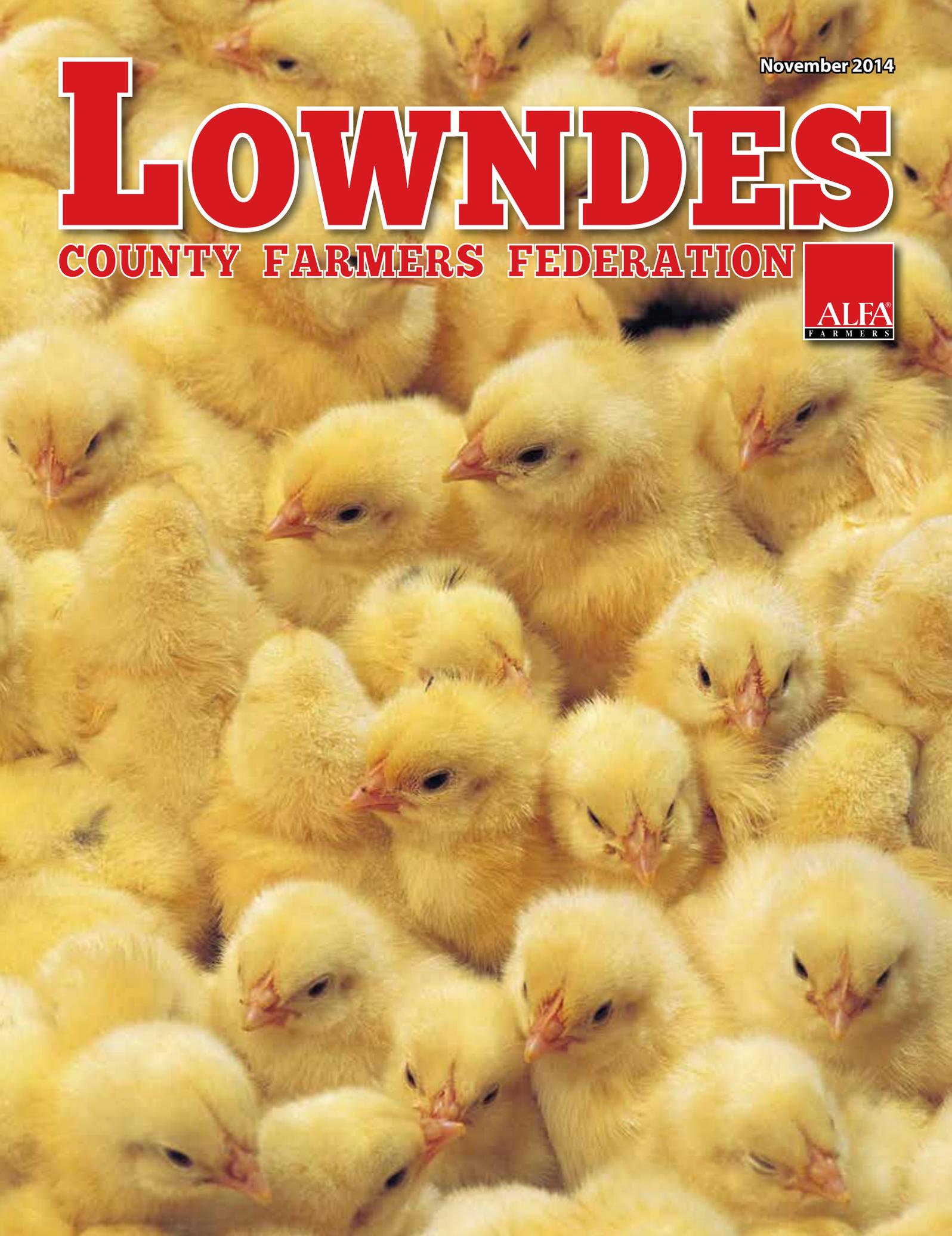


November 2014

# LOWNDES

COUNTY FARMERS FEDERATION



## Lowndes County Farmers Federation

The Lowndes County Farmers Federation is a membership organization built by farmers as an advocate for agriculture, family values, good government and the betterment of Lowndes County.

The Lowndes County Farmers Federation supports Lowndes County's \$150 million agriculture and forestry industry. County directors are active in commodity committees that include poultry; beef; forestry; hay & forage; soybeans; wheat & feed grains; greenhouse, nursery & sod; and wildlife.

