

FROM MRS. CASH'S DESK . . . AN UPDATE 10/1/09

CALLING ALL 4-H'ERS: ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1ST, THE VOLUSIA COUNTY COUNCIL WILL HONOR 4-H IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL 4-H WEEK, OCTOBER 4-10, AND BECAUSE OF MRS. KAREN RUSSI, NATIONAL 4-H VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR FOR LIFETIME SERVICE. ALL VOLUNTEERS AND YOUTH ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND. THE CEREMONY WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE THOMAS KELLY BLDG., DOWNTOWN DELAND, IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS. BE THERE BY 8:45 A.M. THE PROCLAMATIONS BEGIN AT 9:00 A.M. PROMPTLY! DRESS IN YOUR GREEN OR BEST DRESS CLOTHES.

The Volusia County Fair is November 5 – 15! Go to: www.volusiacountyfair.com

Remember that Ethics Training is MANDATORY this year. Youth must have the class in order to show ANY animal, including poultry, covies and rabbits. Go to the Florida State Fair's website to register for a class. Don't forget about badges, wrist bands and such . . . Barn Work Day is October 10. Record Books are due the 10th and some animal services will be available then. P.S. Save your VCF Record Books and turn them into 4-H Record Books – go to the website and view the slide show on how to make a blue ribbon Record Book!

The 4-H contests are: Club Booth, **Essay** and **Game Boards**.

If your club would like to enter a booth, the 4-H Office must be notified by Monday, October 12. Booth space is limited this year and we will be in the HESTER Bldg., not the Talton Bldg. Set up is Nov. 3 and 4, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and take down is Nov. 16, 8 - 10 p.m. and Nov. 16 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. The fair's theme is "What Happens at the Fair Makes Memories." Dimensions of the booth space are 8' x 8' x 8'. Information can be found on page 51 of the *Exhibitor Handbook*.

Essay entries are due Friday, October 16 – BEFORE 5:00 p.m. – NO LATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED! Entries must be mailed, FAXed or presented in person. No e-mail entries. Please provide a cover sheet (not a folder) with the youth's information – paper-clipped, NOT stapled – to the essay. The essay should not include personal references (otherwise, I have to use the white-out). The topics and rules are on page 52 of the *Exhibitor Handbook*.

Game Board rules and information are found on pages 53 and 54 of the *Exhibitor Handbook*. Many of the supplies are available in the 4-H Office for a minimal fee. Game Boards are due Wednesday, October 21, by 4:00 p.m. to the 4-H Office. Game Boards may be picked up in the 4-H Office after Nov. 15. **If you plan to enter the Game Board in the Central Florida Fair, you MUST put the Entry Tag on the front. I will be available after County Council on October 13, about 7:30 – 8:30 p.m., to have a mini-workshop on how to construct Game Boards.**

Remember that if you are entering other contests, you can count them towards Record Books and Clover Awards ONLY if they can be directly related to your 4-H project.

Fall Festival – Mark your calendars for October 23 and 24, from 6 – 10 p.m. Our Family festival will take place at the Silver Sands Equestrian Center in Samsula on Hwy. 415. Clubs can have game booths or assist others. This is a great way for your club to earn money, celebrate the Centennial and let the public know about 4-H. Call the 4-H Office for more details and see the flyer on the website (386-822-5778). Print some out and share with friends!

The next District Council meeting is October 6 in Seminole County. The van will leave the 4-H Office at 4:30 p.m. and pick up at the Deltona McDonald's will be at 5:00 p.m. Eat before you go! **JR. CONGRESS TEACHING APPLICATIONS ARE DUE!!!!**

The next County Council meeting will be October 13. REACH will provide dinner at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting begins at 6:00 p.m. All clubs are invited. For the County Council

Officers (and Committee Chairs) – I will be unable to have a planning meeting with you prior to the County Council meeting due to other obligations – but be watching your e-mail!!!!

Once again, Volusia County 4-H received a Cumberland Farms/National 4-H grant. The \$1,400 is being used to build gardens (a butterfly garden, a memory garden and a meditation garden, along with seating) for the Begin Again Grief Center in Daytona. This is a Hospice counseling center for youth that have lost loved ones. REACH, the Night Owls and Bee-Attitudes have assisted, but there's at least one more day's work. The meditation garden is not quite finished. I am looking for 4-H'ers to help finish the project this month. Transportation and materials will be provided to the site. Please call Mrs. Cash if you and/or your club can help. Great community service . . .

The CORS Bed Race will take place on October 31, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., in downtown DeLand. Volusia County 4-H typically participates. If you and/or your club are interested, we need about 10 people! We also need a corporate sponsor – let us know if you have ideas!

Reporters and Historians – JUST FOR YOU!!!! We are making a page on our website for your updates. Send us what your club is up to – and pictures too – and we'll post them for you. Let us know what you think we should call the page. How about videos and such? This is a way for you to showcase your club and complete the duties of your office. Clubs can get ideas from looking at your posts. Send one a month or more!

The Share-the-Fun Talent Show will be on December 12 at 6:00 p.m. in the Agriculture Center's Auditorium. The MANDATORY dress rehearsal will be December 11 at 6:00 p.m. All 4-H'ers, 5-18, are eligible to participate, but acts are subject to approval. Please register by December 1.

Notice that the 2009-2010 4-H Calendar is online. Major events are included, but there will be additional workshops offered periodically.

Leaders:

1. Remember that enrollment forms, volunteer forms, participation forms, charters and by-laws are due by October 31. Clubs without paperwork in on time are not 4-H clubs – so please turn in your paperwork!
2. I strongly encourage leaders to attend County Council meetings. The workshops and information provided can only help you be a great leader. I understand that we all have busy schedules and that it's just one more thing, but the leader meetings are beneficial.
3. Any volunteer that chaperones out of state, out of county or in county overnight 4-H trips must have Chaperone Certification Training. I'll be holding one of these during the 4-H year. It takes several hours.