

Ag and Natural Resources

A Sweet Potato display was presented at Ag Alley and Ag Expo in Monroe on the stages of production and uses of sweet potatoes. Approximately 9000 viewed the display.

Two media presentations were conducted: a program on KARD TV about sweet potatoes, and another on KWCL Radio about different upcoming agriculture events.

Ag related trainings were held for 54 local producers including Regional Borrower, Handler and Train the Trainer.

Two West Carroll Cattleman Association meetings were held with a total of 98 livestock producers attending.

The Master Farmer program was held with 3 area producers completing Phase 1 of the program.

Ag agent worked with 2 producers to plant 4 corn variety trials. Results will be published and listed on website after harvest.

A meeting on "Avoiding Calving Problems" was conducted. In this meeting 10 beginning producers received instruction to help them through their first calving season.

Sixteen goat producers gained knowledge of goat nutrition requirements, parasite management and other best management practices.

Twenty-two local producers learned the importance of completing and returning the agricultural census form.

The West Carroll Ag Day was held with 87 producers learning agronomic and pest management practices.

Family and Consumer Sciences

Two workshops were conducted at AgExpo and AgAlley in which 2442 youth learned how to decrease the family's budget by starting plants for a garden in a glove. This activity increased family activity and knowledge of nutrition.



"Bringing Higher Education to Northeast Louisiana" is displayed in this banner provided by Delta Community College to show the organizations collaborating to provide college & vo-tech classes at the LSU AgCenter.

A Rural Community College Initiative (RCCI) informational breakfast was held for area school system guidance counselors, secondary supervisors and school board members to discuss potential collaborations between the LSU AgCenter, Delta Community College and LA Technical College. Expansion of dual enrollment opportunities for high school youth was discussed for West Carroll and East Carroll.

Sixty participants from West Carroll, East Carroll and Morehouse attended 42 parenting and 42 financial management trainings in which they learned positive parenting practices and effective money management practices.

4-H Youth Development



Six West Carroll 4-H'ers demonstrated food preparation and safe food handling skills at the Area Commodity Cookery Contest with two 1st Place awards and seven Blue Ribbons.

Twelve 4-H'ers demonstrated pet care and handling skills at the 4-H Pet Show. They competed with a variety of animals in six categories: Best Groomed, Best Dressed, Best Trick, Cutest, Ugliest and Most Unusual.

Sixty youth participated in Demonstration Day. Youth competed in three events: Demonstrations, Professional Development, and Public Speaking. There were a wide range of demonstration topics, from How to Transplant a Plant to How to Tie a Tie. Winners will be announced at Awards Day.

Other nutrition activities included a Science In the Kitchen Workshop. Sixteen 4-H'ers and Jr. Leaders learned the "how's" & "why's" of bread making while making individual take-home pans of yeast rolls. Two adult volunteers assisted at the workshop.

Twenty-nine youth and multiple adult volunteers participated in the Parish Livestock Show. A PeeWee Goat Showmanship class was held for non-4H'ers under nine. Twenty-three youth went to the District Livestock Show in Delhi and fifteen went to State Livestock Show in Baton Rouge.

2008 marks LA 4-H's 100th birthday and 4-H activities throughout the year will celebrate the centennial. A 4-H Hall of Fame was established with the first 100 being inducted in 2008. Joanne Bolding and Mattie Rae Strong were selected to represent West Carroll and will be featured in the 4-H Museum in Avoyelles Parish. Between the 2, they have had over 86 years of involvement in 4-H, beginning as 4-H members and continuing as volunteer adults in parish and area activities. They were recognized at a banquet in Delhi in January.



Debbie Bairnsfather, Dwight Landreneau, JoAnn Bolding, Renee Castro, Mark Tassin, & Bob Hutchinson.



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Two area educational programs were held to increase awareness about Louisiana's commodities, including rice, poultry, livestock, and horses. Two West Carroll schools participated in Ag Adventures for fourth graders. Ag Alley, for first and fourth graders, included a body walk and a petting zoo.

A team of 4-H'ers & community leaders completed a multi-state 4-H Community Readiness Network training on emergency preparedness, geospatial technology & leadership. The team consisting of James Barnes, Delta Rural Development Center; Peggy Robinson, W.C. Office of Emergency Preparedness, Deanna Smith, Tax Assessor; and Seth Strong and Dustin Waits, 4-H will develop a community service project as a result of the training.

West Carroll Parish Staff

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LSU AgCenter

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- Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Stations**
- David J. Boethel, Vice Chancellor and Director**
- Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service**
- Paul D. Coreil, Vice Chancellor and Director**

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