

# CL<sup>®</sup>VER CORNERSTONE

Official Newsletter of the Georgia 4-H Foundation

April 2007

## GEORGIA 4-H WASHINGTON INTERN PROGRAM CONTINUES TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR 4-H'ERS

By: Mary Ann Parsons

For nearly fifty years, former college-age 4-H'ers from Georgia served as interns with Senators and Congressmen in Washington, DC. The program began with Senator Richard Russell. Alumni of the 4-H Internship Program are now found in various leadership roles in business, government, and education.

Recognizing the value of this program and the past support the program has experienced, the Georgia 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees has pledged to continue the program, with some minor refinements to suit today's needs. Georgia 4-H plans to send the next 4-H intern as early as fall semester of 2007 and no later than spring semester of 2008.

The Washington Internship Program will provide students with the opportunity to gain experience in federal government, to increase their understanding of the legislative process, to enhance their network of leaders and career contacts, to refine communication and leadership skills, and to represent Georgia 4-H in a federal government setting.

Georgia 4-H will select two interns each year, during fall and spring semesters, to serve in the role as a Georgia 4-H Washington Intern. This schedule will avoid the busy summers when the Senate and House are overwhelmed with interns. Interns will be selected based on an application and interview process, must have documented 4-H experiences, and can be enrolled in any college or university.

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The Georgia 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees pledged support to the program and will provide a \$2,000 stipend to fund an intern each semester. The intern will be responsible for meals, lodging, travel, and other expenses. Start-up funds were provided by Senator Herman Talmadge's widow, Lynda Talmadge, as well as friends of the late Senator. A 4-H Foundation subcommittee, made up of several alumni of the program, will lead efforts in seeking support to endow the program.

If you are interested in learning how you can support this important program provided to Georgia 4-H'ers, please contact the Georgia 4-H Foundation office at 706/542-8914.

*"I am so glad to hear this program will be in place again. It is such a great experience for college students. I owe my career at Coca-Cola to contacts I made through my time in [Senator] Nunn's office."*

*-April Hembree Crow, former 4-H Congressional Intern*

## GEORGIA 4-H ASSISTS STATE MILITARY FAMILIES

By: Casey Mull

Ranking fifth in total military population in the United States, Georgia has played and continues to play an important role in the Global War on Terror. The 3rd Infantry Division based at Fort Stewart in Liberty County has begun its third deployment since 2002, becoming the first group of soldiers to deploy for the third time. Georgia will provide over 30% of the manpower during the upcoming addition of troops in Iraq. Georgia 4-H recognizes the difficulties these military families have while experiencing deployment and continues to support them through 4-H programming.



*Tift County Senior 4-H'ers Jennifer Edge and Matthew Robinson participated in Operation Yellow Ribbon. 4-H'ers and others in the community lined the highway with yellow ribbons to welcome military personnel returning from deployment.*

Georgia 4-H recently entered its fourth year of funding from National 4-H Headquarters and the Department of the Army to establish and sustain 4-H Clubs on six military installations in the state, including Fort Benning, Fort Stewart, Fort Gordon, Hunter Army Airfield, Robins Air Force Base and Moody Air Force Base. Additional strong partnerships include Fort McPherson and the soon-to-be Dobbins Air Force Reserve Base.

The Operation: Military Kids project has entered its second year, with Georgia 4-H taking the lead to reach Reserve and National Guard youth in almost every county of Georgia. Nine hundred youth have received Hero Packs, a backpack filled with objects of comfort and communication from their deployed parents. Speak Out for Military Kids Ambassadors have reached thousands of Georgia's citizens, speaking out about the pressures and stresses unique to military families.

With continued support of private donors and grant funding, Georgia 4-H will continue to reach the military audience in the state. Opportunities for sponsorship include DPA Scholarships, 4-H Camp Scholarships, SOMK Ambassador registrations and support, as well as other general support for the military audience in the state. For more information about the Military Programs available in Georgia, please contact Casey Mull, State Military Coordinator, at 706/542-4H4H.

## GEORGIA 4-H: WE 'OUTTA BE IN PICTURES'!

By: Cheryl Varnadoe

The recent movie "Charlotte's Web", based on the popular children's book, created a lot of exposure for 4-H, both on the national level, and within Georgia. The main human character in the film, Fern, is a 4-H'er, and the 4-H emblem is featured throughout the movie. Also, for every movie ticket purchased through [www.fourhcouncil.edu](http://www.fourhcouncil.edu), Hollywood Movie Money made a \$1 donation to 4-H to help support 4-H state programs.

Movie slides promoting Georgia 4-H were prepared and sent to various theatre chains in Georgia. A flier on Georgia 4-H for moviegoers was also developed for county distribution at local Charlotte's Web events. Quizzes, activities, games and crafts were posted for county use, and information about Charlotte's Web and ticket purchasing was featured on the front page of the Georgia 4-H website. In addition, Georgia 4-H and Illinois 4-H shared several promotional resources with each other. The event was also promoted in the Clover Cornerstone and in a special notice sent to all Foundation Board members.

