## Georgia 🍀 Cloverleaf

4-H ANNUAL REPORT



The University of Georgia College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences Cooperative Extension • georgia4h.org



FOR OVER 172,000 young people in Georgia, the University of Georgia 4-H Program becomes a place where young people can learn life skills that they will carry throughout life. Georgia 4-H is fortunate to have a presence in many public and private schools where our county 4-H staffs introduce the University of Georgia 4-H Program to fifth graders all across our state and provide opportunities for those fifth graders to attend summer camp,



auch D. Smith

participate in project achievement, show livestock, participate in a judging team, and take field studies to learn more about their local communities. The Georgia 4-H program continues to have a positive impact upon our state in preparing young people for additional educational opportunities and to be contributing members in a productive workforce.

During the past program year Georgia 4-H continued to excel both with our current membership and Georgians who received recognition for past positive contributions to the 4-H program. Beginning in August 2010 through July 2011, Georgia 4-H'ers were recognized as national winners in four different areas: National 4-H Poultry Judging, National Egg Prep winner, National Wildlife Judging Team, and the National Consumer Science Skilla-thon. Former Columbia County 4-H member Dr. Tom Rodgers was the 11th Georgian inducted into the National 4-H Hall of Fame; the Honorable David Ralston, Speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives and former Gilmer County 4-H member, was recognized with the Georgia 4-H Green Jacket Award for his contributions in service

to Georgia 4-H; and CNN television host and former Bibb County 4-H Member, Nancy Grace received the National Alumni Award medallion at the National 4-H Gala in the spring of 2011.

4-H'ers all across the state continued to serve other citizens through Georgia 4-H. On the back page of this publication, you can read how a former 4-H'er who, while serving our great country in the military, made a commitment to provide camp scholarships to young 4-H members in Atkinson County. This young soldier continues to practice the generosity he learned in 4-H.

You can also read the story of how seventh and eighth grade 4-H'ers in Georgia for the past ten years have been collecting and recycling pop tabs and sending the funds they raised to support Ronald McDonald Houses. This recycling effort teaches 4-H'ers the importance of giving to others but also provides an environmental lesson of how we can conserve and reuse our natural resources.

Our 4-H facilities continue to be an important part of the support for our 4-H program. During the past year we



were able to dedicate two new cabins at Rock Eagle 4-H Center, rededicate the staff house at Fortson 4-H Center, and celebrate the support and contribution of Georgia Power in renovating the Georgia Power Building at Rock Eagle.

You can also read about the recycling of Sutton Hall. It is evident that Bill Sutton and the founders' dream for Rock Eagle 4-H Center is still alive and continues to support the success of the Georgia 4-H program.

The Georgia 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees under the leadership of Chair Kirby Thompson once again exceeded the private giving totals, making 2011 the best year ever for the Georgia 4-H Foundation.

We continue to have the best trained staff, county Extension agents, county 4-H program assistants, and county 4-H associates working with volunteers and subject matter specialists from the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and College of Family and Consumer Sciences at the University of Georgia to make the Georgia 4-H program among the best if not the best in the United States.

During the past year I was invited to be a part of a program in DeKalb County, and Lauren Tricksey, a senior 4-H member at Southwest DeKalb High School and DeKalb County 4-H Club President, may have summed up her three short years as a 4-H member the best:

"This is my third year being a part of 4-H; in such a short period of time I've grown tremendously, my only regret is not getting involved earlier. 4-H has served as a classroom outside of school for me, one full of interactive lessons and field trips with the slogan 'learning by doing.'

I've learned about the 5 regions of Georgia but thanks to 4-H I've met someone and been to every region of Georgia.

I've read about Indians in school but thanks to 4-H I've seen the work and inhabitants of Indians with the effigy mound at Rock Eagle.

Many people fear public speaking, but not I, all thanks to 4-H. I practice public speaking in every club meeting I lead and at Project Achievement where I present a project on teaching.

I can have dinner with any dignitary and not feel out of place for I have table as well

as conversation etiquette thanks to 4-H.

I learn about our government each year in history but thanks to 4-H I've been to Washington, DC, met Georgia's U. S. Senators and a few Representatives, seen the original Constitution, and American Flag. P.S. Betsy Ross didn't make the flag.

We all know George Washington, the man with the wooden teeth who chopped down a cherry tree. I've been to his home, Mount Vernon, and it was all made possible through 4-H (also, his teeth weren't really wood).

Listed were just a few things 4-H has helped me to accomplish. You see the person I am now, just imagine who and what I'd be had 4-H been introduced to me earlier."

Thanks again to those who support us with both private and public funds, and especially those who give of their personal time and help 4-H members "To Make the Best Better."

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





**Russ** is the seven year old son of UGA VI and stepped up as mascot following the death of UGA VII in 2009 and again in 2010 following the death of UGA VIII. Bulldog fans have embraced Russ and Russ shows his support of Georgia 4-H during 4-H Day at the UGA Game in Fall of 2011.

Cover photo by Blane Marable Photography.

The Georgia Cloverleaf was written by Georgia 4-H and CAES Office of Communications staff, Tina Maddox Owen coordinating. Contributing writers are Melanie Biersmith, Sharon Dowdy, Tina Maddox Owen, Mary Ann Parsons, Janet Rodekohr, Arch Smith, and Kristen Strickland. Graphic designer is Carol Williamson. We thank the counties and 4-H staff for their contributions of photographs.

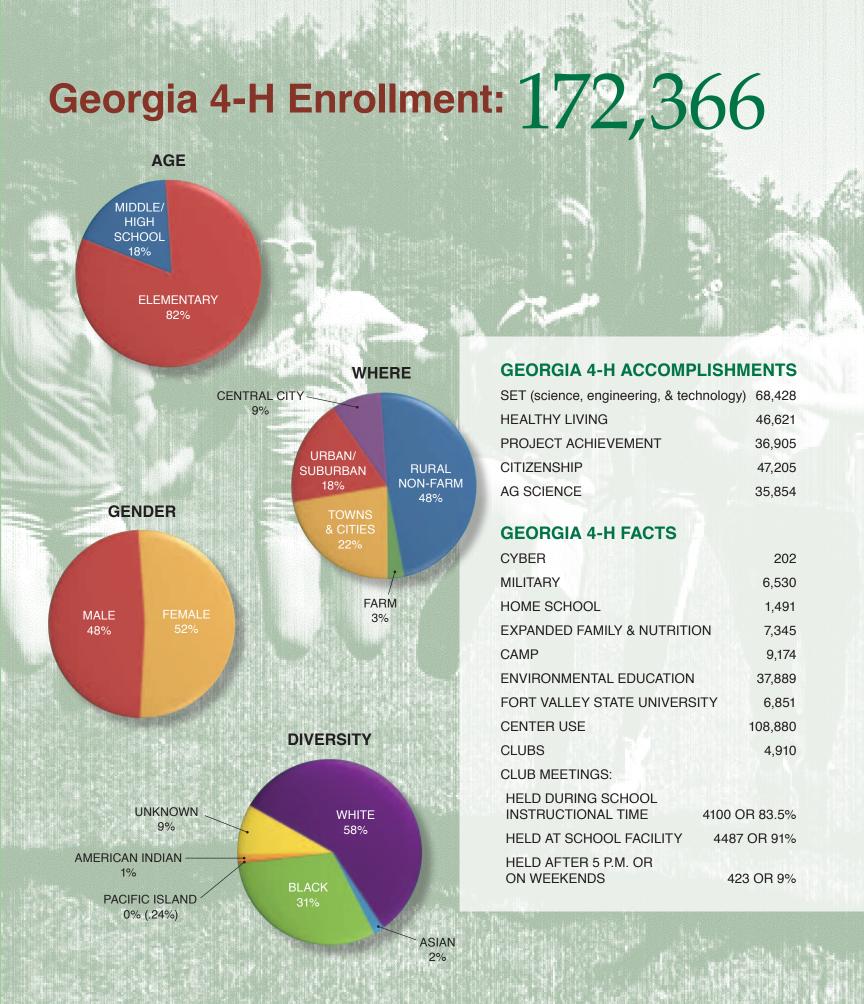


College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences College of Family and Consumer Sciences

