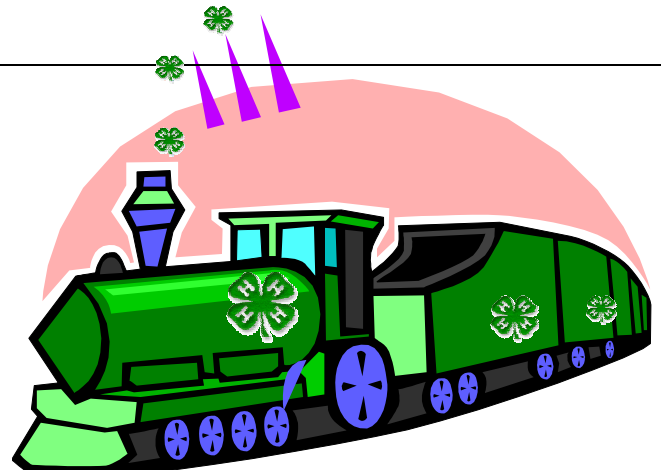


The Green Express

2150 NE Roan Street, Arcadia, FL 34266
FEBRUARY / MARCH 2008



LEADER/VOLUNTEER/PARENT MEETING

The next leader, volunteer, and parent meeting will be held on **MONDAY, MARCH 3rd, 2008**. This meeting will be held at **6:30 PM** at the **County Extension Office**. These meetings are to inform everyone about 4-H happenings on a club, county, and state level. It also gives all 4-H adults a chance to voice their thoughts and concerns.

The January Meeting consisted of planning the fair concession fundraiser, discussing our 4-H general accounts, showing off our new jackets, and talking about the upcoming ranch rodeo. It was a very good meeting with a lot of participation from leaders. Parents please remember that these meetings are open to you and our 4-H organization would love to hear your thoughts and opinions.

COUNTY COUNCIL

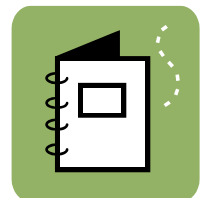
County Council is a group of representatives from each club that state their opinions on where they think our county 4-H program should be headed. They are also responsible for bringing the county level information that we discuss back to the clubs, receive club input, and tell youth thoughts to our leaders. It is a great way to take part in a leadership role and see how the youth ideas come to life.

At the last meeting we discussed the fair events, county events, district events, congress, and our upcoming ranch rodeo benefit. The goal is for our county council members to bring back the message that just because fair is over, 4-H has not stopped.

Our next meeting will be held on **MONDAY, MARCH 3rd, 2008** at 5:30 PM. I look forward to seeing a large turn out again.

4-H AWARDS AND RECORD BOOKS

As the end of the year winds down, it's time to finish what we started. In other words, let's get those record books completed, turned in, and get awarded for your hard work. All record books should be turned in with a completed participation summary level book, which can be obtained through the 4-H office. In addition, from award record book recognition, there are several other award applications that can be applied for. These award applications include Leadership, Citizenship, and Member Performance Standards. **ALL award applications and record books can be picked up at the County Extension Office and are due back by Friday, April 11th at 5:00pm.**



DESOTO COUNTY 4-H KING AND QUEEN



DeSoto County held their first 4-H King and Queen Contest. Un-like most pageants', this contest did not emphasize one's beauty or good looks. In fact, it highlighted one's ability to market the 4-H organization while representing their club and themselves. To do this, each club voted one boy and one girl to represent their club. Then the club representatives put out "change jars" at various locations through out the county, and the female and male who raised the most money won the crown of King and Queen. This year's, 2008 King and Queen is Austin Patton and Lindsey Olive. We are very happy for the job they have done representing the DeSoto County 4-H. This fundraiser earned \$1035.00 which will go towards the \$10,000.00 goal for the 4-H operating expense account. In addition, thank you to all the club contestants (Marissa Reed and Joseph Pelham, Lindsey Olive and Sully Crawford, Emma Deloach and Austin Patton, Gary Brown Jr. and Alexis Stinson, Joshua Longenecker and Cheyenne Orcult, William Crites and Haley Thompson, Jonathan Robinson and Emily Dyal, Heather Thompson, Kelli Jo Allen and Dustin McCorquodale) and their parents for working hard and making this fundraiser a huge success.

