



Feed Fannin News



Fall/Winter 2015

Feed Fannin Inc.

Feed Fannin Garden News

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The USDA defines "food insecurity" as the lack of access, at times, to enough food for all household members. Food insecurity exists in every county in America and more and more people are relying on food banks and pantries. One of the functions of the Feed Fannin Community Garden on Ada Street is to raise produce for the Family Connection Food Pantry. This past year the food pantry has served 17,125 individuals that included 3,877 seniors and 4,839 children with a total of 5,743 families.

We have had a great year at the Community Garden. It has been filled with challenges though. At the beginning of the summer a pesky critter feasted on the new cabbages, and we had to plow them under. Then deer got into the okra and acted like they were at an "all you could eat" salad bar. Other four legged visitors nibbled at the sweet potatoes vines but they survived the attack, and we had a good yield when we harvested them. The tomatoes did beautifully this year due to the constant care our volunteers lavished on them. We also had a good crop of butternut squash, yellow squash, Irish potatoes and string beans.

The sweet potato harvest exceeded our expectations bringing in 989 pounds! Feed Fannin volunteers donated almost 400lbs of food. Feed Fannin and its partners, Faith Presbyterian Church, Cherry Log Christian Church, and Suches Community Garden have donated a total of 5723 pounds of produce to the Food Pantry this year.

Once the harvest is done, our garden crew started planning for next year's growing season. We invite you to come play in the dirt with us. For more information on the garden and how you can get involved, call Feed Fannin Chairperson, Connie Galloway, at 706-374-4372.

Calendar of Events:

March 19, 2016

Bowls of Hope Event





Harvest Celebration

Thank you to all of those who were able to make it to our 2015 Harvest Celebration. We had lots of good food and good fun! It was great to see you all and get a chance to visit with you.



Thank You to all the volunteers who manned the tent at the Farmers Market in downtown Blue Ridge over the course of the Summer.

Contributions

West Fannin Elementary School Sends Thank You



More Gardening Pictures



Allotment Gardens

The allotment gardens are finished for the summer and several people have planted the summer and several people have planted fall gardens. We will have raised beds available for next year. They are \$10 each and you may get two of them. If interested you should contact Catherine Sugg at her e-mail address cksugg@aol.com and put "Allotment Garden" as the subject line.

Each bed has good quality soil and is in full sun.





Feed Fannin's Youth Garden Club

Youth Garden Club Activities: Fall 2015

The Cool Kids Grow Garden Club at Blue Ridge Elementary School has started another exciting year, and we'd like to share with Feed Fannin members some of the activities that we've been doing lately. Feed Fannin is a sponsor of our club, generously donating funds so that we can conduct hands on gardening and other environmental education activities with the kids.

The club, which has 13 members in either 3rd or 4th grade, meets every other Wednesday at the school, from 3:30-5 PM. This is the 5th year the club's been in existence, and it is growing in popularity each year; we had over 40 applicants this year, the most ever, so we used a random lottery method to pick our members. In addition to the great young students, we have 5 adults who generously donate their time with the club. Kate and Walt George, Sandra Zadroga, Flora Grindstaff, and Fran Strickland.

At our first meeting, the children learned all about the concepts of interdependence and observation. They went on a scavenger hunt through the Blue Ridge Elementary School gardens and used their senses to observe the rich plant, animal and insect life that was abundant. An introduction to insects included the kids' observation of Kate as she changed into a butterfly before their eyes. This helped the students learn the names and function of the parts of the insect.

One of this year's activities included learning about pollination and butterflies that are native to Georgia. The highlight of this lesson was being able to raise Monarch butterflies from small caterpillars. After watching the metamorphosis process over the past month, we had a butterfly release with almost 2 dozen Monarchs set free on the school grounds. We also took a field trip to Mercier's Orchard, where we learned all about apples and the other fruit trees which they grow. Glen Henderson visited our group. He is an expert in bee keeping, and the kids always enjoy seeing the live hive that he brings. We'll also made beeswax candles and had a tasting to compare various types of honey.

We have also planted a fall garden of kale, lettuce, spinach, carrots and radishes. With the peppers and basil left over from the summer, we will make fresh salads and serve this with pizza for a healthy snack at the next meeting. This is an important component of the club. At each meeting we hope to introduce new healthy snacks including fruits and vegetables from our gardens! We have already made fruit and cream cheese pizzas, fruit kabobs and herb butter with crackers. Obviously, we're very excited about this year's Youth Garden Club, and want to thank Feed Fannin for its generous support of our community's youth.

Thank you Cox Automotive for your work at the Ada street farm house!

Food Pantry Distribution



Volunteers clean and sort all produce before it is placed in the boxes.



Organic apples donated

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 Connie Galloway, Chair, at 706-374-4372**



Feed Fannin Inc.

P O Box 1085
Blue Ridge, GA 30513

Phone: 706-946-1001 (Leave message)
Chair: Connie Galloway: 706-374-4372
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.



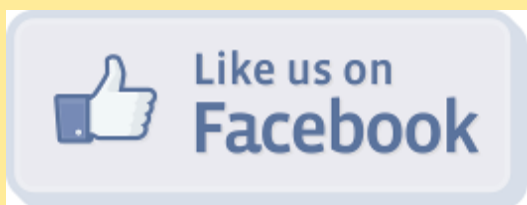
A big thank you to the **6 Degree Group** from Alpharetta for all of their help cleaning up the allotments at the Ada Street Garden. Your efforts are appreciated!

Feed Fannin's Programs

Community Garden – We manage a Community Garden, located on Ada Street in Blue Ridge. We also have other gardens supported by churches and community.

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 to the host/hostess of the Premier Car of the Blue Ridge Scenic Railway for their donation of \$700.

Thank You!!
We thank everyone that has made a donation to Feed Fannin this year!



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 Zora Herr 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 706-374-4372.

Donate
[Click Here](#)



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"