



Cloverleaf

APRIL 2008



Then and Now... Learning leadership, citizenship and life skills since 1902.

April 2008 In This Issue

Area E Riders

In order to register for Area E, riders must show significant progress on their project books and give their demonstrations. See page 2.

Volunteers Needed

The Pinellas County 4-H Horse Program needs volunteers for their upcoming horse show. See page 2

Leaders: Liven up Meetings

Learn how to liven up your meetings at the Florida 4-H Volunteer Association's Leaders Forum. See page 3

Horses for the Handicapped

The horses for the handicapped barn is complete and ready for business. See page 4

Dog Show Winners

4-H'ers took home 1st place ribbons after showing their dogs at the State Fair. See page 4

4-H Family

Read installment 2 of 6 about the Curious family's journey to better sustainability. See page 6



What's New

Blue Bell Makes a New Flavor to Honor 4-H

Blue Bell has created a new ice cream in honor of 4-H youth development programming. It's available in stores now. Story on page 2.

Many Winners from Public Speaking Competition

Our 4-H members had many winners from a county-wide public speaking contest this past January. Story on page 3.



Upcoming Events

April 12

Pinellas County 4-H Dog Show
Dog Training Club of St. Petersburg

April 25-27

Area E Horse Show
Florida State Fairgrounds, Tampa

April 19

4-H Day & Consumer Choices
Central Florida Fair, Orlando

May 3

District Events
Polk County

4-H Calendar on page 7

Hot Topics



Blue Bell Makes New Flavor

4-H inspired the third best-selling ice cream company in the United States, Blue Bell Creameries, to introduce their newest flavor, *Centennial Cupcake*, in honor of more than 100 years of 4-H youth development programming.



FROM LEFT: Jade rides trail; Page leads horse to ring; Olivia prepares to show English

Attention All Area E Riders

Have you been working on your project book? Did you do your demonstration for your club? NO!?! Better get to it. Those riders without significant progress on their project book and who haven't given their demonstration will not be allowed to register for Area E.

When the registration paperwork is available it will be announced by e-mail. To make sure we have your correct e-mail address, call Margaret at 582-2263 or e-mail her at mdeller@pinellascounty.org.

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Featuring a delicious cake batter ice cream with pieces of yellow cake, a chocolate icing swirl and four-leaf clover sprinkles, the Centennial Cupcake half gallon is now on shelves in stores where Blue Bell products are sold. To sweeten the deal, Blue Bell is donating a portion of the sales to promote 4-H educational programs.

"4-H benefits so many young people with its youth development programs," said Paul Kruse, Blue Bell CEO and president. "This is just a *small token* of our appreciation. 4-H has been around for over 100 years. Blue Bell just finished celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2007, so we understand how special it is to reach the century mark."

Blue Bell has also created a unique



Horse Show Needs Your Help

The Pinellas County 4-H Horse Program is hosting a horse show on March 30th and *we need your help!* We need people to open the gates, take registrations, work at the concession stand, run score sheets from the judges to scoring table, and more.

If you like horses and have at least 2 hours to spend helping out, e-mail luckysmypony@hotmail.com. Please put horseshow volunteer in the subject line of your e-mail. The show will be at Lakeview Stables (7585 78th Ave. N., Pinellas Park). Registration begins at 8:15 a.m. and the show starts at 9:00 a.m.

carton for Centennial Cupcake Ice Cream. It features four children in 4-H T-shirts and the youth development program's widely recognized four-leaf clover emblem. "We worked with 4-H to create a package that symbolizes what they are all about," Kruse said. "The organization is for the kids. I think the *smiling faces* capture the spirit of 4-H just perfectly."

Look for information on how Pinellas County will celebrate Florida's 4-H centennial in 2009. Do you want to be part of the celebration? Do you have a favorite 4-H memory? Share your stories with us soon! Visit www.pinellascountyextension.org and click on 4-H Youth Development for more information.



District Congress Location Announced!

Attention all junior and intermediate 4-H'ers! District Congress will take place in Sarasota County on May 17. This day-long event is full of fun workshops and led by senior 4-H'ers from your district. Workshops last year included making marshmallow guns, improv, *make-it take-it foods*, and science experiments. The highlight was a *mock legislature* led by our own Chris Coburn.