### Contents

From the State 4-H Leader/Director of 4-H	2
Georgia 4-H Enrollment: 172,366	5
Georgia 4-H Recognizes AmeriCorps VISTA Members	6
4-H'ers Collect Pop Tabs for Ronald McDonald Houses	6
Elementary and Middle School Students 'Step Up and Lead'	7
Distinguished Alumni Medal Awarded to Former Bibb County 4-H'er	7
Monsanto Supports Georgia 4-H	7
Georgia Collegiate 4-H Hosts 2011 National Collegiate 4-H Conference	8
Life Long Contributions Earn National Recognition	
Speaker Ralston Receives Green Jacket Award	9
Art at the Rock Brings Out the Creative Side	10
Environmental Education is Georgia 4-H	12
Clovers & Company Celebrate 30th Anniversary	15
Recycling of Sutton Dining Hall	16
I Am Georgia 4-H	
Rock Hawk Dedication	20
Rock Eagle Dedications	21
2011 State 4-H Officers	22
2011 District 4-H Senior Boards of Directors	23
2011 State Winners	24
2011 Georgia 4-H Scholarship Winners	27
4-H Foundation Report	
Georgia 4-H Organizations	29
Lori Purcell Bledsoe Leads National Association of Extension 4-H Agents	29
Georgia 4-H Foundation Donors • Individuals	30
Georgia 4-H Foundation Donors • Companies & Organizations	34
Soldier and Former 4-H'er Jeren Fullmore Sponsors Scholarships	

4-H, as a unit of Cooperative Extension in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and part of the University of Georgia, is education and positive youth development. Our purpose — our mission — our mandate is to reach out to the youth of Georgia providing unbiased, research-based education. 4-H provides "hands on" learning experiences with practical application. We take the University to the people in a manner that communicates education in common terms with relevance in their daily lives. 4-H members are the youngest students of the University of Georgia. More than one hundred seventy thousand youth learn and grow in 4-H each year. 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 Georgia Performance Standards. We bring science and technology to life by engaging kids in experiential learning at 4-H Centers using the laboratories and ecosystems at the centers to truly immerse the young people in science education. Also, in the tough economic times, 4-H provides opportunities for families at low cost. 4-H requires no dues. 4-H'ers do not need uniforms. We extend opportunities with scholarships. All 4-H programs include positive youth development based on research and education that respond to the needs of our state. Research validates that youth in 4-H succeed, they stay in school, they become the contributing citizens and leaders in our state. Georgia 4-H is 108 years old in experience but as new as the current research and the needs listed by a teen panel today.



#### Georgia 4-H Recognizes AmeriCorps VISTA Members

In recognition of AmeriCorps week held May 14-21, Georgia 4-H announces its appreciation for Caroline Horne, Colguitt County 4-H AmeriCorps VISTA; Darra McClendon, Houston County 4-H AmeriCorps VISTA; Katie Sadler-Stephenson, Georgia 4-H AmeriCorps VISTA; and Kristin Strickland, Sumter County 4-H AmeriCorps VISTA. Serving across the Southwest District and in the state office, the VISTA's have collectively raised over \$15,000 to support 4-H programming. The ladies are full time volunteers, who come at no financial cost to 4-H thanks to the AmeriCorps VISTA program.

In addition to their outstanding fundraising efforts, the Georgia 4-H VISTA members have also made great successes



in the areas of marketing and volunteer recruitment. Horne, McClendon, and Strickland have written press releases, attended local civic meetings to raise awareness of 4-H, and visited local colleges to recruit volunteers. Sadler-Stephenson has been a wonderful asset for the state office and has even led 4-H agents through a training on Advanced Media Use. You can visit the Georgia 4-H VISTA website to learn more about each of the VISTA members.

The Georgia 4-H VISTA members are just four of the 170,000 AmeriCorps VISTA members who have committed to serve full time for a year at a nonprofit organization or government agency since 1965. VISTA members create or expand

programs designed to bring individuals out of poverty. You can visit the AmeriCorps website to learn more about VISTA and other AmeriCorps programs.

#### 4-H'ers Collect Pop Tabs for Ronald McDonald Houses

Tiny aluminum soda pop tabs may seem insignificant, but not to Georgia 4-H'ers. Over the past ten years, the youths have collected enough pop tabs to donate \$63,248 to Ronald McDonald Houses Charities in Georgia and Tennessee.

The houses serve as homes-away-fromhome for families of hospitalized children at little to no cost.

Georgia 4-H'ers began collecting aluminum soda can tabs in 2002 when the 4-H District Junior Board of Directors voted to collect the tabs as a fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald House of Central Georgia. Since that time, the fundraiser has supported houses in Atlanta, Augusta, Columbus, Macon and Savannah, Ga., as well as houses in Chattanooga and Knoxville, Tn.

Since the project's first year, Georgia 4-H'ers have collected more than 115,000 pounds of pop tabs from soda cans, cat food cans and other containers.

The pop tabs fundraiser is part of the annual Georgia 4-H Junior Conference, an annual event designed in part to teach seventh and eighth grade 4-H'ers generosity through service projects. The conference was held Nov. 5-6 at Rock Eagle 4-H Center in Eatonton, Ga.



In addition to the pop tab project, the 4-H'ers wrote 111 letters to veterans in Georgia's veteran hospitals, designed 228 anti-bullying posters for Georgia schools, sewed 45 pillow cases for cancer patients, made 100 journals for residents at a domestic abuse shelter, created 66 terrariums for nursing homes and painted 150 flower pots for shut-ins.

The public can participate in the pop tab collection project by taking tabs to their local University of Georgia Cooperative Extension office. To contact your local office, call 1-800-ASK-UGA1.

#### Elementary and Middle School Students 'Step Up and Lead'

Coming from all parts of the state, elementary and middle school students had the opportunity to attend the second annual "Step Up and Lead" conference series. A joint effort of Georgia 4-H and the Georgia Association of Elementary and Middle School Principals, "Step Up and Lead" conferences focus on cultivating leadership skills in elementary and middle school students while providing adult leaders with a framework for engaging these students when they return to school. With conferences held at three University of Georgia centers in Dahlonega, Eatonton, and Tifton in early March, youth from all parts of the state were able to participate in interactive activities designed by youth development professionals.

"Step Up and Lead" Conferences feature motivational speakers and exciting, interactive workshops. Workshops are designed to engage and empower youth in future leadership initiatives. These three



sessions focused on Team Building and Cooperation, Planning and Organizing, and Building Communication Skills. "I learned a lot about public speaking," one student said. "I was afraid of talking in front of even a few people before now, but I now I think I could talk in front of a thousand!"

The conference series boasts over 800 attendees statewide. The March 4 conference in Dahlonega hosted 102 youth and 27 adult leaders, Eatonton's conference at Rock Eagle 4-H Center facilitated 514 youth and 83 adult leaders, and the final conference in Tifton held 103 youth with 19 adult leaders.

Georgia 4-H is part of the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension program and exists 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. The Georgia Association of Elementary School Principals (GAESP) and Georgia Association of Middle School Principals (GAMSP) exist as a part of the Georgia Association of Educational Leaders (GAEL), which provides unity of school leadership groups in Georgia. For more information about this partnership and "Step Up and Lead" conferences, visit www.georgia4h. org/gaesp/ or contact Jeff Buckley at 706-542-4444 or jbuckley@uga.edu.

#### Distinguished Alumni Medal Awarded to Former Bibb County 4-H'er

National 4-H Council hosted the second annual 4-H Legacy Awards Gala in March 2011, to honor extraordinary individuals and corporations that have made a lasting impact through their efforts to cultivate America's 4-H youth development program.

As a testament to the fact that 4-H builds the leaders of our nation, the 2011 Distinguished Alumni Medallion was presented to 4-H alumna Nancy Grace. An outspoken, tireless advocate for victims' rights and one of television's most recognized legal analysts, Grace is the powerful force behind both CNN Headline News' top-rated program Nancy Grace and the syndicated daytime hit Swift Justice with Nancy Grace.

Grace is a former Bibb County 4-H'er and Rock Eagle 4-H Center camp counselor and gives credit to 4-H for starting her career in public speaking.



#### Monsanto Supports Georgia 4-H



Georgia 4-H recently received a total of \$25,000 to support their 4-H youth development programs, thanks to local farmers and the Monsanto's "America's Farmers Grow Communities" grant.

"We are so excited to learn of the Monsanto Farmers Build Communities Grants. These grants are such a blessing to our county 4-H Programs and a testament to the strong ties 4-H and agriculture have in this part of the state," said Dr. Laura Perry Johnson, 4-H Program Development Coordinator for the Southwest District. "4-H is so grateful to Monsanto for support of 4-H and local, rural communities!"

