

## April 2018 County News

### Aiken County

The Aiken office of Farm Bureau Insurance has been recognized by vendors at the Aiken County Farmers Market for its support of the market. Accepting a certificate of appreciation from the market vendors was Bob Hagen, agency manager for the Aiken County offices of Farm Bureau Insurance.



“Support by area businesses is important for the market because it allows us to improve the market in ways that we could otherwise not afford,” said market manager Joe Patterson. “Farm Bureau Insurance sponsored the 2018 meeting of market vendors.”

Long-time market vendor John Hutson (left), the owner of John’s Woodshed, presents a certificate of appreciation to Bob Hagen, agency manager for the Aiken County offices of Farm Bureau Insurance.

### Beaufort County

Ashby and Ashley West of Beaufort County and John Chapman of Palmetto Grain in Okatie attended YF&R Conference in Greenville, SC.

Laura Hansen, Louis, Ann & Melinda Ackerman with donations of \$100 check, \$287 in food items and 83 pounds of aluminum tabs volunteered at Food Check-Out Day at the Charleston Ronald McDonald House.

Laura Hansen and Beverley Brown attended Women’s Day at the State House.

Laura & Abigail Hansen, Beverley Brown, Melinda and Ann Ackerman attended the Women’s District Meeting in Lone Star.

Beverley Brown, Pat Musgrave, Ann Ackerman, Laura & Abigail Hansen and Abigail Phillips, the state 4-H military representative, participated in Read Across America at Bolden Elementary-Middle School (a DoD SCHOOL). Between 50 and 100 students and parents attended the program entitled Dr. Seuss “Green Eggs And Ham”. Samples served were green eggs, ham, toast and butter. To demonstrate the origin of ham was a live piglet, for green eggs was a live chicken and fresh green eggs, for toast a bag of wheat which was ground into flour and for butter, the ingredients were

donated by Farm Bureau and students made their butter in a jar assisted by Farm Bureau women. An antique butter churn was displayed for all to see, as well as a “no farmers no food” sign. The Book of the Year “Plants Feed Me” was donated to the library and to be read by the teachers the next day. Items given out were rulers, pencils, ag mags, folders, and farmers prayer bookmarks.

A baby farm day was held at St. Peters Catholic school.

Donated ingredients for making butter in a jar for 2 after-school programs at Riverview Charter School.

Instructed and assisted with the planting and growing of a vegetable garden at Thomas Heyward Academy.

### **Chesterfield County**

Chesterfield County Farm Bureau had nine young farmers attend the YF&R conference in Greenville, SC.

The county Farm Bureau donated \$100 to the Food Check-Out day event on February 7. Chesterfield County Farm Bureau provided supper for Central High School FFA’s February meeting.

Billy Rivers attended Forestry meeting in Columbia.

Christy Truesdale read “Plants Feed Me” to the Children a Cheraw Primary on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Four ladies attend the Women’s Legislative Appreciation & Ag Day at the State House.

### **Fairfield County**



Fairfield County young farmers Allison Coleman, left, Sarah Coleman, Roe and Elizabeth Coleman, William and Meg Ladd, Ashley Mills and Shannon Matthews were among the more than 300 young farmers and ranchers across the state who traveled to Greenville for the South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers and Ranchers Conference.

## **Greenville County**

Greenville County had the pleasure and honor of having Ashley Trantham, District 28 House Representative, as a special guest speaker at the January 22<sup>nd</sup> Board of Directors Meeting.

March was a busy month for Greenville as we had a dinner for the Greenville County Council on March 19<sup>th</sup>. Greenville had four ladies on the WLC that read the Book of the Year, Plants Feed Me, during Ag Literacy Week. Five ladies attend the Legislative Appreciation Day at the State House.

Looking forward in Greenville County, the WLC is registered to have a booth at the TD Saturday Market in downtown Greenville "Booth with a Cause" event, with promotional and membership material to hand out. The Greenville WLC will also have a guest speaker, Chandra Dillard, District 23 House Representative, at their next committee meeting on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

## **Horry-Conway**

At the SCFB YF&R Conference in Nashville, TN January 25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>, the Horry-Conway Farm Bureau Federation had the largest delegation present out of all the counties in South Carolina.

