

# Howell receives Cunningham Award at annual livestock show

## Staff Report

The 2021 J.E. "Bubba" Cunningham Award was presented to Olivia Howell for her achievements in and contributions to the Holmes County Junior Livestock Program and Holmes County 4-H.

Howell has been actively exhibiting 4-H Livestock for the past ten years. Howell started off showing Swine, but has shown Beef Cattle, and, for the past several

years, has concentrated on Sheep. Howell has shown at the State Fair, Delta District and Dixie National, doing exceptionally well, no matter what the animal. She has represented Holmes County 4-H at State 4-H Congress for several years and in a number of Community Service projects from community clean ups to Horses for Handicapped to her most recent "Khaki's for Kids" and numerous others.

Howell has always assisted younger 4-H'ers no matter the project - from conservation camps to State Fair exhibits, to livestock judging to livestock showmanship and others.

"She has excelled in the show ring through her Showmanship skills and showing Champions in all species," according to the program guide.

Howell is the daughter of Scott and Tara Howell.

# Seasoned 4-H showman named recipient of Netherland Memorial Scholarship

## Staff Report

The 2021 Payton Netherland Memorial Scholarship was presented to Davian "Bug" Powell for his outstanding achievements in and contributions to the Holmes County Junior Livestock Program, Holmes County 4-H and Mississippi State 4-H.

Powell has been exhibiting 4-H Beef Cattle for the past ten years at the State Fair, Delta District and Dixie National along with regional shows. Powell has served on the 4-H Junior Council and represented the county annually at the past three Mississippi Club Congresses. He was a member of the 2019 Holmes County Leadership for Life, Holmes County's youth representative to the 2019 MS Soil and Water Conservation Camp and Mississippi 4-H's Represent-

tative to the 2019 National 4-H Club Congress, as well as Mississippi's Prudential Community Service Representative in 2017 to Washington D.C.

What started first with Cloverbud activities, state fair, and Project Day exhibits, and following his older cousin Tyler to shows and 4-H events, has morphed into so much more. He has participated in numerous 4-H project areas and events; from his early Project Day, Beef cookout contests, even Robotics weekend to winning the State 4-H Tractor Driving contest. In his Beef Cattle project he has assisted others teaching, grooming, and showmanship. He gave Visual Presentations and competed in Livestock and Horse Bowl competitions. Additionally, Powell has excelled annually in showman-

ship and was a key member of the 2018 Holmes County Livestock Bowl team that placed 2nd in state competition.

Powell has shown Champions at almost every level showing Commercial heifers, Registered Hereford bulls and heifers, and his latest venture, showing Registered Braunvieh. His work and story have been featured in numerous publications from *Progressive Farmer*, *Extension Landmarks*, *MS Farm County*, to *Extension Matters*.

Powell caught the eye of seasoned cattlemen and women who wanted him showing "their" beef cattle. One of the first, Mrs. Serita, gave Powell his first lessons, sold him his first bull, taught and encouraged him to become the best that he is today.

"From the beginning, Joey Netherland, mentored Powell in much the same way, and we are sure that he is smiling down today on this outstanding young man," according to the program show guide.

Powell is the son of Stephanie and David Powell.

# C Spire invests \$1 billion to speed deployment of 5G, fiber broadband in Mississippi, Alabama

## Press Release

C Spire is ramping up an unprecedented growth project with a \$1 billion investment over the next three years - the largest capital spend in company history - to accelerate the deployment of ultra-fast 5G wireless technology and all-fiber Gigabit broadband internet in key parts of its service area in the southeastern U.S.

The project will result in faster delivery of 5G wireless technology in Mississippi markets and provide ultra-fast, all-fiber broadband services to over 200,000 homes and businesses by 2025 in Mississippi and Alabama, where the diversified telecommunications and technology services firm recently expanded its broadband internet availability.

When completed, the project is expected to bring all-fiber infrastructure to within 1,000 feet of half of Mississippi's residential premises, deliver game-changing 5G service - the next generation of mobility - to nearly 600 sites representing over 60% of the state and expand next-generation, ultra-fast broadband services to over two dozen Alabama markets.