Sponsored by the Monsanto Company and Monsanto Fund, the program allows eligible farmers to register to win \$2,500 for their favorite community charity. Winning farmers of Bleckley, Brooks, Bulloch, Burke, Grady, Irwin, Screven, Terrell, Wilcox and Worth Counties chose their local 4-H program as the recipient of the funds. These ten county Monsanto grants total to \$25,000 for

4-H programs across Georgia. Funds will be used for a variety of projects, from improving livestock facilities to providing camp scholarships, to planting a vegetable garden at a local elementary school.

For more information on the Monsanto's "America's Farmers Grow Communities" grant visit www.growcommunities.com.

#### Georgia Collegiate 4-H Hosts 2011 National Collegiate 4-H Conference



The 2011 National Collegiate 4-H Conference was hosted by the State of Georgia Collegiate 4-H clubs April 14-17 in Atlanta, Georgia. It was structured around the importance of making wise financial decisions. The Georgia Collegiate 4-H'ers also manage a national service learning project, "SOS: Sharing OurSelves for America's Future," which was funded by the State Farm Youth Advisory Board and launched nationally at the conference to teach financial literacy to middle school students across the country.

As a part of the service project, a group

of Georgia Collegiate 4-H members adapted the financial literacy curriculum, "Your Money, Your Future," developed by Michael Rupured, a Financial Management Specialist in the College of Family and Consumer Sciences, to suit the needs of their project. They developed the training materials for a pilot program last fall that reached over 1,000 students in Georgia. The Georgia team helped train the delegates on

teaching the curriculum and helped them formulate action plans to carry out when they returned home.

In order to emphasize the importance of making wise financial decisions, the conference committee invited Clark Howard, syndicated radio and television host and financial guru, to the conference to speak to delegates and answer questions. His address was recorded by HLN for broadcast in the coming weeks. Mr. Howard answered questions which were especially relevant to students who will be graduating from college in the next few years. In addition to financial advice, Steve Culbertson, the CEO of Youth Service America, also inspired students to become a part of the national service-learning movement.

Students attending the conference also participated in four service projects throughout Atlanta on Global Youth Service Day, toured the World of Coca-Cola and Georgia Aquarium, went to a Braves game at Turner Field, toured Rock Eagle 4-H Center, and listened to a performance by Clovers & Company.

Collegiate 4-H is an organization that enriches students' lives through service, education, and developing confidence and leadership skills. In addition, clubs provide service and support to their local and state 4-H programs. Collegiate 4-H is open to all college students who wish to support youth and the 4-H program, with no prior 4-H experience required. The Georgia Collegiate 4-H Club is a part of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at the University of Georgia. For more information contact Laura Waters, state Collegiate 4-H advisor, at Iwaters@uga.edu or (706) 542-4H4H.

#### Life Long Contributions Earn National Recognition

Dr. Tom Rodgers, former Georgia 4-H State Leader, was inducted in to the National 4-H Hall of Fame in October 2011. Rodgers was one of 15 people who were honored by the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (NAE4-H) in this annual ceremony at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase, MD.

A graduate of the University of Georgia and North Carolina State University, Rodgers began his career with Georgia

4-H during his undergraduate studies at UGA as a camp counselor where he held a leadership position. After serving as a lieutenant in the US Navy (1969-1971) he was employed as a District Agent for Community and Rural Development and District Director in 1977. Rodgers was then



named Assistant Director for 4-H & Youth and Director of the Georgia 4-H Program in 1978.

While the leader of Georgia 4-H, Rodgers had many accomplishments. In 1993, Rodgers was named GA Cooperative Extension Service Director of County Operations and in 1994 assumed a joint appointment as Associate Vice President for Public Service and Assistant Director/County Operations. In 2000 he was named Interim Vice President for Public Service and Outreach at UGA. Later that year, he was appointed Associate Dean for Outreach and Extension in the College of Family and Consumer Sciences, a position he held until his retirement in 2004. Rodgers charted a

course for Georgia 4-H to

continue its legacy of providing excellent youth development opportunities for young people, and kept Georgia at the forefront of 4-H programming in the US. Rodgers has made outstanding contributions to Georgia 4-H and is one of only four Georgia Lifetime Achievement recipients.

## Speaker Ralston Receives GREEN JACKET AWARD

BASED ON SIGNIFICANT support to the Georgia 4-H program the Green Jacket Award, sponsored by Georgia Electric Membership Corporation, is presented each year at the Georgia 4-H State Congress. The recipient of the 2011 Green Jacket Award was the Honorable David Ralston, the 73rd Speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives.

Speaker Ralston is a former Gilmer County 4-H'er, who graduated from North Georgia College and State University and later went on to receive his law degree from the University of Georgia.

In 1992, Speaker Ralston was elected to the Georgia State Senate. In that same year, he won the Republican Nomination for Attorney General of the State of Georgia. He returned to the Georgia General Assembly in 2002, representing House District 7, which included Fanning, Gilmer, and a portion of Dawson Counties. Along with his legislative responsibilities, Speaker Ralston is an attorney in Blue Ridge and an active member of the



"Georgia's government, like every other government in the nation, has had some tough times in this tough economy. So last year, somebody floated the idea that one of the ways we could save money in Georgia was to eliminate 4-H. Well, I can tell you that did not even get across my desk – I said that is not going to happen." – David Ralston



Fannin County community, where he lives with his wife Jane. They are the proud parents of Matt and Elizabeth Ralston.

Speaker Ralston's 4-H roots run deep.



Like many 4-H'ers, he participated in District Project Achievement, served on District board, attended State 4-H Council, went to 4-H camp, and numerous other 4-H activities. In the 2010 session of the Georgia General Assembly, speculation regarding the elimination of the Georgia 4-H program surfaced. He stood firm in his backing of Georgia 4-H. During his tenure as Speaker, he invited the president of the Georgia 4-H Board of Directors to address the House of Representatives; and in March 2010, made it possible for Jennifer Nettles of the country duo Sugarland, to address the General Assembly in support of Georgia 4-H.

He has also supported budget amendments and additions, which were tied to the construction of new cabins at the Rock Eagle 4-H Center. Furthermore, he served as the honorary chair of the 2010 Georgia 4-H Gala.

In response to the honor, Speaker Ralston stated, "Georgia's government, like every other government in the nation, has had some tough times in this tough economy. So last year, somebody floated the idea that one of the ways we could save money in Georgia was to eliminate 4-H. Well, I can tell you that did not even get across my desk – I said that is not going to happen."

Former recipients of this award include Randy Nuckolls, a former Whitfield County 4-H'er currently practicing law in Washington, D.C., Mike Beatty, Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs, and former Governor Sonny Perdue.

Georgia 4-H is fortunate to have supporters such as Speaker Ralston and the former awardees who continue to support the program.

# Brings Out the Creative Side

By Janet Rodekohr

4-H AGENTS AND STAFF are nothing if not creative. They pull great fundraising ideas out of thin air, add a dash of pizzazz to any 4-H poster and find unique ways to entertain a busload of hyper 4-H'ers on the way to camp.

So what do they do after they retire? They get creative.

Take Diane Davies, for example. After she retired from directing the 4-H Environmental Education Program in 2003, she cultivated her love for throwing clay and soon began selling pottery. When she decided to have a pre-holiday open house, she invited three other retired Extension artists to set up their own displays.

Within a few years, her front yard couldn't hold all the tents and customers. Along with Diane's pottery, guests admired Ginny Adkins' stained glass, Rose Simmons Cotton's jewelry, Janet Rodekohr's watercolors and the work of many other artists and





craftsmen. So in 2009, the planning committee, which also included Carol Williamson and Sara Thomson, took a bold step.

"We had to let it go to let it grow," Diane said. "So we brought it to Arch Smith and asked Rock Eagle to take it over and make it their show."

They called it Art at the Rock. Tina Maddox took over coordination, working closely with the planning committee to open the show to artists from throughout the state while keeping its roots firmly planted in 4-H.

The result? It's no backyard open house anymore. Art at the Rock is a highly competitive and respected juried



art show and marketplace, which just completed its third year. About 50 artists crowd the Senior Pavilion with colorful displays of pottery, jewelry, painting, glasswork, sculpture, leather, woodwork, fiber art, photography and others. About 1,000 visitors come for the event.

Always held the weekend before Thanksgiving, the two-day show also features a marketplace of home-grown products and hand-made crafts in the parking lot in front of the pavilion.

4-H'ers from throughout the state compete in a youth exhibit, which is judged by a panel of artists. Some Clovers & Co. performers have also helped entertain the crowds while they browse through the rows and rows of original art. Rock Eagle staff sell T-shirts and other items. The Sunday lunch diners enjoy wandering through the display area, picking up holiday gifts as they go.

