



CANDLER COUNTY EXTENSION

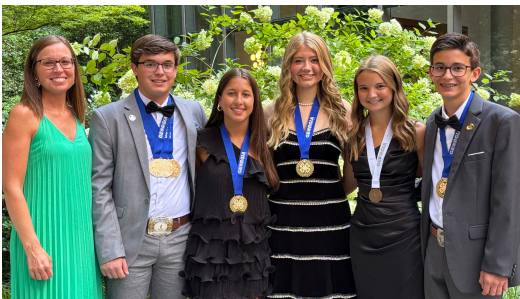


STATE 4-H WINNERS

Five Candler County 4-H'ers attended State 4-H Congress this summer to compete in their Project Achievement Areas. They gave presentations and participated in interviews. These students spent countless hours preparing and practicing.

- **Elle Carter**, 1st Place in Dog Care & Training Project
- **Jaxson Douglas**, 1st Place in Arts and Crafts Project
- **Ollie Grace Douglas**, 3rd Place in Veterinary Science Project
- **Presley Douglas**, 1st Place in Communications Project
- **Agatha Grimes**, 1st Place in Public Speaking Project

Presley Douglas was also awarded Georgia 4-H Dean's Award for Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Georgia 4-H Key Award and the Georgia 4-H Foundation's CAES Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000. Agatha Grimes completed her term as the 2024-2025 Georgia 4-H Board of Directors State Representative, was awarded the Georgia 4-H Foundation's Loyd Poitevint Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 and served her first summer as Skybird Major Interest Counselor at Rock Eagle 4-H Center.



4-H RABIES CLINIC

On Saturday, May 31, Candler County 4-H hosted its annual community-wide Rabies and Pet Vaccination Clinic. Pet owners were able to choose from several vaccination options in a drive-thru format. Through a partnership

with Dr. Keith Miller at Metter Veterinary Clinic, **226 cats and dogs were vaccinated this year**. This, is even more than last year's record-setting attendance.

Dr. Miller was also recognized as the 2024-2025 Friend of 4-H for his support of the Rabies Clinic and other 4-H programs.



AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

For over 100 years, University of Georgia Cooperative Extension has provided free, reliable, research-based information based on the latest scientific research.

SOUTHEAST GEORGIA CATTLE UPDATE

Co-hosted by UGA Extension and the Georgia Grown Innovation Center, the Southeast Georgia Cattle Update program offered 50 attendees access to insightful discussions, practical updates, and opportunities for peer networking. Participants also received 1 hour of Private and Category 21 Pesticide Credit, enhancing the educational and professional value of the event.

The program featured a high-caliber lineup of presenters, including Dr. Tim Marshall, Savannah Tanner, Ross Greene, and Dr. Wes Porter, who discussed topics such as small herd challenges, breeding herd nutrition, forage options, precision agriculture applications, controlled breeding seasons, and sprayer calibration techniques.

Producers also learned about insurance options for beef cattle from AgSouth Farm Credit's insurance division. Sponsors for the program included AgSouth Farm Credit, New Earth USA, Tractor Supply, and Yard Master.



FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

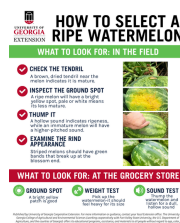
Family and Consumer Sciences outreach, resources, and programs help improve the quality of life for individuals and families in Georgia. We provide training, disseminate research-based publications, and link families, businesses and communities.

FOOD SAFETY AND FINANCIAL PLANNING

Our FACS Agent trained and certified 4 new Candler County School employees in the ServSafe Manager course. She also hosted a workshop for Understanding and Improving Credit in conjunction with Dr. Travis Mountain, UGA Extension Financial Planning specialist.

FACS & AG: PROMOTING GEORGIA'S WATERMELON INDUSTRY

Our Ag and FACS agents worked together to create educational materials to aid consumers in selecting a watermelon. A two-page handout was developed with watermelon selection tips, recipes, nutrition and food safety information. This information was also shared in the Metter Advertiser, the Candler County Ag and FACS blog sites, and presented on the "Tillin' it Like it Is" regional podcast. These collaborative efforts are an example of how these two program areas provide support from farm to fork.



4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

4-H SUMMER CAMP PROGRAMS

Georgia's unique 4-H centers provide a week of camp that will be remembered for years to come. Every camp offers adventure, friendship and fun!

84 youth and adult leaders attended camp at one of Georgia's 4-H Centers this summer.

- 12 youth and 1 adult leader at Junior Camp at Fortson 4-H Center on June 9-13.
- 51 youth and 8 leaders at Cloverleaf Camp at Burton 4-H Center on Tybee Island on June 23-27.
- 5 youth at Senior Camp at Jekyll 4-H Center on June 30-July 4.
- 3 youth at Wilderness Challenge Camp at Wahsega on June 30-July 4.
- 3 youth and 2 adult leader at Marine Resources Camp at Burton 4-H Center on July 7-11.



OTHER SUMMER ACTIVITIES

We partnered with other county 4-H groups to offer **9 local summer activities**. Several 4-H'ers also participated in state 4-H events this summer.

The activities and number of participants from Candler County are:

- June Dairy Month Poster Contest - 9 youth
- Certified Teen Leader Training - 12 youth
- Cloverleaf Camp Rally - 15 youth
- Cloverleaf Water Day - 20 youth
- CPR/First Aid/Babysitter Training - 15 youth
- State 4-H Council at Rock Eagle - 5 youth
- Cloverleaf Cooking Fun Day - 20 youth
- LifeSmarts Summer Series - 6 youth
- Splash in the Boro - 25 youth
- CIS Back to School Carnival - 4 youth

131 total youth





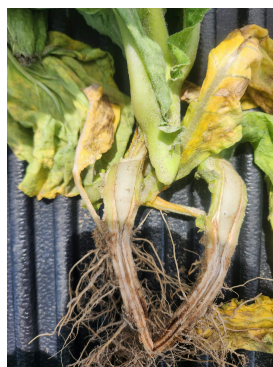
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SUMMER EXTENSION CLIENT CONSULTATIONS

Candler County Extension Agents spend much of their time consulting individual clients and members of our community. This work is often extensive and spans several visits over several months. This summer, our ANR and FACS agents guided a local farmer through a new business venture by navigating food business regulations, certifications and licenses. They also consulted on plans for a food preparation facility to ensure safe food handling to meet state and local regulations and guidelines.

The heavy rains that hit our area in May dropping 1-13 inches of rain lead to major flooding of the area's tobacco crop. The crop has reached a critical growth stage requiring moisture to activate fertilizer applications. Our ANR agent conducted field evaluations that showed consistent damage to roots and vascular systems within the crop. As a result, growth halted and plants became susceptible to soilborne diseases. This event directly impacted approximately 850 acres of tobacco grown by seven local farmers. The crop was declared a total loss. Ross Greene was able to help farmers document their losses to secure approximately \$3,500,000 in crop insurance claims. With only about 7,500 acres of tobacco produced statewide, this represents a loss of 11% to Georgia's tobacco crop.



CANDLER COUNTY EXTENSION TEAM



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