"We have a strong reputation of providing world-class products and services to consumers and businesses and this investment signals that we intend to deliver these benefits faster than ever before," said C Spire CEO Hu Meena, noting that the firm will make the initial investment in three years with another \$500 million in capital spending over a five-year

period. Meena said the investment is expected to result in fiber within reach for half of all Mississippians - a record for the Southeast and 12th best in the U.S. - and millions of dollars in secondary economic benefits for both states through contracts and agreements with firms who will help C Spire with the massive infrastructure deployment and construction efforts.

"I'm thrilled to see that C Spire is investing so much to build out its high-speed internet infrastructure to support the future of education, health care, technology, and small business in Mississippi," said U.S. Senator Roger Wicker, R-Mississippi. "Because we live in a digital world, better, faster internet connections are critical to keeping our state competitive and boosting our \$100 billion-plus economy," he added.

Wicker said C Spire's commitment to rapidly deploying 5G fast service means that virtually every major part of Mississippi will be able to leverage the next-generation technology with the activation of more than 300 sites by the end of this year. He also praised the company for its continuing commitment to roll out more broadband in more places.

Mississippi Gov. Tate Reeves said the infrastructure initiative will reap immediate dividends in a state where so many of its key priorities and initiatives rely on robust broadband technology infrastructure, includ-

ing education, workforce development, health care and economic growth. "We need companies like C Spire stepping up to the plate to move our state forward."

Business executives also expressed support for the C Spire investment initiative, including the 10,000-member Mississippi Business Council and the Mississippi Development Authority. "It is essential we close the digital divide in Mississippi," said MEC President and CEO Scott Waller. "We wholeheartedly support efforts by C Spire to continue to develop the 5G and broadband infrastructure for a competitive 21st century economy in our state."

"With its extensive 5G and

broadband infrastructure in our state and a commitment to invest extensive capital resources on an accelerated timeframe, C Spire is well positioned to become an even more substantive contributor to the state's emerging technology leadership," said MDA Executive Director John Rounsaville.

Meena said C Spire plans to move quickly and aggressively in 2021 to bring



**February 4** - Reginald Newton, Madison Adcock, Braxton Horn, Jessica Harthcock, Malcolm Kohn, Choyce Diffey

**February 5** - Lauren Diggs Boling, Jack George, Ahmetrie Wise, Olivia Marrone, Elizabeth Hammett, Jack Crelan, Brittany Allen

**February 6** - Terrell Wynne, Richard Byrd, Christy Smith, Tracy Anderson, Tara Cronin

**February 7** - Lorraine Cowans, Jacob Bishop, David McGinnis, Harold Payton, Kristen Glover,



**February 6** - Austin and Babs Edwards

**February 7** - Bruce and Ava Edwards, Wyn and Katie Diggs

To add your birthdays and anniversaries to our list, please send your information by mail to P.O. Box 60, Lexington, MS 39095; fax 662-834-1074; email hherald@gmail.com; or stop by our office at 308 Court Square in Lexington. No phone calls, please.

the cutting-edge technology benefits to consumers and businesses in both states, leveraging several recent acquisitions, including Teklinks and Harbor Communications, to accelerate its growth and expansion efforts.

Owen O'Bryant

**February 8** - James M. Sanford, Nicole Winstead, Danny Hill, Betty Carroll, Claudette Hathcock, Jessica Lepard

**February 9** - Mike Self, Doug Ferguson, Michelle Diggs, Dale Powers, Shane McGinnis, Blaine Frank

**February 10** - Tessa Horn, David Lloyd, Jr., Helen Joe, Krisie Jenkins, Geneva Ables

## CONGRATULATIONS

TO THE 4-H WINNERS AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!!



DON'T FORGET TO PLACE YOUR ORDER FOR CHICKS!!!!

**LEXINGTON FARM SUPPLY**

Store Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Sat. 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Highway 12 E 834-3388 Lexington

## GREAT JOB!!!!

Congratulations to all the participants in the 2021 Holmes County 4-H Livestock Show.



Holmes County BANK

Member FDIC EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

