



UNIVERSITY OF
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EXTENSION

Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

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CLOVER CONNECTION

4-H NEWSLETTER

JULY 2003

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The wait is finally over!!! Okaloosa County finally has a full time 4-H Agent!!! Many of you know me but I want to officially introduce myself. My name is Jennifer Heady. I have been your part time 4-H Program Coordinator for a little over a year now. I graduated from the University of Florida (That's right, I'm a GATOR) with a degree in Animal Science and a degree in Agricultural Education. I would love to schedule time over the next few months to visit each of your

clubs and meet you all. I am here to help you whenever you need it. Just give me a call or stop by the 4-H Office.

4-H STATE CONGRESS ORIENTATION MEETING

There is an important orientation meeting scheduled July 1st, 6:30 p.m. at the 4-H Office in Crestview, for participants attending Congress and their parents.



Eight seniors, Kelly Chlebowski, Katie Marcoux, Arianna Nelson, Olwen Phillips, April Simmers, Kaitlyn Sirico, Laura Stout, and Jayce Vanderford, will be heading to Gainesville, July 21-25 to represent Okaloosa County at the 2003 4-H State Congress.

4-H STATE HORSE SHOW –

Four very excited young ladies, are looking forward to the 4-H State Horse

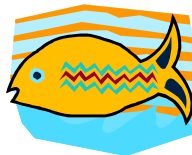
Show in Tampa, July 10-12. Katie Marcoux, April Simmers, Kaitlyn Sirico and Laura Stout, are working hard to prepare for this opportunity. Attending this show is really a team effort, involving all the families...their hard work and willingness to support and help each other, ensures that everyone has a safe trip and wonderful learning experience. We are all cheering you on!!!



STATE MARINE CAMPS JULY 7-11, AND JULY 21-25

Two opportunities for youth to have a great time learning about our wonderful marine life.

Canoeing, snorkeling, seining, swimming and fishing are some of the exciting activities planned. These camps are open to youth ages 8-14. Cost of camp – week #1 - \$215.00 if balance is paid by 6/23. \$235.00 if balance is paid between 6/24-7/7. Cost of camp – week #2 - \$215.00 if balance is paid by 7/7. \$235.00 if balance is paid between 7/08-7/21. Call the 4-H Office or Camp Timpoochee for registration information on these two camps.



NORTHWEST FLORIDA FAIR **OCTOBER 24-** **NOVEMBER 1**

It's time to start planning for fair. We're adding new and exciting events to our fair this year.

We're going to offer Consumer Choice Judging, a poultry show, lamb show, dog show, horse show, cattle show, goat show and rabbit exhibit, as well as club booth exhibits and project exhibits. Leaders, if you have youth interested in these activities and want to know more about them, call the 4-H Office for more information.



COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

Our last meeting was held May 20th. Thank you to Mrs. Mullins for allowing us to meet in her home. We discussed fundraisers for Congress and for general County Council Funds. Our next meeting will be July 1, 6:30 p.m. at the 4-H Office in Crestview. All clubs are invited to send 2 voting delegates.

HURRICANE SEASON IS HERE

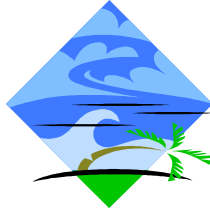
What is a hurricane?

A hurricane is a severe tropical storm that reaches or exceeds a constant wind speed of 74 miles per hour. Hurricane winds blow in a large spiral around a calm "eye". The "eye" is usually 20-30 miles wide. Hurricanes increase their power by gathering heat and energy through contact with warm ocean waters. August and September are peak months but the season lasts from June 1 to November 30.



What can I do to help? Before Hurricane Season Starts

- Identify media sources like the Weather Channel, local radio stations or <http://www.emergencyemail.org/> to get hurricane progress reports.
- Have a flashlight and extra batteries ready.
- Have a portable, battery-operated radio or TV and extra batteries handy.
- Stock a First Aid Kit and manual.
- Help Mom or Dad while they trim back dead or weak branches from trees.
- Develop an emergency communication plan – Mom and Dad may be at work and you will be at home or school. How will you contact each other and where will you meet if needed? Discuss this with your family and write your plan down.



- Remind Mom or Dad to get gas in the car.
- Bring outdoor toys and furniture inside.
- Turn the refrigerator and freezer to the coldest setting and open them only when necessary.
- Help store drinking water in clean bathtubs, jugs, and bottles.
- Together review your family's emergency plans.
- Stay inside and away from windows, skylights, and glass doors during the hurricane.

Remember to stay SAFE and pay close attention to the weather reports!!!!

**Check out this great website for kids all about hurricanes:
www.fema.gov/kids/hurr.htm**

Sources: The Federal Emergency Management Agency and The Emergency Email and Wireless Network

During a Hurricane

Important terms to know:

A Hurricane Watch – is issued

when there is a threat of hurricane conditions within 24-36 hours.

A Hurricane Warning – is issued when hurricane conditions are expected within 24 hours.

- Listen to the radio or TV for reports.
- Help check emergency supplies like flashlights, batteries, water and non-perishable food items.



JULY WILDLIFE HAPPENINGS

July brings on the dog-days of summer, our national independence day, and some great wildlife activity here in the state of Florida. Here are some interesting things to look for in our area:

Birds

- Shorebird migration starts in mid-July, peaking in August.
- Swallow-tailed kites begin gathering as do purple martins and tree swallows in preparation for migrating south for the winter.



- Look out for nesting shorebirds, and keep your vehicles and dogs from disturbing them.

Reptiles

- The nesting season is wrapping up for sea turtles, and babies will be hatching in a couple of months.
- Later this month, young alligators and crocodiles will begin to hatch.



Insects

- Mosquitoes and chiggers are abundant, so watch out while you're camping.



Mammals

- Baby raccoons, foxes, armadillos, possums, and bobcats leave dens and begin following parents.

Miscellaneous

- Scrub morning glory and butterfly weed begin to bloom.

IMPORTANT DATES

July 1	Congress Orientation/County Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m, 4-H Office in Crestview
July 7-11	State 4-H Legislature – Tallahassee
July 7-11	State Marine Camp – 4-H Camp Timpoochee
July 10-12	State Horse Show - Tampa
July 21-25	State 4-H Congress – University of Florida, Gainesville
July 21-25	State Marine Camp – 4-H Camp Timpoochee
October 24-November 1	Northwest Florida Fair, Ft. Walton Beach, Fairgrounds

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