The Lowndes County Farmers Federation encourages the development of agriculture's next generation through scholarships and the Young Farmers program. Since 2009, the county Federation has awarded scholarships to 24 deserving young people from the county to help them pursue college degrees.

Lowndes County has an active **Young Farmers Committee** that meets several times a year to discuss issues and solutions facing young farmers today. Members have participated in fund raising activities and been

visible at all county events. Young Farmer Committee Member Grace Ellis won the State Excellence in Agriculture competition and will represent Alabama at the American Farm Bureau Federation competition in January in San Diego, California.



The Lowndes County Farmers Federation has awarded 24 scholarships since 2009. This year's scholarship recipients are shown with County Federation President Richard Holladay. From left are Adam Callis, Mallory McCurdy, Holladay, Haley Nicole Williams and Taylor Grey.

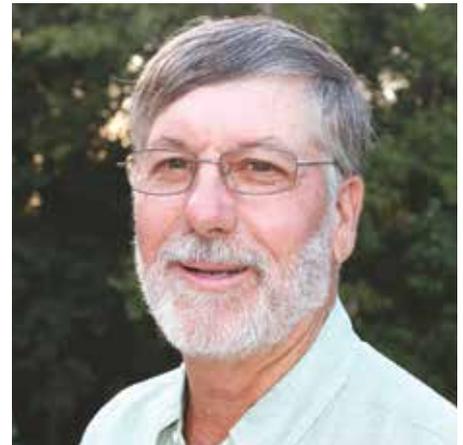
## County Officers and Directors



Richard Holladay, President



Harold Pate Jr., Vice President



William McCurdy, Secretary-Treasurer

**Tom Blake - Emeritus**

**Sam Cates**

**Wheeler Chance**

**Donnie Cooper**

**William Davis**

**Stinson Ellis**

**Thomas Ellis**

**Steve Foster**

**Darren Hammonds**

**George Hammonds**

**Lane Holladay**

**Ronnie Holladay**

**George Hunter**

**Adrian Johnson**

**Tommy Lane**

**David Lee**

**Duke Logan Jr.**

**Jim Mason**

**Caswell McCurdy - Emeritus**

**Anthony Owens**

**Smitty Powell**

**Dan Rhyne**

**Hoffman Rhyne Jr.**

**Keith Till**

**John Traylor**

**Pete Wheeler**

## From The Ashes: Lowndes County Reopens Alfa Service Center

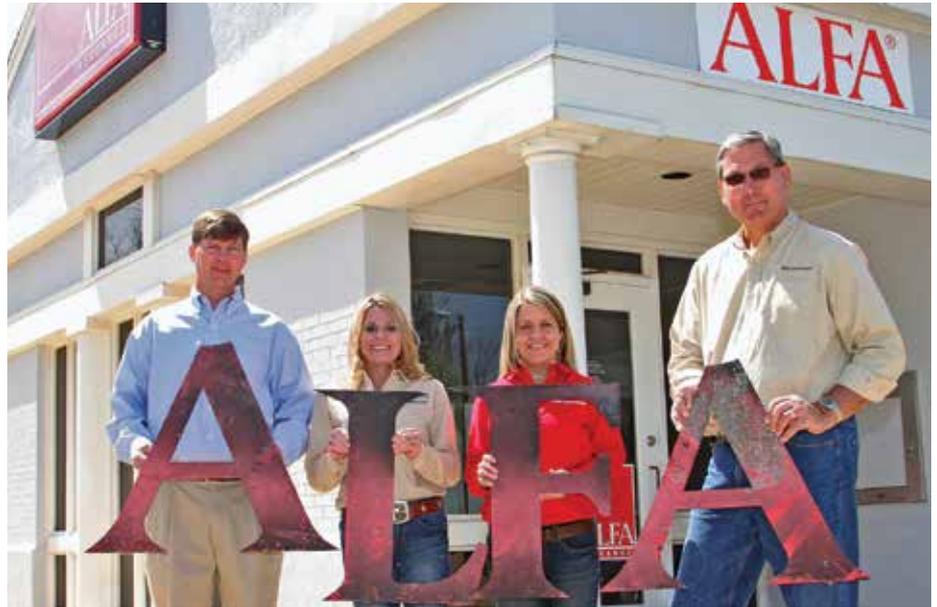
Fire may have completely destroyed the former Alfa Service Center 43 building in Lowndes County last summer, but the event didn't destroy the spirit of its staff.