But the most surprising guest artists are the snakes and lizards from the Environmental Education program who create abstract paintings as they slither and scamper across the canvas. Their work is properly identified with the artist's name and species.

Many of the artists move into Rock Eagle cabins for a few nights and enjoy a camp fire dinner. They often comment on the beautiful facilities and helpful staff. Some even make the hike to the effigy.

Art at the Rock is a unique show in the art world. It combines quality art with down-home comfort and a touch of 4-H hospitality. It's a creative bridge between Cooperative Extension and the art world.

If you'd like to cross over that bridge, go to the 4-H website to find out more about Art at the Rock.









By Melanie Biersmith, Extension 4-H Specialist for Environmental Education

RELATIVELY NEW CONSIDERING the rich 107 year history of Georgia 4-H, Environmental Education has just completed its 32nd year of successful programming. Established in 1979 by Diane Davies and under the leadership of then State 4-H Leader, Dr. Tom Rodgers, the Georgia 4-H Environmental Education program has set and maintained a course of programming that is as relevant now as it was 32 years ago. The program operates at all five Georgia 4-H Centers and has graduated over 878,000 participants since its inception.



The goals of the Environmental Education program complement the mission of Georgia 4-H and are delivered in the way outlined by the Georgia 4-H slogan, "Learn by Doing". The program is offered to K-12 grade public, private, and home-schooled students throughout each school year and seeks:

- 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

These goals are accomplished through day and residential field studies that are led by highly-trained and college educated instructors, allowing for the development of youthadult partnerships as students are exposed to a variety of new and exciting learning experiences. The Environmental Education program also provides opportunities for students to engage in the Essential Elements of 4-H: mastery, belonging, generosity, and independence. Participating students develop mastery of concepts outlined in the Georgia Performance Standards in the context of real-world



"In 5th grade I traveled to the Jekyll Island 4-H Center on a field trip. It was here that my passion for science took a hold of me. From this moment on I have been driven in the sciences. I graduated with an Environmental Science degree and minors in both Chemistry and Biology. After graduation I wanted to also instill this sense of wonder in our natural world so I took a job as a 4-H Environmental Educator. After 3 years working at the 4-H Center, I came to not only love marine science and teaching but I also realized how much I loved Georgia 4-H. This program is unlike anything in the country. Georgia should be proud that the 4-H Extension gives back not only to the students and parents in Georgia but it gives back to every single person that comes into contact with this program. Georgia 4-H persuaded me to be ambitious in life, to fulfill my dreams, and for that I will always be grateful."

-Eva Matthews, former environmental educator



environments and habitats across Georgia. They are divided into small teaching groups, providing a sense of belonging with student to instructor ratios of approximately fifteen to one. They also learn to connect and build relationships as they function in other groups for their lodging, meals, and recreational activity times. Concepts of generosity are reinforced as students learn that they are connected to their physical environments and how their actions affect the world for themselves and others around them. Finally, students practice independence as they are challenged to think critically through processes and applications of knowledge and often record their personal reflections in journals.

For several years, Georgia 4-H has centered its programming around three main mission mandates: SET (science, engineering, and technology), Healthy Living, and Citizenship. The interdisciplinary nature of the Environmental Education program offers students chances to experience all three mission mandate areas. Academically speaking, the Environmental Education program focuses on the sciences, supporting the SET mission mandate. All of the programs are aligned to the science Georgia



Performance Standards and have a particular emphasis on the life sciences, ecology, and earth sciences. However, the well-rounded programs also complement math, social studies, and language arts standards. The "magic" of the Environmental Education program is that all of these academic subjects can be delivered in the context of the real world, making the learning come alive for participating students. Students are naturally exposed to Healthy Living concepts as the average student walks 1-2 miles a day while participating in Environmental Education programs. Physical activity and kinesthetic learning opportunities are embedded in each and every educational activity offered during Environmental Education. Finally, students learn concepts of Citizenship as they think of themselves as part of a collective entity, with the responsibility of caring for the Earth and protecting resources necessary for future generations.

During its 107 year history, Georgia 4-H has maintained strong ties to the school systems of Georgia. The Environmental Education program has fostered those relationships in its 32 years of existence and continues to provide new avenues and opportunities for students of Georgia to have a 4-H experience. Educators today often describe the new three "R's" of education: rigor, relevance, and relationships; citing their significance related to student achievement. The Georgia 4-H Environmental Education program helps school systems meet these challenges by providing opportunities for students to experience rigorous and relevant programming, and opportunities to build and develop relationships. Data collected from evaluations conducted during the 2010-11 school year demonstrates a statistically significant increase in student (1) relationships with their classmates, (2) relationships with their teacher, (3) environmental awareness, (4) environmental behavioral intent, and (5) connectedness to nature. Each of these results can be linked directly back to one of the new 3 R's of education.

During the 2010-11 school year, 37,889 participants experienced the power of the Georgia 4-H Environmental Education program at one of the five 4-H Centers across Georgia. This number represents an almost five percent increase over participation in the previous year. Georgia 4-H attributes this increase and success, despite the challenges of hard economic times and increased accountability, to rigorous and relevant programming and deep relationships with schools systems. The Georgia 4-H Environmental Education has touched hundreds of thousands of lives over the years, yet it has impacted each and every one. Environmental Education is Georgia 4-H. For more information on the Georgia 4-H Environmental Education Program please visit us online at www.georgia4h.org/ee.







OVER THE YEARS, members of Clovers & Company, Georgia 4-H's performing arts group, have included young adults who went on to become award-winning singers and songwriters, Broadway performers, lawyers and teachers. In celebration of their many successes, Clovers & Company will hold a 30th Anniversary Concert March 19 at 7 p.m. at Rock Eagle 4-H Center in Eatonton, Ga.

Clovers & Company alumni include Jennifer Nettles, lead singer of the country group Sugarland. Nettles performed with Clovers & Company from 1986 to 1993. She has received three Grammys, multiple awards in country music and produced several singles, including a Billboard No. 1 hit duet with Jon Bon Jovi called "Who Says You Can't Go Home."

The country singer/songwriter credits her Clovers' experience for preparing her for future performances, including performing in front of 800,000 people at President Barack Obama's inauguration on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. "That was







"That was a piece of cake because I had all of this experience to pull from and draw from. And nothing is scarier than being a teenager walking out in front of other teenagers." – Jennifer Nettles, lead singer of the country group Sugarland

a piece of cake because I had all of this experience to pull from and draw from," Nettles said. "And nothing is scarier than being a teenager walking out in front of other teenagers."

Another Clovers & Company alumnus is Hillary Lindsey, who received a Grammy for writing Carrie Underwood's No. 1 hit "Jesus Take the Wheel." Lindsey has also written songs for Faith Hill, Martina McBride, Sara Evans, Kellie Pickler, Bon Jovi, Taylor Swift and Tim McGraw.

Three Broadway performers, one former Mickey Mouse Club member, one recording studio owner and one movie actress also emerged from Clovers & Company. Other alumni have released CDs, worked with church music ministries, become band directors or used their confidence gained from performing arts in other fields of work.

Founded in 1980, Clovers & Company is the longest running and most successful 4-H performing arts group in the country. The production crew, stage cast and band members are 4-H'ers from across Georgia. They range in age from 10 to 18.

Competition to become a cast member is very keen. Georgia 4-H'ers travel to Rock Eagle each June to perform a two-minute presentation with the hopes of earning a coveted spot in the cast.

The group performs several times throughout the year, with at least one out-of-state performance. "They have to be dedicated and willing to work as a team," said Cheryl Varnadoe, show coordinator and assistant show director. "It also requires a lot of support from parents and 4-H agents."

Parental support has been essential in the success of Clovers & Company and 4-H staff support ensures that financial need does not prevent a child from participating. Scholarships are available to cover the cost of costumes and 4-H agents work together to plan carpooling for rides to auditions, rehearsals and performances.

For more information on Clovers & Company, call the Georgia 4-H office at 706-542-4444.

## RECYCLING of SUTTON DENING HALL

WHEN ROCK EAGLE 4-H Center opened for business in 1955, the William A. Sutton Dining Hall was dedicated to honor the work of longtime State 4-H Leader Bill Sutton for his many years of extraordinary vision and the many hours he dedicated to raising funds and seeking support to build Rock Eagle 4-H Center.