February 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>, the Horry- Conway Farm Bureau Federation was represented at the AFBF YF&R Conference in Reno, NV by Spencer Evans, Lauren Evans, Richard Floyd, and Megan Floyd.

On February 22<sup>nd</sup>, Horry County Farm Bureau Women's Committee collected non-perishable food items for Food Check-Out Week and donated those items to the McLeod Guest House. A donation in the amount of \$250.00 was also presented to the McLeod Guest House in honor of Food Check-Out Week.

On March 5<sup>th</sup>, Spencer Evans hosted a YF&R event at the Clemson Extension Office in Conway. Our event was sponsored by Farm Plus Insurance Services and Crop Production Services. Our speakers were Dr. Nathan Smith, Extension Professor of Agribusiness Production and Extension Economist and Dr. Adam Kantrovich, Extension Assistant Professor of Agribusiness. Both professors provided us with extensive information regarding agribusiness economics and how those economic factors can impact local farmers.

On March 20<sup>th</sup>, the Horry-Conway Women's Committee had two ladies attend the South Carolina Farm Bureau Women's Legislative Day at the State House. They enjoyed visiting with their respective State House members and thanking them for supporting agriculture.

On March 21<sup>st</sup>, Megan Floyd, Chairman of the Women's Committee, sponsored three kindergarten classrooms and four first grade classrooms at Midland Elementary for Ag Literacy Week. She shared the Ag Book of the Year, Plants Feed Me, and assisted the students with planting zucchini seeds. A video was shared of her and her husband's farm and she brought a variety of seeds to show the children that all seeds are different and yield different plants/vegetables/fruit. The children were learning about the plant cycle in their daily curriculum.

The Horry-Conway Farm Bureau Women's Committee is sponsoring (3) \$1,000.00 scholarships to

any high school senior whose parent / legal guardian is a Farm Bureau member in our local area.

### **Horry-Loris**

Horry Loris County Board member Chris Stevens was interviewed by Diane DeVaughn Stokes on HTC Channel 4's Inside Out. The interview took place on his farm and was about farming and crop insurance business. Chris' wife Alisha Stevens was also part of the show. She talked about South Carolina Young Farmer and Rancher conference. The episode will be aired in month of May on Channel 4 HTC.

### **Kershaw County**

On Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, representatives from the PLAY Foundation, the City of Camden, Kershaw County and state delegation gathered at the site of the future Kershaw County Farmers Market to accept donations from Farm Bureau for \$5,000 and the Kershaw County Water and Soil Conservation District for \$12,500. The wonderful generosity of our community has enabled the Kershaw County Farmers Market to purchase the property located at 906 Broad Street, Camden.

"Today marks a new beginning for the Farmers Market. We are excited to have a permanent location to call home", said Craig Bell, President, Farmers Market. The Water and Soil Conservation District are collaborating with the Farmers Market and helping establish a community garden which will include garden vegetables and flowering plants.

The pavilion was a vision of the Farmers Market for several years. The PLAY foundation is excited to say that the vision is becoming a reality. Carpenter, Board Chair, mentioned that this project is one of the largest that the foundation has undertaken, and happy to see the vision become a reality with the generous donations. Kershaw County is a great place to live; to have over 15 people come on a cool Monday morning shows the commitment and the passion for our community. How wonderful to have Laurie Slade Funderburk, Tom Gardner and Alfred Mae Drakeford, to have elected representation from the city all the way to the state house. There is love in Kershaw County and this is one example why Kershaw County is one of the greatest places in America.

The 2018 Farmers Market season is about the begin. The Kershaw County Farmers Market is moving to downtown Camden, at 906 Broad Street. Opening Day for 2018 is set for April 7<sup>th</sup>. For more information, follow the KC Farmers Market on Facebook @KCFMMarket.

We are in the final phase of this wonderful project, we are fundraising for the actual build of the pavilion. Two of three phases have been completed. If you would like to donate, please make checks to PLAY foundation. All donations are tax-deductible. For more information, follow the PLAY Foundation on Facebook @theplayfoundation.