To celebrate the reopening of the downtown Hayneville office, staff and managers hosted an open house earlier this year. Employees, county Federation members and area residents enjoyed an afternoon of food and fellowship while recalling the events of June 12, 2013. Looking around at the crowd of supporters, now-retired Alfa Agent Gordon Ward said it was good to be 'back home.'

Within 48 hours of the fire, a fully functional office less than a mile away was up and running.

Lowndes County Farmers Federation President Richard Holladay was instrumental in establishing the new location of the permanent office. The building formerly housed First Lowndes Bank.

"Our county Farmers Federation purchased the old bank building, and



Standing with the burned letters from the original sales office are, from left, Lowndes County Farmers Federation President Richard Holladay, CSR Angela Rogers, CSR Susan Sallee and retired Alfa Agent Gordon Ward.

Alfa Insurance rents the space from us," Holladay said during the grand opening celebration. "It took some remodeling,

but the space is ideal for the service center and offers room to expand in the future."



Grace Ellis is pictured with Alabama Farmers Federation President Jimmy Parnell after she won the State Excellence in Agriculture competition in August. Ellis will represent Alabama at the American Farm Bureau Federation competition in January in San Diego, California.



Christy Daniel of Lowndes County was among 150 young people who competed in the Alabama Junior Beef Exposition Showmanship Contest sponsored by the Alabama Farmers Federation in March.

**Discover The Power Of Federation Membership At [AlfaFarmers.org/BENEFITS](http://AlfaFarmers.org/BENEFITS)**

# Agriculture Has Large Impact On Lowndes County Economy

A recent survey conducted by Auburn University shows how big of an economic impact agriculture and forestry have in Alabama and Lowndes County.

"Farming drives the economies of many Alabama communities, including Lowndes County," said Alabama Farmers Federation President Jimmy Parnell. "With more than a \$70-billion economic impact on our state, our industry creates one in every five jobs. The future is bright, but we must continue to invest in agriculture and allow farmers to compete in the marketplace."

In Lowndes County, agricultural and forestry production generates about \$62.3 million annually. When combined with its related industries such as manufacturing, the economic impact jumps to \$149.5 million.

The indirect business taxes associated with agriculture and forestry in Lowndes County have an impact of \$3.6 million — 18.4 percent of the

total indirect business taxes.

**Poultry & Egg** production accounts for the largest agricultural economic impact here with an estimated \$26.7 million impact annually.

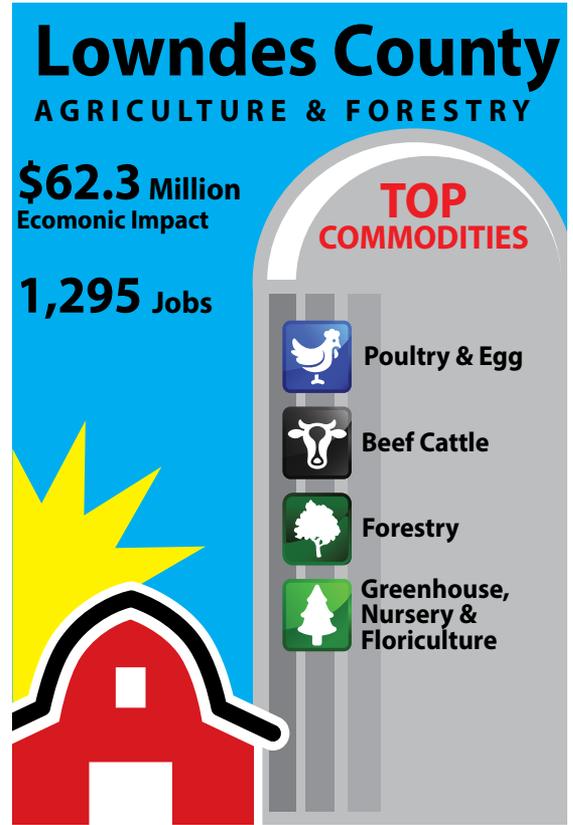
**Beef Cattle** ranks second in the county with an economic impact of \$17 million annually. The county ranks fifth in the state in beef cattle production.

**Forestry** comes in third with an annual economic impact of \$7.6 million.

**Greenhouse, Nursery & Floriculture** ranks fourth with an impact of \$1.9 million.

There are 459,482 acres in Lowndes County and 405 farms. Timberland covers 66.8 percent (307,097 acres) and farmland accounts for 186,705 acres.

Lowndes County's agricultural, forestry, and related industries generated 1,295 full- and part-time jobs, representing 28.5 percent of the county's total workforce (4,541 jobs).



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