

Youth Leadership Students Participate in a Speech Contest Sponsored by the Florida Farm Bureau

Each year, the Florida Farm Bureau Federation's Women's Leadership Program sponsors a statewide youth speech contest. The contest has three levels of competition: county, district, and state. This year both South Walton High School and Walton High School Youth Leadership classes provided their students the opportunity to participate in the contest. The participants were required to write and orally present a five minute speech on the important issue of food security in the United States and how Florida agriculture can continue to provide quality solutions for the future.

Each school selected three students to participate in the county competition that was held on Wednesday, September 10th. Matthew Majors, a 12th grader at WHS, was awarded first place and a \$100 check. He will represent Walton County at the district competition to be held Wednesday, September 17th at the Okaloosa County Farm Bureau office. Meredith Ricks, a 10th grade student at WHS, won 2nd place along with \$75. Colin Berry, an 11th grade student at SWHS, was awarded 3rd place and a \$50 check. All of the participants should be congratulated as well as the winners because it took a great deal of courage to stand up and deliver a five minute speech.



Pictured from left to right: Joe Johnson, President of the Walton County Farm Bureau; 1st place winner, Matthew Majors; 2nd place winner, Meredith Ricks; not pictured: 3rd place winner, Colin Berry