

**FEED
FANNIN**



ONE COMMUNITY, ONE SPIRIT

Feed Fannin News



Feed Fannin Inc.

Spring Planting 2016

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Bowls of Hope Fundraiser a Roaring Success

Feed Fannin's 2016 Bowls of Hope (BOH) fundraiser was a phenomenal success, and raised more than \$19,500 for Feed Fannin (FF).

The event was held on March 19 at beautiful Willow Creek Falls in Blue Ridge. Almost 500 ticket purchasers attended BOH, and all enjoyed taking home a unique handcrafted bowl made by local potters and sampling the many great soups and chilies donated by local chefs and restaurants. The action at the silent auction was hot and heavy.

Connie Galloway, who chaired the BOH committee this year, praised the more than 70 Feed Fannin (FF) volunteers who assisted in planning and conducting the event. "An event like this is not possible without the help of all our great volunteers," she said. "Thanks to them Bowls of Hope went off like a charm, and we raised more money for Feed Fannin than last year."

She also thanked the Fannin County community for supporting FF and BOH. "Local restaurants and chefs donated soups, local potters made bowls, and businesses and individuals donated great items for our silent auction," Galloway said. "This was truly a community event, and it shows just how lucky we are to live in an area where so many are willing to contribute to Feed Fannin's efforts to help the needy."

The money raised by BOH will be used to help feed the hungry in our community through FF's support of the Family Connection Food Pantry. It will also help to fund FF's educational programs. This year FF is helping garden clubs in all three Fannin County elementary schools by partnering with elementary school teachers and the Fannin County Master Gardeners.

Planning for next year's BOH will start in the fall. "Our goal every year is to make the next BOH better than the last one," Galloway said. "We're always looking for volunteers to help make that happen. If you want to help with the planning for the 2017 BOH or contribute in some other way, please contact Feed Fannin at (706) 946-1001 and leave a message." - Jim Yacavone





Education

Join Feed Fannin for the following education programs this Summer:

July 11 at 10:00 a.m. at the cannery with Jeff Wilbanks for "Can You Can?, Yes You Can"

August 6th "Herbs" with Patricia Kyritsi Howell of the Batanologos School of Herbal Studies will be hosted at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church on Forge Mill Rd.



Feed Fannin's Youth Garden Club

Feed Fannin expanded our education program this year. Blue Ridge Elementary School developed plans for each grade to promote gardening:

- Kindergarten- chicken brooding project
- 1st grade - bluebird habitat garden project
- 2nd & 3rd grades - pollinator and vegetable gardens
- 4th grade – composting
- 5th grade - food for women's shelter project
- Additional 6 raised beds for all grade levels

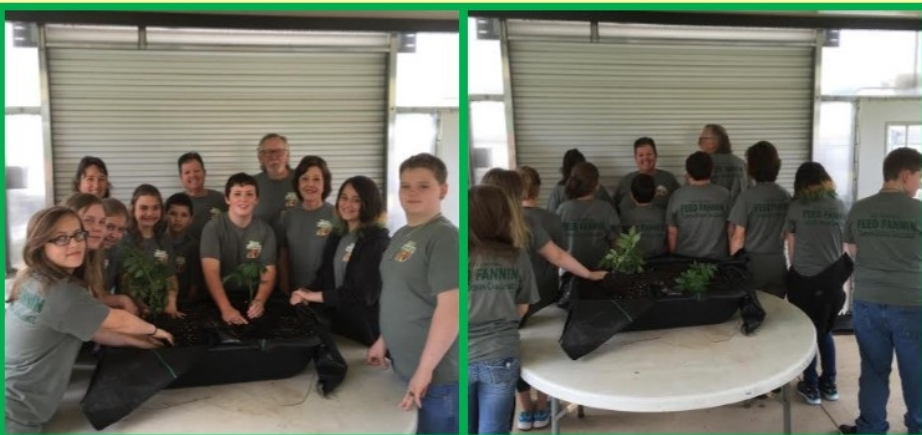
The kids from each grade made thank you plaques which will be displayed at Feed Fannin.

Also, 13 members of the youth garden club at BRES received a certificate and a Junior Master Gardeners' certification pin for earning their JMG first year certification. They had to complete 80% of the classes, complete a community service project and pass a final exam to earn this achievement.



Feed Fannin Partners With Middle School For the First Annual STEM Design Challenge

FANNIN MIDDLE SCHOOL- Students in Mr. Jeff Wilbanks' 6th grade Exploring Agriculture classes recently participated in the first Feed Fannin Garden Design Challenge. Students used their knowledge of the basic needs of plants to design a portable garden. The only instructions given in this STEM project were that the garden had to fit into a 4-foot by 4-foot space and be movable. STEM is a curriculum based on the idea of educating students in four specific disciplines – science, technology, engineering and mathematics -in an interdisciplinary and applied approach. Students brainstormed in teams, developed a written plan, and built a model of their garden. Each team presented their model to a group of Feed Fannin volunteer judges. A garden design best fitting the criteria, was chosen from each class. The students then worked together to build their classes' winning garden with materials provided by Feed Fannin. An award was also given to a third team for the Best Engineered Design. Congratulations to all of the sixth graders who participated in this project. The winning gardens will be moved to Feed Fannin's Ada Street garden at the end of this school year.



West Fannin Elementary

The students at West Fannin Elementary are planting a pumpkin patch! Thanks for plowing the field Bob Seeger!

