



THE CLOVER TIMES



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



If you ever have any questions, please feel free to contact us. We are here to help!

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Gearing up for the Government Club!

One of the signature events for the Florida 4-H program is 4-H Legislature. 4-H Legislature (LEG) will begin its 34th session in Tallahassee on Monday, June 26th in the actual capitol buildings. It is open to 4-H members that are age 14 (as of September 1, 2005) and older.

Last year, 15 members attended the week long event, and had a blast doing it. Some of our members were lobbyists, others Representatives, and some even Senators. Most first year participants get to serve as a lobbyist. There are 10 different lobby groups that you can be a part of, ranging from the Florida Business Association or the Florida Parents for Education or even the Florida Sports Council. Each lobbyist group will get a list of bills that they support and are against, and then get to persuade the Senators and Representatives to vote for their issue.

The Representatives and Senators, actually get to sit in the actual chairs of our local politicians, and press the buttons to vote on certain issues. Each Senator and Representative host office hours during certain times and listen to the lobbyists to make informed decisions to vote on the bills. The Representatives and Senators serve on committees and get to hold committee hearings. At the committee hearing, lobbyists present their case, and the committee then decides if it will become a bill that will be voted on.

Miami-Dade had a great delegation last year, and we are looking for more to join this dynamic group. If you are interested in participating, there will be a meeting on Monday, February 27th from 6:15 - 7:30 at the International Mall 4-H Office. This meeting is for new and old members, and we will discuss future club activities, such as meeting with elected officials, touring local facilities and planning for LEG. If you are not able to attend the meeting or need more information, contact Jessica.

February 2006

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A Note From the Editor

We have many exciting events coming up in the next few months, so make sure to register and get involved. If you have questions, please feel free to contact us!

Don't forget to send a maximum of 2 paragraphs of information for the Club News section! Send all information for the Clover Times to Jessica at jlpotter@ufl.edu by the 15th of the month.

Don't forget to check out the Clover Times online at <http://miami-dade.ifas.ufl.edu/programs/4hyouth.htm>

Sincerely,
Jessica Potter,
Clover Times Editor

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Club News

Amelia Earhart

With a new year, new beginnings come as well. The club members are on the move from working with Livestock Judging, preparing for the Fair at West Palm Beach, picking out swine for the Miami Dade County Fair and last but not least saddling up our horses for the Rodeo parade. With many things to do we also have many things to learn as well in the end.

Reported By: Aline Ciceus

Exciting Jr.'s

We were unable to go on our camping trip to the Keys but wait till you hear our exciting events. On January 2nd we went to Oleta State Park to fix our butterfly garden. We pulled out nonnative plants, laid cardboard boxes down and threw mulch on it. The Arce, Carrera, Drake, Duran, Gaura, Genehr, King, Manzueta, Oxar, and Schroeder families are very proud of their hard work. To see our garden, drive to the last parking lot in the park and walk through the dirt trail on the far left which is the southeast end of the park (opposite beach).

On January 5th we went to Virginia Key to study marine life. We searched in sea grass with nets, slurp guns and a gigantic net. We caught all kinds of marine animals such as the puffer fish, star fish, crabs, shrimp, and small fish. We studied them, took notes and returned the animals to their natural environment. Mrs. Oxar, Mrs. Arce and Mrs. Gaura did a terrific job of planning. It was truly an exciting and interesting day.

On January 13th we had an officers training party and meeting. Jessica Potter had a lot of activities lined up for us. We thank Jessica for her time and effort. We thank the Oxars for graciously offering their home and Mrs. Schroeder for organizing the event. All of the officers laughed, learned and went home knowing more about leadership and cooperation.

Kyle Duran, Reporter

Cloverbud Corner

IDEAS & ACTIVITIES

STATIONERY CREATIONS

Materials:

- Pad of white drawing paper
- Transparent Tape
- Color crayons and/or colored pencils
- Textured objects (corrugated cardboard, lace, leaves, tiled floor, etc.)

Directions for the Card:

1. For the card, fold an 8½" x 11" piece of paper in half and then in half again. Put a small dot with a pencil on the side that will be the front of the card.
2. Unfold the paper. Use a textured object to put under the marked part to decorate the front. Rub a crayon over it. Decorate as many sides and use multiple colors if you wish.

Directions for the Envelope:

1. For a matching envelope, put a dot in the middle of an 8½" square piece of paper. Fold up three corners to the dot and tape them in place. Fold the top corner so it will overlap the others.
2. Using only the top flap, make the same texture and/or colore as you did to create the card.

Now use the card for a letter or greeting, such as Valentine's Day. Put the card in the matching envelope and seal the envelope with tape or a decorative sticker.

This would also make a great project to enter into the Fair!

*Cloverbuds Activities Packet from the University of Minnesota Extension Service

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

Are you into it? 

AMERICAN YOUTH HORSE LEADER'S SYMPOSIUM

University of Florida is hosting the American Youth Horse Council's National Youth Horse Leader's Symposium this February 3rd - 5th in Gainesville. **The Florida 4-H Horse Program will pay for the registration of 4-H Agents and Volunteer Horse Leaders.** The 4-H Foundation will pay the AYHC Member price early bird registration of \$80. If the leader or agent is not a member of AYHC, he/she will be responsible for paying the difference in price (\$20). Registration must be submitted by the early bird date of 1/5/06 or the attendee is also responsible for the difference. If you would like a registration form, contact Jessica.

