









After 110 years of success, Georgia 4-H continues to make a positive difference in the lives of children. That success is the result of the positive relationships 4-H members have with Extension personnel and 4-H volunteers. Adult 4-H leaders are mentors of young people. They are teaching the essential elements of 4-H—Belonging, Mastery, Independence, and Generosity—in school club meetings and through community service projects, by building robots, shooting on the archery range, through environmental field studies at a 4-H center, practicing a 4-H demonstration, or exhibiting a goat. It is all part of 4-H. Georgia 4-H is different for each child, but Georgia 4-H has something for everybody.

The 2014 Georgia Cloverleaf serves as a record of achievement for the University of Georgia 4-H Program. As you read the annual report of Georgia 4-H, you will find highlights and accomplishments of some of our 175,372 4-H members and where they live. Also highlighted are some of the staff members who make our success possible; we celebrate and honor those staff, private donors, and public officials who continue to support Georgia 4-H. In this issue you will get a glimpse of new 4-H partnerships with HughesNet®, the Georgia Food Bank Association, and Children's Health Care of Atlanta.

On October 10, 2013, Georgia 4-H celebrated the 1,000,000th participant attending the 4-H Environmental Education program; on the 29th of October, we dedicated the Diane Davies Museum of Natural History in honor of the founder of the Georgia 4-H Environmental Education Program.

Our 4-H centers continue to change with (1) new cabins at Rock Eagle, (2) a decision by the Fortson Youth Training Center, Inc. board of directors to give the Fortson 4-H Center to the Georgia 4-H Program, and (3) new changes for 4-H on Jekyll Island. We also pay special tribute and say thank you to 4-H alumnae Nancy Grace and Tess Hammock for their public comments in support of 4-H. Special thanks goes to Representative Terry England, our Georgia 4-H Green Jacket recipient, for his continuing support of 4-H. Long overdue is a tribute to the late Emmie Nelson, 2014 National 4-H Hall of Fame Laureate who was one of the early giants of 4-H in Georgia.

And finally, Georgia 4-H members, staff, alumni, and friends are grateful to Dr. Beverly Sparks, who retired as associate dean for Extension at the end of June 2014. Dr. Sparks was a true friend and supporter of Georgia 4-H. We will miss her leadership provided to 4-H and all of Georgia Extension programs. Thank you, Beverly!

Yes, we have completed 110 years of a successful 4-H program provided by the University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Cooperate Extension, yet we are only as good as the positive youth development that we provide today and the vision we have to continue "To Make The Best Better" tomorrow. Again, we appreciate your support and commitment to give "children the opportunity to become a great somebody."\*

— Arch D. Smith, State 4-H Leader/Director of 4-H

auch D. Smith



#### On the Cover...

Photo by Gwen Queen

Cherokee Mico Darius Williams answers questions about his porky roach.

Porky roaches were and still are most often worn by dancers at pow wows as regalia. Porky roaches are often made of guard hair of the porcupine, the tail hair of the white-tail deer, moose hair, black turkey beards, or artificial stiff hair. Often, the hair is dyed a bright color, such as red or yellow, which can symbolize a veteran of combat.

Georgia 4-H, as a unit of University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Extension is education and positive youth development. The focus areas of 4-H are Science, Engineering and Technology, Healthy Living, and Citizenship. The work we do in and with schools enhances the Common Core Georgia Performance Standards. Research validates that youth in 4-H succeed, they stay in school and they become contributing citizens and leaders in our state. After 110 years, Georgia 4-H is still living up to the motto "To Make the Best Better".

The mission of Georgia 4-H is to assist youth in acquiring knowledge, developing life skills, and forming attitudes that will enable them to become self-directing, productive, and contributing members of society. This mission is accomplished, through "hands on" learning experiences, focused on agricultural and environmental issues, agriculture awareness, leadership, communication skills, foods and nutrition, health, energy conservation, and citizenship.



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The *Georgia Cloverleaf* is written and prepared by Georgia 4-H Staff. Contributing writers are Melanie Biersmith, Lori Purcell Bledsoe, Sharon Dowdy, Mandy Marable, Jacquelyn Embler Ogden, Mary Ann Parsons, Clint Thompson, Cheryl Varnadoe, and Charlie Wurst. Graphic design by Carol Williamson. Coordinated by Tina Maddox. We thank the counties and 4-H staff for their contributions of photographs and articles.

# Georgia Representative Terry England Received

# 4-H Green Jacket Award \*\*







Terry England receives the 4-H Green Jacket Award. Pictured here with Arch Smith and Dean J. Scott Angle.

eorgia Representative Terry England was presented the Georgia 4-H Green Jacket Award last month for his support of the youth development program.

Sponsored by Georgia EMC, the green jacket award is presented annually to an individual who has exhibited outstanding support of the Georgia 4-H program. During the annual Georgia 4-H State Congress event, the honoree is presented a green 4-H blazer and an etched glass award.

Georgia 4-H is operated by University of Georgia Extension and delivered to Georgia children through local Extension offices across the state.

England chairs the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee and cochairs the Agricultural Education Advisory Committee.

"In order to have a strong 4-H program, you have to have a tremendous program, strong public support from the state, federal and local government and strong private support," said Georgia 4-H State Leader Arch Smith, minutes before presenting the jacket to England. "Representative England embodies all three of those things. He is a great friend of 4-H. He has always be a supporter of youth development programs, education and agriculture in Georgia. He has supported 4-H in his role as a public official, he is a 4-H donor and he has been willing to find time to help with our educational program activities."

Smith thanked England for leading this year's

Georgia 4-H State Council where he spoke to Georgia 4-H'ers about the importance of citizenship and voting.

"He came up through the FFA organization and has become a true believer that 4-H is just as important to the success of developing young people," Smith said.

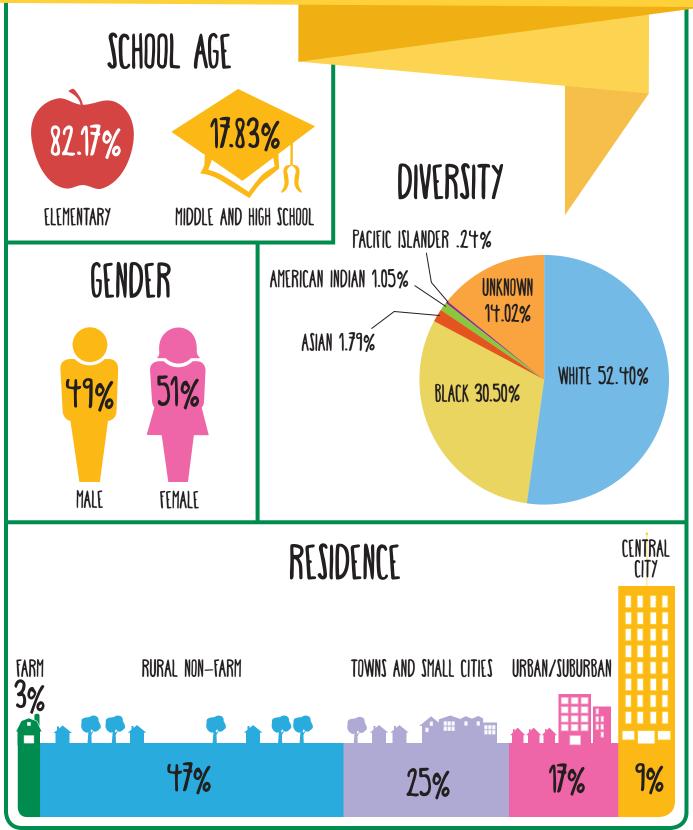
My fondest moments have been spent with him in his office/barn/shop where we stand and talk about the old John Deere tractor from the 1950s that he's working on restoring. Terry England is a down to earth public servant who has supported 4-H and he is truly a friend to the 4-H'ers of Georgia."

After donning the green 4-H jacket, England accepted it on "behalf of the Georgians who have supported 4-H and Georgia Extension."

"My 10 years serving in the general assembly has been a lifelong dream and to stand here and wear this jacket and know our Governor received it last year and our chancellor and my speaker received it recently...I don't feel deserving of it," England said.

As a student, England was active in the Winder-Barrow County High School chapter of FFA. "My friends in 4-H received the same energy and the same drive that I was receiving wearing my blue corduroy jacket," he said. \*\*

# SE GEORGIA 4-H ENROLLMENT-175,372\*



\*Members reflect enrollment from August 1, 2013 to July 31, 2014.



# **PARTICIPANTS:**



4-H CENTER USERS











12,543

# 4-H CLUBS - 4,942

#### **4-H CLUB MEETING LOCATIONS:**

• held during school instruction periods....... 81% • held at school facility ......90% • held after 5 p.m. or on weekends ...... 10%



# IN-SCHOOL PARTICIPATION

Citizenship	39,439
Financial Literacy	12,077
Healthy Living	41,913
Language Arts/Communications	80,218
4-H Project Achievement	74,028
Leadership	37,147
Science, Engineering & Technology	61,807
Agricultural Sciences	39,407
Robotics	1,527

# BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Citizenship	26,189
Financial Literacy	7,522
Healthy Living	29,600
Language Arts/Communications	47,613
4-H Project Achievement	30,134
Leadership	18,172
Science, Engineering & Technology	34,302
Agricultural Sciences	18,550
Robotics	850

# Kelle Ashley Honored with Ryles Rising Star Award

Kelle Ashley received the 2014 Ryles Rising Star award during State 4-H Congress for her achievements as the Bibb County 4-H Agent. The Roger C. (Bo) Ryles Rising Star Award recognizes Extension employees who have provided outstanding service to the Georgia 4-H program during the first five years of employment. Kelle's peers commented that her infectious personality draws new people into 4-H and, before long, they are fully committed to the 4-H program. Measures such as participation in clubs, project achievement, State Council, and 4-H camp all increased dramatically under Kelle's leadership of the total 4-H program. She successfully collaborated with the Bibb County Board of



Kelly Ashley is presented with the Ryles Rising Star award by former 4-H State Leader Roger C. (Bo) Ryles.

Education's nutrition department and Extension Master Gardeners to create My Garden, My Plate to engage youth in gardening. In the first two years of her career, Kelle generated more than \$35,000 in grants, gifts, and donations.

While the appreciation of peers is satisfying, the admiration of

4-H youth is even more rewarding. One of her 4-H members wrote, "Because of Kelle Ashley, not only are children of diverse backgrounds sitting down at the same table in our 4-H program, they are working together to achieve the 4H essential elements of mastery, generosity, belonging, and independence."

# 2014 William H. Booth Award Presented to Shirley Williamson

The William H. Booth Award recognizes outstanding Extension agents working in the 4-H program. Bill Booth was a rural electric pioneer, founding the Jackson Electric Membership Corporation and serving as general manager for 15 years. It was Bill Booth who first suggested the electric membership corporations take a hand in sponsoring statewide 4-H events.

Shirley Williamson received the 35th William H. Booth Award for her outstanding service to Georgia 4-H. A veteran agent with 24 years of service, Shirley is a past recipient of the prestigious National 4-H Meritorious Service Award. Her accomplishments include mentoring six new agents, helping develop the



Shirley Willamson is presented with William H. Booth Award at Georgia 4-H State Congress.

Program Assistant Training Manual, and serving on the original Youth Summit and Walk Georgia teams. Shirley is a past president of the Georgia Association of Extension 4-H Agents.