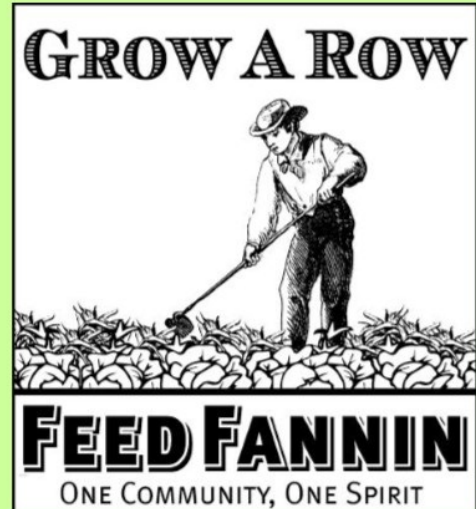




Grow A Row

What is "Grow a Row"? Grow a Row is a people-helping-people initiative encouraging the gardeners of our community to plant an extra row of veggies and to share the harvest with the Fannin Food Pantry. The initiative is sponsored by Feed Fannin. Where do your donations go? Donations support the Fannin Food Pantry, which provides local children and families living on low incomes with access to healthy fruits and vegetables. How can you help? Whether your vegetable garden is large or small, add an additional row, bed or pot and plant something extra. Do you have a bumper crop of peppers or zucchini? Did you have an unexpected success with your potatoes? Donate those extra vegetables to the Fannin Food Pantry. Which crops are best for donation? All fresh produce is needed, wanted and very much appreciated! Root vegetables are best, however any produce that can be easily handled and stored including broccoli, cabbage, beans, tomatoes, radishes, peppers and squash. We just ask that you gently clean the produce and bring it in.

Please deliver your produce to: Fannin County Family Connections Food Pantry 101 Industrial Park Road, Blue Ridge Tuesdays and Thursdays Between 10:00 am - noon or 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm For more information call Meredith Yacavone (727) 492-0837



Ada Street Garden

Thank you John Autry, a FF member, for starting tomatoes, cabbage, and green peppers for us. This year we may try to mix in a few companion plants to help with insects. A trellis for the cucumbers to climb is a new experiment for us this year along with the addition of a few rows of corn. In the 2016 Feed Fannin garden we have planted the following: 40 cucumber plants, 3 rows of corn, 75 tomato plants, 240 red or Irish potatoes, 80 yellow squash plants, 250 cabbage plants, 160 bell pepper plants, 600 sweet potato plants, 120 half-runner green beans. Now we just need to win the battle with the insects and weather.

Food Pantry/Distribution

Priscilla Cashman and Meredith Yacavone rejuvenated the raised beds at Family Connection. They planted tomatoes in the barrels and veggies in the trough.



We can always use more volunteers to help out at the pantry. If you are interested in helping Feed Fannin feed the hungry you can contact Meredith Yacavone.



Remember Feed Fannin in Future Plans

You can consider Feed Fannin when you make a bequest of assets in a will or trust, which could be a specific amount of money or assets, a percentage of the money or assets, or the residual money or assets of the estate. Ask us about it. Contact information is listed below:

Email: feedfannin@gmail.com or

Call Feed Fannin at (706) 946-1001 and leave a message.



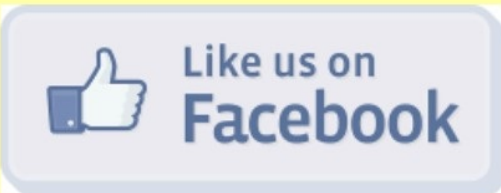
Feed Fannin Inc.

P O Box 1085
Blue Ridge, GA 30513

Phone: 706-946-1001 (Leave message)
Chair: Connie Galloway
Email: feedfannin@gmail.com
Website: feedfannin.com

Consider donating to a great cause! Mail form below or go online to feedfannin.com

We appreciate your support of our local community.



Thank You!

A group from Pleasant Hill Presbyterian in Duluth GA, linked with the local Habitat for Humanity for a weekend of much appreciated work. These kind folks worked over 2 days to finish the remodeling in the FF farm house which we graciously lease from the School Board.



Feed Fannin's Programs

Community Garden – We manage Community Gardens, located on Ada Street in Blue Ridge and at other sites in Fannin County, that provide space for local residents to grow fruits and vegetables.

Food Pantry – We support the Food Pantry by providing volunteer workers, food, and money to mitigate the costs of feeding the hungry in Fannin County.

Education Classes – We provide information, education, and training to those who want to learn to be more self-sufficient in growing, preserving, and preparing their own food.

Thank You!

Feed Fannin sends a big thank you to this group of volunteers from the Cox Automotive group (AutoTrader) that came back recently to help prepare the area for this years garden.



OUR MISSION

Working together to educate and encourage our community towards self-sufficiency while providing food for those in need.

Volunteer with the Feed Fannin Family

If you're into hard work and having fun we would love to have you join us! Gardeners from all over are welcome. It is that time and we need your help more than ever.

However, you don't have to like to garden to be part of Feed Fannin. We have other things you can do.

To volunteer, contact Barbara Ferer at feedfannin@gmail.com, or call (706) 946-1001 and leave a message.

If you would like to speak with our Chair, call Connie Galloway at (706) 946-1001 and leave a message.

Donate



Feed Fannin Gift Form

Your name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Would you like to be added to our email list to receive information about Feed Fannin? Y___ N___

Amount of gift donation: \$ _____

Need a tax receipt? Y___ N___

Please make checks payable to:

Feed Fannin, Inc

Mail form and donation to:

Feed Fannin
P O Box 1085
Blue Ridge, GA 30513

YOUR GIFT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!

"Feed Fannin is a 100 percent volunteer organization"