The Sutton Dining Hall was a state of the art facility when it was built in the mid-1950s. A major renovation was completed and dedicated at State 4-H Council in June 1981. In the late 1990s, the leadership of Georgia 4-H began discussions on the need for renovating the Sutton Dining Hall and by 2002 it was determined that it would be more





Sutton Hall Master Plan

cost efficient to build a new dining hall at Rock Eagle. After several years of securing funding, a groundbreaking ceremony was held in June 20, 2007 and



The Sutton Dining Hall was a state of the art facility when it was built in the mid-1950s.

construction began later that summer in August. There were two separate dedication ceremonies in December 2008, and on February 25, 2009, a group of Environmental Education students from Spaulding Drive Charter Elementary School, Fulton County were the first group to be served a meal in the new facility.

All during the period of the construction of a new dining hall, tearing down the old Sutton Dining Hall was never part of the plan. Georgia 4-H has been in the business of recycling facilities for a long time. Wahsega 4-H Center near Dahlonega was an abandoned Civil Conservation Corps camp, Burton 4-H Center on Tybee Island was the home of a Navy dive training center in the early 1900s, and Jekyll Island 4-H Center was originally constructed as the Dolphin Hotel on the south end of the island, but in 1982 began operating as a 4-H Center. Rock Eagle 4-H Center is actually the only facility that the University of Georgia 4-H Program constructed from the ground up for use by 4-H members in Georgia. So maintaining Sutton Hall makes good sense and is in keeping with a longstanding tradition of Georgia 4-H's recycling of facilities to make better use of those spaces.

Sutton Hall consists of about 18,000 square feet on the ground level with a 3,000 square foot basement. The Rock Eagle 4-H Center staff with the help of University of Georgia architects have developed a schematic drawing to better utilize the space in Sutton Hall. During the late part of 2010 and the early part of 2011 the kitchen of Sutton Hall was completely gutted and renovated to house a 1,600 square foot gift shop. The old canteen that was previously housed in a green metal building to the southwest side of Sutton Hall was temporarily relocated to another space and when camp opened in June 2011 a new shopping experience awaited Rock Eagle guests.

The new gift shop carries an expanded array of merchandise but continues to offer many of the favorites including soft drinks, Icees, candy



and other snack items.

The former serving lines in Sutton Dining Hall are now pre-function areas and make it easier for guests to walk from one side of Sutton Hall to the other. The two 3,500 square foot dining rooms have been turned into classrooms and the old dish rooms are now used as storage areas for tables and chairs. The front banquet room in Sutton Hall is now a vending area that is open 24 hours a day for guests to utilize.

During 2011, plans were initiated to improve the lighting, add new audio

visual equipment, install new floor covering, and replace the windows and heating and air conditioning systems in the two 3,500 square foot classrooms which are now referred to as Sutton East and Sutton West. The front restrooms will get new fixtures and a cosmetic facelift. Plans also include a coin operated guest laundry in the back of Sutton Hall where the cafeteria manager's office used to be located. In addition, the old boiler which supplied heat, hot water and steam for the building will be removed from the basement of Sutton Hall and this area will be converted for mechanical purposes and a storage facility.

In addition to the renovations of the building, a master landscape plan has been developed for the Rock Eagle central quad which is the area between the new dining hall and the auditorium. The first phase of that plan was completed in late 2010 and once funding is available, there will be additional landscape improvements to the quad in front of Sutton Hall as it connects to the Talmadge Auditorium.

The old Sutton Dining Hall is now referred to as Sutton Hall and continues to honor the tremendous dedication and hard work of Bill Sutton and all those people who made the Rock Eagle dream a reality.



The new gift shop carries an expanded array of merchandise.



The vending area is open 24 hours a day for guests.

## I AM GEORGIA 4-H



"Because of 4-H, I can stand in front of a crowd, whether performing a musical number or a speech, and not feel jittery or nervous. I would never have imagined how many doors are opened to me through 4-H. Without 4-H, I would be hesitantly looking at those doors, instead of flinging the door open and running through it." – Nicole Winter, 15, Ashburn, Ga. – six-year 4-H'er

BY DEFINITION, 4-H is a youth development organization that serves more than 6.5 million young people across the United States. But if you ask a 4-H'er, you'll get a much deeper, personal definition. They'll tell you 4-H is where they learned to conquer their fear of public speaking. Through 4-H events, like summer camp, they found lifelong friends. Participating in 4-H led to their first trip on an airplane or their first trip to the beach or the mountains. Overall, 4-H'ers will tell you 4-H isn't just a club. It's a way of life that they carry with them throughout their lives and careers. This was strongly apparent last year when the Georgia 4-H program was threatened by state budget cuts. Former and current 4-H'ers made their voices heard loud and clear in support of the program.

"Without the Georgia 4-H club, I'm not sure I would have chosen this career path." — Adam Hammond, news anchor with Fox 24 in Macon

Through the "I Am Georgia 4-H" effort, Georgia 4-H'ers record and share their 4-H experiences. Former Oconee County 4-H'er Adam Hammond recorded his testimony. Now a news anchor with Fox 24 in Macon, Hammond says he learned essential public speaking skills through 4-H.



"Without the Georgia 4-H club, I'm not sure I would have chosen this career path," he said. "And I'm certain I would not have many of the friends I hold dear today."

#### "Whether in front of a jury or in front of a camera at Court TV, I use those same skills I gained in 4-H." — Nancy Grace, broadcaster with Court TV

Fellow broadcaster Nancy Grace agrees. "I learned the ability to stand up for and believe in what I say and say it," said the former Bibb County 4-H'er. "Whether in front of a jury or in front of a camera at Court TV, I use those same skills I gained in 4-H. It is one of the greatest gifts I have ever been given."

Many times a 4-H agent takes on the role of personal cheerleader for his or her 4-H'ers. Such was the case with Tift County's Brian Tankersley and 4-H'er Rich Thompson. Now president of 100 Dads, an initiative to engage more fathers in supporting and steering charter schools, Thompson says he always looked forward to hearing Tankersley say "You done good."

Recently, Georgia Farm Bureau President Zippy Duvall

"4-H touches children's lives across the state. You never know. Someone you touch today could be a Georgia leader in the future." — Zippy Duvall, Georgia Farm Bureau President

shared his 4-H experience with the Georgia 4-H Advisory Committee. Duvall brought along his 4-H recordbook (now a little brown around the edges) complete with photos of him and his prize Hereford cow. He also shared his wife's recordbook. "4-H touches children's lives across the state," Duvall said. "You never know. Someone you touch today could be a Georgia leader in the future."

This summer, Georgia 4-H polled the 4-H'ers at Georgia State 4-H Congress and asked them why they chose to participate in 4-H and what have they gained from their 4-H experience. Conquering a fear of public speaking resounded as a common response – so did learning leadership skills and making friends from across the state. Many of their responses can be found throughout this year's issue of Cloverleaf.

If you'd like to share your 4-H memories, go to georgia4h.org/iamga4h.



"I think that 4-H has allowed me to really spread my wings and fly. By really helping me to realize my full potential and to dream big and never stop learning." – Jacob Hager, 15, Lee County, Ga. – six-year 4-H'er "4-H has made me a much more outgoing person, because it has required me to speak up and share my opinion. As a result, I learned to be strong in my convictions and to stand up for what I believe in."

- Ellen Tomlin, 17, Rome, Ga. - seven-year 4-H'er



JUST OFF THE HISTORIC Piedmont Scenic Byway in Putnam County, the Rock Hawk Effigy is an archaeological mystery similar to another, more well-known effigy located in Putnam County known as Rock Eagle. The Rock Hawk Effigy and Trails Park was dedicated in November 2010 and is the only other known effigy east of the Mississippi River besides Rock Eagle. This park has been 10 years in the making; however, the dream of preserving Rock Hawk has been present for many.

Arch Smith, State 4-H leader and director of 4-H, told the audience of the importance of preserving Rock Hawk. "It was here long before any of our ancestors reached this continent," Smith told the crowd of nearly 100. "And now it has been preserved for future generations to learn and wonder about."

Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway Board of Directors Chairman Larry Moore took to the podium and shared the history of the journey to this point to all in attendance. The effigy and park preservation, he said, was made possible due to a small group of people who gathered together in the basement of the Eatonton City Hall with an aim to designate Ga. Highway 16 as a historic scenic byway. In 2003, Ga. Highway 16 was designated as the Historic Piedmont Scenic Byway, and work to preserve Rock Hawk was able to get under way, as the effigy was easily accessible to the public.

