



UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
EXTENSION

1282 Hwy 53 Spur SW, Suite 200
Calhoun, Georgia 30701
gbowman@uga.edu
706-629-8685

To: Gordon County 4-H Members, Volunteers, Parents and Guardians.

From: Greg Bowman- Gordon County Extension Coordinator/ ANR

Good morning. As Gordon CEC and a proud Gordon County 4-H alumni, I wanted to send each of you a letter in hope of encouraging you during these different times. If you would have told me when we came back from Christmas break that we would have so much change in how we do things due to COVID-19, I obviously would not have believed you.

You have just been made aware of the cancellation or postponement of 4-H summer camps, conferences and competitive events for June and July. I know this is disappointing for our 4-H'ers. It has been challenging for our staff also. We feel we offer one of the most well-rounded 4-H programs in the state and our staff enjoy seeing our youth compete and grow individually at camps, conferences, community service and other Georgia 4-H related efforts.

Many times, I like to give sports examples in regards to motivation. I hope you look at the uncertain times like a marathon. Along the course of a race, a runner may find moments they want to quit. Those times will come when the competition is stiff or when the stress of running the race may seem too tough to overcome. There also may be pitfalls along the way that slow a runner down. Many of you participate in our competitive events and COVID-19 has thrown roadblocks our way for our judging teams and shooting sports teams for example. Even some of our livestock show team events are up in the air. I just challenge you to stay on course and prepare because those competitions will return.

As a Gordon Extension staff, we believe in you. We also believe in our Gordon County 4-H program overall. I encourage you to keep up with the latest 4-H developments as we provide them by mail, email, social media and other means. Our staff have been diligently working this entire time of social distancing. We have proved to be adaptable and I know our Gordon 4-H program will continue to be awesome. Some of you may be preparing for competitions right now with staff by new means. I encourage you to follow their direction and be an active practice participant. You will be glad you did when the competition takes place. Thank you.

DON'T LIMIT YOUR CHALLENGES, CHALLENGE YOUR LIMITS.

