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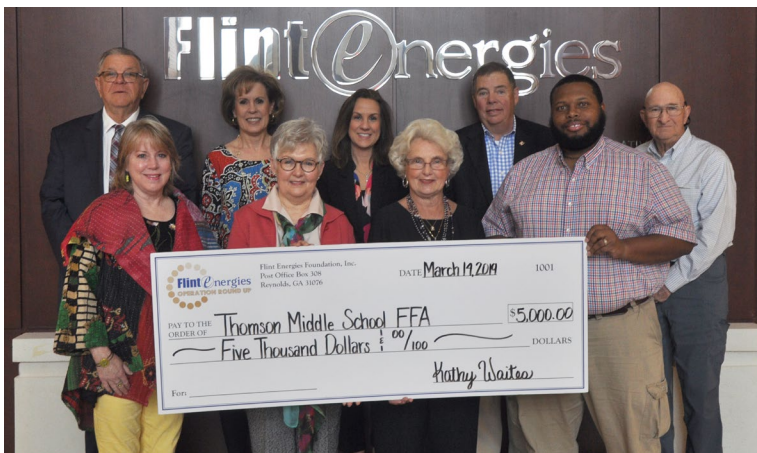
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Thomson Middle FFA Receives \$5,000 Flint Energies Grant



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – Thomson Middle School’s FFA received a \$5,000 grant from the Flint Energies Foundation in March. The funds will be used to purchase materials to build a barn for their livestock.

Although FFA is a relatively new program at Thomson Middle, 160 students are actively involved. Adding a barn will ensure the students are provided a comprehensive agriculture program. Kenneth Ford serves as Thomson’s agriculture teacher.

Thomson Middle Principal Dr. Walter Stephens said, “The old adage says, ‘It takes a village to raise a child,’ and we are truly thankful for Flint Energies being a strong supporter of our village at Thomson Middle. Flint’s constant financial support has allowed our teachers to provide students with meaningful educational experiences that can be applied in all aspects of their lives. Since 2015, our award-winning agriculture program has grown tremendously; with the addition of our FFA show arena barn, we are confident that growth and more awards will come. Most important, this addition will yet again provide our students with opportunities that will allow them to make meaningful connections both in and out of the classroom.”

The Flint Energies Foundation is a non-profit, state-chartered, 501(c)(3) organization. Foundation board members include: Chairman Kathy Waites, Fort Valley; Vice Chairman Joanne Hamlin, Lizella; Secretary Connie McCutchen, Midland; Treasurer John Luppino, Warner Robins; Gina Fink, Kathleen; Charles Harrison, Grovania; Pat Bartness, Warner Robins; Traci Kemp, Warner Robins; Rudy Killingsworth, Buena Vista; Eloise Doty, Butler; and Betty Chase, Oglethorpe. Some members are pictured with Ford, who is on the front right.

Flint Energies grants are funded through Operation Round Up[®], a way for members to voluntarily “round up” their bill to the nearest dollar. Members contribute nearly \$200,000 a year to the Flint Energies Foundation, which supports worthy causes in 17 counties.

Thomson Middle is located at 301 Thomson Street in Centerville. For more information, please contact Dr. Stephens at walter.stephens@hcbe.net.

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