This year's workshops and exact location will be announced by e-mail so keep checking that in-box.

What are you doing June 16th?

Traveling to the Ocala National Forest for a week of fun and adventure at 4-H Camp Ocala, of course. Camp Ocala is a modern camping and environmental center located on Sellers Lake in Ocala. The cost for camp will be \$180. There are a limited number of scholarships available.

Campers at Camp Ocala enjoy all the usual camp activities: canoeing, swimming, hiking, crafts, and much more. At 4-H Camp you will be able to select a workshop that you will attend each day. In the past, these workshops have included knot tying, outdoor cooking, shooting sports, and rocketry.

Once again, we are encouraging everyone to bring a non-4-H

buddy to camp. Your buddy will have to enroll in 4-H and the 4-H registration fee will apply. To find out more about Camp Ocala, visit the state website at <http://florida4h.org/camps/ocala.shtml>.

Camp packets will be available May 3 at District Events in Polk County. Packets will also be available at the 4-H office.

Check www.pinellascountyextension.org and click on 4-H Youth Development for updates about Pinellas County 4-H, including the county class list.

FROM TOP:

Amanda and Elinor make a new friend; Angel and her canoe; Camp Counselors Katy and Rachel



4-H Tropicana Public Speaking Contest Winners

During the fall, close to 2,000 students in 86 classrooms around Pinellas County learned how to prepare a speech. The speeches had to be from 2 to 3 minutes on a subject of their choosing. Each classroom sent their first place winner to a school-wide contest where the school's winner was chosen and sent to the January finals.

On January 15, middle school students competed at the Gulf Coast Museum of Art. The winners were Logan Weyand (Wellington School), Alexis Merrill (Safety Harbor Montessori), Maya Jacobson (Pinellas County Jewish Day School) and Alyssa

Coburn (member of the Ambassadors 4-H Club, home-schooled).

On January 28, elementary students competed at the Pinellas County Extension Office. The winners were Jackson Willis (Shorecrest Preparatory School), Emma Spilman (St. Cecelia's), Brian Sackett (the King's English 4-H Club, home-schooled), and Rhett Linton (First Christian Academy of Tarpon Springs).

Our congratulations go to all of the winners. We hope that this life skill will help them wherever they go in life.

You can view the Tropicana Speech Finals video on the 4-H website at www.pinellascountyextension.org and click on 4-H Youth Development.

Leaders: Learn How to Liven Up Your Club meetings

A great way to learn to liven up your meetings is to attend the Florida 4-H Volunteer Association's Leaders Forum, June 20th – 22nd. You can *learn new ways* to make your club meeting more exciting.

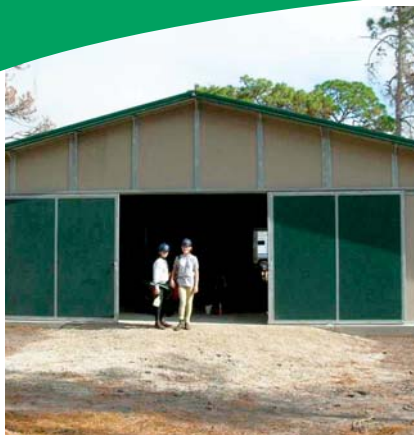
Meet some other leaders from around the state that have youth working on the same projects as yours. *Get involved* in 4-H leadership on the state level.

Please visit the state website at http://florida4h.org/events/state_volunteer_forum.shtml to get registration materials.

4-H Photo Corner

Would your club like to share a completed activity with others? Do you have digital photos of the event? E-mail them to mdeller@pinellascounty.org and we will post them on the County's 4-H website. After Night of the Arts (February 22nd) and Demonstration Day (March 15th) check www.pinellascountyextension.org and click on 4-H Youth Development for a photo gallery from those events.

