



Florida Agricultural Commissioner to Highlight 2024 County Fair Harvest Awards

Florida’s 13th Commissioner of Agriculture, Wilton Simpson, will highlight the 2024 Hillsborough County Fair Harvest Awards, slated for the fairgrounds, 215 Sydney Washer Road in Dover, October 10th at noon. This annual event recognizes outstanding individuals and organizations that play a vital role in Hillsborough County’s and Florida’s rich and diverse agricultural industry.

Following careful deliberations from an extensive list of quality nominees, the Hillsborough County Fair Harvest Awards Committee has named its 2024 award recipients. Honorees for this year include Farm Family of the Year – Hinton Farms; Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient – Dennis Carlton, Sr.; Outstanding Agribusiness – Keel Farm; Outstanding Woman in Agriculture – Karen Hamilton; Urban Agriculture – VISTA Gardens (Village Institute for Sustainable Technologies and Agriculture) and Next Generation Farmer – Eric Davis, ELM.

Also recognized at the luncheon will be the 2024 Friends of the Fair Award recipients, consisting of Tampa Bay television personality from FOX-13 Charley Belcher; Hillsborough County Farm Bureau; Hillsborough County 4-H and Extension; Hillsborough County FFA, Parkesdale Farms and Hillsborough County Public Schools.

According to Fair Manager Suzanne Holcomb, “We’re especially excited about this year’s event as we’ve moved it from opening day of the Fair to three weeks in advance. Our guests will include many of Florida’s outstanding agricultural leaders, governmental officials, business and community partners, as well as outstanding youth, as we celebrate the very best in Florida agriculture.”

Co-chairing the Harvest Awards Luncheon are Suzanne Churchwell and Betty Jo Tompkins. Further details on the event and the 2024 Fair, which runs from October 31 – November 11, are available by contacting the Fair at: 813.737.3247 or www.hillsboroughcountyfair.com.