



4-H NEWSLETTER



LONG COUNTY 4-H CLUB

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Thought for the Season

Christmas gift suggestions: To your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance. To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service. To all, charity. To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect.
-- Oren Arnold

Cloverleaf Project Achievement:

Congratulations to the following Cloverleaf 4-H'ers for the Great Job they did in Pierce County on November 21st- Kaleigh Abbott, Brittany Aughtman, Caitlin Aughtman, Josh Aughtman, Charlotte Brannan, Taylor Burnside, Kaycie Chapin, Mary Cooper, Andrew Davis, Kaitlyn Dean, Brittany DeLoach, Meagan DeLoach, Dustin Ellerbe, Erin Ginder, Breanne Grossenbach, Haley Gunter, Thomas Leckembey, Shae Lucas, Frankie Mayfield, Loretta Mayfield, Carlee McClelland, Marissa Pitts, Ravae Rose, Delton Ray, Bria Raymer, Deliza Vasquez, and Hannah Williams. This year, Long County was represented by a great group that worked so hard on their presentations. The 4-H'ers competed among several other counties and received 2nd place for "The Greatest Improvement" (number increase)

award, along with several 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. In the eye's of Georgia 4-H all the participants are winners. There is much to gain from participating in Project Achievement. 4-H'ers that participates gain public speaking skills, confidence, research skills, and organizational skills. Way to Go Long County 4-H'ers. A salute to all parents for supporting your 4-H'ers in the preparation for competition. Long County would also like to Thank, Crystal Ellerbe-Brannan, Randy Brannan, Charles Prescott, Stacey Ferrier, Austin Overbey for volunteering their time helping at the competition, and Teen Leaders Tori Cooper, Kaitlynn Walker, Amber DeLoach, Kayla Jenkins, Alex Adkins, Maya Ellerbe, and Carla Mansfield for assisting with judging, and score runners.

Portfolio Workshops: Workshops are continuing on Thursday's after school at the 4-H office for Jr. 4-H'ers that plan on attending Project Achievement at Rock Eagle in January 2010. If you cannot make the meetings on Thursday's after school, please drop by or call the 4-H Office to make arrangements to work on your project another day. We're here to help!

Christmas Parade 4-H Float: We all know that Christmas is just around the corner, and so is the Long County Christmas Parade. If you are interested in helping out with the float, there will be a workshop held on Friday, Dec. 4th after school. Parents should pick you up at 5:00. The Parade will be on Saturday, Dec. 5th at 2:00pm. So please come help get our float ready for all to see. Our theme is "Have a Holly, Jolly Christmas."

Long Co/Wayne Co. Horse Show @ Horsecreek Stables, Sat. December 12th starting at 10 A.M. Morning – Western; Afternoon – English; and Evening - Barrel Racing. Viewing is free to the public. Anyone is invited to participate, for more information or directions call Jessica Simmons – 912-270-1393

Mark your Calendar's : On December 8th we will have a Highway clean-up. This community service project began in Nov. 2002. Since then the DOT has placed two signs that recognize Long Co. 4-H'ers for all their hard work. This on-going project benefits both the youth and our community. All 4-H'ers are encouraged to come out and do their part for our GREAT community. We will meet at the 4-H office after school; parents should pick you up by 5:15 p.m. at the 4-H office.

Nursing Home: Dec.15th, 4-H'ers will visit the Coastal Manor Nursing Home. We will visit with residents, hand out Christmas cards and sing some carols. We will meet at the 4-H office right after school. Everyone come on over and let's go spread some Holiday spirit. Parents can pick you up at 4-H office at 5:00p.m.

Annual 4-H Food Drive-Community Service Project: Boxes are in each 4-H classroom for 5th thru 8th grades to bring in nonperishable food to go to the Concerted Service food bank. A box will also be located in the 4-H Office for 9th thru 12th grades. Please help those who may need our help. Any canned goods, boxed items, such as macaroni, instant potatoes, rice, stuffing, cake mixes and frostings, etc. are needed. The food boxes will be collected on December 17th from the classroom. We want to Thank the Pre-K students that have already turned in what they collected prior to Thanksgiving. How wonderful that the teachers and students pulled together to assist members of the community.

Ice Skating & Mall Trip: Saturday, Dec. 19th, we will travel to Savannah to ice skate at the Civic Center and then we will travel to the Savannah Mall to have lunch and shop. Registration and Fees are due by Dec 14th, at the 4-H office. Skate rental, lunch, insurance, and travel expense is \$25.00 per person. You will need to bring extra money with you to spend at the mall for shopping and etc. We will leave the 4-H office at 8:00a.m., and return by 4:30p.m. Non-skaters need to pay \$15.00 for Lunch, travel and insurance coverage. Parents are welcome to join us.

THE LEGEND OF THE CHRISTMAS STOCKING



Legend has it that Saint Nicholas loved to give gifts. To prevent people from learning where these gifts came from, he would leave them at night. Many years ago, Saint Nicholas heard of a poor, widowed man who had three unmarried daughters. This man had hardly enough money for food and clothing for his daughters and had no money for their dowries. In those days if a woman did not have a dowry her chances of marriage were not good.

As luck would have it, Saint Nicholas was traveling through their village and overheard some of the villagers talking about this man's troubles. The oldest daughter had hung her stockings to dry by the fireplace one evening and the next morning she found a lump of gold in one. No one knew where this money came from, but she now had a dowry and could marry. Shortly after, gold was found in each of the other sister's stockings.

Word quickly spread of this good fortune and soon people all through the village were hanging their stockings by the fire in hopes that Saint Nicholas would leave them treasures also.

Some people believe that an orange in the toe of the stocking symbolizes the lump of gold Saint Nicholas left for the girls. Others believe that an apple in the toe of your stocking and an orange in the heel means that you have been good.

Not all children hang stockings. In some parts of the world the custom is to set out shoes. In Italy, wooden shoes are put out and Le Befana fills good children's shoes with toys and candy and those who have been bad receive rocks and ashes. No matter whether you hang a stocking or set out a shoe, it is usually filled with goodies and not a lump of coal.

Mrs. Charlotte and Ms. Lisa would like to wish everyone a "Happy and Safe Holiday." The Long County Extension / 4-H Office will be closed December 24, 2009-January 3rd 2010. The office will reopen on January 4th 2010.