A Letter From The Lowndes County Farmers Federation President

The Lowndes County Farmers Federation has enjoyed a successful year. Membership in our county organization is up more than 100 percent over the previous year.

The county Federation awarded four $1,000 educational scholarships to students from Lowndes County who began college this fall.

On the political front, candidates endorsed by our county organization were elected in the primary last year.

The Lowndes County Farmers Federation purchased the building in Hayneville last year that is now home to the Alfa Insurance office. This continues to be a good investment for the county organization.

Charitable donations from the Lowndes County Farmers Federation help members of our community. Our county organization contributes and supports many agricultural organizations involving the youth of Lowndes County.

The county’s Young Farmers Committee continues to grow and is seeking new members under the age of 35.

The Young Farmers program helps build leadership skills in young farmers by engaging them in interactive and personal development opportunities, while building relationships and educating them about our organization.

Thank you for your membership and continued support of this organization. We’re looking forward to another great year.

President Harold Pate Jr.

Scholarship recipients are, from left, George X. Hunter III of Tuskegee University, Samantha Nicole Smith of Eastwood Christian School, Miranda Johnson of Morgan Academy and Hunter H. Johnson IV of Trinity Presbyterian School. Each student received a $1,000 scholarship.

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The Alabama Farmers Federation 2015 Beef Tour attracted cattlemen from throughout the state. The tour included a stop in Lowndes County at CK Cattle Co. Owner Chuck Madaris discussed his herd management with members as they toured his farm on a hayride.

Lowndes County Farmers Federation President Harold Pate Jr. joined 100 other Alabama farmers for the annual Washington Legislative Conference at the nation’s capital May 19-22. While there, farmers spoke with federal officials and congressional leaders about agricultural issues including trade and environmental regulations. Pate is pictured with U.S. Rep. Terri Sewell, D-Birmingham.

More than 170 young people participated in showmanship classes at the 2015 Alabama Junior Beef Expo at Garrett Coliseum. Darja May of Lowndes County placed second in her class of junior showmanship competitors. She is pictured with Alabama Farmers Federation President Jimmy Parnell. Darja received a ribbon and prize money as a top-five winner.
Hey, did you know HAY is an important part of agriculture in Lowndes County and throughout the world?

Approximately 60 percent of the world’s agricultural land is used for grazing. Half of the land area in the U.S. cannot be used for growing crops and is used as grazing land instead. If cattle, sheep and goats were not grazed on this land, it would be of no use for food production.

Cattle are the primary livestock that utilize grassland in Lowndes County. The cattle industry pumps $17 million into the county’s economy each year and is responsible for 218 jobs.

Lowndes County ranks fifth in the state in cattle numbers.

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