



### F & E Encourages Fairs to Implement Code Adam; Help Keep Fairgrounds Safe for Kids!

In an effort to help California fairgrounds develop a structured plan for locating missing children at their facilities, the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Division of Fairs and Expositions (F & E) has partnered with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) to tailor the Code Adam Program to California's fair industry.

Initially developed by Wal-Mart employees in 1994 and named in honor of six-year-old Adam Walsh, who was abducted from a Florida shopping mall in 1981 and later murdered, Code Adam has grown to become one of the country's largest child-safety programs. Adam's father, John Walsh, co-founded the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and is the host of the well-known television series, "America's Most Wanted."

Code Adam provides six steps for fair employees to follow if a child is reported lost or missing on a California fairground. Once

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### '09 Base Rates for CFSA's General Liability and Workers' Compensation Pools to Remain the Same as in 2008

After reviewing several key factors with CFSA's board during its April board meeting, Rick Wood, CFSA's assistant director, finance, relayed staff's recommendation that 2009 base rates for the fairs' two primary risk pools stay the same\* in 2009 as they were in 2008.

During his presentation, Rick emphasized that it's during tough economic times like businesses are experiencing today that the benefits of CFSA's risk-pool programs really stand out, including: ongoing rate stability, pool members' ability to influence their individual rates through loss history improvements, and the peace of mind that comes from knowing the pools are solid, secure, well-funded, and managed with the fairs' best interests in mind.

Want more details or information about your fair's rates? Contact Rick at 916/263-6147.

\* Individual fair's actual fees may increase or decrease from the previous year due to their own loss histories.

### Maintenance Mania 2009 Participants Come Away with 109 Certifications and Hours of Valuable Information

2009 proved to be another successful year — and a year of impressive firsts — for the fairs' annual Maintenance Mania event. Held at the Ventura County Fairgrounds in February and again at the Gold Country Fairgrounds in March, more than 150 people attended four activity-filled days of training and certification sessions led by representatives from the Division of Fairs and Expositions, California Construction Authority, California Fair Services Authority, and several California fairs. In addition, attendees enjoyed a trade show, team building and trivia competitions, raffles, networking lunches and an awards dinner.

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### Did You Know CFSA Also Handles Rentals for Fairground Essentials?

Porta-potties, radios, fencing, generators and air conditioning units, even trailers. CFSA can help you rent them all, and more, saving you money and time in the process.

Cailee DeFoe, CFSA's buyer, will provide you with a comprehensive quote sheet containing vendor and bidding information. And, as with purchases made through CFSA's Purchasing Department, CFSA will pay for the rental, billing your fair later. And CFSA does it all for a small 3 percent administration fee.

Want to know more? Call Cailee at 916/263-6191.

### New California Workers' Compensation Program Employee Rights Benefits Pamphlet is Available Now

Hot off the press! Patti Nevin, CFSA's workers' compensation administrator, reports that the new "Your Rights to Workers' Compensation Benefits and How to Obtain Them" pamphlet has arrived.

If you haven't already contacted CFSA with the number of pamphlets you need for your fair, please

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"You'll never plow a field by turning it over in your mind."  
~ Irish Proverb



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Let's hear from you!  
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*Timely Tip: Fair to Fair*  
What's your fair doing differently (or more of the same) in response to today's stormy economic climate? Share with *fyi* and *fyi* will share with your fellow fairs in an upcoming newsletter. Please contact Melissa Thurber, 916/263-6163 or [mthurber@cfsa.org](mailto:mthurber@cfsa.org).

“Modesty is the gentle art of enhancing your charm by pretending not to be aware of it.”

~ Oliver Herford

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*Code Adam, continued . . .*

in place, the proactive program will enable California's 78 active fairgrounds to further ensure the safety and security of their 30 million-plus annual visitors.

### **Code Adam Training Kits Available**

F & E has arranged for every California fair to have a Code Adam Training Kit at no charge. If you don't have yours yet, contact F & E at 916/263-2955. The kit contains a training DVD, an employee break room poster and a sticker for the entrance to your fairgrounds. Additional Code Adam stickers are also available upon request.

Watch for real-life stories about using the Code Adam Program to find missing children at a California fairground in a future issue of the *fyi* newsletter.

For more information about the NCMEC, visit the Center's Web site at: [www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com).

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*Maintenance Mania, con't . . .*

This year, for the first time ever, fair concessionaire and carnival workers joined fair maintenance staff and management to earn fork lift certifications and to attend welding and electrical training sessions. Other training opportunities included hands-on plumbing and carpentry sessions; management classes; and aerial lift, front-end loader/back hoe and CPR/first aid certification testing.

The event, which was free for all participants, was funded by the Division of Fairs and Expositions.

In addition to thanking the Division for its generosity, the Maintenance Mania Committee also thanked the event's sponsors, all of the fairs who pitched in to help, and everyone who attended. The Committee agreed that it was the combined team effort that made Maintenance Mania 2009 such a success.

Planning for Maintenance Mania 2010 is already in progress with sessions planned for the Ventura County Fairgrounds and the Monterey County Fairgrounds. Watch the *fyi* newsletter and Maintenance Mania's Web site, [www.maintenancemania.com](http://www.maintenancemania.com) for details as they're finalized.

*WC Pamphlets, continued . . .*

do so ASAP. The new pamphlet, which should be given to all employees, reflects changes made to California's Workers' Compensation Program in the past year. Because the old pamphlets are now inaccurate, they should be recycled immediately.

Contact Angie Grech, Patti's assistant at 916/263-6174, or e-mail her at [agrech@cfsa.org](mailto:agrech@cfsa.org).

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### **Did You Know *fyi* is Also Available by e-mail?**

If e-mail would be a more convenient way for you to receive your monthly *fyi* newsletter, give Melissa Thurber a call at 916/263-6163 or send an e-mail to: [mthurber@cfsa.org](mailto:mthurber@cfsa.org).