Pictured: Angel Sams, Melissa Emmons, Laurey Carpenter, Laurie Slade Funderburk, Gina Marthers, Becky Ratz, David Rogers, Jeff Clark, Tom Gardner, Donna Douglass, Sarah Williams, Betty Slade, Matthew Watson, Craig Bell, Pam Spivey, Dan Miller, Kathy McCaskill, Frank McLeod, Bobby Riley and Alfred Mae Drakeford.

### **Pickens County**

Pickens County is looking forward to a great 2018. We started off with twelve board members attending the American Farm Bureau Federation Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. They had a good time and were able to see President Trump's address to the farmers. Walker Miller, the owner of The Happy Berry, gave a presentation to Representative Gary Clary and Senator Rex Rice on the new vision for the future of agriculture. Sharon and Tommy King, owners of King's Sunset Nursery, attended two trade shows. They are one of the largest horticultural providers in our area. We also had two attendees to the Young Farmer & Ranchers conference in Greenville. Melanie Ginn, Women's Committee co-chair, went to the Ronald McDonald house in Greenville for Food Check-Out day.

George Bryant and Britney Ward attended the re-election fundraiser for Hugh Weathers for AG Commissioner. The event was held at Bee Well Honey Farm in Pickens. They also had dinner with Representative Davey Hiott. Craig Brown, County President, and George Bryant attend the Pickens County CTC FFA Chapter Partners breakfast held at the PC Career Center. Craig also attended the FFA Parent/Student Banquet also at the Career Center. Pickens Farm Bureau also participated in the Farm Day at TriCounty Technical College. We provided antique tractors for viewing and helped with the membership table.

We had an appreciation meal for George Bryant to thank him for his past service as the Pickens County President. We have enjoyed working with him and we are happy to note that he still serves as at our State Director. We hope to continue our long association with Mr. Bryant and his family.

### **York County**

Clint and Carolyn Boyd attended the AFBF conference in Nashville on January 6-9. They enjoyed all the activities especially Reba McEntire and President Trump.

York County had seven ladies, Peggy Harshaw, Faye Lineberger, Annie Turney, Annette Boyd, Ruth Harper, Helen Myers, and Carolyn Body to travel to the Ronald McDonald House on February 7<sup>th</sup> for Food Check-Out Week.

At the York County Farm Bureau February Board of Directors meeting, Thomas Wilkerson, York County's Youth Ambassador, spoke to the Directors and shared many of his ideas. Kenneth Johnson received an award by the Board for his many years of service. Arthur Black also received an award for his years of service and years as past president. The Young Farmers and Ranchers attended the meeting and shared their experiences at the YF&R conference and thanked the board for all of their support.

On March 20<sup>th</sup> Carolyn Boyd, Ruth Harper, Helen Myers, Faye Lineberger, Annie Turney and Tracy Miskelly attended the Women's Day at the State House. It was a very rewarding day.

On March 20<sup>th</sup> Wesley Edmunds, Carolyn Boyd, and Clint Boyd attended the Clover High School FFA Advisory Meeting held at Clover High School. They learned of the upcoming activities of the FFA program. Some of their ideas were shared with the Advisory Committee by their Ag teacher, Kelsey Anderson.

The York County YF&R Committee has been busy planning a new fundraiser event for the Sara Ann Comer Memorial Scholarship. This year the committee will host a skeet shoot (Shoot4Ag) on April 28 in Hickory Grove, SC. For more information, please contact Larabeth Smith (803-448-8784).

York County YF&R Tracy Miskelly traveled to Washington, DC, on March 20 to attend AFBF's National Women's Fly-In Day. Miskelly, along with SCFB Women's Committee chair Frances Price, received advocacy training and spoke with legislators on key issues facing SC farmers.

Guy & Cameron Ramsey, new appointees to the SCFB YF&R State Committee, attended the committee's annual spring meeting. The group is busy planning upcoming events, including next year's YF&R Conference in Columbia!