4-H Clubs



Horses for the Handicapped Barn Completed

After four long years, the Horses for the Handicapped barn is finally complete, *horses and all*. The barn is the new home for the Horses for the Handicapped program. Snakey (Mary Urquhart) is the leader of Seminole Riders 4-H Club. She and her club members have worked with Kiwanis for many years to provide this opportunity to handicapped youth.

The handicapped youth learn coordination, balance, and confidence while on the horses. They also have a lot of fun. The barn is located at 9610 125th Street in Seminole. The program is open on Saturday mornings during the school year. Snakey is always looking for volunteers, so stop by one Saturday morning and see what it's all about.



Ochs Garden Growing a Writer

4-H'er Whitney James of the Ochs Garden 4-H Club entered the National P.T.A. Art Contest, Reflections. The theme this year was "I make a difference by..." Whitney decided to enter the literature contest and write about her 4-H garden. She won 1st place for the primary grades contest at her school. Read her essay below.

Whitney's essay talked about *sustainability practices*, everyday actions that produce a healthier world for everyone.

For information on how you can become sustainable, visit http://pinellas.ifas.ufl.edu/sustainability/sustain_living.shtml.

Congratulations, Whitney!

My 4-H Garden by Whitney James

"Mom! Mom! Look how much the tomatoes have grown this week! I bet they will be so tasty and healthy, too." When I watched the tomatoes growing this season, I knew my garden would make a difference to my body, to my family, and to my environment.

The first way my garden makes a difference is by helping my body grow strong and healthy. I grow healthy and strong by eating fresh veggies like pole beans, cucumbers, tomatoes, and onions. My homegrown garden also has no chemicals that might make me sick.

The second way my garden makes a difference is by helping my family. My garden lets us spend time together. When we are weeding, watering, harvesting, and making scarecrows, I'm as happy as a mouse that's just earned a huge bowl of cheese. We also find recipes

together. We cook and share with other members of the family, like my grandparents.

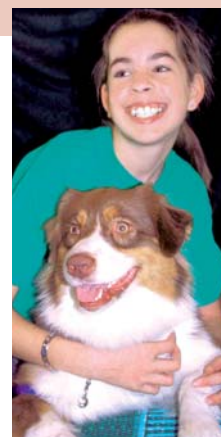
The last way my garden and I make a difference is by helping the environment. My garden keeps the environment clean by using compost, natural pest control, and rain barrels. And, we do not have to go to the grocery store, which saves us gas.

So if you want to have a fresh salad and make a difference for the environment, your family, and your body, make sure you grow a garden.

Congratulations to 4-H Dog Clubs!

Crazy 4 Canines and Muttley Canine Crew, our two Pinellas County 4-H dog clubs, had a *great weekend* at the State Fair. Their combined points in the 4-H dog show were enough to place second for the high point trophy. Also, the Crazy 4 Canines club is organizing the 1st Pinellas County 4-H Dog Show. The show will be held April 12th at the Dog Training Club of St. Petersburg, 4400 34th St. N., Unit B, St. Petersburg. If you love dogs, you can come and watch or even be a volunteer.

FROM LEFT: Penny (Australian Shepherd), Carlie (Weimaraner) and Katie Kim (All American) enjoy their first Florida State Fair 4-H Dog Show; Danielle and Penny are all smiles after winning 1st place in Intermediate Basic Showmanship, 1st place in Intermediate Novice Obedience and 1st place in Intermediate Basic Rally; Katie and Kasey after winning first place in Jr. Novice Showmanship



4-H Operation Military Kids

HOOAH!

4-H Operation Military Kids (OMK), The American Legion, Florida Army National Guard and various volunteers from Pinellas and Hillsborough counties volunteered at the Florida State Fair. There were 11 tables of various activities for visitors to take part in, including a *video of greetings* and well wishes for soldiers overseas.

We are starting a 4-H OMK Teen Club

Some of the future activities include:

- Working with the numerous military units that are deploying within the next two years
- Enhancing the OMK program through brainstorming and discussions at Advisory Meetings
- SOMK (Speak Out for Military Kids): activities that educate and train military and non-military on the *effects of deployment*
- RSG (Ready, Set, Go): activities to increase citizens' understanding and awareness of the issues facing military youth and assist in the creation of state and local OMK support networks



By joining you will:

- Earn community service hours
- Learn to develop creative and informative presentations using a variety of different media
- Gain leadership, research, organization, and public speaking skills
- Help children of deployed soldiers

For more information, e-mail Jennifer at jsmith@pinellascounty.org or call her at (727) 582-2469.

