



NESHOBA COUNTY CONSERVATION NEWS

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ISSUE 1

June 2020

2020 CONSERVATION CARNIVAL



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Come visit our website!!

Come see us at the County's website:
<http://www.neshobacounty.net/county-departments/soil-water-conservation/>

The Neshoba County Soil & Water Conservation District hosted their 24rd Annual Conservation Carnival at the Neshoba County Coliseum on Wednesday, February 26th and Thursday, February 27th, 2020.

Just over 410 fifth grade students from Neshoba Central, Philadelphia and Union Schools took part in this year's carnival. The purpose of this event is to enhance our youth of tomorrow with the importance of our natural resources and what they can do to conserve them. Nine educational stations were set up and students rotated through all stations.

Local agencies participated in the carnival educating students on various subjects such as:

Water Safety - Tegan Pettis with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Wildlife Safety - Jean Aycock with the MS Museum of Natural Science.

Bugs - Beverly Keasler - Mississippi State University Entomology Department's Bug Blues Museum.

ATV Safety - Brad Staten with the MSU Extension Service.

Hunter Safety - Justin Blackburn and Hunter Hall with Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.

Composting - Lynn Bradshaw and Jennifer Milner from Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality.

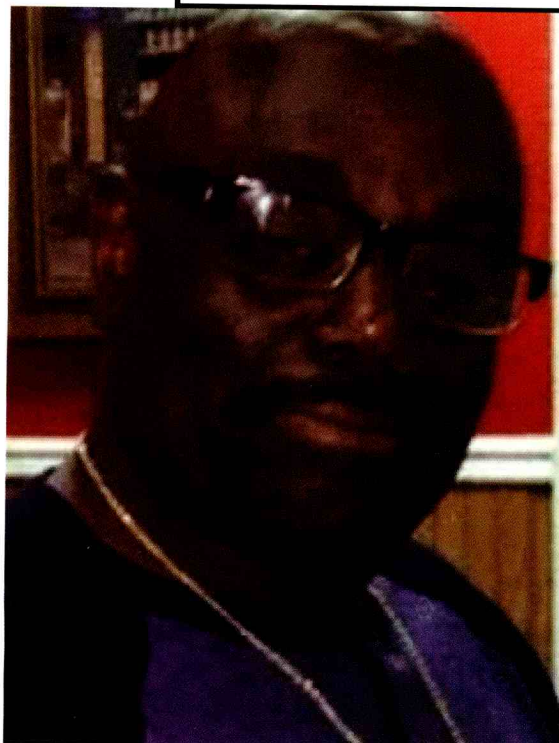
Farm to Table - Celia Miller with Madison County SWCD and Austin Ainsworth with MSU Extension.

Soil Tunnel - Carlee Goode with the MS Soil & Water Conservation Commission.

Forestry - Orlando Embry with the MS Forestry Commission.

We would like to thank Brown Bottling for the donation of drinks for the kids.

TWO GREAT LOSSES TO THE SOIL AND WATER COMMUNITY



Deputy Commissioner Alex Henson October 29th, 1949 - April 2nd, 2020

Alexander Hamilton (Hamp) Henson was born October 29, 1949 in Noxapater, MS to the late Dewitt Henson and Laura Dell (Hathorn) Henson. At an early age he joined Mt. Pleasant #2 M.B. Church in Noxapater, MS where he was a faithful member and participant in young adult and adult programs until he moved to Neshoba County. Alex married Ms. Catherine Nichols in 1983 and moved to Philadelphia.

Alex graduated from Camille Hight Street High School in Louisville, MS in 1966. Attending Alcorn, A&M College in Lorman, MS graduating in 1970 with a B.S. in Agriculture. His career consisted of teaching school and coaching football, working offshore, working for USDA in Louisiana and working for Eastman Kodak in Rochester, New York. Later Mr. Henson started his own business as a poultry farmer 1996 and in recent years as a bus driver for the Philadelphia Public School System.

Some of his Religious, Personal, and Professional affiliations are Deacon and Administrator at Mt. Ary M.B. Church, Member of the Male Chorus and Sanctuary Choir, Sunday, School

Teacher. Member of Alcorn State and Camille Street High School alumni Association, Member of the Masonic Lodge #608, Deputy Commissioner of the Neshoba County Soil and Water Conservation.

Alexander Hamilton Henson passed on April 2, 2020 in Meridian, Mississippi. He was preceded in death by his Father, Mother, and his son Alexander Hamilton Henson, Jr. (Buck). He leaves to cherish his memories, his wife, Catherine N. Henson, (Philadelphia, MS) three Children, Rhonda (Dennis) Davis (Philadelphia), Adrian (Kenna) Henson and Vance Romero Henson (McComb, MS), Sister Annie Rowena Henson (Alabaster, AL) Brother, Alfred (Michelle) Henson (Birmingham, AL). 9 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren, and several nieces, nephews, dear cousins and close friends.

Mr. Alex served as a Deputy Commissioner from 2008– present.

Commissioner Rebecca Barnett September 23rd, 1927 - May 31st, 2020

Mrs. Barnett, 92, passed away on Sunday, May 31, 2020, at Neshoba General Hospital.

