

FLASH NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER 2023

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Meet the 4-H Staff!

Ms. Lauren Dye and Mrs. Sophie Walsky are the University of Georgia Extension Staff responsible for the Elbert County 4-H Youth Development Program. They work closely with the Elbert County School District to offer in-school Club Meetings in the 5th-8th Grades. Additionally, they work with students after school in a variety of activities and competitive events. Ms. Lauren is a graduate of the University of Georgia. She is an Elbert County 4-H alumni and Elbert County High School graduate. She resides in Elberton on a small farm. She started working with Elbert County 4-H in 2006. She loves helping youth find and grow their passions. Ms. Sophie is a graduate from Emory University. She joined the Elbert County 4-H in 2014 and takes great pleasure in providing opportunities for students to showcase their talents and learn by doing. She lives

on a small farm in Elberton with her husband and has four daughters and two grandchildren (all former/current/future 4-H'ers). She loves all aspects of the 4-H mission, and she particularly enjoys the creative arts.

Georgia 4-H Forms

We are excited to get started with a new 4-H Program Year! In order for us to keep students as safe as possible and meet the Georgia 4-H requirements, all youth who plan to participate in any 4-H activity (outside of in-school club meetings) should complete and return a **Medical Release Form** (yellow sheet) and a **Code of Conduct Form** (green sheet). Both forms must be signed by a parent or legal guardian. Classes who return 100% of these student forms will receive a special reward! You are not committing to any 4-H activity by returning these forms. However, returning these forms ensures you are ready to attend any 4-H activity of interest throughout the school year.



Clover Points

What are Clover Points?

Clover Points are the incentive



MONTHLY DONATION

Dog Food - any kind, any brand, any size! Unopened. Students earn Clover Points for participating, but this is not mandatory.



system used by Elbert County 4-H. All students may earn Clover Points. **How do I earn Clover Points?** You can earn Clover Points by wearing green or a 4-H t-shirt on Club Meeting Day, bringing back a signed Flash Newsletter, presenting a demonstration in meetings, reciting the 4-H Pledge by memory, turning in pop-tabs from aluminum cans, attending 4-H afterschool activities, competing in a 4-H event, participating in a 4-H sanctioned community service project or the monthly donation item and so much more! Activities will be listed in the Flash Newsletter each month. You can also request a complete listing from the 4-H Office.

What do I do with Clover Points?

Each individual student earns Clover Points to qualify for the Reward Trip at the end of the year (250+ points with 1 district/state competition) or the "4-H'er of the Year" award. Additionally, the Club (class) with the highest average of Clover Points each month gets a treat! The Club with the highest average each semester wins a party!



County Project Fair

Project Achievement is one of the **BEST** activities you can do as a 4-H'er! Elbert County 4-H holds "County Project Fair" in conjunction with the Elberton 12 County Fair. This means you get double credit for one project! It is simple—just create a trifold board on a topic of your choice! Pick a topic, write information to teach about your topic (at least three educational points), collect pictures or clippings of the topic and glue everything on your trifold board! Make sure to include your name and your 4-H Club Teacher's name on your trifold board. The 4-H Staff will pick them up at ECES/ECMS on **September 29th**, or you can bring it to the 4-H Office on or before **September 29th**. All trifold boards will be judged for Elbert County Project Fair (4-H Awards!) and then entered into the mini-booth competition at the Elberton 12 County Fair. You earn 25 Clover Points for entering Project Fair and 15 Clover Points for having a mini-booth at the Elberton Fair! 40 Clover Points for 1 project! Plus, you will get a pass to get into the Elberton 12-County Fair for free, saving you the admittance fee! AND you could win a premium (\$) if your project places in the Elberton Fair! It is a win-win!!! Get started today! 4-H'ers who compete in County Project Fair are allowed to sign up for District Project Achievement, the premier Georgia 4-H competition before others!



Cloverleaf (5th & 6th Graders) Project Achievement is

at Rock Eagle on **November 4, 2023**. Portfolio rough drafts (7th-12th Graders) are due **December 15th** and DPA is at Rock Eagle **March 1-3, 2024**.

Georgia 4-H Holiday Card Contest

Georgia 4-H sponsors an art competition each year for a student to design a holiday card which is sent to Georgia 4-H supporters this December. Entries must be 4-H'ers original, hand drawing and on a half sheet of white, unlined copy paper (8.5x5.5), include 4-H in the theme and be colorful. Artwork must be submitted to the Elbert County 4-H Office by **Friday, September 29th**. The winning entry for the state wins a \$100 award! All Elbert County 4-H entries receive 25 Clover Points and the artwork is used for local cards. Start working on your design today!



ELEVATE Afterschool Club

Spend your afternoon with us learning a variety of topics, completing projects, and enjoying fun activities! You are sure to love this engaging and interactive time in 4-H Clover Room (ECMS auditorium lobby) and BEYOND! Meetings are held monthly **after school until 5:00pm**. A ride must pick you up at ECMS. The first meeting is **Thursday, September 14th**. ELEVATE: Engaging Learners to Explore & Value Agriculture, Technology & the Environment. This club is sponsored by Keep Elbert County Beautiful & EC Farm Bureau. You don't want to miss it!



Young Riders 4-H Horse Club



If you like horses, make plans to join the Young Riders Horse Club! This afterschool club will meet once a month to learn & have fun! You do NOT have to own or ride a Horse to participate in this Club! Meetings are held in the **Clover Room** at the ECMS (auditorium lobby), afterschool **until 5:00pm**. Our first meeting is **Thursday, September 21st**.

Cloverleaf Conference

5th & 6th Grade students have an opportunity to attend Cloverleaf Conference at Wahsega 4-H Center on **Monday, September 25th**, to meet other 4-H'ers from all over the district. We will have fun learning activities, exciting classes, games, recreation and dinner at this historic 4-H Center. Cost to participate is **\$40**. You must sign up with the registration fee at the 4-H Office (inside Blackwell) by **Friday, September 15th**. Spots are limited!



Sign-Up for a Digital Copy of the Flash Newsletter

Parents who would like to sign up to receive a digital copy of the Flash Newsletter each month can do so at this link (<https://forms.gle/Q1sXCFjZJ2SmJDV7k>) or by scanning the QR Code.



5th Grade Parents:

5th graders who would like to participate in afterschool activities at ECMS in the Clover Room must have a note from home to be a walker or bus rider (depending on weather) to the Middle School.

Want Clover Points? Parents, please indicate you have seen the 4-H Flash below. Sign, cut out and return!

Student Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Anyone who has questions or concerns about the protection of minors involved in UGA programs or activities can contact the Elbert County 4-H Agent (Lauren Dye, LMDYE@UGA.EDU). Additional contacts include the District 4-H Program Development Coordinator (Al Parker, ALPARKER@UGA.EDU) and/or UGA's Director of Compliance for Programs and Activities Serving Minors at programsforminors@uga.edu or 706-542-7255.