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From: Stephen Gowin
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Over the years many businesses and individuals have shown their support of the Rains County 4-H and FFA programs thru donations, gifts, and sheer manpower. Today, I am proud to say that another Rains County business stepped up to the plate and made a generous donation to the 4-H and FFA programs alike.

Carolina Carports, Inc. of Emory donated not one but two carport covers at the Rains County Fairgrounds in order to provide shade and cover from the elements for youth and volunteers while working at the Fair.

This donation would not have been achieved without the determination and persistence of one young man. Carlton Goldsmith, took the initiative to ask for this donation because he saw a need and knew that Carolina Carports could help. I am so proud of this young man for all that he has done.

The first carport was constructed behind the concession stands in order to provide shade for the volunteers and youth that do the cooking for the 4-H booth. As many of you know the 4-H members sell Bar-B-Q sandwiches as their fundraiser for the year. Over the course of the week volunteers will cook over 800 pounds of briskets for the 4-H booth. I'm sure that each of you know that this is not an easy task and on most days it is a very hot job, especially when you have very little shade. As 4-H Leader, Wanda Huddleston said, "we have needed this for years; it will be so nice to finally get to work under a shade".

The second carport was donated for the youth that show steers and lambs during the county fair. A 16x18 cover was assembled over the wash racks where the youth wash there animals. This will help both the animals and the kids from getting scorched by the blistering sun. This will prove to be a huge benefit for the kids.

Donations such as these truly help the youth involved in both 4-H and FFA. I want to once again thank Carolina Carports for their generous donation and Carlton Goldsmith for taking the initiative in getting these covers donated. I would also like to thank Mark and Melissa Goldsmith for encouraging their son to ask for help and for all the help and support that they gave him.