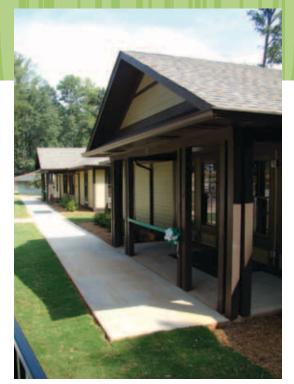
Dr. Dorothy Leland, president of Georgia College, spoke with the audience about the opportunities that the new effigy and park had for youth in the area, particularly in an age where youth are immersed in the digital age. "Rock Hawk is a unique blend of education and recreation," she told the audience, noting the benefits that an outdoor education center such as Rock Hawk or Rock Eagle can have for schoolaged children.

For more information about the Rock Hawk Effigy and Trails Park, visit www.rockhawk.org.

## Rock Eagle Dedications

ROCK EAGLE 4-H CENTER appreciates the support of donors who made possible renovations on both the Georgia Power Building and LP Gas Building as well as the creation of two new cabins during 2011. On May 11, supporters and donors gathered for the rededication of the Georgia Power Collier-Garrett Building. This building has been refurbished with modern equipment and updated life safety features, as well as décor that reflects the 21st century. We are pleased to honor not only Georgia Power but Mike and Karen Garrett as well for these accomplishments. Georgia Power was one of the original contributors when Rock Eagle was dedicated over 50 years ago and their continued support shows their commitment to Georgia 4-H.

On Saturday, September 11, Georgia 4-H dedicated two new cabins at Rock Eagle 4-H Center. Cabin #31 was sponsored by the Kroger Company. We certainly appreciate all the work that Horace Hamilton and Laurie King of Kroger, as well as many others, have done to help fund the Kroger Customer Cabin. Also, the Georgia Development Authority Cabin #32 was dedicated in honor of Georgia's longtime Commissioner of Agriculture, Tommy Irvin. In addition, we re-dedicated the LP Gas Building at Rock Eagle following a major renovation. John Taylor, whose father and grandfather were longtime supporters of Georgia 4-H spoke. Georgia 4-H expresses a special thank you to these donors for their commitment to the continued improvement of Rock Eagle 4-H Center.





## 2011 State 4-H Officers

LaVonte Lovette, President, Jenkins County Amanda Starling, Vice President, Effingham County Conor Dunn, State Representative, Tift County Zach Allen, State Representative, Lowndes County Mary Clayton Gilbert, State Representative, Bartow County Jonathan Moss, Northeast Representative, Oglethorpe County Maia Price, Northwest Representative, Spalding County Sydney Strickland, Southeast Representative, Evans County Lillie Williams, Southwest Representative, Mitchell County

#### **OUR PLEDGE:**

I pledge my HEAD to clearer thinking, my HEART to greater loyalty, my HANDS to larger service, and my HEALTH to better living for my club, my community, my country and my world.

#### **OUR MOTTO:**

*To make the best BETTER.* 



"Getting to be a part of the State Board of Directors we have A LOT of say so in planning an event. We are able to decide as a group what we would like to do, we learn from working with our peers, from adults and from the group in general. I have learned that patience is a virtue and that sometimes we just have to agree to disagree but if we do we'll be able to accomplish anything."

- LaVonte Lovette, State President 2010-11





#### **Northeast District Senior Board of Directors**

Zack Smagur, President, Habersham County Ryan Rose, Vice President, Columbia County Jeremy Bonds, Board Member, Oglethorpe County Haley Woodard, Board Member, Hall County Lauren Morris, Board Member, Oconee County Eryn Parker, Board Member, Putnam County Jasmine Krasle, Board Member, Oconee County Reginald Birdsong, Board Member, Hancock County

#### **Northwest District Senior Board of Directors**

Eve Dennis, President, Haralson County Morgan Long, Vice President, Coweta County Steven Waldrop, Board Member, Heard County Amy Holm, Board Member, Forsyth County Victoria Hall, Board Member, Chattooga County Aubrey Fowler, Board Member, Spalding County Shaquille Carswell, Board Member, Bibb County L.C. White, Board Member, Fulton County

#### **Southeast District Senior Board of Directors**

Terrence Gibson, President, Appling County Kevin Morris, Vice President, Chatham County Shoya Collins, Board Member, Evans County Jordan DeWitt, Board Member, Ware County Anna Ellis, Board Member, Emanuel County Stephen Hill, Board Member, McIntosh County Victoria Powell, Board Member, Candler County Natalie Starling, Board Member, Effingham County

#### **Southwest District Senior Board of Directors**

Zack Hough, President, Grady County
Hugh Slaton, Vice President, Lee County
Skylor Behrens, Board Member, Berrien County
Erin Burnett, Board Member, Mitchell County
Kristi Anna Dickerson, Board Member, Clinch County
John Tyler Exum, Board Member, Berrien County
Sterling James Hunter, Board Member, Dougherty County
Dowdy White, Board Member, Crisp County



## 2011 State Winners

#### PROJECTS

#### Arts & Crafts

**Steven Waldrop,** Coweta County Donors: Ms. Marian S. Fisher, Georgia 4-H Foundation

Beef

Matthew Pace, Chattooga County Donor: Dr. Jim and Mrs. Renee' Williamson

Communications Zach Allen, Lowndes County Donor: GA 4-H Volunteer Leaders Association

#### **Companion Animals**

**Ella Sims**, Jackson County Donors: Bill and Edna Sell (In memory of Scott Sell), Monroe Veterinary Clinic, Inc., The Homeport Farm Mart, Greg and Becky Price

Computers Shoya Collins, Evans County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

Conservation of Natural Resources Kevin Morris, Chatham County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

Dairy Foods Morgan Smith, Floyd County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### Dairy & Milk Science

Victoria Cagle, Morgan County Donors: Mrs. Angela Broder Nemeth, Georgia 4-H Foundation

Dog Care & Training Kristin Phillips, Walton County Donor: Georgia Veterinary Medical Association

Entomology Hannah Brown, Henry County Donors: Georgia Pest Control Association, CAES Entomology Department

Environmental Science Kelli Mitchell, Forsyth County Donor: Georgia Cooperative Council, Inc.

Family Resource Management Allison Barnes, Oconee County Donor: Sarah L. Huff Fund

#### **Fashion Revue**

Laura Turner, Forsyth County Donor: Georgia Master 4-H Club

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

**Eve Dennis**, Haralson County Donor: Publix Super Markets Charities

Flowers, Shrubs & Lawns Jessica Bell, Turner County Donor: Georgia Development Authority

Food Fare Maggie Polson, Walton County Donor: Georgia Development Authority

#### Food Fast & Fit

Lavonte Lovette, Jenkins County Donor: M.K. "Curly" Cook Family (In Memory of Sandra B. Cook)

#### Food Safety & Preservation

Samantha Price, Colquitt County Donors: Tom and Mildred Coleman (Cloverleaf), Elizabeth Andress (Junior), Gary and Rhonda Waller Keve (Senior)

#### **Forest Resources & Wood Science**

Anna Johnson, Tift County Donors: Mr. Bill Lott, Paulding Timber Products, Inc., Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### Fruits, Vegetables & Nuts

Justin Fellenbaum, Pickens County Donor: Meadows-Knox Family Fund



#### **General Recreation**

Morgan Bowen, Sumter County Donor: Georgia Recreation & Parks Association, Inc.

#### Health

Savannah Lockman, Oconee County Donors: Mr. & Mrs. Lamar Martin, Ms. Ellinore Nicholson, Dr. Greg Jones

History

Sarah Hicks, Butts County Donors: Mr. Arch Smith, Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### Horse

Sunnie Wynn, Thomas County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

Housing, Equipment & Environment

Sterling Hendon, Gwinnett County Donor: Mr. Bucky Cook

Human Development

Crystal Buckingham, Pickens County Donor: GAE4-HA

International Sydney Roach, Hall County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

Outdoor Recreation Bennett Guthrie, Oconee County Donor: White Water

Performing Arts – Dance Marlena Collins, Calhoun County Donor: Mr. and Mrs. Burley Page

Performing Arts – General Morgan Hutcheson, Butts County Donor: Six Flags Over Georgia

Performing Arts – Other Instrumental Will Jones, Taylor County Donor: Six Flags Over Georgia

Performing Arts – Piano Danielle Paulk, Effingham County Donor: Six Flags Over Georgia

Performing Arts – Vocal Mary Clayton Gilbert, Bartow County Donor: Six Flags Over Georgia



Photography Melody Harper, Mitchell County Donors: Jim and Barbara Smith, GEORGIA Magazine

Physical, Biological, Earth Sciences Conor Dunn, Tift County Donor: Georgia Electric Membership Corporation

Plant & Soil Science Rachel Rice, Hart County Donor: Georgia Plant Food Educational Society, Inc.

