

## **FFA**

10 Gallon Challenge by: Collin M. Hetherington

Our chapter recently participated in the 10 gallon challenge to help local dairy farmers with business. I accompanied our chapter officers in this event and learned the importance of giving back to our communities, even if it's as small as a gallon of milk. We went to our local Publix and bought ten gallons of milk to aid our local dairy farmers by buying their products. We then took the milk to the Treasure Coast Food Bank, which was then given to families in need. I'm glad I was able to participate in this event where I was able to see our FFA chapter give back to our community and help people in need.



On October 5th and 6th members Nate Zajac Alex Thomson and Phillip Black when to Kissimmee Florida to participate in the JFCA Kowtown classic. All three members participated in Showmanship and the steer show Philip also participated in the heifer show. Philip was called back for Showmanship. All three members were able to watch and learn more about grooming showmanship and judging of animals. The members are expecting to use what they've learned to help them in showing their animals and in livestock judging CDE. Nate Philip and Alex all had a great time and are looking forward to the next show in November.

### Eggs for sale

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 vet assisting program
By; Alexis Mechem

Its Halloween time in the vet classroom! Our furry friends are all dressed up in array of costumes... Whether it be Daisy Mae in her dresses, Stanley in his bow ties, or Maverick as a lovely lion our furry friends are excited for Halloween season. Vet student are learning dog breeds from a variety of groups like sporting group, herding group, and hound, so they can prepare for their certification. October is a furrific time for the vet students!



At the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Fort Pierce Westwood FFA prospect show January 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> all FFA kids are to attend both days. We will be having special guests. January 5<sup>th</sup> is going to be ag awareness day. We will have barn tours displays, and much more! With special guest attending. Be on the look out for more info in future meetings and newsletters.

Don't forget there's two CDE'S in action food science is on Mondays at 2:00pm to 3:00pm and livestock is 4:30 to 5:30 pm. If your interested in food production, then food science is for you. Livestock is also another great experience to partake in if you're interested in judging the characteristic of show animals then livestock is a great opportunity to learn.



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#### **COLT**

Chapter Officer Leadership Conference

On September 28, 2018, The Fort Pierce Westwood FFA chapter officer went to chapter leadership training or colt. During colt we split into two groups and learned about a majority of things, including; professionalism, leadership, team building Ag technologies and our area commodities, During colt we mingled with other officers in our district. State President Artha Jonassaint said hello and good luck during this year.



#### **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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### Officer spotlight

Howdy my name is Nate Zajac I'm serving this year as your FFA president. I am super excited to be serving you, as your leader and bringing new ideas and many different opportunities to the chapter. Outside of school I work at Drawdy Show Pigs and enjoy bass fishing. I hope to pursue a career with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission after graduating from Warner University. If you have any questions or would like to be more active with the chapter feel free to ask me. Also if you want to a fellow advocates for agriculture contact me. Add my Instagram @\_farmer\_nate\_01



#### Fundraiser for Amber

The Fort Pierce Westwood FFA is selling raffle tickets at \$20 each for a fully processed and wrapped hog from last years chapter pig. All proceeds go towards ambers family. Over the summer, one of our Panthers, Amber, had a stroke. This news hit us hard on campus as she is always around campus with a huge smile and many hugs to offer. She is an animal lover and a member of our Project Unify track team.

This week in the garden, chapter members finished rolling out beds for plants and laying out drip line irrigation. Dr. Erin Rosskopf and her team from the USDA Lab in Ft. Pierce helped us set up soil probes to monitor some upcoming trials. New irrigation equipment was also installed, thanks to C & C Environmental Group and the Saint Lucie County School Board. The chapter is looking forward to watching our garden grow and with these finishing touches we are finally ready to start planting!