According to Shirley, "4-H professionals are the luckiest people in the world. We get to make a difference in the lives of young people every day. Being a 4-H agent is not just a job, it is a lifestyle." \*\*

## **Georgia 4-H Thanks 4-H Advisory Chair Gale Cutler**

Georgia 4-H succeeds because thousands of dedicated adult volunteers give their time and talents in developing and maintaining all that it takes to reach more than 170,000 young people each year. The Georgia 4-H Advisory Committee represents these volunteers, and all Georgia citizens, as it advises the professional 4-H program staff within the UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Extension program. Since its inception in 1946, the committee tirelessly assists in the planning and upkeep of existing 4-H facilities, and it communicates to the state at large the value and accomplishments of Georgia 4-H.

The Georgia 4-H Advisory Committee has benefitted from outstanding leaders who devote



much time and effort to lead the committee. Former chairs include 4-H supporters like former Monroe County Assistant School Superintendent Priscilla Doster and John Allen, attorney with the environmental and energy law firm Kazmarek Mowrey Cloud Laseter LLP. They attended multiple 4-H events and led their fellow committee members by example.

**Outgoing Advisory Committee** Chairwoman Gale Cutler has demonstrated her commitment to

Georgia 4-H by traveling the state and leading fellow committee members through her quiet, servant leadership style; she served the committee in a leadership role for four years, beginning as chairelect before serving as chair. Gale's professional job is public relations coordinator for Georgia Electric Membership Corporation. Whether judging at State 4-H Congress, speaking on behalf of Georgia 4-H to a group of county Extension staff members, making arrangements for the William H. Booth Award, or simply being available for conference calls, she has truly "Made the Best Better."

"Committed...with all the shades of meaning the word conveys fits Gale Culter. Gale steadfastly advocates for Georgia's youth and wants the best for them," says State 4-H Leader Arch Smith. Georgia 4-H is indebted to Gale for her generous service on the advisory committee. \*

# Camp Fortson— **Largest Private Gift**

Jerry Whitaker, chairman of the board of directors of the Fortson Youth Training Center, Inc., announced at the 72nd State 4-H Congress a decision made by its board to donate the Fortson 4-H Center located in Hampton, Georgia, to the Georgia 4-H Program. Since 2004, Georgia 4-H has leased the property, which has been in operation for 56 years. Once the gift is complete, it will be the largest private gift received by the Georgia 4-H Foundation. 🗱



Jerry Whitaker (R) announces the donation of Fortson 4-H Center to Georgia 4-H.

#### **Lori Purcell Bledsoe Awarded 2014 Walter Barnard Hill Award**

Since 1992, the Walter Barnard Hill Award has recognized distinguished achievement in public service and outreach by UGA faculty members. There is a maximum of five Hill Awards each year presented to faculty that have made contributions to the improvement of the quality of life in Georgia or elsewhere that exceeds the normal accomplishments of a productive faculty member. Lori Purcell Bledsoe, Northwest District 4-H Program Development Coordinator was awarded this honor this year. In 2010 Lori served as president of the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents. She worked alongside extension directors, state program leaders, and USDA administrative staff to plan a national leadership structure for 4-H. She has been appointed to many college-level committees, most recently UGA's Program Review and Assessment Committee. She built her reputation at the state, regional, and national level by co-chairing the committee who wrote the national 4-H curriculum Essential Elements of 4-H Youth Development Programs: Key Ingredients for Program Success that is used to train volunteers and staff across the nation. When she was the research and evaluation chair for NAE4-HA, she helped lay the groundwork for the Journal of Youth Development. She also serves as the superintendent of the public speaking contests at the Western National Roundup in Denver. As the 4-H program Development Coordinator, Lori directs 4-H programming efforts in 39 counties. She guides staff in the areas of youth development, training,



lesson development and curricula implementation, and program development. Lori is the first faculty in Georgia 4-H to receive this award. \*\*

# **Collegiate 4-H'er Juawn Jackson Elected SGA President at Georgia College and State University**

Juawn Jackson has said from a young age that he wanted to grow up and be president of the United States. He served in many 4-H leadership roles including Bibb County president, Northwest District senior board, state board, and camp counselor. Even though he doesn't live in the White House, this sophomore political science major is serving as the student government president for Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville. \*



Georgia College President Steve Dorman and SGA President Juawn Jackson conducting a joint speech to the 2014 Peyton Anderson Scholars at a luncheon in Macon, Georgia.

# **Nelson Named to National 4-H Hall** of Fame

Miss Emmie Nelson was posthumously inducted to the National 4-H Hall of Fame during a ceremony held on October 10, 2014, at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland. She was one of fourteen honorees entering the 4-H Hall of Fame.

Miss Emmie Nelson's 4-H Club affiliation began as a child in what was then known as the Girls Club in Bartow County, Georgia. Her professional career began in 1923 as a Home Demonstration Agent; in 1935 she accepted the position as assistant state 4-H Club leader for Georgia—a position she held for ten years.

As assistant state 4-H Club leader, Miss Nelson was responsible for statewide program planning, college 4-H Club activities, and training of Extension workers as well as assisting with general supervision of 4-H activities in Georgia. She was named an



Miss Emmie Nelson's great-nephew Dr. Davis Nelson (center right) accepts commendation from the National 4-H Hall of Fame.

honorary Georgia Master 4-H Club member in 1945.

In 1945 she joined the 4-H Service Committee in Chicago, Illinois, where she assisted with leader training programs and worked with donors of National 4-H Award Programs. She served for twelve years as a consultant to the National 4-H Record Judging Committee.

At the 1951 National 4-H

Conference in Washington, D.C., Miss Nelson was awarded a special citation for her service to 4-H by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. She traveled to Puerto Rico in 1954 to assist with 4-H Club programming.

True to every part of the 4-H Pledge, Miss Nelson worked tirelessly in her hometown to establish essential services and to preserve its heritage. The "Emmie Nelson Library" in Euharlee, Georgia, is a tribute to her dedication. Rock Eagle 4-H Center honored Miss Nelson by naming a cabin for her; Guy Noble, director of the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work, further recognized Miss Nelson's outstanding service to 4-H by presenting to Rock Eagle 4-H Center an oil portrait for display in Talmadge Auditorium; she is the only person who was not a state 4-H leader or a director of Extension to be so honored.

Great-nephew Dr. Davis Nelson proudly accepted Miss Emmie Nelson's commendation from the National 4-H Hall of Fame.



Alaina Alderman performs with Clovers and Company and is from Bacon County.

# Wilma Minix Builds Legacy, Greates Leorgia 4-4 Livestock Judging Endowment





t is a story that is unique and shows the connectivity of 4-H across the state. It is a story that shows the tremendous influence and friendship that can be developed through the relationship of community members and their county agent. This is the story of Ed and Wilma Minix. Wilma, a 4-H alumna for South Georgia, has chosen to honor her late husband and the legacy of their cattle operation, Black Witch Farm, by making a gift to support Georgia 4-H. The couple met in the early

1940s and built an incredible life working together, side-by-side through countless hours of hard work. Ed served in the military, based in Fort McPherson, Georgia, while Wilma worked as a secretary of the third Army signal officer on the military base, a position she was in for 25 years. After retiring from the military, Ed worked for 37 years in the fast food business in Atlanta as vice president and general manager of The Varsity, the world's largest drive-in restaurant.

In 1962, the couple bought a

small 47-acre farm in Gwinnett County as a home for their horses and quickly decided to add some grazing animals for the pastures. They consulted with then—County Agent Wayne Shackelford to discuss their options, eventually deciding on adding Angus cattle to their operation. The growth and quality of their farm was remarkable over the years. Eventually, their bulls entered test stations at the University of Georgia's Calhoun and Tifton locations and broke records in the 1970s. Through the years, Black Witch Farm raised many popular sires and won numerous awards for the high quality breeds that were produced on their farm.

Ed would leave work each day,

and he and Wilma would head to the farm where they would feed and care for the cattle. Ed and Wilma halter-broke every cow in their herd, an accomplishment that only a handful of breeders can claim. Ed and Wilma hosted many 4-H judging teams on their farm, serving them with homemade brownies and the famous and refreshing Varsity Frosted Orange. Gwinnett County 4-H alumnus Bob Burton recalls his visits at Black Witch Farm as a livestock judging team member stating, "I visited Wilma's farm when I was on the Gwinnett Country Livestock Judging team and Wayne Shackleford, our county agent, took us over to visit her farm and view the livestock. It was a showplace. We were made to feel so welcome by this sophisticated lady, elegant in both style and demeanor who looked like she would be as comfortable on 5th Avenue as she was on that farm that day. Her grace



and charm is something that I will always remember."

The Ed and Wilma Minix Black Witch Farm Livestock Judging Endowment was established in July to provide endowment funding

Judging Program. The objectives of 4-H Livestock Judging are to acquire a better knowledge and understanding of livestock and develop skills in selecting livestock, to learn to identify and evaluate breeds and classes of livestock, to develop skills that contribute to profitable livestock production on the farm, and to learn how to make individual decisions and support them with oral statements. The endowment will be used to support the statewide competition and provide curriculum development and training for agents, volunteers, and youth to develop and grow their livestock judging teams. Mrs. Minix has designated a portion of her estate to benefit this endowment in the future. Georgia 4-H Foundation Executive Director Mary Ann Parsons stated, "Mrs. Wilma's love and support of 4-H and desire to make a difference in youth while honoring the life-long friendships she has in 4-H, coupled with her passion for the Angus industry are so beautifully illustrated in the establishment of this endowment that will leave a permanent impression on 4-H." 🗱

for the Georgia 4-H Livestock





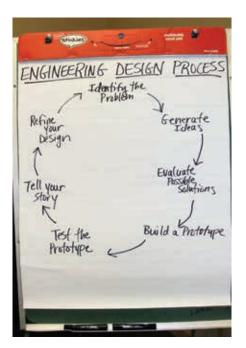
# Georgia 4-H'ers Benefit from HughesNet® Tech Takeover Days





Georgia 4-H received a \$10,000 science sponsorship from National 4-H Council and HughesNet® to implement two Tech Takeover Days during 4-H camp at Rock Eagle 4-H Center this past summer. The days started with a test of the campers' observation skills and ended with a discussion about the challenges faced by scientists. Campers learned that even the best scientists don't always find the answer or "get it right" the first time. About seventy Georgia 4-H campers engaged in a variety of activities designed to spark their interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). The activities culminated by the campers designing and navigating a submersible remotely operated vehicle (ROV) through several challenges in Pool 1 at Rock Eagle.