Help a Hero

Donate your old cell phones to 4-H Operation Military Kids Cell Phone Recycling Center. Drop them off at the Pinellas County Extension office at 12520 Ulmerton Rd., Largo, Attn: Jennifer w/Operation Military Kids. The *phones will be donated* to local soldiers preparing to deploy.



FROM TOP:
Soldiers from Pinellas County's 53rd Infantry Brigade of the Army National Guard. Children got a chance to answer military questions for prizes and to be tested on their physical ability compared to that of a US Soldier.
Children from the MacDill 4-H youth program making Valentine Cards for our troops overseas.

4-H Teens



4-H youth volunteers Eric and Matt.

4-H is Looking for Teens!

Volunteering as a young person has *proven to be beneficial* in a variety of ways. Not only does it build valuable work skills, it provides leadership opportunities and is a great way to meet new friends. (Find other benefits at <http://www.yscal.org/index.html>).

4-H has many ways to get involved beyond your club. Be part of the

Tech Team, the Healthy Living Team, or serve on one of the various boards, such as 4-H Foundation, Community Grants Board, or 4-H Advisory.

Log onto www.pinellascountyextension.org and click on 4-H Youth Development, for more details on any of the opportunities. Grab a friend and get involved, make a difference!

4-H Families



4-H FAMILY
builds strong families
and strong communities

Installment 2 of 6

There Must Be More to Being Green: The Curious Family's Journey

Shirley jumped up from the floor, where she was thumbing through her 4-H Exploring your Environment project book, as her brother shouted. "Check out at all these links about sustainability and being green," Andes said to his sister. Looking over his shoulder, she exclaimed, "Oh my, you're right. Which one do we choose? How about that one," she said pointing to 'Sustainability – Wikipedia' on the computer monitor. "All my friends use Wikipedia when they're looking for information." Remembering what his 4-H group leader said about Wikipedia, Andes smiled at his sister and said, "We could get some information from Wikipedia, it's a good place to start, but let me show you something." He clicked on the link and scrolled down to 'About Wikipedia' and read, "With rare exceptions, articles can be edited by anyone with access to the Internet, simply by clicking the edit this page link. Anyone is welcome to add information, cross-references or citations..." that means that sometimes this information may not be completely reliable." "Oh, I didn't know that," said Shirley. "Let's continue our search but let's make sure that the sites list the references and sources they used to gather the information. I do know that for

school research, websites that end in .edu for education or .gov for government are reliable."

Feeling proud that he was able to share this information with his sister, Andes said, "Getting back to our search about sustainability, I think we should look for a definition of sustainability." Shirley agreed. After looking at a ton of different websites, the two Curious kids were about to give up. Every site they visited said being sustainable and green is really only about plants, water, energy and all the other things that make up the environment they live in. But with just one more click of the mouse, the Curious kids opened a whole new world of sustainability.

"Mom, Dad! Mom, Dad!" Andes and Shirley yelled out as they ran to the family room where their parents were sitting. "Oh my goodness, children, must we yell? Your Dad and I are not hard of hearing."

"Sorry," both children replied in unison. "But we found some interesting information online about being sustainable and it's not about the environment. Here's my jump drive so you can load it onto your laptop, Dad" said Andes. Once the information displayed on the screen, Ben read aloud, "Social Sustainability - The Soft Infrastructure of a

Healthy Community, by Trevor Hancock." "Look at the highlighted part," said Shirley. "A community is much, much more than its physical form. A community is composed of people as well as the places where they live; it is as much a social environment as a physical environment. Thus, communities must not only be environmentally sustainable, they must also be socially sustainable." Ben Curious turned to his kids and gave each a high five, "Great job, kids! Now we have a starting point. The next question is, 'what is social sustainability?'" "We thought you and Mom would be excited about what we found," said Andes, "but Shirley and I don't understand all the words and exactly what it means. "You're absolutely right, we are so proud of all your hard work. I guess we've got some work to do, too," said their mother, Bea.