Rebecca was a lifelong resident of Neshoba County and a member of First Baptist Church in Philadelphia, MS. She is survived by sons, Frank (Sherry Lynn) Barnett of Daphne, AL, Steve (Brenda) Barnett, granddaughter, Allison (Matt) Boatner; great-grandsons, William and John Scott Boatner; nieces, Wanda McDonald and Lisa (Francis) Hedden, all of Philadelphia, MS.

Mrs. Barnett was preceded in death by her parents, Adell Lofton and Ovvie Lofton; husband, John Frank Barnett; brother, Willie Edgar Lofton; granddaughter, Leigh Ann Barnett, and niece, Jeanne Watts.

Mrs. Rebecca served as a Deputy Commissioner of the SWCD from 2003-2013 and as a Commissioner from 2013-2016.



Coronavirus Food Assistance Program

Are you a farmer or rancher whose operation has been directly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic? The Coronavirus Food Assistance Program will provide direct relief to producers who faced price declines and additional marketing costs due to COVID-19.

About the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program

USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue announced the Coronavirus Food Assistance program on April 17, 2020. CFAP will use funding and authorities provided in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, and other USDA existing authorities. This \$19 billion immediate relief program includes direct support to agricultural producers as well as the Farmers to Families Food Box Program.

CFAP will provide vital financial assistance to producers of agricultural commodities who have suffered a five-percent-or-greater price decline or who had losses due to market supply chain disruptions due to COVID-19 and face additional significant market costs. Eligible commodities include:

- **Non-specialty Crops:** malting barley, canola, corn, upland cotton, millet, oats, soybeans, sorghum, sunflowers, durum wheat, and hard red spring wheat
- **Wool**
- **Livestock:** cattle, hogs, and sheep (lambs and yearlings only)
- **Dairy**
- **Specialty Crops**

Fruits: apples, avocados, blueberries, cantaloupe, grapefruit, kiwifruit, lemons, oranges, papaya, peaches, pears, raspberries, strawberries, tangerines, tomatoes, watermelons

Vegetables: artichokes, asparagus, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, garlic, iceberg lettuce, romaine lettuce, dry onions, green onions, peppers, potatoes, rhubarb, spinach, squash, sweet potatoes, taro

Nuts: almonds, pecans, walnuts

Other: beans, mushrooms

USDA will consider additional crops to be eligible for CFAP by collecting information on potentially eligible crops, as outlined under "Request for Additional Commodities" below on this page.

Eligible farmers and ranchers will receive one CFAP payment, drawn from two possible funding sources. The first source of funding is \$9.5 billion in appropriated funding provided in the CARES Act and compensates farmers for losses due to price declines that occurred between mid-January 2020, and mid-April 2020 and for specialty crops for product that was shipped and spoiled or unpaid product. The second funding source uses the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act to compensate producers for \$6.5 billion in losses due to on-going market disruptions.

Beginning May 26, USDA's Farm Service Agency will be accepting applications from agricultural producers who have suffered losses. While offices are open by phone appointment only, FSA will be working with our agricultural producers by phone and using email and online tools to process applications.

You can find additional information at <https://www.farmers.gov/cfap>

Please contact your local Farm Service Agency to apply. Neshoba FSA: 601-656-8783 ext 2

COMMISSIONERS



Nelson White Treasurer
Lynn Copeland Vice Chairman
Ross Williamson Chairman
Carl Mason
Jerry Smith

DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS



Glenda Winstead Steve Cumberland Mary Lundy Meruvia Charlie Wilson Vacant



DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR
ERICA FORTENBERRY

Contact Information

601-656-8783 ext 3

erica.fortenberry

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Facebook at:

[http://www.facebook.com/pages/Neshoba-County-Soil-and-Water-Conservation-District/361945633835625?](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Neshoba-County-Soil-and-Water-Conservation-District/361945633835625?ref=hl)

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Come see our website at:

<http://www.neshobacounty.net/county-departments/soil-water-conservation/>

OFFICE STAFF:

Priscilla Williamson - NRCS

Supervisory District

Conservationist

Jeff Fortenberry - NRCS Soil

Conservationist

Bill Stalcup - NRCS Soil

Conservation Technician

Erica Fortenberry - SWCD

District Administrator

WHAT IS A SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT?

The Neshoba County Soil & Water Conservation District is a governmental subdivision of the State of Mississippi located in the Third Congressional District. The formation of the Conservation District was authorized by the MS legislature on April 4, 1938, through House Bill 454. The Neshoba County SWCD was organized by citizens of Neshoba County on October 30, 1939.

The Neshoba County SWCD is governed by five commissioners. Three are elected in a district (county) wide election by landowners. Two are appointed by the MS Soil & Water Conservation Commission upon recommendations of the SWCD board of commissioners. Each District is authorized to appoint five deputy commissioners. These commissioners serve without pay to carry out a cooperative program that addresses the natural resource concerns of the District.

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USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



**NESHOPA COUNTY SOIL AND
WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

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**BULK RATE
NESHOPA
SWCD
PRESORT STD.
PERMIT # 91**



National Association of Conservation Districts

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