New Scrapbook Club
Are you interested in developing scrapbooks? Do you enjoy being creative? Have you wondered what to do with all of those photos? The new Scrapbooking Club may be just what you have been looking for. The club will meet on the second Tuesday of each month from 4:30-6:30 at the DeSoto County Extension Office. Their next meeting will be held Tuesday, December 13.

DeSoto County 4-H Prospect Show
The 7th Annual DeSoto County 4-H Prospect Show will be held, December 10th at the Turner Agri-Civic Center Barns. This is a great opportunity for youth with both breeding animals and steers to practice their showmanship skills prior to the DeSoto County Fair. Weigh-in for steers will take place from 8:00am - 10:00am. The breeding show will begin at 11:00am with the steer show following at 12:00pm. Entry fees are $15 for the animal and $5 for showmanship. Participation is open to all bona fide 4-H and FFA members. For more information contact Ms. Christa, 993-4846 or Mary Ellen Brown, 491-0087.

Parelli Horsemanship Seminar
There will be a two-day "Live Your Dream with Horses" Seminar conducted by Linda and Pat Parelli at the Ocala, FL on December 10-11, 2005. The seminar will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 5:00 p.m. each day. Linda and Pat are nationally known for their work with horses, natural horsemanship, and their seminars. There will be free admission for all 4-H'ers who wish to attend this seminar. Please RSVP no later than December 7, 2005 by 12:00 pm. All you need to do is fax Parelli Natural Horsemanship a list of how many Leaders and Members who are planning on attending the event on your county extension letterhead. The fax number is 970-731-9763. Then at the show just identify yourself as a 4-H Leader or Member and you will be admitted for free. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call Laura Morris at 1-800-642-3335 x 238 / 970-731-9465 or emailing her at lmorris@parelli.com

The Green Express Newsletter is Published By:

Christa L. Carlson, 4-H Youth Development Agent I
Steer and Heifer Weigh Date and Hoof trimming Opportunity
There will be an opportunity for all Steer and Breeding Stock exhibitors to weigh your animals and have their hooves trimmed at the next Beef Club Meeting on December 12. If you chose to do so the scales will be available to weigh your animals and Mr. Dane Hamilton will be available to trim the hooves of your animals for a nominal fee. Please make plans to participate if your animal is in need of hoof trimming and if you haven’t taken your steers weight in a while.

Holiday Planter Program
DeSoto 4-H and West, Memorial Elementary have been busy preparing for the upcoming Holiday Planter Contest. The clubs have been offering a large flower pot to asking members to decorate it in a holiday theme. If you would like to help with the project come by the 4-H Office by December 1, 2005 and pick up your Holiday Planter. The contest is open to all 4-H members. Decorate your planter in a holiday theme and turn it in to the DeSoto County Extension Service by Wednesday, December 14, 2005, 3:00 P.M. All planters will be judged for their Holiday Theme and or a Holiday Theme with a club motif. All 1st, 2nd. and 3rd. winners in the under eight, junior and senior categories will receive a trophy. Beautiful plants will be slipped into the planter and then on Friday, December 16 at 3:00 PM we will meet at the Extension Service to transport to the Oaks Assisted Living and DeSoto Memorial Hospital. This is a community service and can be used towards part of the 4-H award system.

DeSoto County 4-H Holiday Party
The 4-H Holiday Party will be held Thursday, December 8, 2005 at the Turner Agri-Civic Center Exhibit Hall from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. You will need to enter through the second set of gates. Please mark your calendars to come and join us for a night of refreshments, snacks, fun and activities. We will have sports, relays, searching for goodies in the hay, and much, much more. Clubs are asked to call Ms. Cherie if they would like to provide a game for the event. The celebration is open to all 4-H members and their families. We hope to see you there.

Leader and County Council Meeting
Our next Leader Council Meeting of the 2005-2006 4-H year will be on Monday, December 5. The meeting will begin at 6:00pm at the DeSoto County Extension Office. All leaders and delegates should make plans to attend. The meetings are open to any member, leader, parent, volunteer or supporter of the 4-H program. We will be discussing upcoming events and community activities. We look forward to seeing you there.