Tech Takeover Days, part of a national effort on the part of HughesNet® and National 4-H Council to increase STEM activities during 4-H summer camping programs, took place in four additional states. With statistics showing the U.S. falling behind in STEM education and







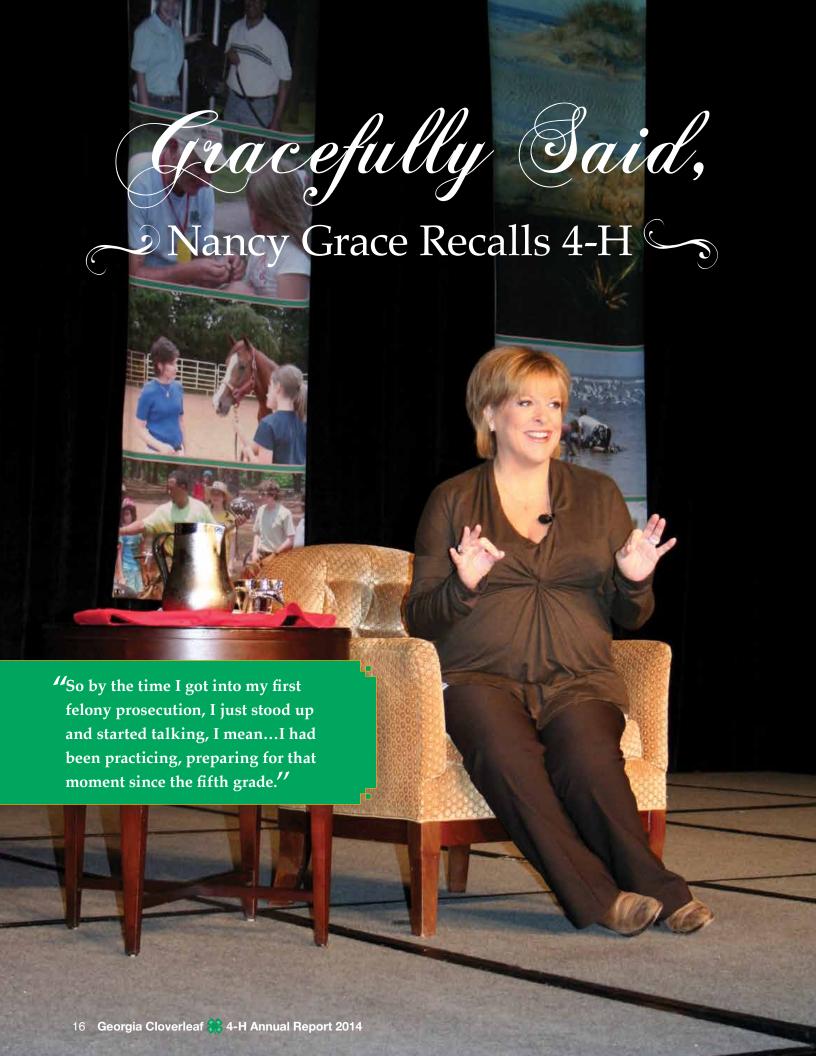
Visitors from HughesNet® and National 4-H Council watch campers test prototypes.

careers, National 4-H Council and HughesNet® announced in February a partnership to introduce more American youth to hands-on, community-based STEM learning. The HughesNet® partnership also led to an opportunity for Georgia 4-H to promote National Youth Science Day to a broader audience at the Georgia National Fair in Perry.

HughesNet® is the #1 highspeed satellite Internet service in the marketplace. It is part of Hughes Network Systems, LLC, the world's leading provider of satellite broadband for home and office. At the second Tech Takeover Days, Marc Lisme and Aaron James from HughesNet® and Kinetra Joseph and Marey Wagner from National

4-H Council visited the camperscientists to observe their activities, offer their encouragement to the students to continue their science education, and thank Georgia 4-H for its involvement in this partnership.

"We thank HughesNet® for the funding that provided this opportunity to our campers and appreciate National 4-H Council for steering them to us," said State 4-H Leader Arch Smith. "This demonstrates national recognition for the good work Georgia 4-H is doing and our commitment to increase STEM activities on both the county and state level in Georgia and also for the excellence of our summer camping program." \*\*



Nancy Grace hosts CNN Headline News' top-rated show Nancy Grace. Nancy has gone from Bibb County 4-H'er to Court TV anchor to Closing Arguments to her current show. You can hear the enduring 4-H spirit in Grace's voice when she talks about her 4-H experiences. "My greatest treasures from 4-H are the ability to speak publicly, whether I'm prepared or it's at the drop of a hat. The wonderful friends and the memories I have to this day are still some of the happiest times of my life!" said Grace when speaking to the Georgia 4-H'ers and special guests gathered at State 4-H Council in June, 2014.

"I started speaking when I was in the fifth grade. My mother, who





Nancy Grace (center left) joins current 4-H'ers and staff at Rock Eagle.

was a state winning Master 4-H'er, would help me, train me, to give my demonstrations in the Forestry project. My mom would stand in the kitchen cooking, and I'd get in front of the kitchen table and practice my demonstration speech, which started off at 4 minutes. And you know, I would have to turn my posters and show how a tree was made into paper."

She recalled that as she slowed down, her mom would turn around from the kitchen sink and look at her, say "Honey," and she would start up again.

"So by the time I got into my first felony prosecution, I just stood up and started talking," she said. "I mean...I had been practicing, preparing for that moment since the fifth grade."

"I use this every day in my job. All that goes back to when I would be preparing for those 4-H demonstrations. It goes back to fifth grade when I learned selfconfidence, to stand up, believe in what I say, and say it even though people may not agree with me and they may not like what I have to say. And without any stuttering, humming, hollering or any confusion. I have to say that is one

of the greatest gifts I have ever been given," Grace says.

Grace's 4-H projects ranged from Forestry to Home Furnishings and Art but her 4-H dream wasn't to Master—it was to become a Rock Eagle camp counselor. "My dream came true, and I became a Rock Eagle camp counselor in 1978, teaching Forestry and taking kids on nature walks and practicing tree identification. I was a member of the Shawnee tribe," she says. "I loved being a counselor, and my happiest memories are of taking the youngest 4-H'ers on their nature walks."

Grace has supported Georgia 4-H all her life and now plans to start a 4-H club for her twins, John David and Lucy Elizabeth. In 2011, she was nationally honored with the Distinguished 4-H Alumni Medallion. The Georgia Master 4-H Club also honored Nancy by making her an Additional Master 4-H'er. The leading industry trade magazines, Variety and The Hollywood Reporter named Ms. Grace one of the most powerful women in entertainment.

Nancy Grace is still influencing the lives of Georgia 4-H'ers and will continue to help Georgia 4-H make the best...even better! 🏶

# Retiring Georgia Extension Leader Regrets Not Being a 4-H Member



losing the door on 30 years of service, Beverly Sparks retired July 1 after conducting research, publishing papers, educating Extension agents and, most recently, leading University of Georgia Extension.

Sparks graduated from Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College with a dual degree in horticulture and entomology. While at ABAC, she worked on the UGA Tifton campus (then the Coastal Plain Experiment Station). She then headed to UGA to earn bachelors and masters degrees.

While working on her master's degree, she interned on the UGA Griffin campus (then the Georgia Experiment Station) where she studied the taxonomy of scale species for three summers. Officially bitten by the entomology "bug," Sparks headed to Louisiana State University where she earned a Ph.D.

Her first job was as an Extension entomologist at Texas A&M working in 18 counties in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area. In 1989, she came back to Georgia and became UGA's Extension entomologist in Athens. Sparks studied fire ants and other ornamental and turf pests, and worked closely with the structural pest control industry. But her favorite aspect of her job was training county agents.

In 2000, Sparks walked away from urban pests, hung up her lab coat and became director of the Northeast District of Extension. Sparks took another step up the administrative ladder in 2005 when she became interim

> director of Extension. She officially assumed the post in 2007.

"Dr. Sparks has been a remarkable leader for Extension," said Georgia State 4-H Leader Arch Smith. "Her support of 4-H went far beyond our state line as she served as a member of the National 4-H Council board of trustees. Most importantly, she was always willing to listen to the needs of 4-H and respond with support."

Looking back over her career, Sparks only has one regret—that she wasn't a 4-H'er. "(My family) was only supposed to be in Tifton for a year so I wasn't active in 4-H. But I was friends with Pat Barkaloo's students. What a missed opportunity that was. 4-H benefits so many kids, especially ones that are introverted like I was," said Sparks. # —Sharon Dowdy



Beverly Sparks unveils her portrait which will hang in the Rock Eagle Auditorium along with her predecessors.

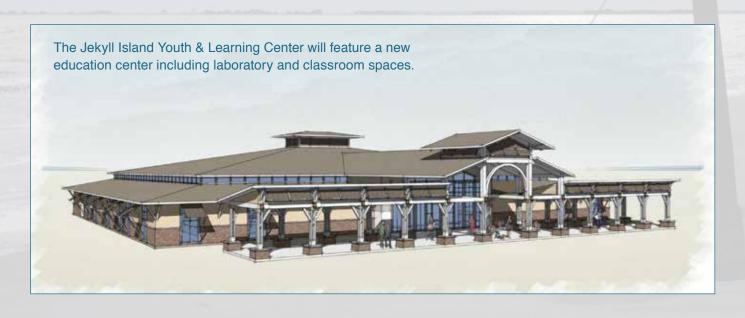
# Transition Begins at Jekyll Island 4-H Center

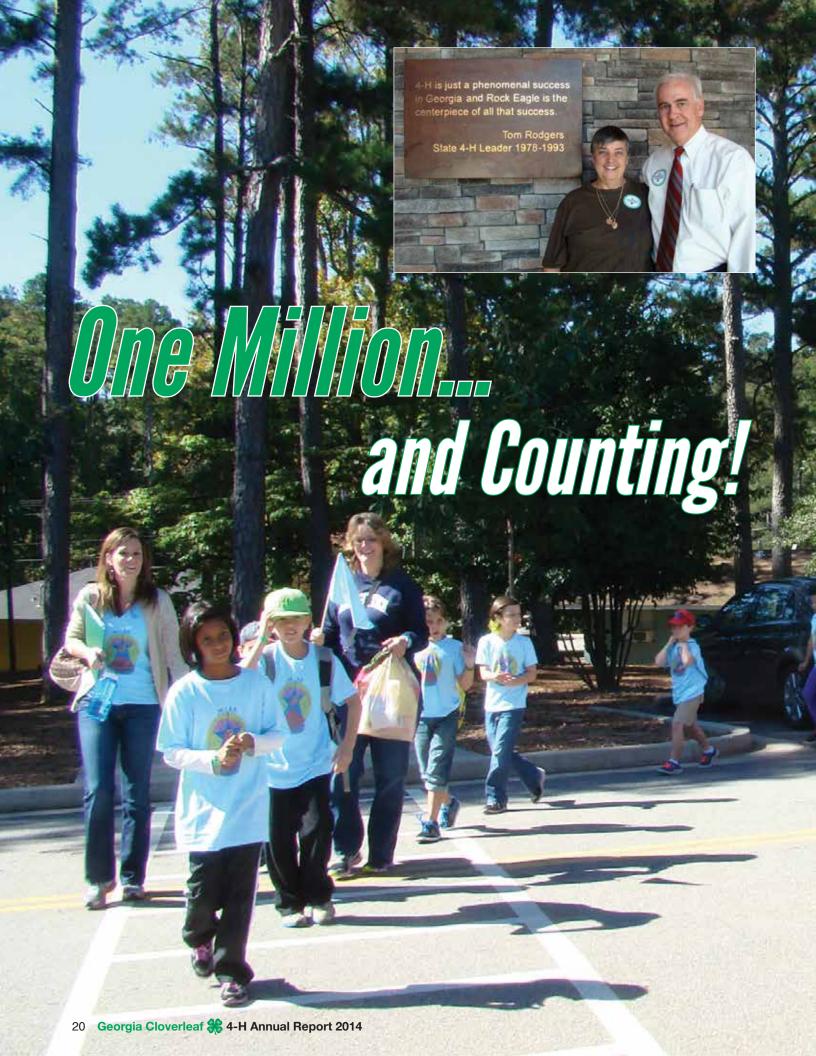
Originally acquired in 1982 from the Jekyll Island Authority, Jekyll Island 4-H Center established itself as an integral part of the statewide Georgia 4-H program. The center is situated on the south end of Jekyll Island and has served as a learning laboratory for hundreds of thousands 4-H'ers and school students in its 30+ year history. Each school year, more than twelve thousand K-12<sup>th</sup> grade students participate in 4-H Environmental Education and use the natural areas of Jekyll as their classroom without walls. Students explore the famous "Marshes of Glynn," ancient maritime forests, and pristine beaches as they connect science concepts introduced in the classroom to real world environments. Similarly, each summer more than one thousand 4-H'ers enjoy the center as their week-long summer camp destination. They, too, explore the natural habitats of the island, while also enjoying additional recreational time with enthusiastic 4-H summer camp counselors.

