

The 4-H Messenger

Providing Athens-Clarke County Middle School students with the Latest 4-H News!

On the web: <http://www.tinyurl.com/clarke4h>

2024 May

Issue #7

4-H Awards Program



Students who participated in district and / or state competitions were honored at the annual 4-H Awards program, Thursday April 25 at the Athens-Clarke County Extension 4-H facility. Students pictured above participated in Project Achievement, Judging Teams, and a variety of other competitions. Each year Athens-Clarke County 4-H likes to recognize the hard work our students do each year. Juniors and Seniors who participated in DPA, Judging contests or have multiple accomplishments are inducted into our Honor Society (Pictured above). Thanks for another awesome year! We're looking forward to all of our summer activities.

Project Achievement Portfolios

To qualify to participate in project achievement competition in seventh grade and above students must submit a portfolio. A portfolio is a document similar to a resume that lists the activities in which a student participates. Portfolios are not difficult nor excessively time consuming to compile but it does take some advance planning. Select the Project Achievement tab on the 4-H web page (www.tinyurl.com/clarke4h) for resources to help you through the process. There you will find project categories, portfolio guidelines, a sample portfolio and other helpful resources. In creating a portfolio a student will list things in which they have participated in the specific format categories.

Summer is the ideal time to consider the category in which you intend to compete for project achievement. Once you have selected a project category, consider how your activities apply to the portfolio headings. If you discover that your portfolios are a little sparse, summer gives you the opportunity to do more things. Summer is also when 4-H staff has available time to help improve your portfolio by offering suggestions and activities to improve your portfolio. Do not wait until December to ask for help.

Forestry and Wildlife Judging

Summer is the ideal time to prepare for these two judging teams!

The **Forestry Judging** competition takes place in early September. At the Forestry competition students will identify trees by looking at leaf samples, identify insects and diseases by observing samples or photographs, estimate timber harvest volume from five sample trees and complete a compass course.



In **Wildlife Judging**, students will study given species of animals native to the southeast including their habitat, and wildlife management concepts and practices. Students will work together as a team to evaluate a specific property and write a wildlife management plan. This competition takes place at the Rock Eagle 4-H Center in May. Athens-Clarke County's Team won the State Contest in 2020 and earned a trip to the National Competition.

Forestry will require a minimum of three 1.5 to 2 Hour Practices. And individual study to be prepared for competition. Wildlife judging will require a minimum of three 1.5 to 2 Hour practices and individual study.

4-H Happenings

Dairy Month Posters Due.....May 17

Theme: "May the Dairy Be With You"

Cloverleaf Camp Orientation..... May 7

Cloverleaf Camp at Rock Eagle..... July 8-12

Current 6th grade students

State 4-H Council at Rock Eagle.....June 21-23

Available only to 8th grade and High School Students

Junior Camp at Burton 4-H CenterJune 17-21

Forestry Workshops.....**To be determined**

Wildlife Judging Practices.....**To be determined**



Cloverleaf DPA Participants ACC 4-H Awards Program on April 25, each student was recognized for outstanding work in their project area.

4-H Contests



Can you grow a giant pumpkin? Did you know that pumpkins are 90% water? Each year the **Georgia 4-H Pumpkin Growing Contest** seeks to find the student who has grown the largest pumpkin in the state. Need a project to keep you busy this summer? This might be it because pumpkins are fun but not easy to grow. You have to be vigilant in their care making sure that weeds are removed and that your plant has plenty of water and sunshine. An extension staff member must certify the weight of your pumpkin and photograph you and the giant fruit by October 21st to be eligible for prizes. You can find information including tips for growing a giant pumpkin on the Georgia 4-H website at georgia4h.org/pumpkin.

Dairy Month Poster Contest entries are due at the 4-H office by May 17. Draw a 14 by 22 inch poster using the theme: “May the Dairy Be With You”. Complete rules can be found in March 2024 Newsletter on our website at tinyurl.com/clarke4h / Don’t forget to include your contact information on the back of the poster.



Now that warmer weather has arrived you may be interested in the **Watermelon Growing Contest** if you are a gardener. The deadline for submitting weights and photographs is July 26 in this contest. Complete details for this contest are also available online at www.georgia4h.org/watermelon

2025 Project Achievement— If you are interested in competing at Rock Eagle, summer is the ideal time to set up Project Work and sharing & Helping for your Portfolio. Contact Ms. Conway by email at ebarber@uga.edu to set up a time to meet with her during the



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