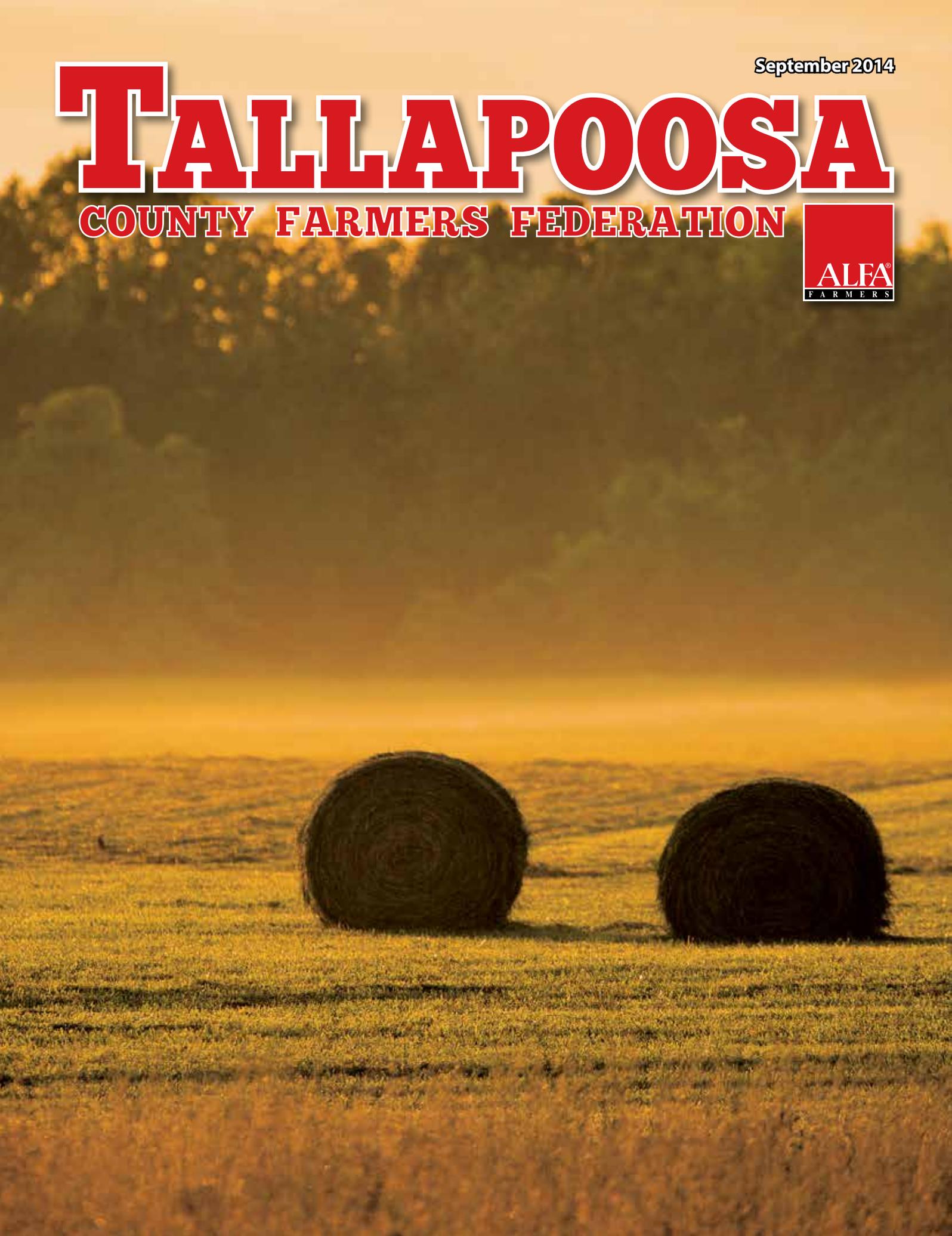


September 2014

# TALLAPOOSA

COUNTY FARMERS FEDERATION



## Tallapoosa County Farmers Federation

The Tallapoosa County Farmers Federation is a county-wide organization that is membership driven and created by farmers. It is an independent, non-governmental, voluntary organization of farm and rural families united for the purpose of analyzing agricultural challenges and formulating plans of action. Through these efforts educational improvement, economic opportunity and social advancement are achieved.

The Tallapoosa County Farmers Federation works with local, state, national and international entities in its scope and influence to advance and improve the agricultural interests of Tallapoosa County. The Tallapoosa County Farmers Federation is non-partisan, non-sectarian and non-secret in character. For more information contact Federation Office Secretary Vickie Watkins at (334) 401-9018.

### Officers & Directors

Neal Kelly  
**President**

Rod Havens  
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**Women's Leadership Chair**

Jacob Hodnett  
**Young Farmers Chair**

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John Farrow

Glenn Fuller

Ruth Lockett

Terry Martin

Clifford Meigs

John Neighbors

Will Ponder

Jerry Sasser

Donald Earl Taunton

Mark Tuggle

### Young Farmers

The Tallapoosa County Young Farmers works to help educate the county's youth, along with the young at heart, about agriculture and what agriculture means to Tallapoosa County. The Young Farmers is also an opportunity for youth to develop their leadership abilities and be able to grow into leaders of Tallapoosa County's agricultural future.



*Horsheobend High School FFA giving tours to students at it's Farm Day 2014.*

### Tallapoosa County Farmers Federation Awards Scholarships

The Tallapoosa Farmers Federation now offers a local scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 to a resident of Tallapoosa County who is a member of Alfa Farmers and enrolled full time in a college majoring in an agricultural field.

The Federation also cosponsored a state Alfa Farmers scholarship in the amount of \$1,750. It will be awarded to a Tallapoosa County resident and

member attending college full time majoring in an agricultural field. The 2014 recipients were Whitney Watkins, an agriscience education major at Auburn University, and Rebecca Oliver, an agricultural communications major at Auburn.

