

## **FROM MRS. CASH'S DESK . . . AN UPDATE 2/25/09**

The Central Florida Fair Premium Books are available in the 4-H Office – we have about 20 – first come, first served! You can go online: [www.centralfloridafair.com](http://www.centralfloridafair.com), click on the blue box on the top bar “CENTRAL FLORIDA FAIR,” click on “Competitive Exhibits,” and then click on the drop down to “4-H Competitions.”

Important 4-H deadlines:

\***March 2** – Essays must be postmarked by March 2 and should be sent to Tim Pehlke, Orange County Extension Office, 6021 S. Conway Rd., Orlando 32812.

Essays can be submitted by Juniors, Intermediates, Seniors, Alumni, Volunteers, and Parents. There are some mistakes in the Premium Book for the essay contest – please check with the 4-H Office for details (essay length no more than 500 words, seniors are 14-18 and Rock Eagle scholarships).

\*Booth Contest – Pre-registration is from March 17-31 – contact the 4-H Office. Your club must watch over the area for 2 hours to receive the \$300 premium.

\*Junior Horse Bowl – Teams must be registered with Shane Michael, Seminole County 4-H, by March 23. ([smichael@seminolecountyfl.gov](mailto:smichael@seminolecountyfl.gov))

\*Consumer Choices – Teams must be registered by March 27. See Mrs. Cash.

\*Game Boards – All game boards must be turned in to the 4-H Office by April 10.

\*Citrus Trees – Pre-judging is on March 21 at the Apopka Research Center. Project books are due on March 21 and the knowledge test will be given on that day. The sale/auction will be April 18.

\*Interview Contest – The appropriate forms are due to Shelda Wilkens at the Seminole County 4-H Office by April 6. Interviews will be on April 18.

\*Scarecrow Contest – The theme is Centennial and the scarecrows must be delivered to the CFF by April 14.

\*Banner Contest – Banners must be received by April 9 to the Orange County 4-H Office.

\*Fashion Revue – Construction only! Entry forms are due by March 27 to various offices depending upon age. Garments are due to the Orange County 4-H Office by April 13. The Fashion Revue will be on April 18.

\*Tropicana will be held on April 18.

\*Share-the-Fun will be on April 25 at 1:00 p.m. First and second place winners at the county level may compete.

\*\*Important – Mrs. Cash and Ms. Ellison will be making trips to Orange County Extension and the CFF – you may leave items at the 4-H Office to be delivered.

**Livestock/Horse – Watch for your deadlines!!!!**

**Since January, the County's List Serv (mass e-mail list) has not been working – I am sure you all have noticed! Please accept our apologies for the difficulty in communicating. Hopefully, the problem is now fixed! Also, due to the Superflu going around, I missed over a week of work and had to cancel several activities. Ms. Shirley is a grandmother again – a little girl named Emma! We will reschedule Fashion Revue for May 23 – that gives you plenty of time to finish sewing and putting together amazing ensembles. There will be a workshop planned before the Central Florida Fair to go over the skill-a-thon.**

County Events will be March 28, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Photo entries, speech topics and posters are due March 20 - I am **EXTENDING** the DEADLINE a week. The poster theme is “Florida 4-H Centennial Celebration.” Rules are available in the 4-H Office and we'll see about putting them on the website. **Let's have a great turn out this year – I want to see the Extension Office completely covered in photos and posters!** Giving Illustrated Talks, Demonstrations and Public Speeches is an important skill and part of your Clover Awards and projects! The Bowl-a-thon Awards will be given out on that day. Please have all monies and sponsor sheets to the 4-H Office prior to March 28. The Tropicana Public Speaking Contest will be held on March 28.

Also on March 28 is the Wildflower Festival. 4-H'ers are needed at 7:00 a.m. to load and unload plants, and during the day to help. If your club can assist, please let the 4-H Office know asap. Don't forget the Master Gardener Plant Faire on April 4.

**Third Executive Board registrations are due to the 4-H Office this Friday, the 27<sup>th</sup>. The form is available on our website.**

**On Friday, March 6, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., we will have service project opportunity for all ages – making fishing line containers. 4-H'er Sean Russell, from Sarasota, will be coming. This is a statewide service project and you can find out more about it at [www.stowitdontthrowitproject.org](http://www.stowitdontthrowitproject.org). Please let me know by March 5 if you are coming. We need tennis ball containers or something similar.**

County Council - March 10. Since we do not have a club signed up to provide dinner, pack your dinner! Ideally, all clubs should send their President and Delegate to the meeting. All 4-H'ers and volunteers are welcome to attend!

**Consumer Choices will resume on March 9 with MP3 Players, at 5:15 p.m. March 23 will be Savings Accounts and April 13 will be a review/practice contest.**

**Horticulture Club will meet on March 4 at 4:30 at the Ag. Ctr.**

**Outdoor Adventures will meet this Sunday, March 1, from 1-5. If you are attending the State Matches, it is important to attend. All Participation Forms and Enrollment Forms must be on file!**

**Come on out to the Volusia County 4-H Schooling Horse Show on Saturday! It will be held at the Silver Sands Equestrian Center.**

Mrs. Karen Russi, leader of the Glenwood Trailblazers, has been named the Florida Volunteer of the Year AND the Southern Region Volunteer of the Year for Service over 10 Years (over 37 years, as a matter of fact). Her name is now submitted for the National Volunteer of the Year. What an amazing lady!

It's that time of year again: the Florida 4-H Yearbook. If your club is interested in designing a page please let the 4-H Office know. Orders received by March 30 receive a rebate.