The facilities of Jekyll Island 4-H Center had a life of their own even before becoming a 4-H center. Originally built as a motel for African-American visitors to Jekyll during the late 1950s and early 1960s, the property included a pavilion, lounge and restaurant, and auditorium. Soon thereafter, the property was transformed (though only slightly) to accommodate a youth audience. The camp we know as Jekyll Island 4-H Center has seen many improvements and changes over the years but none as comprehensive as what will occur in the coming years.

In March 2013, the Jekyll Island Authority announced a new partnership between the Authority and Georgia 4-H, which will improve, renovate, and expand what is the now the Jekyll Island 4-H Center. The Georgia General Assembly approved \$12 million in the FY14 budget to support these changes. The center closed December 2014 to allow for construction; it is scheduled to reopen in 2016 as the Jekyll Island Youth and Learning Center. Georgia 4-H looks forward to the continued delivery of our flagship programs—4-H summer camp and 4-H Environmental Education—in this new facility. \*\*

**Jekyll Island provides** such a rich and meaningful learning environment. Upon completion of the new facilities, Georgia 4-H looks forward to again sharing Jekyll's natural wonders through 4-H Environmental **Education and 4-H Summer** Camp programs.







THE STORY OF THE GEORGIA 4-H Environmental Education (EE) Program began in 1979 when then State 4-H Leader, Tom Rodgers, hired a young and ambitious Diane Davies. The problems were real; the 4-H Centers were not being used to their full capacities and they needed more youth business. Diane had a vision for a program that would serve students during the school day, using the outdoors as a classroom without walls. If she was right, this program could fill Rock Eagle 4-H Center from Monday through Friday, the time it was currently sitting vacant. With only a \$300 budget and a six month timeline, Diane

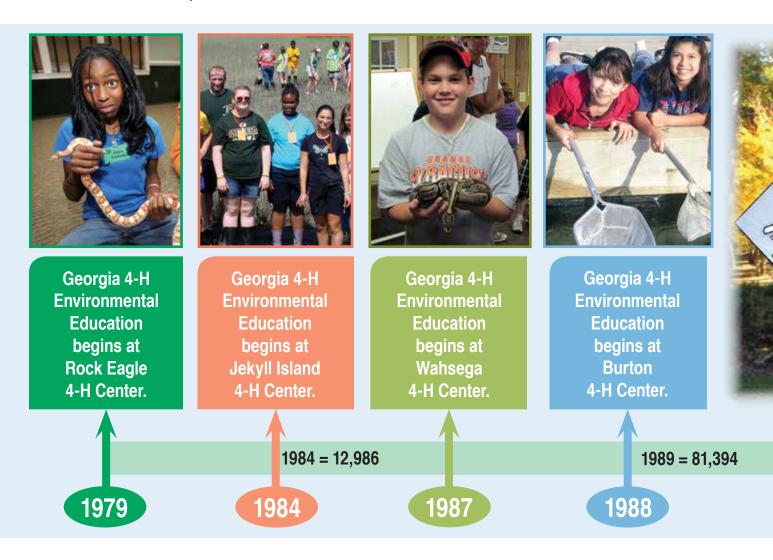
got the program off the ground. In that first year, she served over 2,000 students with a program designed to complement the state education standards and bring relevance to classroom studies. The program continued to expand in size and scope. By the mid 1980's, she was able to hire additional staff members so she could concentrate on growing the program statewide. And, grow it did! The program saw success at Jekyll Island 4-H Center, Wahsega 4-H Center, and Burton 4-H Center (named Tybee Island 4-H Center then). By 1990, the program had served over 100,000 participants and was recognized as a partner in education by public and private schools across Georgia. At this point, programs at each of the centers were managed by on-site directors and coordinators and Diane continued her work in the areas of fund-raising, friend-raising, and providing support for the growth of the statewide program. Under her leadership, the Georgia 4-H EE Program became a model for other programs across the country. When Diane finally retired in 2003, the program had provided field studies to almost 600,000 students.

Because of the strong foundation provided by Diane, the program continued to flourish even after she retired. Fortson 4-H Center began its 4-H Environmental Education Program in 2005 as the newest site. By 2010 over 850,000 participants had been impacted by the program. The Georgia 4-H EE Program had remained connected to the state educational system throughout the years; adapting to QBE (Quality Basic Education), QCCs (Quality Core Curriculum), GPS (Georgia Performance Standards), and CCGPS (Common Core Georgia Performance Standards) all along the way. The goals established by Diane in the early years, remained relevant into the 21st century. Teachers continued to

request field studies and often found themselves on waiting lists to bring their students to these once in a lifetime opportunities.

# GOALS

- To make the school program more meaningful by applying knowledge and skills acquired in the classroom to real life situations
- To cultivate curiosity, critical reasoning and evaluation
- To develop positive relationships among students and teachers
- To develop self-confidence and physical fitness
- To develop an awareness, knowledge and appreciation of the environment
- To develop appreciation for the local and natural history of an area
- To provide experiences in using scientific processes, such as observing, measuring, and classifying

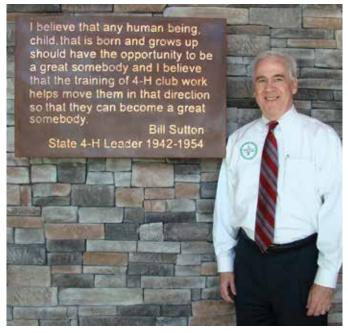


So much so, that by 2013, the Georgia 4-H Environmental Education Program was closing in on one million participants. According to program evaluation, these are students who...

- have a better relationship with their teacher following residential field studies
- have better relationships with their peers following residential field studies
- are better connected with nature following residential field studies
- have a better understanding of Georgia's ecosystems following residential field studies
- are aware that their behaviors have an impact on the environment following residential field studies

In other words, the Georgia 4-H Environmental Education field studies help fulfill the mission of Georgia 4-H by assisting youth in acquiring knowledge, developing life skills, and forming attitudes that will enable them to become self-directing, productive and contributing members of society.

On October 10, 2013 an important milestone occurred for the Georgia 4-H EE program and it was not the



By the close of the 2013-2014 school year, the total number of participants served in the 35 year history of Georgia 4-H EE is 1,035,049.









Georgia 4-H **Environmental** Education begins at 4-H **Tidelands Nature Center.** 

Georgia 4-H **Environmental** Education begins at Fortson 4-H Center.

35 YEARS OF **ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION** 1.000.000 ... AND COUNTING

1994 = 250,129

1999 = 449,324

2004 = 2,199

2009 = 822,704

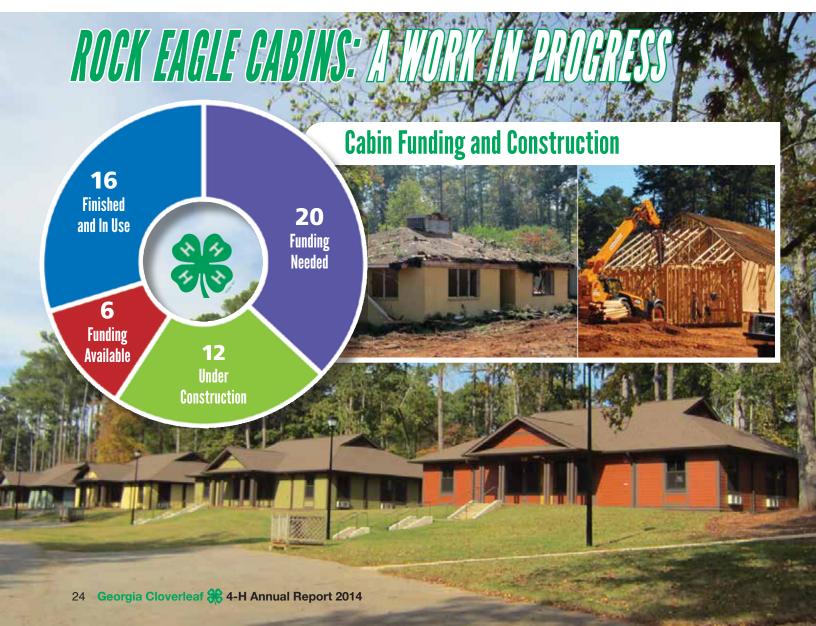
2005

2013

arrival of the millionth student. Though, that was wonderful. The Georgia 4-H Centers had been counting up since the start of the 2013-14 school year. Each week, the numbers were updated and by early October, the staff was able to predict the date and the school that would bring the one millionth student. The centers prepared and made final plans celebrate. Thirty-five years in the making, on October 10 at Rock Eagle 4-H Center, where it all began, the one millionth student arrived on campus. All five 4-H centers celebrated with cupcakes, banners, stickers, bookmarks, media releases, and more. Diane Davies returned to welcome Marietta Center for Academic Excellence and their 400+ participants, one of which was the millionth. However, contrary to what people may have predicted, the Georgia 4-H EE Program did not try to identify the actual millionth student. This is because Marietta Center for Academic Excellence brought something far more important than the millionth student. They brought the 1,000,001st student. This is the student that

started the "count-up" to the 2,000,000<sup>th</sup> participant.

Estimates indicate that it will not take another 35 years to reach the next million. Instead, it may be as soon as 20-25 years before the 2,000,000<sup>th</sup> student visits one of the 4-H Centers for a Georgia 4-H Environmental Education field study. Things will no doubt be different in the 2030s; technology will have changed, our educational standards will have changed, and our natural world will have changed. Nevertheless, given all of these changes, Georgia 4-H is venturing that the EE program will be as important as ever to the students of the 2030s. The successes of the Georgia 4-H EE program are timeless: positive relationships, connectedness to the natural world, better understanding of ecosystems, and knowledge that human behaviors impact the world. The Georgia 4-H EE Program was carefully crafted by a dynamic leader in 1979 to support these important aims. In 2013, it continues to change the lives of youth and will continue to do so with every student that participants until 2030, and beyond.

