

August 2010 Highlights

Forestry Team Practicing
Contest Sept. 9th





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

- ✦ Final details were set for the upcoming Georgia Youth Summit to be held at Rock Eagle 4-H Center. A team of high school students along with a partnering adult attend the weekend conference to learn about issues affect young people. More than 850 delegates will be in attendance during the September retreat. The group comes away with an action plan to be completed within a year. The program is supported by the Governor's Rural Development Council.
- ✦ Another 4-H year began with teacher conferences to set up meeting schedules, review of the curriculum, parent letters sent out. This last year Lumpkin County 4-H highlights include more than 660 members, 50 students competed in 4-H projects developing public speaking skills, 70 students attended summer camp, two high school members received state honors - Ben Mayfield, son of Bobby and Mechelle Mayfield, worked as a 4-H camp counselor and recipient of largest 4-H scholarship awarded; Trey Greer, son of Roger and Georgia Greer, place first in the Outdoor Recreation Project, earning the highest 4-H award, Master 4-H'er. Trey also earned his Boy Scout Eagle award this year.
- ✦ 4-H Senior member, Chelsea Dickerson, hosted a display at the annual United Way Kickoff. She informed attendees about her involvement in 4-H.
- ✦ Ian completed child abuse prevention training through the Sheriff's office. The three hour program involves adults being aware and responding to incidences of abuse.
- ✦ Curriculum was reviewed and equipment installed from a USDA grant dealing with childhood obesity issues. Grant requirements include lesson plans being taught to elementary students throughout the next two years.
- ✦ Members began preparing for the upcoming Forestry Judging contest in September to be held at Wahsega 4-H Center. Contestants will be tested on tree, insect and disease identification, measuring tree volume and orienteering techniques.



*Agriculture & Natural Resources
Greg Sheppard
County Extension Coordinator*



- ✦ Conducted a video pesticide update training for commercial and private licensed pesticide applicators. This training provided continuing education credits needed by applicators in order retain their licenses.
- ✦ Participated in a meeting of the Lumpkin County Farm Bureau board.
- ✦ Worked with Park & Recreation Department officials to identify and recommend controls measures for an infestation of fall armyworms at Yahoola Creek Park.
- ✦ Participated in a Northeast District ANR Agent update training on-line.
- ✦ Participated in an on-line conference with Extension agents and UGA Poultry Science Department specialists to discuss educational program needs in poultry science.
- ✦ Met with City of Dahlonega officials to evaluate a potentially hazardous tree for removal.
- ✦ Attended a Board of Commissioners work session in reference to treating county property for Hemlock Woolly Adelgid control.
- ✦ Met with UGA plant pathologist, Dr. Phil Brannen, and other UGA plant pathology staff to collect plant disease samples from commercial vineyards along with a visiting plant pathologist from Italy.
- ✦ Participated in an on-line conference with UGA College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences Dean, Dr. Scott Angle, regarding plans for reorganizing the UGA Cooperative Extension.
- ✦ Served as a volunteer for the Georgia Poultry Federation "Night of Knights" annual meeting in Atlanta. Over 2000 poultry growers and poultry industry people attended.
- ✦ Conducted farm and home troubleshooting visits throughout the month as requested by local residents.



4-H News



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Upcoming Events



- ★ September 7th — Master Gardener meeting
- ★ September 7th—Lumpkin Co Area Livestock Assoc. Meeting
- ★ September 9th — Forestry Judging Competition will be held in Lumpkin County at the Camp Wahsega 4-H Center.
- ★ Month of September — visiting elementary schools and Middle School, began conducting first educational programs



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