



## Web Site of the Month:

## Florida's People's Budget

<http://peoplesbudget.state.fl.us/bdagencies.aspx?full=1>

Visit this site where the breakdown of agencies is listed.

## Award Deadline Extended to

**APRIL 1 ...and that's no joke!**

Be sure to apply for State and National 4-H Youth Professional Awards for your work and programs.

Awards are listed in your 'Tenure and Promotional Package'.

You may nominate yourself—everyone does! Remember only YOU are going to TOOT YOUR OWN HORN.

Be sure to watch "Toot Your Own Horn" slide show on <http://district4.ifas.ufl.edu>



## this issue

Image Awards Cancelled **P.2**

eXtension Approves 'Partnership Policy" **P.3**

4-H Online Update **P.3**

Tech Tips **P. 3**

Professional Development **P.4**

## Be at the Table and Not on the Menu!

By Georgene Bender, SC RSA

The budget black cloud hangs once again over IFAS and 4-H. Less funds are available and communities are forced to select who gets the funds. How do we compete with youth organizations with large public relation budgets and rock stars promoting them? There are long-term and short-term approaches. Often, we have selected the short term of rally the troops. This approach is effective, but over time may erode your base support. Let's look at the long-term approach that will make a difference.

As an 4-H Youth Agent in a county, part of your focus includes:

1. Make connections with key stakeholders in your community. Not sure who they are? Get the 4-H Publication "Citizenship: Public Adventures Guide's Handbook". Step 4 is about "Discovering Your Stakeholders" on page 28. This is a great exercise to learn more about your community.

What is a stakeholder? **Stakeholder's** are people who affect or will be affected by a group's work. They can be *allies, resources or obstacles*. Understanding your community is a key component of 'fitting in'.

2. Explore what other youth programs are offered in your community. Gather their data, areas they serve and resources available.

3. Find community groups that focus on youth and attend their meetings. Juvenile Justice Boards, Church Leagues, Youth Leadership Teams all exist in most communities. Many have monthly breakfast or lunch meetings with speakers and panel discussions. Make time to go to them—you will be SEEN and HEARD. Most groups have probably not heard of 4-H and this is a great opportunity to share our story.

4. Gather youth professionals together. As a youth professional, invite Scouts executives, Boys & Girls Club Directors, YMCA directors, Church youth directors to meet as a group. Discuss youth concerns, programs, ideas. You can learn a lot from each other. Together you can become a strong focus in your community advocating for youth programs..

Building your reputation as a youth professional in your community will take time, but will pay off in long-term support. It is harder to take away money from a *someone you know* that is sitting at the table. Be sure to fill your seat at your county table.

### Snippets of South Central News for You

*Brent Broaddus  
Appointed 4-H Youth Agent*

Former Regional Dairy Youth Specialist, Brent was appointed to fill the vacation state/county position in HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY effective February 9th. Brent joins Holly Jordan and Jackie Hunter along with five program assistants and a secretary. Brent is no stranger to 4-H or Hillsborough County. He has been at Hillsborough since coming to extension. He has also been active with 4-H dairy and livestock projects, the 4-H Foundation and county fair. Brent is also very tech savvy and brings his knowledge of computers and programs to our area. He has developed award winning presentations.

WELCOME TO OUR  
SC 4-H STAFF.

SC Admin District  
has all 4-H Staff  
positions filled!

*Christi Pryor of  
DeSoto County  
Welcomes "Faith" -  
her new colt*



Hello everybody,

Due to budget cuts and staff reductions, the IMAGE Awards Program *will not be held this year*. We know that everybody is working hard and we would love to celebrate your projects. However, we felt it best to bypass the program this year so that we can fully focus on serving our clients.

Remember that the **External and Media Relations Office** is here to assist you.

We can:

- help you with news releases – by formatting, proofreading and/or distributing;
- provide guidance on working with your local media;
- review and discuss strategic marketing plans;
- help you coordinate events, exhibits and displays.

