



COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT  
AREA PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Lake County, Florida

# COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT AREA PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM NEWSLETTER



October 2008  
Volume 4, Issue 2

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## Program News

### New Community Enhancement Area Projects

It is time to start putting together your community's plans and projects for the application for the 2009/2010 Community Enhancement Area Program Grant. Although no specific dates have yet been set, the process will be generally the same as last year. The Request for Proposals (RFP) will be announced and released the middle of November. There will be workshops in December and January on grant writing and the filling out of the application. The

application will be due to the CEA Office the middle of February 2009. Funding will then be available starting in October 2009.

So, now is the time to get your community residents together and decide on a project for your community.

Availability of the application will be announced by email to those whose email I have and on the County's website. Or you can call me in mid-November at 742-6515 and I'll make sure you get a copy.

## CEA Project Accomplishments

Construction of the new community center in Yalaha is still moving along. The additional funding approved for next year should allow the preparation of building construction plans and site plan approval and maybe site preparations. A Back-to-School Fair was held on August 9. We have discussed with US Department of Agriculture the possibility of a grant and will be working towards an application further down the road. We are also working on an initial inquiry to a foundation. A series of community leadership training classes is being scheduled. The schedule is on page 2. Initial planning for a community day sometime in the spring 2009 has begun. The addition of two restrooms to the old Ferndale Fire Station which the community uses as a community center is almost complete. The addition was basically completed on September 29. A meeting to go over the addition to see if anything needs to be corrected has been scheduled

for October 7.

The Ponceannah Cemetery improvements have been completed. The new well, fence and solar light at the entrance have been installed. The new fence really improved the appearance of the cemetery along County Road 42. Now that water is easily available, many more flowers are being kept on the gravesites. Trash cans have also been installed in various places throughout the cemetery and should help to keep a neat, clean appearance in the cemetery. In Altoona, the charter school paid to have the flat part of the roof repaired. At this time an Invitation to Bid has been distributed to have the tiled part of the roof repaired. An architect is also preparing drawings to renovate the interior portion of the main building. This is to include plans to improve the walls to retard the spread of any potential fire since it was determined that a fire sprinkler system would be extremely difficult and expensive to install.

## CEA Items of Interest

### Neighborhood Stabilization Program

Lake County is eligible to receive up to \$3,136,967 under the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) portion of the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008. The NSP provides targeted assistance to state and local governments to acquire and redevelop foreclosed properties that might otherwise become sources of abandonment and blight within our communities. There are five different strategies for the use of these funds. Lake County Community Services Department is in the process of devising their plan for the use of this funding. A portion of

the funds must be used to purchase foreclosed properties, renovate them and then sell them to low and moderate income individuals and families.

### County-wide Information

Even if your community is not a Community Enhancement Area, the CEA office will put you on its email list so that you can receive Lake County News Releases and event information that could be of interest to your community. Just send an email to Bill Gearing at [wgearing@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:wgearing@lakecountyfl.gov) and you will be added to the list.

## Upcoming Events

### GOOD NEWS

#### **Neighborhood Opportunities How to Get What You Want!**

VolunteerLAKE is presenting exciting programs and services for the 2008-2009 year:

Grassroots Leadership: Skills for Community Leaders was presented on October 11, 2008. If you missed it don't miss the upcoming programs.

Neighbor Aid - November 8, 2008 9:00 am - 10:30 am, St. Matthews Church of God By Faith, 26920 Yalaha Rd, Yalaha, FL.

Grassroots Leadership: Skills for Community Action December 6, 2008 - 9:00 am- 1:30 pm, St. Matthews Church of God By Faith, 26920 Yalaha Rd, Yalaha, FL.

What you learn in these programs can strengthen you and your neighborhood.

Yalaha is taking the lead. Your neighborhood could do the same!

To volunteer, register or get more information contact:

VolunteerLAKE- (352) 742-6590  
Helena Osborne-Ponsi, Director  
[hosborne@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:hosborne@lakecountyfl.gov)

Or

Gwen Manning, VISTA -  
[Gmanning@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:Gmanning@lakecountyfl.gov)

### Green Fair

The Lake County Green Team is hosting a Green Fair on November 1, 2008 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Wooton Park, located at 200 S. Rockingham Ave. in Tavares. This one-day event is intended to present educational programs and informative displays that showcase best practices in environmental issues to the community. Exhibits will provide information, ideas, resources, products to live more sustainably. For more information about the Green Fair or sponsorship opportunities, call Amye King, Director of the Lake County Department of Growth Management at (352) 343-9647 or e-mail [aking@lakecountyfl.gov](mailto:aking@lakecountyfl.gov).

### Fish Fry

The Boys and Girls Club is holding their 4<sup>th</sup> annual Fish Fry, Thursday, October 30, 5 - 8 pm at the Eustis Community Building. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for children under 12. There will be door prizes. For additional information please contact Karen Purvis at 267-0149.