Pork Production Wilson Pierce, Hart County Donors: Georgia Pork Producers Association, Georgia 4-H Foundation

Poultry & Egg Science Jesse Robertson, Coweta County Donors: Perdue Farms, Georgia Poultry Federation

Power & Energy Danny Dorminy, Henry County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

Public Speaking Tess Hammock, Monroe County Donors: Farm Credit Associations of Georgia, Mr. Kaleb McMichen

Safety Kayla Bannister, Oconee County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

Sheep & Meat Goats Brittany Spaid, Candler County Donor: Dr. Jim & Mrs. Renee Williamson

#### Sports

Macie Franklin, Candler County Donor: White Water

Target Sports Charity Greene, Bulloch County Donors; Family of Col. James "Jim" Boddie, Callaway Foundation

Textiles, Merchandising & Interiors Heidi Schroeder, Oconee County

Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

Veterinary Science Chris Kimbrell, Pierce County Donors: Georgia Veterinary Medical Association, Georgia Veterinary Medical Association Auxiliary

Wildlife & Marine Science Matthew Bowen, Sumter County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### Workforce Preparation & Career Development

Amanda Wood, Wilkes County Donor: Emerson Climate Technologies

#### **DEANS AWARD**

Agricultural & Environmental Sciences Josh Norton, Rockdale County Donor: Michael and Sharon Reeves

Communication & the Arts Amanda Starling, Effingham County Donor: Mr. Bill Edwards

Family and Consumer Sciences Tiffany Garrett, Madison County Donor: Dr. and Mrs. Blaine Everson

#### Citizenship

**Clay Hurdle**, Lowndes County Donors: Georgia EMC, Mr. Roger Harrison and Mr.Jason Umfress

Leadership Juawn Jackson, Bibb County Donor: James Harris Leadership Endowment

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

Chicken Barbeque Scott Walters, Turner County Donor: Extension Poultry Science Department

#### **Cotton Boll & Consumer Jamboree**

Colyn White, Eli DeBroux, Emily Velazquez, Mary Clayton Gilbert, Bartow County Sarah Harrison (High Individual), Tift County

#### **Dairy Judging**

Cole Leftwich, Jessica Moore, Jordan Davis, Macey Cooper, Putnam County Garrett Hibbs (High Individual), Oconee County Donors: The University of Florida, Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### **Dairy Quiz Bowl**

Anna Kelley, Austin Daniel, Cole Daniel, Garrett Hibbs, Oconee County Donors: The University of Florida, Georgia 4-H Foundation

Egg Preparation Will Walker, Turner County Donor: Georgia Egg Commission

#### Food Product Development Team

Joseph Peed, Megan Fowler, Rebekah Huffmaster, Samantha Fain, Will Jones, Taylor County Donor: Georgia Agribusiness Council

#### **Forestry Field Day**

Abby Harrison, Ashley Hollinshead, Brittany Evans, Rachel Rice (High Individual), Hart County

#### Hippology

Lindsay Frost (High Individual), Morgan Worley, Trent Fowler, Newton County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### Horse Judging

Emily Pike (High Individual), Gibson Priest, Savannah Porter, Zina Chatman, Bartow County Donors: Georgia Quarter Horse Association, Georgia 4-H Foundation

#### **Horse Quiz Bowl**

Ashlyn Coffey, Ashton Shelnutt, GerriLynn Glass, Kacie Veal, Megan Reynolds, Spalding County Donors: Georgia Quarter Horse Association, Georgia 4-H Foundation



Horse Show – Hunt Seat Laura Thompson, Effingham County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

Horse Show – Stock Seat Rachel Brasher, Glynn County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

Horse Show – Ranch Horse Sunnie Wynn, Thomas County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

Horse Show – Saddle Seat Megan Gregory, Wayne County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

Horse Show – Contest Ashton Shelnutt, Spalding County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

Land Judging Emilee Brinton (High Individual), John Mooney, Tori Butcher, Whitney Kirkpatrick, Coweta County Donor: Farm Credit Associations of Georgia

Livestock Judging Krissi McCurdy, Lea Crump, Taylor Langford, Timothy Hubbard (High Individual), Gordon County Donor: Georgia Cattlemen's Association, Georgia 4-H Foundation

Master Horseman Ashleigh Day, Peach County

Poultry Judging Anna Johnson, Conor Dunn (High Individual), DeAnn Taylor, Sara Johnson, Tift County Donors: Perdue Farms, Georgia Poultry Federation

#### STATE SHOWS

Master Showman Breeding Ewe Anna Katherine Wyllie, Elbert County

Master Showman Commercial Dairy Heifer Ruben Schaapman, Wilcox County

Master Showman Heifer and Steer Gibson Priest, Bartow County

Master Showman Market Goat Bryson Potts, Gordon County

Master Showman Market Hog Jessica Page, Webster County

Master Showman Market Lamb Kaitlyn Cawley, Tift County

Champion Breeding Ewe Lainie Wheetman, Carroll County

Champion Heifer C.J. Goldman, Lincoln County

Champion Market Gilt Blake Huffmaster, Brooks County

Champion Market Goat Mason Roberts, Brooks County

#### Wildlife Judging

Andrew Byrne, Daniella Moore (High Individual), Davin Moore, Michael Mappes, Walton County Donor: Farm Credit Associations of Georgia



22 Rimfire O Class Individual Sydney Garmon, Walton County

22 Rimfire T Class Individual Mitchell Camp, Walton County

22 Rimfire Team Bill Parr, Dana Stoneroad, Frank Parr, Jake Guay, Berrien County

Air Pistol Nicholas Cole (High Individual), Camden County

Archery Compound Jacob Hendrix, Jonathan Hall, Sawyer Davis, Walker Blitch, Bulloch County John Lupinek (High Individual), Lowndes County

Archery Recurve Cole Rolader, Sarah Gallagher, Stephanie Pincus, Morgan County Cara Henslin (High Individual), Wayne County

#### **Modified Trap**

Austin Albritton, Cody Lanier, Devin Miller, Hunter Brannon, Hunter Green, Matt Aderhold, Tyler House, Pike County Caleb Brown (High Individual), Peach County

#### **Precision Air Rifle**

Adam Grumbling, Caitlyn Hodges. Kelsey Moral, William Cross, Spalding County James Fielding (High Individual), Madison County

#### **Sporter Air Rifle**

Aaron Pendleton, Adam Pendleton, Emilee Brinton, Stephanie Faulkner, Coweta County Nicole Sprinkle (High Individual), Coffee County

Trap & Skeet Chance Moss, Clay Porter, Troy Crisp, Putnam County Austin Taylor (High Individual), Douglas County

## 2011 Georgia 4-H Scholarship Winners

4-H Dollars for 4-H Scholars Aaron Craven, Bartow County Donor: State 4-H Board of Directors

ABAC Scholarship Katlyn LaVelle, Spalding County Donor: ABAC Foundation

Art and Helen Hargrove Memorial Scholarship

Will Walker, Turner County Donor: The Hargrove Family

Atlanta Farmers Club Scholarship Kathryn Leigh Buford, Crisp County

Donor: Atlanta Farmers Club

Bess Cabannis Memorial Master 4-H Club Scholarship Hillary Thornton, Charlton County Donor: Master 4-H Club

**Don Massey Scholarship Katie Sutherland**, Gordon County Donor: The Massey Family

Eddye Ross Family and Consumer Sciences Scholarship Dylan Brooks, Madison County Donor: Georgia Homemakers Council

Edmund and Jo Ann Taylor 4-H Memorial Scholarship Katie Comer, Carroll County Donor: Taylor Gas Company

E. Roy and Minnie Taylor 4-H Memorial Scholarship Alexia Romo, Lowndes County Donor: Taylor Gas Company

Gaines Achievement Scholarship Christopher Fraser, Sumter County Donor: Karol & Greg Gaines

**Georgia 4-H Achievement Scholarship** 

Haley Gilleland, Ben Hill County Donor: UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

**GACAA Agricultural Scholarship** 

Hannah Grace Bowen, Emanuel County Donor: Georgia Association of County Agricultural Agents



"Through 4-H, I have served in many leadership positions and was employed by the University of Georgia as a summer camp counselor at Camp Wahsega. This job opportunity has been the best 4-H experience of my entire 4-H career. I would not be the person I am today if I had not been in 4-H."