Best,

*Kimberly Mansfield*  
UF/IFAS External and Media Relations  
kimmans@ufl.edu  
352-273-3564

### eXtension APPROVES PARTNERSHIP POLICY

At its March 2009 meeting, the eXtension Foundation Board of Directors enacted a partnership policy for eXtension. The policy was designed to provide guidelines and guidance to Communities of Practice as they work with sponsors, partners, and resource links.

A partner is defined as an external entity that joins Cooperative Extension in a relationship where content, expertise, endorsement, and/or affiliation is shared with eXtension. There are two types of partnerships:

\* Collaborative partnership: involves collaboration on content and requires signed eXtension Contributor Licenses (would also be a supportive partner if a collaborative partner).

\* Supportive partnership: involves a Community of Practice that wishes to make a connection to promote the linkage.

A partnership is a relationship with an entity where both eXtension and the partner benefit. Partners may share content, expertise, endorse, and/or become affiliated with an eXtension Community of Practice. They bring notable credit and support that denotes partnership and will assist eXtension to expand its content and resources. A partner may become an eXtension sponsor by following the eXtension Foundation sponsorship guidelines.

A resource link has been defined as a hyperlink to Internet resources external to the eXtension website that the Community of Practice suggests might be valuable to users. It is not an endorsement or referral.

The policy may be found at [about.extension.org/wiki/policies](http://about.extension.org/wiki/policies). For additional information regarding the partnership policy to further explain how eXtension and Communities of Practice may interact and recognize partners, please contact Betty Johnson, eXtension development officer at [betty.johnson@extension.org](mailto:betty.johnson@extension.org).



## mindBender Moment

By: Georgene Bender, SC RSA

### Brain Awareness Week is March 16—20

[www.dana.org/brainweek](http://www.dana.org/brainweek)

Your brain is an equal opportunity organ—we all are born with the same number of neurons. The difference is how we build connections in our brain through “synapses”. Repetition is the brain’s friend. Practice—practice—practice aids in building the connections in the brain. You may also have heard the phrase “Use it or lose it” - there is some truth to that. You see, the brain “prunes itself” of connecting branches not used. Yes, just like pruning tree branches! Keeping your brain alert and active is vital for its function.

- Your brain is the size of a grapefruit and weighs about 3 lbs
- Brain is 70% water
- At any time 20% of your blood is flowing through your brain.
- Neurons send information in your brain at a rate of 150 mph
- Exercise increases blood flow to the brain
- Deep breathing increases oxygen to the brain
- Crossword puzzles, word searches all exercise the brain to keep it alert

## This Month’s Q&A Technology Tips from *Germaine Pointer, RSA*

TERM	MEANING
<b>LMS – Learning Management System</b>  <b>i.e (Intellum, Learn.com, Flex-Training, Scholar360)</b>	is software for delivering, tracking and managing training; is a software system that delivers courseware plus e-tutoring over the Internet
<b>CMS – Course Management Software</b>  <b>i.e. (Moodle, Angel, Blackboard, WebCT)</b>	provides an instructor with a set of tools and a framework that allows the relatively easy creation of online course content and the subsequent teaching and management of that course including various interactions with students taking the course
<b>Multi-Media</b>  <b>i.e. (Adobe Creative Suite, Dazzler, Ezedia-Win/Mac)</b>	includes a combination of text, audio, still images, animation, video, and interactivity content forms
<b>VLE - Virtual Learning Environments</b>  <b>i.e. (Omibus Learning)</b>	a software system designed to support teaching and learning in an educational setting, works on the internet tracks students, provides assessments, questionnaires etc.
<b>Collaborative Tools</b>  <b>i.e. (SharePoint, Hyperoffice, Google Groups)</b>	software designed to help people working on a common task to achieve their goals by file sharing, white boarding etc.
<b>e-Learning or eLearning</b>	where the medium of instruction is computer technology: it is defined as a planned teaching/learning experience that uses a wide spectrum of technologies, mainly Internet or computer-based, to reach learners. Lately in most Universities, e-learning is used to define a specific mode to attend a course or programs of study where the students rarely, if ever, attend face-to-face for on-campus access to educational facilities, because they study online

## 4-H ONLINE

### Updates

March Monthly 4H-Online Topic Discussion sessions:

“How to Enter Group Enrollment”

March 18, 2009

Hosts: Nancy Johnson, Bill Heltemes and the other 4-H RSAs will participate with anyone who wants to join us.

