

# GREAT STORIES

GEORGIA

4-H



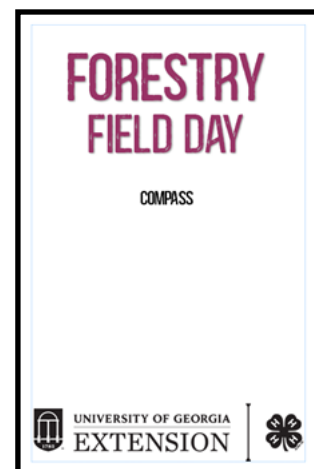
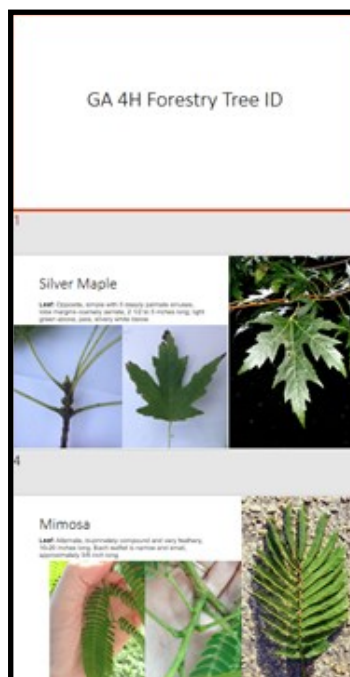
AmeriCorps

## Forestry Judging Material Progress

Emily Jarrell

April 2021

Emily has continued to work on Forestry Judging materials. In April, she worked to develop lesson PowerPoints and quizzes that can be posted online. Emily is also working to make the materials suitable for the 4-H publication system. There are no published resources for Forestry Judging in the GA 4-H staff files. Emily would like to build up this resource for counties across GA to be able to share resources and ideas. This will also contribute to the sustainability of a Forestry Judging program as published resources will be available despite staff or volunteer turnover. Emily focused this month on insect and disease ID as well as workbooks for students to have at field days and practices.



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## Emanuel County Institute

Emily Jarrell

April 2021



On April 22, 2021, 48 12th Graders at the Emanuel County Institute (ECI) participated in an “It’s Your Reality” financial simulation. The event allowed students the opportunity to learn about and consider the financial realities they will face after completing high school and starting a career. Emily utilized the curriculum from the University of Kentucky Extension published in 2013. She worked to update the curriculum, make it relevant to a Georgia context, and adapted it for Covid safety protocols.

The students submitted their career plans to their school counselor and were assigned a monthly salary. Through the simulation, students visited 12 different “stores” to provide for the needs of their families. The “stores” were childcare, clothing, furniture, hygiene, housing, medical/dental, supplemental income, transportation, vacation, communication/entertainment, food, and chance. The students had to work to balance their budgets within their chosen career’s monthly salary. The store process helps young people determine whether their career aspirations provide the income for their desired lifestyle as an adult. This simulation was the conclusion of a semester-long financial literacy program for the seniors that focused on needs vs. wants, budgeting, and credit.

Emily worked to update the goods and services that were offered (such as streaming services, cars, and supplemental income) as well as costs for goods and services. She worked to reduce the number of stations from 24 stores to 12 to follow Covid safety protocols at the school and reduce the number of volunteers needed. She helped develop the student’s workbooks, ledgers, and created a system that randomly assigned students 0, 1, or 2 children. Then matched students with their career choice, gross income, and monthly net income. This helped the students experience the reality of taxes, family size, and standard of living. The twelve booths were manned by ECI faculty, UGA Extension 4-H educators, and representatives from Durden Banking Company and showcased a variety of financial conditions and decisions that will confront students as they enter their careers. This program is the result of a collaboration between ECI, UGA Extension Emanuel County, and Durden Bank.



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## Volunteer Appreciation Week

Avery Moore and Toni Hunlen

April 2021

For the month of April, Jackson County 4-H's AmeriCorps VISTA Avery Moore and Toni Hunlen focused on promoting Volunteer Appreciation Week. Research shows that showing gratitude towards volunteers and understanding the ways they feel appreciated can build a stronger sense of community within an organization.

Georgia 4-H Volunteers have a huge impact on the overall Georgia 4-H program. Georgia 4-H is the largest youth organization in Georgia! Georgia 4-H reaches more than 175,00 people annually through the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension and 4-H Facilities. To celebrate the efforts of volunteers who make the former reach possible Toni, State 4-H Office VISTA, created volunteer highlights and engagements for Volunteer Appreciation Week to be used statewide.

Avery, Jackson County 4-H VISTA, used the tools created by Toni in addition to county specific celebrations. She promoted the event through newsletters, social media posts, and wrote 30 handwritten "Thank You" letters to active volunteers. For the social media campaign, Avery followed Georgia 4-H's theme for the week by creating similar graphics and posting each day's event to social media. This included Meet a Leader Monday, True Leader Meet & Greet Tuesday, What Heroes Wear Wednesday, Throwback Thursday, and Why Day Friday. Each day also included a quote focused on celebrating the hard work of volunteers. In order to make it easier for volunteers to participate in Volunteer Appreciation Week, she created a graphic on how to get involved and a Google Form for volunteers to submit posts ahead of time if they were not available to participate throughout the week. Overall, the week was a great success! Jackson County 4-H also recently received the 4-H Excellence in Volunteerism Award for the volunteer efforts over the past year.

**Volunteer Appreciation Week**  
April 19th - April 24th

<b>Meet a Leader Monday!</b> Monday, April 19 We want to introduce you to the community- share photos of yourself and other JC4H volunteers in action!	<b>True Leader Meet &amp; Greet</b> Tuesday, April 20 Submit your volunteer stories and they will be shared on Georgia 4-H social media outlets!
<b>What Heroes Wear</b> Wednesday, April 21 Show your Georgia 4-H spirit by wearing your favorite 4-H or Extension gear and posting with #HeroInGreen!	<b>Throwback Thursday</b> Thursday, April 22 Share some photos of your favorite 4-H volunteering memories!
<b>Why Day Friday</b> Friday, April 23 Why do you volunteer? Why do you choose to volunteer with 4-H? Share your stories on Why Day Friday!	<b>Salute to Excellence</b> Saturday, April 24 On this day, we'll honor Georgia 4-H volunteers who have been recognized as Salute to Excellence winners!

**Keep up with us on social media!**  
 @ga4hvolunteers  @4\_volunteers  
 @Georgia4-HVolunteers  #HeroInGreen #TrueLeaders #VolunteerAppreciationWeek



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## Mental Health First Aid Certification

Avery Moore, Toni Hunlen, and Emily Jarrell

April 2021

Three AmeriCorps VISTAs received their Mental Health First Aid Certification. The 6-hour course introduced common mental health challenges for youth, reviewed typical adolescent development, and covered a 5-step action plan for how to help young people in both crisis and non-crisis situations. Topics included anxiety, depression, substance use, disorders in which psychosis may occur, disruptive behavior disorders (including AD/HD), and eating disorders. Emily shared that the certification taught her how to listen non-judgmentally and give reassurance to youth and how to refer youth to appropriate professional support.





## Training

Avery Moore, Toni Hunlen, Michelle Ford, and Emily Jarrell

April 2021



The Georgia 4-H AmeriCorps Vista partnership allows members to engage in enriching training experiences. Members strive to participate in continued learning experiences that strengthen their skills for their current and future roles. The four Georgia 4-H AmeriCorps VISTA's participated in 18 training opportunities through the AmeriCorps or UGA Extension training systems.