

Levy County HCE News



May 2006

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FCS Agent

Dear Members,

Don't forget the **May 3rd HCE Council Meeting**. We had to change the date since the HCE Leadership Camp was held the last week of April and provided a conflict. We are looking for a big crowd!! Hope to see you there!! Good Food, Good Fellowship and Good Fun! How much more can you ask??

Our next event is the **District Planning Meeting** which will be held in Starke on Friday, May 19th. I will be taking a van from the office. If you want a ride, please sign up at the **May 3rd HCE Council Meeting**. I think that everyone knows where the meeting will be as we held a State Planning Meeting there in February. If you do need a map, just let me know. Also, please remind me to take the peanuts and the door prize numbers for the state meeting.

And speaking of the **State Conference**. It will be held October 9 - 12 in Crystal River. Deadlines for conference registrations: Hotel is September 16th and for Conference is September 19th. Levy County is responsible for decorating. Make plans to attend. If some of you want to attend just a day, let me know. This one is close enough to do it. Think about it over the summer.

We will be having a few **day camps** this summer. Youth will generally be 8 - 13 years old. If you can volunteer, please call Haley at the office.

The camps are as follows:

- June 12 - 16 - Sewing Camp (for beginners or intermediates) at the office
- July 17 - 21 - Food, Fun & Fitness Camp at the office
- July 31 - August 4 - Who Am I? What Is It Worth? (Citizenship and consumer education) at the office

You'll need to be here by 9:00 am and stay until approximately 12:30 pm. I promise it will be enjoyable and lots of fun!! So, let us know if you open to an opportunity with youth.

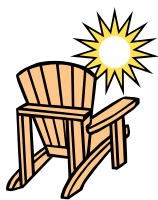
Our Family Nutrition Program will also be working with the Levy County Library System and doing a short presentation and taste sample at each of the local libraries. If you would like to assist with this, please give us a call. We'll provide everything; you'll just need to work for about 15 - 30 minutes with the children at the library as part of their summer program.

Please take note of the Medicare Part D article. You or someone you know may not have made your decision yet. We'll be glad to help, if needed. However, don't let the date slip up on you.

Be sure and have a great summer. It's already too hot for me, but I love Florida. So, I'll have to take the hot summer with the warm winter!! To those who are traveling north, have a great trip. To those who are staying here, stay cool! And we'll look for all of you when we return to our regular meetings in the fall!!

Our thoughts are also with Dee Olson, Caroline Norton, Carol McMullen, Linda Cochran, as well as all of our members. Take care of yourselves and your families!

Sincerely,



Muriel Turner, FCS Agent
HCE Agent Advisor
UF IFAS Levy County Extension

Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Coverage

This Medicare program is an insurance policy, NOT an entitlement program. You have until May 15th to sign up without penalty. Time is getting short.



We can help you with your decision. You will need to complete a **Personal Information Worksheet** which will have your Medicare information, some personal information and your current prescription drug information, including prescription drugs that you may not have filled due to cost. This needs to be very accurate. The best way is to bring your prescription drug bottles with you. We will enter this information into a computer program which will then give you a printout with three recommended options. You will then need to do a little more research by contacting the recommended companies and make your decision. ALL information will be returned to you so that you should have no concerns regarding your policy.

Here are some things that you should think about before making your decision.



1. It is open to all people with Medicare.
2. Participation has a cost and you will pay a portion depending on your income.
3. It will be a safety net and hopefully give you some peace of mind regarding your prescription drug cost.
4. If you join and use a network pharmacy, you'll have access to discounted prices.
5. You'll have choices in plans. This is what is often confusing for all of us.
6. Basically there are two types of plans. One is just for prescription drugs only and the other type includes medical coverage for doctor visits and hospital expenses.
7. If you enroll after May 15th, you may be subject to a penalty.
8. You will choose drugs from a formulary – a list of preferred drugs. This may vary from plan to plan.
9. You will pay a portion for each prescription.
10. There is extra help for those with lower incomes.

If you are interested and have not signed up yet, please call our office for more information and to make an appointment. If you want to explore more options for the open enrollment in November, please call after May 15th.



CLUB NEWS

BRONSON CLUB



We did not have a meeting this month; instead we held Bingo at the Ag Center. We had a good turn out and everyone had fun plus a lunch of soup and sandwiches. We had lots of prizes and one guest won \$37.50 on the 50/50 drawing. We had made a good start on our walking group. We meet every Monday, Wednesday and

Friday at 7:00 a.m. at the Bronson Youth Park track. Anyone is welcome to join us.

Our next meeting will be May 18th with plans for a program on Women's Health and hurricane preparedness.

Submitted by:
Dee Olsen



CHIEFLAND CLUB



Our annual "April lunch at a restaurant" was held at the Margarita Grill Restaurant in Homosassa, attended by sixteen members and one guest. Members sent best wishes to Carol McMullen and Caroline Norton who were not able to attend due to illness.

Our soup and sandwich lunch fundraiser was great success netting in \$659.21 to donate to local charities.

Suwannee Valley Players sent a Thank You for our recent donation and two tickets for the current play. Caroline Norton and Marge Norton enjoyed the play "The Nerd".

Betty Green baked a beautiful birthday cake for the residents celebrating a birthday in March at the Ayers Rehab. Muriel Ellison, Betty Green, Carol McMullen and Nancy Verville served the refreshments and presented gifts. Several members donated for the gifts and made cakes.

Our May 9th HCE Club meeting will be a pool party at Joan Rich's home. Members may arrive any time after 10:00 a.m. and bring finger foods and if wishing to swim, a swim suit.

Respectfully,
Caroline Norton

CURRYVILLE CLUB

We had a great meeting in April at Barbara Bullock's home. There were 13 members present and refreshments were served. Our guest speaker was Kathleen Morgan from Suwannee River Area Health Education Center, Inc. and she provided us with an educational program on Healthy Hearts. We discussed book bags and our next meeting in May.

Submitted by:
Linda Cochran



WILLISTON CLUB

April was a fun meeting. Everyone participated in planning the decorations, favors, door prizes and cowgirl outfits for the May 3rd Council Meeting.

Standing Committee Reports:

Another Way: Ruth Dorey

Several deliveries made since our March meeting, including deliveries of 18 survival kits. The Center is looking for donations of kitchen items as there will be 4 meal preparation sites in the kitchen (each family prepares their own meals). The target date for moving into the new facility is the end of June.

Shands: Cathy Staruk

March 29th delivery included 325 surgical dolls, 25 preemie Afghans and 14 nursing capes. Thank you letters read by Jean Stowell for the nursing capes.

Labels for Education: Dolores Darpino

Large delivery of food labels made to Joyce Bullock School.

Sunshine: Marion Hanson

Cards send to Ruth Brown, "Red" Dorey, Mary Ralls and Hazel Rogers.

The meeting was closed with a fundraising luncheon.



Submitted by:
June Bacorn

UPCOMING NEWS

May 3rd – Council Meeting and Members Appreciation Luncheon at the Ag Center. Council and club officers are preparing lunch; the Williston Club is hosting. Make sure to dress in your best cowgirl outfit.

May 19th – District II Planning Meeting in Bradford County. Let Caroline Norton, Muriel Turner or Haley Allen know if you would like to attend. A van has been reserved.

October 9th – 12th – State Conference in Crystal River. Deadlines for conference registrations: Hotel is September 16th and Conference is September 19th. Levy County is responsible for decorating. Make sure to place these dates on your calendar.

We hope to see all of you at these events!