*Left to Right: Whitney Watkins, Rebecca Oliver, Tallapoosa County President Neal Kelly and Federation Board Member Ruth Lockett.*



## Membership Provides Support For Community Services

The Tallapoosa County Farmers Federation has always been involved in the communities that make up Tallapoosa County.

After the tornado that devastated Tallapoosa County in April of 2011, the Tallapoosa County Farmers Federation was made aware of some equipment the volunteer fire departments across the county needed. At the Farm-City Banquet that year, each volunteer fire department in Tallapoosa County received a new Stihl chainsaw from the Farmers Federation. This equipment has allowed the volunteer fire departments to remove debris from the roadways, around homes and areas of Lake Martin



From left are Terre Funderburk, Peter B. Martin III, Tommy Fuller, Cade Cosby, Garret Taunton, and Ryan Martin.

in emergency situations.

The Federation has also contributed to other entities within Tallapoosa County, including Camp ASCCA, Future Farmers of America, 4-H, Tallapoosa County Extension, Alexander City Farmers Market, Tallassee Farmers Market, Cattleman's Association, Junior Cattleman's Association, Cattlewomen's Association, TREASURE Forest Association, and Alexander City Schools and Tallapoosa County Schools for their raised-bed

projects. The Tallapoosa County Farmers Federation supports local communities with monetary contributions whenever it can and voluntary contributions whenever needed.

## Fletcher Farrington: A Legacy of Service to Tallapoosa County Agriculture

In 1932, Fletcher Napoleon Farrington Sr. began serving Tallapoosa County as the new "county agent" of the Alabama Extension Service. Tallapoosa County was the right place and time for this man with big ideas, big feet and a big heart to start work.

Almost immediately Fletcher began to turn the county into a spearhead in the wavering national battle to reverse the constant loss of farmland to soil erosion. Farrington's strategy was the "Nichols" terrace, a new technique of terracing hillside cropland. Gifted with organizational skills, he enlisted all those around him to get involved with this new plan. The Soil Erosion Project was such a success that many agricultural and governmental dignitaries came to Tallapoosa County to witness the erosion control.

Being a dedicated family man, church member and lay leader, Fletcher believed humans are responsible for their fellow man. He organized the Dadeville Kiwanis Club and became its first president. The vision of a better community where people cared for one another was instigated through this service organization. Fletcher was elected Alabama District Governor of Kiwanis International in 1943.

In 1950, he served as a member of Kiwanis International's Agricultural and Conservation Committee. Agricultural and business leaders had no forum where they could communicate and promote mutual interest. Farm-City Week was a solution. The idea was originated in 1955 and presented to the International Kiwanis asking them to sponsor the Farm-City Week. The first Farm-City Week in Tallapoosa County was held in Dadeville at the rec center in 1955. Farm-City Week has been such a success that it has spread around the world.

In 1962, Fletcher was hired by the Alabama Farm Bureau Federation to work in its Rural-Urban Relations Division. At Alfa, he initiated Agribusiness Career Day to encourage youth

to stay in agricultural as a business. He is credited with coining the phrase agribusiness. Truly Fletcher Farrington was a man ahead of his time.

## Save on dining, hotels, shopping, movies and more!

Everyday Extras is a discount program already saving money for thousands of Alabama Farmers Federation families. With more than 185,000 retailers

nationwide, members have plenty of opportunities to save. Registration for the program is easy and just requires a member number\* and some basic information.



Register at [www.everydayextras.net](http://www.everydayextras.net)

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\*Member number available on your auto insurance bill or membership card. Omit any leading zeros. If unable to locate your member number please contact any local Alfa® office or 1-800-964-2532.

\*\*Benefits are subject to change without notice. Participating locations only.

# Tallapoosa County Agriculture Boosts Economy, Creates Jobs

A new survey for Tallapoosa County's Agriculture, forestry and related industries reported an impact on the local economy in the amount of \$142.5 million per year. The Industry also supports approximately 2,403 full- and part-time jobs in the county. The indirect business taxes impact is \$8.9 million. Based on these numbers, it's easy to see that agriculture is alive and well in the economy of Tallapoosa County. (County data can be viewed at [www.AlabamaAgimpact.com](http://www.AlabamaAgimpact.com)).

The No. 1 agriculture commodity in Tallapoosa County is poultry and egg production, contributing 27 percent of the county's total agriculture



and forestry production.

The second largest is cattle, which contributes 7.2 percent of the county's

total agriculture and forestry production.

The third largest is corn, which contributes 1.7 percent of the county's total agriculture and forestry production.

Forestry production contributes 42 percent of the county's total agriculture and forestry production.

Tallapoosa County has a total land area of 459,475 acres. Of that, there are 377 farms covering 64,090 acres. Timberland accounts for approximately 392,689 acres.

The Tallapoosa County Farmers Federation and its farmers are among the most conservative and efficient business people in Tallapoosa County.

For the Best Agents in the Business.

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**Billy Farr**  
1977 Cherokee Rd.  
Alexander City, AL 35010  
(256) 329-0544  
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431 N. Broadnax St.  
Dadeville, AL 36853  
(256) 825-9211  
[sfourtenbary@alfains.com](mailto:sfourtenbary@alfains.com)



**Stephanie Phillips**  
1977 Cherokee Rd.  
Alexander City, AL 35010  
(256) 329-0544  
[sphillips@alfains.com](mailto:sphillips@alfains.com)



**Don Vinson**  
1977 Cherokee Rd.  
Alexander City, AL 35010  
(256) 329-0544  
[dvinson@alfains.com](mailto:dvinson@alfains.com)

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