AREA F HORSE SHOW PROGRAM COVER & T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST

The Area F Horse Show Committee is holding a contest open to all 4-Her's that would like to design this years t-shirt and program cover. The winner will receive a free t-shirt. All entries must be hand drawn, in black and white, have a 4-H clover and horse theme. The submission deadline is February 6th. For more information, contact Jessica.

ILLUSTRATED TALKS AND DEMO TRAINING

Ever wondered about the secrets to a successful demonstration? On February 16th, from 7:00 - 8:30 at the Mall Office, Jessica will host and hands-on, interactive, and fun training. It is open to all 4-H'ers and volunteers. Please pre-register with Liz at the Mall Office by 14th.

3RD STATE 4-H EXECUTIVE BOARD

3rd Executive Board is March 17th through the 19th at Camp Ocala. It is open to members that are 13 years of age or older as of September 1, 2005. The cost to attend will be \$60.00 and you will need to provide your own transportation. There will be a dress code for the weekend, but the dance on Saturday night will be casual.

The event is on a first-come, first-serve basis, so they are limiting registrations. **The county registration date is February 24th.** This means original paperwork and check made out to Dade County 4-H Youth Foundation must be into the Mall Office by the end of the day! Visit the 3rd Exec website for more info at

http://4h.ifas.ufl.edu/for_youth/For%20Youth/State%20Council/Executive%20Board/Third%20Exec%20info.htm

For additional info, contact Jessica!

NATIONAL 4-H PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

National 4-H Council needs winning photos from your state and county fairs (2001 - 2006) to create the 2008 4-H Calendar. Thirteen photographs will be selected.

Submissions will be returned, if not selected, by late August 2006. Winning photographs will be returned after December 10, 2006. All photos and contest form need to be submitted by March 1st. Submissions do need to meet certain requirements, contact Jessica for those details.



BEEF AMBASSADOR CONTEST

Open to youth 17 to 20 years-old who want to present the nutritional and economic value, cooking principles, safe handling and versatile uses of beef to the public with the understanding of the importance of beef as an agricultural product. Cash awards, scholarships, and traveling throughout the state and possibly the nation are just a few of the rewards.

For an application, contact Jessica.

FLORIDA AGRI-WOMEN SCHOLARSHIP

The Florida Agri-Women will be awarding a \$500 scholarship to a young lady graduating from high school, a resident of Florida, and must be majoring in an agriculturally related field of study.

All applicants must include the scholarship form, a copy of their resume and academic transcripts. Applications must be mailed by April 1. Contact Jessica for the application.

FLORIDA 4-H VOLUNTEER FORUM

The Florida Volunteer Forum is April 7th starting at 7 pm and concluding at 11 am on the 9th at Camp Ocala!

On Saturday, during the Forum, an 8-hour workshop, "Community First Aid and Safety" will provide a Basic First Aid and CPR certification workshops for staff and/or volunteer participants. Take this opportunity to prepare yourself for chaperoning. There will be an additional \$35 fee to participate in the certification workshop. Space is limited.

Keep watching for more information in the March Clover Times.



FEBRUARY			
1 st	Tree Planting Grant Deadline	3 rd - 5 th	American Youth Horse Leader's Symposium
7 th	4-H Pre-Approval Date for 4-H Day	6 th	Area F Horse Show T-Shirt Contest Due
9 th	Miami-Dade Fair Registration Due	9 th - 20 th	Florida State Fair
11 th	District 13 Jr. Congress	11 th	4-H Day at the Florida State Fair
11 th	Florida State Fair Fashion Revue	11 th	Florida State Fair Horse Judging Contest
11 th	Florida State Fair Livestock Judging Contest	11 th - 12 th	Florida State Fair Dog Show
16 th	Illustrated Talks and Demo Training	20 th	Offices Closed (President's Day)
24 th	3rd Executive Board Registration Due	27 th	Government Club Meeting
27 th	County Council	28 th	Animal Science PDC
MARCH			
1 st	National 4-H Photography Contest Deadline	1 st	Beef Ambassador Applications Due
9 th , 11 th	Fair Exhibit Check-In	15 th	Fair Livestock Exhibit Check-In
16 th	Miami-Dade Fair and Expo Opens	17 th - 19 th	State Executive 3rd Board Meeting
18 th	4-H Day at the Miami-Dade Fair & Expo	25 th	State 4-H Hippology Contest
27 th	County Council Meeting	31 st	State 4-H Land Judging Contest
APRIL			
1 st	State 4-H Livestock Judging Contest	1 st	State 4-H Forest Ecology Contest
1 st	Agri-Women Scholarship Due	1 st	2006 W.H.E.P. Contest
2 nd	Miami-Dade Fair and Expo Ends	6 th	Fair Exhibit Check-out
7 th - 9 th	Florida 4-H Volunteer Forum	8 th	State Horse Judging Contest
9 th	County Events	22 nd	District Events
27 th	4-H Day at the Capitol, Tallahassee	29 th	State Meat Judging Contest
MAY			
5 th - 7 th	Area F Horse Show	29 th	Offices Closed (Memorial Day)



FAIR

The fair pre-approval date with the 4-H office for Illustrated Talks and Demonstrations, Talent Show and Fashion Show is February 7th. Applications for the Outstanding Project Study are due on February 7th to the 4-H Office. Fair Registrations are due on Thursday, February 9th.

REMINDERS

Illustrated Talk and Demo Training

The training will be on February 16th from 7:00 - 8:30. It is open to all members and volunteers who are interested in learning the secrets of public speaking. Register with Liz by February 14th.



County Council

The County Council will be meeting on February 27th from 7:30 - 8:45 pm at the Mall Office. We will be planning for the spring community service project and County Events. We are encouraging each club to send at least one representative.