Session 1 using Polycom or phone dial in at 11-12 Eastern time.

Session 2 using Elluminate at 2-3pm Eastern time.

For more information, contact Nancy Johnson at [johnsonn@ufl.edu](mailto:johnsonn@ufl.edu).

### Elluminate 4h online Forum

You will need :

- Internet access to [www.illuminate.com](http://www.illuminate.com)
- Headset with microphone
- You can also be phone conference in—advance notice is needed

<http://tinyurl.com/3z7c8g>

### 4-H Connect Meeting

Type in your first name and County for your username  
**(RSA Moderators use actual Elluminate login & pwd)**

Meeting password: 4-H

### Polycom 4h online Forum

You will need:

- Polycom
- [Register the Friday before the session.](#)
- You can also call in  
**DUE DATES**

**March 31: Club Data**

**June 1: School Data**

**August 15: Final Data**



## Professional Development

March 12, 2009

*Developing Your 4-H Volunteer Management System "One Bite at a Time"*

*Instructor: Bill Heltemes  
RSA*

*Program ID 29073—  
PDEC registration*

*March 2009—January  
2010*

*Polycom monthly session on varies topics*

March 18, 2009

*4h online monthly training  
Topic:  
How to enter Group Enrollment*

April 7, 2009 10am-12N

**SC District 4-H Online Conference**

*KeyNote Speaker  
(recorded playback)*



*Bror Saxberg,  
Chief Learning Officer  
K<sup>12</sup>*

*"5 Key Myths About the Mind"*

*Kimberly Gates, elearning  
Broward Sheridan Tech  
"Reaching Learners of all  
types with Elluminate",*

*"Using Turning Point in  
your PowerPoint" with  
Georgene Bender and.....*

*our own techy Dave Palmer  
with TIPS & TRICKS .*

*Registration will be on  
PDEC.*

## Upcoming Events

### • Operation: Military Kids ...Hero Packs Need to be Packed

Florida will see a large group of soldiers deploy this spring. HERO PACKS are given to children of deploying soldiers, airmen and sailors. Florida has over 700 packs to pack and distribute. If you and your Teen Council are interested in participating in packing Hero Packs contact Cliff Lewis, OMK State Coordinator at [sgmlew@ufl.edu](mailto:sgmlew@ufl.edu) . He will be at the National 4-H Military Liaison conference 2/2-6. and 2/7 at the Fair 4-H Showcase.

### • Military and Camping Community Grants Available

Do you have an idea to provide an community event for military youth in your community? Would you like to sponsor a Day Camp for military youth in your area? Over \$20,000 in grants funds are available state-wide to any community group 4-H, Scouts, Youth Groups, American Legions, YMCA etc to host events for military youth. Program flyer and applications will be **available March 1**. Contact Cliff Lewis, OMK State Coordinator if interested. [sgmlew@ufl.edu](mailto:sgmlew@ufl.edu).



Clover Connection Volume 2 Issue 2 : March 2009

### South Central District Centennial Celebrations

March 31, 2009—Pinellas to host a 4-H Centennial Banquet. Invitation Only.

Be Sure to list your Centennial Event on our <http://florida4h.org> website. Email Julie Wilson.

*Georgene M. Bender*

**Georgene Bender, Editor**

Regional Specialized 4-H Agent

1200 N. Park Road

Plant City, FL 33563

Email: [gmbender@ufl.edu](mailto:gmbender@ufl.edu)

<http://district4.ifas.ufl.edu>

813-757-2184 Office

813-707-7399 Fax



**Clover Connection**