Major League Baseball Player Orlando Hudson Speaks to Darlington County 4-H

Pictured: Rep. Denny Neilson (D-56), Major League Baseball Player and Darlington native Orlando Hudson and Alma Harris, County Extension Agent, 4-H Coordinator. Hudson spoke to Darlington County 4-H on setting and achieving goals. “Your best bet is to set your goals early,” Hudson said. He had goals to have a TV commercial, a Nike contract and a spot on a Major League Baseball team, and he worked to reach each one. In his seven-year Major League career, the second baseman has made All Stars twice and won four Golden Gloves. “I’m stepping in high cotton now,” Hudson said. He urged parents to support their children and cautioned children not to let having a one-parent household get in the way of reaching their goals. “Before you know it, you’ll be on your own”. Hudson said, “The real world will swallow you up quick”.

Hudson told parents to monitor their children’s computers and rooms and to talk to them about difficult issues like sex, drugs, and AIDS before a problem surfaces. “I think in life it’s about making the right choice,” said Rep. Neilson, Mistress of Ceremonies. “Hudson, lead an exemplary life in his personal life and his sports career. Making those right choices will determine your place in life,” said Neilson. A reception and autograph session was held following the presentation.
The South Carolina Women’s Connection (SCWC) provides educational programs and seminars and empowers women to become dynamic participants in the leadership of businesses, civic organizations and government and to be actively engaged in community stewardship and philanthropy. SCWC brings together women who are interested in personal and professional development as well as in sharing their experience and expertise to help women and girls in the Palmetto State.

One of the initiatives of SCWC is hosting the Leadership Lunch Series. We have an average of 50-75 women in attendance at each of our programs from around the Pee Dee region. The following are a few of this year’s presenters:

Superwoman: Are You Invincible?

Laura Hamilton

This program was for women and their personal wellness and stress management development. Participants learned to accept their roles in life; overcome the need for perfection; achieve the necessary without guilt; assess the current situation; and get started in removing the red cape.
COMMITTING YOUR LIFE TO PUBLIC SERVICE
Commissioner Mignon L. Clyburn

Mignon L. Clyburn was nominated as a member of the Federal Communications Commission on June 25, 2009, and sworn in August 3, 2009. Her presentation included motivating women to be the best they can be, have high aspirations and discussed the importance of public service.

Commissioner Clyburn has a long history of public service and dedication to the public interest. Prior to her swearing in as Commissioner, Ms. Clyburn served for 11 years as the representative of South Carolina's sixth district on the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (PSC).

Judge Kaye G.Hearn
South Carolina Supreme Court Justice

Kaye Hearn is only the second woman in state history to be elected to the South Carolina Supreme Court, joining the first woman on the court.

The Doctors Are In!

The presentation featured a Panel Discussion with three prominent female physicians on Women’s Health. Participants had the opportunity to bring their personal questions during the q and a section.

Our Panel:
Meenakshi Pande, MD
Endocrinology and Internal Medicine
Emily McDaniel, MD
Gynecology and Obstetrics
Janet Woolery, MD
Psychiatric and Addiction Specialist
Research benefits row crop producers
On-farm variety trials of corn and cotton were planted in cooperation with two Darlington County farmers and several seed companies. Yield results were submitted to extension agronomists for inclusion in statewide summary results for South Carolina. This information was provided to farmers, to assist with selection of appropriate crop varieties for the coming planting season.

Free Pest Management guidelines distributed
Due to financial constraints, Clemson Extension was only able to publish a limited number of the 2010 Pest Management Handbook for Field Crops, which were provided at no cost by Clemson University’s Pesticide Information Program and Edisto Research and Education Center. The handbook covers primarily row crops such as corn, cotton, peanut, small grains, soybeans & tobacco as well as some information on forages, aquatic weeds, stored grains, adjuvants, and pesticide safety. All available 2010 copies were distributed to the Ag. chemical dealers in the three county area, as well as to the three county extension offices. In January, the 2011 edition will be available at a cost of $25 per copy. The current handbook is also available online at http://www.clemson.edu/extension/rowcrops/pest/index.html

Local sheep farm demonstrates the “Farm is where Food is Born”
The 10th annual Ovis Hill Farm Festival was held in Darlington County near Timmonsville on October 23-24, 2010. The festival provided many youth-oriented components such as a farm tour/hayride, border collie sheep-herding demonstration, sheep-shearing and yarn dyeing. Approximately 1050 people (mostly families with young children and teens) participated in interactive activities such as viewing and bottle-feeding of calves and lambs, corn shelling, spinning, crafts, music, story-telling and dancing on Saturday and Sunday afternoon.
Rain Barrel Class Helps Fight Stormwater Pollution

On Saturday, August 28th, 16 participants from three counties took part in “Make Your Own Rain Barrel Workshop” at Kalmia Gardens. Sponsored by Carolina Clear (Terasa Young) and the Florence/Darlington Stormwater Consortium, the workshop focused on educating participants about stormwater and the actions individuals can take to minimize its impacts. The completed barrels will be used to collect and store rainwater which can then be used for activities such as watering plants, cleaning vehicles and even washing pets. Kudos to these Pee Dee residents for taking steps to become a solution to stormwater pollution.