FAIR NEWS

THANK YOU TO ALL THE MEMBERS, LEADERS, AND PARENTS FOR HELPING THE 4-H SHINE AT THE DESOTO COUNTY FAIR!!!!

This year's Exhibit Booth was decorated by a small group of members, parents, leaders, and UF Extension staff. The DeSoto County fair opted to allow this years' booth exhibitors to use their imagination and have their own theme. DeSoto County decided to keep close to their 4-H roots and used the state motto "DeSoto County – Making The Best Better"!! The booth was decorated with 4-H exhibits and numerous pictures of all our youth individuals taking an active part in 4-H. The booth was heavily complimented by members of our community.

The 4-H concession stand also did well this year. The stand was open for nine days due to the wonderful leaders, parents, members, and volunteers. In addition, DeSoto County 4-H is also very thankful to everyone who baked cakes for the strawberry shortcake. We do realize that it has been a very hard year on everyone and your donated time and baked goods mean a great deal. Also, thank you to Tonya Daymon, for her donation of time and supplying home-made sweet tea everyday while the fair concession was operating.

A special thought of appreciation goes out to Niki Emery for her help in exhibiting the 2007-2008

4-H scholarship steer. Niki placed second in her class and 1st in showmanship. Mosaic Phosphates Company purchased the 4-H steer. Not to mention, we are continually grateful to Mosaic for their generosity and support.

DeSoto County 4-H is also very proud of the youth that took the time to create and place exhibits in our Exhibit Booth!!



2008 FAIR WINNERS

DeSoto County 4-H would also like to congratulate all the 2008 County Fair Winners:

Steer Exhibitors

Grand Champion: Paige Hamrick
Reserve Champion: Cory Fussell

Grooming Exhibitors

SR. DIVISION

1ST – Cory Fussell
2ND – Justin Fussell
3RD – Wyatt Paul

JR. DIVISION

1ST – Mara Holton
2ND – Krista Court
3RD – Baylee Paul

Showmanship Exhibitors

1st – Niki Emery
2nd – Paige Hamrick
3rd – Wyatt Paul

JR. DIVISION

1ST – Krista Court
2ND – Bailey Lyons
3RD – Baylee Paul

Goats

Showmanship

Clover Bud 1st - Emma Heitman
Clover Bud 2nd - Luke Fields

Inter. Div. -3rd -Alan Michael Floyd

Meat Goat Sr. Doe Grand Champion - Alan Michael Floyd

Dairy Goats – Jr. Division Reserve Champion - Alan Michael Floyd

4-H Goat Club Show Participants (Luke Fields, Alan Michael Floyd, Emma Heitman, Miranda Krebs, Clinton Keen, Emma Cardinal, Michael Daniels)

Hog Exhibitors

Grand Champion: Caleb Kilgo
Reserve Champion: Taylor Day

Showmanship Exhibitors

SR. DIVISION

1ST – Josh Bachert
2ND –Brittany Ritenburg
3RD –Caleb Kilgo

JR. DIVISION

1ST – Bryan Sands
2ND –Trenton Olive
3RD –Katlyn Johns

Heifer Exhibitors

Grand Champion: Mara Holton
Reserve Champion: Justin Fussell

Showmanship Exhibitors

SR. DIVISION

1st – Niki Emery

JR. DIVISION

1st – Mara Holton

Poultry

Open Grand: Gavin Sullivan
Open Reserve: William Beswick

Youth Exhibitors

Bantam Grand: Lauren Hatcher
Bantam Reserve: Ricky Hatcher
Large Fowl Grand: Makayla Kinard
Large Fowl Reserve: Nathan Crites
Duck Grand: Gregory Pfeil

Showmanship Exhibitors

Pee Wee: 1st William Beswick
2nd Luke Hatcher
3rd Gavin Sullivan

Junior: 1st Emily Hatcher

2nd Jacob Langfang
3rd Lauren Hatcher

Senior: 1st Makayla Kinard
2nd Megan Kinard
3rd Zachary Knight

Rabbits

Grand Champion Halley Allen
Reserve Champion Halley Allen
3rd – Dustin McCorquodale

