

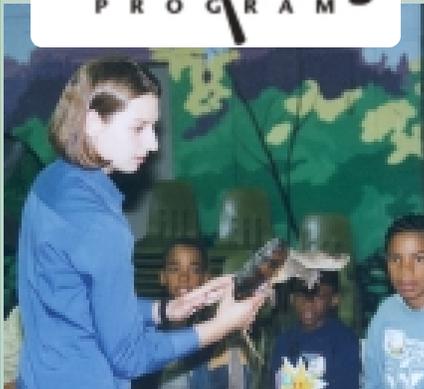


## Summer 2002

### Camp Leadership

All six weeks of Summer Camp are SOLD OUT! Way to go 4-Hers, agents & volunteer leaders!

Jonathan Barron (Twiggs) Wahsega Lead  
 Nancy Bates (Ben Hill) Muskogee Princess  
 Johnna Bussell (Emanuel) SIP Himbo  
 Jessica Cudnik (Clarke) Waterfront Himbo  
 Cisco Demons (Barrow) MI Himbo  
 Ken Eason (Evans) Shawnee Chief  
 Tyler Gaines (Gwinnett) Cherokee Chief  
 Timothy Haley (Butts) Muskogee Chief  
 Tino Johnson (Coffee) Head Himbo  
 Adam Jones (Harris) CAP Himbo  
 Brandy McDowell (Evans) S&R Himbo  
 Patricia Roberson (Oconee) Jekyll Lead  
 Emily Shea (Lowndes) Tybee Lead  
 Erin Shealy (Oconee) Shawnee Princess  
 Jennifer White (Atkinson) Cherokee Princess



Becky Goldberg began as Coordinator for the Discovery Program in March. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Ecology and Conservation with a Minor in Zoology. We invite your group to see what's new by reserving a program for this fall. NEW class options include: Feathered Friends, Amazing Mammals, Aquatic Animals, Creepy Crawlies, Sensory Awareness, Native American Studies and Pioneer Life. Target audience: Pre-K - 2nd grade



Robert, Fred, Adella & Marshall

Rock Eagle 4-H Center has employed hundreds of people in its nearly fifty years of operation. No family has dedicated more time to operation of Rock Eagle 4-H Center than the Burston family. Bessie and Mack Burston reared six children near the Center, and five of them worked at Rock Eagle, giving the better portion of their life in service to Rock Eagle and its customers.

In June of 1959, Robert Burston began at Rock Eagle 4-H Center. He gave forty-one years of service to the Center. Robert and his wife, Edith, have six children: Robert Jr., Clint, Katrina, Kim, Keith and Kenneth, all of whom have had part-time jobs at Rock Eagle in either the dining hall or gift shop. Robert retired in August of 2000 as Custodial Foreman II, head of the housekeeping department at Rock Eagle 4-H Center. Robert was the first minority to work in administration.

Marshall Burston, also known as 'Buggs', was the first to begin work at Rock Eagle in 1958. He served forty-one years in the Maintenance Department until his retirement in 1999. Brothers Robert, Fred and Mack Jr., sister Tommy Mae Clark and her daughters Mozelle Clark and Julia, Fred's wife Adella and her daughter Angela have all served Rock Eagle.

The Burston family lived adjacent to Rock Eagle, witnessing its creation. They have given much of their lives to make sure the center continues to operate successfully. The total years of full time service by Fred, his wife, Adella, Marshall, Robert, and their sister, Tommy Mae Clark is over one hundred sixty years. One could always depend on the Burston family to be present and prepared to work.

Robert Burston is the center of the Burston family's impeccable reputation in the local community. Robert always expected much of those who worked for him and also gave much in his efforts to the 4-H Center. Robert and Edith's character was best summed up when Robert was honored by the Georgia 4-H at the 2000 State 4-H Congress in Atlanta. Arch Smith, Associate State 4-H Leader, stated, "Robert and Edith Burston have given to their six children a good education, a tremendous work ethic, and a sincere concern for their fellowman. I would like to give those gifts to my own children".

The Burston family has given much to Rock Eagle 4-H Center. Georgia 4-H and the University of Georgia say thank you to Bessie and Mack Burston for the children they reared in Putnam County, who in turn, gave so much to Rock Eagle, and ultimately to youth development. In May 2002, Fred will be the last of the Burston brothers to retire from Rock Eagle after thirty years of service in the maintenance department working as a painter and tractor operator.

