



**WHAT'S YOUR PASSION?
PUT YOUR HEART INTO IT ... VOLUNTEER!**

FLORIDA VOLUNTEER MONTH 2008

**Florida Volunteer Month
Sample Letter to the Editor**

Volunteering— Simply Rewarding

Dear Editor,

For those seeking a way to make new friends, promote their careers, and positively contribute to their communities, I have one simple suggestion: reach out and volunteer.

Volunteers have the ability to change the lives of those around them. Whether they are improving the environment, coaching youth sports, providing respite care for the elderly, mentoring students, or assisting with disaster response and recovery, volunteers strengthen entire communities while improving the quality of life for everyone.

I can personally tell you from the (##) years I have spent volunteering with (organization name) that volunteering also provides a multitude of benefits to the volunteer. From meeting new people who share common interests, to gaining skills that can be transferred to the work environment, to improved self-esteem, volunteers gain just as much as those they are helping.

Governor Charlie Crist and the Florida Cabinet have declared April 2008 to be Florida Volunteer Month. In April, Floridians have a special reason to contact a local school, community or faith-based organization, environmental cause, volunteer center, or charity to offer their time as a volunteer. For those looking for a place to start, Volunteer Florida's Web site (volunteerflorida.org) has a list of links to volunteer resources and opportunities. Please – give the gift of your time and talents to help change lives and strengthen our community!

(Your Name
Title
Organization)