

FARMERS COOPERATIVE

# FARMING NEWS

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## Winning Cabbage Nearly 22 Pounds

# Kids Can Really Grow

By: Pauline Fletcher Cogdill

Do you know what gets third graders excited? Pizza Parties! You mention pizza parties to third graders and they are ready to let the competition begin. That's exactly what happened with Farmers Cooperative's Bonnie Plant Cabbage Program this spring.

**EARLY IN FEBRUARY** this year, General Manager Todd Lawrence and Agronomy Division Manager, Barry Long, delivered over 400 Bonnie Plant cabbage plants to Suwannee Elementary School classes and gave instructions to the teachers and students what the students needed to do to qualify for a \$1,000 scholarship, a \$25 gift certificate from Farmers Cooperative as well as a John Deere T-shirt and the piece de resistance...the pizza party.

Cooperative employees checked the Photo Gallery on the website quite often to see how many students posted their photos with the progress they were making on the growth of their cabbages. Our website, [www.farmerscooperative.org](http://www.farmerscooperative.org) started to fill up with photos with serious minded third graders who planned to win the prize.

Due to cold weather, our target date of May 2, 2009, had to be rescheduled to May 16, 2009 for the weigh-in of the cabbages. Early Saturday morning, May

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**Grand Prize Winner Kaleb Wing, 21.51 Pounds**

# Kaleb Wing Is Grand Prize Winner

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third grade participants with their parents, grandparents and a devoted uncle brought their cabbages to Farmers Cooperative in Live Oak for the final results.

**WINNERS INCLUDED:** Jordan Nobles, Ms. Bandy's Class, Julia Bass, Ms. Greaves' Class, Alex Scarborough, Ms. Gross' Class, Kayla Andrews, Ms. Henry's Class, Ashlyn Corbin, Ms. McMillan's Class, Raini Roberge, Ms. Williams' Class, Dylan Brown, Ms. Chambers' Class, Ker-ceton Walker, Ms. Edwards' Class, Ethan Gill, Ms. Furry's Class, Noah O'Conney, Ms. Ramsey's Class, Savanna Carroll, Ms. McIntosh's Class and Kaleb Wing, Ms. Yanossy's Class.

All of these class winners were announced over the intercom at school. The names were put into a random drawing, in which Mr. Bass, Assistant Principal, drew Savanna Carroll and Ms. McIntosh's class as the winner of the Class Pizza Party. Ms. McIntosh's class was appreciative to Savanna and Farmers Cooperative for supporting the contest.

In the final analysis, third grader, Kaleb Wing's cabbage weighed in at 21.51 pounds, winning 1st place. Kaleb received a \$25.00 gift certificate from Farmers Cooperative as well as a John Deere T-shirt and a Co-op hat.

Ethan Gill's cabbage weighed in at 18.76 pounds, the second place winner and



**2nd Place Winner,  
Ethan Gill, 18.76 lbs.**

he received a \$15.00 Farmers Cooperative gift certificate along with a John Deere T-shirt and a Co-op hat.

**THE BONNIE PLANT** Cabbage Program is a first for Farmers Cooperative, Inc. this year; however, with the success we have experienced, I am sure it will be an annual event.

We have heard so many touching stories about the cabbage program from teachers, parents, grandparents and third graders of how they learned responsibility of taking care of their cabbage, how family members spent quality time with each other and even with the flooding of the river this spring, trying to protect the cabbage from the flood waters, and most important of all,



**3rd Place Winner,  
Savanna Carroll, 11.65 lbs.**

they learned how to grow their own food. All of the third graders were excited about winning a prize.

We want to especially thank the teachers at Suwannee Elementary School for allowing us to take the time to present the program to their third graders. A special thank you to Bonnie Plant and their driver, Bill Koon, who lives in Mayo and took his day off to pick up the Bonnie Plant truck in Lake City and be at Farmers Cooperative in Live Oak early Saturday morning, May 16th for the cabbage weigh-in.

Congratulations to all our winning team of third graders who participated in the Bonnie Plant Cabbage Program and in making it a great success!

## Where Are These Folks?

Farmers Cooperative is trying to locate the following people whose patronage refund checks have been returned from the U.S. Postal Service as "undeliverable".

L S Norwood, Greenville  
A J Mickler, Clewiston  
David A Pate, Pinetta  
Larry F Miller, O'Brien  
George A Payne, Madison  
Walter McKinley Pitts, Live Oak  
Oliver Pearson, Jr., St. Petersburg  
Orrin T. Van, Mayo  
Ambrose A Peters, Madison  
Marcus E Smith, Branford

## Control High Heating Bills

By: Todd Lawrence

Are you tired of trying to figure out how to pay the high heating bills in the winter? Then you may want to look at Farmers Cooperative Level Pay Plan. What is a Level Pay Plan you might ask? Well a Level Pay Plan is where Farmers Cooperative estimates your annual cost of your propane-heating bill and then equally divides it up so that you make the same payment each month.

