



The Leon County

LINK

Connecting Citizens
with Leon County
Services

The Link is published the first Wednesday of each month in the local section of the Tallahassee Democrat.

Library System, Second Harvest Partner Against Hunger

This month, Leon County is partnering with America's Second Harvest of the Big Bend to recognize September as Hunger Action Month. This is part of a nationwide effort to raise awareness for the fight against hunger.

Locally, Second Harvest has experienced a significant increase in the number of individuals and families seeking food assistance. Overall, the organization has seen a 46-percent increase in requests for assistance in the past year, mainly attributed to the current economic downturn that has impacted the local economy.

In order to assist in raising awareness of Hunger Action Month, drop-off bins will be placed at the LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library System's Main Library and Fort Braden branch beginning Tuesday, Sept. 8, so that residents may donate non-perishable foods.

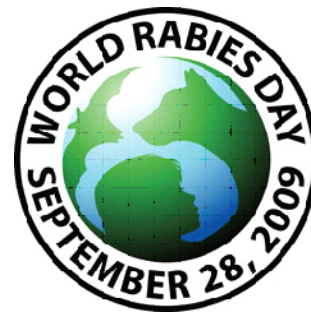
"One in eight Americans – including people in the Big Bend – are struggling with hunger, and Hunger Action Month is an opportunity for us to raise awareness of the issue of hunger and ways people can help," said Cheryl Phoenix, Executive Director of the America's Second Harvest of the Big Bend.

America's Second Harvest is the nation's leading domestic hunger-relief charity, providing food to 25 million Americans each year, including 9 million children and 3 million senior citizens.

For more information, please contact Second Harvest at **(850) 562-3033**.

Leon County Supports World Rabies Day

World Rabies Day will once again take place on Monday, Sept. 28, in an effort to raise awareness and resources in support of human rabies prevention and animal rabies control.



Eighty-five countries participated in last year's observance, according to the Alliance for Rabies Control, a United Kingdom charity that helped spearhead the effort with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The group expects to exceed that number this year.

The campaign seeks to reinforce the message that rabies is a preventable disease, yet it kills 55,000 people each year, about one person every 10 minutes. For more information, please contact Richard H. Ziegler at **(850) 606-5400**.

Influenza Pandemic Exercise And Pandemic Pandemonium Exercise Overview

On Sept. 16, the Pandemic Pandemonium Tabletop Exercise Overview will serve as an opportunity for owners and managers of businesses, non-profit organizations and government agencies, along with their employees, to learn how to become better prepared for influenza pandemic.

For additional information or to register, please visit: <http://www.drc-group.com/exercise/outbreak/leon/>

When an influenza pandemic is knocking on your door is not the time to be asking if you are ready.

On Sept. 19, Pandemic Pandemonium will be striking North Florida's neighborhoods. While Pandemic Pandemonium is a simulated event, the activities associated with the Pandemic Pandemonium Tabletop Exercise will help you and your neighbors prepare for an impending influenza pandemic. During the exercise, your neighborhood will be faced with the actions necessary to prepare and protect its residents.

Based on real life scenarios, participation in the Pandemic Pandemonium Tabletop Exercise is a must for all neighborhood and community leaders.

There is no charge for this powerful three-hour disaster learning opportunity.

For additional information or to register, please visit: www.drc-group.com/exercise/pandemic/leon

For more information, please contact Jeri Bush at **(850) 606-1970**.

Head out to the 2009 Leon County Hispanic Heritage Fest



The Leon County Board of County Commissioners and the U.S. Census Bureau are partnering with area agencies to host the first annual Hispanic Heritage Fest in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month and as a way to raise awareness of Census 2010.

The five-day Fest will include films, food, dance, art, lectures and more, culminating with a large downtown party Saturday, Sept. 19.

Organizers are still accepting applications for cultural performers and for volunteers interested in participating in the event.

For more information on the Fest, please contact Jon D. Brown, Leon County Public Information Officer, at **(850) 606-5300**.

Use Your Library Card 24/7 at www.LeonCountyLibrary.org

The LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library System card is your ticket to lots of useful information.

Use your card to check out books, DVDs and magazines or to find information online, from newspaper articles to the *World Book Encyclopedia* and *Opposing Viewpoints*.

Find biographies from Marco Polo to Matthew Henson. Practice taking standardized tests at "Learning Express." Download and read or listen to e-books and audio books.

Even if you are not a student, use your library card at www.LeonCountyLibrary.org to find books, movies, articles on your hobbies, business information, health information and more.

Go to www.leoncountyfl.gov/library/, click on "Library Databases," type in your library card number, and find a world of information.

September 2009 Board of County Commissioners Schedule

- 8 Board of County Commissioners Workshop on the Leon County Tourism Strategic Plan**
1-3 p.m., County Courthouse, 5th Floor, Chambers
- Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting**
3 p.m., County Courthouse, 5th Floor, Chambers
- 9 Board of County Commissioners Public Hearing**
6 p.m., County Courthouse, 5th Floor, Chambers
- 21 Community Redevelopment Agency Meeting (CRA)** 11:30 a.m., City Hall, 300 S. Adams, 2nd Floor Commission Chambers
- Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA)** 1 p.m., City Hall, 300 S. Adams, 2nd Floor Commission Chambers
- 22 Educational Facilities Authority Workshop**
1 p.m., County Courthouse, 5th Floor, Commission Chambers
- Board of County Commissioners Regular Meeting**
3 p.m., County Courthouse, 5th Floor, Chambers
- Board of County Commissioners Public Hearing**
6 p.m., County Courthouse, 5th Floor, Chambers