- Sarah Humphries, 19, Gray, Ga. - ten-year 4-H'er

Georgia Master 4-H Club Scholarship Erine-Fay Dennis, Haralson County Donor: Master 4-H Club

### Georgia Propane Gas Association Scholarship

**Devan Hagler,** Marion County Donor: Georgia Propane Gas Association

Hugh Moss Comer Scholarship Tyler Edgeman, Walker County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

Irvin 4-H Scholarship Josh Norton, Rockdale County

Donor: Commissioner Tommy Irvin Jerry Patriarca 4-H Memorial

Scholarship Ashleigh Day, Pulaski County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

John Strickland Scholarship Robert Johnson, Cobb County Donor: Dr. Frank Carter

Julius Benton Memorial Scholarship Ashleigh Stevens, Lowndes County Donor: GAE4-HA

Kitzinger Scholarship Amanda Starling, Effingham County Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

Loyd Poitevint Scholarship Jenna Gilleland, Ben Hill County Donor: Mrs. Joyce Poitevint

#### Martha Harrison Jones Memorial Master 4-H Club Scholarship Abbey Hufstetler, Bartow County Donor: Master 4-H Club

Martha Jones FACS Scholarship Margo Braski, Houston County Donor: Georgia Homemakers Council

Nevels-Hall Family Collegiate 4-H Scholarship Emily Backes, Lowndes County Donor: Doris Nevels Hall and Emmett Howell Hall

Robert and Kathleen Pinckney Master 4-H Club Scholarship Jamey Knight, Berrien County Donor: Master 4-H Club

State 4-H Staff Scholarship LaVonte Lovette, Jenkins County Donor: State 4-H Office

State 4-H Staff Scholarship Ellie Baldwin, Bleckley County Donor: State 4-H Office

Wayne Shackelford Scholarship Brock Hufstetler, Bartow County Donor: Anna Shackelford

Wayne Shackelford Scholarship Emilee Brinton, Coweta County Donor: Anna Shackelford

Robert Whitaker Family Scholarship Katie Thigpen, Charlton County Donor: The Robert Whitaker Family

Wooten Scholarship Kelli Mitchell, Forsyth County Donor: Georgia 4-H Volunteer Leaders Association

## **4-H Foundation Report**



GEORGIA 4-H IS FORTUNATE to have

many passionate supporters – Supporters who give of their time, give of their financial resources, and give of their ideas. We continue to hear so many inspiring personal testimonials of how 4-H has influenced your lives. These stories inspire our 4-H agents and program assistants across the state as they deliver 4-H programming to our youth, as well as encourage funding from both public and private entities. Georgia 4-H youth are the beneficiaries of your passionate support, which has enhanced our programs, events, and facilities due

to those who have stepped forward to financially support 4-H. Your personal gifts have supported 4-H in a time where it is most needed and have benefitted the nearly 172,000 young people involved in the program as they prepare to lead us in the future.

This past year, we held another exciting Twilight on the Lake at Rock Eagle where several 4-H alumni and friends gathered by the lake. We have already begun plans for our next gala, which will be held in August 2013. 4-H Foundation Board Member and 4-H alumnus Brandie Rucks Park will serve as one of our chairs. I am very excited about her leadership of this important event.

If you are interested in serving on a committee or sponsorship opportunities, please let us know. The involvement of our 4-H alumni and friends is crucial to the success of this event.

Our 4-H Foundation Board and 4-H Advisory Committee continue to be a viable part of supporting our program in so many ways.

We thank you for all you do to support the 4-H program in Georgia through your donation of time, ideas, and funding. Thank you for your passion and interest in the future of our 4-H youth. We hope you will visit our website at www.georgia4hfoundation.org to stay up to date on activities and priorities of the Foundation and to make a gift to support one of the many programs, events, and facilities if you have not done so in this fiscal year. Support from our alumni and friends are having a positive impact in the state and across the nation as we grow youth who will be our leaders in the future.

Appreciatively,

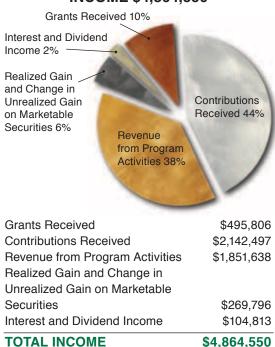
Mary Ann Parsons Executive Director



#### GEORGIA 4-H FOUNDATION FINANCIAL STATEMENT

July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011

#### **INCOME \$4,864,550**



#### EXPENSES \$4,870,003



\$4,870,003

**TOTAL EXPENSES** 

The decrease in net assets for 2010-2011 reflects a transfer of 6.4 acres of land and the Johnson house with a total value of \$185,000 from the Georgia 4-H Foundation to the UGA Board of Regents.

## Georgia 4-H Organizations

#### Georgia 4-H Advisory Committee

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#### Lori Purcell Bledsoe Leads National Association of Extension 4-H Agents



GEORGIA 4-H'S Lori Purcell Bledsoe has been leading the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents as the association's 65th president for the past year.

More than 3540 4-H Professionals across the nation are members of the association. The association focuses on professional development, networking, and advocacy for the 4-H Youth Development Profession. Georgia has only boasted one other president, Peggy Atkins in 1990.

Lori is no stranger to leadership. She served as president of the Georgia Association of Extension 4-H Agents from 2006-2007.

As the 4-H program development coordinator in Northwest District since 2002, Lori provides staff development for County Extension faculty in the areas of youth development, new agent training, partnerships with public schools, lesson development and curricula implementation, and program development. She also coordinates all district and state events for Northwest District including four project achievement competitions, Junior Conference, and Fall Forum.

Lori is a "triple dawg" graduate of the University of Georgia with a Doctorate of Education, Masters of Agricultural Extension, and a Bachelors of Science.

She lives in a house of all boys in Jackson with her husband, Dennis, and their two sons, Luke (4) and Eli (1) and Dennis's son, Jacob (13).

Lori has enjoyed serving as president over the last year and as past-president will serve as the organizational stewardship chair recruiting new officers, as the joint council of extension professionals treasurer, and serve on the task force to determine the new leadership structure of 4-H on a national level.



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- 4. 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. Or call us at 706-542-8914.

"4-H has helped me be more social and encouraging to others. 4-H has also taught me so many things about life, nutrition and health. I love 4-H and I like to get involved in things so I can help and serve others."

- Anfernee Patterson, 14, Manchester, Ga. - five-year 4-H'er

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"4-H has given me confidence to tackle anything. It has also allowed me to become a better public speaker. Because of 4-H I'm able to speak in front of many different groups with confidence and without fear."

- DeAnn Taylor, 17, Tifton, Ga. – seven-year 4-H'er

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"4-H has allowed me to overcome being shy and gain more confidence in myself. I have also gained a love for cooking through project achievement and I have had the opportunity to learn leadership skills that I now use in 4-H."

- Kathy Carpenter, 16, Kite, Ga. - eight-year 4-H'er

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### SOLDIER AND FORMER 4-H'ER JEREN FULLMORE SPONSORS SCHOLARSHIPS



JEREN FULLMORE LOVES HIS COUNTRY, and he loves Georgia 4-H. To support America, he serves in the U.S. Army and is currently deployed to Iraq. To honor 4-H, he awarded \$100 scholarships so three students in his home county could attend 4-H camp.

A resident of Atkinson County, Ga., Fullmore was heavily involved in 4-H from fifth grade through his high school graduation in 2007. Like most 4-H'ers, he learned about community service, citizenship and leadership through his 4-H participation and he learned public speaking skills through 4-H District Project Achievement.

"It was a great experience to see how happy I made the kids from my county that wanted to camp. I am glad that I had the opportunity to help out with the youth of my home community and its a way for me to give back to a program I love for the 8 years that I participated."- Jeren Fullmore

Through 4-H, Fullmore travelled across the state to Summer Waves on Jekyll Island, Wild Adventures in Valdosta and to the state's capital, Atlanta. He also saw a bit of the sunshine state when his 4-H club visited Ichetucknee Springs in Florida.

"Due to all the things Jeren did in 4-H he was awarded the top 4-H award being honored as 4-H'er of the Year each year from 5th - 12th grades.



"Jeren was one of a kind. He loved 4-H so much," said Tasha Davis, Atkinson County 4-H program assistant. "Because of the love he had for 4-H and what 4-H meant to him, he wanted to give back. So he made an offer some kids could not refuse."

Through Davis, Fullmore urged 4-H'ers in his county to write essays on how 4-H affects their daily lives. The essays could focus on how Georgia 4-H makes them a better leader and helps their community or how it affects their daily lives.

The lucky winners of the contest were NaJelly Ocampo, Brandon Pittman and Nathan White.

"Jeren is in Iraq serving our country and he is still thinking of what he can do to help those back home – like serving in Iraq isn't enough," Davis said.