The Tuskegee University (CAENS) Cooperative Extension presents 129th Annual Farmers Conference, which will be a virtual event this year. The virtual conference will be held February 16-19, 2021. The Tuskegee University Farmers Conference is often cited as the oldest event of its type in the nation. The first Farmers Conference, originally called the “Peoples Conference” was hosted on this historic campus on February 23, 1892.

“Transforming Food Systems in a Changing World” is the theme for the four-day virtual educational forum, which will feature panel discussions, interactive demonstrations, and concurrent workshops. The conference sessions will address emerging issues surrounding small farmers, farm families and rural communities. Topics include getting started with cattle, hemp and organic farming; diabetes, professional development in BQA Certification and grant opportunities.

The two keynote speakers for the Thursday opening session and Award Luncheon will be Chris Newman and Gibron Burchet.

During the Annual Conference, several individuals will be recognized for the work they do in the field of Agriculture, including the Merit Farmer of the Year and the Thomas Monroe Campbell Award. The 2021 Merit Farm Family Awardee is Mrs. Mae Lizzie Faulk of the Faulk Family Farms in Union Springs and the 2021 Thomas Monroe Campbell Awardee is Ben Malone, the eighth State Conservationist of the Alabama’s Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Other aspects of the conference will be virtual tours, poster presentation and the Youth EXERT Competition. Register online at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/129th-farmers-conference-registration-registration-63384686303. For more information and to register contact Carmalita Pollard, Cooperative Extension Program at (334) 727-8652.

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