Since this amount is only an estimate, the month of May is a month that the program ends and the balance is to be settled.

If your account has a credit balance, Farmers Cooperative will owe you money, which can either be applied

to next year's Level Pay Plan or Farmers Cooperative will issue you a check for the credit balance. If you owe Farmers Cooperative then the balance is to be paid in full before the end of May.

The benefit of choosing the Level Pay Plan is that you avoid receiving and paying for a large heating bill in the middle of winter, usually near holidays, allowing you to better manage your household budget.

If you would like to enroll in the Level Pay Plan please give our L.P. Gas departments in Live Oak or Madison a call and we will be glad to explain the Level Pay Plan to you as well as get you enrolled.



## For The Past Quarter

# NEW CO-OP MEMBERS

### LIVE OAK STORE

Phyllis Carswell, Miami  
James McIntyre, Lake City  
Derreck Fields, McAlpin  
Delbert Jordan, Live Oak  
Gilbert W. Miller, White Springs  
Linda Rouse, Live Oak  
J. Richard Sabonjohn, Live Oak  
Robert Sweat, Live Oak  
Scott Salyers, Wellborn  
Theodore S. Wilson, Live Oak  
Cristina Herrington, Live Oak  
Elaine Poirier, White Springs  
Donna Dillon, O'Brien  
William C. Wills, Live Oak  
Mark Atkinson, Parrish  
John D. Arnold, Live Oak  
George Butler, Live Oak  
Clair McLaughlin, Live Oak  
Raymond Goodman, Live Oak  
John M. Carver, Live Oak  
John J. Hill, Live Oak  
Dewane Knighton, O'Brien  
Dwayne Spicer, Live Oak  
Ronald S. Jamerson, O'Brien  
Juanita & Wayne Clay, Live Oak  
Victor Craig, Live Oak  
Henry & Shauna Tyre, Live Oak  
Charlie Camiel, Live Oak  
L & H Family Farm, Lee  
Kevin R. Fletcher, O'Brien  
Joann Moulton Saunders, Lake City  
Joel Garrett, Lake City  
Felix Valladares, Live Oak  
Jerry B. Tyrrell, Live Oak  
Rick Norris, Kissimmee  
Jackie Lindgren, Vero Beach  
Thomas Gill, Branford  
Doug Mobley, Live Oak  
Aisha Iqbal, Jasper  
Phillip H. Love, White Springs  
Brigitte Garling, Live Oak  
Lawrence Ramsey, Live Oak  
Paula Colson & Russell Tinch,  
Polk City  
William D. Watson, Live Oak  
Lysette Olmeda, Jasper  
James & Ashley Fralick, Live Oak  
Russell Cockburn, Live Oak  
Danny Butts, Live Oak

Carl Fannin, Live Oak  
Barbara Lawson, Live Oak  
Delma Miranda, Live Oak  
Dale Sult, Jennings  
Levi McCall, Live Oak  
Ken Prescott, McAlpin  
William Brown, Ft. White  
Rebecca Bruner, Lake City  
B-4 Ranch, Jacksonville  
Leny A. Winkler, Live Oak  
Charles Dorminey, Branford  
Robert E. Farley, Live Oak  
John W. Lillycrop, McAlpin  
Douglas Glover, Live Oak  
James D. Tyre, Jasper  
James T. Spearman, Jasper  
Billie Rooney, Branford  
James Pinkerton, Jr., Live Oak  
Starling & Sons - Dirt Work, Live  
Oak  
William Bennett, Live Oak  
Mary E. Lee, O'Brien  
Janice M. Chapman, Live Oak  
Carol Cicalese-Moore, Indian  
Town  
Pam Westall, Live Oak  
Pamela L. Howland, Live Oak  
Robert Fish, White Springs  
Mary Selph, O'Brien  
ATR Dairy, LLC, Mayo  
Kerry & John Palmer, Live Oak  
James Geideman, Jasper  
Talf Stuart Hinson, O'Brien  
Ed Dennard, Lake City  
Dennis S. Brannon, Wellborn  
Valentin V. Lax, Live Oak  
Marla & Toribio Landin, McAlpin  
Keith Kieffer, Lake City  
John Henderson, Live Oak  
Scott & Terri Blocker, McAlpin  
Robert G. Smith, Jacksonville  
Beach  
Shawn Howell, Mayo  
Jerry S. Hardin, Port St. Lucie  
Linda Boyles, Lee  
Pat Russo, Pembroke Pines  
Donald Smith, Live Oak  
Stephen Hampton, Jasper  
John L. Butler, Jr., Jennings  
R E Dalton, Lake City  
Janet Clinton, Live Oak