Master Gardener Turns Herb Grower

The demands of a family, living in rural Florence County, and the lack of any type of formal horticultural training made it difficult for Sally Haynes to follow her dream of having a business of her own. However, the love of herbs always kept the dream alive. In fact, Sally calls herself an Herbaholic.

Ten years ago Sally was a star student in the Florence County Extension Master Gardener Class. She was very inquisitive, asked many questions, and was very attentive especially when we went on field trips to greenhouses and nursery growers. After Master Gardener Graduation, Sally really became active in the Florence County Master Gardener Association and served three terms as president. She knew that getting her hands dirty by working in gardens, growing plants for the Master Gardener plant sell, and answering gardening questions is how a Master Gardener really learns about plants. Last year Sally built her first greenhouse and started her herb business, Pryme Thyme Herbs and Stuff. Sally has learned a retail herb business is not all growing plants but a complex business. Her children, grandkids and husband love to help her grow herbs. Growing herbs once a hobby now a profitable business and fulfilled life. By the way her customers love the herbs & plants so they return to buy more and more. In fact, Sally is thinking about adding another greenhouse next year.

4-H20 Water Quality and Outdoor Adventure Camp

Clemson University Extension 4-H and Kalmia Gardens of Coker College sponsored a 4-H20 water quality and outdoor adventure camp June 16-18. The event was held at the Kalmia Gardens Education Center in Hartsville. This program was conducted by Alma Harris, County Extension Agent, 4-H Coordinator and Dan Hill, Assistant Director of Kalmia Gardens of Coker College. The camp is an educational program designed to teach youth to understand; appreciate and protect life in and around the lake. Participants learned about the aquatic environment; how a watershed works; how it affects the quality of water resources; and how to protect the water environment. Lessons were taught in storm water education. Awareness and education about natural resources is crucial in the process of protecting and improving water quality. Special programs were taught by the S.C. Forestry Commission and Department of Natural Resources staff such as tree identification, boat safety, fishing and canoeing.
Darlington 4-H Community Garden

Darlington County 4-H youth has taken part in creating change in their community, through making it beautiful and a good place to gather.

“Planting a garden can create positive environmental, economic, and social impacts on our neighborhood, such a positive project, investing in and supporting the children and young adults who are the future leaders of our community”, said Representative, Robert Williams (D-62).

Agriculture plays a crucial role in our economy by providing food, clothing and jobs to people all over the world. The purpose of the garden is to help students appreciate and become more aware of agriculture and how important it is to the world. Children have learned that our rural and urban communities working together have made the most of our rich agriculture resources, and they continue to contribute to the health and well-being of our people and to the strength of our economy.

Work with youth in the garden helps create well-rounded citizens with strong life skills and community perspective. The garden has truly brought the community together by breaking down isolation and creating a social community. Community gardens improve the quality of life for people by providing a catalyst for neighborhood and community development, stimulating social interactions, encouraging self-reliance, beautifying neighborhoods, producing nutritious food, conserving resources and creating opportunities, such as exercise, therapy and education.

Citizenship requires doing our share for our community and our country. Being a good citizen means caring about the good of society and participating actively to make things better. Research shows that active communities experience less crime and vandalism. Research reveals that participating in community service programs and learning about the importance and value of serving others can be a powerful influence on positive character development. Youth working alongside families, business people, neighbors, and educators.
The Goat Industry in the Pee Dee Region is growing rapidly. Due to this increase, goat owners are looking for ways to improve their care and stewardship of the land on which they keep their goats. Goat owners are looking for cutting edge programs to increase their knowledge based on different land management practices to improve the quality of their goats. Also, goat owners are interested in programs that offer answers to some of the obstacles they deal with everyday on the farm.

A goat seminar was coordinated and held at the Pee Dee Research and Education Center. This was a one day seminar and the topics include soil sampling/fertility, forages, kidding, herd health, de-worming, reproduction, hoof trimming and FAMACHA. Speakers included Dr. Patty Scharko, Brian Beer, Kevin Campbell and Lee Van Vlake. Goat owners received information about good management practices to ensure optimum performance of their goats and also to be good stewards of the land.

Fifty-two people were in attendance for this seminar. There were goat producers from South Carolina, Georgia, and North Carolina. From the evaluations given to those who participated in this seminar the majority indicated they planned on taking what they learned and implement it back on the farm. Producers expressed they would increase their soil sampling, forages, and management practices associated with goat production. Overall, those in attendance indicated the Goat Management Seminar was an asset to goat producers in the Pee Dee Region. They look forward to upcoming programs.