

# The 4-H Blackboard

Teacher Edition, 4-H Newsletter

## Get Involved

There are many different things that make a teacher good at what they do. A teacher imparts wisdom, sets a course of discipline, provides tools to students and gets involved in the students life. Teachers that care about their students are often better at serving their students.

When we talk about getting involved in anything in today's time, most people want to step back. People in general not like to get involved in other peoples lives. There are so many people out there that pry into peoples lives to harm them that we have become cold toward others. Not everyone is out to get us though. Some people are just nosy and thrive on drama in their lives. These kinds of people have helped us build a cold wall around ourselves. It really all boils down to the fact that it is easy not to care. It is much, much harder to care about someone or something.

Don't get me wrong I know that one person cannot care about everything, everywhere and do something to fix it. (World Peace, Starving Children, ect) But we can however, do little things everyday in the lives of those we encounter to make a difference . It does not take much time to brighten a students day and let them know that something they have accomplished is good. It's kind of



like the saying "happy workers work harder" well I think that students do their best when they feel someone has noticed the things they do. A recent conversation I had with a teacher came to mind when I

began writing this. A student in this teachers class was the first to help with a class project, giving what they could to help. Knowing that the student did not have much to give. The teacher took time to personally thank them for their contribution, and let them know that they were proud of them. I have no doubt that this student will long remember that teacher and the encouragement given.

So I encourage you as educators to get involved in your students lives. You may choose to support them in sports, or advise them on life decisions or it could be as simple as showing them a little encouragement. Getting involved even a little bit can go a long way.

*"Flatter me, and I may not believe you. Criticize me, and I may not like you. Ignore me, and I may not forgive you. Encourage me, and I will not forget you.*

*~William Arthur Ward~*

## Teaching Opportunity

We may have the opportunity to offer workshops out at the Dawg Walk in the near future. You would be able to sign your class up for a time slot to hear a guest speaker. Send me an email by January 25th if you are interested in learning more about the workshops and give suggestions on the topics that you would like see addressed. [jenthomp@uga.edu](mailto:jenthomp@uga.edu)

## Wheeler County Extension

Volume 4, Issue 3

January—February 2011

### Dates to Remember:

- ☺ Jan. 11—Hog Show Organizational Meeting 6pm
- ☺ Jan. 12—Senior 4-H Meeting
- ☺ Jan. 13—Cloverleaf Mystery Activity
- ☺ Jan. 25—Jr/Sr DPA Food Project Practice
- ☺ Jan. 26—Junior 4-H Meeting in School Club Day
- ☺ Jan. 27—Cloverleaf Project Achievement Work Kick-Off
- ☺ Feb. 1, 2, 3—Jr/Sr Project Practice Days
- ☺ Feb. 4-6—District Project Achievement at Rock Eagle
- ☺ Feb. 8—Cloverleaf Project Workshop
- ☺ Feb. 10—Got Milk? Activity
- ☺ Feb. 10—Milkmake Recipes Due



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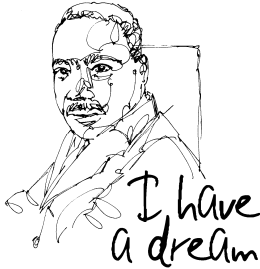
UGA Cooperative Extension  
P.O. Box 426  
Alamo, GA 30411

Phone: 912-568-7138  
Fax: 912-568-1768

E-mail: jenthomp@uga.edu

**4-H Motto: To make the  
Best Better!**

*Martin Luther  
King Jr. Day*



*Valentines Day*

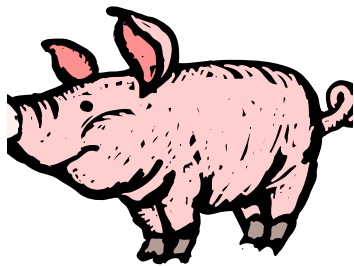


## Youth Animal Projects

It is often said that having a pet is like having a child. You take on the responsibility of another living thing. Well if that's true, 4-H youth projects help prepare kids for life.

Wheeler County youth who are members of 4-H and FFA begin their Hog Projects every year in late October to early November. They purchase a hog with the help of their parents and begin caring for the animal. As they feed, water, and clean its pen daily they learn responsibility. The youth not only supply basic care for the animal, they take it to the next level in training and preparation for the show.

Showing an animal requires a lot of hard work and determination. Time must be spent with the hog, getting it accustomed to people. The kids must walk their hogs daily



and be able to maneuver them in the show ring. Many Hog Project participants have creative secrets that help them achieve their goals. From feeding their animals sweets to grooming rituals, the kids do their best to make their animal stand out at show time.

The 26th Annual Wheeler County 4-H/ FFA Market Hog Show is set for Tuesday, February 15th at the County Extension Livestock Barn. Thirty-one youth will gather to show sixty-one hogs. They will display their animals as well as the hard work they have put into training them. Remember to congratulate those you know that are participating. A project of this caliber takes a lot of time, and the effort of each youth should be commended.

## Milkmake Contest

Cloverleaf 4-Her's (5th & 6th graders) have the opportunity to participate in the Milkmake Contest each year. Milkmake is a contest designed to teach kids about the importance of milk in the diet. It is a fun and easy way to get involved in 4-H. Youth develop skills in food preparations while learning more about the nutritional value and versatility of milk.

The youth must create their own milk drink at home and then get someone to taste it. Once the creation is perfected, the 4-H'er writes up a recipe and gives the drink an interesting name. Recipes are judged and the top three winners receive a Milkmake t-shirt and local recognition. All entries in this year's contest are due February 10th. We will be hosting a Cloverleaf Got Milk? Activity on the 10th to celebrate the tastiness of milk.