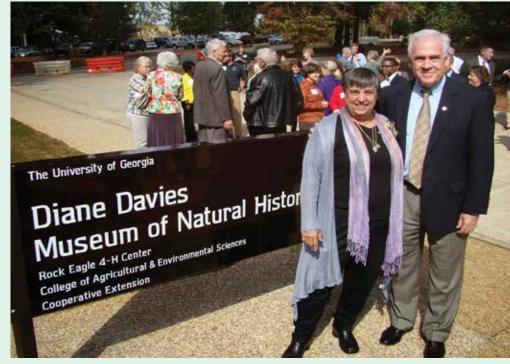


# **Diane Davies Museum of Natural History Dedication**

n October 29, 2013, the Diane Davies Museum of Natural History was dedicated to honor the founder of the Georgia 4-H Environmental Education Program. Diane Davies retired in 2003 from the UGA as the Extension 4-H Specialist/Senior Public Service Associate. During her 32-year career in public service, she taught countless Georgia children how to understand, appreciate and protect the natural world. Diane's contributions to the Georgia 4-H Environmental Education Program are unparalleled and the naming of the museum in her honor is just one way to recognize her contributions. The dedication was only a few short weeks behind the arrival of the one millionth Georgia 4-H Environmental Education Participant, an achievement made possible by the strong foundation provided by Ms. Davies.

The museum itself was also the brainchild of Ms. Davies who had long dreamed of a place where children could learn about the natural history of Georgia and see exhibits that make textbooks come alive. Ms. Davies and then State 4-H Leader, Dr. Tom Rodgers, successfully solicited donations from the Cecil B. Day foundation for the construction of the facility. Together, they also worked with other donors, commodity groups, and foundations to fund exhibits and displays. Her dreams finally became a reality in 1990. The Museum of Natural History became another learning laboratory for students allowing them the opportunity to explore what Georgia's piedmont would have looked like 265 million years ago all the way through the present day.

The museum is still an important component of the Rock Eagle 4-H Environmental Education Program as students walk through, complete scavenger hunts, and participate in classes in the building during their field studies. The museum is also open to the public





during special Sunday Lunches and when community programs are offered at Rock Eagle 4-H Center.

Ms. Davies earned many accolades and honors during her career with Georgia 4-H. In 1991 she was selected as a Group 12 Kellogg National Fellow through the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Her Kellogg Fellowship travels took her all over the world and included the implementation of an eco-tourism project in the Galapagos Islands at the Charles Darwin Research Center. She has also received the D.W. Brooks Faculty Award for Extension, the Outstanding Service Award from the North American Association for Environmental Education and the Eugene Odum Lifetime Achievement Award for her work in environmental education. Ms. Davies was also inducted into the National 4-H Hall of Fame in 2012.

Since retiring, Ms. Davies started her pottery business, Maid of Clay, and is now a full time studio potter. She creates wheel thrown and hand built functional pieces in her studio in Madison, GA. #

# Georgia 4-H Goes to Washington, D.C.

"Do you have a green jacket?"

"Yes. In fact, I have two of them."

The e-mail on my screen posed a rather unusual question.

That e-mail was from United States Congressional Ag Counsel Legislative Assistant Chase Cannon. He went on to explain the reason for the question. Georgia Congressman Austin Scott was leading a congressional hearing to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Smith-Lever Act. (In 1914 this act established the Cooperative Extension System as part of our nation's public universities. 4-H is the youth development component of Cooperative Extension.)

"Why me? I'd love to help, but what could I do?"
"We want you to represent 4-H and tell your story before Congress."

"Congress? You mean the United States Congress?" "That's the one. Fact, it's the only one."

The e-mail from Chase arrived in February, following my visit late last year to Congressman Scott's office. While in Washington, D.C., in November to attend a National 4-H Council Board of Trustees meeting, I traveled to Capitol Hill to meet with the congressman. We had a great conversation about 4-H and the importance of youth development organizations. I told Congressman Scott, even as a college sophomore at the University of Georgia, I was



(L-R) Dr. Sonny Ramaswamy, Director, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA; Georgia 4-H'er Tess Hammock; Dr. A. Scott Reed, Vice Provost, University Outreach and Engagement and Director, Oregon State University Extension Service.



Tess with U.S. Representative Austin Scott (R-GA 8th District).

still involved in 4-H and even spoke with his staff about a possible internship. Little did I know his staff would reach out months later and invite me to testify before Congress.

When I agreed to testify, things literally shifted into hyper drive. With only ten days before the hearing, there was a flurry of activity as I wrote and re-wrote my remarks and coordinated logistics with National 4-H Council and congressional staff; all while trying to keep up with school work, including mid-term exams.

On March 4 as I told my story of growing up in 4-H, I shared the story of seven million 4-H'ers worldwide. While there are differences between every project, competition, and event we do, 4-H'ers have one thing in common: our shared obligation to make the world a better place. It was important to me to relay the powerful story of 4-H, its impact, and why believing and investing in youth is vital to America's future.

Everything I've done in 4-H came into play and converged to completely prepare me for the biggest presentation of my life. Although I was one of several voices that spoke on the morning of March 4, millions were heard—Cooperative Extension agents (state and local), 4-H professionals, educators, volunteers, staff, parents, friends, and 4-H'ers.

It was my proudest accomplishment. I'm really glad I had a green jacket. \*\*

Cordele native Austin French may have gained nationwide notoriety this summer on ABC's "Rising Star," but it was Georgia 4-H where friends and supporters first recognized his star quality.

"4-H, in general, was a huge catalyst for my music career just public speaking and being personable, reaching out to people. I learned all that through 4-H. Without 4-H, I don't know if I'd be where I am right now," French said.

The South Georgia singing sensation, Georgia 4-H Clovers & Company alum, became a household name when he finished as runner-up on the inaugural season of ABC's "Rising Star." French, who still leads church worship services at Journey Baptist Church in Tifton, believes 4-H was the springboard to his musical career.

"Going on this competition, I



# Rising Star, Austin French Credits 4-H as Catalyst for Career

did so many T.V. interviews, talked to different people, met different executives—without the confidence that 4-H really equipped me with, it might have turned out a lot differently," said French.

Joining the group when he was in fifth grade, French was a member of Clovers & Company from 2005-2012. French is not the first Clovers & Company alum to achieve success.

"Clovers & Company acts as a catalyst to not only get youth more involved with 4-H, but to also propel them toward a successful career in the performing arts," said Cheryl Varnadoe, assistant show director and state coordinator for the program.

Country music superstar and

Douglas native Jennifer Nettles is a past member of Clovers & Company, as is songwriter and Washington native Hillary Lindsey. Before launching her solo career, Nettles was a member of the CMT Awardwinning group, Sugarland. Lindsey is known for writing chart-topping hits like "Jesus Take The Wheel" and "Two Black Cadillacs," both recorded by Carrie Underwood.

Varnadoe is not surprised by French's success and is confident there are many more musical talents in Georgia.

"Austin was a member of our cast for eight years, so we were fortunate enough to be able to watch him grow as a performer as well as a leader. Austin was always featured prominently in our shows, and we knew that it was only a matter of time before the rest of the world discovered what a true star he was-both on and off the stage. It makes us so proud to claim someone as successful as Austin as one of our own," Varnadoe said. "It is an honor for me, as well as the rest of the staff, to be able to work with incredibly talented young people in Georgia 4-H Clovers & Company."

Clovers & Company was founded in 1981 and is comprised of talented Georgia 4-H members from across the state. Tryouts for the 2015-2016 Clovers & Company group will be held June 11, 2015 at Fortson 4-H Center in Atlanta and June 16, 2015 at the Rock Eagle 4-H Center in Eatonton. 

♣ —Clint Thompson

# Bringing HOPE through Partnerships to Solve Georgia's Childhood Obesity Challenge

Partnerships are a vital part of the way Georgia 4-H seeks to "Make the Best Better." Teaming with the Georgia Food Bank Association, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, and the Arby's Foundation, we are hard at work to combine our resources, expertise, and efforts to combat childhood hunger and obesity in our state. For every four Georgia children, one child is food insecure, yet Georgia ranks 12<sup>th</sup> among states with the highest rates of obesity for youth ages 10 to 17. From initial conversations centered on of the idea of a recipe contest, the partnership has evolved to include a pilot of 4-H high school youth ambassadors, a recipe contest, and training for adults who support youth in hunger and obesity work.

The collaborative partnership has allowed Georgia 4-H to serve as the lead coordinator for both the recipe contest and the youth ambassador program. The recipe contest, "Pantry Pride," provides an opportunity for 4-H'ers to combine their own creativity and nutrition knowledge in food preparation with the requirement that ingredients for the recipe be those commonly found in a community food pantry or food bank. Georgia 4-H has led the partnership in designing the

youth ambassador experience and selecting the initial pilot sites for the 4-H youth ambassador project.

During the pilot year, youth and adults were trained on key messages to raise awareness of the correlation of hunger to obesity. Information from the Georgia Food Bank Association, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, and University of Georgia Extension has been combined with best practices for youth and adult partnerships to yield a program that has the potential for significant impact in our state and the ability for replication in other state 4-H and youth programs. Wendy Palmer, manager for Child Wellness Solutions for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta shares, "Children's Healthcare of Atlanta is excited to collaborate with 4-H and the GFBA on the 4-H HOPE program. Youth have a tremendous opportunity to influence their environments, peers, and even adults in their lives by role modeling and teaching healthy habits and by engaging in community based project work. Partnerships like these allow the youth to gain exposure to quality programming that engages them in current health issues, like obesity and hunger, for our state."

This work is truly a model for how children's health



Pictured above are DeKalb County 4-H'ers recognized as Health Ambassadors by Children's Health of Atlanta. (L-R) Mandy B. Marble, Extension 4-H Specialist, Mark McCreary, John McDonald, Emalee Evans, Brian Lucear, Ariana Cherry, Devin Thornton and Amandla Williams, Marie Trice. DeKalb County Extension Agent, and Lori P. Bledsoe, Northwest 4-H Program Development Coordinator Ariana Cherry, center of picture, received a medal of distinction as was inducted into Children's Healthcare of Atlanta's Health Ambassador's Hall of Fame.



Gale Cutler (fourth from the left on the back row) pictured with Georgia 4-H Congress delegates during their project tour to Georgia Electric Membership Corporations headquarters.

care providers, food banks, a land-grant university, and state agencies can capitalize on resources and expertise to raise awareness, start and continue collaborative conversations, and design programming to impact the lives of children, youth, and families. The youth ambassador program is aptly named 4-H HOPE because it stands for Helping Other People Eat and Eat Healthy.