James E. Daley, Live Oak  
NAPA, Live Oak  
Vernice Sparks, Live Oak  
Jeff D. Spradley, White Springs  
Charles W. Taylor, Live Oak  
Diana Robinson, Live Oak  
Willie Montgomery, Lake City  
Ronald Troxel, Lake City  
John A. Farabe, Live Oak  
Linda Martinson, Live Oak  
Bob & Anita Ellis, White Springs  
Irvin McCook, Live Oak  
Enrique Yunes, McAlpin  
Jerry Lopez, Wellborn  
Denise Hahn, Lake City  
Kenneth F. Hill, Live Oak  
Triple J Pony Rides, Wellborn  
Wesley D. Motes, Jasper  
Henry E Layden, Smithfield, VA  
Earl Hayward, Branford  
Patricia Wilson, Live Oak  
John S. Weston, O'Brien  
Vickie Nobles, Live Oak  
Diann Phillips, Wellborn  
James C. Johnson, Wellborn  
Richard Lewis, Live Oak  
Edward Kerstein, Richmond Hill, GA  
Vince Robinson, Alachua  
William R. Edwards, Live Oak  
Barrett Lodge #43 F & M, Live Oak  
Kenneth L. Butler, Live Oak  
John E Rocks, Live Oak  
John R. Skierski, Live Oak  
Sam Roberson, Jr., Lake City  
Charles H. Spacek, Live Oak  
Tom Radford, Live Oak  
Schilling Farms, Lake City  
Lisa Gardner, Wellborn  
Islabela Dairy, Live Oak  
James Mike Cannon, Live Oak  
Kenneth Green, Lake City  
Lynwood Fisher, Wellborn  
Jerry L. Johnson, Sr., Live Oak  
Brenda Williamson, Madison  
Gordon L. Williams, O'Brien  
Robert A. Williams, Lake City  
Tim & Barbara Fitch, Lee  
Connie Bond, Middleburg  
Robert Nixon, McAlpin  
Donna Davis, Jasper

### MADISON STORE

Vincent M. Crawford, Wanchula, FL  
Claude Jones, Greenville  
Rondy Mathis, Madison  
Stoney W. Lee, Greenville  
Joseph E. Shourek, Lee  
Ruby F. Williams, Madison  
Paul & Jeta Norelius, Madison  
R.B. Lee, Perry  
James A. Christy, Jennings  
Marty Bishop, Monticello  
William J. Maher, Madison  
C. Craig Donaldson, Lee  
Thodore Jenkins, Greenville  
James H. Dyal, Monticello  
Tony Russell, Greenville  
Mike Maitlen, Pinetta  
Ryan Lowe, Madison  
Josue Hernandez, Madison  
Albert T. Bright, Greenville  
Clayton Frazier, Quitman, GA  
Kessler & Lisa Gaston, Pinetta  
Ferdinand Williams, Quitman, GA  
Jackie Hutchinson, Madison  
Ronnie Martin, Greenville  
Martha W. Hays, Perry  
Brenda K. Meziere, Lee  
Gary D. Deason, Crawfordville  
Jimmy R. Cannon, Greenville  
Louis A. MacDonald, Madison  
Mark G. Demott, Monticello  
Bill Mitman, Madison  
Irvine Hicks, Jr., Madison  
Johnny Cooper, Jr., Madison  
John Jackson, Greenville  
James Beadwell, Wacissa, FL  
Jimmy Holton, Tallahassee, FL  
Margaret A. Bunch, Garland, FL  
Charles F. Stalnaker, Madison  
Mike McHargue, Greenville  
Christie Nettles, Perry  
Diane Rye, Lee  
Julia & Wayne Shewchuk, Pinetta  
Jose R. Garcia, Pinetta  
Bryan McHargue, Lee  
Mitchell Sheffield, Lamont  
Sharon Reynolds, Pinetta  
Mike Echols, Greenville  
Brett Perkins, Madison  
Augustus Z. Davis, Winter Haven  
Charles Minor, Lee



## 30 Years of Service

Jerry Taylor was a special guest at Farmers Cooperative, Inc. Board of Directors meeting on June 2, 2009. General Manager, Todd Lawrence, presented a plaque to Taylor in recognition of his 30 years of service as a spreader contractor for Farmers Cooperative, Inc. The Board of Directors expressed their appreciation to Mr. Taylor and his many valuable years of service to the Cooperative.

