

# Arbor Day / 4-H PAGE Day Activities!



Participated in an Arbor Day Tree Planting Ceremony at North Georgia College and State University. The Georgia Forestry Commission recognized the city of Dahlonega as a Tree City USA recipient for the 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive year.



Freshman Julia Miller and Samantha Fromm served as legislative pages for House Representative Amos Amerson

## Upcoming Events

- ♥ Mar 4-6th — Jr. & Sr. DPA at Rock Eagle
- ♥ Mar 8th — Lumpkin Area Livestock Association Mtg.
- ♥ Mar 7th — Master Gardener Meeting
- ♥ March 15th — National Agriculture Awareness Day



THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA  
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Colleges of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences & Family and Consumer Sciences

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# February 2011 Highlights

## Hooray for Master Gardeners



Congratulations to the local Master Gardeners that were recently honored by the Greg Sheppard, County Agent for their volunteer service. Our local Master Gardeners contributed 2843 hours of volunteer service that was worth an estimated \$59,153.20. The Master Gardeners dealt with 3476 residents on a face to face basis and another 1021 by phone. They also, help with county buildings landscaping including: the high school, senior center building and the extension office, among others. That's just part of what they have accomplished for our county. We are very fortunate to have this group of Master Gardeners supporting the educational efforts of the extension office.

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

- ♥ In-school programs had students thinking about eating and outer space. Fifth grade classes learned about the first fast food (fruit and vegetables) and were encouraged to complete a month long activity recording ways they can improve their eating habits; prizes to be awarded in March. Sixth graders learned about the moon and challenges while traveling in space.
- ♥ 4-H Program Assistant Alicia Robinson chaperoned two high school students at 4-H Day at the Capitol. Besides traveling on Marta, the pages met Governor Deal. Freshmen Julia Miller and Samantha Fromm served as legislative pages for House Representative Amos Amerson.
- ♥ Alicia and Ian judged 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade science projects at Long Branch Elementary School.
- ♥ During the month homeschool meeting, members dissected a whole chicken to learn about the various parts of a bird. They are preparing for the upcoming district poultry judging contest.
- ♥ Ian participated in the quarterly Family Connection board of directors meetings and monthly collaborative.
- ♥ Parents of Junior members (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade) met to discuss summer camp, 4-H project work and other upcoming activities.
- ♥ Working with high school teachers and administrators, progress was made on the Lumpkin Youth Leadership Project. This yearlong effort will involve 15 high school students working with Leadership Lumpkin graduates to learn about leadership and being more engaged in their community. The project is sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and Leadership Lumpkin.
- ♥ Seventeen Junior and Senior (high school) members began assembling and writing their presentations for the March district competition. Two members are preparing their campaign slogans and strategy to be elected to the district board of directors. District Project Achievement is a public speaking contest. 4-H'ers prepare a portfolio covering their project work over the last year and then during the weekend at Rock Eagle they present a demonstration or performance for judging. For high school members winning at district qualifies them for state competition in July.
- ♥ Alicia and Ian participated in an in-office 4-H update and training.
- ♥ Summer camps were promoted throughout the month. Registration begins March 1. Juniors can attend Junior 4-H Camp or Marine Resources Camp on Jekyll Island. Senior members attend Senior Camp held at Rock Eagle in July. Cloverleaf members (5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders) also attend Rock Eagle camp; their registration is March 22.



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

- ♥ Greg presented “An Agricultural Perspective of Lumpkin County” to two civics classes at North Georgia College and State University. He discussed current trends, the economic impact, and the issues that affect local agricultural production. His presentation was attended by 48 students.
- ♥ Met with county building department officials to discuss grounds maintenance issues at the county administration building.
- ♥ Participated in an Arbor Day Tree Planting Ceremony at North Georgia College and State University. The Georgia Forestry Commission recognized the city of Dahlonega as a Tree City USA recipient for the 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. Greg has served as a member of the Dahlonega Tree Board for those ten years.
- ♥ Attended the interview presentations of two candidates for the position of District Extension Director, Northeast District. After the presentations Greg provided feedback to Extension administrators regarding the candidates’ presentations.
- ♥ Taught a class on Chain Saw Maintenance and Safety to selected employees of the Lumpkin County Road Dept., Public Buildings Dept., and City of Dahlonega. Proper chain saw operation was discussed and demonstrated and reference materials were distributed to the department heads.
- ♥ Conducted a private pesticide applicator training for a local producer. This training will enable the farmer to receive a license to apply restricted use pesticides.
- ♥ Met with officials of NGCSU to troubleshoot a problem with one of the trees on campus. The source of the problem was identified and corrective measures suggested.