

Burke County 4-H'ers Attend Leadership Conference
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Burke County 4-H youth recently traveled to Rock Eagle 4-H Center to attend the Georgia 4-H Junior Conference, a 26 hour statewide event for 7th and 8th grade 4-H'ers filled with community service projects, classes, workshops, and fun activities. There was a total of 715 4-H Youth that attended from across the state. Participants from Burke County were Savanna Bradham, Victoria Douglas, JB Henshall, Taylor Mizelle, Michaela Pollex, Maya Smith, and Kristen VanDeRyt. The group was chaperoned by FACS agent Terri Black.

During the weekend the group participated in several community service projects including writing letters to the Veterans Hospital, making bullying posters, and decorating flower pots for shut-ins. Burke County also donated the 160 pounds of can pop tabs collected by the local in-school 4-H Clubs during the month of September. Across the state, 4-H'ers collected a total of 15,182 pounds of pop tabs with a total value of over \$9500. The money earned from the tabs was donated to benefit the Ronald McDonald Houses of Georgia.

4-H'ers also attended workshops instructed by high school 4-H'ers and adult volunteers on healthy lifestyles, portfolio development, and communication. The conference provided a variety of entertainment and recreation such as a dance; a one mile fun walk; a talent review; a performance by Clovers & Company, the Georgia 4-H Performing Arts group; and multiple games such as miniature golf, flag football, ultimate Frisbee, relay races, and even Wii Fit.

Local 4-H'er Michaela Pollex was one of 36 Junior Board youth who dedicated their time towards planning and making the conference a success. As representative from the Southeast District Board of Directors, Michaela did an outstanding job as she presided at the Southeast District meeting during the conference and helped run many of the other sessions.

During the weekend, all 4-H'ers were entered into a drawing to win a scholarship to attend Junior Camp next summer. Of all 715 4-H'ers in attendance at the conference, Burke County's Savanna Bradham was named the recipient of the scholarship. She will attend Junior Camp at Camp Burton on Tybee Island next summer, all expenses paid!

For questions or information about any of our Extension and 4-H Programs, please contact the Burke County Extension Office at 706-554-2119 or visit our website www.ugaextension.com/burke.

Picture Caption: Burke County's 4-H Junior Conference Delegation (L-R): JB Henshall, Terri Black, Maya Smith, Taylor Mizelle, Kristen VanDeRyt, Michaela Pollex, Savanna Bradham, Victoria Douglas