



## Hello Levy County!

We have experienced an exciting year for the Levy County

4-H program. As we finish up a busy spring, I hope that everyone will look back at all of the youth success that has occurred, including all of the shooting sports competitions, the Suwannee River Fair, Levy County Fair, County Events, and District Events. I would like to give special recognition to those youth that served on the Youth Council during the 2015-2016 4-H year.

While Levy County transitions to a new 4-H agent in the near future, I would like to thank several groups of folks who have filled in the gap. Thank you to the Levy County Extension Office faculty and staff who have worked together to keep the 4-H program running and to the Adult Council and 4-H Advisory Committee for guiding and leading the 4-H program during a trying transition. Finally I would like to thank the Levy County 4-H volunteers who have continued to put young people first even in the midst of some difficult circumstances.

I want to take this moment to encourage youth to stay involved in the 4-H program. There are many exciting day camp opportunities this summer and the new 4-H year begins again in the fall. I also would like you to think about all of the activities and events that you participated in this 4-H year. What did you learn? What challenged you? What made you a better person? I hope that you could easily answer these questions because they are what 4-H is all about.

I hope that you have learned by doing this 4-H year. Thank you for the opportunity to serve the youth in Levy County. I have enjoyed meeting and working with each of you during this transition period. Please contact me at [besteveez@ufl.edu](mailto:besteveez@ufl.edu) if you need anything. Thank you again for "Making the Best, Better" in the Levy County 4-H program.



**Have Fun! Be Safe!**  
**We Hope To See You**  
**In September!**



## AWARDS RECOGNITION - June 5, 2016



Whispering Winds turned in 23 project books. Outdoor Adventures turned in 12 project books. Bridle Brigade and S.T.E.M. clubs turned in three each and Kountry Bumpkins turned in 2 project books.

41 pins were handed out to 4-H Club Members, 14 of those for community service.

Sabrina Brice received a gavel for her work as 4-H Youth Council President this year.



Patrick Whitehead and Regan Varnes received Gold Clovers for their work this year and Aubrey Catlett received a Bronze clover for her work.

Celebrate  
SUCCESS

INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS WILL BE ON THE WALL-OF-FAME!



Thank You Amanda Henderson for these great photos.

# 4-H Joint Council Minutes - May 16, 2016



## JOINT COUNCIL:

Meeting called at 6:32pm

- \* - American pledge by Libby Hagan
- \* - 4-H pledge by Madison Brice
  
- \* - Quorum: Yes
  
- \* - There was no treasurer's report as per the ongoing investigation of the Levy County Extension and 4-H finances.
  
- \* - Brenda Heberling reported there were still many checks from the Suwannee River Fair waiting to be picked up. In order to receive a check a completed thank-you letter must be turned in. If the letters are not submitted the checks will be returned.
  
- \* - The April County Council minutes as corrected by Leslie Long (these were passed out at the May meeting) were approved. Motion by Alan for approval.
  
- \* - The 2015-2016 Annual Activity Reports and project books were to be turned in by the end of the meeting (May 16), but later submissions turned in before project book grading on May 24th would be accepted.
  
- \* - Alan & Diana Hagan, Tommy Wolfe, Mary & Jim Carr, and Sherri Brice have volunteered to grade project books on Tuesday, May 24th, 6pm, at the Extension Office in Bronson.
  
- \* - Finger foods and refreshments for the Awards Ceremony are being solicited. Contact Leslie Long for the current list of who is bringing what.
  
- \* - Brian Estevez (interim 4-H Agent) and Brenda Heberling will be handing out the awards. Sabrina Brice will open the event and give a closing speech at the end.
  
- \* - Decorations for the awards ceremony are also being sought. If you are interested in helping to set up please come to the Hilltop School in Bronson at noon the day of the event.

## END OF JOINT COUNCIL.

## ADULT COUNCIL.

- \* - Alan Hagan, Levy County 4-H Association Chair, has requested all club leaders who had a club bank account through the Levy County 4-H Association (this should have been ALL clubs) to furnish him with copies of whatever documentation they may have of what their club accounts should have contained at the end of March, 2016 (before the Levy County Fair). These will be used in our efforts to reconstruct the lost/stolen financial records of the county 4-H Association and possibly to recoup/replace the missing funds. If you have not already provided copies please bring them with you to the awards ceremony in June or otherwise bring them to Alan as soon as possible.
  
- \* - Nominations for the 2016-2017 Levy County 4-H Adult Council officers were sought. The following individuals have been proposed.  
  
President - Leslie Long  
Vice-President - Jim Carr  
Secretary - Alan Hagan  
Treasurer - Mary Carr
  
- List of nominations were moved by Thomas Wolfe and passed by general acclamation. Officer installation to occur at the County Round Up in September.
  
- \* - Alan Hagan proposed future officer nominations to be suggested at the February meetings for a greater participation by the general membership as our May meetings are typically sparsely attended.
  
- \* - County Round Up was proposed to be held on August 27, 2016 due to an earlier start of the school year for 2016-2017 subject to scheduling conflict with the Extension staff.
  
- \* - Discussion was held for varying methods of improving community outreach by the general 4-H program and clubs. No specific actions were moved or passed. Sherri Brice suggested cleaning up left-over general election campaign signs one month after the general election has passed.
  
- \* - Sherri Brice brought up the new \$20 per 4-H member fee that has been previously discussed at past

meetings. Brian Estevez answered that the fee was going to be imposed and there would be a \$60 per family limit. Half of each fee (\$10) would be passed to the respective county 4-H associations with the other half retained by the state program. Discussion (but no decisions) were held concerning how to assist family who would face financial hardship with the new fee.

\* - Jim Carr, leader of the Bridle Club, mentioned two fund raisers being put on by his club for the support of the club's rescue horses. Contact Jim Carr for further details.

\* - Dr. Eric Simonne, Northeast Regional Extension Director, passed out copies of a letter from Dr. Nick T. Place, Dean for Extension, outlining the efforts IFAS is making in the investigation of the financial irregularities experienced in the Levy County Extension Office.

Contact the Extension Office for a copy of this letter if you are interested.

\* - Jo & Steven Sample brought up a matter concerning missing records pertaining to Levy County 4-H Volunteers and the difficulties they had in checking out a county van for their club use to attend an out of county archery event. The new Extension Office Manager Ariane Horton stated she was building new folders for all 4-H Volunteers. The missing records are being investigated and a report to the membership is to be made as soon as possible.

Meeting ended.

Submitted by Alan Hagan - Levy County 4-H Adult Council Secretary

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Jullian Morris Baxter, a member of 4-H Shooting Sports, won first place in two photography categories during the 2016 Levy County Fair for Still Life and Places & Travel.

*Excellent Job Jullian!*



**Outdoor Adventures 4-H Club** went camping at Gores Landing in Ocala, FL. The campers were able to take part in fishing, canoeing, bow fishing, swimming, a nature hike seek and find, and many more camping activities. The youth had a great weekend and are looking forward to the next camping trip.