## Who's Who @ the Rock

highlights one of many Rock Eagle employees who exemplifies the 4-H motto, "To Make the Best Better." **Marc**

**Fortson**

### Landscaping Supervisor



Marc Fortson serves Rock Eagle as Landscaping Supervisor. He is a 1995 graduate of Morgan Co. High School and 2000 graduate of the University of Georgia with a degree in Landscape Management.

Some of Marc's responsibilities include supervision of the landscaping staff, design, coordination and installation of all landscape plans, recreation fields, and overall lawn care maintenance. He works with many user groups to ensure their needs

are met. Marc lines recreation fields for sports and band camps, prepares for Project SAFE events, and administers the sound board and lights of the auditorium for conference groups.

Marc serves on the planning committee for Founders Lodge and the Rock Eagle Staff Development Training Program. Prior to his current role, he worked part-time in the maintenance department. He currently resides in Social Circle.

## Talmadge Tribute

Recently we lost a great Georgian, the legendary Herman E. Talmadge. He was a champion for young people, agriculture, and a host of noble causes. The Cooperative Extension Service and especially Georgia 4-H students, agents, staff members and volunteer leaders are fortunate that 'The Senator' always held a special place in his heart for 4-H. Rock Eagle

became a reality under the leadership of Herman Talmadge while he served as Governor of Georgia. With his direction, our state made the commitment to match state funds to private donations collected and to provide prison labor for construction of the Center. The largest building at Rock Eagle, Talmadge Auditorium, was named in his honor.

While serving as US Senator in Washington, D.C., Talmadge continued the 4-H Patronage



*Gov. Talmadge matches state dollars toward the construction of Rock Eagle*

Program initiated by Richard Russell, the first internship type program of its kind in the nation. Senator Talmadge always included a college-aged 4-H member on his staff and provided wonderful learning experiences for young adults throughout his tenure in the US Senate.

In his retirement years, Senator Talmadge has continued to be a loyal supporter, donor and champion for 4-H. He was recently one of the first inductees into the National 4-H Hall of

Georgia 4-H Centers &  
Environmental  
Education locations:

Rock Eagle 4-H Center  
350 Rock Eagle Road  
Eatonton, GA 31024  
706/484-2899  
Fax 484-2888  
reagle@uga.edu

Office Hours  
8:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Monday - Friday

The Wingspan is  
produced by:

Maria B. Bowie  
Joel Walker  
Rick Spears

Let us hear from you!  
E-mail  
mdbeggs@uga.edu



\*18 U.S.C. 707

Jekyll Island 4-H Center  
201 S. Beachview Drive  
Jekyll Island, GA 31527  
912/635-4117  
ejekyll@uga.edu

[jekyll4h.org](http://jekyll4h.org)

Wahsega 4-H Center  
77 Cloverleaf Trail  
Dahlonega, GA 30533  
706/864-2050  
wahsega@uga.edu

[wahsega4h.org](http://wahsega4h.org)

Tybee Island 4-H Center  
P.O. Box 1477  
Tybee Island, GA 31328  
912/786-5534  
tybee4h@uga.edu

[tybee4h.org](http://tybee4h.org)

Tidelands Nature Center  
100 S. Riverview Drive  
Jekyll Island, GA 31527  
912/635-5032  
tideland@uga.edu

[tideland4h.org](http://tideland4h.org)

## Spring Fawns

By: Joel Walker  
Environmental Education

May and June is fawning time in Georgia. Few humans ever get to witness the birth and early life of a whitetail deer fawn, and that is exactly what the mother wants. Birth and early maternal care of fawns is quite different from that of human offspring; however both mothers are looking to achieve the same goal, survival of their young.

It begins the previous fall, when conception takes place. After a gestation period of 6½ to 7 months, the doe is ready to give birth. Although she does not spend time looking for that "perfect spot," she may return to the same general area each year to bear fawns. Some mothers give birth to fawns when only one year old, however most will produce their first fawns at age two. Twin births are common, and triplets occur occasionally. In years of poor range (food) conditions, single fawns may be the norm.