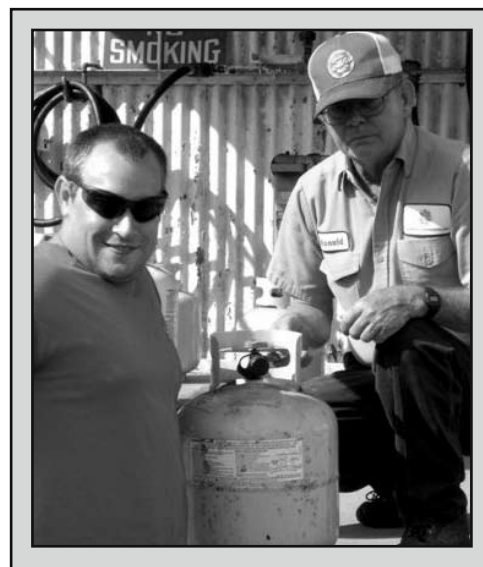
# Janet's Cake

Due to limited space in our last newsletter, we were not able to include Brian McDonald's mother's recipe. With four young boys at home, Mrs. McDonald would bake four loaves of bread a day and a large cake quite often. Janet's cake was a family favorite.

1 1/2 cups sugar  
1/4 lb. butter  
2 tbsp. Crisco (3/4 cup altogether)  
Cream shortening & sugar and add 2 eggs  
Add to creamed mixture:  
1/2 tsp. Allspice  
1/2 tsp. Nutmeg  
1/2 tsp. Ginger  
1 tsp Cinnamon  
2 tbsp Cocoa  
1/2 box raisins (low boiled for 1 hr. and cooled)  
1/2 cup raisin juice  
When juice is lukewarm, add  
1 tsp baking soda  
2 cups flour  
1/2 tsp salt  
1/2 cup walnuts (chopped)  
Makes 1 1/2 cake recipe. Bake 60 minutes @ 350° in large loaf pan.

# Saturday Morning Special

Andy Sullivan (standing) takes advantage of the Saturday morning special price of \$8.99 for a 20-pound LP Gas Cylinder Refill. In keeping with tradition, Farmers Cooperative offers a 20-pound LP Gas Cylinder Sale from Memorial Day thru Labor Day each year. Andy Sullivan and his father, Anthony Sullivan have been doing business as Suwannee Roofing for several years. LP Gas Technician, Ronald Hewiett, averages filling approximately 60 cylinders during the Saturday Morning Special Sale.



## Don't Take Chances

# Clean, Safe Propane

Farmers Cooperative wants to educate and remind our customers about the safe use of propane.

Propane gas is a safe, efficient, and clean source of energy that is easily transportable to your location. Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has determined that over 1/3 of all propane related accidents in Florida involve consumers attempting to repair or service their own appliances themselves or by unlicensed, untrained technicians.

**THESE ACCIDENTS** are occurring when gas appliances are removed from the premises and gas lines connecting these appliances are being left open. When the gas is turned on fires and explosions have resulted.

Florida law requires consumers and property owners to notify the gas dealer who next fills or services their propane equipment of any changes made to the propane system, especially when an appliance is removed. Failure to do so may result in serious injury, death or property damage. Safety is your responsibility.

If you smell gas you should follow these steps:

1. **NO FLAMES OR SPARKS!** This includes do not operate lights, appliances, telephones, or cell phones. Sparks from these sources can trigger an explosion or a fire.

2. **LEAVE THE AREA IMMEDIATELY!** Get out of the building or area that you suspect gas is leaking.
3. **SHUT OFF THE GAS.** Turn off the main gas supply on your propane tank if it is safe to do so. To close the valve, turn it to the right (clockwise).
4. **REPORT THE LEAK.** From an area away from the leak, contact Farmers Cooperative by calling the local store number 24 hours a day. Make sure that you leave a number that you can be reached at other than where the leak is suspected.
5. **DO NOT RETURN TO THE AREA.** Make sure that Farmers Cooperative or your local fire department has determined that it is safe to re-enter the area.
6. **GET YOUR SYSTEM CHECKED.** Do not use any propane appliances until Farmers Cooperative has done an entire system check to ensure that it is leak-free.

Since there is a possibility of odor fade or problems with your sense of smell, you should respond immediately to even a faint odor of gas. If you have any further questions about the safety of propane, Farmers Cooperative will be glad to answer them and provide safety brochures that you and your family can review.

## Farming News

[www.farmerscooperative.org](http://www.farmerscooperative.org)

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**Todd Lawrence, Publisher & Editor**

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