DeKalb and Rockdale counties served as pilot sites where 4-H HOPE Action Leader youth ambassadors have been trained. Twenty-six youth from these two counties participated in the pilot training. Successful 4-H project work included the following:

- Health Snack Food Demonstration from Expanded Food and Nutrition recipes to DeKalb County Recreation Department centers
- Strong4Life (a wellness program designed through Children's Healthcare of Atlanta) activities incorporated with Kids Day of Play through a carnival at Arabia Mountain High School in **DeKalb County**
- Healthy Food Drive for the food bank in Rockdale County with Rockdale County elementary schools
- Strong4Life activities (demonstrated at DeKalb Farmers Market) and awareness efforts for food deserts that exist in DeKalb County (in conjunction with Agricultural Pathways at Arabia Mountain Charter and Arabia Mountain's chapter of FFA)
- Healthy Snack infomercials created and recorded by DeKalb Ambassadors
- Promotion of Health Choices with fresh foods and vegetables at the Rockdale County Farmers Market with a vegetable cooking demonstration

DeKalb County 4-H County Extension Agent Marie Trice shares, "The Strong4LifeHOPE program has

III n early 2012 we were looking for the opportunity to continue to increase our efforts to raise awareness about childhood hunger and obesity to a younger audience that could take the message to implement and share it with their peers and their communities. We knew that we would need to identify a strong partner organization that has a stellar reputation and shows great results from the work they have implemented and as a result we reached out and developed a relationship with Georgia 4-H. We know that by working to connect students in 4-H to information and

practical application skills around the issue of child hunger and child obesity they will be able to implement projects in their communities that will have lasting positive impact around this work. We are excited that we have had an opportunity to work closely with Georgia 4-H and Children's Healthcare to create a lasting partnership that will result in great leaders. "

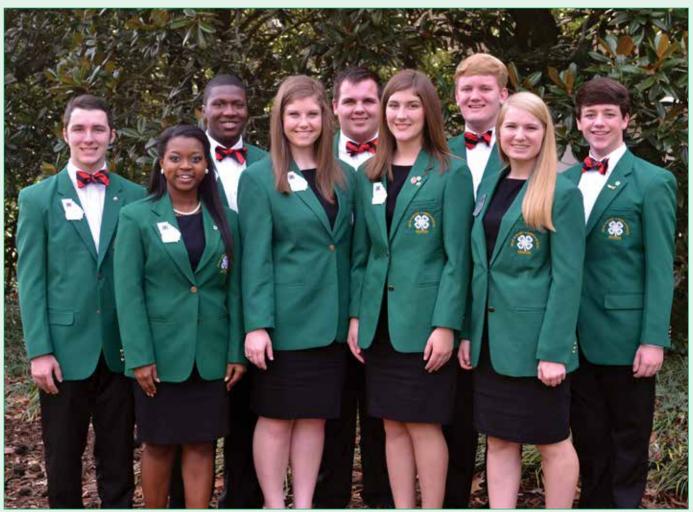
> Michele Chivore, Campaign Director for Georgia Food Bank Association

allowed our county 4-H members the opportunity to see that we can all be impactful in Georgia's fight to combat obesity and hunger. While county programming has focused on both issues for a few years through the ambassadors program with Children's Healthcare, they have been able to see that the issues are interrelated. I have seen and observed the youth ambassadors accept more personal responsibility for their own health by drinking more water and taking in less sugars. They also constantly remind adults that they should do the same. This supports the founding principles of 4-H as well as the Health 'H' because they have truly pledged their 'health for better living.'"

Georgia 4-H sees this innovative partnership as one that is timely in meeting significant issues facing our state. We have sought the full resources of UGA Extension by coordinating with University of Georgia Family and Consumer Sciences State Specialists and Agricultural and Natural Resources Agents. \*

-Mandy B. Marable

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(L-R) Austin Mashburn, Maya Mapp, Stephan Rolle, Allison Womack, Oakley Perry, Caroline Dunn, Blake Allen, Elizabeth Savage, and Brett Allen



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### 2014 4-H STATE WINNERS

## **4-H Project Winners**

#### **Arts & Crafts**

Amelia Dav. Houston County Donors: Marian Fisher, Georgia 4-H Foundation, Ted & Gerrye Jenkins

#### **Beef**

Will McDaniel, Gordon County Donors: Jim & Renee' Williamson

#### Communications

Matthew Pryor, Bartow County Donors: Georgia 4-H Volunteer Leaders Association, The Honorable Judge John

#### **Companion Animal Science**

Sophie Usher. Effingham County Donors: William & Edna Sell, Representative and Mrs. Terry England

#### **Computer Information Technology**

Turner Jordan, Spalding County Donors: Ms. April Baggs, Mr. Jeffrey Burke, Mr. Jared Crapps, Mr. Reese Simmons

#### **Conservation of Natural Resources**

Jannah Brown. Pulaski County Donors: The Daniel Ashley & Irene Houston Jewell Memorial Foundation, Sara Godwin

#### **Dairy & Milk Science**

Jay Moon, Morgan County Donors: Angela Broder Nemeth, Henry & Judy Hibbs, The Family of Frances McKissick in memory of Bobby Gene McKissick

#### **Dairy Foods**

Emily Kate Bridges, Oglethorpe County Donors: Earl & Wanda Barrs, Georgia 4-H Foundation, Georgia Ag Tag, Bob & Lucy

#### **Dog Care & Training**

Hope Nelson, Thomas County Donor: Georgia Veterinary Medical Association

#### **Entomology**

Kate Phillips, Columbia County Donors: Entomology Department, Georgia Pest Control Association

#### **Environmental Science**

Francisco Javier Zepeda, Spalding County

Donors: Ms. April Baggs, Mr. Jeffrey Burke, Mr. Jared Crapps, Mr. Reese Simmons, Georgia Cooperative Council



Cloverleaf cooking at DPA.

#### **Family Resource Management**

Michaela Fontaine, Lowndes County Donor: Sarah L. Huff Fund

#### **Fashion Revue**

Hannah Skalleberg, Forsyth County Donor: Georgia Master 4-H Club

#### **Festive Foods for Health**

Hannah Rull, Paulding County Donor: Publix Super Market Charities, Inc.

#### Flowers, Shrubs & Lawns

Rose Livingston, Douglas County Donor: Georgia Development Authority

#### **Food Fare**

Aaron Rognstad, Seminole County Donor: Georgia Development Authority

#### **Food for Fitness**

Lexie Joiner, Crisp County Donor: M.K. "Curly" Cook Family in memory of Sandra B. Cook

#### **Food Safety & Preservation**

Madeline Walker, Union County Donors: Ms. April Baggs, Mr. Jeffrey Burke, Mr. Jared Crapps, Gary & Rhonda Keve, Mr. Reese Simmons

#### **Forestry & Wood Science**

Noah Daugherty, Forsyth County Donors: Bill Lott, Georgia 4-H Foundation, Paulding Timber Products, Inc.

#### Fruits, Vegetables & Nuts

Guy Hancock, Irwin County Donor: Meadows-Knox Family Fund

#### **General Recreation**

Kaitlyn Drexler, Bartow County Donor: Georgia Recreation & Parks Association, Inc.

Aisvarya Panakam, Forsyth County Donor: Greg L. Jones

#### **History**

Anthony Catanzariti, Tattnall County Donors: Beth Scott-Brown (in honor of John Darius Miller Scott & in memory of Darius Miller), Georgia 4-H Foundation

Andrew Haygood, Pickens County Donor: The Daniel Ashley & Irene Houston Jewell Memorial Foundation

#### **Housing, Equipment & Environment**

Nanki Udhwani. Oconee County Donors: Bucky & Shelley Cook

#### **Human Development**

Anna Holcombe, Hart County Donor: Georgia Association of Extension 4-H Agents

#### International

Phillipe Jennings, Union County Donors: Eleanor I. Smith, Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### **Outdoor Recreation**

Hunter Jordan, Oconee County Donor: The Athens Six

#### Performing Arts—Dance

Kara Jordan, Johnson County Donors: Burley & Connie Page

#### Performing Arts—General

Caroline Harpe, Crisp County Donor: Six Flags Over Georgia



#### Performing Arts—Other Instrumental

Tyler Wagner, Jenkins County Donors: Greg & Becky Price

#### Performing Arts—Piano

Carrianna Simmons, Spalding County Donors: 4-H Piano Players, Georgia 4-H

Players

#### Performing Arts - Vocal

Hannah French, Crisp County Donor: Frank Carter

#### **Photography**

Jonathan Tomberlin, Ben Hill County Donor: GEORGIA Magazine

#### Physical, Biological & Earth **Sciences**

**Abby Harrison**, Hart County Donor: Georgia Electric Membership Corporation

#### **Plant & Soil Sciences**

Shelby Sangster, Crisp County Donor: Georgia Plant Food Educational Society, Inc.

#### **Pork Production**

Carley Stapleton, Johnson County Donors: Ms. April Baggs, Mr. Jeffrey Burke, Mr. Jared Crapps. Mr. Reese Simmons. Arch Smith, Georgia Pork Producers Association

#### **Poultry & Egg Science**

Justin Harper, Tift County Donor: Georgia Poultry Federation

#### **Public Speaking**

Elizabeth Savage, Baldwin County Donors: Farm Credit Associations of Georgia, Kaleb S. McMichen, Cydcor USA, Inc.

#### Safety

Marissa Martin, Gwinnett County Donors: Greg & Karol Gaines

#### Science of Engineering & Mechanics

Phillip Harris, Berrien County Donors: Mike and Karen Garrett

#### **Sheep & Meat Goats**

Hannah Morgan, Harris County Donors: Jim & Reneé Williamson

#### Sports

Austin Wagner, Jenkins County Donor: Clover Glove Race Series

#### **Target Sports**

Kolbe Nix, Union County Donors: Family of Col. James "Jim" Boddie, Callaway Foundation

#### **Textile, Merchandising & Interiors**

Claire Livingston, Douglas County Donor: The Daniel Ashley & Irene Houston Jewell Memorial Foundation

#### **Veterinary Science**

Hannah Moseley, Bleckley County Donor: Georgia Veterinary Medical Association

#### Wildlife & Marine Science

Will Maxwell, Hart County Donor: Sara Godwin

#### **Workforce & Career Development**

Daniel Queen. Walton County Donor: Emerson Climate Technologies

UGA Vet School Open House.

# 4-H Special Events Winners

#### **Chicken Barbecue Contest**

Ashley Thigpen, Charlton County Donors: CAES Poultry Science Department, Ken & Christine Jones

#### **Cotton Boll Consumer Jamboree High** Individual

Jacob Bennett, Tift County Donor: Georgia Agricultural Commodity Commission for Cotton

#### **Cotton Boll Consumer Judging Team**

Caroline Sweat, Ivey Glover, Darius Jackson, Brett Allen, Johnson County Donor: Georgia Agricultural Commodity Commission for Cotton

#### **Cotton Boll Consumer Judging Team**

Jacob Bennett, Caroline Dunn, Nicole Taylor, Hannah Rucker, Tift County

#### **Dairy Judging High Individual**

Makayla Fulton, Houston County Donors: Southeast Milk, Inc, Georgia 4-H Foundation, University of Florida

#### **Dairy Judging Team**

MaryBeth McDermitt, Austin Cofield, Dammian Gonzalez, Carroll County Donors: Southeast Milk, Inc, Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### **Dairy Quiz Bowl Team**

Victoria Cagle, Constance Johnson, Jay Moon, Will Porter, Morgan County Donors: Southeast Milk, Inc, Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### Dean's Award—Agricultural & **Environmental Sciences**

Sunnie Wynn, Thomas County Donor: Reeves Design Services

#### Dean's Award—Citizenship

Brooks Saye, Oconee County Donors: Georgia EMC, Roger Harrison

#### Dean's Award—Communication and the Arts

Thomas Gilbert, Bartow County Donor: Bill Edwards

#### Dean's Award—Family & Consumer **Sciences**

Drew Belflower, Bleckley County Donors: Georgia Association of Family & Consumer Sciences, Inc., Blaine & Denise Everson

