



POLK COUNTY FARM BUREAU

PRESS RELEASE

1715 Hwy 17 South

Bartow, FL 33830

Phone: 863-533-0561

Cell: 863-581-5877

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BARTOW SENIOR HIGH AND SUMMERLIN ACADEMY GRADUATES RECEIVE YF&R SCHOLARSHIPS

BARTOW— Reagan Lee, a 2009 Bartow Senior High graduate, Christian Spinosa, a 2009 Summerlin Academy graduate, and Lacey Waters, a 2009 Bartow Senior High graduate have been awarded the Polk County Farm Bureau/Young Farmer & Rancher scholarships for 2009.

Lee, Spinosa, and Waters received the \$500 scholarships for excelling academically, strong leadership abilities and involvement in agriculture-related activities. Lee will attend the University of Florida Honors College where he plans to pursue degrees in both Botany and Mathematics. Spinosa will attend Clemson University where he plans to obtain degrees in Agriculture and Mechanization. Waters will attend Polk Community College followed by the University of Florida to study beef production.

"All three graduates exemplify what the Polk County Farm Bureau/Young Farmer & Rancher Committee looks for in scholarship winners," said Carlton Taylor, chairman of Polk County Farm Bureau's Young Farmer & Rancher Committee. "With their dedication and love for the agriculture industry and their leadership abilities they are more than deserving of the scholarships. These graduates define the future of Polk Agriculture," Taylor said.

Lee's goals are to become a researching professor or scientific researcher in Plant Biology in order to support the agricultural sector and help to improve the Florida ecosystem. Spinosa's family history has inspired him to continue in the Citrus business as he hopes to make a difference on a vast range of challenges faced by local farmers. Water's involvement with her family's cattle operation has motivated her to continue the cattle ranching lifestyle and help keep her family's legacy alive.

Polk County Farm Bureau's Young Farmer & Rancher Committee gives scholarships each year to deserving Polk County high school students who plan to pursue a career in agriculture. The YF&R Committee uses the proceeds of its annual Christmas hayride to fund the scholarship.

Polk County Farm Bureau was founded in 1942 and represents more than 4,500 family members.

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**Contact Heather Nedley at (863) 533-0561 or heathern@pcfb.org for more information.
Photos attached.**