

# GREENSBORO ECHO

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## PWAC—Professional Workers in Agriculture

The Annual Professional Workers in Agriculture Conference [PWAC] was held on the historic campus of Tuskegee University and it was a tremendous success with more than 200 participants. The main goal of the conference was to bring professional workers together from areas, such as, USDA agency, colleges, non-profits, and community base organizations to dialogue on issues affecting farmers. Additionally, farmers and students participated in break-out sessions on various topics from wellness, 2007 farm bill, homeland food security, and current legislative updates. However, my highlight was an opportunity to renew friendships with Coach Alonzo & Barbara Bullies and football teammate Warren Buchanan from our days on the gridiron and earning an academic education at Kentucky State University in Frankfort KY. Coach Bullies served as the Defensive Coordinator during my tenure and he was stern and furious to produce a complete individual on and off the field of play. Coach Bullies has been instrumental in changing wayward players into productive individuals, who are making major contributions to society. Coach Bullies, from the football players of 1976-80, we say thanks for your time and efforts to help the betterment of humankind. Warren Buchanan and I spent time chatting about our pass days on the field of practice and play. Warren is currently working with the Dean of Agriculture at Tuskegee University and he is committed to help save rural America by disseminating needed information to farmers in a timely manner. Additionally, I presented Alice Paris and Amadou Diop certificates of appreciation from the Winston County Self Help Cooperative for being team players in our drive to help save rural America. Paris and Diop are employees of the Federation of Southern Cooperatives, which provides technical support to limited resource landowners and farmers in the south.



*Winston County Self-Help Cooperative...  
 "Helping To Save Rural America"*

## What a Blessing!

The Main Street Missionary Baptist Church and the community of East Biloxi are grateful to Frank Taylor, Cornelius Blanding, and the Federation of Southern Cooperatives, Mississippi Association of Cooperatives, Farm Aid, and OXFAM for the many blessings received during the month of December. Approximately one hundred thirty (130) individuals received donations from these agencies on December 14, 2005.



The recipients gathered on a cold Wednesday night at the Main Street Missionary Baptist Church, pastored by Dr. Kenneth Haynes, Sr. Expecting to receive checks in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100.00), all were amazed, yet thankful after Mr. Taylor and Mr. Blanding opened the meeting with remarks and announced that each person would receive a check in the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200.00). Taylor and Blanding acknowledged all of the agencies were responsible for the donations.



God is an Awesome God! He uses ordinary people as a vessel to bless His people. Many of the residents in East Biloxi Mississippi lost their homes, cars, jobs, and even family members during Hurricane Katrina.

The crowd waited patiently as their names were called to receive their blessings. A group picture was taken and the meeting closed with a prayer.



Ms. Susan Turner expressed, "We, the recipients, really appreciate all of the donations, words of encouragement, and prayers that have gone forth for the survivors and the entire community of East Biloxi. May each of you continue to be used by God as a blessing to His people?"

Ms. Susan Turner, teacher @DHS, 36 years—Biloxi, MS (Coordinator and Contact Person)

## Reading Fair

George Elementary School recently held its reading Fair. The annual school event provides students in kindergarten through fifth grade with the opportunity to share their favorite fiction book through a storyboard display. Representing the cooperative spirit between Jackson Public Schools and the City of Jackson communities, Mr. Frank Taylor was one of four community members who took time out of his busy schedules to serve as a Reading Fair Judge. Judges were given the task of selecting a first, second, and third place winner for each grade. Based on criteria ranging from creativity to identification of story elements, Mr. Taylor and his fellow judges carefully evaluated over ninety-five individual and group projects to determine who would receive ribbons. Those chosen as first place winners will compete in the Jackson Public Schools District Reading Fair.