#### Dean's Award—Leadership

**Morgan Pippin**, Evans County Donor: James Harris Leadership Endowment

#### **Egg Preparation Contest**

**Julianna Morris**, Chatham County *Donor: Georgia Agribusiness Council* 

#### **Food Product Development Team**

Rose Livingston, Claire Livingston, Jacob Townsend, Victoria Williams, Sam Hopkins, Douglas County Donors: Golden Peanut Company, LLC, CAES Food Science Department, Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### Forestry Field Day High Individual

**Jessica Dixon**, Burke County *Donor: The Langdale Company* 

#### **Forestry Field Day Team**

Jessica Dixon, Cynthia Eberly, Lelan Eberly Taylor Mizelle, Burke County Donor: The Langdale Company

#### **Hippology High Individual**

**Madison Maavere**, Forsyth County *Donors: Georgia 4-H Foundation, Georgia Ag Tag* 

#### **Hippology Team**

Madison Maavere, Alyssa Pawlik, Lauren Krumm, Forsyth County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### **Horse Judging High Individual**

**Lauren Purvis**, Bartow County Donors: Georgia 4-H Foundation, Georgia Quarter Horse Youth Association

#### **Horse Judging Team**

Lauren Purvis, Ezra Hall, Bowen Pike, Matthew Pryor, Bartow County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### **Horse Quiz Bowl Team**

Caroline Hinton, Nathaniel Hinton, Mallory Huff, Mary Cate Marchert, Gwinnett County

Donors: Georgia Quarter Horse Youth Association, Georgia Ag Tag

#### **Horse Show**

Donors: Georgia Ag Tag, Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### Horse Show—Contest

Courtney Woodard, Hall County

#### Horse Show—Hunt Seat

Rachel Bird, Bulloch County

#### Horse Show—Ranch Horse

Jordan Carpenter, Walton County

#### Horse Show—Saddle Seat

Elizabeth Conti, Wayne County

#### Horse Show-Stock Seat

Colter Chasteen, Spalding County

#### **Master Horseman**

Ansley Burnette, Union County

#### **Master Horseman**

Cassie Giordano, Cobb County

#### **Land Judging High Individual**

Emily Morgan, Coweta County Jesse Robertson, Coweta County Donor: Farm Credit Associations of Georgia

#### **Land Judging Team**

Emily Morgan, Jesse Robertson, Ben Dennis, Adam Pendleton, Coweta County

Donor: Farm Credit Associations of Georgia

#### **Livestock Judging High Individual**

Shawnee Fenton, Mitchell County Donors: Georgia Cattlemen's Association, The Daniel Ashley & Irene Houston Jewell Memorial Foundation, Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### **Livestock Judging Team**

Callie Craig, Marie Swims, Madison Smith, Madison Miller, Gordon County Donor: Georgia Cattlemen's Association

#### **Poultry Judging High Individual**

**Ben Hancock**, Irwin County Donors: Clover Coffee, CAES Poultry Science Department, Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### **Poultry Judging Team**

Ben Hancock, Guy Hancock, James Hancock, La'Lonnie Jackson, Irwin County

Donors: Clover Coffee, CAES Poultry Science Department, Georgia 4-H Foundation



Horse Anatomy-4-H style.



Poultry judging is a hands-on activity.



4-H S.A.F.E programs teach safety and responsibility.

#### SAFF

Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### S.A.F.E. — 22 Rimfire O Class High Individual

Sam Payne, Bartow County

#### S.A.F.E. - 22 Rimfire T Class High Individual

Jake Guay, Berrien County

# S.A.F.E. — Air Pistol High Individual

Zachery Hodnett, Tift County

#### S.A.F.E.—Archery Compound High Individual

Blake Ragon, Pike County

# S.A.F.E. - Archery Compound

Jackson Mitchell, Joshua Carver, Victoria Armor, Hattie Ivy, Morgan County

#### S.A.F.E.—Archery Recurve High Individual

Bethany Phillips, Wayne County

#### S.A.F.E. — Archery Recurve Team

Jacob Vaughters, Jonathan Garner, Caleb Higdon, Morgan County

#### S.A.F.E. — Modified Trap High Individual

Joey Reese, Dade County

#### S.A.F.E. — Modified Trap Team

Mathew Jowers, Josh Knight, Landon More. Austin Purvis. Tyler Ramsey, Bo Westberry, Ben Rollins, Lee County

#### S.A.F.E. - Precision Air Rifle High Individual

Shelbie Smith, Ware County

#### S.A.F.E. — Precision Air Rifle Team

Shelbie Smith, Kaleb Aldridge, Kimberlee Nettles, Erik Lee, Ware County

#### S.A.F.E. - Rimfire Team

Sam Payne, Leah Martin, Emma Janssan, Maegen Wilson, Bartow County

#### S.A.F.E.—Sporter Air Rifle High Individual

**Dustin Counts, Wayne County** 

#### S.A.F.E.—Sporter Air Rifle Team

**Dustin Counts, Denna Long,** Zachary Poppell, Jordan Grabowski, Wayne County

#### S.A.F.E.—Trap & Skeet High Individual

Austen Taylor, Douglas County

#### S.A.F.E. — Trap & Skeet Team

Coleton Stevens. Blake Chitwood. Hayden Greer, Shelby Moon, Walton County

#### State Show—Champions

Donors: Georgia Farm Bureau, Georgia Junior Livestock Foundation, Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter, Georgia Agricultural Exposition Authority

#### **Breeding Ewe**

Ben Porter, Morgan County

#### **Market Steer**

Bo Bailey, Decatur County

#### **Market Barrow**

Abbi Rainwater, Houston County

#### **Market Gilt**

Chanleigh Underwood, Jeff Davis County

#### **Market Lamb**

Mason Sims, Pickens County

#### State Show—Master Showman

Donors: The Griffeth Family, Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter, Georgia Agricultural Exposition Authority

#### **Breeding Ewe**

Hannah Morgan, Harris County

#### Cattle

Kevin Edwards, Gordon County

#### **Commercial Dairy Heifer**

Monica Schaapman, Wilcox County

#### **Market Goat**

Anna Ruff, Elbert County

#### **Market Hog**

Cody Corbett, Echols County

#### **Market Lamb**

Emily Hostetler, Gordon County

#### Wildlife Judging High Individual

Jordan Haney, Forsyth County Donor: Farm Credit Associations of Georgia

#### Wildlife Judging Team

Nathaniel Haulk, Francisco Javier Zepeda, Hannah Rutledge, Carrianna Simmons, Spalding County Donor: Farm Credit Associations of Georgia



#### 4-H Dollars for 4-H Scholars **Scholarship**

Natalie Starling, Effingham County Donor: State 4-H Board of Directors

#### **Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College Scholarship**

Ashley Thigpen, Charlton County Donor: ABAC Foundation

#### **Art and Helen Hargrove Memorial Scholarship**

Ansley Jordan, Athens-Clarke County Donor: The Hargrove Family

#### **Atlanta Farmers Club Scholarship**

Hugh Slaton, Lee County Donor: Atlanta Farmers Club

#### **Bess Cabannis Memorial Master 4-H Club Scholarship**

Whitney Kirkpatrick, Coweta County Donor: Master 4-H Club

#### **Don Massey Scholarship**

Gracie Rowe, Heard County Donor: The Massey Family

#### **Eddye Ross Family and Consumer Sciences Scholarship**

Hailey Sosebee, Madison County Donor: Georgia Homemakers Council

#### **Gaines Achievement Scholarship**

Katlyn LaVelle, Spalding County Donor: Greg and Karol Gaines

#### Georgia 4-H Achievement **Scholarship**

Brooks Save, Oconee County Donor: UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

#### **GACAA Agricultural Scholarship**

Sunnie Dee Wynn, Thomas County Donor: Georgia Association of County Agricultural Agents

#### Georgia Master 4-H Club Scholarship

Haley Gilleland, Ben Hill County Donor: Master 4-H Club

#### **Georgia Propane Gas Association Scholarship**

Wesley Jackson, Johnson County Donor: Georgia Propane Gas Association

#### **Hugh Moss Comer Scholarship**

John Tyler Exum, Berrien County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### Irvin 4-H Scholarship

Savannah Lockman, Oconee County Erin Burnett, Mitchell County Donor: Commissioner Tommy Irvin

#### **Jerry Patriarca 4-H Memorial Scholarship**

Garrett Hibbs, Oconee County Rvan Rose. Columbia County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### John Strickland Scholarship

Joshua Townsend, Douglas County Donor: Dr. and Mrs. Frank Carter

#### **Julius Benton Memorial Scholarship**

Bailey Guthrie, Oconee County Donor: GAE4-HA

#### **Kitzinger Scholarship**

Bailey Dickinson, Stephens County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### **Loyd Poitevint Scholarship**

Oakley Perry, Jeff Davis County Donor: Mrs. Joyce Poitevint

#### **Martha Harrison Jones Memorial** Master 4-H Club Scholarship

Jenna Gilleland, Ben Hill County Donor: Master 4-H Club

### Martha Jones FACS Scholarship

Najee Watkins, Bibb County Donor: Georgia Homemakers Council

#### **Nevels-Hall Family Collegiate 4-H Scholarship**

Will Walker, Turner County Donors: Doris Nevels Hall and Emmett Howell Hall

#### **Project S.A.F.E.**—Archery

Sarah Herrin, WayneCounty Donor: Project S.A.F.E. Committee

#### Project S.A.F.E.-Rifle/Pistol

Phillip Harris, Berrien County Donor: Project S.A.F.E. Committee

#### Project S.A.F.E.—Shotgun

Lauren Purvis, Bartow County Donor: Project S.A.F.E. Committee

#### **Robert and Kathleen Pinckney** Master 4-H Club Scholarship

Tess Hammock, Monroe County Donor: Master 4-H Club

#### State 4-H Staff Scholarship

**Dowdy White, Crisp County** Amee Mehta, Crisp County Donor: State 4-H Office

#### **Wayne Shackelford Scholarship**

Ethan Barnes, Oconee County Rachael Allen, Johnson County Donor: Anna Shackelford

#### **Robert Whitaker Family Scholarship**

Courtney Bolden, Barrow County Donor: The Robert Whitaker Family

#### **Wooten Scholarship**

Emily Barnes, Butts County Donor: Georgia 4-H Volunteer Advisory Council

# 2014 GEORGIA 4-H ORGANIZATIONS

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Carter Black

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Lydia Black

Chris Butts

Terri Camp

Thomas Carter

Michele Chivore

Dot Cofer

Paul Coote

Rob Cooper

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Debbie Murray

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Mary Ann Parsons, Liaison

Michael Reeves

Heather Shultz, Liaison

Arch Smith, Ex-Officio

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Jerry Whitaker

Lille Williams

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Jenna Black, President Scott Westbrook, Vice President

Kaycie Rogers, Secretary Nan Jenkins, Treasurer

#### Georgia 4-H Counselor **Association**

Katlyn LaVelle, President Will Walker, Vice President Shakia Hollis, Secretary LaVonte Lovette, Treasurer Erine-Fay Dennis, Small Camp Representative Maia Price, Rock Eagle Representative

#### **Georgia 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees**

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June Hagin, District Three George Lee, District Four Ashley Cobbs, District Five Johnna Bussell, District Six Amy Hicks, District Seven Cindy Wynn, District Eight Jocelyn Davis Newell, Out of

State Arch Smith, State 4-H Leader/Director of 4-H Andrea Burruss, 4-H Foundation Liaison

Ray Jordan, Trustee Chair



Courtney Bolden, CJ Mclocklin, Amber Martin, Paul Serrato and Chandler Fleming pull weeds and plant flowers at the site while Bo Robinson puts up decorations in the background.



