The ALFA Young Farmers program is designed to involve young men and women ages 18-35 who have an interest in agriculture and its continued growth and sustainability throughout the state and here in Fayette County. Membership is open to any Alabama Farmers Federation member within the age requirements. You do not have to be a full-time farmer or producer to participate. We welcome any new members regardless of the size and scope of your operation. Annual events include the National Young Farmers Convention, State Young Farmers Conference, A.L.F.A. Leaders Program and a host of other local events and activities designed to engage you with Young Farmers members from across the state and nation. The Fayette County Young Farmers group meets on a regular basis at the Fayette County High School agriscience building. Meeting dates and times will be set at the call of the Young Farmers chairman. If you are interested in participating, please contact county Young Farmers Chairman Trent Wells at twells@fayette.k12.al.us.

Congratulations To The 2013-14 Fayette County Farmers Federation Scholarship Recipients

Alexandria Norris, Auburn University-$1,750
Jacob Brooks, Bevill State Community College-$1,000
Fayette County Farmer Named To State Board Of Directors

Fayette County native and poultry farmer Joe Roberts has been elected to the Alabama Farmers Federation State Board of Directors as District 5 director.

Roberts was elected by his peers in the five-county district he represents. Those counties are Bibb, Lamar, Fayette, Jefferson and Tuscaloosa. He will serve a three-year term.

Roberts and his wife, Debbie, are lifelong residents of Fayette County and have farmed here for more than 35 years. Their farm has included various row crops, and they currently raise broiler chickens.

Roberts is one of 12 members elected statewide to represent the policyholders and members in his district and county on issues ranging from agriculture to insurance.

Members of the Fayette County Farmers Federation are pleased to have Roberts’ foresight and leadership representing their organization on the Federation’s State Board of Directors.

Supporting Youth Activities

The Fayette County Farmers Federation is honored to support local youth groups that exemplify leadership and training through agriculture. Our county is pleased to support local FFA chapters in Fayette, Berry and Hubbertville along with our county-wide 4-H youth programs.

The Fayette County Farmers Federation contributes money and time to many worthwhile projects including the Fayette County 4-H/FFA Steer and Heifer Show, Fayette County Fair Livestock Shows, donations for travel to the State FFA Convention and FFA Day on the Hill, and other donations to help chapters throughout the year.

Most recently, the Fayette County Farmers Federation donated $2,500 to the Fayette County High School FFA Chapter to attend the National FFA Convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

The Federation supports 4-H programs offered to all students attending any public or private school in Fayette County. The Forestry Awareness Week Now (F.A.W.N) program teaches students throughout the county about natural resources and is funded by the county Federation.

“The Fayette County Farmers Federation is crucial to our 4-H and FFA programs within the county, and without its help, we could not function as efficiently or reach as many youth as we currently do with its financial support,” said county Extension agent Warren Griffith. “It is evident that the Fayette County Farmers Federation is committed to the success and growth of this county.”
A recent survey conducted by Auburn University shows just how big of an economic impact agriculture has on our state and on Fayette County.

“Farming drives the economies of many Alabama communities,” said Alabama Farmers Federation President Jimmy Parnell. “With more than a $70-million economic impact, our industry creates one in every five jobs. The future is bright, but we must continue to invest in agriculture and give farmers the freedom to compete in the marketplace.”

Fayette County has a wide variety of both animal and traditional agriculture such as row cropping. In a recent study by the Alabama Agribusiness Council, it ranked Fayette County’s top three agricultural commodities, the amount of total receipts, and the number of jobs created by each commodity:

- **Poultry & Egg**-$13.5 million in receipts and 97 jobs.
- **Cattle**-$3.6 million in receipts and 75 jobs.
- **Dairy Cattle & Milk Production**-$2.4 million and 46 jobs.

It is important to note that there are 401 farms in Fayette County, encompassing more than 78,000 acres. Timberland spans nearly 327,000 acres, which is more than 80 percent of the county’s area.