



VIRGINIA FSA NEWS

Virginia State Office
Jacquelin P. Easter
State Executive Director

1606 Santa Rosa Road
Culpeper Building, Suite 138
Phone: (804) 287-1503
FAX: (804) 287-1723

Virginia FSA News
Articles for publication and
questions or comments should
be sent to the VA State Office.

Michael Wooden
Editor
mike.wooden@va.usda.gov

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Student Summer Intern Program

The Virginia Farm Service Agency is participating in the Student Summer Intern Program. This year we are employing three college students.



Erin Elgin finished her freshman year at Virginia Tech in The Agriculture Technology Program majoring in Animal Production. She lives on her parent's 200 acre dairy farm in Orange County, VA. They moved from her father's family farm in Fauquier County, VA. in 2002. Erin was involved in 4-H for 9 years showing dairy cattle. She participated in the Dairy Bowl and Dairy Judging. She was a member of FFA in Orange County. As Erin got older she volunteered in the Orange County Extension Office. She worked with NRCS as a WAE in the Orange Office. Erin looks forward to her new intern position with the Farm Service Agency in Orange County. She hopes to gain new skills and experiences through this great opportunity.

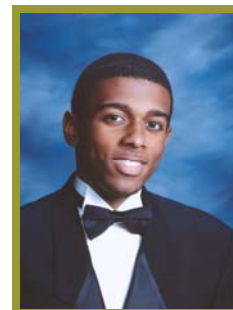


Joseph Puleo. Is a native of Lunenburg County. He graduated from Central High School in 2005 and is currently a sophomore at Longwood University in Farmville where he plans to double major in Business Marketing and Commercial/Residential Real Estate.

He enjoys numerous outdoor activities, such as hunting, fishing and fur trapping. He also enjoys all sports including baseball, football, golf and tennis.

He takes pride in the hard work that he has done from working in the tobacco fields for a few years to helping his uncle in the masonry business to working in a landscaping business. He also enjoys working at home raising a vegetable garden for his family.

He is a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, the NRA, The Dundas Hunt Club and the National Trappers Association.



Maurice Smith Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Smith Sr. of Waverly, Virginia is a graduate from Sussex Central High School. Currently, he attends Virginia State University majoring in Agricultural Business and Economics with a GPA of 3.059.

Maurice is a member of various clubs and organizations such as: The National Society for Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) and USDA-APHIS Disaster Team. Maurice also reads to younger children at the New Beginnings Day Care Center in Colonial Heights, Virginia. He plans to pursue a career with USDA.

Accessibility
Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in any meeting, event or function should contact their local FSA office. FSA is committed to making all programs accessible to all customers

MESSAGE FROM SED



My how time flies. Howard's grandmother would say the 4th of July was time to start getting the children ready to go back to school. Did they not just get out? Grandma Easter was a special lady. Howard is the oldest grandchild thus the first to marry, she helped him buy

my engagement ring and considered me one of her grandchildren not an in-law. She has not been with us for a number of years now, but there are not many days we do not think of her. She was a strong woman and no one could keep up with her picking string beans or blackberries and she loved to fish. I bet there are people in your life like her, if they are still with you take this time to tell them how much they mean to you.

And during this month when we have celebrated our nation's Independence tell some

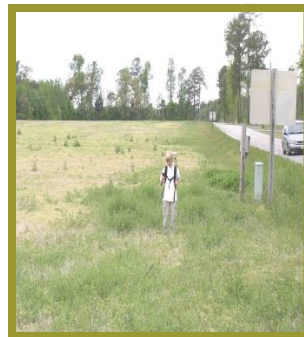
one who has served, or is serving in our military how much we appreciate their sacrifices. My father often wears his USS Wisconsin hat and is approached by young and old expressing their appreciation and it means a great deal to him.

God Bless America and you.

Have a safe and Happy Summer

Jackie

Take Your Son or Daughter to Work Day



Andrew "Drew" Thompson, age 13 son of Donnie Thompson, CED Sussex County spent April 27th, assisting his dad at the county office.

Drew attends Colonial Heights Middle School. Some of his interests are hunting, fishing and golf. During his visit he tried his hand at using the GPS unit and made some 2005 LDP spot checks and some CRP checks. Later that day Drew assisted Cindi Dickerson with some office work.

Drew's favorite job for the day was being outside completing the spot checks.

On Thursday, April 27th, Brittany Clary went to work with her dad, Kenneth L. Clary. That morning, she woke up around 6:45 am, the time she usually gets ready for school, in order to get there by 8 o'clock. When they arrived, her father went straight to his desk to see what he had for Brittany to do, which was a lot, but they were things she felt she could handle!

Helping her dad at USDA-Farm Service Agency that day really showed her what her dad does at work during the day. It taught her that filing isn't just simply sticking papers in numerical order in file folders: it takes patience and gloves because it really can cut your cuticles! It also taught her how things run (or work) there.

Brittany received a certificate and a bag full of fun stuff that she can use from Peggy Lee, which she dearly appreciated. I am hoping that one day this summer they'll need my help again!



