# September

## FORT PIERCE WESTWOOD

By: Logan Ankiel

We here at the Fort Pierce Westwood FFA are excited to announce the re-opening of our veggie garden. This year the bounty of produce we grow will be given to cafeterias at schools in St. Lucie County for students to enjoy. We are working closely with researchers at USDA and Child Nutrition Services to provide local schools with fresh fruits and veggies. Near the beginning of next week, we will be bedding down the garden area, and we will also be giving the area an ASD treatment. After that, we will begin planting at the end of October! We are planning on planting an assortment of fruits and vegetables like broccoli, cauliflower, collards, strawberries, peppers, onions and more!

## Vet assisting class

Not only does the Fort Pierce Westwood FFA have Cattle, Swine and Chicken but we also have small animals including dogs and kittens with our Vet program. Students in the vet program get hands on experiences with things that vet technicians get to do every day, recently the Vet 2 kids got to practice pulling feline (cat) vaccines. Along with the hands-on experiences the dedicated students will get certified while they are in the program.

## Chapter Officers

Advisor-Mrs. Blankenbaker
President-Nate Zajac
Vice President-Alexis Mechem
Secretary- Amanda McPherson
Treasurer- Lena Shingledecker
Reporter-Devin Gourzong
Sentinel- Samantha Watson
Student Advisor-Logan Ankiel
Freshman Liaison-Philp Black

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## FORT PIERCE WESTWOOD

By: Nate Zajac

During the last week of August, in Mrs. Blankenbaker sixth period Agritechnology t 1 I was able to watch and assist in the Breeding soundness exam of the chapters bulls. Dr.Adams, his wife, and Waylon came to Westwood to help administrate the test. Dr.Adams educated the class about how to take a collection and what characteristics for a good bull. Neither of the bulls wanted to stand and give a good collection for the test. Due to this being the second test not giving a good collection it was determined that they should just be sold at market. The two bulls were sold at the Okeechobee livestock market on September 11th.

## Eggs for sale

By Samantha Watson

What came first the chicken or the egg? Well for the Fort Pierce Westwood FFA, the chickens came first but here come the eggs. Our hens have started to lay their eggs and Mrs. Blankenbaker will be selling our farm fresh eggs for $3 a dozen. They will be for sale in the next few weeks, so come and get them.

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## FORT PIERCE WESTWOOD

By: Devin Gourzong

It has been a busy month for the chapter but we always find time to make it to prospect shows, As you know back in August members Lena Shingledecker, Devin Gourzong and Philip Black competed in the JFCA point series kickoff show. The point of prospect shows is to practice and learn new skills that will be used at future shows. Our main goal is to be better then the last we stepped in the show ring. Philip Black improved from first in class in Tampa to 5th overall with his steer in Okeechobee, he placed 5th in class with his heifer and placed 1st in class in showmanship Lena Shingledecker placed 3rd in class with her steer, Devin Gourzong Placed 2nd in class in the commercial bull division, 5th in class in commercial heifers, and 5th in commercial steers, Clovis Wilson placed 6th in class with his steer and Alex Thompson place 5th in class with his steer. The Fort Pierce Westwood FFA would like to say thank you to parents LeeAnn Black, Michelle Shingledecker and Ruthann Thompson we appreciate all of the help at the prospect show.

## Pig Clinic at St. Lucie county fair

On Saturday September 22, 2018 Sam Watson, Julia Haney, and I attended the pig clinic put on by UF at the Saint Lucie County fairgrounds. The presenter was very experienced with market swine and we learned a lot of valuable information. At first, we were in one of the buildings and he explained how to keep the pigs healthy and how to make sure that they would win first in showmanship at the fair this year. Later, we went into the show arena and he demonstrated a few ways to show your pig using some Drawdy pigs as examples. Overall the experience was very interesting and informative and everyone who is inexperienced showing a market swine should've attended.

## New officer spotlight

Hi my name is Philip Black, I am 14 years old and this is my 6th year showing a steer and beef breeding animal. I am a member of the Beef Builders 4-H club, FFA, SLC Jr. Cattlemen's Association and Jr Florida Cattlemen's Association. I want to go to UF to become a veterinarian and specialize in animal nutrition. I also like to play golf, basketball and football.