Don't miss the next issue of the Cloverleaf to see what the Curious Family learns about social sustainability and what they do with the information. If you missed the first installment of the Curious Family's Journey, you can read it in the January/February Cloverleaf issue online at www.pinellascountyextension.org and click on 4-H Youth Development.

4-H Club Reports



If you enjoy writing, talking about current events and earning ribbons during achievement week, then we want to hear from YOU! Club reports are due into the 4-H office the first week of every month (please refer to your 4-H monthly calendar).

BBB's

On Monday, February 4, 2008, the new 4-H Club called The Ballroom Bicycle Brigade (BBB) met at their leader's house to organize the group. Gina Hunter is the leader, and Roberta Moore is her assistant. There was an election of officers with the following results:

President: Victoria J. Yore; **Vice-President:** Adison Julian;
Secretary: John Row; **Treasurer:** Heather Moore;
Reporter: Aleyah Webb, assisted by Vanessa M. Yore;
Historian: Lindsay Nobles, assisted by John Francis and Noah Banker

The parents filled out the necessary 4-H forms so their children could be a part of the BBB. Ms. Hunter explained about the project books, and everyone tried to decide on what project they wanted to do. 'Night of the Arts' was announced and many of the BBB's were excited about it. After the meeting was over, some of the BBB's practiced their Charleston, lead by Heather. Vanessa and Adison assisted teaching the parents, too!

Sincerely,
Vanessa M. Yore

4-H Calendar

March 17

Consumer Choices Workshop
Pinellas County Extension
6:30-8:30 p.m.

March 20

Community Service Grants Board Meeting
6:30-8:30 p.m.

March 24

Consumer Choices Workshop
Pinellas County Extension
6:30-8:30 p.m.

March 31

Consumer Choices Workshop
Pinellas County Extension
6:30-8:30 p.m.

April 4

Cloverleaf News Due

April 7

Consumer Choices Workshop
Pinellas County Extension
6:30-8:30 p.m.

April 12

Pinellas County 4-H Dog Show
Dog Training Club of St. Petersburg

April 12

Forest Ecology
Austin Cary Forest

April 14

Consumer Choices Workshop
Pinellas County Extension
6:30-8:30 p.m.

April 17 – 27

96th Annual Central Florida Fair
Orlando, FL.

April 19

4-H Day & Consumer Choices
Central Florida Fair, Orlando

April 25-27

Area E Horse Show
Florida State Fairgrounds, Tampa

May 3

District Events
Polk County

May 5

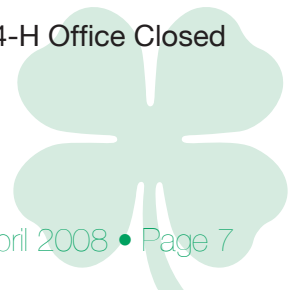
Cloverleaf News Due

May 6

4-H Advisory
Pinellas County Extension
6:30-8:00 p.m.

May 26

Memorial Day/4-H Office Closed





The 4-H mission is to empower youth to reach their fullest potential working and learning in partnership with adults.

Making the Best Better!

Janet Golden
4-H Youth Development Program Leader

Jean Rogalsky
4-H Youth Development Agent

Elizabeth Tobias
4-H Youth Development Agent



There's always something fun to do in Pinellas County for families and youth! For a current listing of classes, workshops, and events, visit:

www.pinellascounty.org/events
or tune your television to **PCC-TV**
(Brighthouse 622 - Knology 18 - Verizon 44)

Cloverleaf

Check out our new look

The Cloverleaf Newsletter has gotten a completely new look. Soon we will be going to a completely digital format to help do our part in the Sustainability effort. For more information visit www.pinellascountyextension.org and click on 4-H Youth Development.

Pinellas County complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. To obtain accessible formats of this document, please contact the Communications Department at (727) 464-4600/TDD (727) 464-4431.

This newsletter was produced in cooperation with the Pinellas County Communications Department.
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4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.

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