**Special points of interest:**

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- New 4-H State WEB sites
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**Martin County 4-H Horse Shows**

Martin County 4-H will host two shows at Timer Powers Park in Indiantown. The dates are as follows:

**MARTIN COUNTY 4-H HORSE SHOWS**

- 4-H Horse Show– January 19, 2008 at Timer Powers Park
- 4-H Horse Show– March 15, 2008 at Timer Powers Park

Both shows will start at 9AM with sign up from 8AM to 9AM. The show bill and class forms are on our WEB site at [www.mcifas.com](http://www.mcifas.com). Our local shows are planned as practice for our upcoming Area E show which is in Tampa at the state fairgrounds. The date for this show is April 26 and 27. The paperwork for this show should be filled out and submitted to my office about one month before the show. If any club wants to have a concession stand and sell hot dogs and hamburgers, please let me know. Our shows are generally finished by 3PM. Even if you don’t ride it is a fun day.

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**2008 Martin County Fair**

The Martin County Fair will start on February 8, and will run until February 16. The Barn Work days are February 2 and 23. These days are mandatory for all 4-H youth showing in the Fair. Do not forget your letters to buyers. Please mention in your letter that your buyers, once they buy from you, they can donate back to the 4-H Foundation and receive a double tax exempt. All donations to the 4-H Foundation will go to club youth in scholarships. This is a win-win situation for all involved. We have about 7 graduating 4-H seniors this year and the Martin County 4-H Foundation would like to give each youth that applies a scholarship. Please help the 4-H Foundation reach their goal.
4-H/FFA Horse Judging School

The 2007/2008 State 4-H/FFA Horse Judging School will be on Saturday, **December 8, 2007** at the University of Florida Horse teaching Unit in Gainesville. The school will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. and last until about 3:00 p.m. with an hour break for lunch. Registration/check-in will begin at 8:00 a.m.

There is a $3.00 per person charge (youth and adults) to attend the horse judging school. You may preregister by returning the registration form with your check made out to "Florida 4-H Foundation". Preregistration is not required, but is encouraged as it will expedite the check-in of your members that morning. If you are unable to have the form and payment in our office by **December 3**, hold both and sign up on site. Please plan to arrive early enough to get registered (allowing for long lines) and be seated by 9:00 a.m.

The primary objective of the school is to assist in the preparation of judging teams for the State Contests. Anyone interested in horse shows and horse judging should benefit from this opportunity and is encouraged to attend. A coaches guide will be available for purchase for $10.00, a member’s manual for $3.00, and additional printed materials will be available at no charge.

A map to the HTU and a list of Gainesville motels can be found at http://www.animal.ufl.edu/youth/horse/horseJudgingSchool.shtml There are fast food places in the vicinity, but it may be easier to pack a lunch.

New Rule for 4-H During the Fair

During the 2008 Martin County Fair, Martin County 4-H youth will be required to wear a 4-H shirt at all times, while you are at the fair. The only exception will be during show time and sale time. A club t-shirt is quite acceptable, however, at the first barn day (Saturday, February 2ed) 4-H shirts will be available through your clubs and also through the 4-H office at $5 each.

Wear a 4-H T-Shirt Each Day

New Horse Show Age Guidelines

As of the 4-H year beginning on September 1, 2007, the Area and State 4-H Horse Show age divisions will be as follows:

- **Junior/Intermediate** - 13 and under as of 9-1-07
- **Senior** - 14 and over as of 9-1-07

This is the new state rule and our local 4-H Horse Shows will follow the same rules. This information is on our county WEB site.
Does 4-H Really Help our Youth?

*Are you into it? 🌿*

The teen years don’t have to be difficult, Tufts University Professor Rich Lerner told Elizabeth Vargas on “Good Morning America” Friday (October 26th, 2007) as he promoted his new book, “The Good Teen.” Dr. Lerner is director of The 4-H Study of Positive Youth Development, which is the basis of much of the findings in the book.

The stereotype that teens are troubled is just that: a stereotype, Dr. Lerner said. He told Vargas and GMA viewers that parents can take three actions to help their children through the teen years:

1. Spend quality time with your children.
2. Teach your children life skills.
3. Ensure that your children have a leadership role in their families and communities.

When parents focus on these three actions, the 5 Cs of positive youth development—competence, confidence, connection, character and caring—occur, Lerner explained.

The bottom line—parents need to find out what their kids are interested in and take part in their lives. A great way for parents to ensure that their children have that connection with them or other caring adults is to get them involved in their local 4-H Youth Development Program offered across America by the Cooperative Extension System of state land-grant universities.

### 4-H Club Site on Florida State 4-H WEB

Welcome to the Club section of the Florida 4-H Web site! This section provides information regarding many aspects of the Florida 4-H program, including information about organizing a club. 4-H clubs are organized and supported to provide community-based, positive, structured learning opportunities for youth during their developmental years. Thank you for your patience as we continually look for ways to update and improve our Web site!


CHECK IT OUT!!

### Martin County 4-H Leaders to help at Farm City Week Dinner

Today the National Farm-City Council includes producers, agricultural organizations, businesses and youth and civic clubs in an effort to educate people of all ages about the interdepend-
4-H Pledge

“I pledge My head to clearer thinking, My heart to greater loyalty, My hands to larger service, and My health to better living, For my club, my community, my country, and my world.”

Health Tips

Protect yourself from MRSA by taking these steps:
1) Wash your hands often using plain soap and water for at least 15 seconds each time. You might also want to carry alcohol-based instant hand sanitizers or wipes in your bag for times when you can't wash your hands.
2) If you have a cut or broken skin, keep it clean and covered with a bandage.
3) Don't share razors, towels, uniforms, or other items that come into contact with bare skin.
4) Clean shared sports equipment with antiseptic solution before each use or use a barrier (clothing or a towel) between your skin and the equipment.

Thought for the Day

Use what talents you possess; the woods would be very silent if no birds sang except those that sang best.

Martin County 4-H Leader Information

There will be a 4-H Leader Meeting on Tuesday, November 13 at 6:30PM. As usual dinner will be served and our meeting will be at the Martin County 4-H Office. For all Martin County 4-H Leaders, please plan on attending.