Young Graduates

Two of our young graduates this year are Juliette M. CdeBaca, granddaughter of Sherry Evitt in the State Office and Drummer S. Daniel, son of Sharidon Daniel also in the State Office.

Drummer graduated from Skipwith Academy in Richmond Virginia and he will be entering Kindergarten at Sunnyside Elementary in Mckenney, Virginia. Miss Juliette graduated from Roanoke First Church of the Nazarene and her Kindergarten year

will begin at Wasena Elementary in Roanoke, Roanoke

Both young scholars have an active background in reading, coloring, and computers. When asked what they wanted to be when they get older, young Drummer will tell you, "a cowboy in the desert," and Juliette's choice is a "tennis player that does ballet,"

Congratulations Juliette and Drummer!



Staton Complete Studies with Honors

Brad Staton, a Program Technician in Augusta/Highland Office, graduated with honors from Blue Ridge Community College in Weyers Cave, VA. He received an Associate of Arts and Sciences Degree (Summa Cum Laude). That is a great accomplishment while working a full time job and being a full time dad.

Brad also worked and secured a charter to found a service chapter of Young Politicians of Americans on campus. He is currently serving as president of that organization and has established a web site for the chapter. Brad plans to continue his education at the University of Virginia this fall.

Great Job Brad!



Young Ladies and Beef Production

Monica Coleman, daughter of Sissy Coleman PT in Hanover County participated in the Fredericksburg Junior 4-H Livestock Show and sale. Monica won the Reserve Champion Market Steer competition. Her steer weighed in at 1315 pounds. This project started in November and ended in May with the sale. She was responsible for taking care of the animal and training him so she could handle him in the show ring. She started showing steers when she was 9 years old.



Amber Morgan is one of Mecklenburg County's Youth Borrowers. She obtained an OL loan in 2003 to purchase four cows. She now is breeding five cows and one heifer and has six calves that she will be selling this year. Her advisor on this project is Penny Gilmer, Business Education Teacher and Future Business Leaders of America Advisor (FBLA) at Bluestone Senior High School in Skipwith, Virginia.

Amber says this is what she has always wanted to do and is glad she is growing up on a farm and is able to do this type of work with her family.



Employee Recognition

Retirements

John S. Moody—31 Years—Wythe County

Length of Service

20 Years

- Eva M. West
- Deborah P. Manuel
- Eileen S. Jones
- Jeanne A. Turnure
- Larry W. Banks
- Carol C. Ransone
- Juanita E. Parker

15 Years

H L Kellam, Jr.

5 Years

S. Jeanny Wiggins

New Farm Loan Chief

Pete Adamson is the new Farm Loan Chief for Virginia. He grew up on a small beef cattle farm in Botetourt County, Virginia. While growing up on the family farm he raised and showed Angus cattle and was active in FFA and 4-H . He attended Virginia Tech and graduated in 1984. After graduation, he spend three years in production agriculture before coming to FmHA in October of 1987. He has worked in the Ashland, Gloucester and Williamsburg Offices before coming to the State Office. Pete is married with two daughters, ages 12 and 7 and they live in New Kent County.

New Farm Program Specialist

Linda Cronin joined the Farm Programs Section with 15 years of FSA experience. She began her career as a Program Assistant in Caledonia/Essex County Vermont and later became Program Specialist for the Vermont State Office serving the state of Vermont and the Virgin Islands. The last seven years she worked for the Deputy Administrator for Field Operations as a Program Specialist serving as liaison between the field and headquarters on issues related to farm loan and farm program issues, homeland security/disaster, and various administrative activities. She has a degree in Paralegal Studies of Champlain College in Vermont and her masters in Public Administration from American University in Washington, D.C.

Ms. Cronin looks forward to providing support and assistance to the county offices who serve the farmers of Virginia. She also looks forward to learning about the different crops and farming practices in Virginia. Linda and her husband have two children and they reside in the Richmond area.

Young Star In Franklin County



All parents have many reasons to be proud of their children. Well, G.B. & Krystal Washburn of Franklin County have recently been rapidly compiling a list of reasons to be proud of their daughter Ashlee. She recently completed her sophomore year at Franklin High school with a 4.5 GPA. She was a member of the girls' basketball team who competed in the AAA State Quarterfinals for the first time in school history. Ashlee is also a member of the softball team who competed in the AAA State Quarterfinals for the first time in 16 years.

Ashlee likes basketball but she loves softball and is a second year starter and standout player for the Varsity Softball Team. Defensively she plays short stop, second base, and first base and finished the season with 10 double plays, 168 putouts, 28 assists, and only 3 errors. Her batting average is .408 and she scored 19 times and had 20 RBIs.

Moody Retires

The Wythe /Bland FSA Office staff and county committee would like to congratulate John S. Moody, CED on his recent retirement from the agency with 31 years of dedicated service. John retired on May 3, 2006. We are grateful for his untiring efforts in serving the farmers in Wythe and Bland Counties.

A luncheon was held for John on April 25th at the Service Center . Many of his friends, family, and co-workers attended.

Good Luck John!