

FROM MRS. CASH'S DESK . . . AN UPDATE, 3/5/09

2009 4-H Day at the Capitol is on April 14 this year. Information can be found at http://florida4h.org/events/Capitol_2009.shtml. Early Bird registration is due by March 16 (\$10). Between March 17 and April 8, the cost is \$15.

4-H Summer Camp will be July 6-10 for Volusia, Orange, Seminole and Brevard Counties. Go to: <http://florida4h.org/camps/files/2009CampBrochure.pdf> to learn about Camp Ocala. Camp Counselor and CIT Training will be June 8, 9 and 29 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The Counselor/CIT application is online now. There will be a meeting in Seminole County on March 24, at 6 p.m., for last year's counselors ONLY. Transportation will be provided.

Mock Legislature will be a District Event and will be in Seminole County on June 18. Intermediates and Seniors that have not attended Legislature may attend. We do need Seniors to assist – workshop teachers, committee chairs, bill writers. We are scheduling a county event on June 16 and/or 17 for Juniors, Intermediates and Seniors.

"The Alliance for a Healthier Generation is looking for young people from all across the country to serve. We're looking for tweens and teens with unique experiences and opinions to shape the programs of our Kids' Movement and generate fresh ideas on how to make healthy living the norm, not the exception. Applicants must be between the ages of 8-17 years old when membership begins July 16, 2009 and live in the United States." To learn more and apply, visit www.empowerme2b.org. Deadline March 31, 2009.

To view photos from the Florida State Fair:

<http://kingdom.ifas.ufl.edu/tylerjones/UFEVENTS/4HFloridaStateFair020709/Gallery/>

February 2009 Volunteer Newsletter:

http://florida4h.org/volunteers/volunteer_association/files/Feb09_Volunteer_Newsletter.pdf

Check out Florida 4-H State Leader Dr. Marilyn Norman's video about the Centennial on the home page – <http://florida4h.org>. Speaking of the Centennial, don't forget to wear green the 4th of each month. The Volusia County 4-H Advisory Committee is planning a Centennial Cook-Out and Family Day for all Volusia County 4-H families in September. Let us know your ideas and **please make plans to participate!**

Florida 4-H Bug Club: http://www.entnemdept.ufl.edu/bug_club/ - check it out!

Teen Happenings at the DeLand Public Library – Please check the website for information.

UF Alumni, Friends and Future Students: The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences 2009 GATOR GATHERING will be held at the Volusia County Extension Office on March 31 at 6:00 p.m. Please RSVP by March 18 to 352-392-1963 or www.cals.ufl.edu. Dr. Kirby Barrick, Dean of CALS, will be here to answer questions. There will be food and prizes and lots of information. I'll be there!

The Beef Ambassador Program, now called "Beef Consumer Representative," information is now available. The deadline is August 27. Let the 4-H Office know if you are interested so we can get you the information.

Reminder: Hernando County Open Beef Production Show, April 4. March 25 is the entry deadline. Go to www.hernandocountyfair.com.

For a great community service project – <http://www.pajamaprogram.org>.

Master Gardener Plant Faire – April 4, 8:30 a.m. to noon at the Ag. Ctr.

Don't forget the Umatilla FFA Alumni Jackpot Show on March 14, 15 for ewes, goats, steer and heifers.

The Volusia County Fair needs sponsors for poultry events – contact Kathy Vojnar at 386-451-4495.

Volusia County will have a National Trails Day event at Gemini Springs on June 6. If your 4-H club would like to set up an informational booth, contact Susanne Inman at 736-5953, ext. 2638.

The Harley V. Cutlip Memorial Scholarship application is due April 17th to the Volusia County Farm Bureau. Up to three \$1,200 scholarships will be awarded. Information is available in the 4-H Office.

Juniors and Seniors that have participated in the citrus project for at least one year can apply for the John Jackson Citrus Scholarship. Information is available in the 4-H Office.

PBS is working with 4-H about environmental awareness. The program is "Meet the Greens" – for 9-12 year olds. Go to <http://meetthegreens.pbskids.org> for activities. Let teachers know!

2009 Role Models Today Writing Contest – for high school students. Go to www.rolemodelstoday.org. Essays are due by March 16 – the topic is "One of the most important issues facing the nation in the news today." The best entries will receive \$100.

Florida Agriculture Literacy Day is March 24. If you would like to participate – by reading the book "These Florida Farms!" to elementary students, go to www.agtag.org to download the book order /registration form.

Outdoor Adventures will meet this Sunday, 1:00, at the Ag. Ctr. Please bring the \$20 registration fee for the State Archery Match.

Citrus Trees – The knowledge test will not be mandatory to submit a tree to the fair. However, those that do not take the test are NOT eligible for the \$500 horticultural award. Trees need to be taken to the Apopka Research Center on March 21. For information, go to the Lake County Extension Office site and reference citrus trees.

County Events is coming! Download the appropriate photography and poster forms/rules from our website. After seven years of involvement with 4-H, I still believe that its public speaking program is its greatest strength. I strongly encourage all 4-H'ers to participate in County Events this year. We are available to answer any questions you have and help. Don't let March 20 sneak up on you – get your posters and photography in now! Speech topics are due March 20 as well. You can do a demonstration, illustrated talk or try public speaking. I need judges and room monitors, so if you know someone that might be interested or if YOU are, let me know ASAP! Thanks!

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LEADERS and PARENTS: There are A LOT of you that have not turned in enrollment and participation forms, charter applications, officer lists, by-laws, etc. The State 4-H Office must have everything ENTERED in the computer by MARCH 31! Misty needs time to type it in, so PLEASE send in your forms NOW! Technically, if we don't have enrollment forms, bylaws and a charter application on file, you are NOT a 4-H club. We understand that paperwork is NOT fun, but it is necessary ☺ If you have questions, please call us!

AREA D packets are here! Let us know NOW if you are planning to attend. We will mail you the packet. It is preferred that you come in the office to pick it up, along with the 2009 rule book, so you can sign for it. The due date is March 23rd. I must have your registrations by then so I can get them to the Area D Planning Committee on time.