Marissa Paige and Abbie Salmon 4-H Agent NW Cloverleaf DPA.

# 4-H FOUNDATION REPORT



The impact we see in Georgia 4-H is enhanced by many leading corporations, foundations, organizations, 4-H alumni and friends who are making a commitment to support Georgia 4-H youth and believe in the difference their support makes to the future. We continually hear stories from 4-H alumni who credit Georgia 4-H to teaching them the realworld skills that will prepare them for the challenges of tomorrow.

This past year, the Georgia 4-H Foundation experienced its most successful fundraising year to date. We received two major gifts to support the construction of cabins at Rock Eagle 4-H Center that totaled \$1.15M. In addition to the support of Rock Eagle 4-H Center and strong annual support for 4-H project achievement and scholarships, an endowment was also created to support the Georgia 4-H Clovers and Company performing arts group and provide needed funding for continued equipment and travel needs.

Our 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees led by Chair Jay Morgan have been hard at work critically evaluating where we are as a foundation and the opportunities to grow and serve more youth. The dedication and vision of our board has been instrumental as we reach out to new partners and continually improve and grow.

Please mark your calendar to join us for the 2015 Georgia 4-H Gala to be held at the Loews Atlanta Hotel on August 8, 2015. We are pleased that Georgia 4-H alum and Grammy award winning artist Jennifer Nettles will serve as our Honorary Chair of the evening. Corporate and individual sponsorships and tickets are available for this special evening. Please visit our website at www.georgia4hfoundation.org for more information or to review other funding priorities and alumni events. We hope that you will consider a gift to support one of the many programs, events, and facilities this year if you have not already as you make your mark on Georgia 4-H. Georgia 4-H is fortunate to have the support of many people like you and is proud to share stories of how these partnerships are making an impact on the lives of Georgia 4-H youth.



Appreciatively,

Mary Ann Parsons, Executive Director

# **GEORGIA 4-H FOUNDATION FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

JULY 1, 2013 – JUNE 30, 2014

# **INCOME**

Total Income	\$5,198,238
Interest & Dividend	107,555
Realized/Unrealized*	286,006
Program Activities	2,381,917
Contributions	2,025,893
Grants	396,867

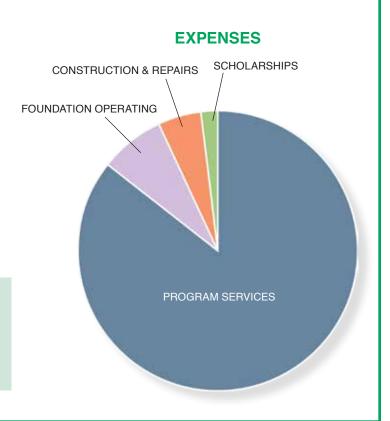
<sup>\*</sup>Gain on Marketable Securities

# **INCOME INTEREST & DIVIDEND** REALIZED/UNREALIZED GRANTS PROGRAM ACTIVITIES CONTRIBUTIONS

# **EXPENSES**

Total Expenses	\$4,173,029
Foundation Operating	307,386
Scholarships	78,096
Program Services	3,581,559
Construction & Repairs	205,988

Change in Net Assets	\$1,025,209
Ending Net Assets	4,813,164
Beginning Net Assets	3,787,955



# GEORGIA 4-H FOUNDATION DONORS: INDIVIDUALS

Rolando and Suzanne Alcocer Mac and Carolyn Alexander John and Tori Allen Becky Amerson Gerald and Carol Andrews Scott and Teresa Angle Anonymous Lora Arledge Joe and Judy Ashley Jim and Ginny Atkins Steven and Patsy Audé Kenneth and Margo Austin Christopher Autry Jessica Bagge April Baggs **Timothy Bagley** Bill and Kathy Baldwin James Baldwin Charles and Lindsey Barnes Jerry and Jayne Barnes Earl and Patricia Barrentine Helen C. Barrett Lonice and Carol Barrett Earl and Wanda Barrs Carol Baughan Glenn Beard Harry and Barbara Beasley Ricky and Mildred Bell John and Beth Bernard Keith and Jean Bertrand Ken and Mary Jo Beverly Clanton and Jenna Black David F. Black Mary Ellen Blackburn

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Arch Smith shows his appreciation to Bill Lott, one of Georgia 4-H's many donors.

Georgia Cloverleaf lists your gifts to the Georgia 4-H Foundation or the University of Georgia Foundation designated for 4-H that were processed through the Georgia 4-H Foundation between July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. If your name is not included and you think it should be, there may be several reasons:

- 1. You made your gift either before July 1, 2013, or after June 30, 2014.
- 2. You made a pledge instead of an outright gift. This listing includes only gifts received. If you made a pledge during this time period but elected not to begin paying it until after June 30, 2014, your name will not be listed.
- 3. You made a gift to another 4-H entity such as National 4-H Council, IFYE Alumni, Georgia Master 4-H Club, Campaign for Charities, etc. These gifts are not reflected in the Georgia 4-H Foundation Report.
- 4. You donated Item(s) for the purpose of silent or live auction. These items are not recognized in the Georgia 4-H Foundation.
- 5. We omitted your name in error. If we've made a mistake, we'd like to hear from you.

If you have questions, please contact the Georgia 4-H Foundation, Hoke Smith Annex, The University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-4536. Or call us at 706-542-8914.

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Floyd County Summer Art Days.



Teen leader, Vinny Varsalona, and Cobb Cloverleaf camper, Naseek Burke.







Catoosa County 4-H'ers.

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Keith and Sally Griffith Kent and Jennifer Grogan

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Lucas Holcombe Brandon Holt Ina Cook Hopkins **Brook Hutchins** Marvin Jackson Wes Jackson Will Jackson Johnathan James Ted and Gerrye Jenkins

E.M. "Dusty" Jordan Brianna Kindig Nathaniel Kitchens

Dot Knox Zahra Ladiwala Karim LaKahni Colton Lakhicharran Sarah Lawley Solange Elahe Lord Altimease Lowe Taylor E. Martin Wesley Martin Hope Mashburn Sawyer Meadows Hannah Milford Joshua Morse

Casey Mullins Brandie Rucks Park Anfernee Patterson Adam Pendleton Oakley G. Perry Kate Phillips Morgan Pippin **Buford Boyd Pollett** Macy Rehberg

Rebecca Robinson

Holly Ritter



Sorting books to be donated to Foster Care and the new AmeriCorps Free Little Library are Kimberly Hadaway, Ashley Heerlein, Lydia Kenney, Emily Crocker, and Carolynn Erhardt.

Tom Rodgers Aaron Rognstad Stephan Rolle Douglas Royal Hannah Brooke Rull

Bo Ryles **Brian Sailors** Ryan Sammon Anna Marie Schwed

Noah Simms Clay Sims Arch Smith **Beverly Sparks** Breanna Stanfield Coleton Stevens

Coal Sturgill Cody Swint Austen Taylor

Ashley Jordan Thigpen

**Emily Thomas** Josh Townsend Amber Uptain William Walker A.J. Wells Zach White Kaneisha Williams Katlin Ashlee Williams Victoria Lauren Williams Ashley Wright

Sunnie Dee Wynn Tiana Wynn

# In Memory of

Jeffrey Ayers

Zelma Reidling Bannister

Lou Chisolm Jean Cogburn Margaret Copeland Joe Courson Betty Cowan Tom Davis Herb Emory Frank Fitch

John Gunnels Mary Nell Hall Tamlin Hall Martha Harrison Claire Hickey

Clara Belle Holland Sandra Hopkins Chris Hunt

Rachel Hardy Johnson Stockton Jones E.M. "Dusty" Jordan Del John Lohuis James McCusker Jeanie P. McGiboney Bobby Gene McKissick

Walt Miller Bill Mizelle Milbry Pass

Willie Ravenell Nolberto Rodriguez Joy Schomberg Scott Sell

Robert Howe Pinckney

J. Aubrey Smith Rosslyn Smith Thomas Tillman Chris Truax Valerie Voyles Jonathan Dixon Wilson

Charles Wurst, Jr.

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burton + BURTON Color Burst

Peter Dale

Georgia National Fairgrounds &

Agricenter Georgia Power Perdue Farms, Inc. Ronnie Owings Tom Scholl Ted's Montana Grill

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Estate of Rachel Hardy Johnson

F.W. Rickard Seeds



Shannon Williams and her gardening club called Shannon Seedlings help with planting and cleanup at an outdoor classroom at Eastside Elementary in Rockmart.



Abigail Burris winning 1st place in Marine and Ocean Ecology at Cloverleaf DPA.



Keep Polk Beautiful Recycling Day. 4-H'ers pictured are Dawson Elrod and Nytie Govern.

Farm Credit Associations of Georgia Fayette County 4-H Council

First Citizens

FMC Corporation APG

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Nufarm Americas, Inc.

Nunhems USA, Inc.

Odom Club Lambs

Optimist Club of Tybee Island

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Watson Brown Foundation, Inc.

White County 4-H Club

White Water

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Zoetis



4-H'ers use computers to control robots they have constructed.



4-H'er learning to bottle feed a baby goat.

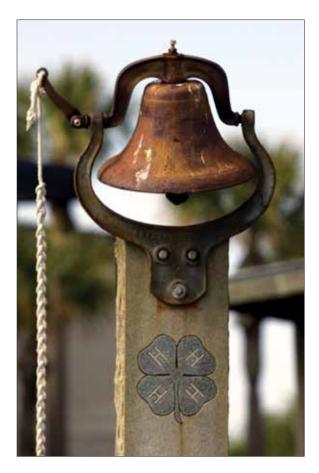


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### For more information, please contact:

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The majority of gifts received by the Georgia 4-H Foundation are gifts of cash. However, if you would like to make a gift of stock, real estate, or include the Georgia 4-H Foundation in your estate planning, please contact Mary Ann Parsons at (706) 542-8914.



large area of unused land in Chatham County encompasses the Waste Management Soperton Landfill and Recycling Center. The landfill is surrounded by Tupelo Swamps, pine forests, and a borrow pit—a perfect environment for many types of wildlife. The Wildlife Habitat Council's Corporate Lands for Learning Work program provides a structure for corporate-driven cooperative efforts between management, employees, and community members to create, conserve, and restore wildlife habitats on corporate lands. Working with the Wildlife Habitat Council, Chatham County 4-H'ers completed several tasks to help this area become a certified Corporate Lands for Learning site. The program assists large landowners and corporations in managing their unused lands in an ecologically sensitive manner for the benefit of wildlife. Working in conjunction with waste management, Audubon Society and the Georgia Conservancy, 4-H'ers developed wildlife surveys. They spent six days observing and counting native and invasive species. The 4-H'ers also spent two days removing invasive Chinese privet and a small species of bamboo; they transplanted native seed-bearing plants into bare spots. After the discovery of a small population of brown-headed nuthatch inhabiting the area, the 4-H'ers built six bird nesting boxes and were trained to properly monitor the birds. Throughout the 14 months of work, 4H members learned vital researching skills by investigating facts about local and invasive species. Certification of this land will ensure a habitat for the brown-headed nuthatch. It will also be a place to educate people about balance and preservation. \*