New Awards and Recognition System
DeSoto County 4-H will begin utilizing the State Awards and Recognition System this year. Youth will be rewarded based on the standards they meet throughout the 4-H year. Each leader has the information on the new system or you can stop by the 4-H Office and talk with Ms. Christa or Ms. Cherie about the new system and for an Award form and a Summary on the standards to be met throughout the year. Good Luck to everyone.
**Fair Exhibit Booth**

It is that time of year again, time to think of the fair and what you are going to exhibit in the 4-H Educational Exhibit Booth. The Exhibit Booth Entry Booklet is now available at the 4-H Office. If you plan to enter items in the booth, you need to stop by the office and pick up a new book, an entry form. Name tags for your entries will be given to you when you drop off your entry form. All youth are only allowed to enter one item per class, no exceptions. Youth will still be allowed to enter up to fourteen items in the booth. Entry forms are due back to the 4-H Office no later than **Friday, January 6 at 5:00pm**. Exhibit check in will be on Friday, January 13, 5:30pm at the fairgrounds. All non-food exhibits may be picked up on Tuesday, January 31, 2004 from 8-5pm at the Extension Office. Any exhibits not claimed at that time will forfeit prize monies.

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**Home Class Club Report**  
*by Sam Reynolds*

Our meeting was on November 10th. We finished our crafts. On October 27th we visited the Crowley museum and nature center in Sarasota. We looked at pioneer stuff and nature walk. On November 16th we went to South Florida Museum, Parker Aquarium, and Planetarium. It had artifacts from Indians and bones from a Mastodon that was 19 feet tall. We saw a planetarium show about the planets. Mercury is the closest planet to the sun. Snoopy the Manatee lives at the aquarium. He is 57 years old. In December we are going to the Environmental Learning Lab.

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**Rooters Swine Club**  
*By; Kellie Emery*

The Rooters Swine Club met on November 1st at 7pm. The County Council Meeting was on November 7th. On November 12th there was a voluntary weigh-in at the fairgrounds, from 7am-12pm. Also at the fairgrounds there was a mandatory showmanship clinic for 1st and 2nd year hog members at 1pm. At the meeting we had 2 activities. First, we reviewed the parts of a hog and the wholesale cuts. After we studied these parts for a while we had a quiz on them. Our next meeting will be on December 6th.

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**Results from the North Florida Fair Goat Show**  
*Submitted by: Cheryl Ragan*

Philip Ragan received 3 - first place, 4- second place; 3 - third place, 4- fourth place, 2 - fifth place, and 1- sixth place. He also received two Reserve Grand Champions. Elisabeth Ragan received 5-first place, 3-second place, 4-third place, 2-fourth place, 1-fifth place, and 2-sixth place. Amanda Dyal received 1-second place, 1-third place, 2-fourth place and 1-sixth place. And Chelsea Dyal received 1-first place, 2-fourth place, and 2-fifth place awards. Congratulations to all.
Upcoming Events

December 5  Leader and County Council Meeting, 6pm, Extension Office
December 6  Anglers Fishing Club Meeting, 5:30pm, Turner Exhibit Hall
            Rooters Swine Club Meeting, 7pm, Turner Exhibit Hall
December 8  Home Class Club Meeting, 10am
            Holiday Party, 6-8pm, Turner Exhibit Hall
December 9  Office Closed 12-5pm
December 10 Beef Prospect Show, 8am, Turner Center Barns
December 12 Beef Club Meeting, 7pm, Turner Exhibit Hall
December 13 Scrapbook Club Meeting, 4:30pm, Extension Office
            Beaks and Bills Poultry Club Meeting, 7pm, Extension Office
December 19 Rabbit Club Meeting, 6:00pm, Fairgrounds
December 20-Jan 2 4-H Office Closed

Happy Holidays