for us all to enjoy. We wish everyone safety and good luck at the fair. We are very proud of our Jr. Cattlemen and Cloverbuds. You are all doing a fantastic job in making our club great in it's first year.—**Delanie Bartell**

### Ridin Rednecks: by Hayes Bush

Ridin Rednecks ran the concession at the 4-H horse show at Triple J Farms. Thank you to Max and Dawn Steele, Barbara Briggs and David Spindell for helping the club raise money. Ridin Rednecks also participated in the 4-H Foundation Annual Sporting Clay Event. Matt Koss, Hayes Bush, Dustin Davis and Kyle Powers had a great time. We have been finishing up our presentations. Hayes Bush did a presentation on swine parasites, Dustin Davis did one on pig breads, Savannah Ream presented horse facts and Brianna Ream presented hog facts. David Spindell did a presentation on being prepared to ride off road. Lane Brickey did a presentation on pig facts and Austin Brickey did a presentation on Silkies. Matt and Sam Koss did a presentation on calving. Carlie Scarbrough did a presentation on swine showmanship. Kyle Powers did his presentation on what to bring to the fair and Tiffany Powers did hers on what to do in the show ring. We are busy selling swine raffle tickets and preparing our projects for the fair.

### Horse N' Around by: Samantha Chianese

On January 25, Horse N' Around had our first meeting of 2014 and, to celebrate the new year, we decided to do a new activity: fishing! For several in the group, fishing was a brand new experience, whereas other members were veterans who were more than willing to lend a hand to those just learning. Everyone caught on quickly, but unfortunately that was all we caught - no fish took the bait, although plants sure tried to! Aside from our fishing trip, Horse N' Around members also received our swine raffle tickets, which are sold for \$2 each; the winning buyer will receive either a live or a freezer-ready pig. Good luck to everyone selling tickets, and good luck to all participating in the fair! Don't forget to support the Elephant Ear Booth with your donated time and purchase of its delicious goodies.

We hope to see you there!

### The Clogging Clovers: by Hannah Nichol

The Clogging Clover's are winding up their dancing year with our final event being at the Southwest Florida Heritage Festival at Crowley Museum and Nature Center. We plan to participate in Share The Fun at the Fair this year as well. Our instructors are working with us on some new songs, and we are switching up some old ones for the competition.

The Clover's will sadly be saying goodbye to long time members and parent/instructor April Lee and family. We wish them all well in their new home. At the same time, we wish to welcome our new instructor Sher Formanski, and all the new clogger's who have joined us recently. We hope to see you all at the fair!

### Sarasota Cows & Co.; Amanda Keeney, Leader

February has been an exciting month for the Sarasota Cows & Co 4H Club! First, we worked very hard to raise enough money and we were able to order and get delivered our own portable milk machine! A huge thank you to Hampy Dairy Equipment who worked very closely with us to give us a great deal, and included a great deal of extras for the kids to use as well as learn from. Also a big thank you to Publix Supermarkets for their generous contribution! We cannot wait to use our new machine at the county fair!

Second, we had 3 members of our club represent at the Florida State Fair this year. President Lara Bowman took 1 cow, 2 heifers and 3 calves. Vice President Nathan Sundberg took 2 heifers and member Austin Keeney took 2 rabbits. The kids made great informational posters that were displayed in the show arena that related to dairy health, they also attend an "Ask Me" talk where they displayed one of their animals and presented a prepared speech on animal health. There was also a skillathon they participated in. We know there was a huge amount of effort put into giving the kids this great experience! The shows were just as exciting! All of our members did very well, and most importantly had fun in every class they participated in. We are very proud of the members that represented our club at State as they showed humility, and a great attitude of sportsmanship, and they really loved making new 4-H friends!

We are looking forward to our County fair, and all of our members are working hard to prepare all of their projects!

### Blazers: by Kayla Bowser

Our meeting started at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday February 11th. We talked about upcoming dates including pig bleed requirements, hoof trimming, and our car wash/bake sale. Everyone listened to 4-H demonstrations, ordered our t-shirts and ate wonderful food. We heard from the members that showed at South Florida Fair and State Fair. We are very proud how they represented our club and did very well. We are looking forward to the Sarasota County Fair this month and we can show how hard we worked on our 4-H projects.

Good Luck to everyone showing at the fair!!

## Make Your Plans NOW...



### March 2014

- 3-11 Pick-up Fair Passes at the 4-H Office.
- 8 Volunteer Workday at the Fair
- 9 Daylight Savings Time (spring ahead!)
- 10-14 Spring Break
- 12 Mini Building, Plant Tent & Small Animal Check-in
- 13 Beef Breeding, Dairy Cattle and Goat Check-in
- 14-23 Sarasota County Fair Opens!**
- 14 Dairy Cattle Show
- 15 Beef Breeding, and Goat Shows, Dairy Skills Contest, and Poultry Showmanship.
- 16 Dog Show, Llama Show, Fashion Revue, Share The FUN! Rabbit & Cavy Skills Contest
- 17 Miniature Horse Show
- 18 Steer Show
- 19 Swine Show
- 20 Horticulture and Consumer Choices

- 21 Steer Auction
- 22 Livestock Judging, Plant Sale, Swine Auction
- 23 Removal of Exhibits—see rules

### Looking Ahead... April 2014

- 2 Sarasota 4-H Foundation Scholarships
- 4 Register for District Events
- 5 State Horse Judging
- 12 State Livestock Judging
- 14 4-H Foundation Meeting
- 20 **Happy Easter**
- 21 Leader and Council Meeting—Election of new County Council Officers!
- 22 **FAIR AWARDS; Potter Building**
- 23 4-H Day at the Capitol
- 25-27 Area E Horse Show

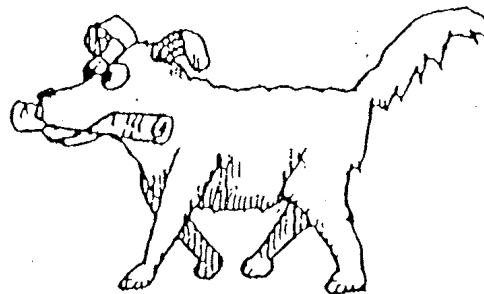
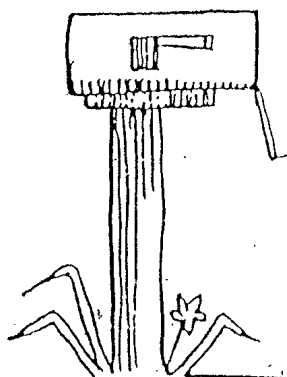


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Current Resident or

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

**To Make The Best Better**



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**Sarasota County 4-H**