COUNTY EVENTS

It is time once again to develop a talk on that subject that you just love to discuss. County Events is your opportunity to share with everyone your knowledge about a subject you love. County Events will be held at the University of Florida / IFAS DeSoto County Extension Office, on March 27th. The program will begin with registration at 5:30 pm and the opening ceremonies will begin at 6:00 pm. County Events is also host to the 2008 Share-the-Fun Talent Event and Fashion Review. This is a great opportunity for the DeSoto County 4-H members to show off their talents. All first place winners, in each section, will move on to district events. Registration forms for both demonstrations and Share-the-Fun Acts are due in the 4-H office by March 14, 2008. Stop by the county extension office to pick up your forms. There will be **NO** county event workshop this year due to lack of attendance from the previous years; however, if you have any questions PLEASE call or come by the Extension Office and see Miss Christi or Ms. Cherie (863)993-4846



DISTRICT EVENTS

This year DeSoto County will be hosting district events. District Events is where all the counties from District X, send their first place county event winners to compete against each other. The senior division winners (ages 14 to 18) move on to congress.

As a hosting county, we would like to make everyone's memories of this event to be as pleasurable as possible. To do this our county 4-H organization will need volunteers to help things run smoothly. Positions that need to be filled include time keepers, score tabulators, runners, ect. District events will be held Saturday, May 3rd, 2008. If you are interested in becoming part of this team effort please call the Extension Office.

TROPICANA / 4-H PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

The 4-H Tropicana Public Speaking Contest is right around the corner and this is a great opportunity for the younger kids to discover what a speech contest is all about. This contest helps children in the 4th, 5th, and 6th grade, learn how to research a topic, organize materials, acquire the ability to speak convincingly in public, express ideas effectively, and develop confidence and poise. This years Tropicana event will be held in April on dates TBA. If you're interested or have any questions please call the 4-H Extension Office, (863)993-4846.



AG IN THE CLASSROOM

Ag In The Classroom will be held on April 8, 2008 at DeSoto Middle School. This event is held to exhibit the role agricultural plays in our everyday society to our 6th grade youth. Miss Christi will be sharing a multitude of information pertaining to 4-H and agriculture. In addition, she is looking for 13 4-Hers to help make this event a success. If you are interested please call the DeSoto County Extension Office.



DESOTO COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S RANCH RODEO

The Florida Cattlemen's Association has decided to create a Cattlemen's Ranch Rodeo Circuit. With that being stated Arcadia rodeo association and DeSoto County Cattlemen's has stepped up to the plate and decided to host one of these circuit events in our county. In addition, they will be working with our 4-H to make this a benefit for our county organization. This is going to be a large fundraiser and numerous volunteers will be needed. The date for this event to take place is, April 18th and 19th at 7:00pm. As of now, there are team slots still available and sponsorships needed. If you are interested in helping with this event please contact Miss Christi at the 4-H office, 863-993-4846.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

There are numerous 4-H scholarships available to high school seniors through various organizations. A list of these scholarships can be located on the state 4-H website, www.4h.ifas.ufl.edu, under the category of events. DeSoto County 4-H also offers two separate scholarships to active 4-H seniors members. The Susie Brewer Scholarship is available to a 4-H member, who meets the requirements, to attend an accredited college to further their education. The Mary Rutter Scholarship is available to a 4-H member who is in financial need to attend a technical school to further their education. The Susie Brewer Scholarship and Mary Rutter Scholarship applications are due, completed, to the 4-H Office no later than Monday, April 7, 2008. No scholarships applications will be accepted after the due date. If you would like more information contact the 4-H Office, 993-4846.



SHENNA WORDELL

Shenna Wordell has been nominated by DeSoto Middle School to participate in the Jr. National Young Leaders Conference. J.N.Y.L.C. is designed to help scholars develop and sharpen their leadership skills by examining the leaders of the past and empowering them to make a positive social impact in their community and the world. In addition, this conference is geared toward looking at leadership through a practical, everyday lens. JNYLC incorporates a detailed examination of eight leadership traits and focuses on leaders in American history and social advocacy. Distinctive site experiences, hands-on exercises and workshops bring these concepts to life, while students work together to develop action plans that affect change within their home and communities. DeSoto County 4-H is very proud of Shenna for receiving this nomination. Moreover, it has been stated that Shenna will need financial help to be able to experience this educational conference. If you would like to help, please contact the 4-H office.



