



Wig Wag the Safety Clown

Education for Everyone

The Fire Prevention Safety Trailer with the Safety Clowns on board reaches preschool and school aged children alike. Professional clowns teach children how to escape from a smoke filled building as well as how to create a home escape plan. The “bring the classroom to you” trailer is used extensively at the Lake County Fair, civic events, and public schools, not only during Fire Prevention Week in October, but also throughout the year. The Department has trained our municipal partners, who assist in our efforts to ensure that all Lake County children have the opportunity to learn fire prevention and fire safety practices. “Dusty the Cowboy,” “Wig Wag,” and “Yakky” have helped in educating children in more than one hundred programs during the past year.

The “Flat Stanley” project educates children about responsible pet ownership. Animal Control participates in this worldwide program by mailing out “Flat Stanley” dolls. Participating children return the dolls after one month and relate stories of their adventures.

The community-based CPR classes, heart saver classes and the Automated External Defibrillators (AED) program have been an important part of Public Safety’s community outreach. Over 200 Lake County citizens have been certified through the CPR heart saver program and nearly 500 citizens have participated in the AED program. The AED program has been so well

August

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received that the American Heart Association and the Florida Fire Chiefs Association recognized Lake County as a "Heart Save Community."

The School Readiness Resource Bus is an innovative program, which prepares pre-school aged children to be ready to enter kindergarten. The bus is fitted with computers and education materials to assist informal caregivers such as grandparents and friends in working with these young people.

Discovery Gardens at the Horticultural Learning Center is a demonstration garden, developed in partnership with the University of Florida. Residents learn about Florida friendly landscape techniques for their homes and increase their personal environmental awareness. A stormwater runoff demonstration area enables waterfront homeowners to learn management techniques to protect their properties. This year nearly 1300 students participated in educational programs in the gardens. Virtual garden tours are available at the University of Florida websites.



The Master Gardener Plant Clinic