

Extension Agents for Jackson Parish

Eddie White - Parish Chair/County Agent

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Eddie D. White – County Agent (ANR & 4-H)

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Matthew F. Stephens - Area Agent (Nutrient Management)

Margaret F. Stoker - Area Agent (Environment/Watersheds)

Dora A. Hatch – Extension Agent (Community Economic
Development)

Cathy S. Judd – Agent (Child Care Provider Training)

John R. Pyzner – Associate Professor (Commercial Fruits,
Nuts & Vegetables)

Classified Staff

Dora Hall, Secretary

Charlotte Hanes, Secretary

NORTH CENTRAL REGION

Dr. Allen Nipper, Regional Director

Dr. Jan McDade, FCS Field Program Leader
(North Louisiana)

Mrs. Karen Martin, Regional 4-H Coordinator

NOTE:

Membership and participation in activities and events are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, veteran status, or disability. If you have a disability that requires special accommodation for your participation in the meeting, please contact Eddie White at (318) 259-5690

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Serving Jackson Parish Through Education

**Program Highlights
Spring Semester 2003**

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Ag & Natural Resources

- An average of 28 beef producers attended monthly meetings gaining information on NRCS programs, LA Tech University agriculture programs, soil fertility and cattle health.
- Eighteen beef producers participated in a beef/forage field day at LA Tech Univ. to view a rye grass demonstration and gain information on de-worming and cattle health.
- Jimmy Boudreaux, State Specialist (Commercial Vegetables) made a visit to Bosch Nursery to discuss commercial vegetables as an alternative crop to tree seedlings
- Forty-two beef and/or poultry producers participated in the Master Farmer Training held at the Jackson Parish Community Center in January and February.
- Eight agricultural producers were re-certified as Private Pesticide Applicators by attending a meeting conducted by the County Agent and the Louisiana Dept. of Agriculture & Forestry.
- Six beef producers assisted with cattle working chores at four farms by participating in a HELP program developed by the Jackson Parish Beef Advisory Comm. and the County Agent.
- A fire ant demonstration was initiated at a Jackson Parish poultry producers' farm in cooperation with Dr. Dale Pollet, State Specialist (Entomology).
- Twenty-five Kindergarten students gained knowledge on horses and farm animals by viewing a demonstration conducted by the County Agent.

Family and Consumer Sciences

- Fifteen women over the age of sixty learned and are practicing low impact exercises to insure flexibility and muscle strength.
- Forty five parents enrolled in the HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters) group learned the importance of and developed communication skills to prepare their children for classroom learning.
- Twenty two women participated in training to keep them in compliance with state child care regulations allowing them to maintain a home based business.

- Twelve young mothers participated in *Every Touch Counts* classes developing skills to better nurture, feed, and provide healthy environment for their infants and toddlers.
- Eighteen youth and adult leaders presented *Character Critter* lessons to 220 pre-K and kindergarten students, teaching them positive behavior practices.
- Twenty eight participants attended a financial planning and management seminar where they gained information on budgeting, saving, and reducing credit card debt.
- Fifty two senior residents participated in “Healthwise for Life” programs, learning recommended practices for preventing illnesses and promoting wellness.
- Thirty seven Council on Aging clients participated in a program on Meal Planning for Seniors with Diabetes.
- Ten home owners and residents in rental properties have taken steps to rid their homes of mold and mildew. Three homeowners installed moisture barriers under their homes as a preventive measure after attending a workshop on “Healthy Indoor Air”.

4-H and Other Youth Development

- One 4-H youth and one adult volunteer participated in area outdoor skills camp.
- One 4-H youth competed in area 4-H commodity cookery contest.
- Six 7th graders, three teen leaders, and one adult volunteer participated in area 4-H Challenge Camp to develop life skills.
- One teen leader participated in State 4-H Junior Leadership Conference.
- Five 4-H youth competed in State 4-H Short Course contests at LSU.
- Six individuals participated in 4-H Advisory Committee meeting.
- Thirty 4-H youth and eight adult volunteers were recognized at elementary awards program.
- Two hundred fifty-two elementary students participated in **CHARACTER COUNTS!** activities and lessons taught by eighteen teen leaders.

- 4-H club members participated in monthly club meeting program activities on goal setting and decision making, career exploration and workforce preparation, environmental stewardship and 4-H opportunities such as camps, conferences, and contests.
- Over 500 4-H and other youth were involved in environmental awareness and litter abatement activities in club meetings, classroom activities, and community service.
- Fifty 4-H youth and ten adult leaders developed and demonstrated skills by planting trees as an environmental service activity at Caney Creek Lake State Park.

Community Economic Development

- Through coordination and execution of beautification and environmental projects about litter abatement, recycling, and planting trees and flowers, one hundred thirty five residents (16 teams) cleaned up areas of the parish, erected welcome signs, and planed spring flowering bulbs, making the parish more attractive to visitors and potential investors.
- A bicentennial observance was conducted in cooperation with the LA Dept of Culture, Recreation & Tourism, JP Police Jury and JP Tourist Commission. Six hundred fifty local residents participated in the “Sunshine Celebration” increasing their knowledge of the history of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803 and developing an appreciation of and respect for diversity in people, music, art and culture.
- Five Jackson Parish community leaders participated in a Louisiana Mosquito Abatement program conducted by the LSU Ag Center.