

4-H News & Upcoming Events

Congratulations!

The Master Gardeners dedicated their publication of *Time to Play in the Dirt* to Greg Sheppard. For his unfailing guidance and support to the Lumpkin Co. Master Gardeners. Suzy Gruenhagen presents Greg with the first copy of the calendar.



- ◆ October — weekly Cotton Boll/Consumer Judging practices.
- ◆ October 11th—Lumpkin Area Livestock Association meeting.
- ◆ October 15th and 16th— 4-H Annual Gold Rush parking around courthouse major fundraiser event.
- ◆ October 31st - Halloween Night .



Get ready it's almost Halloween.



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

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September Highlights 2011



4-H Forestry Judging

Angel Cain, Cheyenne Chapman, Kathleen Crocker, Samantha Fromm, Amanda Holbrook, Julia Miller, Maggie Pfiel, Sean Pfiel, and Briana Vollbeer competed at this years Forestry Judging held in Lumpkin County at Camp Wahsega. These students practiced several weeks before the competition studying tree identification, estimation of tree measurements, compass and pacing, forest insect and disease identification.

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



- Nine members competed at the district Forestry Judging contest held at Wahsega 4-H Center. Team members included (Senior 4-H'ers) Angel Cain, Cheyenne Chapman, Kathleen Crocker, Samantha Fromm, Amanda Holbrook, Julia Miller; (Junior 4-H'ers) Maggie Pfiel, Sean Pfiel, Briana Vollbeer. Competing with some 130 others participants from 7 other counties, the 4-H'ers were tested on their knowledge about trees, insects and diseases, calculated the timber volume of five trees and measured distance through their paces. This is the first of 3 judging team events offered throughout the year.
- Another year of in-school programs were held throughout the month. All 5th and 6th grade students were invited to participate in the annual “4-H Holiday Card” contest and to begin collecting pop tabs. Last year’s record of more than 100 pounds of pop tabs helped the state wide effort to raise funds for a Ronald McDonald home in the state. Fifth grade students learned more about 4-H and upcoming events; 6th grade students elected classroom leaders and learned about the formation of the Appalachian Mountains.
- Sixteen 5th grade students from Lumpkin County Elementary and Long Branch Elementary attended a daylong conference at Wahsega. The “Step Up and Lead” program sponsored by the Georgia Association of Elementary Principals teaches public speaking skills, exercises to build teamwork and better planning skills. County Agent Ian Cowie taught sessions at the conference. In coming weeks, these students will apply what they learned and serve as role models to involve students in the November district project competition at Rock Eagle 4-H Center.
- Senior 4-H members began preparing for the Cotton Boll and Consumer Judging event. Sessions were held outlining practices to be held in coming weeks. Participants learn about cotton and will either present a 90 second public service announcement or 30 second commercial. The second part of the contest involves knowing how to select consumer items based on given scenarios. Categories this year are pizza, cotton pants, mutual funds and backpacks. The contest is in November.
- Ian continues working with the development of the Lumpkin Youth Leadership project. Working with the high school, Chamber of Commerce and Lumpkin Leadership, 9th graders will be selected to participate in the program. Sessions involve teambuilding, developing good interview skills and engaging in various parts of the community from the education sector to community outreach. The program involves students once a month to spend a day in the community learning about a particular part of our government or community then giving back to through a service learning project. The first session is scheduled in January and runs through December, 2012.



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



Retired county agent, Greg Sheppard, continues to fill in part time as the Agriculture & Natural Resources agent for Lumpkin County.

- Attended the annual meeting of the Lumpkin County Farm Bureau.
- Spoke at a meeting of the Dahlonega Rotary Club. Greg spoke on management calendars for lawns and landscapes and “Landscape Chores for the Month of September.”
- Served as the coordinator of the Northeast District 4-H Forestry Field Day contest held at Camp Wahsega. One hundred and thirty five students from counties across north Georgia participated in the contest. Greg also set up and served as the proctor for the segment of the contest devoted to forest insect and disease identification.
- Attended the annual Northeast District meeting of the Georgia Association of County Agricultural Agents. Staffing and program planning issues were discussed.
- Conducted a chainsaw safety & maintenance class for three employees of the county road department.
- Attended the monthly Master Gardener meeting . The Master Gardeners dedicated their publication of “Time to Play in the Dirt” to Greg Sheppard. For his unfailing guidance and support to the Lumpkin Co. Master Gardeners. Suzy Gruenhagen presented Greg with the first copy of the calendar.
- Made numerous home and farm troubleshooting visits throughout the month as requested.
- Continued writing columns on home horticultural topics for the Dahlonega Nugget each week.

