

Family and Consumer Sciences

Seven parish Advisory Leadership Council members discussed AgCenter programs at their December meeting. Major items included the continued importance for nutrition & parenting education, establishing a community garden, continuing to provide printed publications for people without internet access, and the police jury's involvement in upgrading the parish livestock exhibit building to develop workforce/parenting skills through the 4-H/FFA livestock program.

Through hands on nutritional training Epps High School 4th graders learned to identify the plant parts they eat and made living necklaces from corn seed.

Even Start Family Literacy students participated in a character education series where emphasis was placed on being trustworthy and respectful.

Collaborations for the RCCI (Rural Community College Initiative) produced the following numbers of high school students completing Louisiana Delta Community College Fall 2008 classes at the LSU AgCenter: English 101 – 17, Biology 101 – 7, Speech 101 – 5 & History 101 – 3. English 102, Biology 102 and Psychology 201 are being offered the spring 2009 semester.

Twelve parenting programs were conducted in East Carroll, West Carroll and Morehouse parishes for 34 parents of the Parents Preparing for Success Program in which parents increased positive parenting practices.

4-H Youth Development

Five youth participated in events at the Louisiana State Fair in Shreveport including the livestock show and the talent show. As a result, West Carroll 4-H'ers won First Place in beef cattle and fifth and eighth places in market goats

Two youth participated in the Northeast Louisiana Cotton Festival Poultry Show in Bastrop, where they each won first place.



Nineteen youth entered 31 dishes in the 4-H Beef, Catfish, Egg & Sweet Potato Cookery Contest. 4-H Jr. Leaders led multiple educational activities at the contest while the youth waited for the results. The first place winners will compete at the Area 4-H Cookery Contest in Winnsboro.

Twenty-three youth demonstrated food preparation skills by entering a variety of cookies and candies in the Season's Eating – Holiday Foods Event

Seven 4-H'ers improved their photography skills at the Photography Workshop by taking digital photos and analyzing them.

West Carroll Jr. Leaders improved their leadership skills by conducting the parish cookery contest where they were responsible for registration, dish display, judging and the educational program. Monthly Jr. Leader meetings are used to train for these activities.

Four Jr. Leaders provided service learning hours by ringing the bell for Salvation Army.



The 4-H Shooting Sports program continues to expand with six new members in the junior club and two new members in the senior club.

Two new project clubs have been established for parish 4-H'ers: a Horse Club and a Livestock Club. The horse club and its six members are currently learning the different body parts of the horse and planning an educational trip while the livestock club is learning about the different types of livestock.

Community Rural Development

More than 30 persons have learned basic principles of e-Commerce through the "eBusiness: Build or Buy It" workshops conducted by the Northeast Region's CRD Team.

Glenn Dixon and James Barnes conducted two eBay workshops. Participants gained the knowledge and confidence to move from eBay consumers to eBay sellers.

Ag and Natural Resources

Glenn Dixon taught approximately 30 small farmers from across the state how to establish various farm records management systems at the SU Ag Center's Small Farmer Leadership Institute. Ms. Alma Lee, a local farmer, is a member of the 2009 class.

In an effort to make better farm business decisions in a very uncertain agricultural climate, approximately 20 farm operations have begun assessments of the financial performance of their enterprises. These assessments will be completed in February 2009 with the assistance of local extension faculty.

A presentation to the Oak Grove Lions Club updated the members on the agricultural situation in West Carroll Parish.

Forty-eight members attended the West Carroll Cattleman meeting.

Twelve parish agriculture producers attended the West Carroll Ag Advisory meeting. They identified and gave suggestions on how to better serve parish needs.

A new agricultural newsletter, "West Carroll Ag News" has been developed to inform producers of upcoming agriculture events taking place in the northeast region. Information on all ag commodities is included in this mailout.

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