INTERESTED IN SCRAPBOOKING

ATTENTION ALL 4-H MEMBERS; do you have any pictures from fair exhibits or club meetings? At our next scrapbook club meeting we will be demonstrating how to make a clover, which can be used in creating a 4-H St. Patrick's Day design. Also, we will be creating a woven heart that can be used when designing a keep sake Paige for you favorite Valentines Day card or picture. Our next meeting is on February 25, 2008 at 5:30PM – please come and join us.



A banner for the 4-H Calendar. On the left is the 4-H logo, a green four-leaf clover with the letters 'H' on each leaf, and the text '4-H' above it. To the right of the logo, the word 'Calendar' is written in large, stylized letters. The 'C' is green, and the other letters are blue. The background of the banner is a grid of blue and green squares.

FEBRUARY

- 14 Anglers Fishing Club, 4:00 PM, County Extension Office
- 16 *Cancelled* - Just Kidding Goat Club
- 19 Beaks and Bills Poultry Club, 6:00 PM, County Extension Office
- 25 Scrapbooking - 5:30pm – County Extension Office
- 25 Jr. Cattlemen’s Club - 6:00PM - County Extension Office
- 26 A Stitch In Time - Sewing Club - 6:00pm – County Extension Office
- 28 Anglers Fishing Club - 4:00PM - County Extension Office

March

- 03 County Council, 5:30 PM, County Extension Office
- 03 Leaders Meeting, 6:30 PM, County Extension Office
- 05 Cooking Club, 4:00 PM, Masonic Lodge
- 08 Traildusters Horse Club, 10:00 AM, Valerie Robinsons’ Residence
- 10 Desoto Rabbit Club, 6:00 PM, County Extension Office
- 13 Angler’s Fishing Club, 4:00 PM, County Extension Office
- 13 A Stitch In Time - Sewing Club, 6:00 PM, County Extension Office
- 14 Registration for County Events Due, 5:00 PM, County Extension Office
- 15 Just Kidding Goat Club, 11:00 AM, Michelle Fields House 494-2176
- 17 Scrapbooking Club, 5:30PM, County Extension Office
- 18 Beaks and Bills Poultry Club, 6:00 PM, County Extension Office
- 25 Jr. Cattlemen’s Club - 6:00 PM - County Extension Office – Last Meeting
- 27 County Events – 5:30 PM Registration, Start 6:00 PM, County Extension Office

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING CLUBS HAVE WILL NO LONGER BE MEETING FOR THE YEAR

**Rooters Swine Club
DeSoto Beef Club**

The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) is an Equal Opportunity Institution authorized to provide research, educational information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function with non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Florida, IFAS, Florida A. & M. University Cooperative Extension Program, and Boards of County Commissioners Cooperating.

DeSoto County 4-H County Events Registration Form

Individual or Team Demonstration or Share the Fun Act _____

Title of Demonstration or Act _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Date of Birth _____ Age (as of Sept 1, 2007) _____

Address _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Date of Birth _____ Age (as of Sept 1, 2007) _____

Address _____

Please check the appropriate category for your demonstration

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic & Marine En. | <input type="checkbox"/> Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Horse |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Career Exploration ,Citizenship,& Leadership | <input type="checkbox"/> Clothing** | <input type="checkbox"/> Companion Animal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Home En. | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Consumer Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leisure Arts/Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Earth Connections | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical & Electronic Science | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Media Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food Preparation | <input type="checkbox"/> Food Science & Safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Connections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forests & Other Terrestrial Environments | <input type="checkbox"/> Foods & Nutrition | <input type="checkbox"/> Waste Managements |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veterinary Science | <input type="checkbox"/> General Animal Science | <input type="checkbox"/> General Category |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Petroleum Power & Small Engines | **Clothing - record book must be submitted with Fashion Revue | |

AREAS OTHER THAN DEMONSTRATIONS/ILLUSTRATED TALKS (CHECK ONLY ONE AREA)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Automotive Driving | <input type="checkbox"/> Fashion Revue | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Speaking Contest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Horse Public Speaking | <input type="checkbox"/> Share-the-Fun | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo Exhibition |

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR CLUB LEADER,
CHRISTI PRYOR OR CHERIE HOLLINGSWORTH AT 993-4846.

Deadline: Thursday, March 14 2008