



# GREENSBORO ECHO

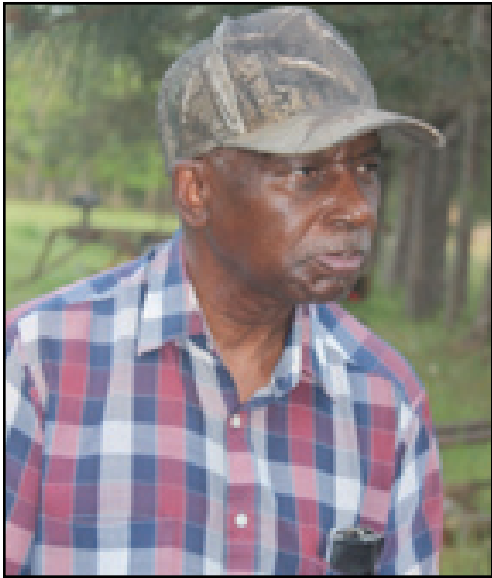
*The Voice of Rural America*

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## WCSHC Partnering & Sharing in Rural America



Mr. Arthur Lumzy

By Frank Taylor

Winston County Self Help Cooperative's Mission of Saving Rural America landed in Columbia, MS, on Tuesday afternoon April 16, 2013 at the legend farm of Mr. Arthur Lumzy. WCSHC joined forces with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Rural Development, Farm Service Agency, Alcorn State and Mississippi State Extension Programs to provide farmers, landowners & others with current & relevant information to help stimulate sustainability in Rural Communities. "We are on an undeniable & relentless path of changing lives through WCSHC's explicit work-plan according to Co-op Member Alonzo Miller. We are the in throws of planting crops, raising cattle & goats, managing timber and nurturing the next generation of landowners". We are here to impart families with hope and opportunities to launch their

farm operations. In March 2013, we gave families five quality Black Angus heifers as a gift of "Winston County Self Help Cooperative's commitment to change lives in Rural America".

As, I drove onto Mr. Lumzy's Farm an atmosphere of warmth and joy prevailed from the farm owner, USDA employees, visitors and others for an afternoon of learning about services needed to become viable farmers. Mr. Lumzy, a retiree of Gaylor Paper Company of Bogalusa, LA, said "I love farming and I am thankful to God for an opportunity to raise my four children in Rural America." Mr. Lumzy serves on True Vine Baptist Church's Deacon Board in Columbia, MS. "We started purchasing land in 1969 "the year of Hurricane Camille" at 250.00 per acre. Through the years, we have increased in acreage with the hope of purchasing more grazing-land. Currently, we have 28 cows at this location with impending births." Mr. Lumzy received a watering trough and heavy uses pad several years ago through Natural Resources Conservation Service-Environmental Quality Incentive Program. This water source has been beneficial for herd health in times of drought conditions according to Mr. Lumzy. I previously encounter problems with my pond retaining water and I asked Joey Smith, Marion County Local District Conservationist about assistance with this problem. We worked collectively as a team to formalize a plan of action and resolved this problem, said Joey Smith." Several Field Day participants inquired about noxious weeds, fencing, and erosion problems, Wesley Kerr, NRCS Area Three Conservationist stated, "You should visit your local NRCS office and request an intimate and detailed conservation plan. This plan will provide long-term guidance and insight into

unearthed problems." Stanley Collins, Marion County, Farm Service Agency, & County Executive Director said potential users of USDA's services should register their farms by providing a copy of deeds or lease agreements. Collins reminded famers of upcoming County Committee Election starting with the nomination period June 1st. He indicated (LAA) Local Administrative Area-2 is designated for 2013 election. Clinton Bulter, Farm Service Agency, Farm Loan Officer dialogued on Marco Loan Applications. The maximum amount you can borrow is 35,000 and today's interest is 1.6 percent. You can use funds to plant crops, purchase equipment or animals. The Lumzy's Field Day concluded with individuals consuming snacks provided by WCSHC.

### Pictures from Arthur Lumzy's Field Day April 16, 2013 Columbia, MS

