

Union Parish Faculty

Carol B. Remy

Parish Chair/Extension Agent (4-H)

Jason E. Holmes

County Agent (ANR/4-H)

Rafash E. Brew

Area Horticulture Specialist

Odus Hill

Assistant County Agent
Southern University

Classified Support Staff

Nona B. Everett

Administrative Coordinator 3

Marianna Langston

Food & Nutrition Program Educator 2

Regional Extension Support

Dr. Allen Nipper – North Central Regional Director

Karen Martin – Regional 4-H Coordinator

Dora Ann Hatch – Extension Agent (CRD)

Cathy S. Judd – Extension Agent (FCS)

Cynthia Stephens – Extension Agent (FCS)

Matthew F. Stephens – Area Agent
(Animal Waste/Nutrient Management)

Donna Wilkins – Parenting Educator

Johnnie Whitmire – Assistant Extension Agent
(Poultry)

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 a meeting, please contact Carol Remy at (318) 368-9935

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Louisiana State University Agricultural Center
William B. Richardson, Chancellor
Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service
Paul D. Coreil, Vice Chancellor and Director

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**Serving Union Parish
Through Education**

Union Parish Cooperative Extension Service

**Program Highlights
Spring Semester 2008**

**210 East Water Street
Farmerville, LA 71241-3030**

**Office: (318) 368-9935
(318) 368-2999**

Fax: (318) 368-2997

E-Mail: union@agcenter.lsu.edu

**Visit our website at:
www.lsuagcenter.com**



4-H Youth Development

- Conducted 46 weekly classes for youth teaching them basic home and family life skills.
- Trey Young & Chelsea Casey of Farmerville won State Jr. Wildlife Record Book Award Trip.
- Bethany Rhodes, Linville, won State Dairy Poster Contest. Conrad & Kaden Cable placed 2nd in State Dairy Poster Contest in their division.
- Kaden Cable of Linville won State Beef Poster Contest.
- Conrad Cable, Linville, served as 2007-08 State 4-H Parliamentarian. He was elected Northeast Regional Representative for 2008-09.
- Cody Kenly of Farmerville won State Diesel Operation Contest at 4-H U and received a trip to Orlando, Florida. Andrea Deason & Dana Bennett of Spearsville placed 4th in Ag Demonstration; and Taylor Snell of Haile received a Blue ribbon in Performing Arts.

- Amber Lawson of Farmerville was selected to serve on the State 4-H Fashion Board.



- Sixty-eight attended 4-H Youth Camp from Union Parish. (54 youth, 8 teens, 6 adults)
- Received \$1,650 grant money from Claiborne Electric Cooperative's Operation Round Up Trust Fund.
- Provided "Character Critter" program to Union Parish Elementary Teachers and gave all them books for each child.
- Assisted in sending/representing from Union Parish, Raven Lee to Washington, D.C. to represent Southern University AgCenter at the 4-H Conference.
- Twenty-two 4-H'ers exhibited 54 market and breeding animals during the Union Youth Livestock Show. During the Union Youth Livestock Sale, nearly \$13,000 in premiums was distributed to youth exhibiting market animals, and \$2,500 was donated to the Union Youth Livestock Scholarship Fund.
- Sixteen 4-H'ers participated in regional 4-H Shooting Sports competitions in shotgun and/or .22 rifle, and five of these 4-H'ers qualified to compete in the May 2008 Louisiana 4-H Shooting Sports competition. Chris Worth, Spearsville High School 4-H'er, scored a perfect 50 out of 50 in the Louisiana 4-H modified trap shoot (shotgun discipline)

- which place him as the top junior shooter in the state!
- 8 youth and 2 leaders Attended 4-H Day at the Capitol.



- Six 4-H'ers with 13 market and breeding animals participated in the Northeast District Livestock Show in Delhi and the LSU AgCenter Livestock Show in Gonzales.
- Eight junior gardens were planted as part of the Junior Gardening Contest held from April to June. This contest is held in an effort to educate youth on the health and economical benefits of backyard gardening.
- Thirteen 4-H'ers with 29 market and beef breeding projects participated in the Southern University Livestock Show.
- Dr. Mike Strain, La. Department of Agriculture Commissioner, poke at Union Parish 4-H Centennial Celebration and Farm Bureau Annual Meeting..



Family and Consumer Sciences

- During the month of April a five week series of lessons were conducted with young mothers in the Bernice area. The lessons included the topics of family meal planning, healthy habits to improve their families' diet, understanding nutrition labels and how to stretch their food dollars.
- A nutrition program on MyPyramid was conducted at the Blooming Grove summer program with 34 youth in attendance.
- The Organ Wise Guys series of lessons were conducted at Farmerville Junior high School with the special education class.
- Eleven students from Bernice Even Start program participate in an eight week "Smart Portions" class. The class emphasizes healthy eating. Participants learned how to modify recipes, make smart choices when eating out, reduce fat, exercise techniques and the benefits of exercise, control emotional eating, and nutrition essentials. The total weight loss was 16 pounds. Most of the participants maintained their weight during the eight week class.
- Eight students from Bernice Even Start participated in three of "Parents Preparing for Success". Participants heard how to nurture the baby. They learned how to bathe, diaper, and keep the infant/toddler safe.
- Ninety youth participated in cupcake decorating class. This workshop was an introduction to an upcoming baby sitting clinic.
- Three Union Parish residents attended the "Dollar Defense" program. Participants learned about identity theft, scams, and home repairs.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

- Assisted three poultry farmers in finding sales for poultry litter. Assisted in planning & planting 200 acres of soybeans in Union.
- During the annual AgAlley event during AgExpo and Delhi Ag Adventures week, coordinated & conducted two educational events providing youth with basic knowledge of livestock animals and their importance to our food supply & Ag. Economy.
- Provided two educational opportunities for private pesticide license holders to renew their license for another three years, and an opportunity for non-license holders to participate in the 90 minutes of educational material and take the private pesticide license test afterward.
- Currently serving as a geospatial extension agent for north central Louisiana, and participating in continuing education related to geospatial technologies and geographic information systems.
- Union Parish cattlemen continue to participate in the Louisiana Calf-to-Carcass Project, with six head being sent from Union parish for the 2007-08 feed out. Continue to serve as north Louisiana coordinator for this statewide project.
- As a result of community and farm visits, cattle and forage producers have been provided research based knowledge on utilizing improved forage availability in an effort to put cheap gain on lighter weight calves. Helping cattle maintain some value in a very high input market. Efforts are also underway for providing educational programs for beef producers concerning stocker projects where cattlemen can take 500-600 lb. cattle from south Louisiana and graze them on winter pasture in north Louisiana to achieve sending a 700-800 lb. calf to the feed yard.
- Conducted grafting demonstrations for orchard growers and backyard gardeners.
- Submitted timely news articles to local papers for publishing.
- Developed landscapes plans for clientele to help them to save money.
- Trained Master Gardeners to serve as volunteers for the public.
- Master Gardeners conducted several horticulture programs for the public.
- Presented information on Farms Windbreaks to Protect the Environment as part of our local Poultry Growers Seminar.
- Worked with local nurseries and florist to solve problems.
- Conducted commercial vegetable demonstration plots with farmers.
- Served as a resource for the Blooming Grove Baptist Church Tutorial Program.
- Numerous of farm and home visits throughout the parish.
- Provided research based information to landowners throughout the parish in regards to pine plantation establishment.

- Provided vegetable production programs for limited resource audiences to help increase their consumption of fresh fruits and vegetable to improve the nutrition balance.