

December 2009 Highlights



We wish you Peace, Joy and Happiness
during this Christmas Season and
throughout the New Year

Merry
Christmas



Lumpkin County Cooperative Extension
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**Ian Cowie – County Extension Agent
4-H Agent
Lumpkin/Dawson Counties**

- ☞ Thirty-one Lumpkin County Cloverleaf 4-H'ers traveled to Rock Eagle to participate in District Project Achievement. Each fifth or sixth grade 4-H'er gave an illustrated talk or demonstration on a topic they chose. Most demonstrations last about four minutes, and the 4-H'er uses two or three posters. Special thanks to volunteer leader Amy Hubbard and high schooler Kathleen Crocker who assisted on the trip.
- ☞ Several high and middle school members are working on their 4-H portfolios for their upcoming project competition at Rock Eagle. Participants complete a 2-page summary with pictures or supporting material for judging. This along with their presentation is scored in the month of March. Senior members if winning at the district level go onto State competition.
- ☞ Senior members Ben Mayfield, Chelsea Dickerson and Will Helms attended the annual Fall Leadership Forum held at Rock Eagle. Seven hundred and fifty plus high schoolers and volunteers participated in this event. Highlights of the weekend included various workshops taught by high school students, exhibit fair, assemblies and dance. Ben taught two sessions in how to use a software program to make movies. Participants filmed and edited video and presented their short public service announcements.
- ☞ Winners of the peanut butter sandwich recipe contest were announced. Several 5th grade 4-H members entered the 4-H Peanutrition Recipe contest. Entries were sandwich recipes using peanut butter. There were different categories from most nutritious to messiest. Judging was done by older 4-H members who read and compared each recipe to determine which members would receive top prizes – limited edition “4-H Peanutrution” T-shirt. Here are this year’s winners: Elaina Landrum, Andrew Evans, Victoria Grizzle, Alexander Brown, Kenzi Gooch, Eme Lingerfelt Lawson Hagler. Members submitted their recipes listing ingredients and steps to complete the sandwich. The contest is sponsored by the Georgia Peanut Commission and is just part of the 4-H program.



**Agriculture & Natural Resources
Greg Sheppard
County Extension Coordinator**

- ☞ Met with the board of directors of the Lumpkin County Farm Bureau. Kenneth Beasley and Greg discussed the current efforts of the Coosa North Georgia Water Planning Council and the impact the water planning process could have on local agricultural producers.
- ☞ Greg hosted and presided at a meeting of the directors of the Lumpkin Area Livestock Association. Board members elected officers for the upcoming year and planned educational programs.
- ☞ Met with members of the Production Agriculture Program Development Team to discuss plans for 2010.
- ☞ Met with agents from the surrounding counties to discuss joint programming opportunities for 2010.
- ☞ Met with local residents interested in developing a commercial organic vegetable production facility.
- ☞ Served as a judge for three project areas at Cloverleaf District Project Achievement at Rock Eagle 4-H Center.
- ☞ Continued to provide laboratory and home troubleshooting visits as requested throughout the month.

Administrative

- ☞ Met with Northeast District Extension Director John Parks to discuss program evaluation for the 2009 year.
- ☞ Conducted performance evaluations of all the Extension office staff.
- ☞ Participated in a breakfast meeting for County Department Heads hosted by Lumpkin County Manager, Stan Kelley.
- ☞ Participated in an on-line budget review session held by College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences Dean, Scott Angle.
- ☞ Participated in an on-line training for Extension employees on new email management techniques.
- ☞ Extension office employees observed a furlough day this month due to state budget cuts.

4-H Year End Review



- ☞ Eighty-eight 4-H'ers competed at district project contests. One high schooler went onto the state competition.
- ☞ The annual rabies clinic set another record - 1200+ vaccinations. Thirty volunteers were involved.
- ☞ More than 65 4-H members attended summer camps throughout the state.
- ☞ 620 students participated in monthly educational programs in our schools.
- ☞ 25 members competed in judging team events. These included forestry, poultry and consumer judging contests.
- ☞ Middle school students participated in a Plant-a-Promise program led by the High school students, the students planted 1,000 flower bulbs around the school grounds.

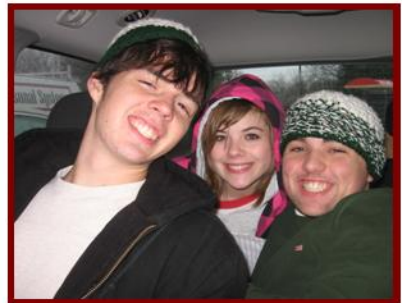
2009 Fall Forum Funtastic!

Front:

Will Helms, Ben Mayfield

Back:

Chelsea Dickerson



Upcoming Events

- ☞ Jan. 12—Lumpkin County Livestock Assoc. meeting
- ☞ Jan. 13 — Jr. & Sr. DPA Portfolio Deadline
- ☞ Jan. — Middle School Intro. Soil-Chemistry - Where are the Frogs?



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