Many counties joined in the promotion of the film, by preparing exhibits for their local theatres, holding special 4-H nights or planning field trips to see the film. 4-H'ers came up with creative ways to get the 4-H message across, including games, giveaways, crafts, and even a visit to a local library by some live piglets and a pet spider. County 4-H programs promoted the film by recording radio spots, writing newspaper articles, and distributing fliers. Promotional efforts paid off, and the film was a great success; it also provided Georgia 4-H a lot of visibility, and the chance for counties to get involved in a statewide fundraiser for the 4-H program.



*Dakota Fanning as Fern, and Wilbur, main characters in the recent film "Charlotte's Web"*

## HONOR A CLASS OF 2007 SENIOR 4-H'ER

Looking for the perfect way to honor a Class of 2007 graduating senior? There is still time to get on-board for the Class of 2007 Senior Wall Challenge! Participating seniors will have their names engraved on a plaque that will be hung in the Georgia EMC Building and Senior Pavilion, overlooking the lake at Rock Eagle 4-H Center. To add a name to the plaque, please contact the Georgia 4-H Foundation at 706/542-8914. Your contribution of \$30 secures a spot on the plaque; seniors will receive a clover pin, car decal, and 4-H magnet, and will be placed on the newsletter mailing list. The deadline is April 13.



Be sure to add the 2007 Georgia 4-H Legacy Ball to your calendar! The Legacy Ball will be held on August 11 at the Renaissance Waverly Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia, so don't miss your chance to enjoy an evening of entertainment, to reconnect with 4-H friends, and to support the Georgia 4-H program. Proceeds will be placed in an endowment to fund district project achievement; more information is coming, so watch your mailbox!

Georgia 4-H will also honor 4-H Alumnus Wayne Shackelford and his contributions to Georgia 4-H by presenting him with the Georgia 4-H Lifetime Achievement Award. For information about contributing to the Legacy Ball in Wayne's honor, please contact the Georgia 4-H Foundation at 706/542-8914.

## HORSE BENEFIT AUCTION A SUCCESS!

The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Georgia 4-H Benefit Horse auction was held at the Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter on February 24, as part of the Georgia Junior National Livestock Expo. The grandstands were packed as auctioneer Norman McGlohon sought bidding from the audience on a total of sixteen horses, donated by friends of 4-H. Over \$25,000 was raised, which will be split between equine research at the University of Georgia and the Georgia 4-H Horse program.



Georgia 4-H thanks all who donated horses, as well as Georgia Farm Bureau and the Equine Advisory Committee for their continued support of the benefit auction over the past thirteen years.

## THE GEORGIA AGRICULTURE TAG A PROJECT TO PROMOTE AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Get your tag now to support Georgia 4-H and FFA! Tags can be pre-purchased now by visiting your local tag office and requesting the "Support Agriculture in Georgia" tag (Code is FFH). The initial fee is \$25 for manufacturing. Once 1,000 orders have been placed, the tags will be manufactured and delivered to purchasers. There is an annual \$20 registration and a \$25 special tag fee. Ten dollars of that fee will be evenly distributed between Georgia 4-H and FFA to fund special initiatives in each organization.

Funds will be used to support work relative to the mission of each organization and to promote agriculture, agricultural awareness, and environmental education.

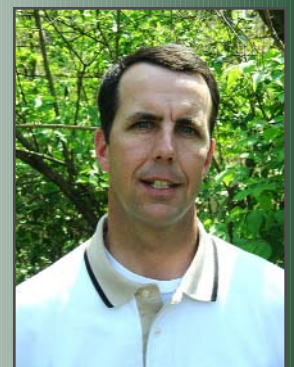


## DONOR SPOTLIGHT: OCONEE COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT JEFF CHRISTIE SUPPORTS 4-H THROUGH MONTHLY PAYROLL DEDUCTION

By: Joelle Freeman

"I think the Georgia 4-H program is the single most complete, most under-valued youth development program to which I have ever been exposed," says Oconee County Extension Agent Jeff Christie. Jeff had never heard of Cooperative Extension or 4-H in the small town in northwestern Connecticut where he grew up. Now a resident of Madison, Georgia, Jeff loves to play golf, umpire baseball games, spend time with his wife Tina, and their son Reilly and two dogs. However, since he became an extension agent nine years ago, his passion has been working with the Georgia 4-H program.

Jeff believes that District Project Achievement is the most important 4-H program, because the skills it gives youth – including academic, social, and life skills – are some of the most important for them to master. He feels that the funding needs of the 4-H program, especially for programs such as DPA, moved him to become a payroll deduction donor. "I could help by contributing just a little bit each month (and so easily, at that) without ever missing it," he remarks. We thank Jeff for his generous support of Georgia 4-H through payroll deduction. To learn more about becoming a donor through payroll deduction, or about how to set up a pledge, please call the Georgia 4-H Foundation at 706/542-8914.





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 Athens, GA 30602  
 706/542-8914



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Visit our website at [www.georgia4hfoundation.org](http://www.georgia4hfoundation.org)  
 to learn more about ways to support Georgia 4-H!

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 Emily Schattler and Mary Ann Parsons*



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