Jackson 4-H Welcomes Ben Knowles

My name is Ben Knowles, and I am your new county 4-H Agent. I grew up in Perry, Florida and graduated from Florida State University. In 2007, I earned a B.S. degree in biological sciences and an M.S. degree in secondary science teaching the following year.

Growing up, I was very active in 4-H and participated in the horse club, county and district councils, state congress, district and state horse shows, and summer camp. I also worked as a day camp counselor for my county’s summer day camp programs. As a youth, my involvement with 4-H was very rewarding and provided many valuable learning experiences. As the county 4-H Agent, it is my desire to help volunteers and community leaders provide Jackson County youth with learning experiences that are meaningful and fun.

Currently, I am in the process of attending club meetings, meeting volunteers and community leaders in the county. If I have not made it to you, please feel free to call or drop by the Extension Office.

I am looking forward to meeting and working with the 4-H members and volunteers in Jackson County. Sincerely,

Ben Knowles

Attention All Club Leaders

If you plan on using the Extension Office for your club meetings please reserve your room today. By contacting Susan Tuta at 482-9620 you can reserve your space months in advances. Call soon our rooms fill up quickly!
Make a New Year’s Resolution to Recycle!

Northwest Florida Horse Judging Clinic/Contest

On Saturday, January 23, 2010, Malone FFA is hosting their second Horse Judging Clinic/Contest. The event will be held at the Jackson County Ag Center. There will be a registration fee of $10.00 for students and $5.00 for adults. This fee is to cover lunch. Please make your checks payable to Malone FFA and return them along with the registration form to Kim Barber, Malone FFA, P.O. Box 68, Malone FL 32445.

Be Waste-Wise In 2010!

A great new year’s resolution is to be more waste wise in 2010. Solid waste is a major problem in Florida. In fact, each person in Florida produces an average of 7 pounds of waste per day! This is twice the national average. Garbage not only affects our wildlife, but it can also contaminate our drinking water.

The best solution to this problem is to begin thinking about our garbage differently. Our waste is really a resource, or treasure that has value. Most of our waste can be recycled, which means it can be made into something else, instead of sitting in a landfill. In Jackson County, you can recycle newspapers, cardboard, plastic, and aluminum and tin cans. Recycling also saves energy.

Another way you can be waste wise is at the store before you buy. Try to buy products that are made from recycled materials, or products that can be recycled or that are packaged with the least amount of packaging.

Just making these two simple changes now can make a better community and world tomorrow!

Senior 4-H Leadership Adventure

Senior LAW will be January 22-24th at 4-H Camp Ocala. This weekend is a leadership retreat for 4-Hers ages 14 and up. The cost is $90.00 per person. If you are interested, contact the 4-H office for a registration form, or visit the Florida 4-H website at http://florida4h.org/events/LAW.shtml. The deadline to register is January 8th.
More Info On the Hog n’ Ham Program

In an effort to familiarize everyone with the Hog & Ham program and provide them with the background information needed for success. This event will be held June 24-26th, 2010.

Participation is open to youth (12 and older as of 9-1-07), parents, leaders, or anyone with interest in the Hog & Ham program. The information to be presented is vital to the youth getting something out of this program beyond a freezer full of pork.

The workshop is scheduled to be a full day program (9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.). Topics include an overview of the swine industry, sources and selection of feeder pigs, feeding and health management, the pork product, and insight on the other phases of the program (record book, demonstration, and retail audit). The full tentative schedule is available online at http://www.animal.ufl.edu/youth/livestock/HogHam.shtml. Youth who have completed the ’08 and/or ’09 programs will attend a more in depth training on the swine industry.

In order to make the schedule as efficient as possible, lunch will be provided for everyone that attends. Additional information is available from the UF Animal Sciences web site at http://www.animal.ufl.edu/youth.

Character Corner— Availability

Availability is making my own schedule and priorities secondary to the wishes of those I serve. Availability is the opposite of self centeredness.

There are several ways you can strive to be more available to those in your “club, community, and world.” First, you need to think of others first, and put their wishes ahead of your own. Second, you should always find a way to help, not hide. That means volunteering in your club, classroom, or home. Third, make an effort to be ready when you are called upon, and be glad for the opportunity to serve or help. However, you should always check with the right person before making a commitment to serve.

Resolve right now to become more available “for your club, community, and your world!”

Source: Character First!©

Covington County Heifer show

On Saturday, January 9, 2010, Covington County will hold its annual Invitational Heifer Show. Showmanship begins at 1:00 p.m. and the heifer show to follow. Official entry forms and entry fee of $20.00 per head must be postmarked by January 1st, 2010. Early arrival on January 8th will be accepted from 3:00-5:00 p.m. for an overnight stay, if necessary. More information is available if needed! Contact Patti Peacock at the Jackson County 4-H Office at 850-482-9620.
# January 2010

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<td>5 Character Keepers @ 2:30 PM</td>
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Patti Peacock  
Jackson County 4-H Program  

For more info about the Jackson County 4-H Program, contact our office at 850-482-9620 or visit our website at http://jackson.ifas.ufl.edu/4h/