During the birthing process, a doe rarely has complications and produces fawns averaging 5-7 pounds. Immediately after birth, the mother will consume the placental material and clean the fawn with her tongue. Sometimes she cleans so vigorously part of the fawn's body is actually lifted off the ground with each tongue stroke. If she cleans the fawn well, she will remove much of its scent. This is important, since many predators (coyotes, bobcats, mountain lions, and bears) would love to discover and devour a newborn fawn.



photo courtesy of USFS

During its first few weeks, a fawn is too weak to follow its mother around, so it must remain alone and hidden. Fawns lie down in tall grass, brushy areas, behind fallen trees, or anyplace providing cover. A fawn is aided in concealment by its white-spotted coat, which resembles spots of sunlight reaching the ground through a forest canopy. To minimize drawing attention to the fawn's location, the doe will only visit her newborn 3-5 times a day for nursing. When the doe arrives to nurse, she may make a soft, low sound to help locate the fawn. The fawn may lift its head or respond with its own call. Aside from the first nursing, the doe usually stands when providing milk. A fawn is completely dependent on this rich milk for survival during the first two weeks of life. In this brief time, a fawn's body weight can double from the fat and protein-laden milk.

Around two weeks after birth, a fawn may begin eating some plant material; however it must continue to nurse. As the weeks go by and

the fawn becomes stronger, the doe will visit more. By six weeks, the fawn follows its mother part of the time. Each week thereafter the fawn follows for longer periods and greater distances. Around three months after birth, the fawn will be weaned. Although it can usually survive on its own after weaning, the fawn stays with its mother. At four to nine months, the spotted coat disappears; and eighteen months after birth, male fawns are driven away by their mother, reducing chances of inbreeding. Female fawns stay with their mother indefinitely, forming family groups led by a matriarchal doe.

Fawning season can make wildlife biologists a little anxious. Sometimes well-intentioned people bring a newborn fawn to a wildlife agency, believing they have saved the fawn from maternal abandonment and certain death. Biologists often return the fawn to the place it was found; and if returned within about a day, there is a chance the mother will resume caring for the fawn. If the two do not reunite, there is virtually no chance of the fawn's survival.

**Attn Teachers!**  
**Ecotrek 2002**  
**Summer Workshop**  
**July 25 - 28 Come**  
**join the fun!**  
**Call 912.635.4117**  
**email mdbeggs@uga.edu**

Au'Revior! Best wishes to Program Coordinator Steve Dorsch and Assistant Coordinator Joel Walker. Due to their efforts, the program has revamped all curriculum and secured fantastic seasonal staff members from throughout the United States, Canada and England.

For details on joining the EE Team, please contact us.



Cooperative Extension

The University of Georgia  
College of Agricultural &  
Environmental Sciences  
Athens, GA 30602-4356

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Athens, GA  
Permit 446

Georgia 4-H Foundation

**Rock Eagle 4-H Center**  
**350 Rock Eagle Road**  
**Eatonton, GA 31024**

706/484-2800  
Fax 706/484-2888  
reagle@uga.edu

www.georgia4h.org



The University of Georgia and Fort Valley State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and counties of the state cooperating. The Cooperative Extension Service offers educational programs, assistance and materials to all people without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex or disability. An equal opportunity/affirmative action organization committed to a diverse work force.

Printed on recycled content paper

### Book Your Group!

Need a meeting venue for 10 or 1000? Allow us to provide your organization with retreat accommodations and conference facilities. 54 cottages, 110 acre lake, chapel, 1230 seat auditorium, 8 meeting facilities, teambuilding/ropes course, pools, natural history museum & more!

Call 706/484-2868  
Fax 706/484-2888  
e-mail: reagle@uga.edu

As the nation's largest provider of residential environmental education, we welcome the opportunity to serve additional schools. Please call to book  
y o u r s c h o o l !



### Attention TEACHERS!



Join our staff for an exciting summer teacher workshop! Learn the fundamental basis of the Environmental Education Program by participating in field study experiences at Wahsega, Rock Eagle, Tybee & Jekyll Island 4-H Centers. July 25 - 28, starting from Atlanta, including transportation, lodging, meals, instruction, 3 SDUs, lesson plans and outdoor adventure at its finest! Registration & \$150 deposit or school purchase order due by June 1st! Limited to 30 participants.

For more info, call 912.635.4117 or email mdbeggs@uga.edu for a complete schedule. Mail \$150 deposit & registration form below to:

Ecotrek, 350 Rock Eagle Rd, Eatonton, GA 31024

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Summer Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Shirt size: \_\_\_\_\_